

ROUTE DESCRIPTION - RM 52 to 0

<p>51.3 (L) Highway 2 bridge/trailer access. Powerline crossing. 51.0 (R) St. Louis River II Aquatic Management Area. 46.3 Brevator Rapids. Class I-II. Dangerous in high water. 44.7 Class I-II rapids. 42.5 (L) Confluence with Pine River. 40.0 Cluster of islands. 39.4 (R) Confluence with Fond du Lac Creek. 38.0 Two unnamed islands. 37.1(R) Spafford Park. On Dunlap Island. Trailer access, drinking water and watercraft campsite. 37.1 Highway 33 bridge. City of Cloquet. 36.3 Knife Falls Dam, no portage. 35.2 Cloquet Dam, no portage. 33.7 Scanlon Dam, no portage. 33.3(R) Scanlon Carry-in Access. County Road 61 bridge. 33.0 Interstate 35 bridge. River level gauge. 31.8(L) Confluence with Crystal Creek. 30.0 Thomson Reservoir. The reservoir can be accessed using the carry-in trail at the UMD Outpost. The reservoir has variable water levels and current. Follow yellow signs from the dock to stay away from Thomson Dam. 29.7 Thomson Dam carry-in access. University of Minnesota - Duluth (UMD) Kayak and Canoe Center: Class II-IV race course. Visit map and photo</p>	<p>display on Outpost Building or visit umdrsop.org for more information. 29.7-22 Jay Cooke State Park. Camping, restrooms, drinking water. Fee. 29.6-27.4 Jay Cook State Park rapids. Class II-VI, experts only! 29.5 Willard Munger State Trail. UMD Kayak and Canoe Center race course finish line. 28.5 Jay Cooke State Park rapids. Class II-VI with sharp rocks in the riverbed, steep drops and waterfalls. EXPERTS ONLY! 27.4 Swinging bridge. Take out left immediately after bridge. 29.6-25.6 This section of river is very dangerous for unexperienced paddlers. Class IV-V rapids and very sharp rocks in the riverbed. 24.3 Powerline crossing. Hydropower plant. 22.8(L) Fond du Lac carry-in access. Powerline crossing. 21.8 Fond du Lac Dam. No portage. 20.3(L) Chambers Grove Park. Picnic area, carry-in access and toilets. 20.0 (L) Fond du Lac trailer access. Fee. 18.5 (L) Fond du Lac (E)/Perch Lake. Carry-in access and fishing pier. 16.8(L) Boy Scout Landing trailer access. Shore fishing and rest area.</p>	<p>15.7(R) Oliver trailer access. 15.4 Highway 39 and railroad bridge. 12.1(L) Munger Landing/Clyde Avenue trailer access. Rest area. 10.5(L) Indian Point City Campground. Restrooms, drinking water, fishing pier and rest area. Fee. 10.3-0 CAUTION: shipping lanes. Large ships may be passing through. 9.8 (R) Dwight's Point watercraft campsite. 9.0 Billings Park. Trailer access, picnic areas and toilets. 8.4 (L) Grassy Point carry-in access. Portage down pier to parking lot beyond gate. 8.0 Richard I. Bong (Hwy 2) bridge. 5.3 (L) Blatnik (Hwy 53) bridge. Rice's Point trailer access and fishing pier below the bridge. 4.9 (L) Hearing Island Wildlife Management Area. 2.9 (L) Park Point. Trailer access, rest area and toilets. 1.5 (L) Minnesota Point Pine Scientific and Natural Area. 0 End at Minnesota Point. Enter Lake Superior. Start Lake Superior State Water Trail.</p>
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ST. LOUIS RIVER STATE WATER TRAIL



MAP 3 - HIGHWAY 2 TO LAKE SUPERIOR



m 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, where it then turns southeast to meet Lake Superior. Stream flow usually peaks in late April and falls throughout the summer. The river's flow is affected by the regulation of reservoirs on tributaries, particularly the Whiteface and Cloquet rivers. Parts of the river are wild, while others are dotted with farms, homes or small towns. Cloquet is the most developed area.

Between Scanlon and Thomson Reservoir, the river provides Minnesota's only whitewater rafting opportunities. Many rapids should only be attempted by highly experienced paddlers. Some sections through Jay Cooke State Park are open only to expert level, whitewater kayakers. The river is a designated National Water Trail from Fond du Lac Dam to Lake Superior. This area is considered the nation's largest freshwater estuary and offers 11 loop trails for paddlers of all skill levels and abilities (visit StLouisRiver.org for details).

Hazards include multiple dams and Class I-VI rapids. Be aware of locations and portage options. Visit mndnr.gov/watertrails for detailed information about rapids ratings.



Experienced paddlers will find many whitewater opportunities.

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

JAY COOKE STATE PARK
780 Highway 210
Carlton, MN 55718
218-673-7000

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

ESSENTIA HOSPITAL
407 E Third St.
Duluth, MN 55805
218-786-4000

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL
915 E First Street
Duluth, MN 55805
218-249-5555

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911



RECOMMENDED DAY TRIP

Fond du Lac Reservoir to Oldenburg Falls

- Put-in and take-out location:
Fond du Lac Reservoir
River mile **22.1**
- Length: **6-7** river miles round-trip

If you are looking for flat water, launch and land at the Grand Portage parking lot within Jay Cooke State Park (vehicle fee required). Enjoy a paddle on the reservoir above the Fond du Lac dam, passing the Thomson Hydro Station, to the base of Oldenburg Falls. Water flow may determine how close you can get to Oldenburg Falls. High hillsides frame this scenic area. Watch for aquatic birds and other abundant wildlife during your trip. Be sure to stay a safe distance from the dam.

EXPLORE ON SHORE

Jay Cooke State Park

Rapids within the park are for expert whitewater kayakers only. Have a knowledgeable paddler guide you through the safest route. These expert-class rapids are not suitable for canoes, flat-water kayaks, rafts or inner tubes.

A take-out spot can be found to the immediate left after you pass under the Swinging Bridge. The nearby visitor center has restrooms, vending machines, exhibits and picnicking during open hours. Vault toilets are available. A vehicle fee is required for vehicles coming in for pick-up.

mndnr.gov/JayCooke

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 routes
- River rapids definitions
- Virtual tours

Search for outfitters at exploreminnesota.com

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting info.dnr@state.mn.us, 651-296-6157, or MN Relay 711.