The good, the bad, and the unusual: What makes a boating access work (or not)?

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Harpham Flat, Deschutes River, OR



Contents

This slide show is a companion to "The good, the bad, and the unusual" report and database. Most photos were submitted by the coders who completed the data for that site. Click the links below to skip to a particular section.

- 1. Staging areas
- 2. Parking
- 3. <u>Docks</u>
- 4. Kayak launch
- 5. Ramps
- 6. Stairs
- 7. <u>Trails</u>
- 8. <u>Boat slide</u>
- 9. <u>Bathrooms</u>
- 10. Developed launch
- 11. <u>Signs</u>
- 12. <u>Other</u>

Alberton Gorge, Clark Fork River, MT



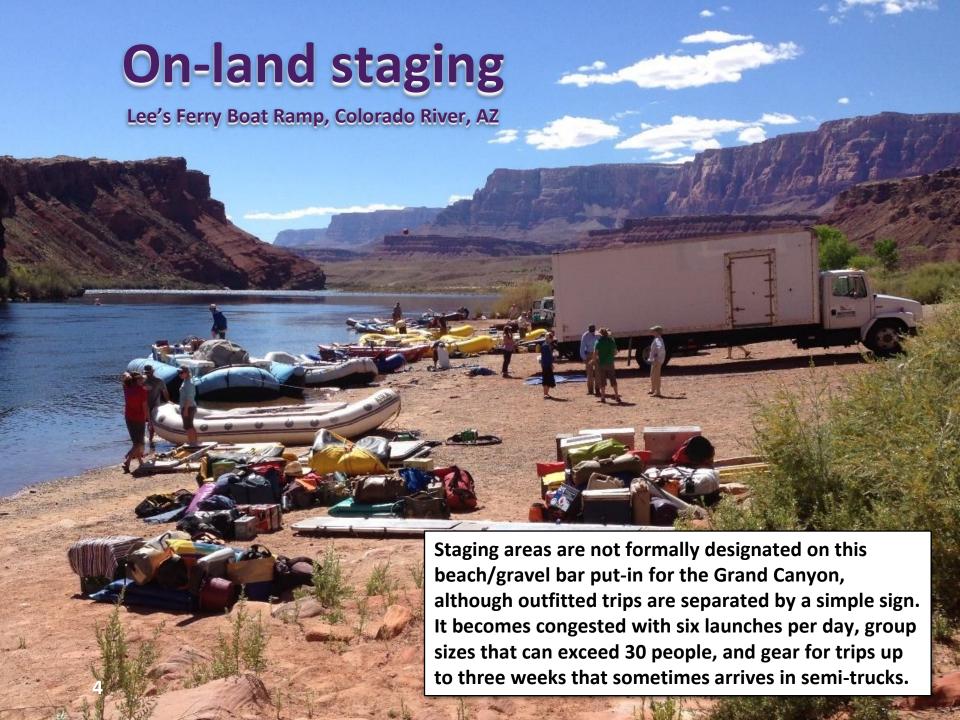


Wilson Boat Launch, Snake River through Jackson Hole, WY

Most launches do not have formal staging areas (34%), and 28% have no rigging or staging areas. About 67% have informal parking areas used for this purpose.

Among launches with short-term parking areas designated for staging, most are smaller (1-2 spaces) rather than medium (3-5 spaces) or larger (over 5 spaces).



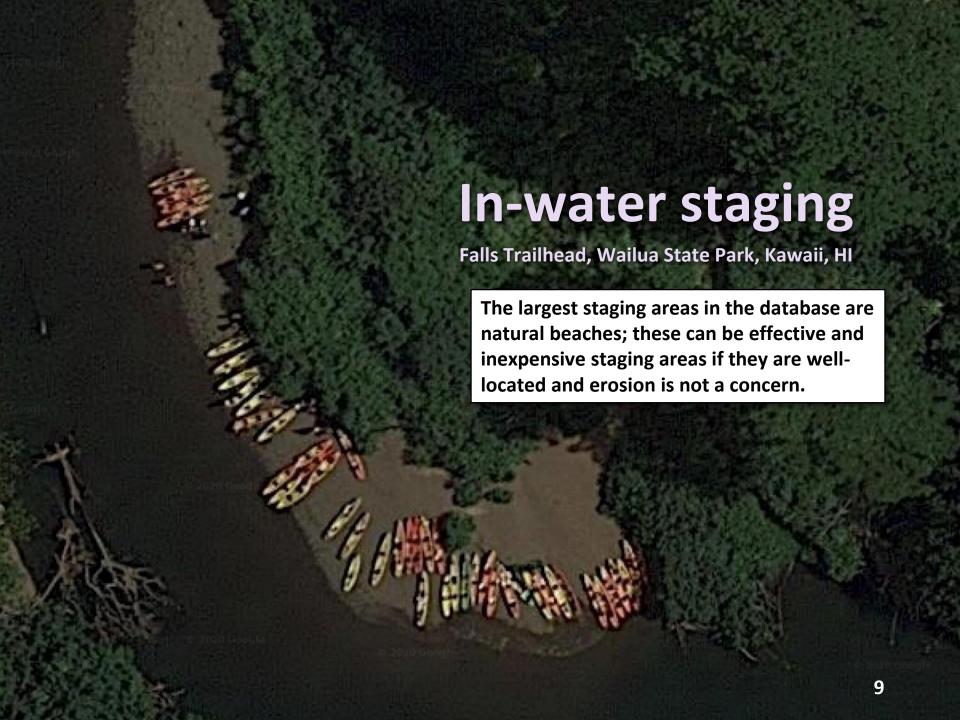












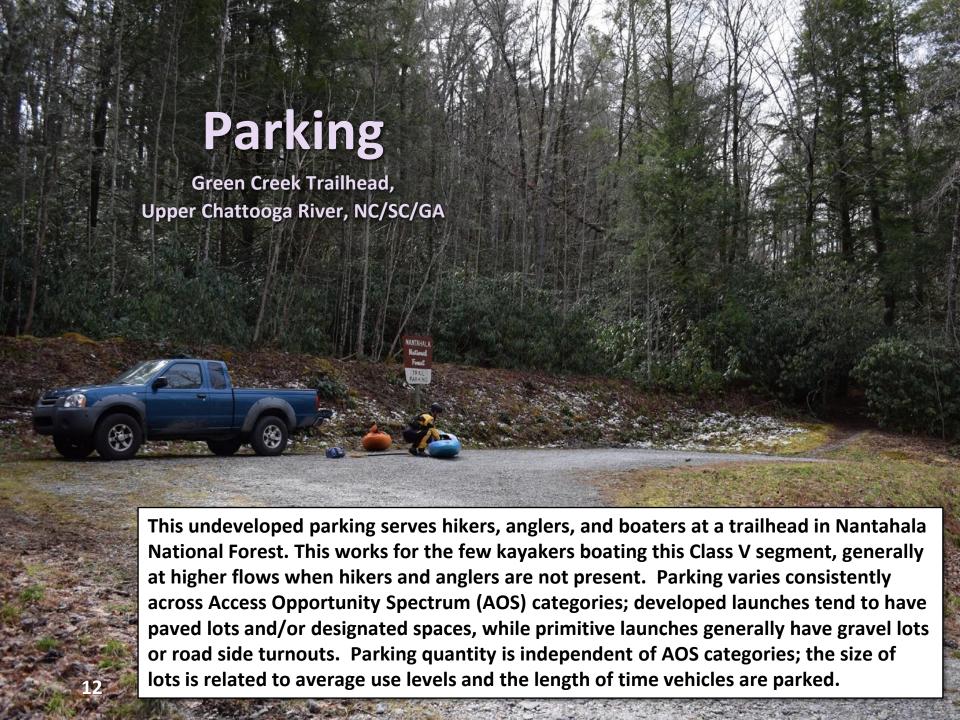


Boulders keep vehicles out of the staging area, reduce conflicts, and limit vehicle contributions to bank erosion.

In-water staging

Deerlodge Boat Ramp, Yampa River, CO









Parking

Grave Creek Boat Ramp, Rogue River, OR

Put-in for the Wild section of the Rogue River. Parking is limited near the ramp (especially for vehicles with trailers), with no overnight parking allowed. Overflow parking is up a hill and on the other side of the bridge.

Overflow/long term parking





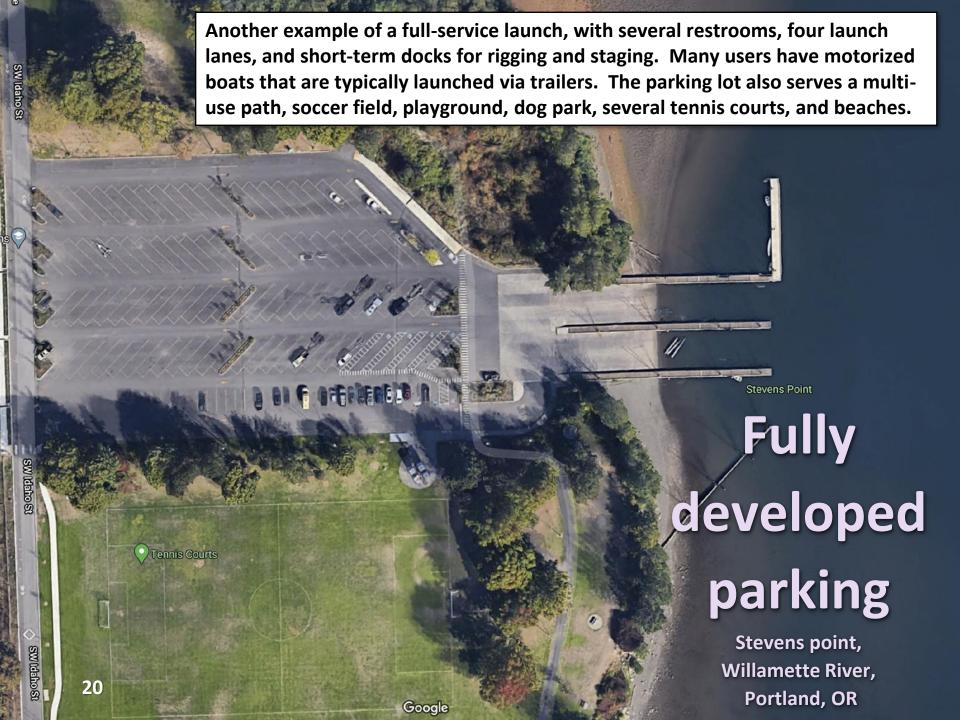


Meadow Camp takeout, Deschutes River, Bend, OR

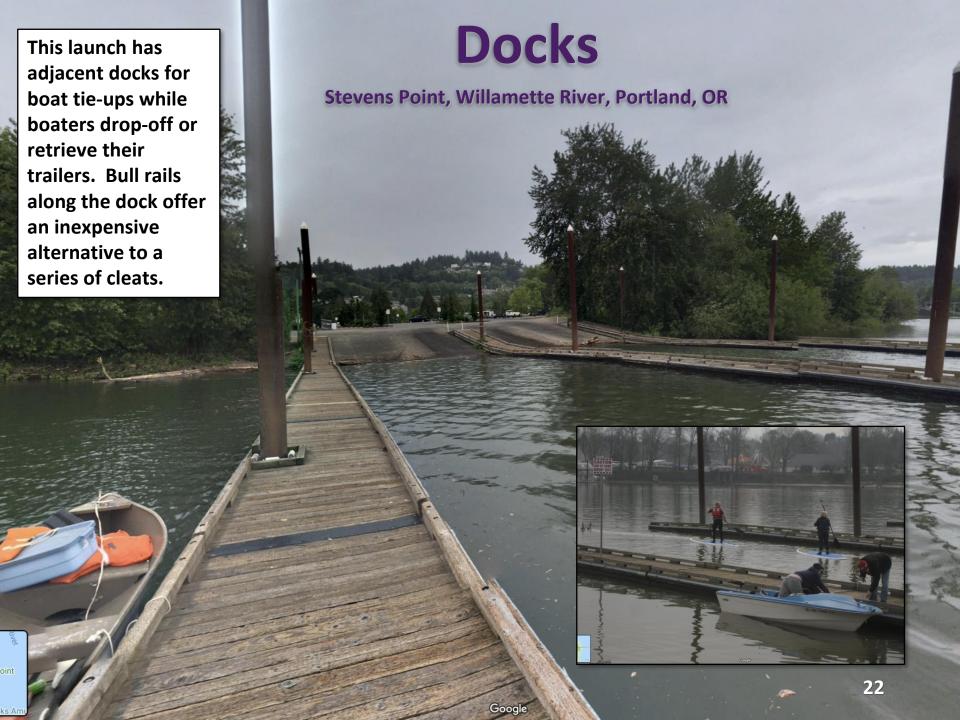
This small parking area primarily serves a trail system, but is also the takeout for Meadow Camp, the most popular summer kayaking run in Bend. The lot commonly fills on busy days, sometimes with double-parking. Conflicts with neighborhood residents sometimes occur over noise, drinking, or overflow parking on the roadway. Access points with extensive parking are about a half-mile downstream (see Riverbend photo), but whitewater boaters use this take-out because it avoids some flatwater and reduces shuttle lengths.











Floating docks on this high use salmon fishing river handle flow and tidal fluctuations, and include hand rails to help users with balance during frequent boat wakes.

Docks

Pillars Boat Launch, Kenai River, AK



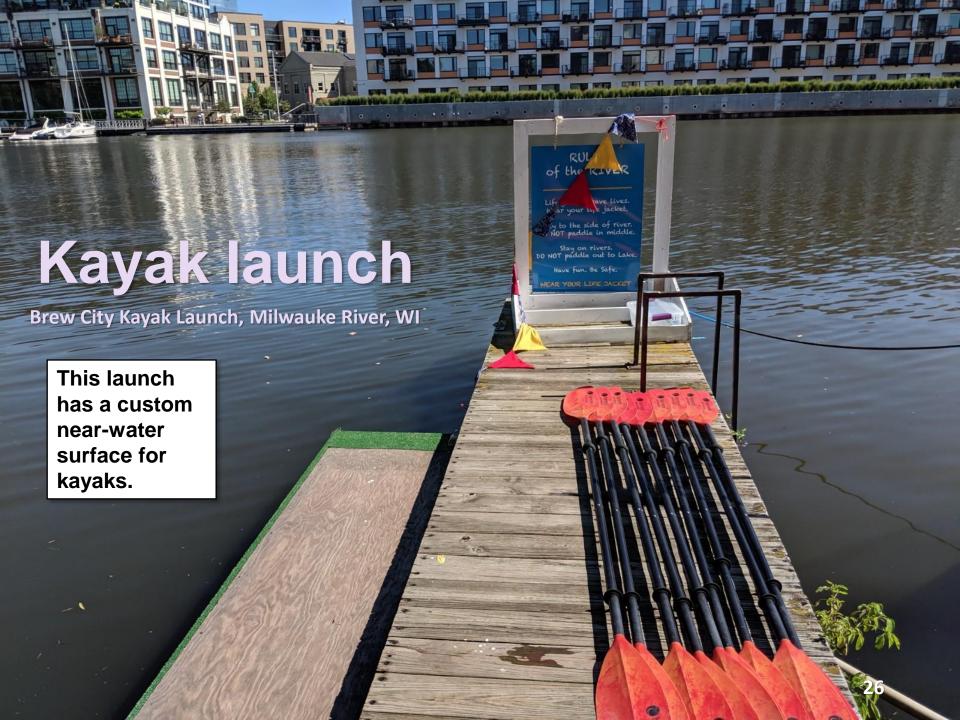


Docks

Odell Venters Landing, Lynches River, Johnsonville, SC

Purpose-made for trailer launches: two separated lanes and a floating short-term dock. This would benefit from a small swale/culvert to divert oil and gas from cars in the parking lot away from the ramp.

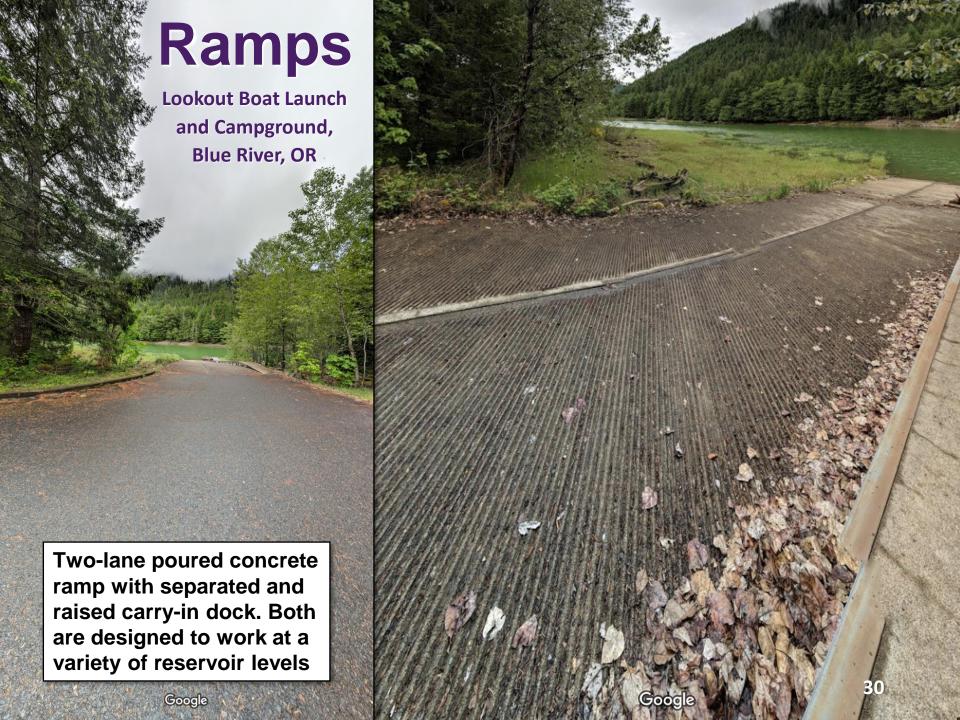


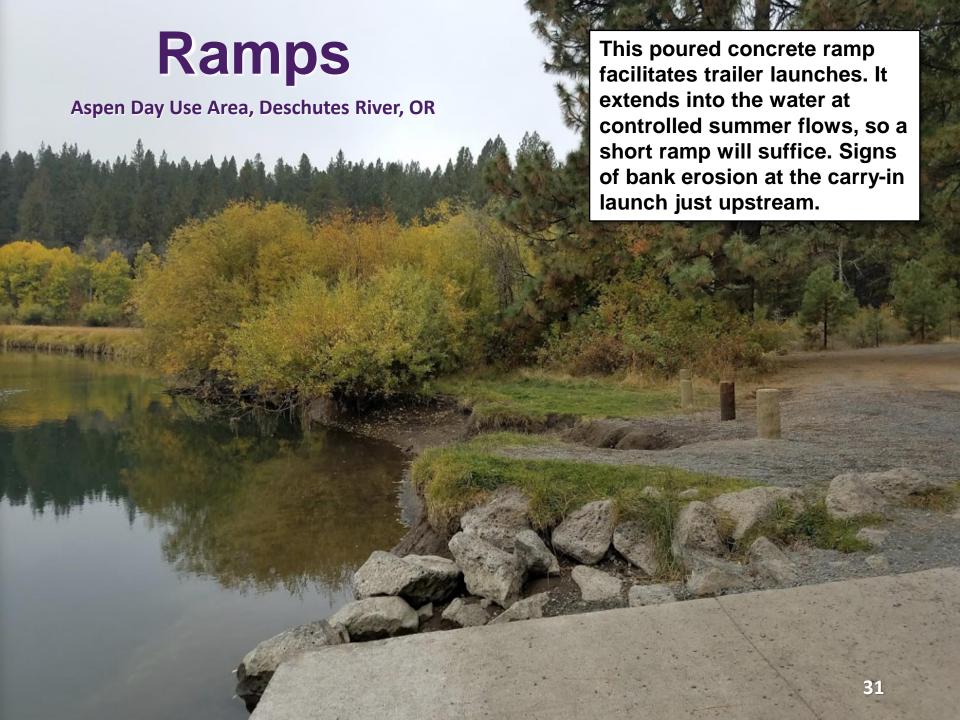


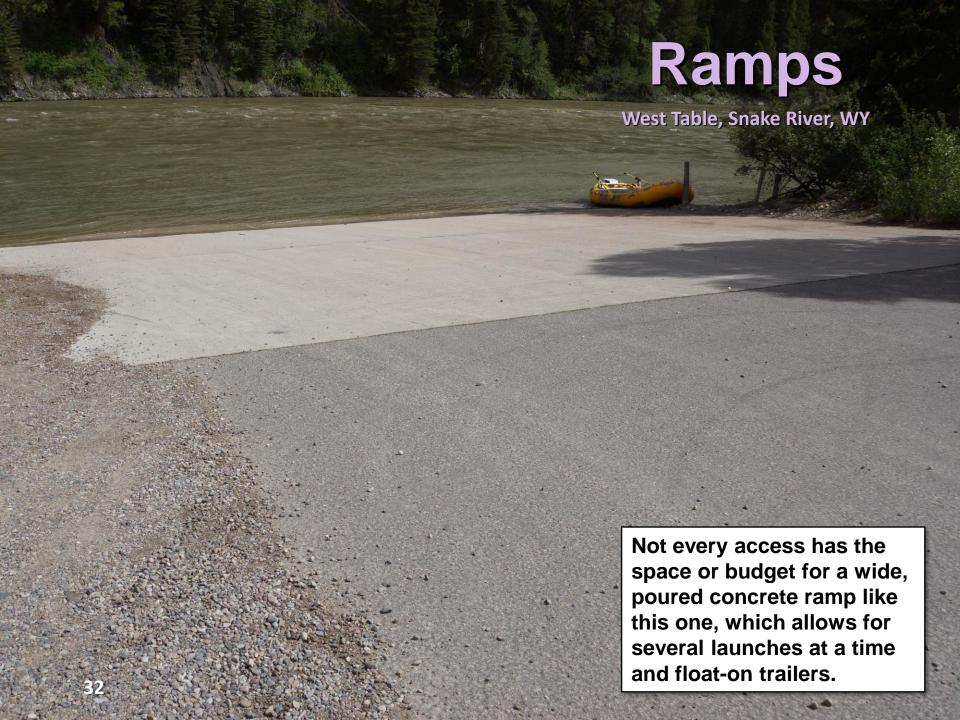


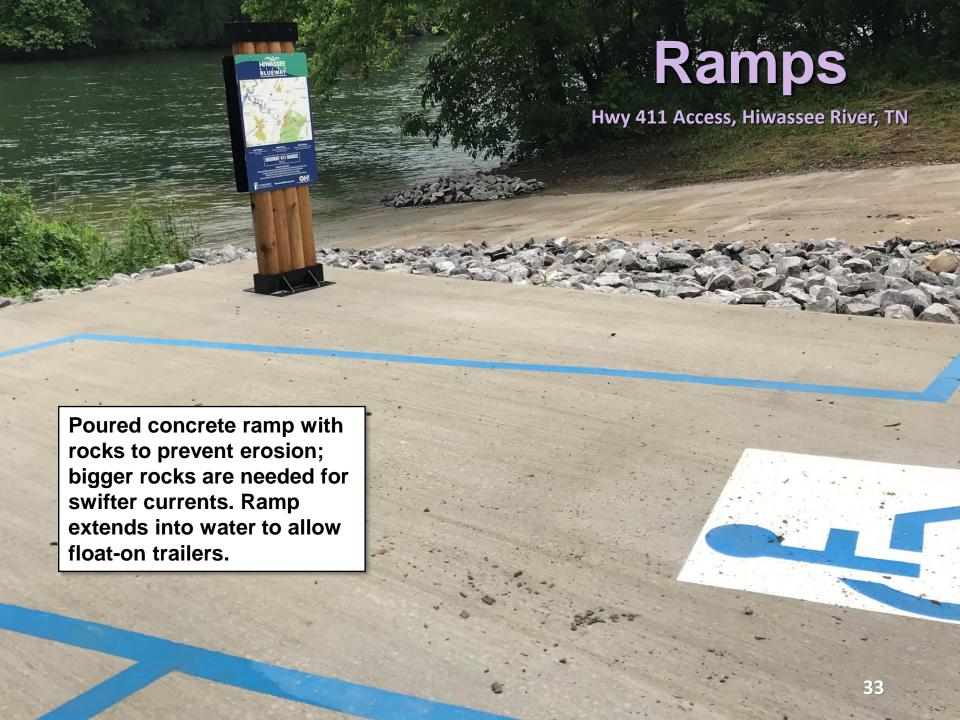


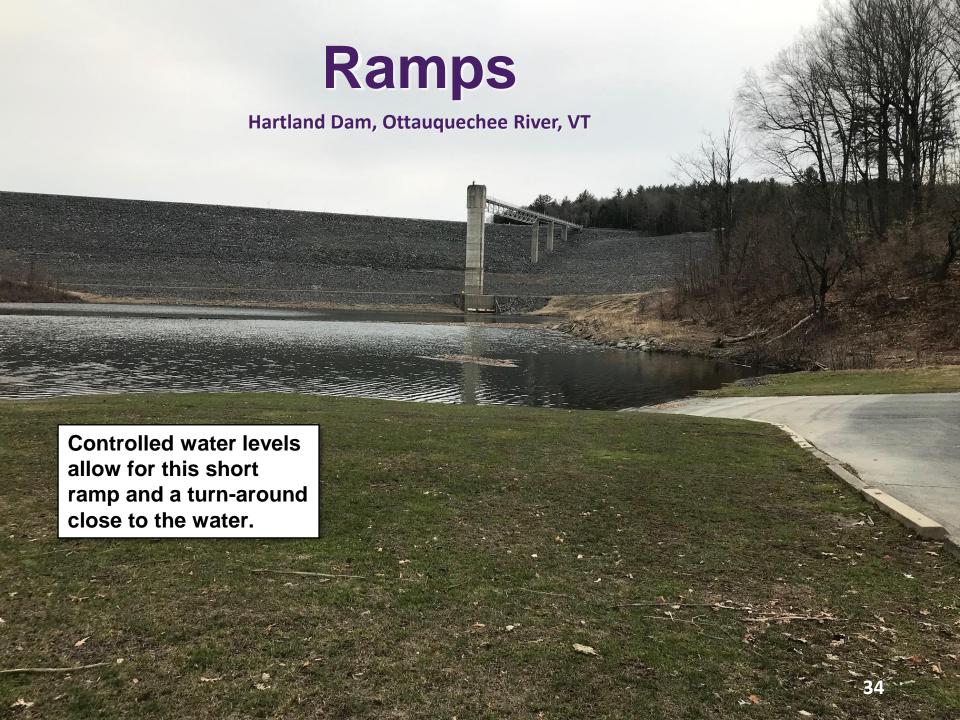








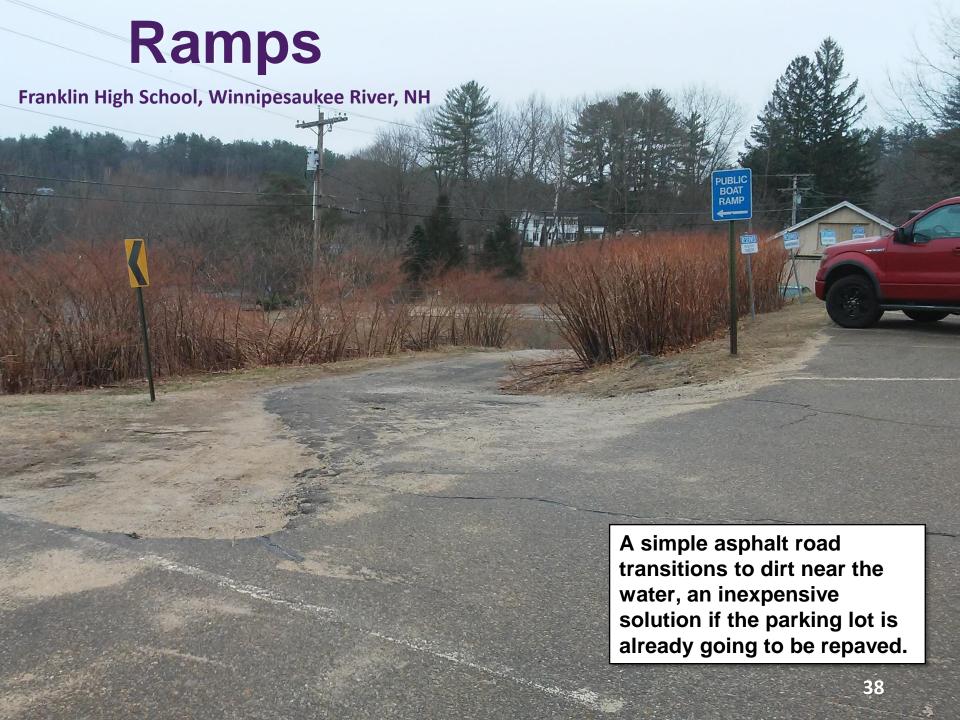


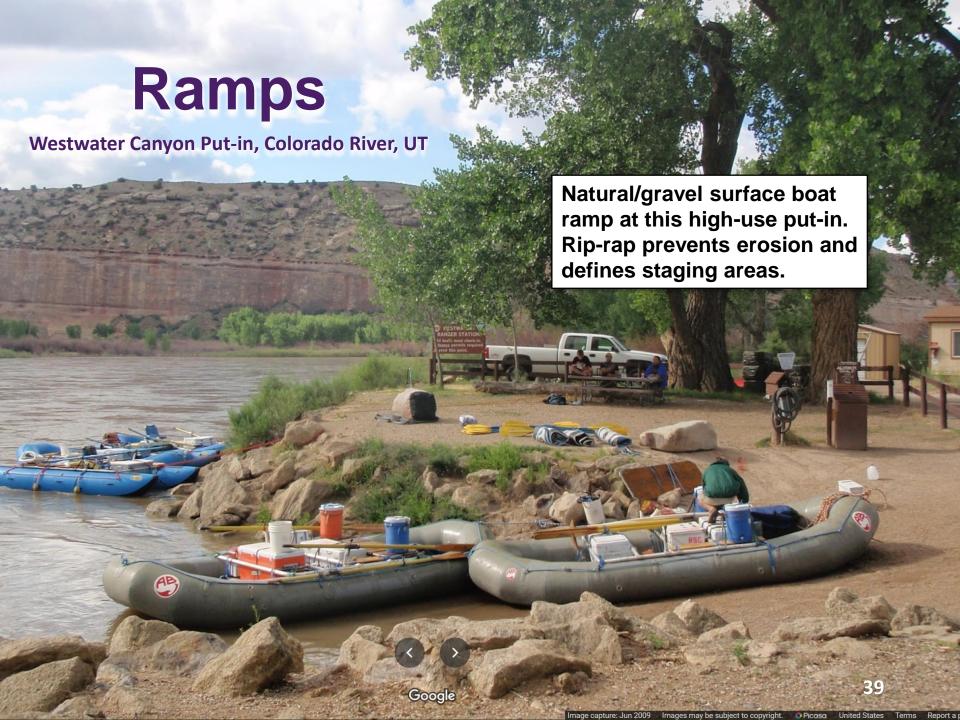










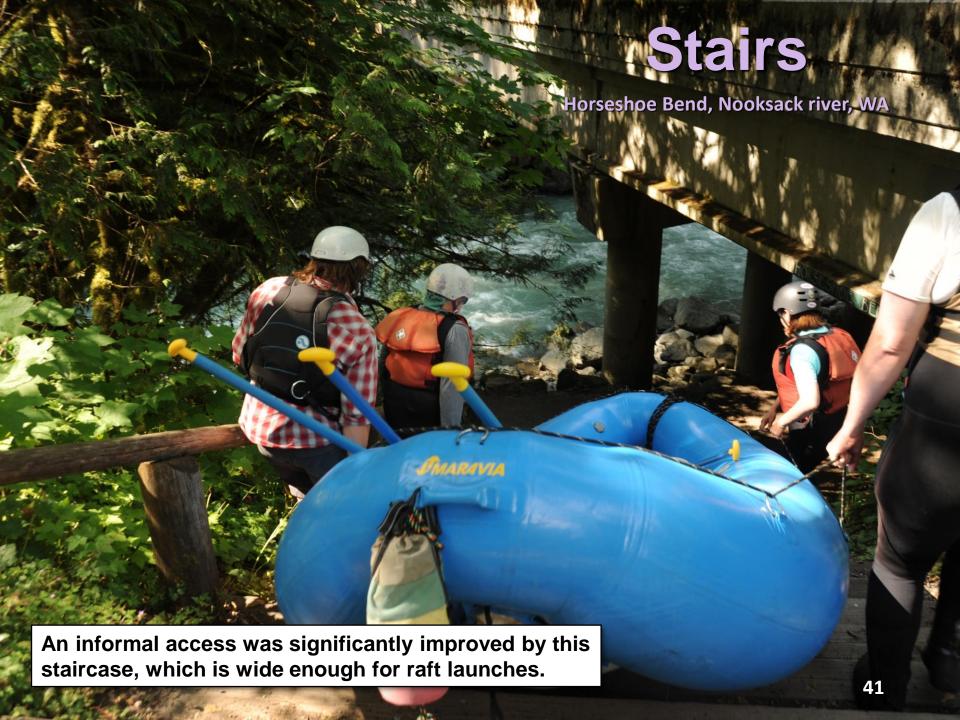






The most extensive stair access in the database. Boaters carry kayaks/rafts down 600 stairs and hundreds of vertical feet. No swimming allowed at the put-in, and a gate controls entry to the launch deck. Despite difficult access, infrequent flow releases attract up to 250 boaters to this scenic gorge with spectacular whitewater.







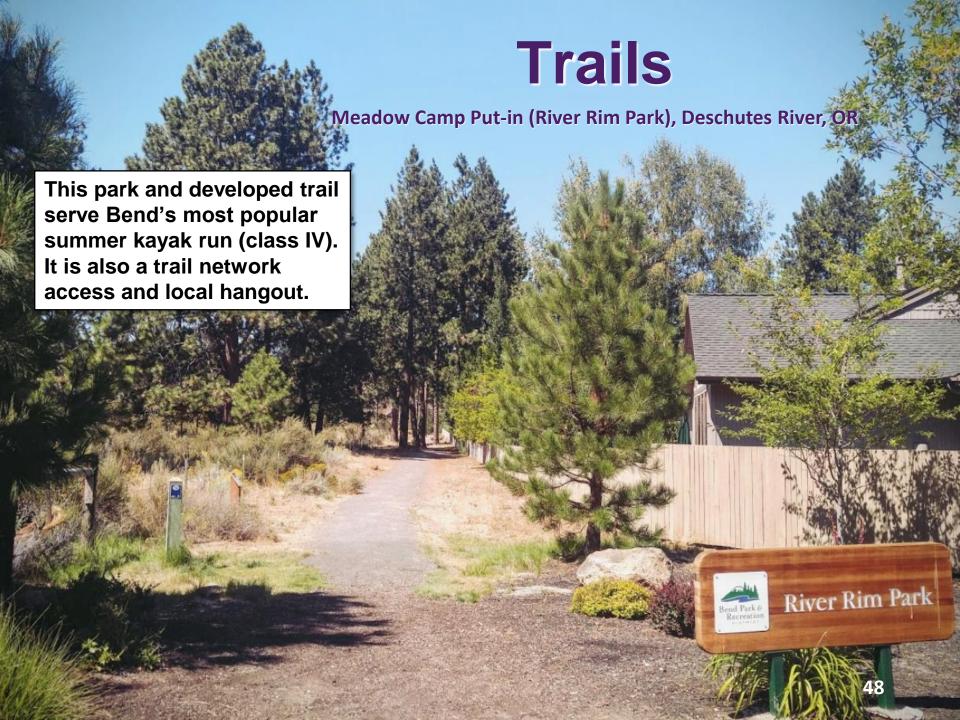










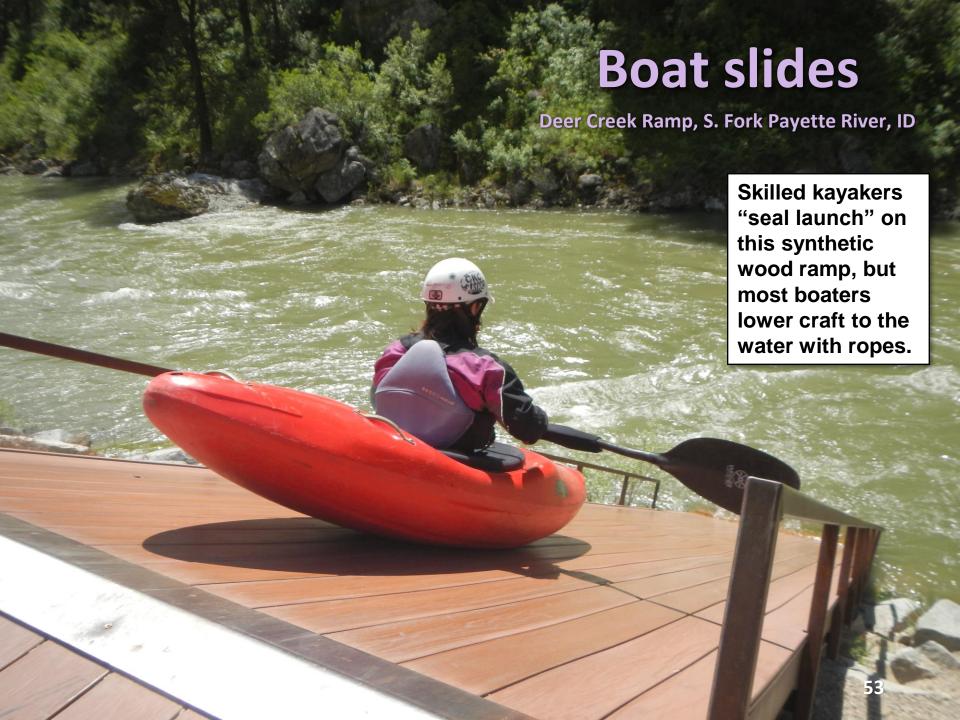














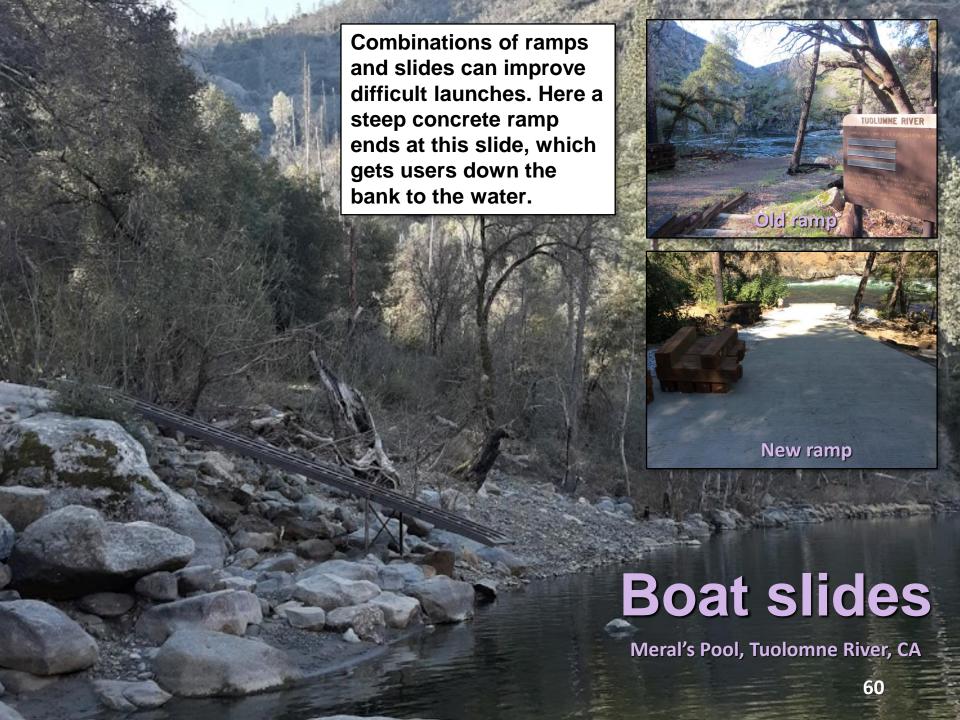












Bathrooms

Pit 1 Put-in, Pit River, CA

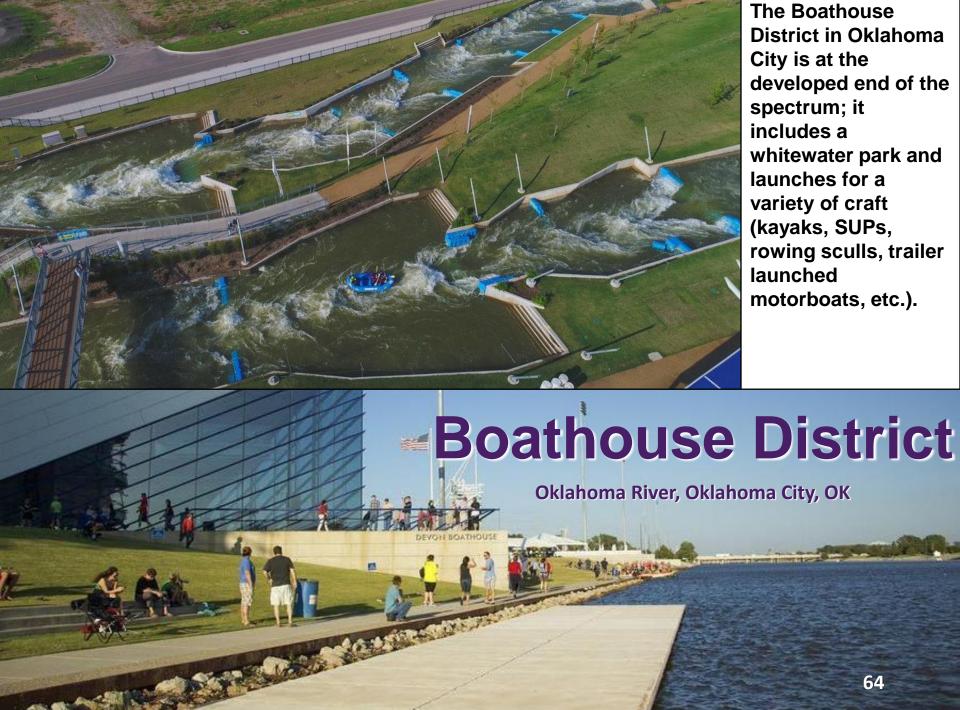






Silverwood Lake Marina, CA







Amenities include restaurants, shopping, rentals, water park, high rope course, zip lines, and skateboard and BMX tracks.







Signs

At the Bend in the River...

Merrimack River – A Brief History

Boscawen River Road, Merrimack River, NH



More than 10,000 years ago, a great ice sheet retreated from the stretch of land we call the Merrimack Valley, which extends from Franklin, NH to Lowell, MA. The glacial lake resulting from the ice melt filled with vast deposits of sand and gravel, and over time a long, narrow waterway was created.

Towering bluffs along the bends of the Upper Merrimack River testify to the massive sediment left behind, and observers can actually count the thin layers or "varves" of silt and clay that had their origin at the edge of the ice.



The Merrimack River played a significant role in the early settlement and development of the region. Archaeological surveys along the River have identified 8,000 year-old sites of Native American settlements. The River Valley was inhabited by peoples of the Penacook Confederacy, which consisted of 13 unified tribes connected to the Abenaki. They obtained fish and migratory birds from the river and its banks and used the Merrimack as a primary transportation route. Later, Europeans used the river as a source of irrigation for crops, food, and commerce.

The Industrial Revolution of the 19th century brought factories needing waterpower. The rively became an irresistible source of hydropower and, increasingly, a dumping ground for pollution of all kinds from chemical wastes to raw sewage. The River was listed as one of the 10 most polluted rivers in the United States for over 150 years.





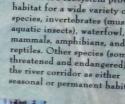
In 1804 Major Enoch Gerrish built the first bridge this site. Floodwater washed it away in 1819. Thre bridges met similar fates in 1824, 1839, and 1844 1857 Horace and Enoch Childs built a covered brit the site. That structure was replaced with an iron to bridge in 1907. The iron truss was closed to traffic 1965.



During 1846 and 1847, the Northern Railroa was built just west of this site carrying freight a passengers to Lebanon. The Boston & Maine Railroad acquired that line in 1887. Passenger service was discontinued in 1965 and freight service was discontinued in the early 1970's. The line was purchased by the State of New Hampshi in 1996 to be converted into a multi-use recreation trail.



Today, the Merrimack is a healthy Class B River, suitable for fishing, swimming, boating, and even drinking after proper treatment. It has evolved from a dumping ground to a scenic destination for paddlers, fishermen, swimmers, hikers, campers and wildlife enthusiasts.



68

The River's ecosystem pro-





The principle cause of the River's transformation was the 1972 Clean Water Act. It required that all municipal and industrial discharges to surface waters be treated sufficiently before discharge, providing incentive for the state of New Hampshire to begin the vital clean up of the Merrimack.









Signs

Pack Saddle Park,
North Fork Santiam River, OR







NORTH HARTLAND DAM

OTTAUQUECHEE RIVER

COMPLETED 1961 LENGTH 1620 FT.

COST \$7,120,000 HEIGHT 185 FT.

CAPACITY 23.3 BILLION GAL.

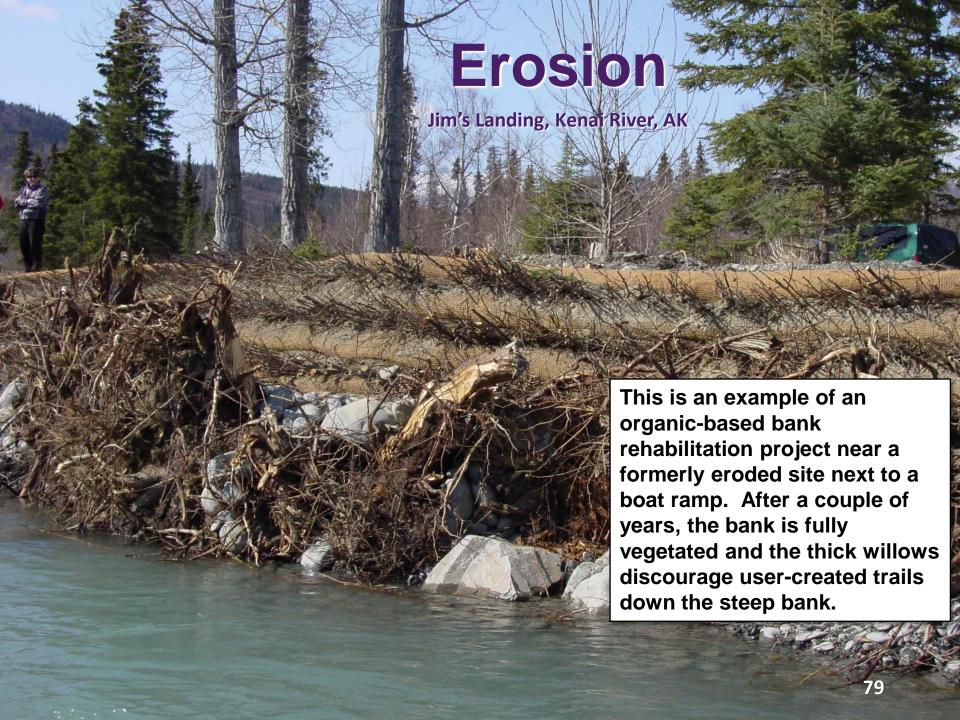
BROCHURE AVAILABLE

Signs

Hartland Dam, Ottaquechee River, VT









A minimally developed access may be suitable for a low use area. Skilled and determined users sometimes tolerate long and difficult carries. Some users value difficult access because it creates an environment of remoteness, solitude, and adventure. However, long carries are not suitable for casual users or multi-day launches.





Hazard signage at Dillon Falls **Boat Ramp**

DESCHUTES NATIONAL FOREST



Deschutes Paddle Trail



Welcome! The Upper Deschutes River became a National Wild & Scenic River as well as an Oregon Scenic Waterway in 1988. This corridor is known for its outstanding natural features and a myriad of recreational opportunities. Some stretches of the river lend themselves to calm waters suitable for everyone while others require specialized whitewater equipment and advanced skills. Before venturing downstream, please check the man to identify hazards and determine if you have the proper skills and equipment for this particular stretch.

River Safety

Rivers are inherently dangerous. River travel requires planning, proper equipment and experience for the difficulty of the river section being traveled.



Wear a properly fitting Coast Guard approved personal



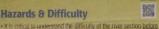
- · Whitewater sections require specialized equipment and
- Carry a river map for more specific information.
- . Know the location of all rapids and hazards.
- . When in doubt, scout it out!



Let someone know where you are going.

. Avoid boating alone.

Hazards & Difficulty



- faunching. See section descriptions, map right. · Even flat water presents dangers. Always be alert for downed
- wood and other unknown hazards.
- . Only the most difficult rapids are marked on the map.
- · Hazards marked on the map are very dangerous and require portaging or expert whitewater skills to negotiate.

Respect the River

- · Use only designated river access points and parking areas.
- . Do not tread on riparian vegetation.
- . Carry out trash, food and litter.
- An Oregon Invasive Species Permit is required for all boats



✓ CLEAN **✓ DRAIN**

Significant hazard to life may result in the event of



Reservoir in the south to Lower Bridge

in the north and 26 miles of the Little Deschutes River, along with ten of the largest Upper Cascade take Because the Deschutes River is the source of water for agricultural irrigation in Central Oregon, its flow levels are seasonal. Generally, the sections south of the north end of Bend can be paddled between April and October, while the sections north of Bend can be paddled between October and April. Similarly the Little Deschutes River has minimal flow



Bend Paddle Trail Alliance developed the Deschutes Paddle Trail with major funding from Oregon State Parks and in partnership with the following







Deschutes Paddle Trail 82

