Dinosaur National Monument

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior

Boating in the Monument

2016 Information and Regulations

Boaters below Steamboat Rock
Photo by Peter Williams

Whitewater rafting is a popular way to experience the remote canyons in Dinosaur National Monument, but the Green and Yampa Rivers should never be mistaken for placid rivers. When John Wesley Powell floated the river in 1869, the scenery enthralled his group, but the rapids caused them great anguish as boats overturned, men were hurt, and supplies were lost. Even today, many boats end up pinned on rocks, their boatmen bruised and battered. For that reason, permit holders and trip leaders must have previous experience on comparable rivers. Depending on the water level, some rapids are rated as high as Class 4.

Boating permits are limited to protect the natural and cultural resources and to leave the river canyons unimpaired for future boaters. The following rules and regulations have been put in place to assure that all travelers on the river will have a safe, peaceful, and memorable trip.

The permit holder must know the rules and regulations described in this booklet, and assure that all persons participating in your boating trip are aware of them. You are accountable not only for yourself, but for all the members of your group. Violators may receive a citation and/or become ineligible for future permits.

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What's New!

Current and Upcoming Changes for 2016

Effective Immediately:

1. River permit management and issuance for permit holders is located on recreation.gov. Please contact the River Office for questions.
2. Increases to group size after permit issuance may be approved by the River Office on a case-by-case basis. See page 6.
3. Overlength trip fee may be paid by credit card. See page 4.
4. A fire pan is only required if group intends to build a fire. See page 10 and 22.
5. One throw bag is required for **all** support craft. See page 11.
6. Additional defining of "large craft" and "small craft" to reflect current regulations. See pages 14, 22-23.

Upcoming:

As of December 1st, 2016, lottery applications will only be accepted via recreation.gov.

Definition of a Noncommercial River Trip

Noncommercial boating permits will be allocated to individuals or organizations whose proposed trip meets the following criteria:

1. There is a bona fide sharing of cost where *no* part of the fees are:
   a. collected in excess of actual costs of the trip,
   b. for salary or financial gain in any manner for any of the group, its leaders, or sponsors,
   c. for capital increase of the major equipment or facilities used on the trip.

2. Boatmen and other crew may not be paid in ANY manner. Any or all goods, activities, services, agreements, or anything offered to park visitors and/or the general public for recreational purposes, which use park resources, and is undertaken for or results in compensation, monetary gain, benefit, or profit to an individual, organization, or corporation, is considered a commercial enterprise.

3. There is no media or direct mail advertising or soliciting for trip participants.

Forms of Payment

Fees must be paid at the time of reservation (through recreation.gov or otherwise) and may be paid by credit card (Master Card, Visa, Discover, or American Express) by calling the River Office, Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM–noon, Mountain Time. We also accept personal checks, cashier's checks, or money orders made out to "National Park Service" if application is completed in person. See page 4 for Fees and Deposits.

Fees and Deposits

All fees and deposits, except overlength fees, are nonrefundable.

Application Fee

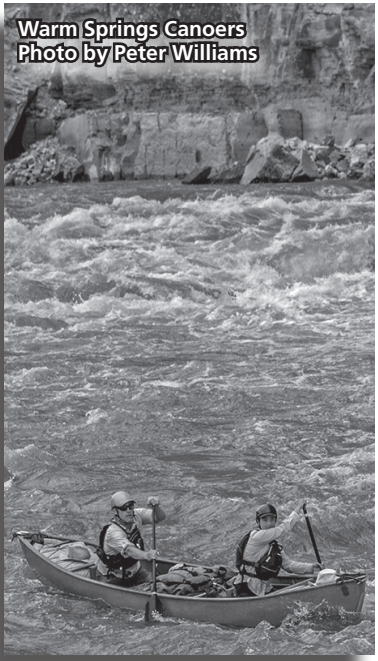
A $15 application fee must be submitted with the lottery application. The $15 application fee must be paid immediately upon booking a trip by nonlottery participants for either one-day or multiday trips. See page 3 for how to pay.

Multiday Trips

The permit fee for a multiday trip is $185. If the fee was not paid at the time of booking, the permit fee is due no later than one month prior to the launch date or the trip will be cancelled. If the trip is picked up through the cancellation process and is less than 30 days away, the $185 permit fee must be paid at the time of booking—no exceptions. See page 3 for how to pay.

One-Day Trips

Split Mountain trips are available for booking through recreation.gov. The permit fee for a one-day trip is $20, which is due at the time of booking. See page 3 for how to pay.


Warm Springs Canoers
Photo by Peter Williams

Overlength Trip Fee

The overlength trip fee is $35, which is due at the time of booking. Overlength trip requests cannot be approved or itineraries assigned until campsites are assigned for all other permits, and it is determined that there are adequate campsite openings for an overlength trip. See page 3 for how to pay. See page 6 for more information on trip lengths.

Entrance Fees

Park entrance fees are not included in your permit. Currently, the entrance fee is $20 per vehicle, unless you have a valid federal park passes.

Campground Fees

Boating permit fees do NOT include camping fees when you are at the Gates of Lodore, Deerlodge Park, Green River, or Split Mountain campgrounds prior to putting on the river or after taking off. Camping at Gates of Lodore, Deerlodge Park, or Rainbow Park (for Split Mt. permits only) prior to launch is first-come, first-served. Split Mountain group campsites and some sites at Green River Campground are available for reservation through recreation.gov. Please see information about camping fees at all put-in campgrounds.

Requirements and Regulations

Boating within Dinosaur National Monument is by Permit Only
All individuals boating within Dinosaur National Monument must have a valid and complete confirmation corm on file and possess a permit issued by the River Office. Permits are nontransferable and are for one launch only. Please see page 9 for more information on play permits for those sections upstream of the Gates of Lodore or Deerlodge Park boat ramps, or downstream of the Split Mountain boat ramp.

Individuals Can Have Only One Application in the High-use Lottery System
Having more than one application in the lottery system will result in any trip acquired through that lottery being forfeited.

Individuals Can Have Only One MultiDay Permit at a Time
A person may only hold one multiday permit in their name at any time. This includes all high-use and low-use multiday trips.

Launch and Take Out Dates and Locations
Permit holders must launch their trips on the date and at the location listed on their permit. Likewise, they may only take out on the date and at the location listed on their permit.

One High-Use Trip per Year
All noncommercial participants are limited to a maximum of one high-use trip per year through any portion of the multiday section of the Green or Yampa rivers within Dinosaur National Monument. Participation by the trip leader/permit holder or any other member of a group on any prior noncommercial river trip within the same year will result in that person's (and the permit holder, if other group member is in violation) disqualification from holding a permit in the monument for the rest of that year and the subsequent year. Individuals may be the permit holder and/or passenger on as many one-day and low-use multiday trips as they wish.
See page 22 for high-use season dates on the Green and Yampa Rivers.

Wearing Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)
Every person on board any vessel shall wear a Coast Guard approved Type I, III, or V PFD at all times, except that PFDs may be loosened or removed by persons 13 years of age or older between Cove Campsite and Rainbow Park boat ramp. See page 9–10 for more information on PFD requirements.

Age requirement for Permit Holders and Lottery Applicants
Lottery applicants, permit holders, and trip leaders must be 18 years or older by any requested launch date.

Permit Violations and Penalties

Permit holders who violate the terms and conditions of their permit (which are outlined in this booklet) may receive a criminal penalty and/or have their privileges to hold a permit in the monument revoked. Violations of the permit fall under 36 CFR and the Superintendent's Compendium. Maximum fine can be up to $5,000 and/or up to six months in prison.

Trip Leader/Qualifying Boatman Experience

The trip leader and boatmen must have a working knowledge of whitewater safety, general first aid, river equipment repair, and the techniques of whitewater navigation. The trip leader must be at least 18 years of age. Experience on the Green and Yampa rivers in Dinosaur National Monument or on other comparable class III or higher whitewater rivers (such as the Rogue, Selway, North Platte, Grand Canyon, Westwater, and others) is mandatory. It is preferable that the trip leader or another member of the party be familiar with the rivers within Dinosaur National Monument.

Trip Size and Travel Together

Noncommercial river trips shall include no more than 25 persons (total includes the permit holder/trip leader) at any point on the trip. People boating under one permit must launch, travel, camp and take out together. Groups must remain within sight and sound of each other throughout the trip, and failure to do so may result in penalty.

Trip Lengths

During high-use, the normal trip length on the Green River is four days and on the Yampa River it is five days. If the permit holder requests and is granted an overlength trip, the number of days can be extended to five days on the Green River, and six days on the Yampa River. During low-use season the maximum trip length for the Green River is six days, and seven days for the Yampa River. An extra charge is required for extra days (see page 4). Trips may never exceed the trip lengths listed on the permit. The length of the permit cannot be changed after the permit has been issued.

Permits are Not Transferable

Noncommercial permits are not transferable. The permit holder must accompany the entire river trip. **If the original permit holder is disqualified from the trip or cannot go on the trip for any other reason, the noncommercial trip will be cancelled.** This rule may be waived by the NPS in cases where documentation is provided for death or serious medical cases only. The NPS will make its decision on a case-by-case basis.

Passenger Lists

An accurate passenger list must be on file in the River Office at least one business day prior to launch. Once the permit is issued, requests to increase the number of people travelling on your permit must be approved by the River Office a minimum of one business day prior to launch, and are approved on a case-by-case basis. Additions or substitutions to the passenger list will not be allowed at the launch site.

Trip Checkout Form and Required Identification/Documentation

All permit holders must present a valid photo identification (e.g., driver's license, state issued identification, or passport) to the ranger during the check-in inspection. The permit holder must also present their permit, which they are required to have with them for the duration of the trip. In addition to the permit, the permit holder is **required** to have a copy of their 2016 Boater's Information Booklet and a copy of their passenger list. **Without these items, the trip will be subject to citation and/or administrative penalty.** If a ranger is not available at your permit launch point, the permit holder must complete a trip check-in form found at the kiosk at the boat ramp before departing. Permit holders must always turn their permit in on the boat ramp at the takeout.

Cancelling Trips

It is the permit holder's responsibility to notify the River Office of their inability to use their scheduled launch date. All fees are nonrefundable. A no-show will result in an administrative penalty, as will cancellation within two weeks of the launch date.

Permit Holder and Member Responsibility

The permit holder must complete all portions of the permit application procedure and is directly responsible for the actions of their group. Failure by the permit holder or any member of the group to adhere to any of these regulations may result in revocation of the permit, citation of the permit holder and/or members, and possible administrative decision that may affect future use on the Green and Yampa rivers within Dinosaur National Monument. Permits must be reserved and issued more than 48 hours prior to launch. This rule may be waived if the permit holder comes to the River Office.

Generator Use

Because the river corridors are Recommended Wilderness, generators may only be used on boat ramps at the launch and take-out points.

Echo Park Boat Ramp

Due to high-use at the boat ramp, please tie boats as closely together as possible. The boat ramp may be used for accessing day hikes (e.g., Whispering Cave), drinking water, and lunch spots.

River Ranger Patrols

An NPS river ranger may, on occasion, travel with or inspect noncommercial parties to ensure compliance with permit conditions and to provide additional safety through major rapids. Rangers may request information such as a copy of your permit, passenger list, and regulations. It is the permit holder's responsibility to have these items present. Rangers carry radios and satellite phones and are able to call in additional resources if there is an emergency.

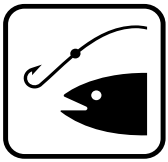
Pets

Pets are not permitted on river trips.

ADA Accessibility
Please contact the River Office for more information regarding accessibility options for those with disabilities.

Resource Protection
Natural or historical features, such as rocks, old mining artifacts, fossils, flowers, antlers, or Native American artifacts, may not be removed or disturbed. Removing, disturbing, or defacing natural, historic, cultural, or archeological features is prohibited. Shooting, trapping, molesting, or feeding wildlife is prohibited. Please report wildlife observations on the back of the river permit. Picking or gathering of plants, unless for immediate consumption, is prohibited.

Fishing
Fishing is permitted, subject to all state regulations and licenses of the state in which the person is fishing. Anyone fishing must have a valid Colorado and/or Utah fishing



license, depending upon the state in which they fish. People fishing should also be familiar with the rules and guidelines regarding the handling of endangered and/or exotic fish of concern. An illustrated guide to the endangered and exotic fish of concern in the monument can be downloaded from the Dinosaur National Monument website.

Abandonment of property
Property left more than 24 hours or that interferes with visitor safety may be impounded by the superintendent at any time. The owner of record or the permit holder may be liable for any charges associated with removal of property. Recovery of property must be coordinated through the river office.

Day Hikes and Lunch Spots
The use of a boat ramp for lunch is prohibited. Please be aware of others' needs if you

stop for lunch at campsite landings as the campsite may be assigned to the group behind you for the evening. If you stop for lunch at high-use trail heads or scouting locations, please ensure that others can still use these locations. There are day-hike boat parking locations at Rippling Brook (250 ft downstream of the campsite at Rippling Brook 1) and Jones Hole (between Jones Hole 3 and Jones Hole 4). At Echo Park, please try not to block the access to the river. See page 12–13 for more hiking locations.

Firearms and Other Weapons
The possession of firearms must comply with state law; however, the use of firearms is prohibited. The possession or use of other weapons, explosives, and fireworks is prohibited.

Alcohol and Other Controlled Substances
Boating under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance is prohibited. All underage drinking is prohibited. Marijuana use while on the Green and Yampa rivers is governed by federal, not state, regulations.

Play Permits

A permit is required to boat into the monument from upstream of Gates of Lodore or Deerlodge. Play permits for launches above these locations are free and issued by the River Office, or by the ranger at the Lodore or Deerlodge boat ramps; no advanced reservations are necessary. This play permit allows groups to launch upstream of Dinosaur National Monument to begin their multiday trip through the monument. One play permit each day will be issued for groups who wish to take out at Lodore or Deerlodge.

Boaters who possess a multiday river permit entering the Monument at Deerlodge or Lodore under a play permit, must perform a check-in with a ranger before continuing downriver.

A separate play permit is required for boating below Split Mountain Gorge. Play permits for boating below Split Mountain Gorge are free and are issued by the River Office or at the Quarry Visitor Center seven miles north of Jensen, Utah. No advanced reservations are necessary.

Required Equipment Checklist

It is the permit holder's responsibility to ensure that all required equipment is fully functional. Failure to possess all required equipment upon check-in inspection will result in the inability to launch.

☐ **Adult Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)**

Type I, Type III, or Type V Coast Guard approved PFDs must be properly worn by each participant while on any craft in the river (except from Cove Campsite to Rainbow Park boat ramp on the Green River). Type III and Type V life jackets must be approved for whitewater activities (rafting, paddling, etc.), must have a static shell with a minimum inherent buoyancy of 15.5 lbs (for adults), must be appropriate for the size and weight of the user, and must be in good condition. PFDs showing excessive signs of wear will not be approved for use. **Horse-collar type PFDs or ski and fishing vests are not acceptable.**

Warm Springs at 3,000 CFS
Photo by Peter Williams

☐ **Child PFDs**

Children must properly wear an appropriately sized, Coast Guard approved, Type III or V PFD rated for their weight with a static shell and a minimum inherent buoyancy of 11 lbs at all times. Horse-collar type PFDs and ski and fishing vests are not acceptable. You must bring a spare child-size PFD for all trips with children. All children under 13 must wear a PFD at all times while on a watercraft.

☐ **Spare PFDs**

Spare PFDs must be a Type I, Type III, or Type V life jacket of an appropriate size and weight for the potential users, which includes spare PFDs for children. Each oar boat, dory, or paddleboat must carry a spare PFD. In addition, if there are small craft, one spare PFD is required for every five small craft (e.g., six small craft requires two spare PFDs). Spare PFDs for small craft may be carried on a support boat.

☐ **Spare Oars/Paddles**

One spare oar for each raft or dory, one spare paddle for each paddle raft, and one spare paddle for every three small craft must be carried (paddles designed to be strapped to or worn on the hands meet this requirement). If there are fewer than three kayaks or canoes as part of the trip, one extra paddle is required. Spare oars/paddles for small craft may be carried on a support boat.

☐ **Toilet Containers**

Each group must carry and use at least one container toilet system that is washable, reusable, crush resistant (e.g., steel "rocket box"), and will not leak when inverted, to carry out human waste on multiday trips. It must be accessible for use during the day. ***Bag systems (such as wag bags or PET systems) are not permitted.*** Toilet systems are strongly recommended, but not required, on one-day trips (see also page 20).

☐ **Spray Skirts and Flotation**

Water-tight spray skirts and flotation for each hard shelled kayak and/or decked canoe are required.

☐ **Strainer**

A mesh strainer for dishwater and ashes is required for multiday trips, but not on one-day trips.

☐ **Kitchen Ground Tarp**

Kitchen ground tarps must be placed under food preparation and serving tables to leave the beach free of food scraps. The food scraps caught by kitchen ground tarp should be disposed of in an appropriate trash container.

☐ **Fire Pan**

A fire pan is required if you intend to build a fire. Fire pans must be elevated off the ground with legs, rocks, or other items. If there is a Type I fire ban in the monument, open fires are prohibited.

☐ **Fire Blanket**

A fireproof blanket or welder's cloth must be carried and placed under the fire pan. It must be of sufficient size to catch coals and ashes around the fire pan. Dispose of ash properly. Trips are only required to have a fire pan and fire blanket if building a fire.

☐ **Bailing Device**

Each boat with a nonself-bailing floor must carry a bailing device, except kayaks.

☐ **Flotation for Open Dories and Whitewater Canoes**

Open dories and whitewater canoes must have securely attached flotation, which should be equal to two-thirds of volume.

☐ **Helmets**

Helmets are required for all small craft and must be worn in all named rapids, including: Tepee, Little Joe, Five Springs, Big Joe, Warm Springs, Winnies, Disaster Falls, Harp Falls, Triplet, Hells Half Mile, Greasy Pliers, Moonshine, SOB, Schoolboy, and Inglesby. Bike helmets are not appropriate. You must carry one spare helmet for every five small craft.

☐ **Throw Bag**

One throw bag is required for all rafts and dories, including those under 16 feet.

☐ **Rescue Kit**

One rescue kit (a.k.a sweep kit or Z-drag kit) containing adequate gear to rescue a trapped boat is required per group. Participants should have knowledge of river rescue techniques. A rescue kit must add mechanical advantage.

☐ **First Aid kits**

One major first aid kit for the entire group must be included, in addition to one basic first aid kit for each large craft on the trip. A major first aid kit must contain supplies (including gloves, facial barrier, splinting material, trauma dressings, etc.) for treating medical emergencies and traumatic injuries. A minor first aid kit only needs to include supplies for treating minor wounds and injuries.

☐ **Boat Repair Kits**

Repair kits suitable for each type of boat on the trip are required. A suitable repair kit includes supplies capable of repairing tears in fabric and replacing or repairing valves and frame components.

☐ **Air Pump**

An air pump is required in each group with inflatable large and/or small craft.

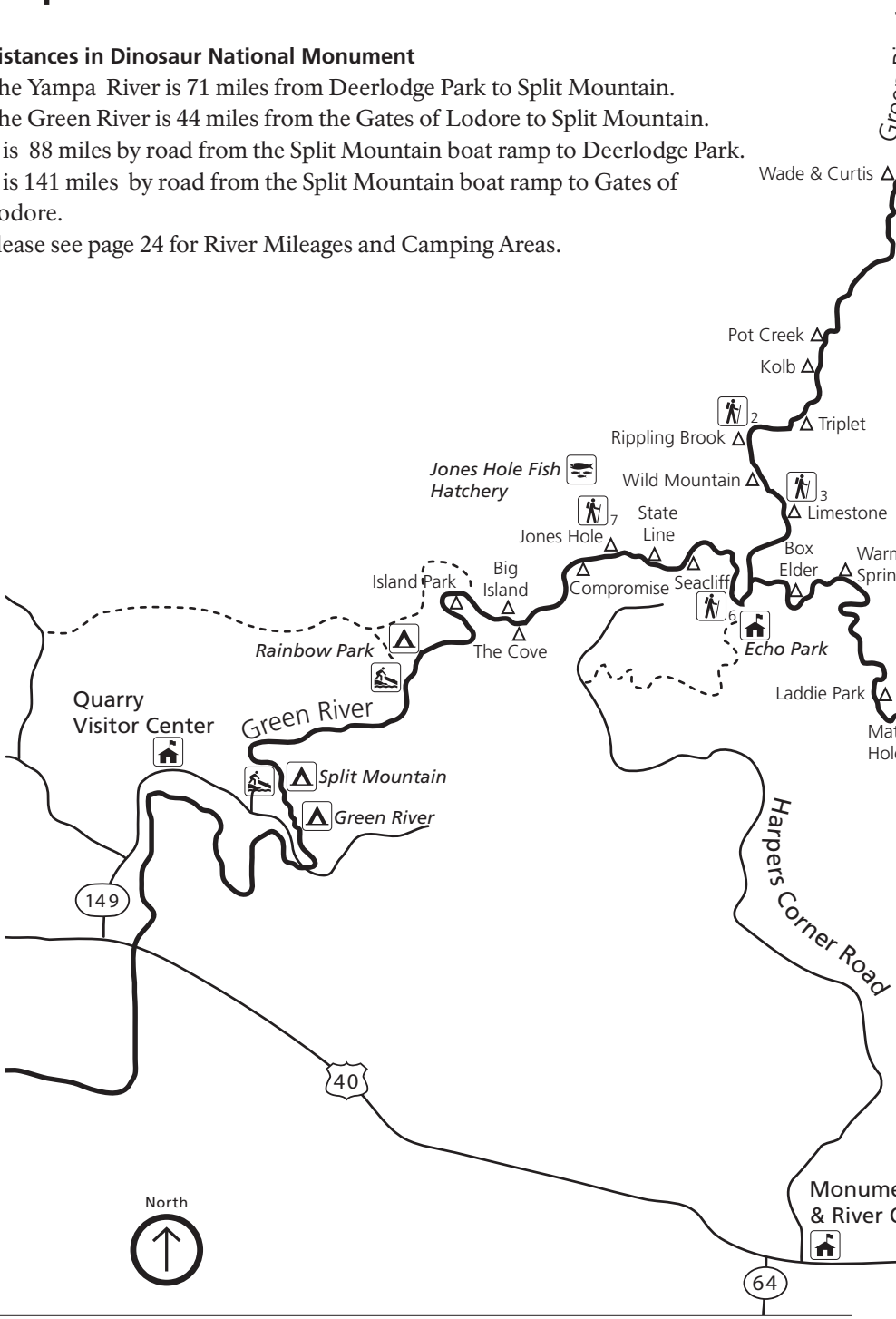
☐ **Paperwork**

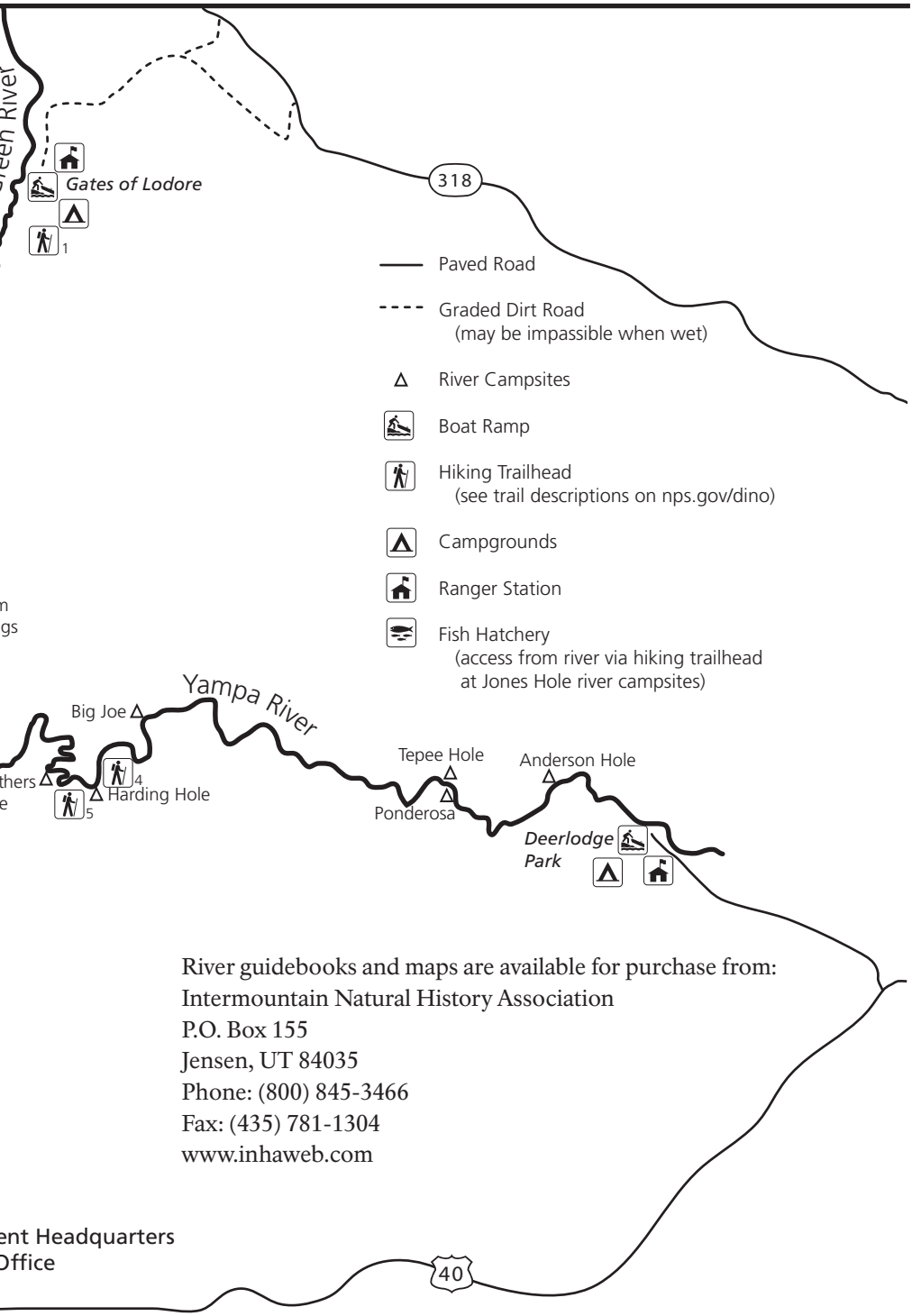
A current copy of the 2016 Information and Regulations booklet, an accurate passenger list that matches the one on file in the river office, and a signed permit for launch are required to be readily available at all times.

Map of the Rivers

Distances in Dinosaur National Monument

The Yampa River is 71 miles from Deerlodge Park to Split Mountain.
The Green River is 44 miles from the Gates of Lodore to Split Mountain.
It is 88 miles by road from the Split Mountain boat ramp to Deerlodge Park.
It is 141 miles by road from the Split Mountain boat ramp to Gates of Lodore.
Please see page 24 for River Mileages and Camping Areas.





River guidebooks and maps are available for purchase from:
Intermountain Natural History Association
P.O. Box 155
Jensen, UT 84035
Phone: (800) 845-3466
Fax: (435) 781-1304
www.inhaweb.com

Watercraft Types Quick Reference Guide

Rangers have final discretion when approving crafts for launch.

Approved:

Oar Raft/Paddle Boat/ Cataraft	Dory and Canoe	Kayak/IK
If over 19 feet, then frame and oars required (paddle boats over 19 feet are not allowed). At least three separate chambers. Rafts are considered "large" or "support" craft. See page 9–11 for required equipment.	Secure, adequate flotation, or sealed chambers required (approx. 2/3 of volume—air mattresses are unacceptable). Boatmen must have high-volume river experience. Canoes are considered "small craft." See page 9–11 for required equipment.	At least three separate chambers or hard shell. Must be approved for whitewater and constructed from durable material. Skirt required if hard shell. Kayaks are considered "small craft." See pages 9–11 for required equipment.

Approved with support craft:

Craft with fewer than three chambers such as a packraft, "shredder," paddlecat, "stinger," stand-up paddleboard, and riverboard. These are considered "small craft." See pages 9–11 for required equipment.

Prohibited:

Motor boats, conventional rowboats, foldboats, swimming pool rafts and toys, inner tubes, air mattresses, and other flimsy craft.

Watercraft Capacities

Exceeding passenger carrying capacities on boats is prohibited. Capacities for boats shall be determined from the manufacturer specifications. As a general guideline, capacity may be determined by the dimensions of the boat (approximately 22 square feet per person for boats with frames and oars or approximately 18 square feet per person for paddled craft).

Camping Regulations

During high-use season, camp only in campsites assigned by the River Office. During low-use season, when completing their paperwork, boaters may choose at which designated campsites they wish to stay. Sites are available first-come, first-served, and the River Office will inform if there are conflicts.

1. **Campsites must be packed up, and boats loaded and moved out of landings by noon to allow the next group to occupy the site.** Adhere to Leave-No-Trace principles, and leave your campsite as you found it or better.
2. If not assigned a campsite at Jones Hole, use the day-use access between Jones Hole campsites 3 and 4 for hiking. If not assigned a campsite at Rippling Brook, use the day-use access between the two campsites for hiking.
3. During a river trip, camping is not permitted at Echo Park, Rainbow Park, or in the Split Mountain Gorge.
4. Do not expand trails, enlarge camping areas, or trench camp or tent sites.
5. The use of kitchen ground tarps to minimize and concentrate impacts and collect food crumbs is required and a kitchen ground tarp is required equipment (see page 10).
6. Fire ash must be strained, and large/floatable contents removed, before the remainder may be deposited in the main river current. All floatable fire residue must be carried out. (See page 10 for required equipment information.)
7. Human waste must be carried downriver in an approved container (see page 20).
8. Pack out all trash along the river and at Deerlodge Park, Gates of Lodore, and Echo Park. **Trash bins at Rainbow Park are NOT for use by multiday river trips.**
9. Only one permitted group per campsite. A maximum of 25 river trip participants per site is allowed on private trips.
10. When you are in an area with multiple campsites, remember to respect your neighbors. Quiet hours are between 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM. Each group must remember to stay within their assigned, designated site; do not spill over to the next site (look for posts to distinguish boundaries between areas with multiple campsites, e.g., Jones Hole, Harding Hole).
11. The superintendent may close campsites for resource management or safety concerns (such as bighorn sheep lambing season, bear activity, or wildland fires).
12. Do not collect firewood in campsites (see firewood restrictions on page 21).

Emergency Information and Incident Reports

Communication and Signaling

A satellite telephone or emergency beacon is recommended (although not required) equipment. In the event of an emergency, please dial one of the following numbers to connect with the appropriate 911 dispatch center:

Above Echo Park call the Craig, CO, dispatch at (970) 824-6501.
Below Echo Park call the Vernal, UT, dispatch at (435) 789-4222.
Main monument phone number: (435) 781-7700, seven days/week during business hours.

If you are not carrying a satellite phone or emergency beacon, be aware that river rangers and many outfitters carry emergency communication equipment. Additionally, an emergency radio is located on the south exterior wall of the ranger station at Echo Park.

Requirement to Report Incidents

Any incidents resulting in injury, death, or disappearance of any participant, or property damage greater than $2,000 must be reported to Dinosaur National Monument within 24 hours or as soon as practical.

Boaters at Mitten Park
Photo by Peter Williams

Safety Recommendations

1. Trip leaders should review river safety procedures with the entire group before and during the trip. Safety procedures should include defensive and aggressive swimming, and foot entrapment avoidance.
2. Always properly wear an approved life jacket, protective footwear, and appropriate clothing.
3. Stand up only in shallow, calm water (i.e., below your knees), and beware of foot entrapment.
4. Keep hands and legs inside the boat to avoid crushing limbs between boats and obstacles.
5. Tie gear inside the boat to avoid injuries in the event the boat flips. "Rig to flip!"
6. Allow the group ahead of you to pass through a rapid before you enter it.
7. Bring more medication than you expect to use. Bring medications for all known allergies. Consider storing medications in two different locations, so if you lose some due to an accident, you will still have some.
8. Bring enough drinking water for the entire trip. Do not drink water from natural sources without treating appropriately.
9. Be prepared for temperature extremes. Protect skin from sun and be prepared for cold night temperatures. Snow is not uncommon in spring, early summer, and fall.
10. During lightning storms, stay away from metal objects, solitary trees, and high elevations. Lightning can also strike the water and inner canyons. Watch for flash floods when camping near the mouth of side canyons. Immediately move to high ground if you suspect a flash flood.
11. Due to swift currents, sharp drop-offs, sandbars, and other unseen hazards, swimming is not recommended. If you are swimming, you should wear a PFD.
12. Inquire with the River Office about the availability of drinking water at Gates of Lodore, Deerlodge Park, Echo Park, and Split Mountain before your trip.
13. Emergency beacons (such as "SPOT" and "inReach") work intermittently in the canyon corridors. It can take time for your message to be relayed to authorities.
14. Be aware of the placement of your tents and kitchens. Box elders and cottonwoods have a propensity to lose limbs, sometimes unexpectedly. Also, be aware of the potential for rockfall from cliffs near your camp.
15. Dinosaur National Monument is bear country—be very bear aware while camping along the river. Store your food appropriately so that we do not create habituated bears.

Launch Ramp and Take-Out Procedures

1. Please look for the ranger at the launch ramp or office. If a ranger is not available, fill out a self check-in form found at the information kiosk and deposit it in the box near the boat ramp.

2. Please be considerate of other groups by minimizing time and space on the boat ramps. After unloading or loading is complete, vehicles must be moved to the parking lot. High-use at boat ramp is generally noon–4 PM. A ranger may be present to assist at the takeout during times of heavy traffic, and instructions must be followed.
3. Due to the congestion at the launch ramps, rigging between the hours of 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM will only be for those trips leaving that day. Please be courteous of other groups if playing music on the ramp.
4. Vehicles at Deerlodge Park must be parked along the paved road above the campground. Vehicles parked in other areas will be towed.
5. Bathing, washing dishes, and sleeping in the launch ramp rest rooms is prohibited. The water spigots near the rest rooms are only to be used to fill water containers.
6. Preparation and cooking of meals or setting up tables on the ramp is prohibited.
7. Sleeping, camping, and/or overnight parking is not allowed on the launch ramp or the sandbar. Instead, use the Gates of Lodore or Deerlodge Park campgrounds and pay the campground fee.
8. One-day trips should launch at a time to minimize congestion at the Split Mountain boat ramp. A one-day permit may only be used once; groups may not travel the one-day section more than one time in a day.

Shuttle Companies

Three licensed companies run shuttles for rafters within Dinosaur National Monument:

River Runners Transport, Inc.
www.riverrunnerstransport.com
(800) 930-7238
(435) 781-4919

Wilkins Bus Lines
www.wilkinsbuslines.com
(435) 789-2476
(435) 828-6660

Flaming Gorge Resort
www.flaminggorgeresort.com
(435) 889-3773

Environmental Protection and Sanitation Requirements

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

While not currently mandatory, the monument strongly encourages responsible cleaning and inspection of boats as a preventive measure to minimize the spread of AIS. AIS (such as zebra mussel, New Zealand mudsnail, or quagga mussel) can have devastating effects on the ecology of river ecosystems. **Please clean and thoroughly dry your boat between river trips.** Do your part to keep our rivers healthy.

Refuse

Please keep a clean campsite. Cans and other refuse may not be discarded in the water or along the shore of the river in side canyons, trails, or any other portions of the canyon. **All refuse material must be carried out.** Directly strain liquid garbage and dishwater into the river through a rigid fine-mesh screen capable of holding small food particles. Place the solids in garbage bags that are stored in an animal-proof container. Use the acceptable disposal containers located at Split Mountain boat ramp or remove trash completely from the monument. Do NOT put garbage into the groover dump station. Please dispose of wet wipes, sanitary napkins, and personal hygiene products into the garbage. Do not dispose of these items in groover toilets.

Kitchen ground tarps must be placed under all food preparation and serving tables to leave the beach free of food scraps. The proper use of these tarps will minimize negative wildlife impacts and interactions at campsites. Put food particles collected on your kitchen ground tarp into the trash and not into the river or on the ground. Crushing food and beverage cans must be done on a tarp or below the high water line in a manner that will not leave food particles, liquids, or paper on the beach. The trip leader must ensure that participants properly dispose of refuse.

Wildlife

You are camping in bear country. All food, garbage, and containers used to store food should be kept sealed in a container that is constructed of solid, nonpliable materials. Proper food storage will also help keep smaller animals, such as skunks, from causing issues at river campsites.

Stop The Spread Of Multiple Trails

“Multiple trailing” and its consequent impact on vegetation and soils comprises a perennial problem at attraction sites and along backcountry trails. All river runners should stay on established trails and avoid short-cutting across fragile desert soils.

Campsite Impacts

Impacts above the sandy, post-dam riparian zone at camping areas continues to be a problem. Desert and old pre-dam riparian plant communities are particularly susceptible to damage and erosion due to trampling. River runners should set up camp in the more resistant, post-dam sandbar areas. Please use already established tent sites.

Use Of Soap

Use of soap in side streams or on shore within Dinosaur National Monument is **prohibited**. The use of soap must occur in the main flow of the Green and Yampa rivers. You must stand in the main flow of the river to rinse off with a solar shower. A dishwashing setup and handwashing station, using biodegradeable soap, should be placed in the wet sand below the high water mark or in such a way as to leave the beach free of soap and food spillage.

Portable Toilets

All river runners must carry their solid human waste out of the river corridor. A waste carry-out system will accompany all multiday trips on the river. The toilet system must provide for secure containment and an adequate volume of storage. The river trip toilet system must be the washable, reusable type allowing for the sanitary transfer of waste materials to septic vaults or sewage treatment facilities. Plastic or metal waste containers must be sturdy enough to withstand strong impact, and they must have a leak-proof lid (even when inverted). This system must be approved by Dinosaur National Monument. Your toilet system must be accessible during the day. **The use of bag systems (such as WagBags or PET) for transporting human waste is prohibited.**

URINATE IN THE RIVER OR IN THE TOILET. If you must urinate while hiking away from the river, go "HIGH and FAR" at least 100 feet from trails, backcountry campsites, and side streams, to avoid the buildup of urine. Due to the impact of high volumes of people visiting the same areas, when hiking away from your river camp, bag all human waste (feces) and bring it back to your river camp and deposit it in your reusable toilet. Only put feces, urine, and toilet paper in the washable reusable container, not feminine hygiene products or baby wipes of any kind. The park uses a septic system and these items are not appropriate for a septic system. Do not burn toilet paper.

The number of containers needed is dependent on the number of people and the length of the trip. It is easy to contain about 50 uses in a container measuring 2,000 cubic inches.

Many commercially available chemical additives and holding tank deodorants are available. **The park strongly suggests the use of nontoxic, nonformaldehyde based additives to lessen the impacts to sewage treatment facilities.** Formaldehyde is a known carcinogen.

Dump Stations

A sewer dump station is available at the Split Mountain take-out ramp from early spring until the first freeze in the fall. Inquire at the River Office for specific dates.

Dump stations in the local area include:

Outlaw Trail RV Park
9650 East 600 South
Jensen, Utah 84035
(435) 78one-6000
$10.00 (free if staying at RV park)

Dinosaurland KOA
930 North Vernal Ave
Vernal, Utah 84078
(435) 789-2148
$10.00 (free if staying at RV park)

Buck "n" Bull RV Park
2811 E Main Street
Rangely, Colorado 81648
(970) 675-8335
$5.00 (free if staying at RV park)

Craig KOA Campground
2800 East Highway 40
Craig, Colorado 81625
(970) 824-5105
$12.00 (free if staying at RV park)

Limitations On Firewood Collection

Gathering firewood of any kind is prohibited on the Green River above Echo Park year-round.

Driftwood may be collected:

- along the Yampa River, and
- along the Green River below Echo Park.

Gathering other types of wood (dead, down or live) is prohibited at all times on both rivers.

Explanation:

Driftwood has become scarce in Lodore Canyon because 1) Flaming Gorge dam blocks wood from upstream source areas and 2) reduced spring peak runoff volume is insufficient to wash new woody material in to the river. High spring floods still occur on the free-flowing Yampa, where large driftwood piles can still be seen. Coarse woody debris (driftwood, trees, branches, etc.) provides an important food source for aquatic invertebrates, so food webs in the Green River have been altered and diminished by Flaming Gorge dam operations. Restrictions on driftwood gathering in Lodore help preserve this dwindling resource. Standing dead, down and live wood provide habitat for cavity-nesting species and insects, which are food for birds and other animals. These resources are protected in all national parks.

Definitions

Canoe
An open boat propelled with a single-bladed paddle. Canoes must have float bags and be whitewater approved. Canoes are considered a "small craft."

Cataraft
A boat constructed from two inflatable pontoons on either side of the craft, which are bridged by a frame upon which the oarsman sits to row. Catarafts are considered a "large" or "support" craft.

Dory
A small, shallow-draft boat with high sides, flat bottom, and sharp bows designed for whitewater use (see photo on page 23). Must have sealed chambers and/or float bags. Dories are considered a "large" or "support" craft.

Fire Blanket
A fireproof blanket (also referred to as a welder's cloth) of sufficient size to catch coals and ashes around the fire pan. Fire shelters are prohibited for this use due to delamination when exposed to direct flame.

Fire Pan
A metal pan that must be elevated and placed on a fire blanket during use.

Float Bags
An inflatable bag placed in the bow or stern of a boat (required in dories and canoes) for flotation in case the boat is swamped.

High-use Season (2016)
On the Green River, it is from May 9th to September 9th. On the Yampa River, it is from May 9th to July 9th. The rest of the year is considered the low-use season for these river sections.

Inflatable Kayak
An inflatable boat designed like a kayak (also known as a "ducky" or "IK"). Must be whitewater approved. Inflatable kayaks are considered a "small craft."

Kayak
A decked boat propelled with a two-bladed paddle. Must be whitewater approved and equipped with a spray skirt. A kayak is considered a "small craft."

Packraft
A boat for one person that is small, light, and portable, made of highly durable material, and built for whitewater. A packraft is considered a "small craft."

Paddleboard (SUP)
A board similar to a surf board or a windsurf board. The paddler and the board are propelled across the top of the water by the use of a long single-bladed paddle. A paddleboard is considered a “small craft.”

Paddle Boat
A frameless raft designed to hold several rafters who each have a paddle. Must not be greater than 19 feet in length. May be considered a “large” or “support” craft.

Repair Kit
A kit with supplies capable of repairing tears in fabric and replacing or repairing valves and frame components.

Small Craft
A craft such as a kayak, packraft, or paddleboard. Small craft must be accompanied by support craft, except in the case of hard shell kayaks or craft consisting of three or more chambers.

Spray Skirt
A seal between the paddler’s torso and the deck of the boat that prevents water from getting into the boat.

Support Craft (Large Craft)
A craft such as an oar raft, paddle raft, cataraft, or dory. Support craft must contain three or more chambers, and may accompany small craft that are unable to conduct river trips on their own (i.e., packraft, paddleboard).

Throw Bag
Rope, which floats on the surface of the water, stuffed in a bag used to throw to a person in distress.

Spring on the Yampa
Photo by Peter Williams

River Mileages and Camping Areas

Lodore Canyon	Number of Sites	Mileage between Camps
Gates of Lodore	*	
Wade & Curtis	1	3
Pot Creek	2	6
Kolb	1	1
Triplet	1	2
Rippling Brook	2	2
Wild Mountain	1	1
Limestone	1	2
Echo Park	*	2

Yampa Canyon	Number of Sites	Mileage between Camps
Deerlodge Park	*	
Anderson Hole	1	4
Ponderosa	1	5
Tepee Hole	1	1
Big Joe	1	12
Harding Hole	4	4
Mather's Hole	1	2
Laddie Park	2	7
Warm Springs	1	7
Box Elder	3	2
Echo Park	0	2

Whirlpool/Split Mountain	Number of Sites	Mileage between Camps
Echo Park	*	
Seacliff	1	4
State Line	1	1
Jones Hole	4	2
Compromise	1	1
The Cove	1	4
Big Island	1	0.5
Island Park	1	0.5
Rainbow Park	*	4
Split Mountain	*	9

*Campsites are available at Gates of Lodore and Deerlodge Park prior to launch. Rainbow Park and Echo Park campgrounds are not for groups on multiday river trips. Split Mountain Campground may be reserved through recreation.gov.

Contact the River Office

Phone:
(970)-374-2468
8AM–Noon Mountain Time, Monday–Friday

Fax:
(970)-374-3050

Automated River Information Line:
(866)-825-2995

Mailing Address:
Dinosaur National Monument
River Office
4545 Highway 40
Dinosaur, CO 81610

Website:
www.nps.gov/dino/planyourvisit/boating-and-rafting.htm