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ANIMAS RIVER - NEAR DURANGO, CO.

Length & Time:

Difficulty: Easy

Put-in:

Pull-out:

Car-Shuttle Time:

TRIP REPORT

Reported in Earl Perry's Rivers of Colorado.

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

ARKANSAS RIVER - NEAR FLORENCE, CO.

Length & Time:

Difficulty: Low Intermediate

Put-in:

Pull-out:

Car shuttle time:

TRIP REPORT

Reported in Earl Perry's Rivers of Colorado

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

BLUE RIVER - SILVERTHORNE TO BLUE RIVER CAMPGROUND

Length & Time:

Difficulty:

Intermediate (Dam controlled)

Put-in:

In the town of Silverthorne on either side of river. If near I-70, you get one more rapid. Otherwise put-in just through town, on right of Highway 9.

Pull-out:

Blue River Campground.

Car-shuttle time:

10 - 20 minutes.

TRIP REPORT

There are several very low bridges that one must be careful to negotiate. The bridges may have been washed out and not be rebuilt, however. Just before the campground is a high wooden bridge that also has a good pull-out. That bridge, too, may be washed out but the pilings along the river side are still intact. Rapids are more or less continuous and can be very rocky if there is less than 500 cfs being let out of Dillon. This river has a few very narrow runs with overhanging bushes, and a few very narrow turns that must be negotiated with caution.

TIME, PHONE, & OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

BLUE RIVER - BLUE RIVER CAMPGROUND TO GREEN MT. RESERVOIR

Length & Time: 8 - 10 miles? (3 hours)
Difficulty: Advanced (Dam controlled). Only for decked boats.
Put-in: Blue River Campground.
Pull-out: Upper end of Green Mt. Reservoir.
Car-shuttle time: 20 - 30 minutes.

TRIP REPORT

There is a deep canyon (Boulder Creek Canyon) just after starting with one advanced rapid. Boulder Creek Canyon is negotiable in kayaks and decked boats. The next 4 miles are rocky and a challenge even to good kayakers. The river is narrow for the first 4 miles following the Boulder Creek campground and considerable maneuvering is necessary. There is one rock diversion dam in the canyon and another one 3 - 4 miles later. The last one must be run to the far right. Before reaching the last diversion dam there is a section requiring some pretty tricky maneuvering. From the 4 mile point to Green Mountain Reservoir the river is shallow and rock-studded.

TIME, PHONE#, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

BLUE RIVER - GREEN MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR TO KREMMLING

Length: 14 miles, 3½ hours.

Difficulty: Advanced from dam to Spring Creek Rd. (2-4 mi.)
Intermediate below Spring Creek Rd.
(Break the above into two trips?)
Dam controlled.

Put-in: Just below dam. Going N on Rt. 9, there are two roads to the dam; one before the reservoir (9 miles to dam) and one just after the reservoir (2 miles to dam). Parking for only a few cars. Must carry boats down short but steep road to river's edge. Permission is required for put-in.

Pull-out: For repeat shuttle trips or an alternate put-in is the Spring Creek road bridge. Spring Creek Road is 2 miles N from reservoir on Rt. 9 and the bridge is 1 mile down. Ask rancher but has been OK in past - good pull-out, but park cars across bridge up the hill.
For the Kremmling pull-out, continue on the Spring Creek Road to another dirt road from State Bridge to Kremmling. Just outside Kremmling (9 miles) is the pull-out. Be sure to ask the rancher but OK in past. Before reaching the river, there is a gate on the R to unhook and can then go to an old washed out bridge for the pull-out.

Car-shuttle time:

TRIP REPORT

The upper section below Spring Creek Road requires constant rock dodging unless the water flow goes over 500 cfs. After Spring Creek Road, for the first mile or so, challenging maneuvers will be required, then there are several low bridges, 2 wires to duck, and one nasty portage around a diversion dam. Kayaks can run this dam, however. There are no obstacles in the first 2 miles below the dam but it is solid rapids and a lot of sharp "S" turns. After the diversion dam it is an easy paddle on flat, moving water.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

CONEJOS RIVER - SPECTACLE LAKE TO ASPEN GLADE, COLORADO

Length & Time: 20 miles, 5 hours

Difficulty: Intermediate (July)

Put-in:

Take-out:

Car-shuttle Time:

TRIP REPORT

TIMES, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

COLORADO RIVER - GRANBY TO HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS (BYPASS UNRUNNABLE BYERS CANYON)
AND ON TO KREMMLING

Length & Time: 18 miles, overnight, 4-5 hours (does not sound correct...)

Difficulty: Easy (except for some rock dodging) (May)

Put-in: Just past Granby is Route 125 N to Walden. About 0.8 miles past that intersection is a large parking area on the L by the river.

Pull-out: Hot Sulphur Springs. Water, toilets, and tables available for campers. Second day put-in is hard to find, so ask Trip Leader. Second day pull-out is in Kremmling.

Car-shuttle time:

TRIP REPORT

All class I rapids (on 10 point scale). There is a barbed wire barricade across river roughly $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles after the first bridge which requires portage. May have a problem with the rancher. Check the first bridge after put-in for more barbed wire.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

COLORADO RIVER - PUMP HOUSE PUT-IN TO STATE BRIDGE, COLORADO

Length and Time: 16 miles, 4 hours.

Difficulty: Advanced (May)

Put-in: Outside Kremmling past Gore Canyon. Go S on Rt. 9 2.3 miles from Kremmling. On top of the hill on the right is the turn-off to the put-in. It goes 11.4 miles (over the Blue River) to another turn-off (dirt road) to the right. Go 1½ miles down to the river where there is a lot of room, but also a lot of activity. This is the Pump House put-in. (BLM land)

Pull-out: State Bridge. An alternate pull-out is 4 miles upstream at Rancho del Rio where there is a commercial rest stop complete with food and a gas station. Good camping in N meadow is also available for 50¢ per person (bring firewood from lunch spot). It's hard to see the ranch until you're past the meadow. Look for whitish clay cliff on the right as you boat. Can also pull-out at Radium for a short 1 hour, 4 mile trip (road is 2½ miles to main access on county road #11).

Car-shuttle time: 2 hours.

TRIP REPORT

About 1 mile downstream is a short, close canyon (Lower Gore Canyon) that has class III rapids (on a 10 point scale) with some right and wrong channel choices. The first rapid can be scouted from the right just inside the canyon. Hard to scout. It's best to run a short section and pull into an eddy on the right. Best pull-out for scouting is just before 2 big boulders with a cave on the left - pull over th the right. Running is best between the two boulders, but there is room on far left. In high water, obstructions disappear. There are about 4 class III rapids before Radium. There are about 3-4 class III rapids (because of "S" turns) after Radium, then flat water with one exception (watch the rock at the top of the rapids) before Rancho del Rio. Lots more "S" turns after Rancho del Rio - watch for sleepers. The 3rd rapid has a wire strung across the river but is high enough to cause no danger. Get an early start because of winds and copious flat water after canyons.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

COLORADO RIVER - STATE BRIDGE TO BURNS BRIDGE, COLORADO

Length & Time: 12 miles, 4 hours

Difficulty: Easy (July). Easy even in higher water

Put-in: State Bridge. Parking and launch site on both sides of the river. The large lot on the south side of the river has a parking fee sign posted but 2 shop keepers were unclear on the rules. Needs clarification.

Pull-out: Burns Bridge. There is a very attractive alternative about 3½ miles upstream from Burns Bridge. It is a river bottom near a cabin that has nice grassy camp sites and access to the highway. From the highway, access is a dirt road that is hard to see because it goes down and back but is across from a Yarmony Ranch sign (1.1 miles up this road, by the way, is fresh spring water out of a pipe on the L.). From the river, it is past two RR tressles and a 3rd one (wood) in sight.

Car-shuttle time: Less than 1 hour.

TRIP REPORT

Class II rapids (on 10 point scale) at the start but few rapids toward the end. Can be very windy, so be sure to get on the river in the morning.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

COLORADO RIVER - BURNS BRIDGE TO DOTSERO, COLORADO

Length & Time: 26 miles, overnight, 7 hours

- Difficulty: Intermediate (July)

Put-in: Bridge above Burns. To get there go NW from State Bridge. The sign for Burns is 1.3 miles from town of McCoy. Burns Bridge is 7½ miles from turn-off and is the first bridge you cross. Some good campsites along road.

Pull-out: Before the town of Dotsero (on I-70) there are several pull-out spots, starting at the first bridge above Dotsero (10.5 road miles before "twin bridges"), continuing down to the townsite of Dotsero itself (at I-70).

Car-shuttle time: 2-3 hours

TRIP REPORT

The first rapid encountered is immediately after put-in. Another class III rapid (on a 10 point scale) is in first mile (in Burns Canyon). A new class III rapid caused by new road construction lies just above Burns. Relatively flat from there to Red Dirt Canyon. Several difficult rapids lie ahead. The first is an "S" turn under a RR bridge - best taken on the left. Fairly continuous rapids for the next two miles. Next is the unmarked campground called Jack Flats for your overnight stay on the left. A river shuttle would be necessary if using this as a put-in or pull-out alternative. Could hide camping gear along bank to lighten boat, because a RR track lies between the road and the river. After leaving campground, first rapid is another class III where the hazard is being pushed up against a wall. Several smaller rapids are encountered before "twin bridges" (an alternate put-in for a one-day trip). At twin bridges at low water the river becomes quite rocky. Stay left for first rapid after the bridges. The river then bends to the left with a wall on the right. After this rapid the river flattens out before reaching another "S" turn rapid.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

TRIP LEADER: These can easily be broken up into 2 one-day trips.

COLORADO RIVER - TWIN BRIDGES TO NEAR DOTSERO, COLORADO

Length and Time: 12 miles, 2½ hours

Difficulty: Intermediate (July), Advanced (May-June)

Put-in: From Dotsero, Twin Bridges (named for a road bridge and a RR bridge close together) is 15 miles (where road turns into dirt road). Put-in is 1-2 miles upstream (look for a small road going down a steep incline to the river).

Pull-out: 10½ road miles down past Twin Bridges, just before a road bridge there is a road before the bridge leading to a private campground (grove of cottonwoods). Campground is private but no one pays attention to that.

Car-shuttle time: Less than 1 hour.

TRIP REPORT

(See report on Burns Bridge to Dotsero)

TIME, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

COLORADO RIVER - DOTSERO TO HANGING LAKE, COLORADO

Length and Time: 11 miles, 4 hours
Difficulty: Easy (May-June)
Put-in: North of Dotsero 1.8 miles at the Coffee Pot Road intersection.
Pull-out: The parking lot of the Hanging Lake trailhead.
Car-shuttle time: Less than 1 hour.

TRIP REPORT

The river is swift at first with several class I rapids (on a 10 point scale) and then it slows as it becomes backed up by the Shoshone Dam. There is a 4½ mile intermediate run just upstream of the put-in for an option. Beginners should be cautioned that huge standing waves can be encountered for a couple of weeks above the put-in point on this optional trip. The rapid above Coffee Pot Road is frightful to some kayakers during the peak of the run-off. Below Coffee Pot Road, however, the waves aren't too bad during the peak run-off.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

COLORADO RIVER - GRIZZLY CREEK TO NEW CASTLE

Length and Time: 16 miles, 4 hours
- Difficulty: Intermediate (July)
Put-in: Grizzly Creek is a little beyond Shoshone Outlet in Glenwood Canyon. Best put-in is just beyond the Creek. May be rafters staying there also.
Pull-out: New Castle
Car-shuttle time: Less than 1 hour

TRIP REPORT

Class I & II rapids often with a class III (on a 10 point scale) past Glenwood Springs running under a RR bridge (pressure waves - no obstacles). Since trip is into western sun, be sure to get an early morning start. Caution should be exercised at the steel bridge (9 miles (?) west of Glenwood Springs). While these waves are only pressure waves they are angled in a peculiar way. The last two waves break and can easily fill a canoe. There is no danger in swimming, though, because the river is tame after the rapids.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

COLORADO RIVER - NEAR RIFLE, CO.

Length & Tim:

Difficulty: Low intermediate

Put-in:

Take-out:

Car shuttle:

TRIP REPORT

Reported in Earl Perry's Rivers of Colorado

COLORADO RIVER - HORSETHIEF & RUBY CANYONS, COLORADO

Length and Time: 26 miles, 2 days, 8-12 hours

Difficulty: Easy (May)

Put-in: Loma. Turn left from I-70 at Loma exit and go left at "T" just across overpass labeled "Dead End".

Pull-out: Westwater. ABOVE Westwater Canyon. Take I-70 west from Loma. Approximately 4 miles inside Utah is "Westwater" exit. Take dirt road 8 miles to river by BLM ranger station.

Car-shuttle time: 2 hours.

TRIP REPORT

Beautiful fluted schist rock. Two class I rapids (on a 10 point scale) in Ruby Canyon, First is "Shale Rapid" and quite fun in open boats. Can be rerun easily by lining boats back up along R side of river (facing downstream). A few miles downstream around a bend is "Black Rock Rapid", also easy and fun. Occasional sand beaches make for good camping.

Further writeup in Earl Perry's Rivers of Colorado.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

COLORADO RIVER - NINEMILE BOTTOM^M TO MOAB, UTAH

Length & Time: 27 miles, overnight, 7 hours total

Difficulty: Advanced (May), Intermediate (Sept.)

Put-in: Ninemile Bottom. Take I70 20 miles west of the Colorado/Utah border and exit at Cisco. Take route 128 toward Moab. You will cross the river at "Dewey Bridge" (an alternate put-in) and continue 3 miles south. Look for rough campground at prominent bend in the river.

Take-out: Just before a bridge for the highway and just before entering Moab.

Car-shuttle time: 2 hours

TRIP REPORT

The trip involves camping along the river, and the rapids are generally in the upper section. These are 2 class I's (10 pt. scale), 3 II's, and 1 III rapids, starting about 6½ miles from put-in. This is a trip you must plan to take. The scenery is superb and the river is exciting and warm (later in the year).

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

COLORADO RIVER - CISCO TO MOAB, UTAH

Length & time: 46 miles, 3 days, 20 hours

Difficulty: Advanced (May), Intermediate (September)

Put-in: Leave I-70 in Utah at exit marked "Cisco". This exit is approximately 20 miles west of Colorado/Utah border. Follow paved road 5 miles to semi-ghost town of Cisco. Look for dirt road on left leading in 5 miles to river at BLM parking area.

Take-out: At boat ramp on right of river just upstream of bridge taking Utah Rte. 163 across river near Moab.

Car shuttle time: 3½ hours

TRIP REPORT

The first 25 miles consist of moderate current with occasional riffles. Because of private land the first recommended campsite is at Ninemile Bottom approx. 19 miles downstream from the put-in. This can also be used as an alternate starting point for a shorter (2 day) trip. A few miles below Ninemile Bottom the river leaves the canyon and enters the beautiful Professor Valley. Note the spectacular Fisher Towers on the near left and the Monte La Sal Mtns. in the far left distance. Seven rapids are encountered in the Valley and beyond - two Class I (10 pt. scale), three Class II and two Class III. In May all but the Class I's should be scouted.

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

COLORADO RIVER - WESTWATER CANYON

Length and Time: 17 miles, one day, 7 hours

- Difficulty: Advanced (September). Decked boats with strong, expert paddlers who can roll. In high water, EXTREMELY challenging in decked canoe.

Put-in: Take I-70 west from Grand Junction, Colo. Approximately 4 miles inside Utah look for "Westwater" exit sign and follow dirt road 8 miles to river by BLM ranger station.

Pull-out: Exit I-70 in Utah at exit marked "Cisco". This exit is approximately 20 miles west of the Colorado-Utah border. Follow paved road 5 miles to semi-ghost town of Cisco. Look for dirt road on left leading in five miles to river at BLM parking area.

Car-shuttle time: 2 hours

TRIP REPORT

A BLM permit is required and only decked boats are allowed. File permit application with Moab, Utah, BLM office prior to March 15 (has this been changed?) of each year. After 3 miles of flat water the boater reaches the first of approximately 12 major rapids concentrated in the next 8 miles of canyon. Although Skull Rapid (class IX on a 10 point scale) requires careful scouting and is particularly difficult for rafts both Funnel Falls and Sock-it-to-Me Rapids (the first upstream of and the second downstream from Skull) are probably more difficult for decked boats because of very large standing waves. The last 6 miles of the run are flat water. This river deserves a great deal of respect because of the numerous "waterfalls" - quick drops with huge standing waves after each drop. A "roll" is handy to have!

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

DOLORES RIVER - DOLORES TO SLICKROCK

Length and Time: Several days
Difficulty: Advanced (if runnable), Decked boats only.
Put-in:
Pull-out: Slickrock bridge
Car-shuttle time:

TRIP REPORT

Famous rapid called "Old Snaggletooth" - runnable?
Much of the river is continuous rapids. Snaggletooth is a fomenting mass of water but it can be portaged.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

DOLOROS RIVER - SLICKROCK TO END OF FLUME CANYON

Length & time: 60 miles, four days, 24 hours

Difficulty: Advanced (May)

Put-in: Launch area just upstream of highway (Rte. 141) bridge at Slick Rock, CO.

Take-out: Approx. 5 miles downstream from confluence of San Miguel and Dolores Rivers at bridge.

Car-shuttle time: 3 hours

TRIP REPORT

Leaving Slick Rock fast current takes on quickly through small canyons into Gypsum Valley where there is one Class II rapid (on a 10 point scale). The river then flows through magnificent Slick Rock Canyon for the next 40 miles, exiting the canyon at the town of Bedrock. There are four Class II rapids in this stretch the second of which is dangerous due to overhanging rock wall on left - this rapid should be run (or lined) on right. Below Bedrock the river meanders for eight miles through Paradox Valley.* After entering Paradox Canyon the current picks up and there are three Class II-III rapids in this stretch, the most difficult being a long rapid just above the confluence with the San Miguel River. The last 5 miles in Flume Canyon have two Class II rapids (big waves in the last one a mile above bridge). All water and food must be carried in boats.

* One class II rapid is found before entering Paradox Canyon.

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

DOLOROS RIVER - BRIDGE TO GATEWAY

Length and Time: 18 miles
Difficulty: High intermediate
Put-in: Approximately 5 miles downstream from
confluence of San Miquel and Dolores
Rivers at bridge, or anywhere along the
canyon. (Bridge = at Gateway, Colo.)
Car-shuttle time: @ 1 hour

TRIP REPORT

Reported in Earl Perry's Rivers of Colorado also.

This trip is relatively flat except for a couple of rapids a few miles above Gateway. One extremely long rapid (sometimes called Dead Bull Rapid) is easily a class III or IV. It has large standing waves to the left of river and some holes along the right. Careful inspection must be made from the right, not the left. Several other class II - III rapids follow Dead Bull. The first major rapid after Dead Bull has a lengthy hole extending most of the way from the right bank. You can hear this rapid from quite a distance and should pull out when you hear it to scout it.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

EAGLE RIVER - EAST OF WOLCOTT

Length & Time: Short Repeat run
Difficulty: Advanced (June)
Put-in: Wolcott Vail service road has a bridge across the river.
Take-out: 2 miles east of Wolcott where I70 crosses the Eagle River
Car-shuttle: Very short

TRIP REPORT

Very good for multiple runs for practice. Continuous rapids of class II and III (on 10 pt. scale). Private land along river, so picture taking is frowned upon.

(by whom?)

TIMES, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

GREEN RIVER - FLAMING GORGE DAM TO GATES OF LODORE, UTAH

Length and Time: 46 miles, overnight, 11 hours

Difficulty: Advanced (dam controlled) (July)

Put-in: The Flaming Gorge Dam spillway boat ramp will be past the town of Dutch John. Easy access but can be busy with boaters. Must be checked out by Ranger.

Pull-out: Gates of Lodore Ranger Station. In coming from Denver, use the second turn-off sign on Route 318. An alternate take-out is at east end of Swallowe Canyon - about 5 miles upstream of Swinging Bridge - cuts out 20 miles of flat water.

Car-shuttle time: 2½ hours one way. Best to spot cars at pull-out on way up.

TRIP REPORT

About 6 miles to Little Hole Campground where most rafters pull-out. Good lunch spot on opposite (R) bank. First 11 miles have frequent rapids classed II and III (Red Creek Rapid is a III) on a 10 point scale. Water moves rapidly. Most rapids have high waves when release volume is at 3 feet. At lower volume, rapids are diminished in difficulty. Little rock-dodging is necessary except in lower rapids (one rapid above Little Hole, and Red Creek Rapid). The rest of the trip is relatively flat water through historic Browns Park, Swallow Canyon, and Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge. Camping is good at the Red Creek Float Stop, and also at the Refuge Campground if two nights are spent out on the river. Water out of dam is supposed to be warmer due to a policy change of discharging water nearer the reservoir surface.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

GREEN RIVER - LABYRINTH CANYON

Length and time: 68 miles, four days, 30 hours

Difficulty: Intermediate (due to overnight and isolation)

Put-in: Green River State Park, Green River, Utah.
Follow I-70 for about 70 miles west from Colorado/Utah border to town of Green River and look for signs to State Park.

Pull-out: Boat ramp at Mineral Bottom. Follow Utah Rt. 163 south from Crescent Junction and look for paved road (sign) on right leading to Dead Horse Point State Park. Follow this road until dirt road (sign) on right leading to Mineral Bottom.

Car-shuttle time: 5 hours

TRIP REPORT

Flat water all the way except for few riffles in first 1-2 miles below town of Green River. Spectacular canyon country with perhaps a waterfall and bathing pool up one of the canyons - unclear on this - check with ranger. Bring plenty of water, suntan lotion, wear sunglasses and hats, and watch out for scorpions.

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

GREEN RIVER - DESOLATION AND GRAY CANYONS, UTAH

Length & time: 95 miles, four to six days, 36 hours

Difficulty: Advanced (August)

Put-in: BLM ranger station at Sand Wash. Leave US Rte. 40 approx. 2½ miles west of Myton, Utah, and follow dirt roads for about 38 miles to Sand Wash.

Take-out: Green River State Park, Green River, Utah. Follow I70 for about 70 miles west from Colorado/Utah border to town of Green River and look for signs to State Park. An alternate take-out lies upstream above the diversion dam.

Car-shuttle time: 4½ hours (one way) best to spot cars at take-out on way up. The last 10 miles to Sand Wash are on a rutted, dirt road.

TRIP REPORT

There are 68 rapids in this 95-mile stretch of river ranging from Class I to Class VI (10 pt. scale). All of these rapids can be lined or carried if necessary. At 3,000 cfs all can be run in an open boat, by expert paddlers, except for two or three. As water volume increases, the number of rapids runnable in open boats decreases. A BLM permit is required and the BLM discourages open boating on this stretch. Camping is not restricted and good sites abound. Take as much water as possible as there is very little but adequate water in the canyons. There are published trip logs available rating the rapids. Just past Rock Creek lives Nik Hougen, artist and woodcarver who is the ranch caretaker. About 35, he's friendly and has good water. His works are for sale at reasonable prices.

TIME, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

GUNNISON RIVER - DELTA TO WHITEWATER

Length & time: 40 miles, two or three days, 15 hours

Difficulty: Intermediate (May)

Put-in: City Park just west of bridge over the river
joining Delta to North Delta

Take-out: Highway bridge Rte. 141 at town of Whitewater

Car-shuttle time: 1 3/4 hours

TRIP REPORT

There are 4 rapids and one diversion dam on this stretch. The rapids are two Class I's and two Class II's (on 10 pt. scale). The diversion dam should be scouted and can be run via a fast chute on the left but beware powerful counter-clockwise current in pool below chute. Best campsite is at head of Dominguez Canyon. Food and water must be carried in boats. Reported in Earl Perry's Rivers of Colorado.

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

NORTH PLATTE RIVER - NORTH GATE CANYON (UPPER END)

Length and time: 10 miles, one day, 5 hours

Difficulty: Advanced (July)

Put-in: Approx. 5 miles south of Wyoming border, Rt. 125 crosses the North Platte. One mile N. of the bridge look for a dirt road on right and follow some $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the put-in.

Pull-out: Six Mile Gap. Route 125 N of Walden becomes Rt 230 in Wyoming. About 4 miles N of border there is a sign on R saying "Six Mile Road". Go 2 miles to the campground. Must carry gear and boats 200 yards uphill to road.

Car-shuttle time: 1 hour

TRIP REPORT

This trip through the upper end of North Gate Canyon is not advised for open boaters. There are four major rapids: Moonshine (Class III on a 10 pt. scale), Cowpie (Class IV), Narrow or Ophir Falls (Class VII), and Stovepipe (Class IV). The crux of Narrow Falls is an S-shaped chute through a granite ledge which drops 10' in 50' - this can only be run (safely) in rafts or kayaks, but can be carried on the right (there is an eddy to use). After the chute, Narrow Falls and Cowpie blend into one long rapid - about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile long. This section consists of an endless rock garden in an ever-narrowing river with constant current. While numerous boulders stud the river, there are plenty of eddies to rest and plan your attack. The river can be "pushy" so skill and calmness are a must. The river lets up after Narrow Falls until Stovepipe. Several large holes are just upriver from Stovepipe requiring quick ferrying from one side to the other. Stovepipe has several large (4') standing waves, but it's a clean, exciting run. Stay left at the bottom to avoid some holes.

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

NORTH PLATTE RIVER - BENNETT PEAK CAMPGROUND TO SARATOGA, WYOMING

Length & Time: 22 miles, overnight, 5 hours total

Difficulty: Intermediate (July)

Put-in: Bennett Peak Campground. Route 125 N of Walden becomes Route 230 in Wyoming. Go east 4 miles from Riverside to French Creek road. The Campground is on the river about 20 miles on a rough road.

Take-out: Saratoga

Car-shuttle time: 3 hours

TRIP REPORT

From Bennett Peak Campground to Plattoga Ranch is about 10 miles. The ranch has access to the highway, so only one section (either day) can be run. Highway sign reads "Upper Platte River Rishing Area" and is 8½ miles north of Riverside on Route 230. To find the ranch, take the right fork at sign "Public Parking". ½ hour to bridge. ½ hour to sign about an electric fence across the river (it wasn't there). ½ hour to overhead telephone lines and signs about private land. 15 minutes to low bridge (there is an advance warning sign) - run on R but still must duck. Plattoga Ranch is 100 yards downstream 1 3/4-2 hours from Bennett Peak Campground. Need trip report from Ranch to Saratoga - reported to be 12 miles of fast current but no rapids.

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

No drinking water at Bennett Peak Campground
or Plattoga Ranch

NORTH PLATTE RIVER - SIX MILE GAP TO PLATTOGA RANCH, WYOMING

Length & Time: 38 miles, overnight, 9 hours

Difficulty: Advanced (June) (only for the upper stretch)

Put-in: Six Mile Gap. Route 125 N of Walden becomes Route 230 in Wyoming. About 4 miles there is sign on R saying "Six Mile Road". Go 2 miles to campground. Must carry gear and boats 200 yards downhill to the river. May be other boaters, especially rafters here.

Take-out: Plattoga Ranch. Highway sign reads "Upper Platte River Fishing Area" and is 8½ miles North of Riverside on Route 230. To find the ranch, take the right fork at sign "Public Parking".

Car-shuttle time: 1½ hours

TRIP REPORT

Pickeroon Campground is 8 miles, but can take 4 hours, with lots of scouting, lunch, bailing, etc. Campground hard to see on right because of rapids before it. A small stream comes in from right just before it, so that's one clue. Class III rapids (on 10 pt. scale) at beginning, middle, and near Pickeroon. Otherwise, it is rocky and is best to run at high water. Get to Pickeroon early, because it can be full of rafters. Second Day: 1½ hours to white sign on L that says (looking back) that it is a private road. ½ hour to bridge. 10 minutes after white sign is a 30 minute section of good white water (Class III on 10 pt. scale). Just before Bennett Peak Campground is a mini-canyon and the 1st turn goes into Sun (at 10:30 a.m.) and that plus the larger waves makes some big holes and bad sleepers hard to see. Lunch pull-out is very good but hidden around bend on the right. 3 hours with few stops. ½ hour to bridge. ½ hour to sign about an electric fence across the river (it wasn't there). ½ hour to overhead telephone lines and signs about private land. 15 minutes to low bridge (there is an advance warning sign) - run on R but still must duck. Plattoga Ranch is 100 yards downstream - 1 3/4-2 hours from Bennett Peak Campground.

TIMES, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

Good crab dinner at Lion's Lair Lounge
in Rand, Colorado (South of Walden).

NORTH PLATTE RIVER - SARATOGA TO I80 BRIDGE, WYOMING

Length: 48 miles, overnight
Difficulty: Intermediate (July)
Put-in: Saratoga
Take-out: I80 Bridge
Car-shuttle time:

TRIP REPORT

Best to take I80 to Saratoga. Can then do car-shuttle along the way. Pick's Bridge is 18 miles from Saratoga and campgrounds were "buggy" - best to go on to a dryer campsite and cut into the 30 miles on the second day. Can also put in at Picks Bridge and pull-out further downstream past I80. More rapids 1st day, as 2nd day has more canyons and desert.

TIMES, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

RIO GRANDE RIVER - WAGON WHEEL GAP TO SOUTH FORK, COLORADO

Length and Time: 20 miles, 4-5 hours
Difficulty: High intermediate
Put-in: Either at Palisade campground or above town of Wagon Wheel Gap (below bridge)
Pull-out: South Fork
Car-shuttle time: 30 minutes

TRIP REPORT

Reported in Earl Perry's Rivers of Colorado also.

The river moves quickly (you can cover 5-6 miles in an hour). Below the put-in is a challenging canyon rated advanced - putting in at Palisade campground avoids this canyon. The river is a rock garden with lots of drops and close maneuvering required. Below the canyon one only encounters a few small rapids.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

SAN JUAN RIVER - BLUFF TO MEXICAN HAT, UTAH

Length and Time: 27 miles, 2 days
Difficulty: Low intermediate (April)
Put-in: Bluff
Pull-out: Clay Hill Crossing (?)
Car-shuttle time:

TRIP REPORT

Look for ruins of Walter Mendenhall's cabin soon after entering goosenecks. Also, look for Slickhorn Canyon containing natural pools. Lake Powell backs up the water toward the end of the trip. Can be very windy, blowing upstream, so be prepared.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

SOUTH PLATTE RIVER -BRIDGE CROSSING TO SOUTH PLATTE TOWNSITE

Length & Time: 8 miles and 1½ hours to the Chute

Difficulty: Intermediate (The Slot is advanced.)
(Dam controlled.)

Put-in: Bridge Crossing Picnic Ground, 3 miles
downstream (North) of Deckers

Take-out: Somewhere above the Chute although it can
be run all the way to the town of South
Platte, where the North fork of the So.
Platte meets the main So. Platte. The river
goes on through unrunable (for canoes) Waterton
Canyon. See attached flyer for an explanation of
the water projects planned for this area.

Car-shuttle time: Less than 1 hour

TRIP REPORT

There are several nice rapids (I class III on 10-pt. scale) and the numerous rock forms are flooded if the water flow is over 500 cfs. The "Chute" is a very narrow (10 foot), very short, and very steep canyon chute into a large deep pool. This is a favorite run for tubers. No obstacles, it is a straight shot.

TIMES, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

SOUTH PLATTE RIVER - CHATFIELD DAM TO DENVER

Length & time:

Difficulty: Easy

Put-in:

Take-out:

Car-shuttle time:

TRIP REPORT

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

SOUTH PLATTE RIVER - PLATTEVILLE TO GREELEY

Length and time: 15 miles, 5 hours

Difficulty: Easy (April)

Put-in:

Pull-out:

Car-shuttle time:

TRIP REPORT

Reported in Earl Perry's, Rivers of Colorado. A past RMCC trip report was titled "Milliken to Greeley" so some clarification is needed here.

TIMES, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

SOUTH PLATTE RIVER - THROUGH DENVER

Length and Time: Section described below is 3 miles.

Difficulty: Intermediate (numerous portages)

Put-in: Zuni power plant dam. Use the 8th Street Park for launching, just upstream from the dam.

Pull-out: Kayak Park which also has a dock and parking.

Car-shuttle time: A bike path parallels this section and it's probably a 30 minute round trip car shuttle.

TRIP REPORT

Reported in Earl Perry's Rivers of Colorado also.

In this 3 mile section, there is the Zuni dam bypass chute, the slalom chute at Confluence Park, surfing waves at the 19th Street Viaduct, the man-made "S" turn rapids, and the rapid at Kayak Park. The water is usually above 50 degrees F because of the warm water release at Zuni.

TIMES, PHONE #, AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

WHITE RIVER - MEEKER TO RIO BLANCO LAKE

Length & Time: 30 miles, overnight, 8 hours total
Difficulty: Intermediate on May 30
Put-in: Meeker City Park
Take-out: Rio Blanco Lake
Car-shuttle time:

TRIP REPORT

Free camping at the City Park in Meeker. It has running water and flush toilets even! Electric hookups are available at a nominal fee. The White River meanders through shady, tree-lined farms and open range land and provides some of the best features of our scheduled trips. There is an abundance of wildlife with deer, beaver, eagles, herons and vultures to be seen. While this river can be run by anyone with a little experience it is not a safe place to learn to canoe. We recommend that only experienced canoeists plan to bring children. With swift current, tight turns and overhanging trees, this is always an interesting trip. This area is historically interesting. You may wish to visit the White River Museum in Meeker and find out more about the Ute Indians, the Meeker Massacre, and later white settlement. There are a number of original log buildings, inhabited and vacant, along the roads.

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER:

YAMPA RIVER - CRAIG TO JUNIPER SPRINGS, CO

Length & time: 40 miles, two days, 18 hours

Difficulty: Intermediate (Due to overnight and lack of highway access along river) May

Put-in: S of Craig at gravel pit on right side of road (Rte. 392) just before bridge over river.

Take-out: A few miles west of Lay, CO on US40 look for dirt road on left (sign) leading in about 7 miles to river at Juniper Springs.

Car-shuttle time: 2½ hours

TRIP REPORT

This is flat water all the way through isolated country. Occasional fast current or riffles. Get an early start as wind can be a real problem. Reported in Earl Perry's Rivers of Colorado.

TIME, PHONE # AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TRIP LEADER.