

RMCC SUGGESTED RIVER TRIPS - CLASS I to III

River	Stretch	Class	Days	Time of Year	Comments [APR = Avoid Peak Runoff]
ARKANSAS	Fractions (above Buena Vista)	III(+)	1	May-Aug	APR
	Buena Vista Town Run	III-	1	May-Aug	APR
	Milk Run (Stone Bridge to Salida)	II+	1	May-Aug	APR - Lowhead dam has boat chute on left
	Salida to Rincon	III-	1	May-Aug	APR
	Rincon to Vallie Bridge	III-	1	May-Aug	APR
	Florence to Pueblo Reservoir	I+	1	May-Aug	APR - twisty with strainers
	Pueblo Reservoir Dam thru town	II	1	May-Aug	APR - 1 or 2 dams to portage
BLUE	Green Mtn Res Dam to Spring				APR - 2 diversion dam drops and a hopping narrows section;
	Creek Road	III(+)	1	July-Sept	tough put-in is best done with ropes
CHAMA	El Vado Res Dam to Big Eddy Take-out	II+(III)	3	May-June (thru Aug on a wet year)	APR - Lottery Permit; Season varies widely by snowpack; weekend releases start late Friday mornings.
COLORADO	Pumphouse	III-	.5	May-Sept	APR - often combine 2 of these 3 sections
	Red Canyon (Radium to Yarm.Brg)	III-	.5	May-Sept	APR
	Yarmony Bridge to State Bridge	II+	.5	May-Sept	APR
	State Bridge to Landing Strip	I to II	.5	May-Oct	APR - usually paired with next stretch to Catamount
	Landing Strip to Catamount	I	.5	May-Oct	APR - usually start at State Bridge
	Catamount to Twin Bridges	II to III-	1	May-Oct	APR - portage Rodeo Rapid (III+ and sharp concrete) on right
	Twin Bridges to below Swtwtr Rd.	III-	1	May-Oct	APR - or start earlier at Pinball put-in
	Below Sweetwater Rd. to Dotsero	II+	.5	May-Oct	APR
	Dotsero to Hanging Lake	I+	1	May-Oct	APR - good beginner run with 3 small rapids
	Grizzly Creek to Glenwood Springs (2 Rivers Park)	III-	1	May-Oct	APR
	Glenwood to South Canyon	III-	.3	May-Oct	APR - can get very windy; done with Cemetery or Grizzly runs
	New Castle to Silt	I+	.7	April-Oct	APR
	Rifle to Rulison/Parachute	II+	1	April-Oct	APR
	Fruita to Westwater	I to II	2-3	April-Oct	APR - do <12,000cfs; summer's crowded; car vandals at Loma
Cisco Landing to Dewey Bridge	I	1	April-Oct	APR - can do this with next 2 sections	
Dewey Bridge to about Onion Crk	II	1	April-Oct	APR - can do this with next section	
Onion Crk to above Moab	III-	1	April-Oct	APR - also called the Day Run; popular with rafts	
Moab to Potash Mine	II?	1	April-Oct	APR	
Potash Mine to Spanish Bottom	II?	2-3	April-Oct	APR	
DOLORES	Cahone to Slick Rock	III+	2-3	May-earlyJune	MANY rapids; Portage Snaggletooth Rapid - class IV
	Slick Rock to Bed Rock	III	3-4	May-earlyJune	Prior section and this 1 depend on big snowpack
	Bed Rock or last bit of San Miguel to Gateway	III-	(2-)3	May-June	Runnable due to San Miguel water, even if the Dolores is not getting a release from McPhee Res.

<i>EAGLE</i>	Edwards to below Wolcott	II+(III)	1	May-July	APR
	Gypsum to Dotsero/BairRanch	II+	1	May-July	APR - No Eagle R. takeout at Dotsero, so add Colo. R. miles
<i>GREEN</i>	Below Fontanelle Dam to I-80	II	3	May-Sept?	No camping in Seedskaadee Refuge, so 2 segments; camp twice at the first location below the dam
	Flaming Grg Dam to Swallow Cyn	II+(III)	3	May-earlyOct	Must reserve 1st river campsite
	Lodore to end of Split Mtn	III+	4-5	May-midOct	APR - Lottery Permit; can't always get 5th day
	Deso-Gray, ends @ Green R, UT	III	6-9	April-Oct	Want 1500-6000cfs, but can do less
	Labyrinth - Green River, UT or Ruby Ranch to Mineral Bottom	I+	2-4	April-Oct	
	Stillwater - Min. B. to Spanish Btm	I+	4-6	April-Oct	APR of Colo R last 2 miles; need jet boat up Colo R.
<i>GUNNISON</i>	Delta or Escalante Bridge to				
	Whitewater	I-II+	2-3	April-August	APR - usually do a full day of hiking Dominguez Canyon; car vandalism at both ends, so park at motel in Whitewater
<i>NIOBRARA</i>	Near Valentine, Nebraska	I+	2	May-Sept	Spring fed river keeps fairly constant cfs
<i>N. PLATTE</i>	Six Mile Gap COWY line to				
	Treasure Island Rec Site	II+(III)	3	midMay-midJune	APR when BIG snowpack; only runs for a week or less in low snowpack years
	Saratoga to I-80	I+(II)	(2-)3	May-earlyJuly	Put in at hot spring or Foote camp ground; great beginner overnighiter except for difficulties at diversion dam
	Wendover Cyn - Glendo 2 Guernsy	I+(II)	1	May-midSept	
<i>POUDRE</i>	Bridges	III+	.5	May-Aug	APR - 2nd bridge is dangerous/fatal at higher water
	Filter Plant	III-	.5	May-Aug	APR - Very popular
<i>RIO GRANDE</i>	Above Creede	III(+?)	1	May-June	Want around 500cfs; River Hill Campground to private trailhead
	Wagon Wheel Gap to S. Fork	III-?	1	May-June	
<i>ROARING FK</i>	Cemetery - S. Glenwood to Colo R	III-	.7	May-July	APR - Usually combine with Colo R to S. Canyon
<i>SAN JUAN</i>	Sand I. (Bluff, UT) to Mexican Hat	II(III-)	(2-)3	lateApr-midOct	APR - Lottery Permit; extreme wind can add 1 day; flash floods
	Mexican Hat to Clay Hills Crossing	II(III+)	(4-)5	lateApr-midOct	APR - Lottery Permit; extreme wind can add 1 day; flash floods
<i>SAN MIGUEL</i>	Ledges - final miles before Dolores	III	1	May-June	APR?
<i>S. PLATTE</i>	Below Deckers - Bridge Crossing				
	Picnic Ground to Pine Creek Rd.	II+	1	May-July?	APR - Water depends on Cheeseman Res. Release; can start at Scraggy View PG (mid of this run) and continue thru Chutes
	Chutes and a few miles down	III+	.4	May-July?	APR - Chutes are very scary; car portage them to a bad put-in
	C470 to Union Chutes	II-III-	1	April-Oct?	APR - river is easy, but man-made drops/chutes are trickier
	Brighton to Ft. Lupton	I+	1	April-Oct?	APR - cfs varies; 1 dam portage when gate is down
	Evans to Kersey/Kuner	I+	1	midMarch-Oct?	2 dam portages
<i>WHITE</i>	Rangely/Bonanza 2 Enron GasWls	I-II	3	May-June(July)	Several put-ins to manage long mileage; shuttle is a maze
<i>YAMPA</i>	Craig to Duffy Mtn Ramp	I	2(-)3	midJune-earlyJuly	Want <9000cfs; tough to catch Duffy ramp at >6000cfs; may need to go extra flat/windy miles/half-day to Juniper Hot Spgs

NOTES:

- 1) *This document purposefully is not listing class III+ to IV day trips such as Brown's, Shoshone, Westwater, and Numbers which are usually done by the "A" Team (A = Adrenaline-addicted).*
- 2) *Information given (especially in the Comments) are parameters designed to help decide if you want to lead a trip. Good points and trip description are left out due to space considerations. They are all good.*
- 3) *All trips listed are within a medium day's drive of the Front Range; 455 miles to the San Juan is the longest distance. To go further afield, consider:*
 - a. *Montana - Smith River (lottery permit) or Missouri River*
 - b. *Teton/Jellystone N.P. region - Snake and Yellowstone Rivers*
 - c. *Minnesota - Boundary Waters or Quetico (Canada)*
 - d. *Texas - Rio Grande - several sections in and near Big Bend N.P.*
 - e. *Missouri - Buffalo River*
 - f. *CANADA - Endless possibilities*
- 4) *The class rating and other details are subject to variation based upon water levels and many other factors. Other information in this listing is subject to change as well; so do your own research prior to selecting a trip to lead.*

Version 2 of this document as of May 6, 2009. Created by Karen Amundson.