

ST. LOUIS RIVER STATE WATER TRAIL



MAP 2 - MEADOWLANDS TO HIGHWAY 2



MINNESOTA
STATE PARKS AND TRAILS



ABOUT THE WATER TRAIL

The St. Louis River has one of the largest watersheds in Minnesota, covering 3,650 square miles. It begins in the Superior National Forest and flows southwest to Floodwood before turning southeast to meet Lake Superior. The river has a diverse and excellent fish population. Cast a line for walleye, smallmouth bass, northern pike or channel catfish.

This portion of the river has a steady current with occasional shallow rapids. Stream flow usually peaks in late April and falls throughout the summer, but there is generally enough water for paddling. Most of this segment has wild, wooded shorelines. You'll spot farms and homes as you near the towns of Floodwood and Brookston.

Hazards include Class I-II rapids, some of which can be dangerous in high water.



Enjoy the river's forested shoreline.

(CONTACTS

DNR NORTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE

1201 East Hwy. 2 Grand Rapids, MN 55744 218-328-8980

DNR INFORMATION CENTER

500 Lafayette Rd. St. Paul, MN 55155-4040 888-646-6367 info.dnr@state.mn.us

TRIP PLANNING AND SAFETY-

- Plan your trip with a map before you leave. Tell someone your plans, including put-in and take-out times.
- Travel with a companion or group.
- Most people paddle 2-3 river miles per hour.
- River levels can affect your speed and trip safety. Check conditions at mndnr.gov/river_levels.
- Don't underestimate the power of wind and waves, especially on large lakes.
- Be cautious of obstacles in the river and avoid overhanging and dead trees.
- Bring clean drinking water and a waterproof container with a first aid kit, waterproof matches and extra clothes.
- Wear a life jacket at all times while on the water.
- Purchase a license for your non-motorized watercraft if it's more than 10 feet in length. If you're not from Minnesota, check your state's watercraft license laws.

-WATERCRAFT CAMPING -

- Camp only in designated campsites, which are often available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Riverbed camping next to private property is not permitted.
- Stay off private property. Stop only at designated sites; much of the shoreland is private property.
- Be sanitary! Use designated toilet facilities or bury human waste away from the river.
- Follow the rules for firewood. State forests allow you to gather dead wood for a fire, but state parks do not.

-MEDICAL

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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512 Skyline Boulevard Cloquet, MN 55720 218-879-4641

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

RECOMMENDED DAY TRIP —

Paupores to Brookston

- Put-in location: Paupores trailer access River mile **61.8**
- Take-out location: Brookston trailer access River mile **53.9**
- Length: **7.9** river miles

The river gently curves through thickly forested landscape along this route. You may catch a glimpse of a train through the trees, as railroad tracks follow the river. You'll pass under the railroad trestle near the end of your paddle. Watch for wildlife or bring a fishing pole and cast a line.

EXPLORE ON SHORE-

Watercraft Campsites

Plan a multi-day trip with several campsite options along this segment of the river. Most watercraft campsites are first-come, first-served and have a fire ring and picnic table. Plan to pack out your trash and practice Leave No Trace.

- PROTECT THE RIVER-

Your experience on the river depends on a healthy environment. As you explore the beauty of this waterway, also do your best to protect it.

Protect Your Waters

Before launching...before leaving

- Clean off aquatic plants and animals.
- Drain all water away from the landing.
- Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash.

mndnr.gov/invasives/aquatic

Buffer Protection

The Minnesota buffer law establishes new vegetation buffers along rivers, streams and ditches to help filter out chemicals and sediment before they reach waterways.

mndnr.gov/buffers

More Information

mndnr.gov/watertrails

- River level reporting
- River conditions reporting
- Interactive water trail map
- Recommended routesRiver rapids definitions
- Virtual tours
- Search for outfitters at exploreminnesota.com

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alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting info.dnr@state.mn.us,

651-296-6157, or MN Relay 711.