

RIVER RAMBLERS

An affiliate of the Minnesota Canoe Association dedicated to leisurely paced river paddling with emphasis on enjoying the great outdoors.
We offer both quiet and whitewater trips and encourage individuals as well as family participation.
We ask for each boat to contribute \$1 per trip (\$5 per season) to help defer web site costs.

Straight River (Medford to Faribault/Cannon River) Saturday, April 27, 2013

Trip Length: An invigorating 17.2 miles. (See Attachment 1 for route map.)

Skill Level: Class 2C-2K, some experience with narrow turns and small rapids advised.

Trip Description:

Don't be fooled by the name, this paddle is anything but straight! The river's name is actually a loose translation of the Dakota Indian "Owatonna" word meaning morally strong or honest. Flowing through the farmland of southeastern MN, the Straight meanders north from Owatonna to Faribault where it joins the Cannon River. During the 19th century, the Straight River area was an important milling center and also dotted with fur trading posts.

Away from the cities and small rural communities situated on its banks, the Straight is a narrow, intimate stream. It varies from 30 to 80 feet wide, and from 1-4 feet in depth. There are numerous areas of mild rapids and fast water, with rocks and narrow stream channels making paddling a challenge. Fields, pastures and farm buildings are screened from the river by a narrow strip of trees (predominantly elm, willow, aspen and maple) which reach out over each bank forming a leafy canopy. Note that in early Spring when the water is up, it is likely that downed trees might block parts of the river.

Put-In: Straight River Park in Medford, MN

Take Interstate 35 south from the Twin Cities (or north from points south) and exit in Medford on to CR 12. Go east over the river, then a few blocks – take a left on 2nd Street NW (there's a small sign indicating the park). Proceed to the landing at the end of this street. (See Attachment 2 for map of put-in area, and Attachment 3 for take-out.)

When: We will meet by 9:00 AM sharp to commence our shuttle of cars up to Two Rivers Park in Faribault. Given that this is likely to be a 5+ hour trip, we hope to be on the river before 10 am.

Bring: Paddle craft (canoe or kayak), paddles, PFD (life jackets), dry bag, warm layers/change of clothes, rain gear, suntan lotion, bug spray, camera, and lunch. The water is likely to be quite cold, so you might want a full or partial wet suit.

Trip Leader:

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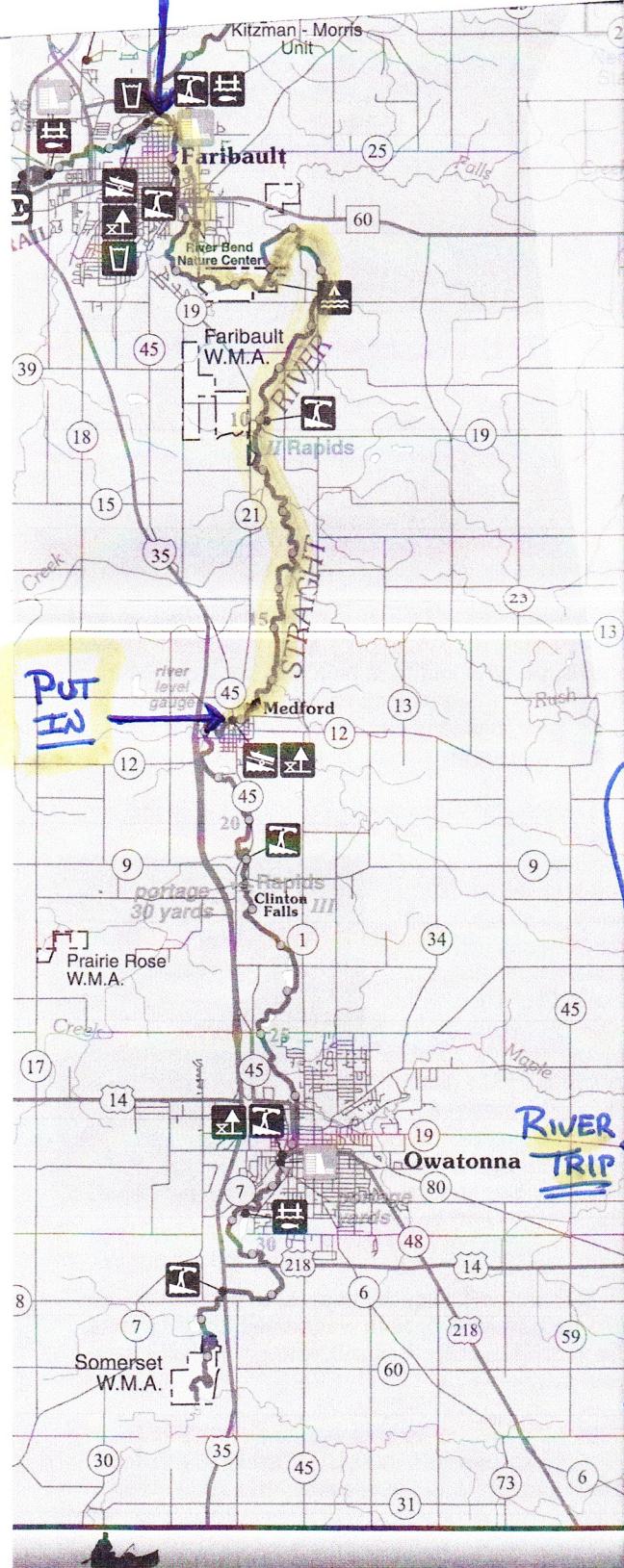
ATTACHMENT 1

STRAIGHT RIVER FROM MEDFORD TO FARIBAULT

17.2 MILES

Confluence with the Vermillion River, Mississippi is 1/2 mi downstream.

Straight River Miles



- 32.1 (R) Co. Rd. 18 bridge, carry-in access in private campground.
- 31.9 Interstate Hwy 35 bridge.
- 31.2 RR trestle.
- 30.5 Hwy 14 bridge. Start of Kaplan woods city park, down stream
- 29.9 RR trestle.
- 29.7 Golf course bridge.
- 28.0 City of Owatonna.
- 27.4 (R) Morehouse Park. Access.
- 27.3 Dam, Portage on right.
- 27.2 RR trestle and Bridge street bridge.
- 26.9 Rose street bridge. River level gauge on abutment.
- 26.7 RR trestle.
- 26.5 North street bridge.
- 26.4 (R) Confluence with Maple Creek.
- 24.9 Co. Rd. 34 bridge (26th St.. NW).
- 23.5 Township road bridge.
- 22.7 RR trestle.
- 21.5 Clinton Falls, class II-III rapids. Portage on left. Co. Rd. 99 bridge down stream.
- 21.0 (R) Co. Rd. 45, carry-in access.
- 20.6 (L) Confluence with Crane Creek.
- 18.1 County Road 12 bridge.
- 17.2 (R) City of Medford, access in city park. Toilets and water available. ← PUT IN
- 17.1 County Road 45 bridge.
- 16.6 Iowa, Chicago & Eastern RR trestle.
- 15.1 270 St. E bridge.
- 13.4 (R) Confluence with Rush Creek.
- 11.1 (L) Confluence with Mud Creek.
- 10.2 Class I-II rapids from old Walcot Mill dam.
- 10.0 (R) Co. Rd. 19 bridge, carry in access river right.
- 8.7 227 St. E bridge.
- 7.8 220 St. E bridge.
- 6.9 Large glacial boulder in center of river. (Size of small garage)
- 5.8 (R) Confluence with Falls Creek.
- 4.5 (R) Campsites. River Bend Nature Center.
- 4.4 RR trestle.
- 3.8 Old bridge.
- 2.2 RR trestle, walking bridge down stream.
- 2.0 Teepee Tonka park, city of Faribault.
- 1.8 Bridge to park, Hwy 60 bridge down stream.
- 1.6 2nd and 3rd street bridges.
- 1.1 (L) RR trestle, carry in access.
- 0.4 14th St. bridge.
- 0.0 Confluence with Cannon River. ← TAKE OUT



ATTACHMENT 2



ATTACHMENT 3
(TAKE-OUT)
FARIBAULT

