Mississippi River Guide – Elk River Access

Access at Elk River, Mississippi River



More information:

DNR website: www.dnr.state.mn.us

Mississippi River, St. Cloud to Anoka, Canoe and Boating Guide

Elk River City Hall (763)441-7420

Page 3 of 10

Elk River Access – River mile 883

The Elk River access on the Mississippi River is located on the frontage road along U.S. Hwy 10 on the southeast side of Elk River. It is located near the Hwy 101/169 bridge.

There is ample parking in the access lot. A boat ramp allows easy launching of boats and canoes.

Canoeing and Scenery

For about 1 mile upstream of the access, riffles and rapids abound. Yet immediately downstream of Elk River the Mississippi is wide and flat.

Throughout this stretch the water is stained brown due to several factors.

Fishing

If you don't have a canoe or boat you can fish from shore at the city park near the access.

In 1992 we tagged a smallmouth bass in this area that was13 inches long and 4 years old. Seven years later we recovered the tagged fish in nearly the same location as it was originally tagged. This fish showed fidelity to its home but was relatively slow growing. Fish can live for more than 10 years but only a small percentage do, so it seemed unusual to catch this specimen. At the time of capture the smallmouth was 18.3 inches. Otherwise smallmouth bass in the Mississippi River grow to 12 inches by age four and to 16 inches by age 7.

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