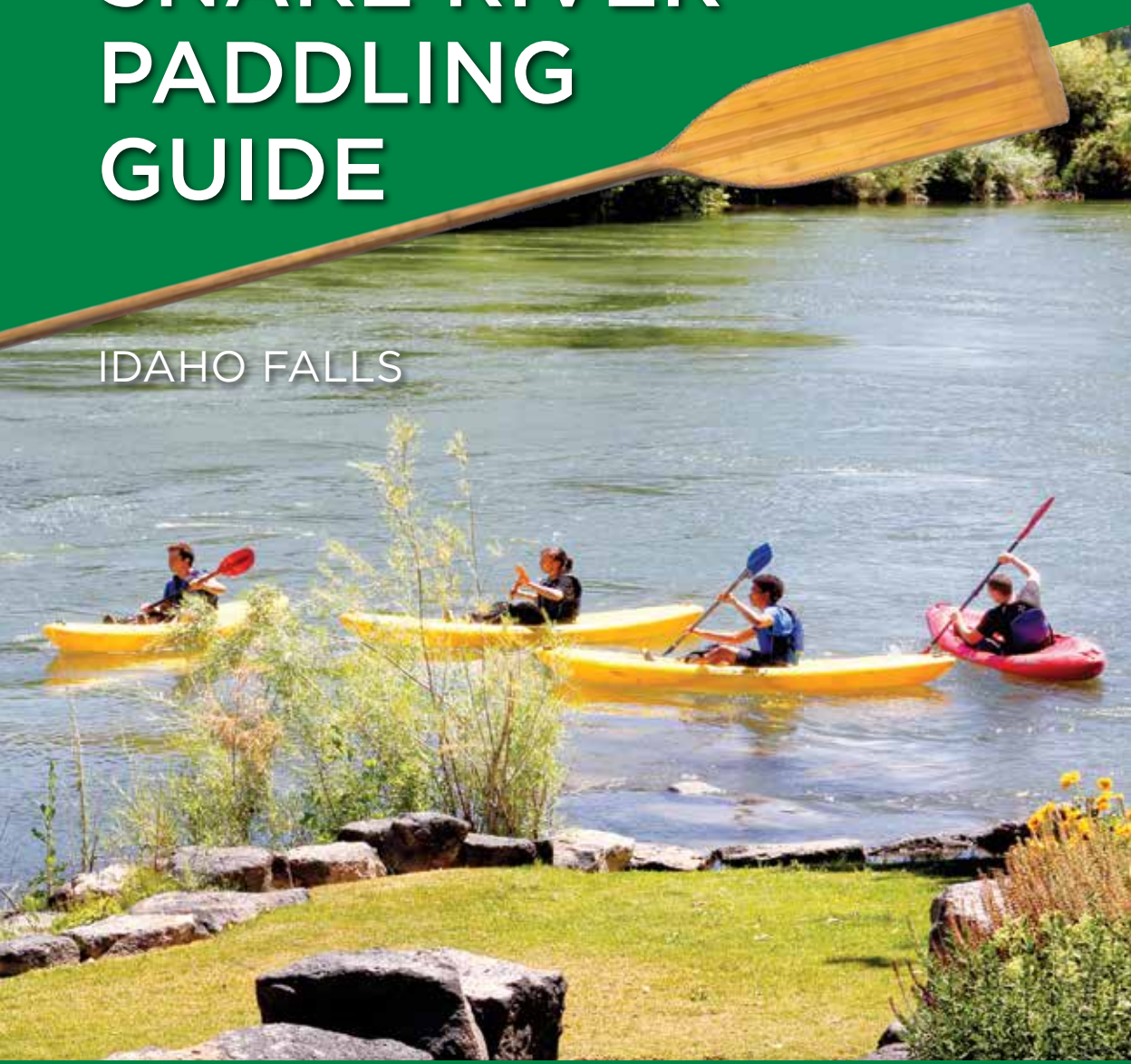


SNAKE RIVER PADDLING GUIDE

IDAHO FALLS





Taylor's Toll Bridge Replica - Idaho's earliest toll bridge spanned the Snake River at this rocky site in 1865 replacing Eagle Rock Ferry, 9 miles upstream.



This guide is a collaboration between Idaho Falls Power and Tight Line Media. Tight Line Media is a multi-media production company founded & operated by outdoor journalist Kris Millgate. Kris, through her years of living, working, and playing on the river, developed the content for the guide so other paddlers could enjoy this stretch of the Snake River.

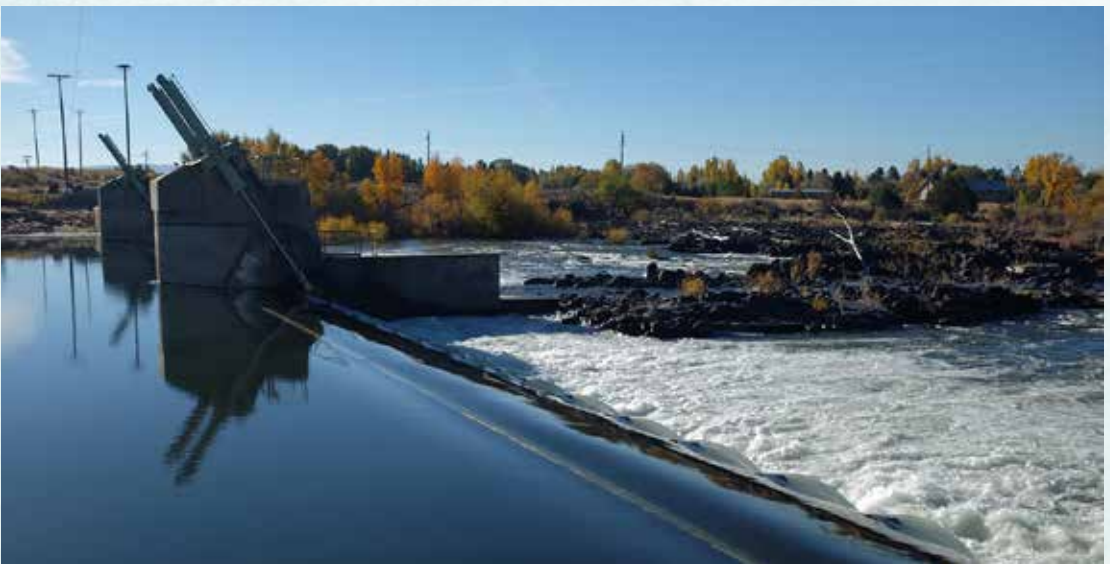
Idaho Falls Power (IFP) is a division of the City of Idaho Falls. As the oldest utility in Idaho, IFP has operated hydroelectric projects on this stretch of the Snake River since 1900. IFP manages the four hydropower dams on this stretch of river consisting of: Upper, City, Lower and Gem State. This clean, renewable resource enables Idaho Falls Power to offer some of the lowest electric rates in the nation. The utility and city maintain numerous parks, boat ramps and other associated recreational facilities along the river.



Recommended float season is April-May before spring runoff and September-October before winter freeze. The Snake River is swift, cold, deep water. Conditions change daily so check flow levels at www.usgs.gov and always recreate within your safe abilities and skill level.

This guide provides basic and general information on floating the river, it does not identify all or even most of the potential hazards that can be encountered. It is your responsibility to keep yourself and the people with you safe. Before entering the river, know your limits and follow river safety precautions. **Always wear a life preserver.**

**Warning! There is no way through the dams on the Snake River.
Exit the river upstream of each dam.**



Jefferson County

Bonneville County

West River Road Boat Ramp

97th North

81st North

Boat Ramp

Upper Dam

65th North

Gravel Path



N River Road/
Lindsay Blvd

East River Road

Midriver Diversion



John's Hole Boat Ramp

Grandview Dr

Rock Ledge

Broadway

Riverside Dr





Bonneville County

Bingham County

UPPER STRETCH

Northern end of Bonneville County above Upper Dam
starting three miles from Jefferson County

Level: Beginner
Length: 2 miles

Enter: **River right at West River Road Boat Ramp**

- Boat ramp
- Paved parking lot
- Picnic tables
- Floating docks
- Bathroom

Exit: **River left above Upper Dam**

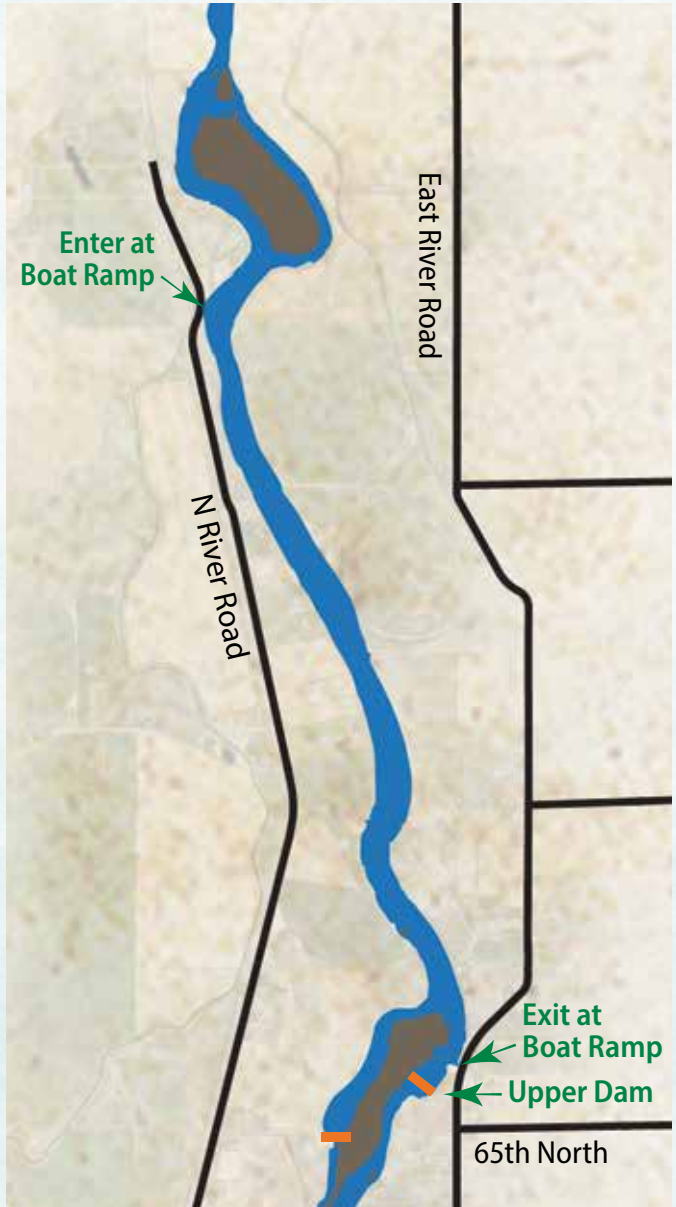
- Boat ramp
- Dirt Parking Lot

Hazards:

- Midriver islands
- Midriver Upper Dam below exit point

Highlights:

- River right aged and weathered two-story home nicknamed 'Two Tall'



FREEMAN FLOAT

North of Idaho Falls city center running along Freeman Park between Upper Dam and City Dam

Level: Advanced

Length: 3.5 miles

Enter: **River left rock channel below Upper Dam**

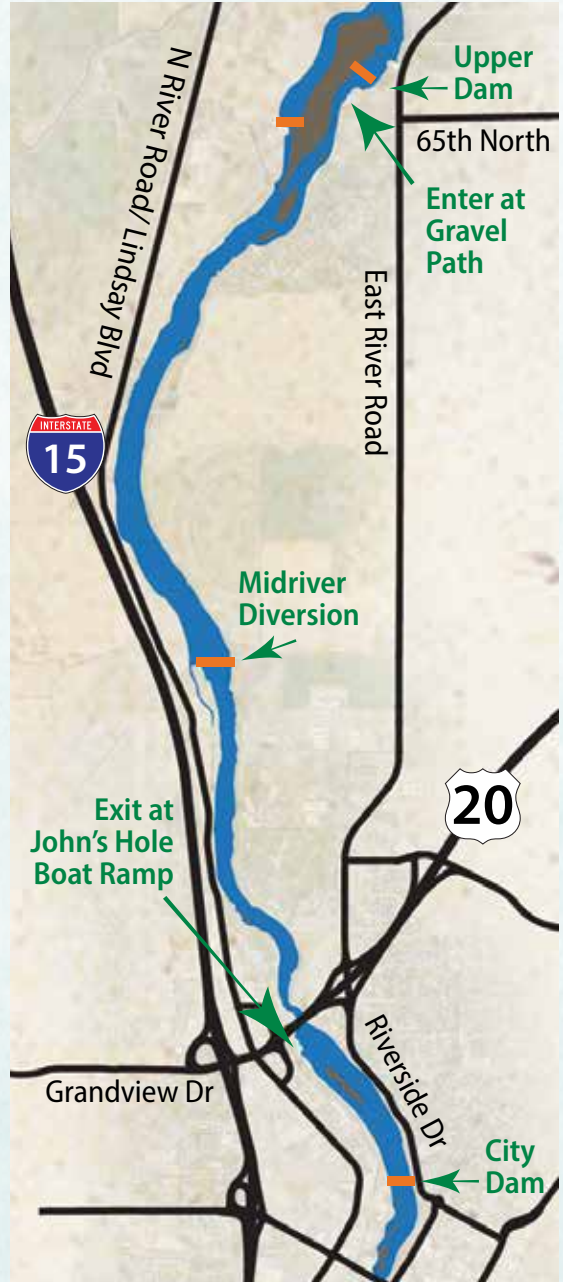
- Gravel parking lot at gated fence
- Walk-in access via gravel path, dirt trail, rock/log scramble

Exit: **River right John's Hole boat ramp**

- Boat ramp
- Paved parking lot
- Picnic tables
- Floating docks
- Bathroom

- Hazards:**
- Midriver Upper Dam above entry point
 - Midriver diversion with one-foot drop two miles below entry point
 - Midriver rock and log hazard below diversion - portage river left
 - Midriver railroad bridge concrete pillars above Freeman Park

- Highlights:**
- River right Snake River Dog Park below diversion
 - River left Idaho National Laboratory complex above railroad bridge
 - River left University Place campus below railroad bridge
 - River left Freeman Park with beach three miles below entry point
 - River right osprey nest below beach



TOWN HAUL

Idaho Falls city center upper stretch between City Dam and Lower Dam

Level: Advanced
Length: 1 mile - accessible only in low water conditions

Enter: **River right rock ledge under viewing deck below City Dam waterfalls**

- Walk-in access via steep, rock outcropping
- Paved parking lot
- Picnic tables
- Bathroom

Exit: **River right Rock Gardens at Taylor's Crossing**

- Walk-out access via rock-flower landscaped area with grass trail
- Paved parking lot
- Picnic tables

Hazards:

- Midriver City Dam above entry point
- Midriver waterfall turbulence at and below entry point
- Overhead Broadway bridge, walking bridge and railroad bridge below entry point
- River left diversion channel below railroad bridge

Highlights:

- River left famous Idaho Falls waterfalls at and below entry point
- River left Japanese Friendship Garden below Broadway bridge
- River left Idaho Falls Power headquarters below railroad bridge
- River right Rock Gardens at Taylor's Crossing below IFP headquarters



THE LANDING

Idaho Falls city center lower stretch between City Dam and Lower Dam

Level: Intermediate

Length: 1 mile

Enter: **River right Rock Gardens at Taylor's Crossing**

- Walk-in access via rock-grass-flower landscaped area
- Paved parking lot
- Picnic tables

Exit: **River left South Tourist Park**

- Boat ramp
- Paved parking lot
- Picnic tables
- Floating docks
- Bathroom
- Campground
- RV dump station

Hazards:

- Midriver Pancheri bridge concrete pillars below entry point

Highlights:

- River right Snake River Landing Pier half mile below entry point
- River left South Tourist Park at exit point



LOWER STRETCH

South of Idaho Falls city center between Lower Dam and Gem State Dam

Level: Intermediate

Length: 1.5 miles

Enter: River right Heritage Park walk-in access via border of park and river

- Paved parking lot near park

Exit: River left Upper Gem Lake Marina at 49th South

- Boat ramp
- Gravel parking lot
- Picnic tables
- Floating docks
- Beach
- Bathroom

Hazards:

- River left Lower Dam at entry point
- Midriver Sunnyside bridge concrete pillars below entry point
- Midriver islands

Highlights:

- River right Ryder Park fishing ponds below Sunnyside bridge
- Midriver island nesting boxes



GEM RUN

Southern stretch of Bonneville County above Gem State Dam ending near Bingham County border.

Level: Beginner
Length: 2 miles

Enter: **River left Upper Gem Lake Marina at 49th South**

- Boat ramp
- Gravel parking lot
- Picnic tables
- Floating docks
- Beach
- Bathroom

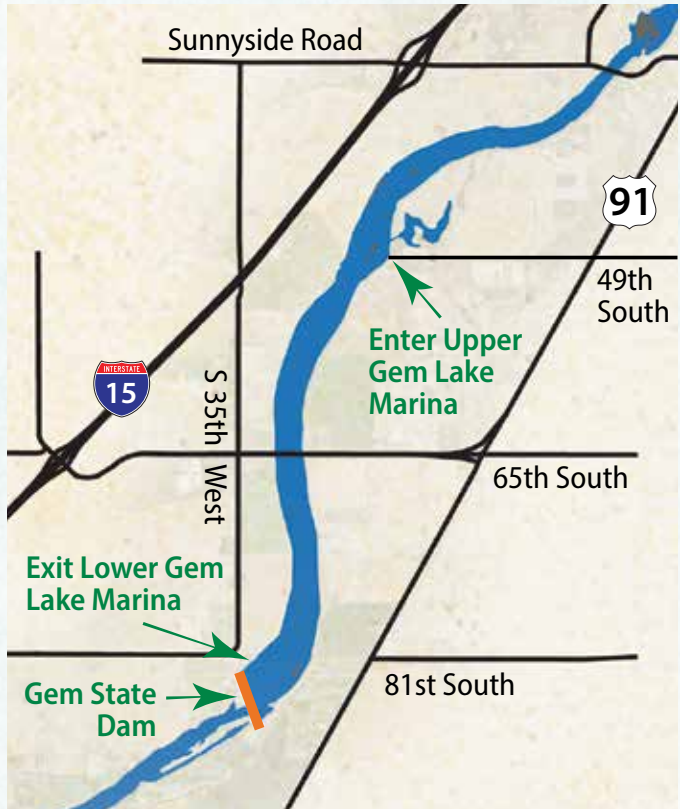
Exit: **River right Lower Gem Lake Marina above Gem State Dam**

- Boat ramp
- Gravel parking lot
- Picnic tables
- Floating docks
- Bathroom

Hazards:

- Midriver islands
- Midriver Highway 26 bridge concrete pillars one mile below entry point
- Midriver Highway 26 bridge low clearance for boats but clearance for paddlers
- Midriver Gem State Dam below exit point

Highlights: • Lava rock banks on both sides of channel above exit point



This guide is produced in partnership with Tight Line Media
www.tightlinemedia.com



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY
OF IDAHO FALLS POWER



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