

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, NC



4 RIVERS



3 LAKES

ROCK THE ROCO

4 RIVERS | 3 LAKES

YOU'RE IN A GOOD PLACE... TO GO WITH THE FLOW!

Welcome to the Blueway! This is your perfect getaway to explore nature. Create your own adventure. Take a leisurely float or a thrill-seeking ride down rapids. With a number of access points and variety of trips, your paddling experience can last a few hours or several days. On the RoCo Blueway, we've got an outdoor adventure for everyone. So, pack a picnic. Bring along the family. And get ready to **ROCK THE ROCO!**



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- **READ MAPS, PLAN AHEAD, AND PREPARE!** You will not return where you put in. You will need to have transportation ready at your take out point.
- **KNOW THE WATERS YOU PLAN TO FLOAT OR BOAT, AND AVOID WATER CONDITIONS THAT ARE BEYOND YOUR SKILL LEVEL.**
- **WHERE ARE YOUR PUT IN AND TAKE OUT SPOTS?** Have you shared these with others? Some accesses are primitive.
- **NOT READY TO FLY SOLO? NEED TRIP SUGGESTIONS? SHUTTLE SERVICES? CONTACT OUR OUTFITTERS LISTED ON PAGE 27.**

SAFETY TIPS

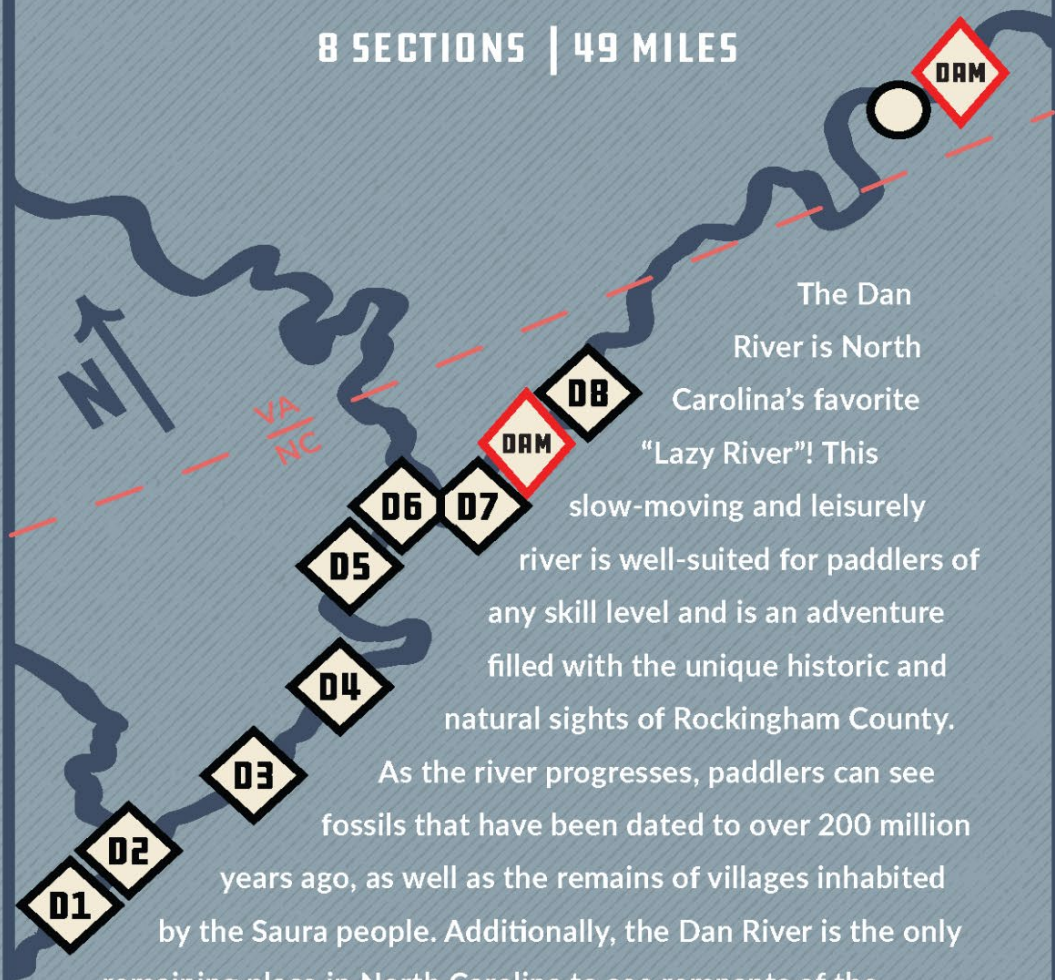
All water experiences are at your own risk. Any form of water activity can be dangerous and can result in personal injury, property damage, or death. Know the risks and your skill level before getting in the water. These tips will ensure a much safer and enjoyable canoeing experience:

- **PLAN AHEAD.**
- **KEEP AN EYE ON THE WEATHER.**
- **DO NOT GO NEAR THE DAMS!** Your safety depends on following all posted safety regulations, warnings, and suggestions.
- **BUDDY SYSTEM.** Never wade, tube, swim, or boat alone. Go with someone who knows the river and/or lake.
- **LIFE JACKET REQUIRED.** Essential for fishing, wading, tubing, swimming, or boating on moving water.
- **CHECK YOUR GEAR.** Dress appropriately and protect your feet. Take a spare paddle, first aid kit, rain gear, sunscreen, sunglasses, a wide brim hat, insect repellent, etc. Put extra clothing, gear, and food in water proof bags. Bring ample water.
- **WATCH OUT!** Avoid downed trees (strainers), sharp rocks, and other river hazards.
- **BE OFF OF THE WATER BEFORE DARK.** Ensure you know the time length of your planned route.



DAN RIVER

8 SECTIONS | 49 MILES



The Dan River is North Carolina's favorite "Lazy River"! This

slow-moving and leisurely river is well-suited for paddlers of any skill level and is an adventure filled with the unique historic and natural sights of Rockingham County.

As the river progresses, paddlers can see fossils that have been dated to over 200 million years ago, as well as the remains of villages inhabited by the Saura people. Additionally, the Dan River is the only remaining place in North Carolina to see remnants of the Batteau system, which used the shallow draft-bottomed craft for commercial river transportation during the 1800's.

1 - MADISON RIVER PARK

2 - SLINK SHOAL SLUICE

3 - JACOBS CREEK

4 - SETTLES BRIDGE

5 - MATRIMONY CREEK

6 - STONE TOWER

7 - MEBANE BRIDGE

8 - DANVILLE

Section 1

MADISON RIVER PARK LINDSEY BRIDGE TO NC 704 BRIDGE

Put In GPS: 36.3748, -79.9923 | Take Out GPS: 36.3851, -79.9547



Features: THIS IS A PERFECT SECTION OF RIVER FOR THE BEGINNER AND EXPERIENCED ALIKE. STARTING AT MADISON RIVER PARK, LOOK OUT FOR RUINS OF THE HISTORIC CAPE FEAR & YADKIN VALLEY RAILROAD BRIDGE AND PILINGS OF THE OLD MADISON COVERED BRIDGE AS YOU NEAR THE END OF YOUR TRIP.

3 MILES

1+ HRS/PADDLE

2+ HRS/TUBE



SKILL LEVEL

Beginner

BE CAREFUL!

USE CAUTION AS YOU NAVIGATE NEAR PILINGS AND BRIDGES. FLOAT WITH A FRIEND AND BE SAFE.

SLINK SHOAL SLUICE

NC 704 BRIDGE TO JACOBS CREEK BATTEAU

Put In GPS: 36.3851, -79.9547 | Take Out GPS: 36.3897, -79.8883

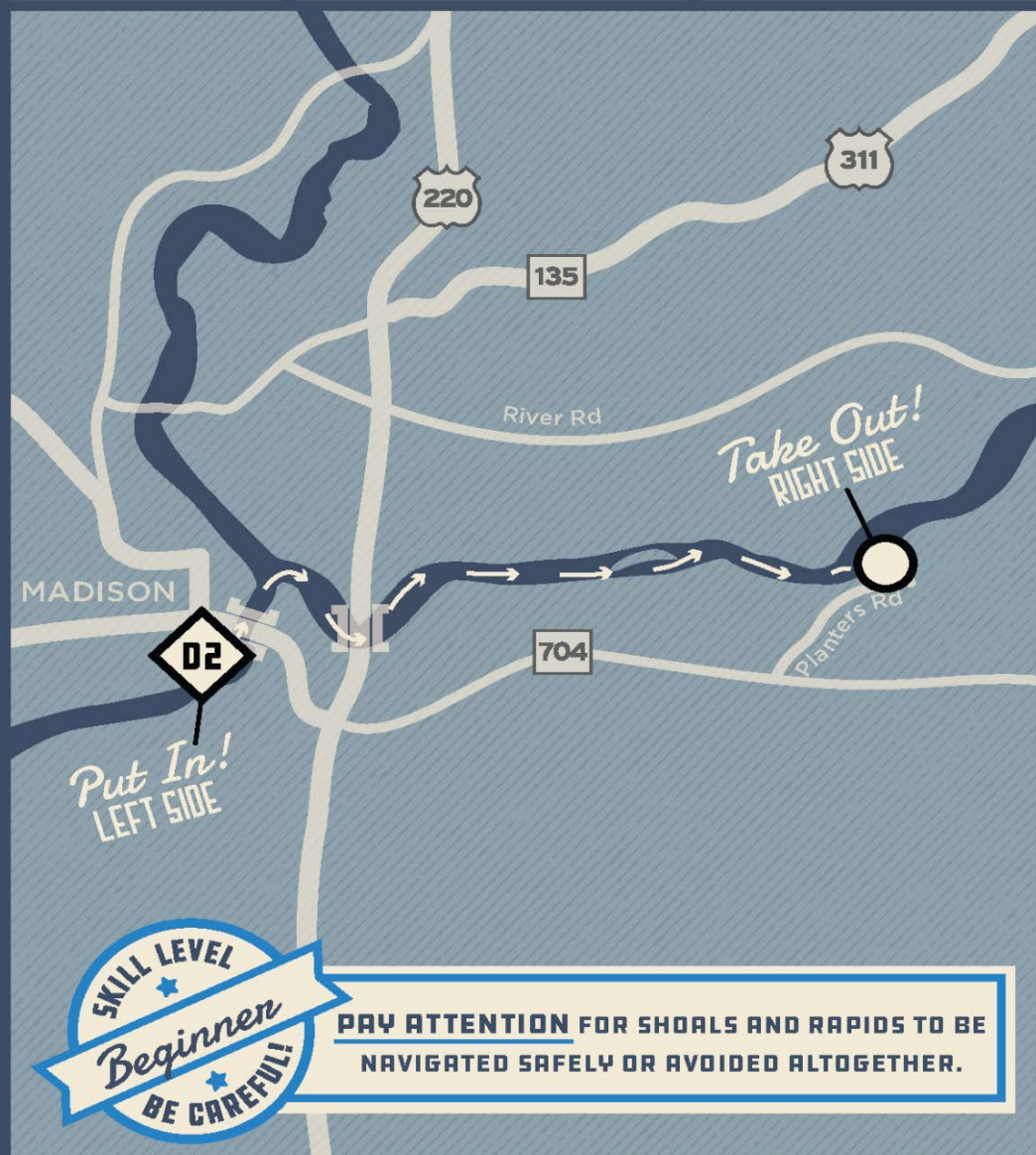


Features: THE CONFLUENCE OF MAYO, LONE ISLAND, WING DAMS, AND SLINK SHOAL SLUICE (THE "CROWN JEWEL" OF THE HISTORIC DAN RIVER BATTEAU NAVIGATION SYSTEM). FROM THE MOMENT YOU PASS UNDER HWY 220 TO THE TAKE OUT, THERE ARE NO BRIDGES, ROADS, OR BUILDINGS VISIBLE FROM THE RIVER.

4.25 MILES

2+ HRS/PADDLE

4+ HRS/TUBE



SKILL LEVEL

Beginner

BE CAREFUL!

PAY ATTENTION FOR SHOALS AND RAPIDS TO BE
NAVIGATED SAFELY OR AVOIDED ALTOGETHER.

JACOBS CREEK

JACOBS CREEK BATTEAU TO SETTLE BRIDGE

Put In GPS: 36.3897, -79.8883 | Take Out GPS: 36.4105, -79.8272



Features: THROUGHOUT THIS SECTION, REMNANT STRUCTURES OF THE HISTORIC DAN RIVER BATTEAU NAVIGATION SYSTEM OCCUR, AS WELL AS OLD NATIVE AMERICAN FISH TRAPS. FOLLOW THE TRAIL TO THE METAL STAIRS TO USE THE RIVER ACCESS. THIS SITE IS LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES.

4.25 MILES

2+ HRS/PADDLE

4+ HRS/TUBE



PAY ATTENTION FOR SHOALS AND RAPIDS TO BE
NAVIGATED SAFELY OR AVOIDED ALTOGETHER.

Section 4

SETTLE BRIDGE

SETTLE BRIDGE TO KLYCE STREET

Put In GPS: 36.4105, -79.8272 | Take Out GPS: 36.4755, -79.7779



Features: EAGLE FALLS ISLAND IS ABOUT A MILE AND A HALF FROM SETTLE BRIDGE; STAY ON RIVER RIGHT AT THE FALLS. NEW GAMLAND PUBLIC ACCESS IS BEING DEVELOPED AND WILL OPEN FOR THE 2022 SEASON. JUST PAST THE HARRINGTON HIGHWAY BRIDGE IS A NICE LITTLE CLASS II DROP.

9 MILES

4+ HRS/PADDLE

TOO LONG/TUBE



CLASS II RAPIDS ARE BEST HANDLED BY THOSE WHO CAN MANEUVER BOATS AND READ WATER.

Section 5

MATRIMONY CREEK KLYCE STREET TO LEAKSVILLE LANDING

Put In GPS: 36.4755, -79.7779 | Take Out GPS: 36.4855, -79.7637

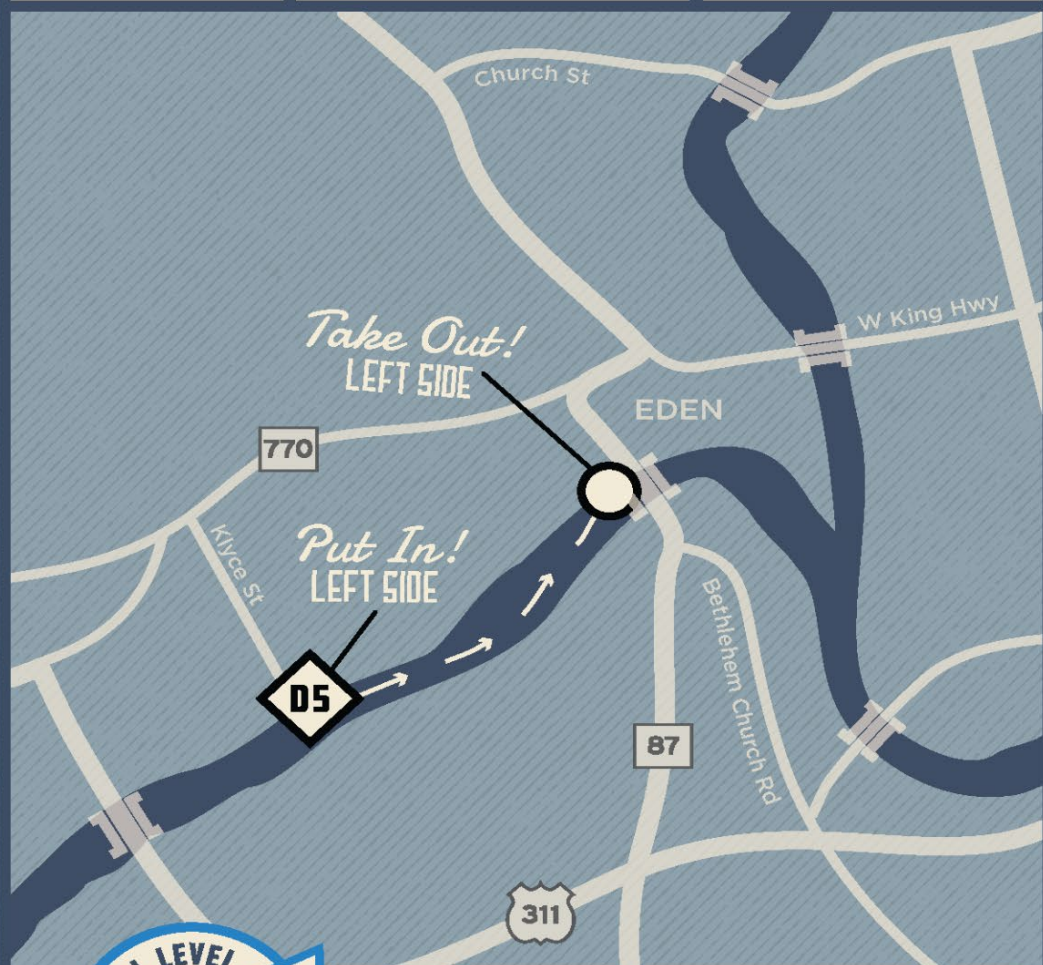


Features: THIS SECTION IS PERFECT FOR A RELAXING DAY ON THE RIVER TO LEAKSVILLE LANDING OR FLOAT THROUGH SECTION 6 TO THE EDEN WILDLIFE ACCESS. JUST UPRIVER IS A HERON ROOKERY. DOWNRIVER WILL BRING YOU PAST THE OLD LEAKSVILLE WATER INTAKE AND ORIGINAL LOGS OF THE 1820 BATTEAU LANDING.

1 MILES

.5+ HRS/PADDLE

1+ HRS/TUBE



STAY SAFE: PAY ATTENTION AND ALWAYS FLOAT WITH A FRIEND EVEN ON BEGINNER SECTIONS.

STONE TOWER LEAKSVILLE LANDING TO EDEN WILDLIFE ACCESS

Put In GPS: 36.4855, -79.7637 | Take Out GPS: 36.4756, -79.7502

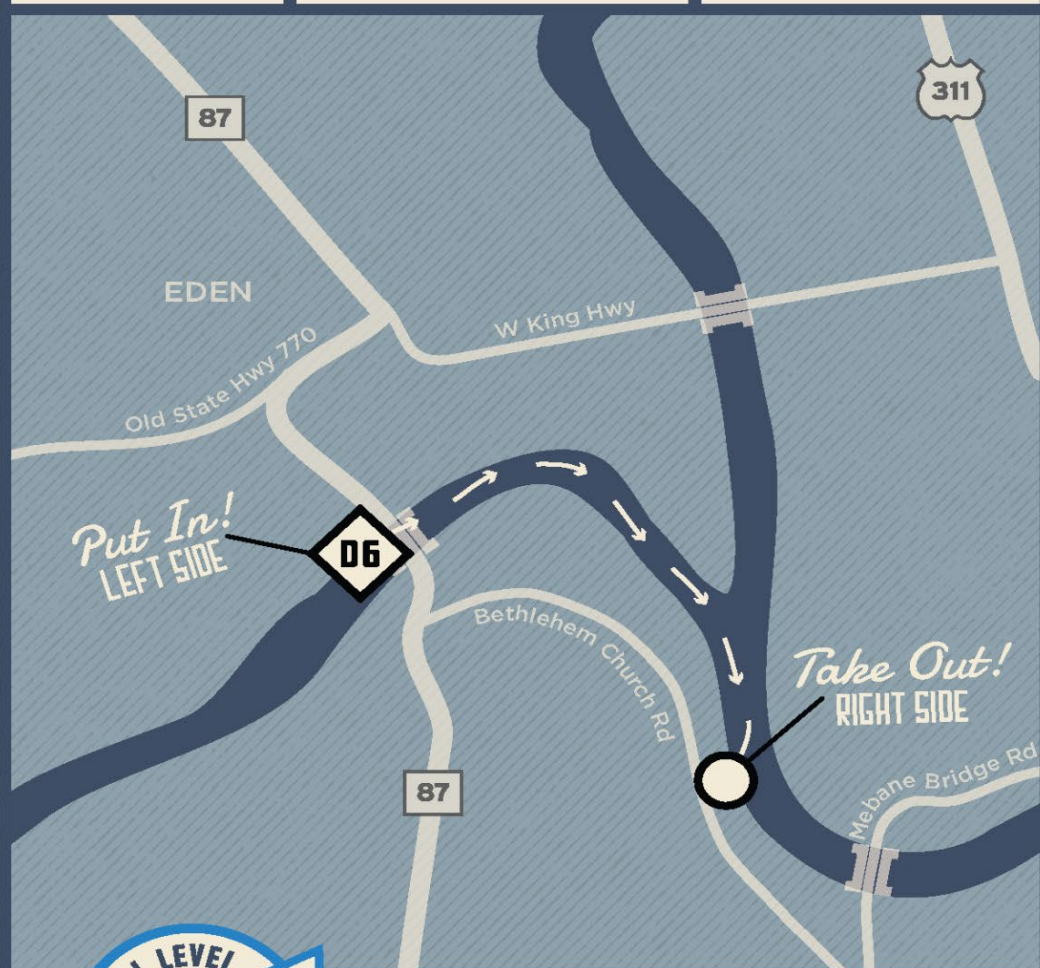


Features: ABOUT .5 MILE BELOW THE LEAKSVILLE LANDING IS A LARGE STONE TOWER FROM THE 1838 LEAKSVILLE TOLL BRIDGE. THE SMITH RIVER ENTERS ON THE LEFT BEFORE YOU ARRIVE AT THE EDEN WILDLIFE ACCESS ON YOUR RIGHT. THE TAKEOUT IS JUST PAST THE POWERLINES WHICH PASS OVERHEAD.

1.5 MILES

1+ HRS/PADDLE

2+ HRS/TUBE



STAY SAFE: PAY ATTENTION AND ALWAYS FLOAT
WITH A FRIEND EVEN ON BEGINNER SECTIONS.

MEBANE BRIDGE

EDEN WILDLIFE ACCESS TO DRAPER LANDING

Put In GPS: 36.4756, -79.7502 | Take Out GPS: 36.4988, -79.6813



Features: THIS SECTION IS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR TUBING, AND PADDLING ONLY WITH A GUIDE IS ADVISED. THE BEAUTIFUL ARCHED MEBANE BRIDGE, BUILT IN 1924, IS JUST DOWNSTREAM OF THE PUT IN. YOU MUST PORTAGE AROUND THE DUKE ENERGY DAM. WATCH OUT FOR SIGNS WHILE ON THE RIVER.

5 MILES

2+ HRS/PADDLE

DON'T TUBE

LOOK FOR AND FOLLOW ALL DAM SIGNS AND WARNINGS. GET OUT AND WALK AROUND THE DAM! NEVER GO OVER A DAM—DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY WILL RESULT.

DANGER
DAM AHEAD
PELIGRO



SKILL LEVEL

Intermediate
BE CAREFUL!

**GET OUT! WALK AROUND. DO NOT FLOAT OVER
THE DAM. DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY WILL RESULT.**

DANVILLE

DRAPER LANDING TO ABREU-GROGAN PARK, VA

Put In GPS: 36.4988, -79.6813 | Take Out GPS: 36.5751, -79.4343

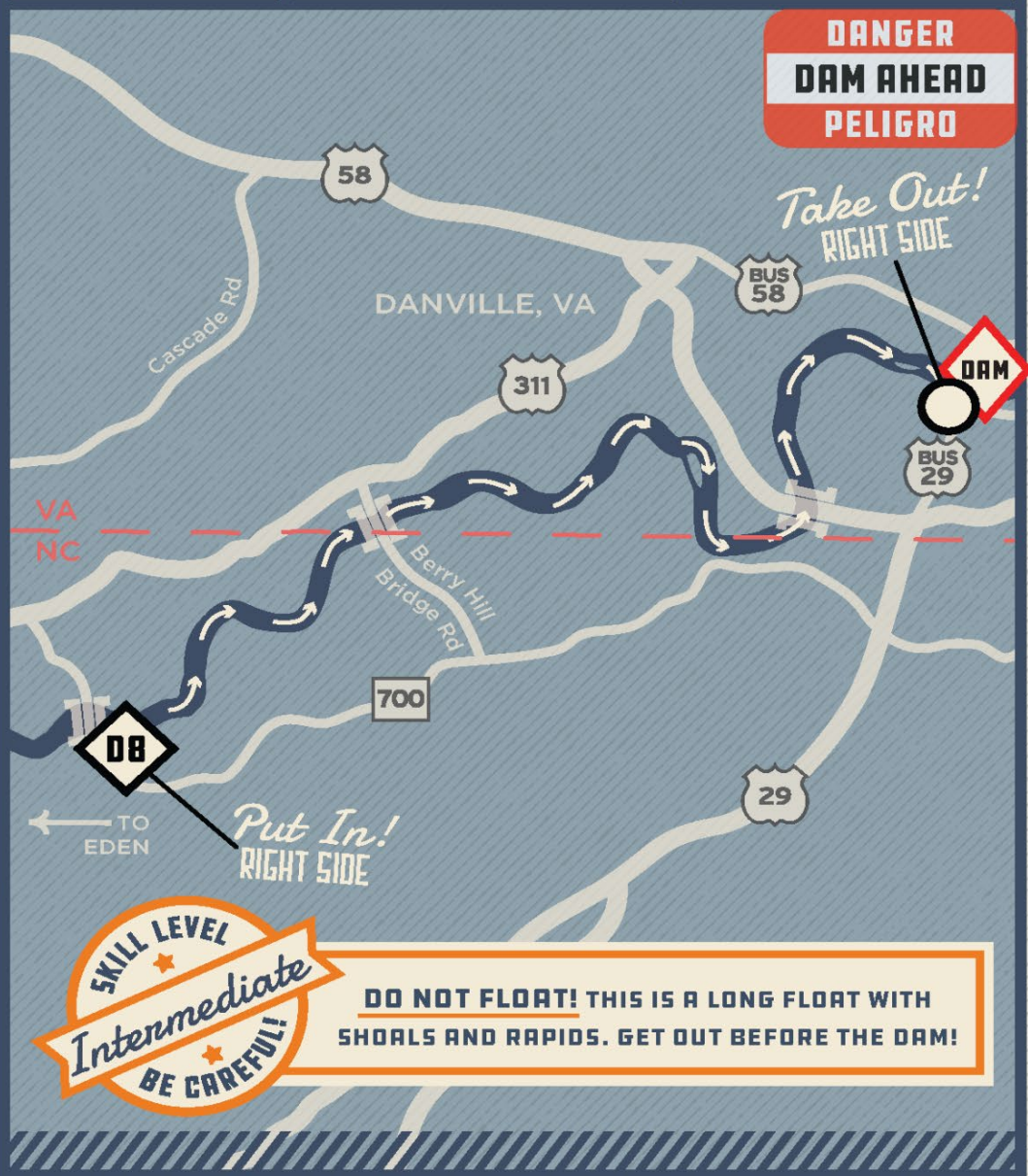


Features: KEEP RIGHT FOR THE EASIEST RUN ON THE FIRST SHOALS. THERE ARE SEVERAL BATTEAU SLUICES, NATIVE AMERICAN FISH TRAPS, AN IMPORTANT HERON ROOKERY, AND SEVERAL 200 MILLION-YEAR-OLD ROCK FORMATIONS. THE LARGE ADAM'S ISLAND IS A GREAT HALFWAY STOP TO STRETCH YOUR LEGS.

21.5 MILES

9+ HRS/PADDLE

TOO LONG/TUBE



SKILL LEVEL

Intermediate
BE CAREFUL!

DO NOT FLOAT! THIS IS A LONG FLOAT WITH
SHOALS AND RAPIDS. GET OUT BEFORE THE DAM!

SMITH RIVER

2 SECTIONS | 14 MILES

The Smith River is a beautiful destination along the NC/VA border. This section of the river benefits from a regular inflow of crystal-clear, cold water from a neighboring VA dam, which helps maintain temperatures for the Smith's population of wild brown trout. This stretch of river is a scenic and unobstructed paddle, free from development and home to growing populations of Osprey and Bald Eagle. It winds through Rockingham County for its final five miles before joining the Dan River.



VA
NC



1 - THE BEND

2 - ISLAND FORD

Section 1

THE BEND MITCHELL ROAD TO 3 RIVER OUTFITTERS ACCESS

Put In GPS: 36.6022, -79.7763 | Take Out: Contact 3 River Outfitters

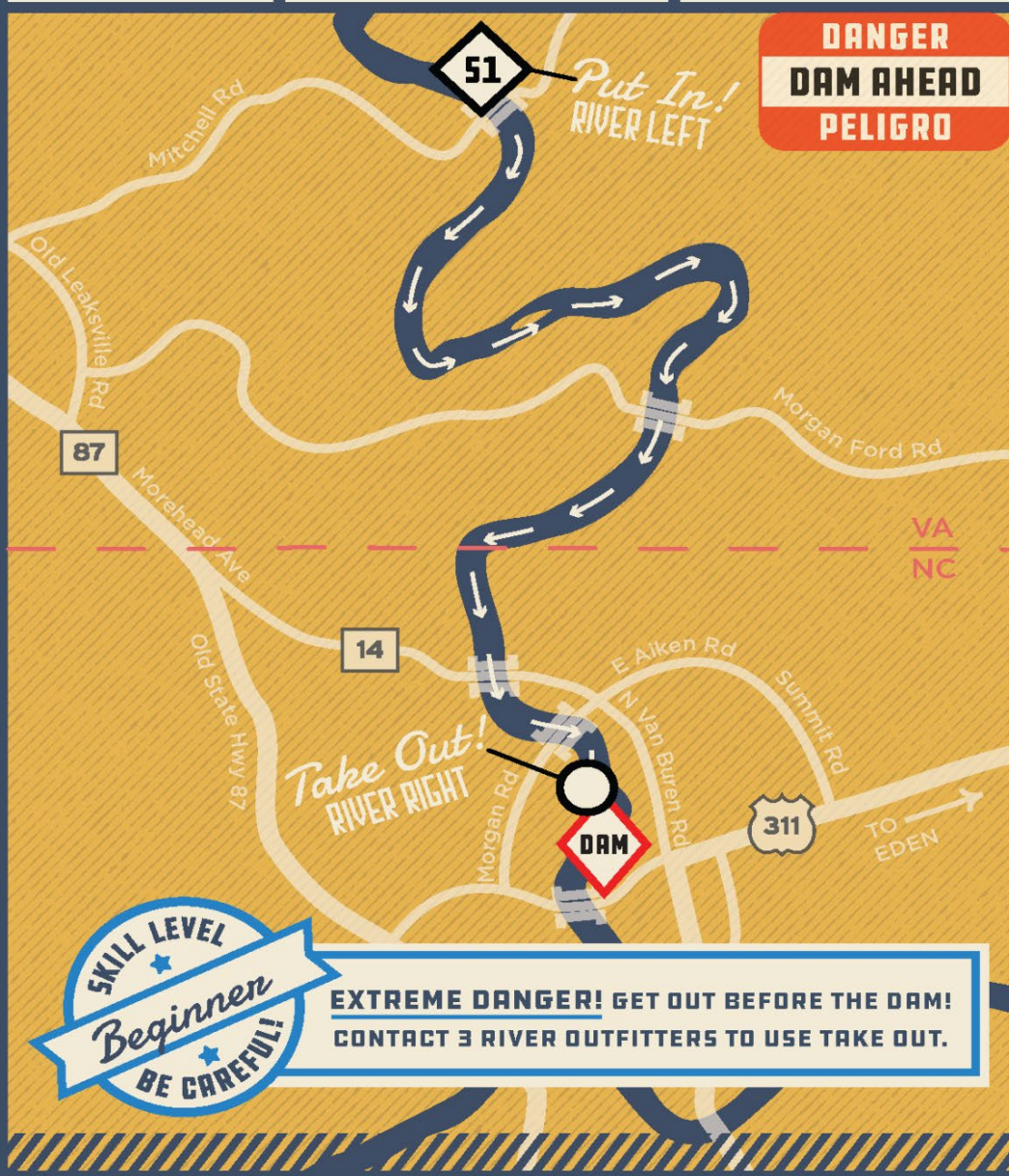


Features: IN THIS WIDE AND BEAUTIFUL SECTION, KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR BALD EAGLES, OSPREY AND MORE AS YOU HEAD AROUND THE BEND FROM HENRY COUNTY VIRGINIA INTO EDEN, NC. TAKEOUT IS PRIVATELY OWNED BY 3-R-O JUST UPSTREAM FROM THE SPRAY DAM - SO WATCH OUT!

12 MILES

4+ HRS/PADDLE

TOO LONG/TUBE



ISLAND FORD

ISLAND FORD TO LEAKSVILLE WILDLIFE ACCESS

Put In GPS: 36.5020, -79.7566 | Take Out GPS: 36.4756, -79.7502

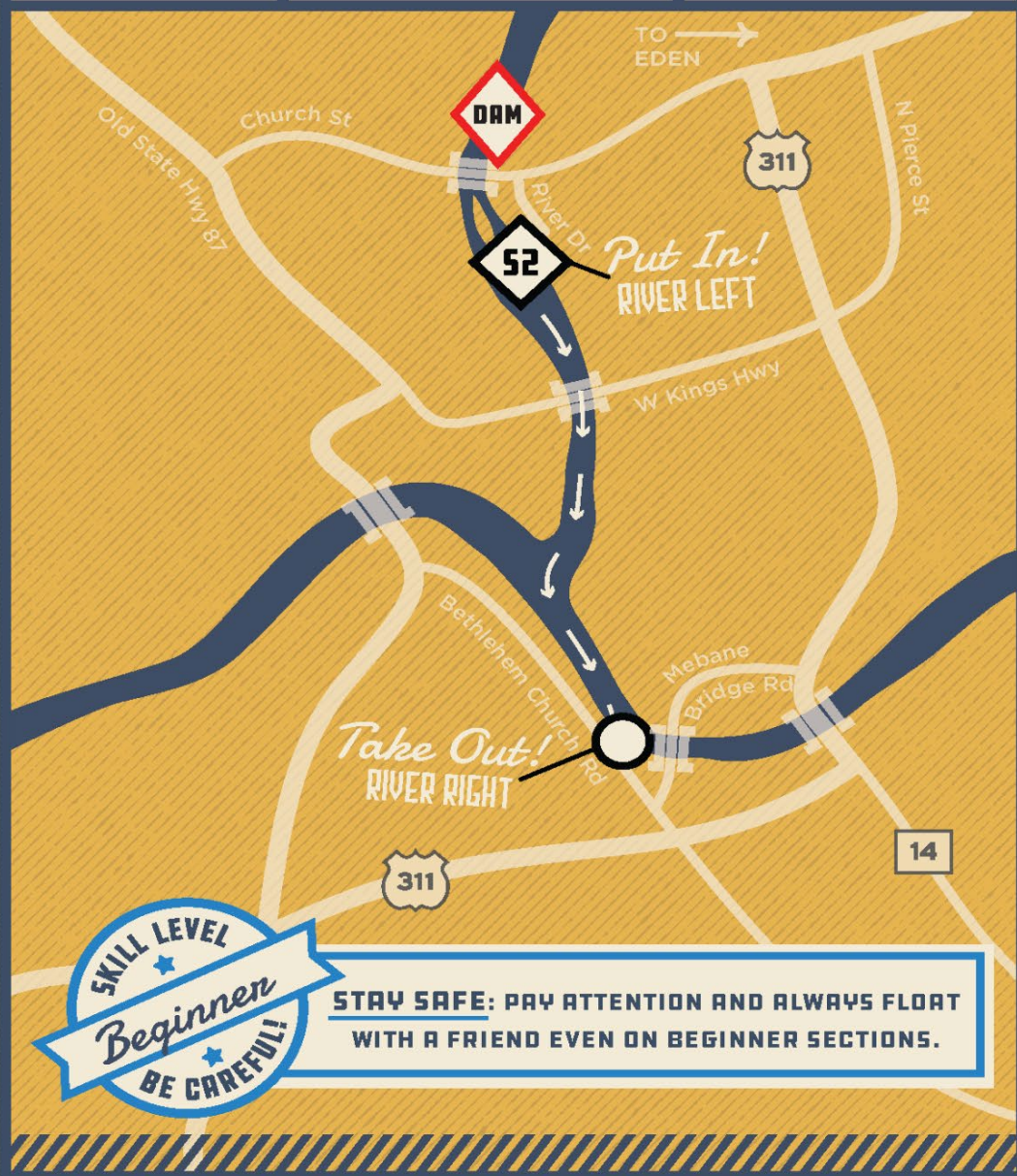


Features: WITH GREAT PARKING AND EASY ACCESS, THIS SECTION IS SHORT BUT SWEET. THE HUGE FORD ISLAND STARTS THE TRIP AND TAKES YOU RIGHT THROUGH THE HEART OF EDEN, NC BEFORE MERGING WITH THE DAN RIVER. THIS FLOAT IS SURE TO BE A SMITH RIVER SPECIAL!

2 MILES

1+ HRS/PADDLE

2+ HRS/TUBE

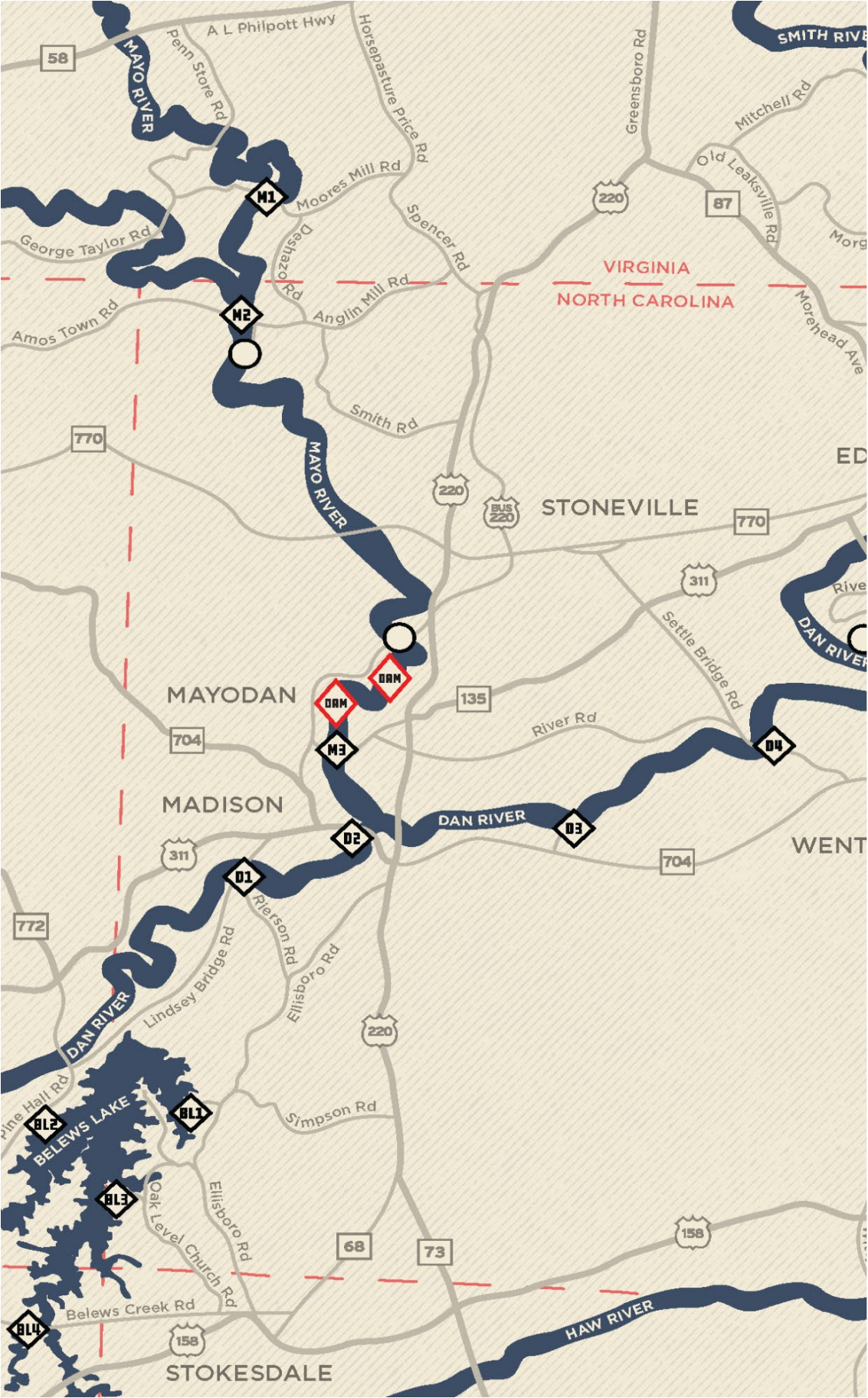


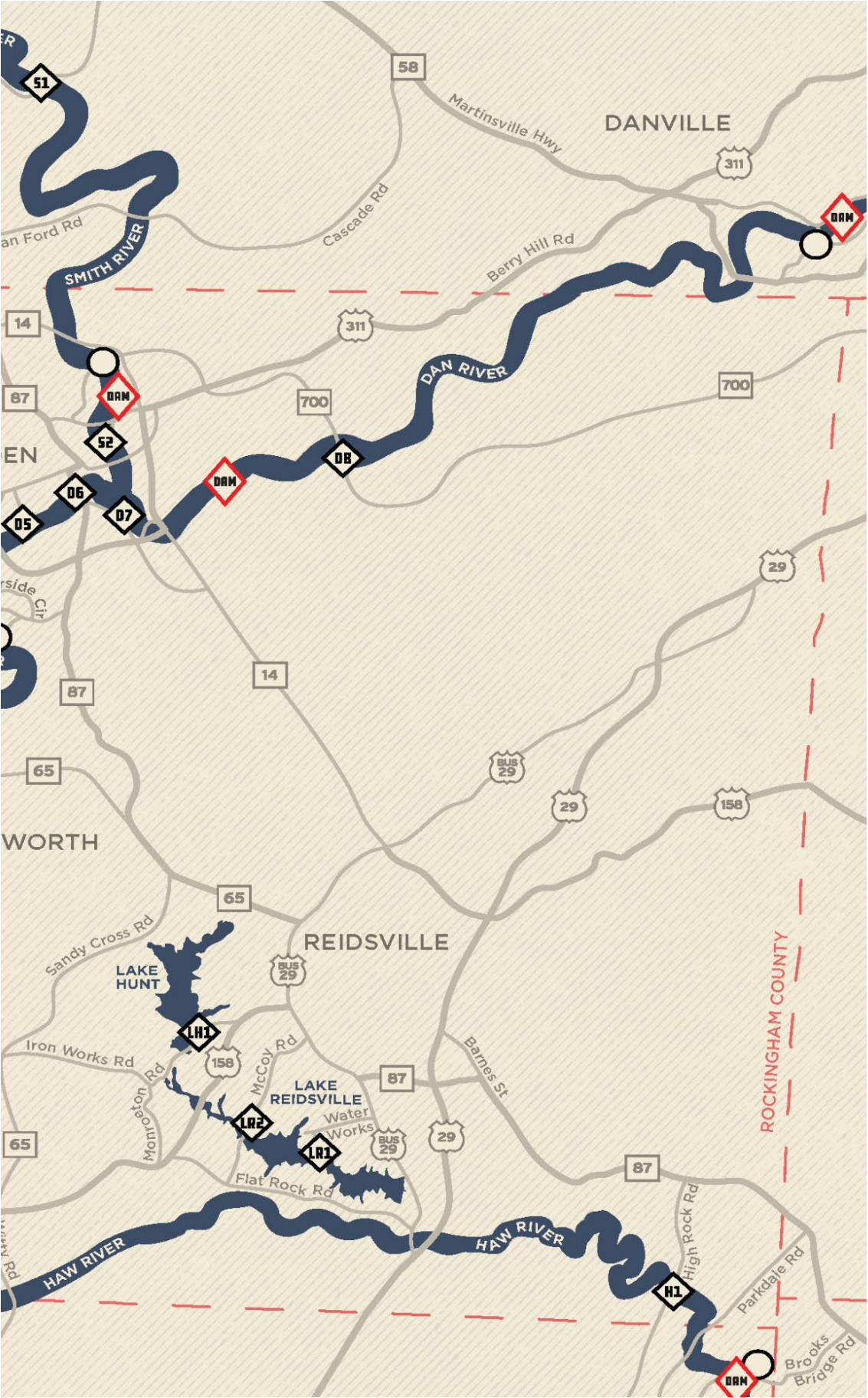
SKILL LEVEL

Beginner

BE CAREFUL!

STAY SAFE: PAY ATTENTION AND ALWAYS FLOAT WITH A FRIEND EVEN ON BEGINNER SECTIONS.





MAYO RIVER

3 SECTIONS | 21.5 MILES

M1

If you're looking to conquer rushing rapids, the Mayo River is the perfect choice! Experienced paddlers will find thrilling Class II and III rapids in the northernmost section of the river. The following

M2

sections of the river smooth out into slower waters as the Mayo winds through western Rockingham County until it converges with the Dan River.

The Mayo flows through a scenic gorge featuring rock bluffs and two natural waterfalls.

Paddlers can catch glimpses of history through the well-preserved fish traps (weirs) placed by early Native

American inhabitants, as well as dams used to generate power during America's industrial revolution.



DAM

DAM

M3

1 - NORTH FORK

2 - BOILING HOLE

3 - WASHINGTON MILLS

Section 1

NORTH FORK MOORES MILL, VA TO ANGLIN MILL BRIDGE

Put In GPS: 36.5680, -79.9860 | Take Out GPS: 36.5353, -79.9909

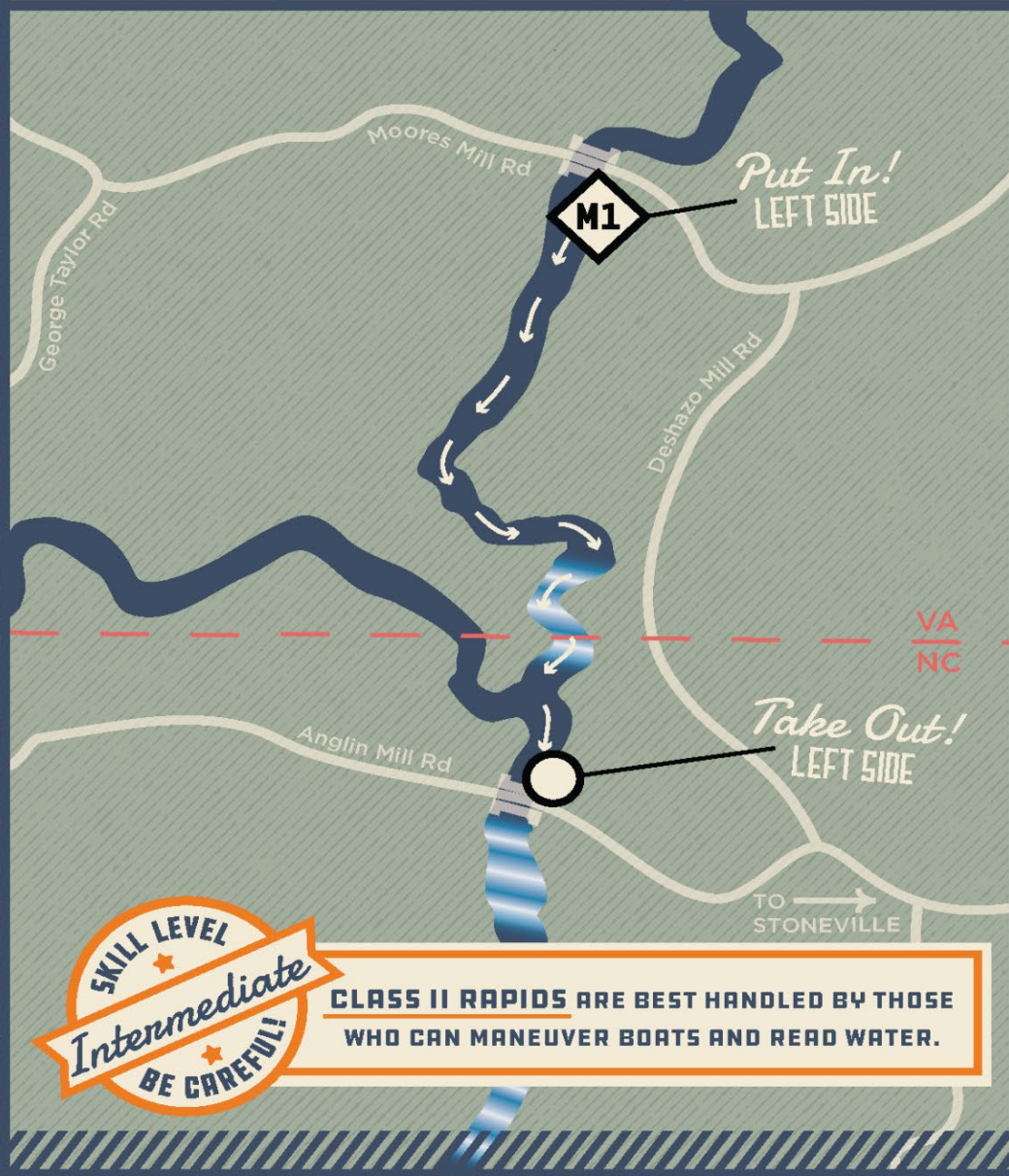


Features: BYRD'S LEDGE IS A CLASS II RAPID, MARKING THE BORDER OF NC AND VA. THE MOST CHALLENGING SECTION IS "THE GRAND STAIRCASE," A SERIES OF LEDGES ACROSS THE RIVER JUST BELOW THE CONFLUENCE WITH THE SOUTH MAYO, WHICH IS PART OF THE MAYO RIVER STATE PARK.

6 MILES

2+ HRS/PADDLE

5+ HRS/TUBE



Section 2

BOILING HOLE ANGLIN MILL BRIDGE TO 220 BUS. BRIDGE

Put In GPS: 36.5353, -79.9909 | Take Out GPS: 36.4388, -79.9379

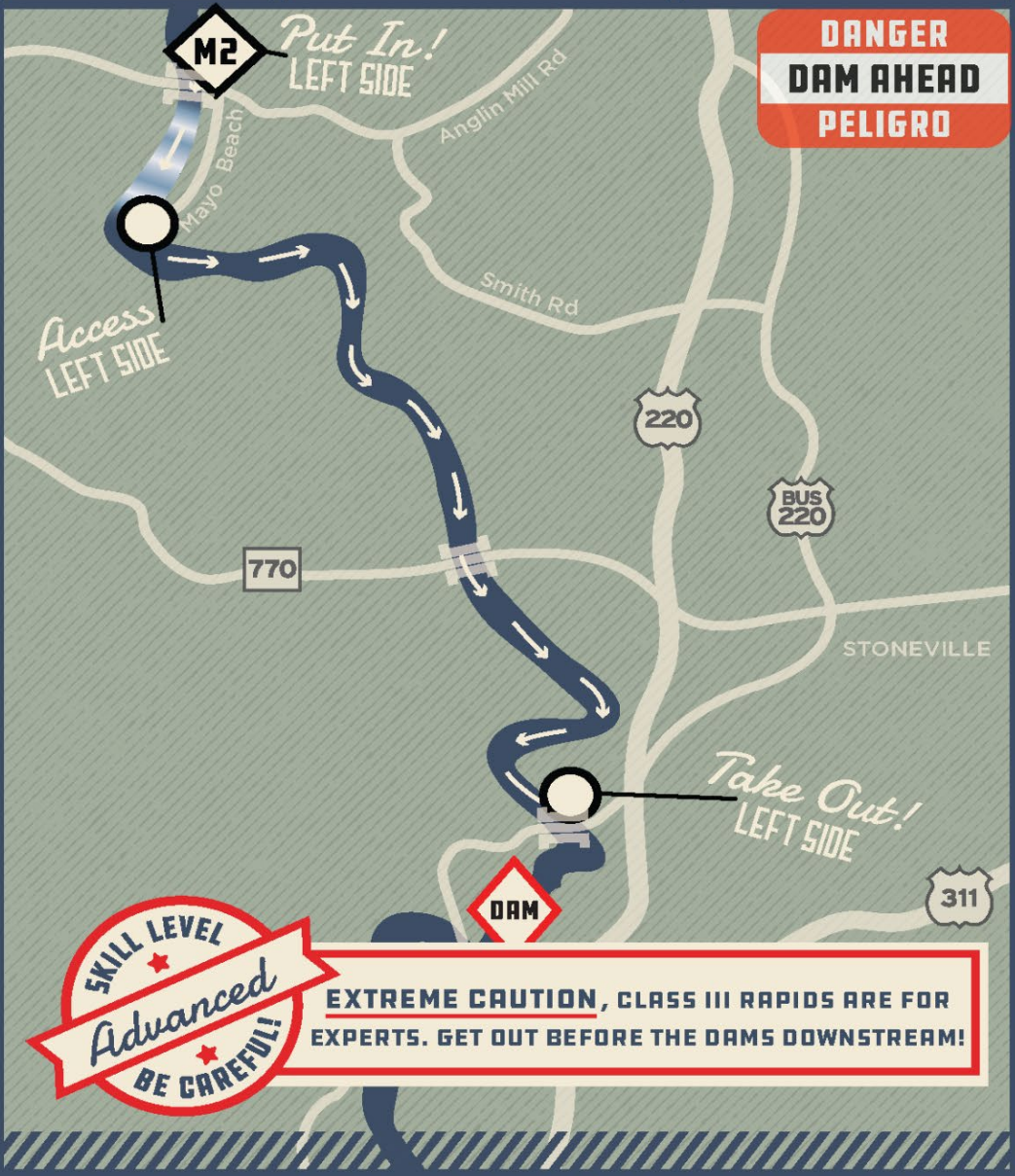


Features: THIS SECTION INCLUDES A BEACH AREA AND CLASS III RAPID "BOILING HOLE" WHICH MAY BE PORTAGED USING THE MAYO BEACH ROAD ACCESS OR RUN THE RAPIDS, GET OUT, AND DO IT AGAIN. FOR THE FULL TRIP, GET OUT AT THE BUS. 220 OVERPASS BEFORE THE 2 DAMS DOWNSTREAM !

9.5 MILES

4+ HRS/PADDLE

TOO LONG/TUBE



WASHINGTON MILLS

NC-135 ACCESS TO JACOBS CREEK BATTEAU

Put In GPS: 36.4073, -79.9650 | Take Out GPS: 36.3897, -79.8883

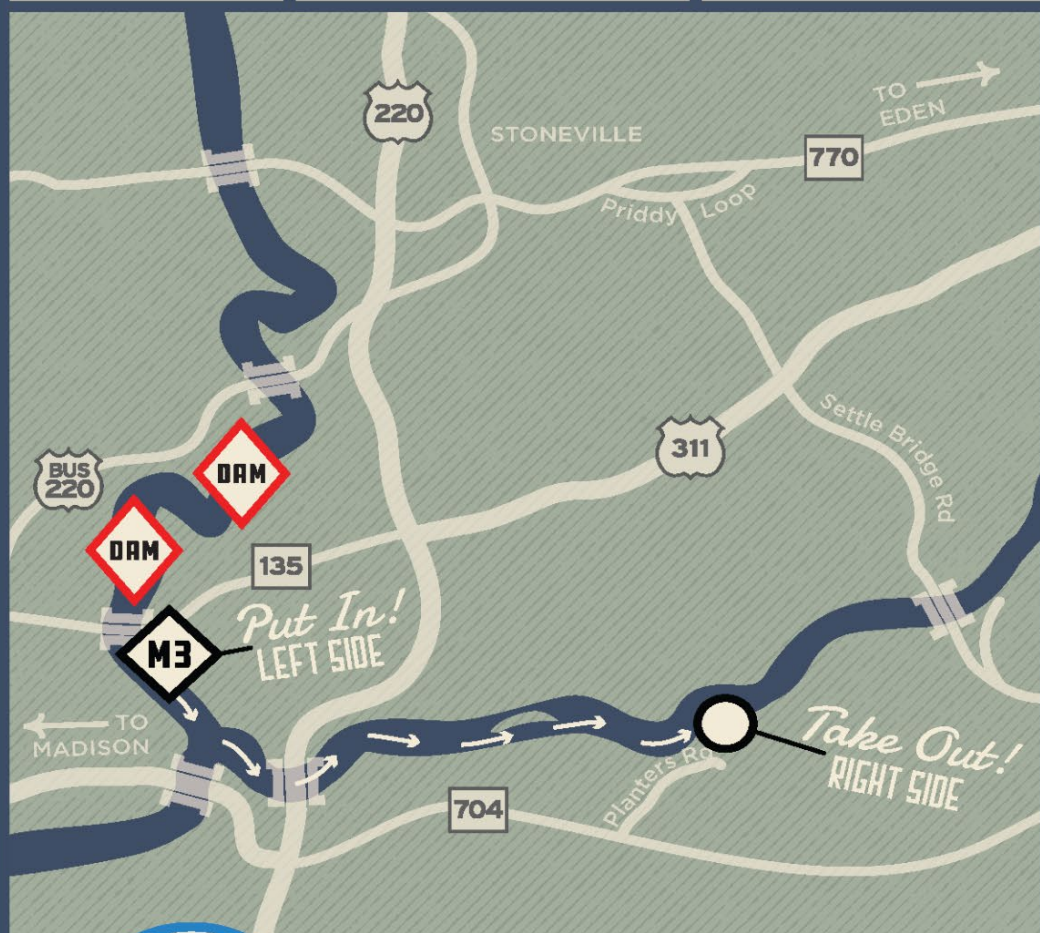


Features: JOINING THE DAN RIVER 1.5 MILES IN, THIS TRIP OFFERS QUITE A LOT. YOU'LL FLOAT PAST SLICES, WING DAMS, SHOALS, RAPIDS, AND EVEN A LARGE ISLAND. THE REMAINS OF THE OLD BATTEAU NAVIGATION SYSTEM MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR BEGINNERS TO NAVIGATE THE SHOALS AND RAPIDS.

6 MILES

2+ HRS/PADDLE

4+/TUBE



SKILL LEVEL

Beginner

BE CAREFUL!

**PAY ATTENTION FOR SHOALS AND RAPIDS TO BE
NAVIGATED SAFELY OR AVOIDED ALTOGETHER.**

HAW RIVER

1 SECTION | 3 MILES

Visitors to the Haw enjoy the many recreation opportunities found on and around the river, including hiking, paddling, swimming, fishing, and picnicking, as well as the solitude and quiet that can be found in many secluded stretches.

Paddlers will enjoy a trip through the history of the region as they move along the river. Reminders of previous inhabitants can be seen in the form of 1000 year-old Native American fish traps, ruins of 18th century grist mills (some of these are rumored to have been stations on the Underground Railroad!), and numerous textile mills built during the Industrial Revolution - many that have been transformed and revitalized for new purposes.



1 - HIGH ROCK

Section 1

HIGH ROCK

HIGH ROCK ACCESS TO BROOKS BRIDGE

Put In GPS: 36.2519, -79.5640 | Take Out GPS: 36.2229, -79.5434

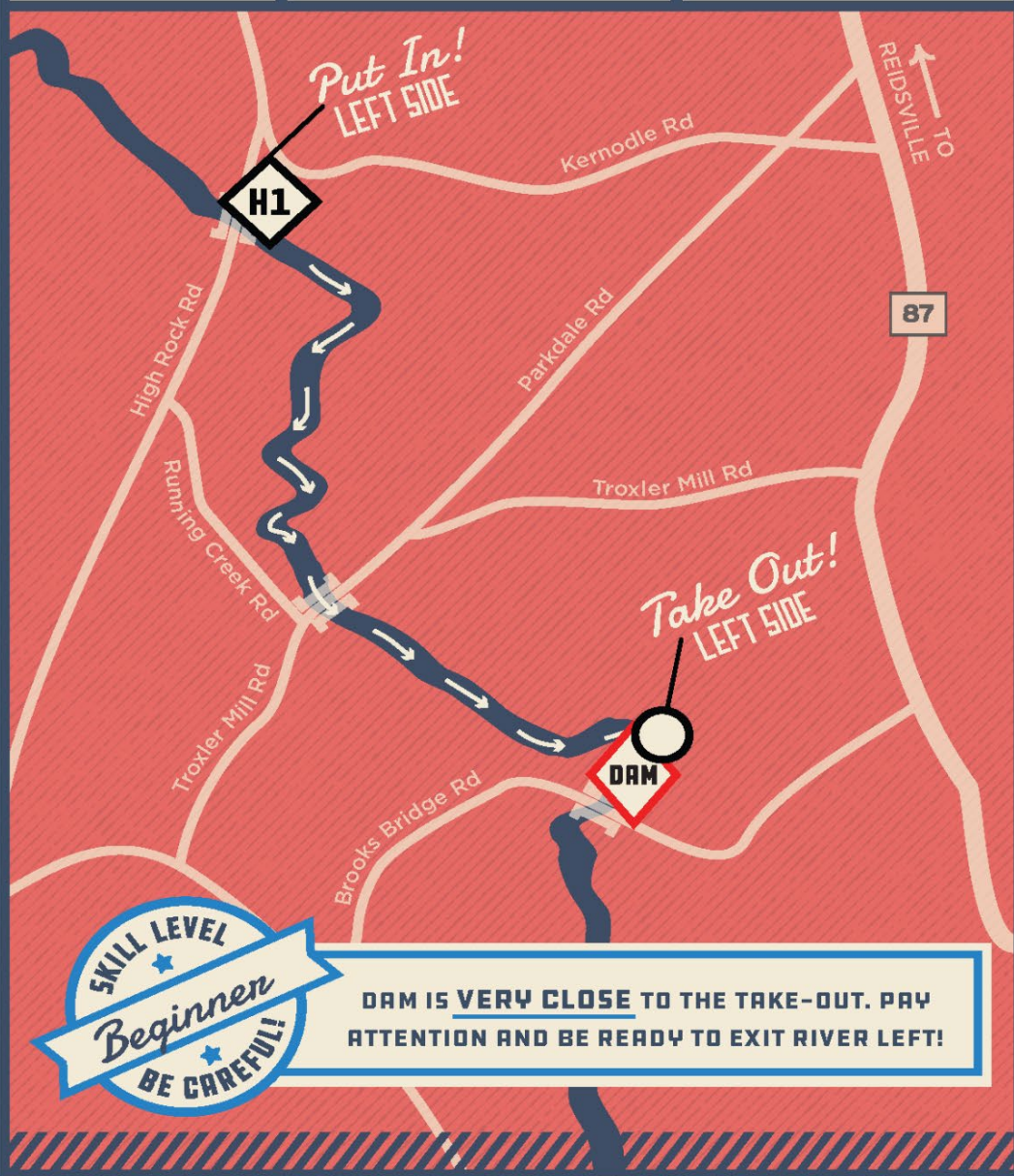


Features: ACCESS IS LOCATED AT THE HIGH ROCK FORD HISTORICAL SITE, AN IMPORTANT AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR SITE. IT IS ALSO THE SITE OF ONE OF THE EARLIEST KNOWN GRAIN MILLS IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY. THE ACCESS HAS A SHORT HIKING/WALKING TRAIL WITH A SMALL GRAVEL PARKING LOT.

3 MILES

1+ HRS/PADDLE

2+ HRS/TUBE





Ellisboro Rd

BELEWS LAKE

BL1 - Carolina Marina: GPS 36.3034, -80.0121

BL2 - Pine Hall Boat Ramp: GPS 36.2999, -80.0533

BL3 - Humphrey's Ridge: GPS 36.2826, -80.0303

BL4 - Piney Bluff: GPS 36.2416, -80.0636

Belews Lake is a large reservoir formed from Belews Creek, a small tributary of the Dan River. Water-lovers of all types can be found on Belews Lake; swimming, tubing, fishing, paddling, boating, and jet-skiing are all encouraged on the

nearly 4,000 surface acres and 88 miles of shoreline. After extensive cleanup efforts in the 1980s and '90s, Belews Lake is some of the cleanest water in North Carolina and has a healthy and abundant fish population

(much enjoyed by area anglers!). Its central

Piedmont location, friendly marinas, and warm waters make

Belews Lake a popular place.

Lindsey Bridge Rd

Pine Hall Rd

Oak Level Church Rd

Belews Creek Rd

BL1

BL2

BL3

BL4

73

68



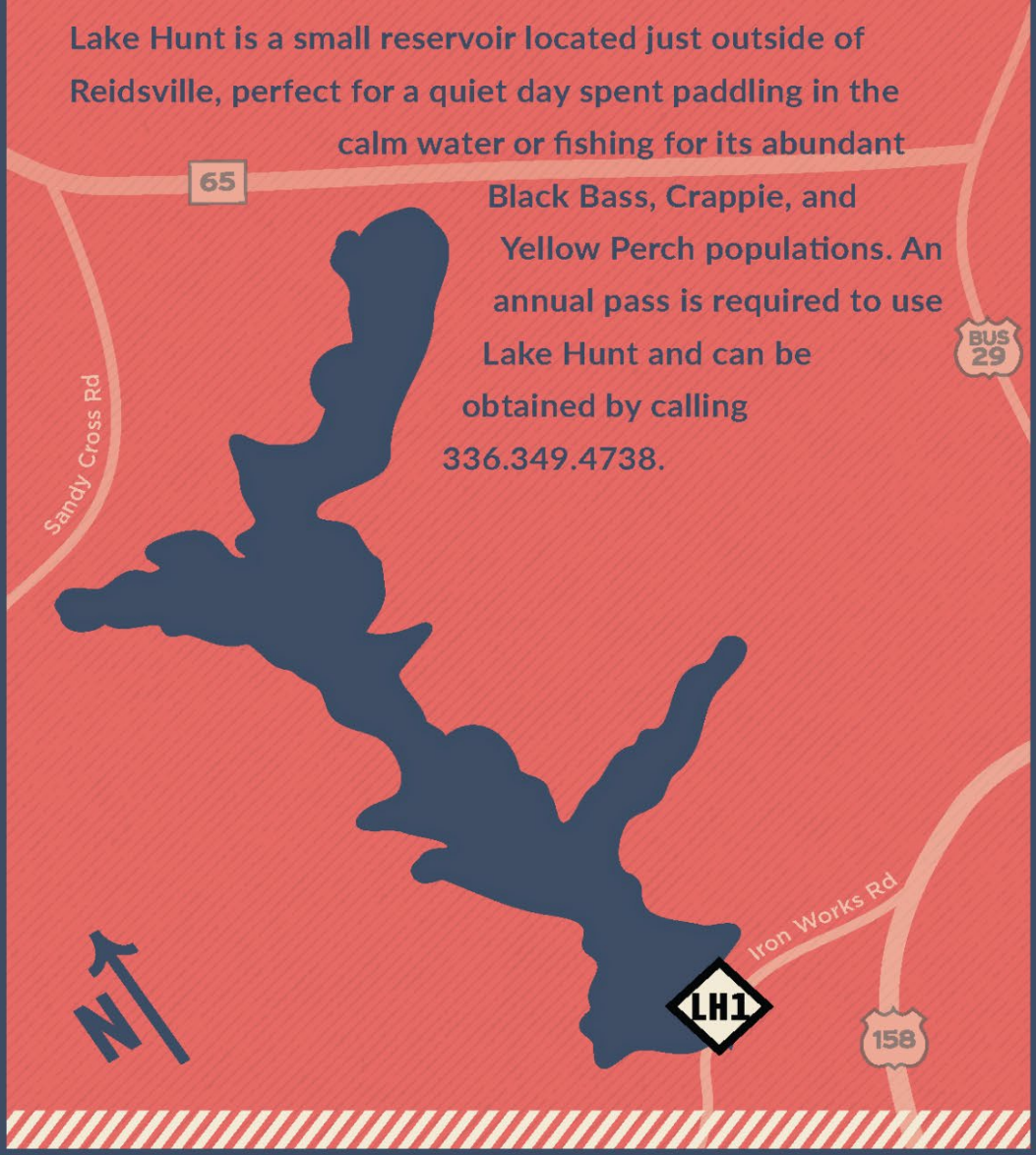


LAKE HUNT

LH1 - Lake Hunt Iron Works Rd Access: GPS 36.3261, -79.7221

Lake Hunt is a small reservoir located just outside of Reidsville, perfect for a quiet day spent paddling in the calm water or fishing for its abundant

Black Bass, Crappie, and Yellow Perch populations. An annual pass is required to use Lake Hunt and can be obtained by calling 336.349.4738.





LAKE REIDSVILLE

LR1 - Lake Reidsville Park: GPS 36.2938, -79.6824

LR2 - McCoy Rd Access: GPS 6.2971, -79.7068

Lake Reidsville is 750 acres of pure fun; offering fishing, boating, water-skiing, hunting, picnicking, and more to area residents and visitors alike. Since it serves as the primary water source for the surrounding area, swimming is off-limits in Lake Reidsville. Anglers flock to the small inlets and coves around the lake hoping to catch a record-breaking big bass, crappie, bream, or other fresh-water fish, with fishing tournaments held

regularly. Lake Reidsville is also a stop on the NC Birding Trail! Visitors may be able to spot Goldfinches, Prairie Wobblers, Yellow Breasted Chat, Indigo Bunting, wintering waterfowl, Red Tail Hawks and Great Blue Herons, just to name a few.



Fish:

- ☐ BLUEGILL
- ☐ SMALLMOUTH BASS
- ☐ LARGEMOUTH BASS
- ☐ CHANNEL CATFISH
- ☐ STRIPED BASS
- ☐ ROANOKE LOGPERCH*
- ☐ BROWN TROUT
- ☐ ORANGEFIN MADTORN

Mammals:

- ☐ WHITETAIL DEER
- ☐ BEAVER
- ☐ RED FOX
- ☐ SQUIRREL
- ☐ RIVER OTTER

Insects:

- ☐ DRAGONFLY
- ☐ BUTTERFLY
- ☐ LADYBUG

*NOTE: ENDANGERED SPECIES

Birds:

- ☐ RED TAILED HAWK
- ☐ BALD EAGLE*
- ☐ BLUE HERON
- ☐ WOOD DUCK
- ☐ BARRED OWL
- ☐ RAVEN
- ☐ CARDINAL
- ☐ WILD TURKEY
- ☐ MALLARD

Plants:

- ☐ VIRGINIA CUP PLANT
- ☐ GOLDENSEAL
- ☐ MOUNTAIN LAUREL

More:

- ☐ TURTLE
- ☐ FROG
- ☐ SALAMANDER
- ☐ LIZARD
- ☐ CRAYFISH
- ☐ FRESHWATER MUSSEL*

Roanoke Logperch:

Fun Fact: In North Carolina, the Roanoke Logperch is only found in the Dan, Mayo, and Smith watersheds. This large darter can be identified by the distinctive orange stripe that runs across the first dorsal fin. Classified as a state and federally endangered species, the Roanoke Logperch is especially threatened by dams, which interrupt their river journey. Environmental advocates have begun working with dam owners to remove dams that are no longer in use to help restore Roanoke Logperch populations.



OUTFITTERS & RENTALS:

DAN RIVER ADVENTURES

724 WEBSTER RD, STONEVILLE

(336) 548-0080

WWW.DANRIVERADVENTURES.COM

DAN RIVER OUTFITTERS AND GLAMPING

4890 NC 704 STE. A, MADISON

336-916-7070

WWW.DANRIVEROUTFITTERS.COM

MAD TOWN TUBING

110 W. WATER STREET, MADISON

336-548-2789

WWW.MADTOWNTUBING.COM

MAYODAN OUTDOOR SPORTS

100 EAST MAIN ST, MAYODAN

(336) 548-6296

WWW.MAYODANOUTDOORSports.COM

THREE RIVERS OUTFITTERS

413 CHURCH ST, EDEN

(336) 627-6215

WWW.3-R-O.COM

CAROLINA MARINA

548 SHELTON RD, STOKESDALE

(336) 427-0498

WWW.CAROLINAMARINA.COM

LAKE REIDSVILLE

630 WATER WORKS RD, REIDSVILLE

(336) 349-4738

WWW.RISEUPREIDSVILLE.COM

(RENTALS FOR LAKE REIDSVILLE ONLY)

LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS:

➤➤➤ **AUTUMN CREEK VINEYARDS**
(336) 548-9463
364 MEANS CREEK RD, MAYODAN

➤➤➤ **BAYMONT BY WYNDHAM**
(336) 864-0130
716 LINDEN DR, EDEN

➤➤➤ **THE BOXLEY**
(336) 949-7621
117 E. HUNTER ST, MADISON

➤➤➤ **CHEZ LINDSAY**
(336) 394-4333
308 S. MAIN ST, REIDSVILLE

➤➤➤ **DAYS INN**
(336) 496-2122
2205 BARNES ST, REIDSVILLE

➤➤➤ **ECONO LODGE**
(336) 627-5131
110 E ARBOR LN, EDEN

➤➤➤ **HAMPTON INN**
(336) 627-1111
724 S VAN BUREN RD, EDEN

➤➤➤ **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS**
(336) 361-4000
101 EXPRESS DR, REIDSVILLE

➤➤➤ **HUNTER HOUSE BED & BREAKFAST**
(336) 949-9316
216 W HUNTER ST, MADISON

➤➤➤ **QUALITY INN**
(336) 634-1275
2203 BARNES ST, REIDSVILLE



TRIP JOURNAL

Journal page with horizontal dashed lines for writing.

TRIP JOURNAL

Journal page with horizontal dashed lines for writing.



Rock the **ROCO**

**ALL RIVER EXPERIENCES ARE AT YOUR
OWN RISK. ANY FORM OF RIVER
RECREATION IS DANGEROUS WHEN
RIVERS ARE AT FLOOD STAGE.**

VISITROCKINGHAMCOUNTYNC.COM



DESIGNED BY:  DESTINATION BY DESIGN