



A guide for river activities along the Truckee



“Leave No Trace” – Outdoor Ethics

Keep these seven “Leave No Trace” principles in mind when you are paddling, tubing, fishing, hiking, or biking and reduce your impact on the Truckee River.

- Plan ahead and prepare.** Unnecessary impact can be avoided by carefully preparing for your trip. Know the area and what to expect: popularity, potential weather and river conditions, and regulations.
- Travel and recreate on durable surfaces.** Use established sites and parks where available as indicated on the map. Avoid making new trails.
- Dispose of waste properly.** Pick up and pack out all of your litter. Trash and litter have no place on river corridors. Set a good example-pick up litter left by others.
- Leave what you find.** Allow others a sense of discovery by leaving rocks, plants, archaeological artifacts and other objects of interest as you find them.
- Minimize campfire impacts.** Use established fire rings or barbeque grills provided in the parks.
- Respect wildlife.** Respect wildlife’s need for plenty of space and undisturbed habitat for breeding, raising young, and feeding.
- Be considerate of other visitors.** Being considerate of others and practicing good river etiquette will ensure that everyone enjoys their river recreation.

* Leave No Trace Inc. is a non-profit organization working with the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service to educate the public in the ways of low impact recreation.



A guide of features and their locations along the Truckee River

MILE	FEATURES	DESCRIPTION	MILE	FEATURES	DESCRIPTION
from Tahoe		Class III from mile 14.1 to 20.1	45.52	Access L	Class III from mile 45.5 to 50.00
14.15	Access L	Donner Creek inflow left bank	46.22		River Bend, Rapid (III)
15.41		Bridge at Highway 267	47.00		Bridge at I-80
16.44		Trout Creek inflow left bank	47.37		Power House Rapid (II+ III)
17.82		Power line crossing	47.53		Washoe Power Plant - return flow left bank
18.02			47.54		Steel Bridge to Washoe Power Plant
19.67		Truckee Falls Rapid (III-III+)	48.27		USGS Gauging Station - Mogul
20.14	Access R	Morris Creek inflow right bank	49.52		Class II rapids (note dams) below here
		Glenshire Bridge, private property next 1/2 mile	50.00	Access L	Last Chance Diversion Dam - stay left
21.57		Class II+ from mile 20.1 to 24.6	50.39		White Fir Bridges
22.35		Union Valley Creek inflow right bank	50.57	Access L, Fishing	Mayberry Park
22.55		Bridge at I-80	50.60		Hunter Creek inflow right bank - Lake Ditch Diversion Structure
23.07		Prosser Creek inflow left bank	51.45		Dorostkar Bridge
23.92		Bridge at I-80	51.57		Abandoned Diversion Structure - Ambrose Park - right bank
24.00		Little Truckee River inflow left bank	52.00		Orr Ditch Diversion
24.67	Access L	Old Boca Bridge	52.20		Chalk Bluff Diversion Dam - portage left
25.37	Tel	Class II (one IV) from mile 24.6 to mile 31.8	52.45		McCarren Blvd. Bridge
26.40		Bridge at I-80	52.70		Alum Creek inflow right bank
26.87		Unnamed Rapid (II+)	52.72	Access R, Tel, Water, RR	Crisse Caughlin Park - right bank
27.17		Hirschdale Bridge	53.45	Tel, Water, Fishing	Oxbow Park - left bank
27.30		Juniper Creek inflow right bank	54.00	Access R, Tel, Water, Fishing, RR	Idlewild Park - right bank
29.21		Junkyard Rapid (II+)	54.67		Booth St. Bridge
29.77		Casey Canyon Creek inflow right bank	54.81		Keystone Bridge
30.92		Gray Creek - right bank, Railroad Bridge, Railroad Rapid (II-III)	55.37	Access R, Tel, Water, RR	Wingfield Park / Whitewater Park, Arlington Bridge
31.20		Bronco and Jaws Rapid (III - IV)	55.58		Virginia St. Bridge
31.79	Access L	Bridge at I-80 - Floriston, Bold Blowout Rapid (III)	55.70		Lake St. Bridge
		Class II from mile 31.8 to 33.8	55.72	Access L, RR	Second St. Bridge
31.96		Farad Diversion Dam Site (Temporarily Washed Out)	56.00		Kuenzli St. Bridge
32.52		Bridge at I-80	56.20		Wells Ave. Bridge
33.77	Access L	Farad Power Plant - return flow left bank	56.78		Foot Bridge
34.38		Class III to IV from mile 33.8 to mile 42.0	57.07		Kietzke Lane Bridge, USGS Gauging - Reno - left bank
36.17		USGS Gauging Station - Farad, left bank	57.10		Bridge at U.S. 395
37.19		Railroad Bridge	57.40	Access L, Fishing, RR	Fisherman's Park - left bank
37.50		Fleish Diversion Dam - portage left	57.72	Access L, RR	Glendale Diversion Dam - portage left
37.60		Dead Man's Curve Rapid (III-IV)	58.22		Pioneer Diversion Dam - portage left
38.15		Son of Dead Man's Curve Rapid (III)	58.61	Access L, Tel, Water, RR	Rock Park - left bank
38.26		California / Nevada State line	58.95		Rock Blvd. Bridge
38.50		Steamboat Canal Diversion Dam - portage right	60.11		USGS Gauging Station - Sparks - left bank
39.57		Starcase Rapid (III III+)	60.15		McCarran Blvd. Bridge
39.60		Fleish Power House - return flow right bank	60.80		Cottonwood Park
40.39		Unnamed Rapid (III III+)	62.74		Steamboat Creek inflow right bank
41.40		Verdi Diversion Dam - portage left	64.04		USGS Gauging Station - Vista left bank
41.97	Access R, Tel, Water, Fishing	Bridge at I-80	65.17		Railroad Bridge
		Bridge at U.S. 40 - Crystal Peak Park	66.22		Lagomarsino - Noce Ditch Diversion left bank
42.42		Class II from mile 42.0 to mile 45.5	66.50		Lagomarsino Bridge
42.74		Power line crossing	68.02		Long Valley Creek inflow right bank
42.77		Dog Creek inflow left bank	68.37		Upper Mustang Ranch Bridge
43.65		Old Steel Bridge - Verdi	69.87		Lower Mustang Ranch Bridge
43.77		Power line crossing	71.25		McCarren Ditch Diversion left bank
44.07		Verdi Power Plant - return flow right bank			McCarren Ranch Bridge
45.32		Bridge at U.S. 40 - Verdi			
		Washoe / Highland Diversion Dam - portage left			

Tel = Telephone RR = Rest Rooms Access R or L = Access to River, right or left

The Truckee River is a wonderful and beautiful place to recreate, whether you are whitewater rafting, kayaking, inner tubing, swimming, fishing, or wading. Like any outdoor activity, these activities involve risk when you are in and around the river and you are responsible for your own safety. This map is only a guide and in no way a substitute for experience, skill, judgment and common sense. Hands-on education from qualified instructors, clubs, experienced boaters, and commercial companies is always the best way to ensure your adventure will be safe and memorable.

The Truckee River provides most of the drinking and irrigation water for the Reno-Sparks community. The river can be fun and it should always be respected for its potential hazards and safety issues. Please be responsible when using the river. Employ sanitary practices and be sensitive to the river's fragile ecosystem. Please, Leave No Trace. Here are some guidelines to follow when recreating in and around the Truckee River:

- Always wear a lifejacket.
- Always wear shoes that won't come off your feet in the river and have a good foothold.
- Helmets are mandatory for kayaking and Class IV-V rapids.
- Carry first aid kits and know how to perform CPR.
- Have appropriate equipment (throw bags, extra paddles, repair kit, pump, river knife).
- Carry plenty of water to avoid dehydration.
- Beware of changing flows.
- Never run or get into a river that is at or near flood stage.
- Weather and temperature are always a factor. The cold water can cause hypothermia, which can be deadly.
- Stay clear of bushes and trees in or across the river. These can trap you.
- Scout or portage all man-made dams. They can be extremely dangerous because of severe drops, deadly reversals, protruding bars and foot entrapments.
- Know how to recognize and avoid river hazards such as dams, weirs, reversals, holes, snags, wrap rocks, and undercuts.
- Know the carrying capacity of your raft. Don't overload it.
- Know how to float in whitewater: On your back, feet first, and do not try to stand up until water is less than knee deep.
- Never swim, fish, or boat alone and always tell someone where you are going.
- Alcohol and river recreating don't mix.

Scale of River Difficulty

- Class I:** Easy. Rapids are merely riffles – small waves and no obstacles.
- Class II:** Novice. Rapids have bigger waves, but no major obstructions in the channel.
- Class III:** Intermediate. Rapids are longer and rougher than Class II, and they have considerably bigger hydraulics (waves, holes, and currents). Route finding is sometimes necessary through Class III rapids and generally requires no more than a few maneuvers. Advanced and expert boaters can usually "read and run" them, but less experienced river runners should scout from shore. In addition, Class III rapids may seem easy to passengers who have been guided by experts, but intermediate and even advanced boaters sometimes run into trouble in them.
- Class IV:** Advanced. Rapids are generally steeper, longer and more heavily obstructed than Class III rapids. They are often "technical" runs requiring a number of turns and lateral moves. Preliminary scouting of all Class IV rapids is definitely recommended.

Special to the Truckee River

The Truckee River is unique in that it has numerous man-made structures. All these structures should be handled with extreme caution. Scouting and portaging of these areas is strongly recommended.

Truckee Meadows Water Authority continues its policy of community service to the Truckee Meadows and the surrounding areas. Visit our website at www.tmh2o.com.

Truckee River Recreation Map

A guide for river activities along the Truckee

Legend:

- mile # Point of interest - LB (left bank) RB (right bank)
- Dam
- River Access
- Rapid (class)
- Fishing Spot
- Park
- Telephone
- Drinking Water



Notes:

- The rapids on the Truckee River are more dangerous at higher water levels.
*One class IV section, Bronco and Jaws, in an otherwise class II - III run.
**May require one portage when Farad Diversion Dam is rebuilt.
- Portage means: The carrying of boats and supplies overland between two waterways or around an obstacle to navigate.
- For detailed information about the levels of difficulty, please read Scale of River Difficulty on the reverse side.



Scale: 5 Miles
1 2 3 4 5

Truckee by Section:	Portages	Difficulty	Class at:	Minimum Flows
Section 1: Mile 15.41 Truckee City to Glenshire	0	600 cfs II	4000 cfs III+	for Rafts 800 cfs
Section 2: Mile 20.14 Glenshire to Boca	0	II	II+	800 cfs
Section 3: Mile 24.67 Boca to Floriston	0**	II+ (IV)*	III (IV)*	600 cfs
Section 4: Mile 31.79 Floriston to Farad	0	II	II	600 cfs
Section 5: Mile 34.38 Farad to Verdi (Crystal Peak Park)	3	IV	IV	800 cfs
Section 6: Mile 41.97 Verdi (Crystal Peak Park) to River Bend	1	II	II	800 cfs
Section 7: Mile 45.52 River Bend to Mayberry Park	0	II+	III	800 cfs
Section 8: Mile 50 Mayberry Park to Wingfield Park	1	II	II	700 cfs
Section 9: Mile 55.37 Wingfield Park/Whitewater Park to Rock Park	2	II	II+	700 cfs
Section 10: Mile 58.61 Below Rock Park	many	II	II	400 cfs

(Mile numbers indicate start of section.)

- For an emergency, call 911.
- cfs = cubic feet per second.
- Not all bridges and landmarks are shown.

USGS Flow Web Page,
<http://water.usgs.gov/nv/nwis/current/?type=flow>



This map can be downloaded at www.tmh2o.com.