

## ROUTE DESCRIPTION

### NORTH FORK ZUMBRO RIVER

- 72.5 US Highway 52 bridge.
- 72.3 165th Avenue bridge.
- 70.5 City of Zumbrota.
- 69.6 (L) Covered Bridge Park: Carry-in access, camping, toilets and drinking water.
- 67.2 Old bridge abutments. Co. Road 48 bridge downstream.
- 66.2 Co. Road 10 bridge.
- 60.7 City of Mazeppa.
- 60.2 **Mazeppa Rapids (class I):** Portage right 90 yards.
- 60.1 (R) Walking Bridge Park: Drinking water and carry-in access.
- 60 State Highway 60 bridge.
- 59.9 (R) Cooper's Park: Drinking water.
- 55 Township road bridge. Mazeppa Creek confluence downstream (L).
- 54.8 Co. Road 7 bridge.
- 53.5 Zumbro River confluence.

## ROUTE DESCRIPTION

### River miles 84 to 40 (44 miles)

(R) and (L) are right and left banks of the river when facing downstream.

Red text indicates caution areas.

#### NORTH BRANCH MIDDLE FORK ZUMBRO RIVER

- 80.5 (L) Collins Park: Toilets and drinking water. City of Pine Island
- 79.6 Co. Road 62 bridge.
- 79.5 (L) Trailhead Park: Toilets and drinking water.
- 79.1 Main Street bridge. Douglas State Trail bridge.
- 79 (R) Middle Fork Zumbro River confluence.

#### MIDDLE FORK ZUMBRO RIVER

- 84.7 Township road bridge.
- 83.7 (R) Harkcom Creek confluence.
- 80.7 Co. Road 3 bridge.
- 79.8 Township road bridge.
- 79.1 City of Pine Island. Douglas State Trail bridge.
- 79 (L) North Branch Middle Fork Zumbro River confluence.
- 73.3 Co. Road 31 bridge.
- 71.9 (L) Private campground.
- 70.4 (L) Oronoco Park: Carry-in access, toilets and campground (fee charged).
- 70 **Rock riffles:** High water may produce class I rapids.
- 63.8 Zumbro River confluence.

#### SOUTH BRANCH MIDDLE FORK ZUMBRO RIVER

- 94.5 (L) Mantorville Park: Carry-in access.
- 90.3 Township road bridge.
- 87.9 Co. Road 5 bridge.
- 85.3 (R) Oxbow Park: Campground (fee charged). Toilets and drinking water.
- 84.8 Co. Road 105 bridge.
- 83.6 Co. Road 103 bridge.
- 78.3 Town of Genoa. Co. Road 14 bridge.

#### SOUTH BRANCH MIDDLE FORK ZUMBRO RIVER cont'd...

- 75.2 (L) Plum Creek confluence.
- 74.9 Douglas State Trail bridge.
- 74.8 Co. Road 3 bridge.
- 70 Middle Fork Zumbro River confluence.

#### ZUMBRO RIVER

- 84.8 Mayowood Lake. Co. Road 125 bridge.
- 84.2 **Mayowood Dam:** No established portage.
- 82.4 Co. Road 8 bridge. City of Rochester.
- 81.6 US Highway 52 bridge.
- 81.1 **Dam:** No established portage.
- 81 Co. Road 25 bridge.
- 80.4 US Highway 14 bridge.
- 79.7 (L) Soldiers Field: Toilets and drinking water.
- 79.6 US Highway 63 bridge.
- 79.3 4th Street SE bridge.
- 79.1 3rd Avenue SE bridge.
- 78.9 (R) Bear Creek confluence. Mayo Memorial Park.
- 78.7 Center Street bridge.
- 78.5 Railroad trestle.
- 78.2 (R) Silver Creek confluence.
- 78.1 (R) Silver Lake Park: Toilets and drinking water.
- 77.6 **Dam:** No established portage. US Highway 63 bridge.
- 77.4 (L) Cascade Creek confluence.
- 77.1 (R) Elton Hills Drive bridge. Carry-in access downstream.
- 75.5 Co. Road 22 bridge. Foster Arend Park (R).
- 69.3 US Highway 63 bridge.
- 66.5 Co. Road 121 bridge.
- 63.8 Lake Zumbro.
- 63.7 (L) Middle Fork Zumbro River confluence.
- 58.1 (L) Trailer access. Private campground.
- 57.9 (R) **Dam:** Portage 80 yards on right.
- 57.9 (L) Private access and campground.
- 55.8 (L) Carry-in access. Co. Road 7 bridge.
- 53.5 (L) North Fork Zumbro River confluence.
- 48.2 (L) Private campground and carry-in access.
- 47 (L) Cold Stream Brook confluence.

#### ZUMBRO RIVER continued...

- 46.8 Township road bridge.
- 46.6 City of Zumbro Falls.
- 46.1 US Highway 63 bridge. Carry-in access (L).
- 45.9 (R) Sportsman Park: Private camping, carry-in access, toilets and drinking water.

*Continue to Map 2: Zumbro River State Water Trail  
Main Stem of the Zumbro River*

# ZUMBRO RIVER STATE WATER TRAIL



## MAP 1 - FORKS AND BRANCHES OF THE ZUMBRO RIVER



**m MINNESOTA**  
STATE PARKS AND TRAILS

## ABOUT THE WATER TRAIL

Limestone and sandstone bluffs watch over the Zumbro River as it winds through southeastern Minnesota to the Mississippi. The Zumbro flows through a narrow valley hemmed in by cliffs for much of its path below the Rochester power dam.

Paddlers expecting to drift down the Zumbro may be taken by surprise. The river has a lively current even at moderate levels, so be sure to avoid snags. Other hazards include logs, dams and flash floods.

Be aware of water levels below the Rochester power dam. The dam operators generally release water on weekends, raising the level enough for canoeing. The river level may rise dramatically and dangerously after rainstorms, when flash floods are likely to occur.



Area parks offer many launching and landing options.

## CONTACTS

**DNR REGION 3 HEADQUARTERS**  
3555 9th Street NW, Suite 350  
Rochester, MN 55901  
(507) 206-2847

**DNR INFORMATION CENTER**  
500 Lafayette Rd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040  
888-646-6367  
[info.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto: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](http://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. State and national forests do allow dispersed camping. Be sure to check regulations before your trip.
- 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



**Mayo Clinic**  
200 First St. SW  
Rochester, MN 55905  
(507) 284-2511

**Olmsted Medical Clinic**  
210 Ninth Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55904  
(507) 288-3443

**Olmsted Medical Clinic**  
111 County Road 11 NW  
Pine Island, MN 55963  
(507) 356-4929

**IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911**

## RECOMMENDED DAY TRIP

### Green Bridge to Zumbro Falls

- Put-in location: River mile **55.8**
- Take-out location: River mile **46.1**
- Length: **9.7** river miles

Paddle through a deep valley with high hills and rocky bluffs at the edge of the flood plain. The current is lively and races through frequent but easy rapids. Follow the river as it winds past wooded bluffs. Bring your fishing pole, as the fishing can be excellent along this stretch.

[mndnr.gov/watertrails/recommended](http://mndnr.gov/watertrails/recommended)

## EXPLORE ON SHORE

**Goodhue Pioneer State Trail** River mile **72**  
Hike or bike over 5 miles of paved trail that wind north of the city of Zumbrota.

[mndnr.gov/state\\_trails/goodhue\\_pioneer](http://mndnr.gov/state_trails/goodhue_pioneer)

**Douglas State Trail** River mile **79**  
Hike or bike over 12 miles of flat, paved trail through rural scenery and rich agricultural land. The trail begins in northwestern Rochester, travels through the small town of Douglas and ends in Pine Island.

[mndnr.gov/state\\_trails/douglas](http://mndnr.gov/state_trails/douglas)

## 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](http://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](http://mndnr.gov/buffers)

## More Information

[mndnr.gov/watertrails](http://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](http://exploreminnesota.com)

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

