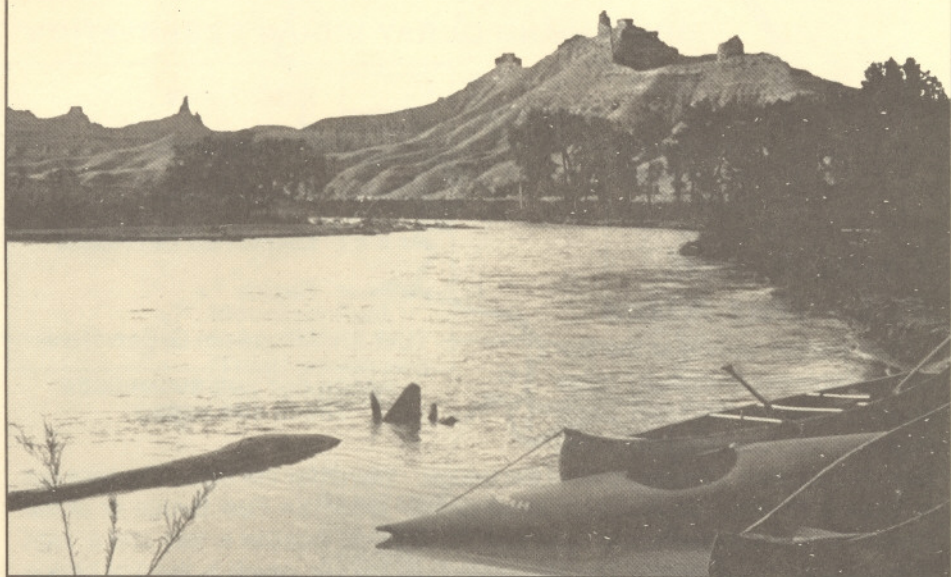


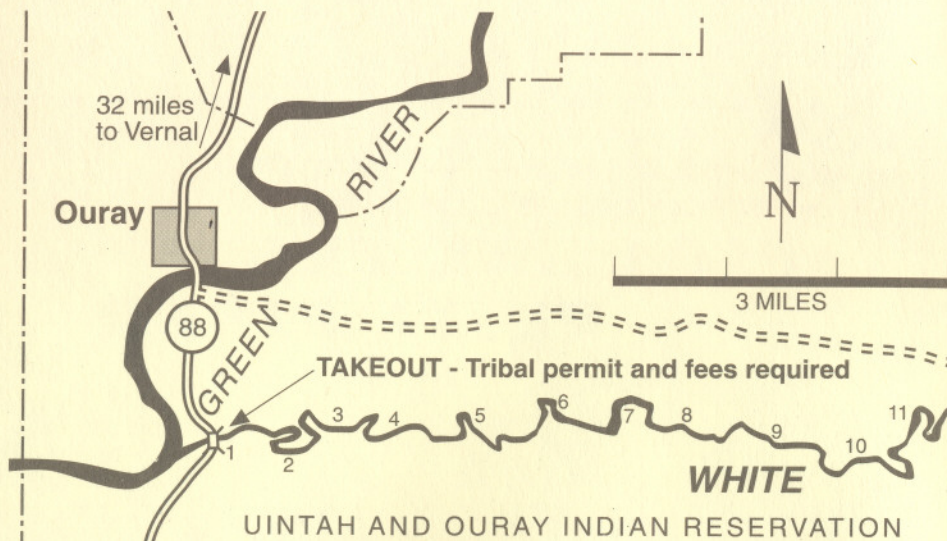


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

FLOATING THE WHITE RIVER



Born from snowmelt in mountain headwaters above Trapper Lake in western Colorado, the White River flows due west in a serpentine search for its confluence with the Green River. Near the Utah-Colorado border the river course turns spectacular-canyon style. For 100 miles between the town of Rangely, Colorado and the river's confluence with the Green River, the White River cuts a rugged, scenic trough into the high desert plains of the Uintah Basin. This is a place to paddle, watch wildlife, and occasionally leave the river for an unforgettable hike. This is one of the quiet places, where solitude and a sense of adventure are still very much a part of the outdoor experience.



Launch and Take Out Sites

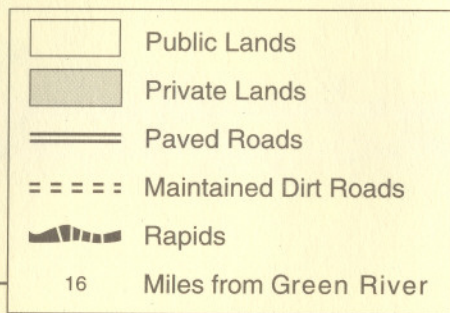
Most people launch at the Bonanza Highway Bridge, 37 miles south of Vernal on Utah State Highway 45. The turnoff for this launch is located 1/2 mile north of the bridge. Watch for the sign. The take out is located 35 miles downstream at either the Mountain Fuel Bridge or at the Enron Oil and Gas Company gas well. The Enron location is free and a sign is located on "river right". The Mountain Fuel Bridge, which is the first bridge encountered, is located on the Indian reservation and requires fee permits. The shuttle time between take out and launch is one hour each direction. Be careful as you drive as there are blind hills and sharp curves on this graded dirt road.

From the Bonanza Bridge:

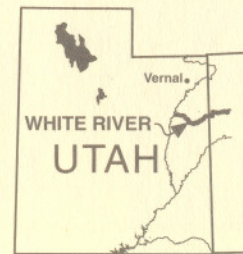
River trips can be extended by launching 38 miles upstream at Rangely, Colorado or by continuing your float downstream to Sand Wash on the Green River, for another 86 miles. Again, fees are charged for floating across reservation lands. (See insert)

How Long to Stay:

At a minimum, give yourself two (2) days to enjoy the solitude and some relaxing stops and hikes.



WATCH OUT FOR SUBMERGED TREES AND ROCKS



38 miles from Mountain Fuel Bridge to Vernal

WHITE RIVER

Fantasy Canyon
(Fragile geologic formations)

Mountain Fuel Bridge

Mountain Fuel Bridge TAKE OUT
(Tribal permit and fees required)

Enron TAKE OUT
(No fee public takeout)

Enron Natural Gas location 0285A

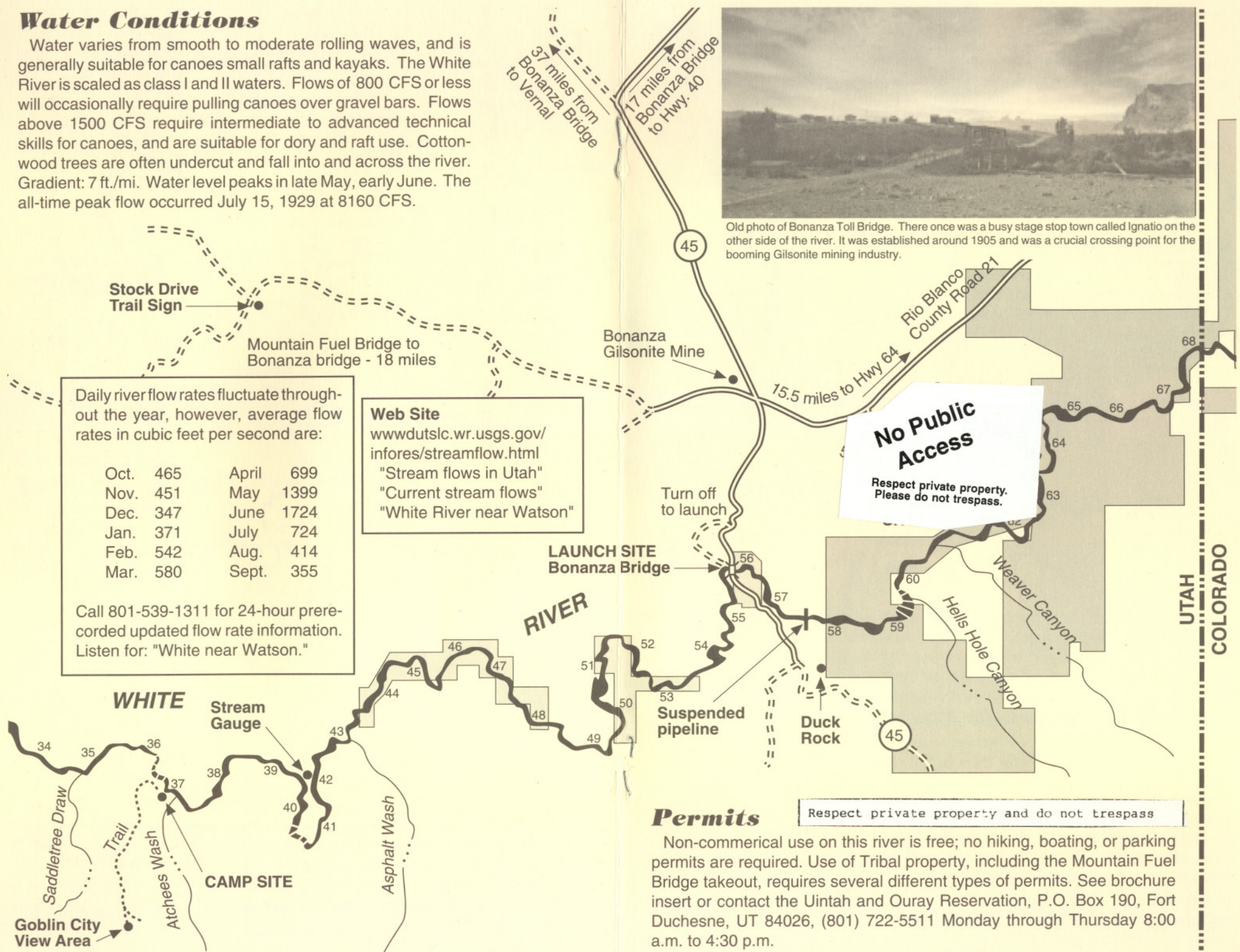
When to Go

The best time to take a trip down the river is during spring runoff from mid-April to mid-June when flows range between 1,000 and 2,400 CFS. Summer months are fine for canoeing, but bring plenty of insect repellent to ward off the hordes of gnats, deer flies, and mosquitoes. The first frosts typically occur in mid-September, turning the river corridor into a wonderland of colors. Fall river flows are low and may require dragging craft over gravel areas and sand bars.

Bitter Creek

Water Conditions

Water varies from smooth to moderate rolling waves, and is generally suitable for canoes small rafts and kayaks. The White River is scaled as class I and II waters. Flows of 800 CFS or less will occasionally require pulling canoes over gravel bars. Flows above 1500 CFS require intermediate to advanced technical skills for canoes, and are suitable for dory and raft use. Cottonwood trees are often undercut and fall into and across the river. Gradient: 7 ft./mi. Water level peaks in late May, early June. The all-time peak flow occurred July 15, 1929 at 8160 CFS.



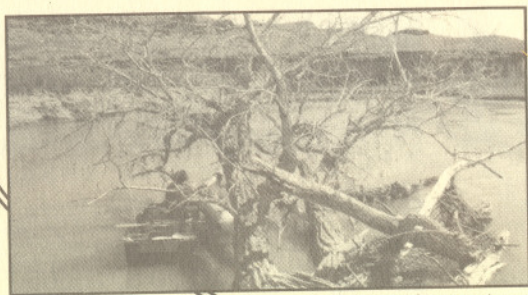
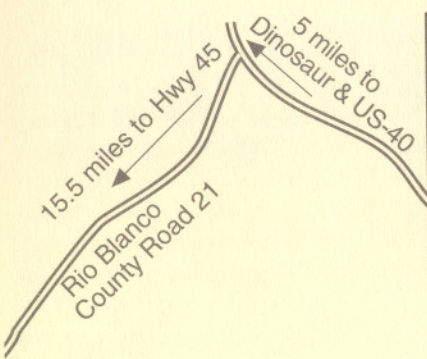
Daily river flow rates fluctuate throughout the year, however, average flow rates in cubic feet per second are:

Oct.	465	April	699
Nov.	451	May	1399
Dec.	347	June	1724
Jan.	371	July	724
Feb.	542	Aug.	414
Mar.	580	Sept.	355

Call 801-539-1311 for 24-hour pre-recorded updated flow rate information. Listen for: "White near Watson."

Permits

Non-commercial use on this river is free; no hiking, boating, or parking permits are required. Use of Tribal property, including the Mountain Fuel Bridge takeout, requires several different types of permits. See brochure insert or contact the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, P.O. Box 190, Fort Duchesne, UT 84026, (801) 722-5511 Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

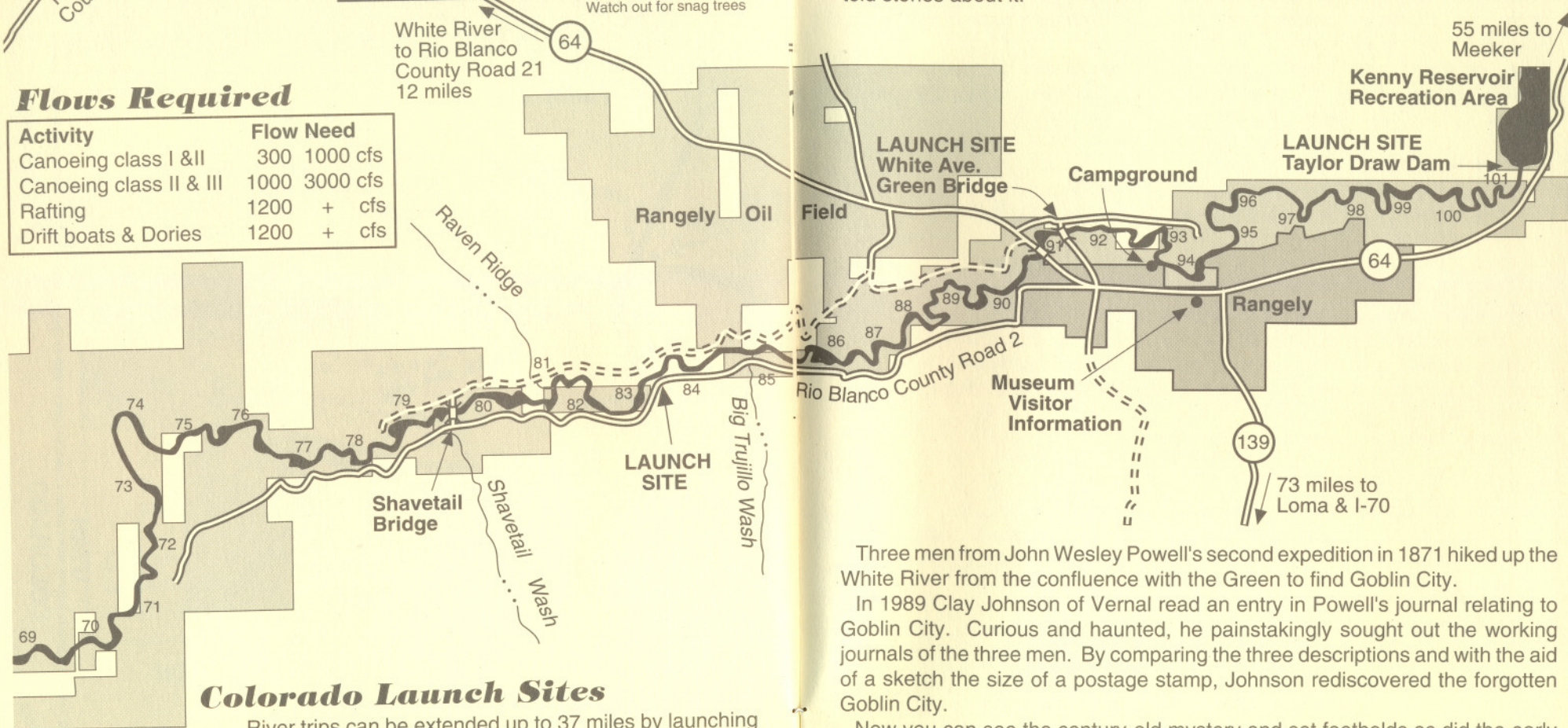


Watch out for snag trees

White River
to Rio Blanco
County Road 21
12 miles

Flows Required

Activity	Flow Need
Canoeing class I & II	300 1000 cfs
Canoeing class II & III	1000 3000 cfs
Rafting	1200 + cfs
Drift boats & Dories	1200 + cfs



Colorado Launch Sites

River trips can be extended up to 37 miles by launching on BLM land below Taylor Draw Dam east of Rangely (River Mile 101). Other launch sites include: the White Avenue/Green Bridge in Rangely (River Mile 92), and BLM land five miles west of Rangely on Rio Blanco County Road 2 (near River Mile 84). From Taylor Draw Dam the river passes by oil & gas wells and through private ranch lands for about 20 miles. Be careful of the bridge abutment in the river at Highway 64. Parcels of BLM public lands provide camping areas or lunch stops in 6 locations between Rangely and the Utah border. Respect private property and do not trespass. All services are available in the town of Rangely including a campground with drinking water and showers.

Hiking

Hiking the river corridor and side canyons rewards the energetic with solitude, wild flowers, distant sandstone vistas and an appreciation of the vastness of this massive landscape.

What is Goblin City?

Downstream, there is an area of spectacular and fanciful geologic forms called Goblin City. Trappers passed in and out of this canyon in the early 1800's and told stories about it.

Three men from John Wesley Powell's second expedition in 1871 hiked up the White River from the confluence with the Green to find Goblin City.

In 1989 Clay Johnson of Vernal read an entry in Powell's journal relating to Goblin City. Curious and haunted, he painstakingly sought out the working journals of the three men. By comparing the three descriptions and with the aid of a sketch the size of a postage stamp, Johnson rediscovered the forgotten Goblin City.

Now you can see the century-old mystery and set footholds as did the early explorers, "from the bluffs to southward".

A strenuous 2 hour hike along the ridges midway between miles 36 and 37 (look for sign), will take you to the ridgelines. The view is to the east and a late afternoon sun provides the best shadows.

What will lie before you is a series of stacked ridges with towers, spires,..."numerous small buttes and square rocks, almost in rows and about the size of small buildings, so that there is a striking suggestion of a town." (Frederick S. Dellenbaugh, artist and assistant topographer to Powell's expedition.)

Leave No Trace Camping

While it is possible to float the river in a day, most people are choosing a slower pace and enjoying an overnight along the river. If you do camp, here are a few guidelines:

- Use a fire pan. It provides warmth and light and it prevents scarring of the land. Please collect only driftwood or bring a portable stove. Minimize your use of open fires.
- Use of a self-contained personal porta-potty is highly recommended. The alternative is to bury human waste in a 6-8 inch cathole at least 200 feet from your camp or the river.
- Camp on sand bars or in unvegetated areas. Select your campsites to disperse continual use. This way, the greenery will have time to rejuvenate before the next river users camp.

A Few Safety Reminders

- Wear a life jacket (required in Colorado) at all times.
- Take an extra paddle, a bailing device and an extra life jacket for each boat.
- Bring your own drinking water. No fresh water is available.
- Don't forget sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Pets are allowed, but can tip a canoe.
- When approaching a family of geese please pull over and wait along the shoreline until the geese can "escape." Inadvertently people have "pushed" young geese miles down the river separating them from their parents.
- **Watch for submerged trees and rocks.**

Maps

BLM surface maps (1:100,000): Vernal, Seep Ridge and Rangely.

USGS topo maps (1:24,000 quads): Southam Canyon, Asphalt Wash, Weaver Ridge, Archy Bench, Red Wash Southwest, Walsh Knolls Utah/CO, Banty Point, CO, and Rangely, CO.

1:24,000

Bitter Creek Books
672 W. Main Street
Vernal, Utah
801-789-4742

1:100,000

Vernal District Office
170 South 500 East
Vernal, Utah 84078
(801) 781-4400

For information in Colorado and floating 65 miles of the White River from Meeker to Rangely contact:

BLM White River Resource Area
73544 Highway 64
P.O Box 928
Meeker, Colorado 81641
(970) 878-3601

or

Rangely Area Chamber of Commerce
209 East Main Street
Rangely, Colorado 81648
(970) 675-5290