

2025 -- 20th Almost Annual Joint Club Paddle

(updated 2/26/2025)

Rocky Mountain Canoe Club ☒ Poudre Paddlers ☒ Colorado Whitewater
Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club ☒ High Country River Rafters

Saturday, March 29, 2025

(Snow/Rain Date: Saturday, April 5th)

*Often a casual flatwater (class I) day trip, suitable for novices, families. BUT it depends on what flows we get! Even at lower water levels, the dams (see below) are more challenging portages than before the 2013 flood and there may be strainers if you end up in the wrong channel. **Look for an update on conditions from your club contact closer to the date!***

****Extra caution is always recommended** for flows above 1200 cfs for novices & families.

Check the Kersey Bridge Flow Gauge:

<https://dwr.state.co.us/Tools/Stations/PLAKERCO?params=DISCHRG>

- **Pre-registration VERY MUCH appreciated. Sign up via this Google Form: [2025 All Clubs Paddle Registration Form](#) or with your Club Coordinator (see bottom of the flier) to get updates/rescheduling info.**
- **Club Membership is not required, though we encourage you to take this opportunity to join one or more of our organizations.**
- **Two trip choices: To Kersey Bridge = 9 miles; To Kuner Bridge = 15 miles**
- **Meet at the put-in at Riverside Park in Evans, CO at 9:00 a.m.** Park restoration was completed in 2018 after devastation by the September 2013 floods. Directions: From the stop light in the middle of Evans on highway 85, go ½ mile east on 37th Street. Turn right onto Riverside Parkway – at a prominent Riverside Park sign. Go 1/4 mile south through the neighborhood into the park. Drive past the parking area to a turn-around near the restroom building (restrooms may be closed) between the ball fields and the river. **NOTE: DO NOT** use directions that have you enter the park via 42nd St. They will lead you to the wrong parking lot.
 - Drop your boats, and move your car back to the parking area to make room for others. Follow the main path past a bench then turn down a paved spur to a sandy beach to launch.
 - Please unload boats and equipment promptly, hand in waivers to your club coordinator or to Anne Fiore and be ready to shuttle by 9:30.
- **Assistance Requested:** On the day of the paddle, assistance will be requested for: lead boaters (should have prior experience on this run); mid-pack boaters; caravan leaders (1 each for Kuner takeout and Kersey takeout)
- **This trip could be postponed due to bad weather or extreme flows.** Please check with RMCC's coordinator (Kathryn Mutz at gvmutz@gmail.com) or your club's coordinator or website (listed below) the day before for the trip status. The snow/rain date is Saturday, April 5th.
- **We will have a short meeting at 9:30 at the turn-around.**
- **We will run separate car shuttles to the two destinations -- Kersey and Kuner.** If it is a normal shuttle, one driver per car is needed while everyone else stays behind to finish moving/packing boats and for security. Please decide by the meeting time which shuttle to join so that your car will end up at the right take-out. There is limited road-side parking at both take-outs. Depending on the number of participants, we may have to do a partial reverse shuttle for the Kersey take-out -- leaving some cars at the put-in and

shuttling their drivers back to retrieve the cars from Evans after the run. Only a few boaters usually choose to go further to the Kuner take-out, so there should be sufficient parking there for a standard shuttle. We will discuss parking at the 9:30 meeting.

- **Bring:** Suitable canoe, kayak, very small rafts or other inflatables. ESPECIALLY recommended is warm clothing, spare change of clothing, lunch, water, leak proof rubber boots and/or change of shoes (wet portage alert!), sunglasses, sun screen, sun hat, dry bag. Make sure children are well dressed for COLD water and air. Bring extra clothes and shoes for children!
- **Paddling Schedule (*estimates only!*):**
 - Launch, 10:30 or 11:00
 - Lunch stop TBD, but be prepared for a late lunch. There is lots of private land to avoid.
 - Kersey Bridge, 3:30 pm.
 - Kuner Bridge, 5:30 pm.
- **WAIVERS & PFDs ARE REQUIRED.** There are normal boating risks involved, thus signed waivers and PFD's (life vests) are required. Cold springtime water; two dams to portage; submerged and overhanging trees; sometimes wires across river; unpredictable changes to river configurations; voracious gators; etc.
 - **Waivers and ACA guidelines:** Please note that this is a “hybrid” event in that we are following the ACA guidelines for ACA members and those non-members that want to be covered by the RMCC’s event-specific liability insurance for a \$10 fee.
 - **If you are currently a member of one of the sponsoring boating clubs,** you should have signed your own club’s waiver, if you have not, see the Poudre Paddlers’ representative at the put-in and sign their waiver.
 - **If you are not a member of one of the clubs,** see the Poudre Paddlers’ representative at the put-in and sign their waiver.
 - Regardless of club membership, **if you are an ACA member** please include your ACA number in the on-line registration form. [2025 All Clubs Paddle Registration Form](#)
 - **If you want to purchase an ACA day-event-membership,** please indicate that in the on-line registration form and contact the RMCC coordinator at the put-in to pay the \$10 event fee and sign an ACA Event waiver.

Safety Notices

- **Road Traffic:** There is high-speed traffic on the roads at the Kersey and Kuner bridges and drivers are not expecting pedestrians. Be vigilant and watch your children.
- **KERSEY destination:** Take out will be river left down-stream of the bridge. There is a good paths up to the road. Parking at the takeout is mostly limited to the highway’s shoulder with a high volume of large truck traffic although there is a wide pull-out a bit past the bridge. Vehicles may have to take turns parking near the bridge to load boats or carry boats along the shoulder.
- **KUNER destination:** Boaters going to Kuner should take out at the second (southern) bridge and stay within the highway right of way. The first bridge that comes into view and its surroundings are heavily posted private property and often is not accessible by water. There should be sufficient road-side parking on river-left, north side of the bridge but there is a large parking lot for extra vehicles on the west side of the road a short distance before the bridge. Takeout downstream of the bridge but note it is a **haul** and requires crossing barbed wire fencing and up a steep hill to reach the road.

- **Dams:** There are two dams that we must portage. In recent years we have portaged both dams on river left, but please let those familiar with the dams choose the side, set up the route, and portage first. Neither portage is easy, but the second dam has a one-at-a-time, up-and-down steep, rip-rapped banks and through trees and brush. Note that there is NOT room above either dam for several boats to stage for the portage and it can be surprisingly easy to get sucked over the edge if you don't keep a respectable distance away.

And please stick around to help others move their boats either above or below the dams.



Landowners at both dams will be contacted about portaging through their land. Please practice 'leave no trace' portaging! If you are doing this run on your own, please contact the following and leave a message regarding when you plan to boat:

- First Dam – Carlin at 303-356-5427 or nafman1@yahoo.com
 - Second dam – Steve Hazlet 970-445-8226 – FYI - upland bird or waterfowl hunting may be in progress on the property adjacent to the dam.
- **Hypothermia.** The water can be quite cold on a spring trip like this. One of the best defenses against hypothermia in case of a tip-over is to travel with one or more companion boats, so that you can quickly get assistance to dry land and a change of clothes. Bring a change of clothes in your boat!

Organizations, Coordinators and Links

For waiver print-outs and more club info contact your club representative or Kathryn Mutz (RMCC):

Colorado Whitewater: Noelle Wilhite: riverevents@coloradowhitewater.org
<https://www.coloradowhitewater.org/>

High Country River Rafters: Nick Jimroglou: njimroglou@gmail.com <http://www.hcrr.org>

Poudre Paddlers: Rich Maddox: freezie@comcast.net <https://www.poudrepaddlers.org/>

Rocky Mountain Canoe Club: Kathryn Mutz: gvmutz@gmail.com
<http://www.rockymountaincanoecub.net>

Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club: Marsha Dougherty: marsha5847@gmail.com; www.rmskc.org