

# A STATE WATER TRAIL GUIDE TO THE LOWER ST. LOUIS RIVER

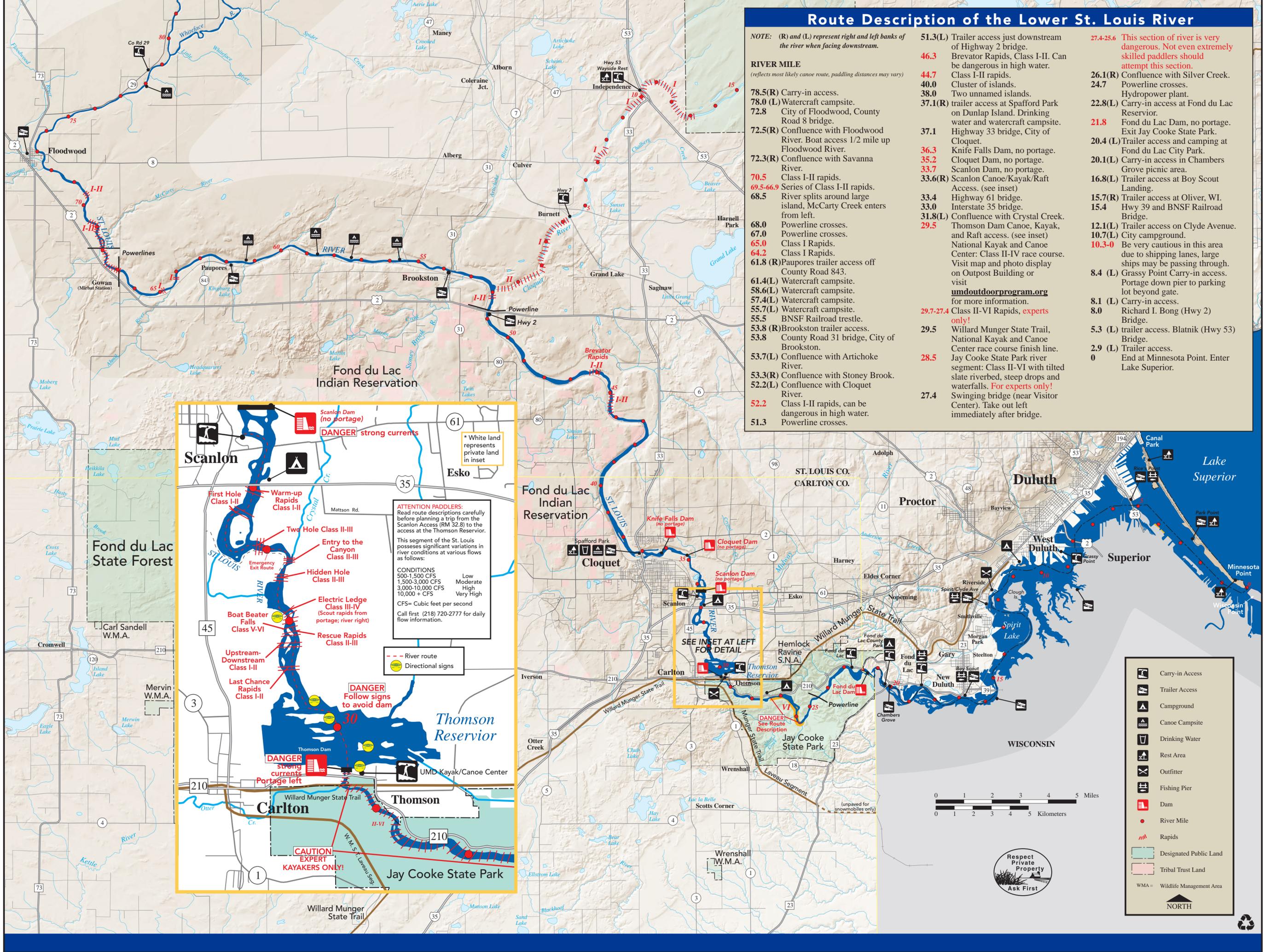
## Route Description of the Lower St. Louis River

NOTE: (R) and (L) represent right and left banks of the river when facing downstream.

### RIVER MILE

(reflects most likely canoe route, paddling distances may vary)

- 78.5(R) Carry-in access.
- 78.0 (L) Watercraft campsite.
- 72.8 City of Floodwood, County Road 8 bridge.
- 72.5(R) Confluence with Floodwood River. Boat access 1/2 mile up Floodwood River.
- 72.3(R) Confluence with Savanna River.
- 70.5 Class I-II rapids.
- 69.5-66.9 Series of Class I-II rapids.
- 68.5 River splits around large island, McCarty Creek enters from left.
- 68.0 Powerline crosses.
- 67.0 Powerline crosses.
- 65.0 Class I Rapids.
- 64.2 Class I Rapids.
- 61.8 (R) Paupores trailer access off County Road 843.
- 61.4(L) Watercraft campsite.
- 58.6(L) Watercraft campsite.
- 57.4(L) Watercraft campsite.
- 55.7(L) Watercraft campsite.
- 55.5 BNSF Railroad trestle.
- 53.8 (R) Brookston trailer access.
- 53.8 County Road 31 bridge, City of Brookston.
- 53.7(L) Confluence with Artichoke River.
- 53.3(R) Confluence with Stoney Brook River.
- 52.2(L) Confluence with Cloquet River.
- 52.2 Class I-II rapids, can be dangerous in high water.
- 51.3 Powerline crosses.
- 51.3(L) Trailer access just downstream of Highway 2 bridge.
- 46.3 Brevator Rapids, Class I-II. Can be dangerous in high water.
- 44.7 Class I-II rapids.
- 40.0 Cluster of islands.
- 38.0 Two unnamed islands.
- 37.1(R) trailer access at Spafford Park on Dunlap Island. Drinking water and watercraft campsite.
- 37.1 Highway 33 bridge, City of Cloquet.
- 36.3 Knife Falls Dam, no portage.
- 35.2 Cloquet Dam, no portage.
- 33.7 Scanlon Dam, no portage.
- 33.6(R) Scanlon Canoe/Kayak/Raft Access. (see inset)
- 33.4 Highway 61 bridge.
- 33.0 Interstate 35 bridge.
- 31.8(L) Confluence with Crystal Creek. Thomson Dam Canoe, Kayak, and Raft access. (see inset)
- 29.5 National Kayak and Canoe Center: Class II-IV race course. Visit map and photo display on Outpost Building or visit [umoutdoorprogram.org](http://umoutdoorprogram.org) for more information.
- 29.7-27.4 Class II-VI Rapids, experts only!
- 29.5 Willard Munger State Trail, National Kayak and Canoe Center race course finish line. Jay Cooke State Park river segment: Class II-VI with tilted slate riverbed, steep drops and waterfalls. For experts only!
- 28.5 Swinging bridge (near Visitor Center). Take out left immediately after bridge.
- 27.4
- 27.4-25.6 This section of river is very dangerous. Not even extremely skilled paddlers should attempt this section.
- 26.1(R) Confluence with Silver Creek.
- 24.7 Powerline crosses. Hydropower plant.
- 22.8(L) Carry-in access at Fond du Lac Reservoir.
- 21.8 Fond du Lac Dam, no portage. Exit Jay Cooke State Park.
- 20.4 (L) Trailer access and camping at Fond du Lac City Park.
- 20.1(L) Carry-in access in Chambers Grove picnic area.
- 16.8(L) Trailer access at Boy Scout Landing.
- 15.7(R) Trailer access at Oliver, WI.
- 15.4 Hwy 39 and BNSF Railroad Bridge.
- 12.1(L) Trailer access on Clyde Avenue.
- 10.7(L) City campground.
- 10.3-0 Be very cautious in this area due to shipping lanes, large ships may be passing through.
- 8.4 (L) Grassy Point Carry-in access. Portage down pier to parking lot beyond gate.
- 8.1 (L) Carry-in access.
- 8.0 Richard I. Bong (Hwy 2) Bridge.
- 5.3 (L) trailer access. Blatnik (Hwy 53) Bridge.
- 2.9 (L) Trailer access.
- 0 End at Minnesota Point. Enter Lake Superior.



**ATTENTION PADDLERS:**  
Read route descriptions carefully before planning a trip from the Scanlon Access (RM 32.8) to the access at the Thomson Reservoir. This segment of the St. Louis possesses significant variations in river conditions at various flows as follows:

CONDITIONS	
500-1,500 CFS	Low
1,500-3,000 CFS	Moderate
3,000-10,000 CFS	High
10,000+ CFS	Very High

CFS= Cubic feet per second  
Call first: (218) 720-2777 for daily flow information.

**Scanlon**

Scanlon Dam (no portage)  
**DANGER strong currents**

White land represents private land in inset

**Fond du Lac Indian Reservation**

**Fond du Lac State Forest**

Carl Sandell W.M.A.

Mervin W.M.A.

**Thomson Reservoir**

Thomson Dam  
**DANGER strong currents**  
Portage left

**Carlton**

Willard Munger State Trail

**Thomson**

UMD Kayak/Canoe Center

**Jay Cooke State Park**

Willard Munger State Trail

**CAUTION EXPERT KAYAKERS ONLY!**

**W.M.A. St. Laveau Seg.**

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--- River route  
--- Directional signs

First Hole Class I-II  
Warm-up Rapids Class I-II  
Two Hole Class II-III  
Entry to the Canyon Class II-III  
Hidden Hole Class II-III  
Electric Ledge Class III-IV (Scout rapids from portage; river right)  
Boat Beater Falls Class V-VI  
Rescue Rapids Class II-III  
Upstream-Downstream Class I-II  
Last Chance Rapids Class I-II  
DANGER Follow signs to avoid dam



- Carry-in Access
  - Trailer Access
  - Campground
  - Canoe Campsite
  - Drinking Water
  - Rest Area
  - Outfitter
  - Fishing Pier
  - Dam
  - River Mile
  - Rapids
  - Designated Public Land
  - Tribal Trust Land
  - WMA = Wildlife Management Area
- NORTH**

