



Route Description, Pomme de Terre River

R and L represent sides of the river facing downstream.

- 30.0 County Road 7 bridge.
- 27.5 (L) Koosman carry-in launch. County Road 20 bridge.
- 24.6 185th Avenue bridge.
- 23.0 County Road 56 bridge.
- 19.7 190th Avenue bridge.
- 19.1 (L) Pomme de Terre #1 carry-in access. Rest area and watercraft campsite. US Highway 12 bridge.
- 16.6 (R) Confluence with Long Lake Creek.
- 14.8 (L) Larson carry-in access. County Road 36 bridge.
- 13.5 US Highway 59 bridge.
- 9.1 Hening Street bridge. City of Appleton.
- 8.9 (L) Veum Avenue bridge.
- 8.8 Appleton carry-in access and shorefishing. Munsterman Street/Highway 119 bridge.
- 8.7 Railroad bridge.
- 8.0 Railroad bridge.
- 5.0 County Road 51 bridge.
- 2.3 County Road 51 bridge.
- 0.1 (R) Marsh Lake carry-in access.
- 0-4 Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area.
- 0 to 10 **CAUTION** - numerous rapids and log jams in this area.
- 0.0 Pomme de Terre enters Marsh Lake/Minnesota River.

Route Description, Minnesota River - RM 318 to 278

R and L represent sides of the river facing downstream

- 318-304 Numerous log jams and snags exist in this area.**
- 317.9 Minnesota River enters from Big Stone Lake. City of Ortonville.
- 317.9 (L) Big Stone #8 trailer access and fishing pier.
- 317.7 Dam and railroad bridge. No portage.**
- 317.6 Ortonville Dam. No portage. Shorefishing site.**
- 317.5 US Highway 12 bridge. Powerline crossing.
- 316.8 Pedestrian bridge.
- 316.8-303.4 Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge.
- 316.0 Powerline crossing.
- 312.5 Bridge.
- 307.9 (L) Confluence with Stony Run.
- 307.5 (L) Odessa carry-in access.
- 307.4 County Road 19 bridge.
- 303.6 Dam. No portage. Minnesota River rest area on river left.**
- 303.4 - end of map - Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area.
- 303.4 US Highway 75 bridge.
- 301.9 (L) Highway 75 carry-in access.
- 294.2 (R) Cement Bridge trailer access. Enter Marsh Lake. 615th Ave. bridge. Marsh Lake #1 carry-in access 1/2 mile north.
- 292.8 (L) Correll trailer access. On the north side of Marsh Lake.
- 291.2 (R) Peterson trailer access. On the south side of Marsh Lake.
- 291.0 (L) Confluence with Five Mile Creek.
- 288.7 (L) Marsh #2 trailer access. On the north side of Marsh Lake.
- 288.4 (L) Marsh Lake carry-in access. Confluence with Pomme de Terre River.
- 288.0 Railroad bridge.
- 286.0 Highway 119 bridge. Enter Lac qui Parle Lake.
- 285.9 (R) Twin Bridges trailer access and shorefishing site.
- 282.9 (R) Hantho trailer access. On the west side of Lac qui Parle Lake.
- 280.2 (R) Confluence with Emily Creek.
- 280.1 (L) Milan Bridge trailer access and fishing pier. Highway 40 bridge.
- 279.8 (R) Lac qui Parle WMA carry-in.
- 279.1 (L) Englebretzen trailer access.
- 278.0 (R) Boyd Landing trailer access and shorefishing site.

MINNESOTA RIVER STATE WATER TRAIL

MAP 1 - Ortonville to Highway 40

(Includes the Pomme de Terre River)

- Carry-in Access
- Trailer Access
- Hospital/Clinic
- Dam
- Rest Area
- Fishing Pier
- Shore Fishing
- Watercraft Campsite
- River Level Gauge

- Public Lands (State Unit)
- Powerline

- Railroad
- River Miles
- Wildlife Management Area

Scale 1:125,000

Scale in Miles

END OF MAP 1

Continue to Map 2 - Highway 40 to Granite Falls

MINNESOTA RIVER STATE WATER TRAIL



MAP 1 - ORTONVILLE TO HIGHWAY 40 INCLUDES THE POMME DE TERRE RIVER



m MINNESOTA
STATE PARKS AND TRAILS

ABOUT THE WATER TRAILS

The Minnesota River flowing out of Big Stone Lake begins its journey as a fairly narrow and meandering stream that can be tough to paddle due to snags, broken-down bridges and other obstacles. From Ortonville to Granite Falls, there is a variety of terrain, from marshy lowlands to steep granite bluffs. From Ortonville to Marsh Lake, trees and vines overhang the river and give it a jungle-like appearance; dark woods of soft maple, cottonwood and elm fringe the banks. Snags and broken-down bridges create obstacles. The river broadens near Marsh Lake. Thousands of birds use this stretch of the river corridor for nesting, breeding and resting during migrations.

The Pomme de Terre River flows through both wooded and prairie areas on its way to the Minnesota River at Marsh Lake Reservoir. Named for the wild turnip (which has a potato-shaped root), the Pomme de Terre is known for Class 1 rapids and fast running water over a sandy bottom. Be on the lookout for trees that have fallen into the river. or fences from nearby farms. There is a fun, man-made rapids as you enter Appleton City Park, just before the water access site.



Small rapids provide a fun entry to Appleton City Park

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.



RECOMMENDED DAY TRIP

Larson to Appleton: Pomme de Terre

- Put-in location: Larson carry-in access
River mile **14.8**
- Take-out location: Appleton carry-in access.
River mile **8.8**
- Length: **6** river miles

This stretch has a lot of visual and paddling interest and is great for new paddlers. Meandering through farms, wooded areas, a golf course and eventually, the city of Appleton, visitors can have a wide variety of sights to see in a short stretch of river.

EXPLORE ON SHORE

Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area River mile **320**

At 24,300-acres its the largest contiguous block of public land in west-central Minnesota and an incredibly popular destination for hunters, bird and wildlife watchers and others.

mndnr.gov/wmas

Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge River mile **314.8**

It has 11,586 acres of tallgrass prairie, wetlands, granite outcrops, and river woodlands. Eleven miles of the Minnesota River flow through the refuge.

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/big_stone/

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

CONTACTS

DNR REGION HEADQUARTERS
21371 State Hwy 15
New Ulm, MN 56073-5228
507-233-1200

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

Lac qui Parle WMA
14047 20th St. NW
Watson, MN 56295
320-734-4451
lacquiparle.wildlife@state.mn.us

MEDICAL

ORTONVILLE AREA HEALTH SERVICES
450 Eastvold Ave.
Ortonville, MN 56278
320-839-6157

APPLETON AREA HEALTH SERVICES
30 South Behl
Appleton, MN 56208
320-289-1580

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

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.

AREA OVERVIEW

