



2021 Boating in the Monument

Information and Regulations



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Noncommercial River Permit Requirements

A river permit is required for noncommercial river travel on the Green and Yampa Rivers through Dinosaur National Monument. It is the responsibility of the permittee and each trip participant to know and obey all the regulations listed in this document and abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local laws.

- A. Boating is by Permit Only.** All individuals boating within Dinosaur National Monument must possess a permit issued by Recreation.gov or the River Office. Permits are nontransferable and are valid for one launch only.
- B. 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. Violations may result in a criminal penalty and/or loss of privileges to hold a permit in the monument. Individuals may be the permit holder and/or passenger on multiple one day and low-use multiday trips.
- C. Launch and Take Out Dates and Locations.** Permit holders must launch and take out on the date and location listed on their permit.
- D. Permit Violations and Penalties.** Permit holders who violate the terms and conditions of their permit 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 Compendium of Regulations. Maximum fines can be up to \$5,000 and/or up to six months in prison.

Definition of a Noncommercial River Trip

Also referred to as private river trips, noncommercial river trips are self-guided and non-profit. They are required to be participatory in nature where costs are evenly shared among all participants. No trip member may be paid to participate on the trip, and no trip member may pay less than other participants as compensation for their skills.

- A. Self-Guided and Not For Profit.** Noncommercial river trips must be self-guided and may not hire guides. Noncommercial river trips may not be used by any person or organization in any way to obtain a profit. Participating in advertising for a profit will result in the revocation of the permit.
- B. Cost Sharing and Participatory Nature.** All noncommercial river trips must be participatory in nature. Trip preparation, costs, and conduct of the trip must be shared by all members of the group. This includes logistics, food purchase, equipment assembly, transportation, vehicle shuttle, food preparation, and sanitation. Failure to comply will cause cancellation of the permit and may jeopardize any future applications by the permit holder and/or other trip members.
- C. No Paid Participation.** Collecting a fee (monetary compensation), payable to an individual, group, or organization for conducting, leading, or guiding a noncommercial river trip is not allowed. The permit holder should delegate responsibility (financial and otherwise) for various aspects of trip preparation and conduct. Trips may be considered noncommercial even though a member of the trip, within their normal scope of employment, receives a salary from an educational institution or non-profit organization to participate in the trip. This salary may not come directly through fees contributed by members of the party. No person may be hired or paid to participate in a trip under the noncommercial permit system.

Lottery System Requirements

- A.** Individuals can have only one application in the high-use lottery system. More than one application in the lottery system will result in any trip acquired through that lottery being forfeited.
- B.** Lottery applicants, permit holders, and trip leaders must be 18 years or older by requested launch date.
- C.** Lottery applications for permits are only accepted online through Recreation.gov.

Trip Requirements

- A. 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 his/her 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, loss of privileges to hold a permit in the monument, and/or being banned from entering the monument.
- B. 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 National Park Service (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.
- C. Individuals Can Have Only One Multi-Day 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.
- D. Trip Size and Travel Together.** Noncommercial river trips shall include no more than 25 persons (total includes the permit holder). Groups boating under one permit must launch, travel, camp, and take out together and remain within sight and sound of each other throughout the trip. Exceptions can only be made in rare situations and must be approved by the River Office.
- E. Trip Lengths.** Normal trip lengths are four days on the Green River and five days on the Yampa River, during high-use season. Occasionally, trips can be extended by one day on each river. Permit holders can request an overlength trip extension through Recreation.gov at the time of booking their permit and additional fees are required. 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.
- F. Passenger Lists.** An accurate passenger list must be on file in the River Office at least one business day prior to launch. Requests to increase or decrease the number of people traveling 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. A hard copy of the updated permit must be printed by the trip leader. Additions to the passenger list will not be allowed at the launch site.
- G. Trip Checkout Form and Required Identification/Documentation.** Permit holders must have and present a valid photo ID, printed & signed permit and a copy of *Boating Information and Regulations* upon request, before launching. This documentation is required to remain with the permit holder for the duration of the trip. If monument staff is not available at the put-in, the permit holder must complete a check-in form from the kiosk at the boat ramp before departing. Permit holders must turn their permit in at the boat ramp at takeout.
- H. River Ranger Patrols.** NPS Rangers may, on occasion, travel or camp with noncommercial parties to ensure compliance with permit conditions and to monitor travel through the river corridors. Rangers may contact your party and 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. They may also request to check camping procedures to ensure regulations are being followed.
- I. Cancelling Trips.** It is the permit holder's responsibility to notify the River Office of the inability to use their scheduled launch date. A no-show or cancellation within two weeks of the launch date will result in administrative penalties. 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.
- J. Drones.** Drone use is prohibited.
- K. Pets.** No cats, dogs, or other pets are permitted on river trips.
- L. 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.

- M. 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.
- N. Firearms and Other Weapons.** Possession of firearms must comply with state law; however, use of firearms is prohibited. The possession or use of other weapons, explosives, or fireworks is prohibited.
- O. Alcohol and Other Controlled Substances.** It is prohibited to be under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances to a degree that may endanger oneself or others, damages property or damages resources. Boating under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance, underage drinking and marijuana possession or use is prohibited.
- P. Fishing.** Fishing is permitted and is subject to all state regulations and licenses. Anyone fishing must have a valid Colorado and/or Utah fishing license, depending upon the state in which they are located. People fishing should also be familiar with the rules and guidelines regarding the handling of endangered and/or exotic fish of concern.

Trip Leader and Qualifying Boatman Experience

The trip leader and boatmen must have a working knowledge of whitewater safety, general first aid, river equipment repair, and techniques of whitewater navigation. All boatman must have whitewater boating experience on the Green and Yampa rivers in Dinosaur National Monument or on other comparable class III or higher whitewater rivers. The trip leader or another member of the party should be familiar with the rivers within Dinosaur National Monument.

Rivers of similar difficulty to the Green and Yampa Rivers through Dinosaur National Monument include (this list is not all-inclusive): Cataract Canyon, Utah; Grand Canyon, Arizona; Main Salmon, Idaho; Middle Fork Salmon, Idaho; Rogue River, Oregon; Selway River, Idaho; Tuolumne River, California; West Water Canyon, Utah.

Equipment Requirements and Procedures

Watercraft Types and Quantity

NPS Rangers have final discretion when approving all crafts for launch.

A. Oar Raft/Paddle Boat/Cataract/Dory

All trip applications will be reviewed to determine if the numbers of rafts and/or dories are adequate in size and number in order to meet all equipment requirements (see Equipment and Sanitation sections) and boat capacities. Commercial names on watercraft must be covered up for the duration of the trip. Inflatable rafts over 19 feet require frame and oars, paddle boats over 19 feet are not allowed. Rafts must include at least three separate chambers. Each non self-bailing boat must carry a bailing device.

B. Canoe/Kayak/IK

Kayaks and canoes must be in good condition. All trips must have the capacity to carry the minimum equipment required (see Equipment and Sanitation sections). Open or canvas-decked canoes are acceptable provided the paddlers have extensive high-volume river experience. Canoes should have sturdy reinforcements and adequate flotation. Kayaks must be approved for whitewater and have at least three separate chambers or a hard shell. Skirts are required for hard shell craft.

Secondary, discretionary watercraft with fewer than three chambers such as a packraft, paddlecatt, stand-up paddleboard must have support craft, unless prior approval has been obtained by the River Office.

C. Prohibited Watercraft

All motorized watercraft, conventional rowboats, swimming pool rafts and toys, inner tubes, air mattresses, and other flimsy craft not intended for whitewater use are prohibited.

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).

Emergency Equipment

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. Emergency equipment is listed below:

A. Life Preservers and Regulations

Each participant **MUST** have a serviceable U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD). One spare PFD is required for every 10 people on the trip or one per boat, whichever is fewer. Spare PFDs should reflect the size of people on the trip. PFDs must be maintained in good and serviceable condition in compliance with the USCG standards and **must be worn and fastened properly at all times while on the river** (except from Cove Campsite to Rainbow Park boat ramp on the Green River). All PFDs must have a USCG approved label stating the PFD is designed for whitewater rafting, canoeing, rescue, sailing, paddling, and/or kayaking.

General boating, action sports, fishing and ski vests are prohibited. The PFDs may not have any holes, rips, tears, broken/repared buckles, or broken/repared zippers, and must be appropriately sized for each person.

B. Helmets

Helmets are required for all kayaks, canoes, and discretionary watercraft such as paddleboards and must be worn in all named rapids. They are recommended for all other watercraft in all named rapids. One extra helmet is required for every three small craft.

C. First Aid

A major first aid kit is required and must be adequate for the number of trip participants and length of trip. Kits should be sufficient for treating serious injuries in a wilderness environment. A small first aid kit must be carried on each additional boat or unsupported kayak/canoe.

D. Other Emergency Items

- **Extra Propulsion:** Each oar powered watercraft must carry one extra oar. Each paddle raft must carry two extra paddles. On kayak/canoe trips, one extra paddle is required for every 5 kayaks and/or canoes. If there are fewer than 5 kayaks or canoes, one extra paddle is required. Secondary, discretionary use watercraft such as play boats and stand-up-paddle-boards are not required to have extra paddles.
- **Air Pumps:** When inflatable rafts or pontoons are used, each river trip will carry at least one air pump.
- **Repair Kits:** Every trip will carry a boat patching and repair kit for each type of boat material present on the trip (this includes kayaks, canoes and dories).
- **Throw Bag:** One throw bag is required for all rafts and dories, including those under 16 feet.
- **Rescue Kit:** One rescue kit (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.

Takeout and Launch Procedures

- Check In.** Look for monument staff at the launch ramp or office. If park representatives are not available, fill out a check-in form found at the information kiosk and deposit it in the box near the boat ramp.
- Vehicles at the Ramp.** 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. The busiest time at the boat ramp is generally noon–4:00 PM. Monument staff may be present to assist at the takeout during times of heavy traffic, and instructions must be followed.

- C. Ramp Restrictions.** Due to the congestion at the launch ramps, rigging between the hours of 8:00 AM and noon is for trips leaving that day. Please be courteous of other groups if playing music on the ramp.
- D. Deerlodge Park.** Vehicles must be parked along the paved road above the campground. Vehicles parked in other areas will be towed.
- E. Meals.** Preparation and cooking of meals or setting up tables on the ramp is prohibited.
- F. Sleeping/Camping.** Sleeping, camping, and/or overnight parking is not allowed on the launch ramp or the sandbar. Visitors are required to camp at designated campsites and pay the campground fee at Gates of Lodore, Deerlodge Park, or Rainbow Park.
- G. Split Mountain Daily Trips.** One-day trips should launch at an appropriate time to avoid arriving at the Split Mountain boat ramp between noon and 4:00 PM due to frequent traffic congestion and delays with de-rigging and loading.

Camping Regulations

- A.** During high-use season, camp only in assigned campsites. During low-use season sites are available first-come, first-served.
- B.** Campsites must be packed up and boats loaded and moved out of landings by noon to allow the next group to occupy the site.
- C.** Adhere to Leave-No-Trace principles and leave your campsite as you found it or in better condition.
- D.** While on a multi-day river trip, camping is not permitted at Echo Park, Rainbow Park, or in Split Mountain Gorge.
- E.** The use of kitchen ground tarps to collect food crumbs is required.
- F.** Only one group per campsite. A maximum of 25 river trip participants per site is allowed.
- G.** When in areas with multiple campsites, 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).
- H.** The Superintendent may close campsites for resource management or safety concerns (such as bighorn sheep lambing season, bear activity, or wildland fires).

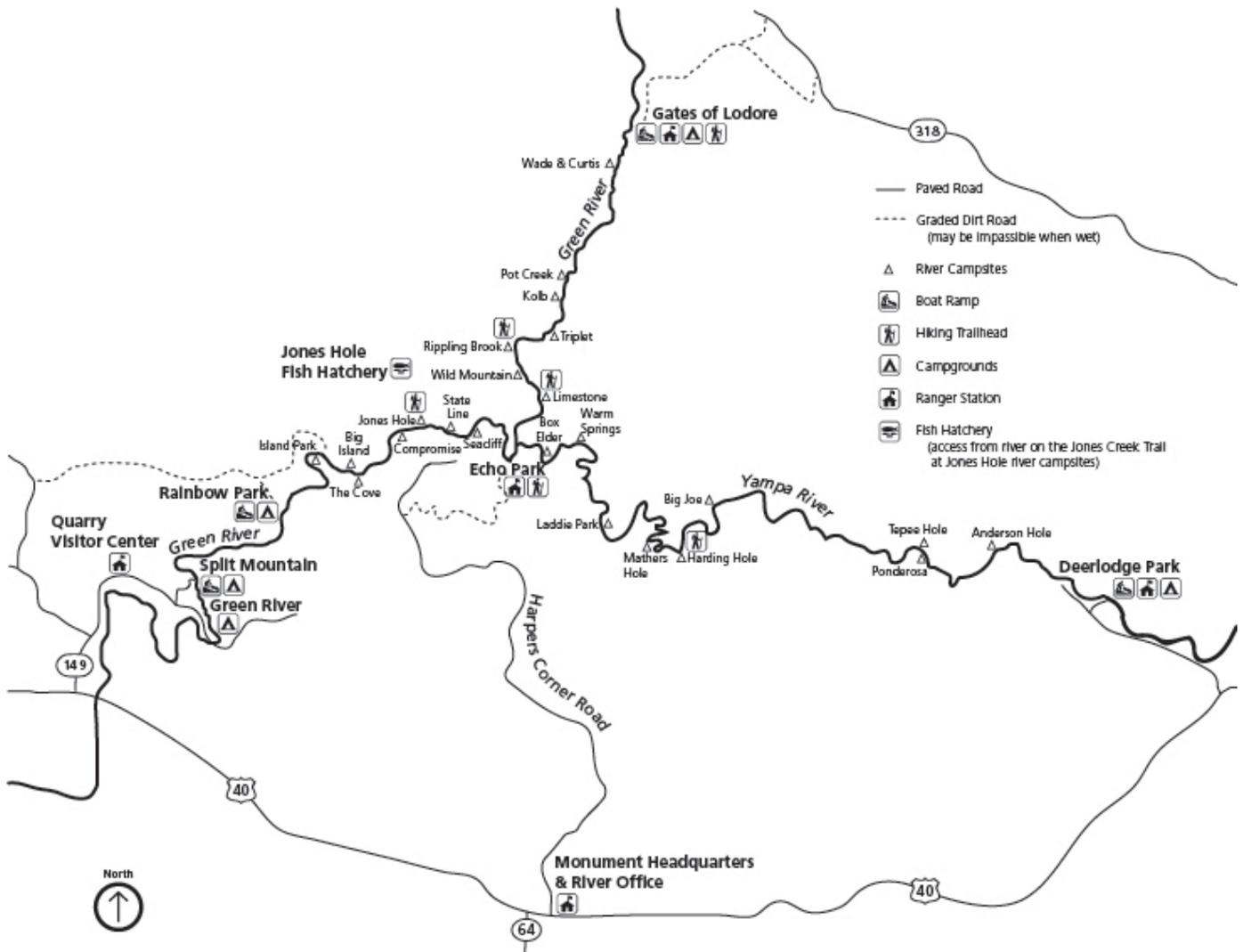
River Map

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.



River Mileages and Campgrounds

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

Whirlpool & Split Mountain Canyons

	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

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	*	2

*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.

Sanitation and Environmental Protection Requirements

Refuse

All garbage must be carried out. Trash deposits cannot be made at Echo Park or Rainbow Park. Dishwater must be strained directly into the river through a rigid fine-mesh screen that holds small food particles. Garbage at camp must be stored in an animal-proof container.

Kitchen ground tarps must be placed under all food preparation and serving tables to leave the beach free of food scraps. Put food particles collected on your kitchen ground tarp into the trash. 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. These practices help reduce pests in campsites; please keep a clean camp.

Use of Soap

The use of soap is restricted to the main flow of the river. Stand in the main flow of the river to use a solar shower. A dish washing setup and handwashing station 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. Use of soap in side streams or on shore within Dinosaur National Monument is prohibited.

Portable Toilets

It is the responsibility of each party to remove solid human waste and all toilet paper from the river corridor.

- A. Portable Toilets.** A means to securely contain and remove human waste from the backcountry is required. Systems approved for river use are washable, reusable containers equipped with RV dump fittings, or commercial bag system (e.g. Wag Bag, Restop II) that render human waste into a non-hazardous material. Bag systems must be stored in hard-sided containers or heavy-duty waterproof bags labeled "Human Waste". Do not put waste bags in vault toilets. Do not use any kind of flushable wipes in the groover; these can clog septic systems. Any bag system that utilizes "kitty litter" or involves heavy duty bags without additives found in commercially approved bag systems are illegal and cannot be used by numerous federal laws.
- B. Urination.** Urination must occur in the river or in your 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.
- C. Toilet Paper.** Deposit toilet paper in the human waste carry-out system. Do not burn or bury toilet paper.

Fires

A rigid, durable metal fire pan is required if you intend to build a fire. It must be appropriate for the size of fire and have sides of a height sufficient to contain all ash and debris. Fire pans are recommended to be 2 ½ inch minimum lip height and 12 inch minimum diameter (turkey pans are not allowed).

Fire pans must be elevated off the ground with legs, rocks or other items. A fireproof blanket or welder's cloth must be carried and placed under a fire pan and must be of sufficient size to catch coals and ashes around the fire pan. Fire ash must be strained and large floatable contents removed, before the remainder may be deposited in the main current. All floatable residue must be carried out. If there is a fire ban in the monument, open fires are prohibited.

Gathering firewood of any kind is prohibited on the Green River above Echo Park. Driftwood may be collected along the Yampa River and along the Green River below Echo Park.

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 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, but 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.

Campsite Impacts

River runners must set up camp on sandbar areas or in established tent sites within designated river camps. Desert and riparian plant communities are particularly susceptible to damage and erosion due to trampling. Stay on well-established trails and avoid short-cutting across fragile desert soils.

Wildlife

You are camping in bear country. All food, garbage, and scented items must be stored in a durable metal or plastic container and secured with a latch or strap when not in use. Proper food storage will help keep smaller animals, such as skunks, from causing issues at river campsites.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

Please clean and inspect boats as a preventive measure to minimize the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS). AIS (such as zebra mussel, New Zealand mudsnail, or quagga mussel) can have devastating effects on the ecology of river ecosystems. Clean and thoroughly dry your boat between river trips, and help keep Dinosaur's rivers healthy.

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.

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

Reporting Incidents and Signaling

Any incidents resulting in injury, death, 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 possible.

Play Permits

A permit is required to boat into the monument from upstream of Gates of Lodore or Deerlodge Park. Play permits for launches above these locations are free and issued by the River Office, any on-site park ranger and volunteer camp host, or the Quarry Visitor Center; 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.

Boaters who possess a multi-day river permit entering the monument at Deerlodge Park or Gates of Lodore under a play permit must perform a check-in with monument staff before continuing down river. A play permit is also required for boating below Split Mountain Boat Ramp, but only if launching at the boat ramp. These play permits are free and are issued at the Quarry Visitor Center, on-site park personnel, or the River Office. No advanced reservations are necessary.

River Recreation Fees

- A. Application Fee.** A \$15 application fee must be submitted with lottery applications, one-day, or multiday trip bookings.
- B. One-day Trips.** Split Mountain daily trips are available for booking through Recreation.gov. The permit fee for a one-day trip is \$20.
- C. Multiday Trips.** The permit fee for a multiday trip is \$185. Fees are nonrefundable within 30 days of launch date.
- D. Overlength Trip Fee.** The overlength trip fee is \$35. Overlength trip requests cannot be approved until campsites are assigned for all other permits.
- E. Entrance & Campground Fees.** Park entrance fees are not included in your permit. The entrance fee is \$25 per vehicle, unless you have a valid federal interagency or monument pass. All participants need to pay the monument entrance fee. Boating permit fees do **not** include camping fees at Gates of Lodore, Deerlodge Park, Green River, Rainbow Park or Split Mountain campgrounds. Camping at these locations is first-come, first-served. Split Mountain group campsites and “B” Loop sites at Green River campground are available for reservation through Recreation.gov. Digital entrance passes can also be purchased through Recreation.gov for individuals or vehicles.

Shuttle Companies

There is currently one company authorized to run shuttles for rafters within Dinosaur National Monument:

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

Paying for shuttle services outside this shuttle company is prohibited.

Required Equipment Checklist

	Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) - one per person + one spare for every 10 people	Required	Page 5
	Spare Oars/Paddles - one per oar boat/dory/paddle raft and one for every 3 small craft	Required	Page 5
	Portable Toilet	Required	Page 9
	Day Use Toilet	Recommended	
	Helmets – one per person + one spare for every 3 small craft	Required for small craft	Page 5
	Spray Skirts and Flotation	Required for each hard shelled kayak/canoe	Page 5
	Throw Bag	Required	Page 5
	Rescue Kit	Required	Page 6
	Fine-mesh Screen (for straining food particles and ash)	Required	Page 9
	Kitchen Ground Tarp	Required	Page 9
	Fire Pan	Required for building fire	Page 9
	Fire Blanket	Required for building fire	Page 9
	Bailing Device	Required for non self-bailing boats	Page 4
	Flotation	Required for open dories/canoes/kayaks	Page 5
	Repair Kits	Required	Page 5
	First Aid Kit - major	Required	Page 5
	First Aid Kit – one minor per each large craft	Required	Page 5
	Air Pump	Required	Page 5
	Signed River Permit & ID Required for permit holder	Required	Page 3
	Passenger List	Required	Page 3
	2020 Information and Regulations	Required	