

A scenic view of the Smith River. In the foreground, a yellow inflatable raft with two people is on the water. The river flows through a lush green forest of tall evergreen trees. In the background, a high, layered rock cliff rises, partially covered by more trees. The sky is overcast.

Smith River ~ Five Days of Heaven!

Joe Kristof

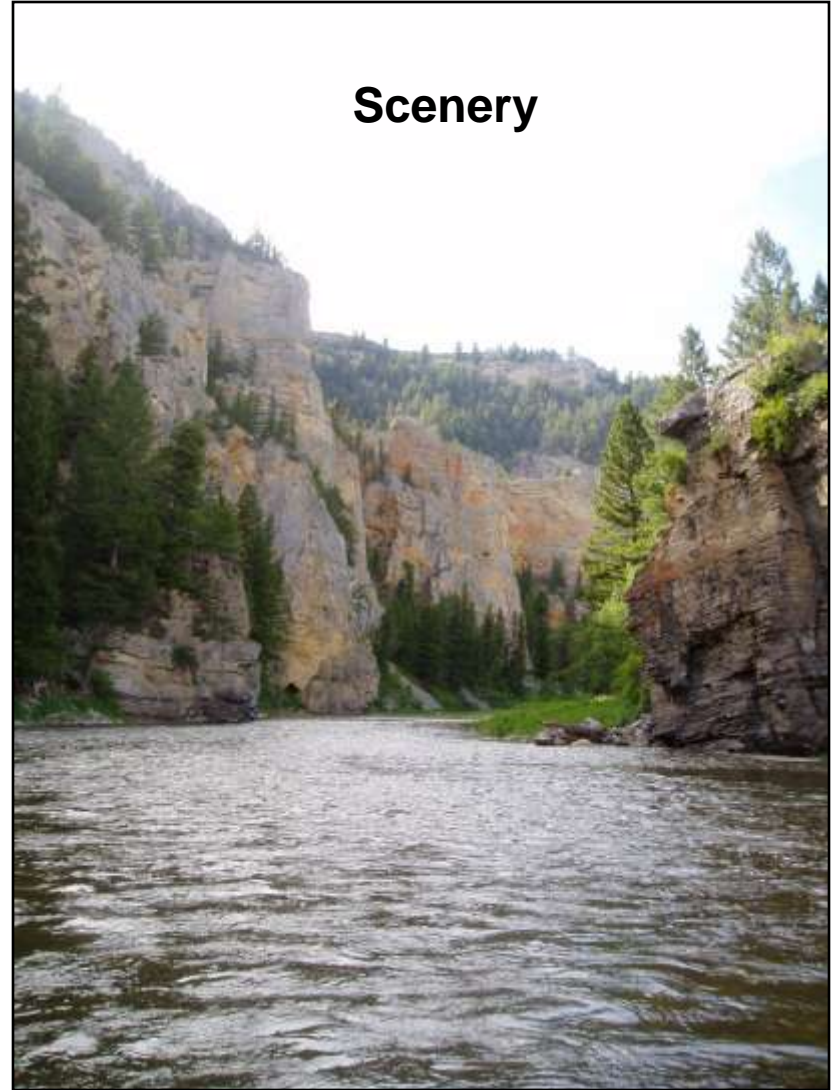
Why the Smith River?



Fish



Solitude



Scenery

The Fish



The Scenery



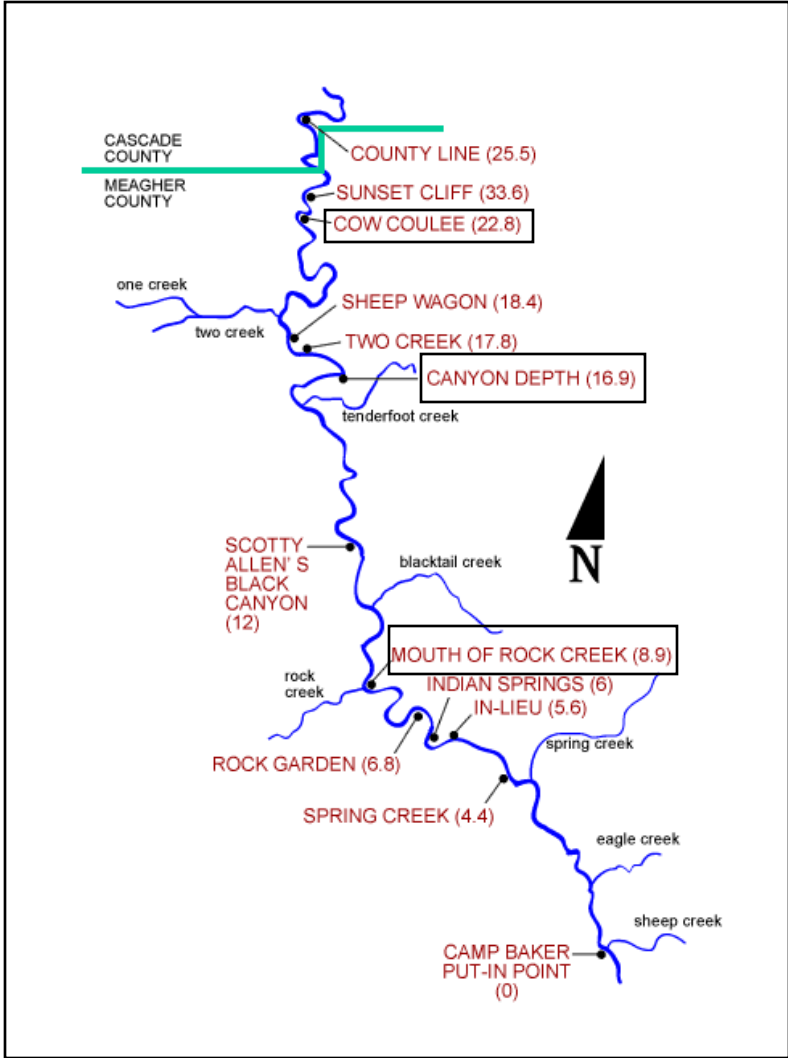
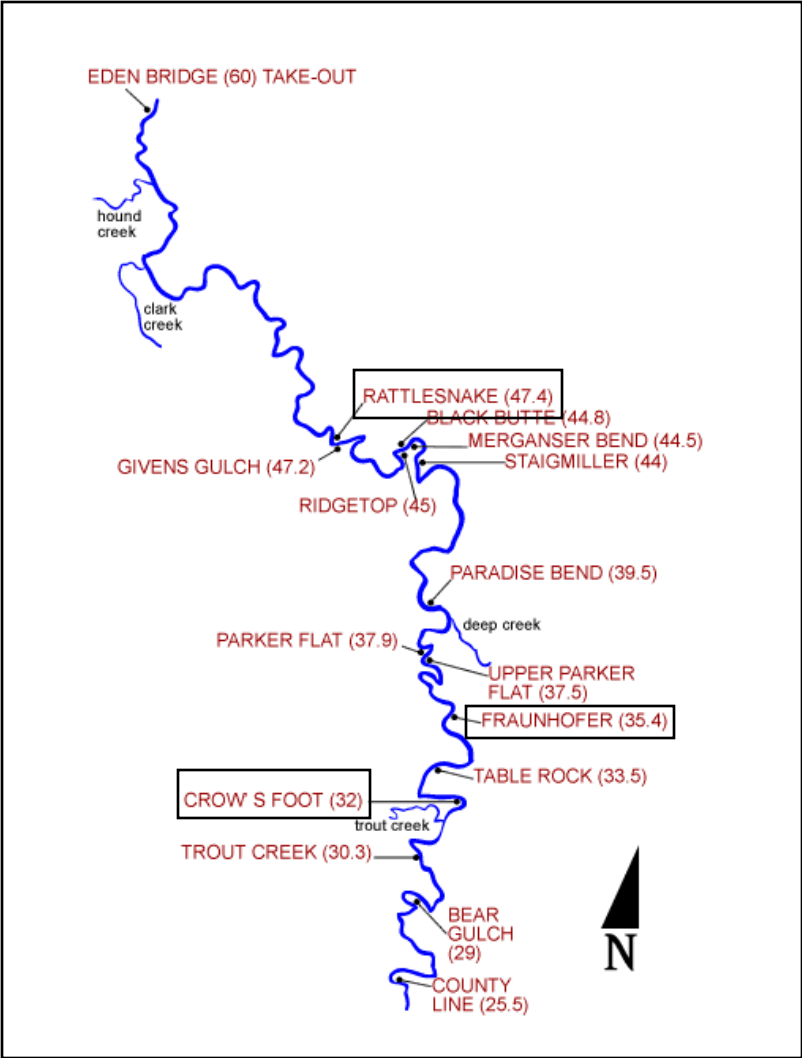
Solitude



Smith River ~ Location



Smith River Map



Application Process

- **2008 SMITH RIVER STATE PARK & RIVER CORRIDOR PRIVATE TRIP LAUNCH APPLICATION**
- Mail in this application or use it as a guide to apply online at fwp.mt.gov; or over the counter at any FWP regional or area office

- ~ Application process opens January 6th
- ~ Application must be completed by Friday, February 15th
- ~ Results mailed in early March

- ~ Non-Residents fee is \$55.00.
- ~ One application per person
- ~ Permits are non-transferable
- ~ There is a group size limit of 15 people
- ~ 59 miles in 5 days max





When to Go?

Best Dates

Prior to run-off in the Spring
or
June 20th – July 4 (depends on
snowpack and spring rains)



River Flow

Flows between 230 CFS and 375 cfs
Our cut-off to put on is 280 cfs





Boats & Flows



The Smith River is primarily a class 1 river with one class 2 rapid.

<http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?06077500>

DriftBoat - 350cfs

Aluminum or Fiberglass

Raft – 250 cfs

10 to 14 foot raft

Pontoon Boat – 200 cfs

9 foot min., 10 foot better

Canoe – 150 cfs

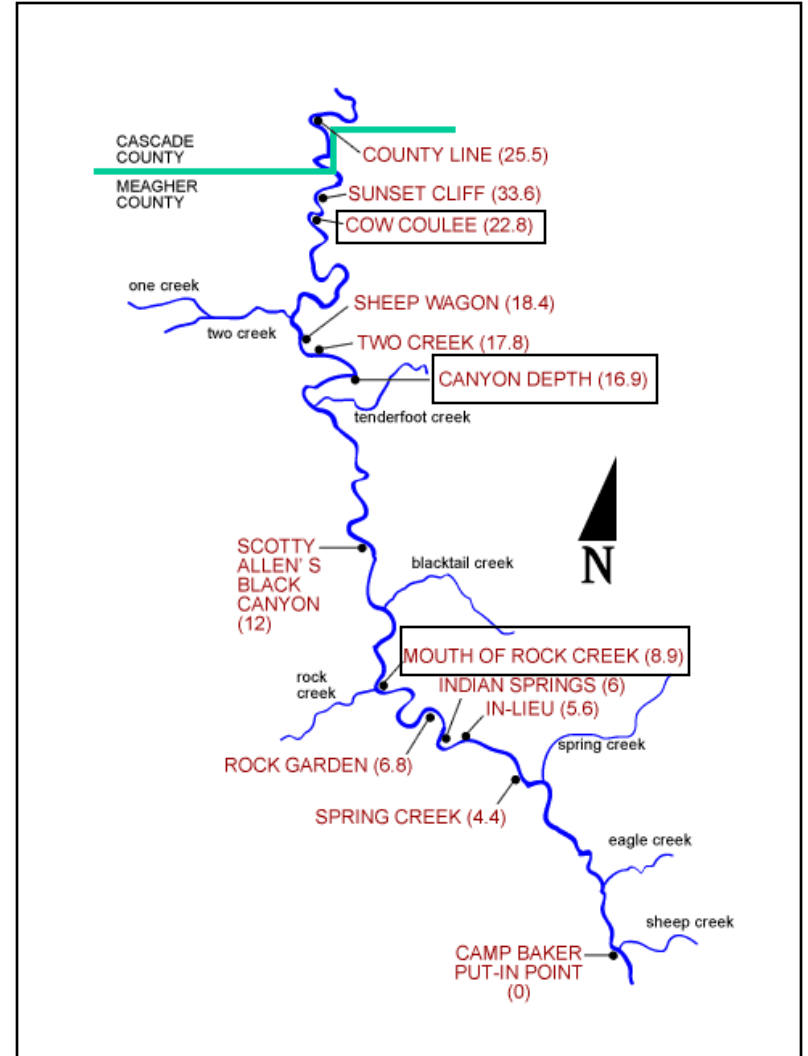
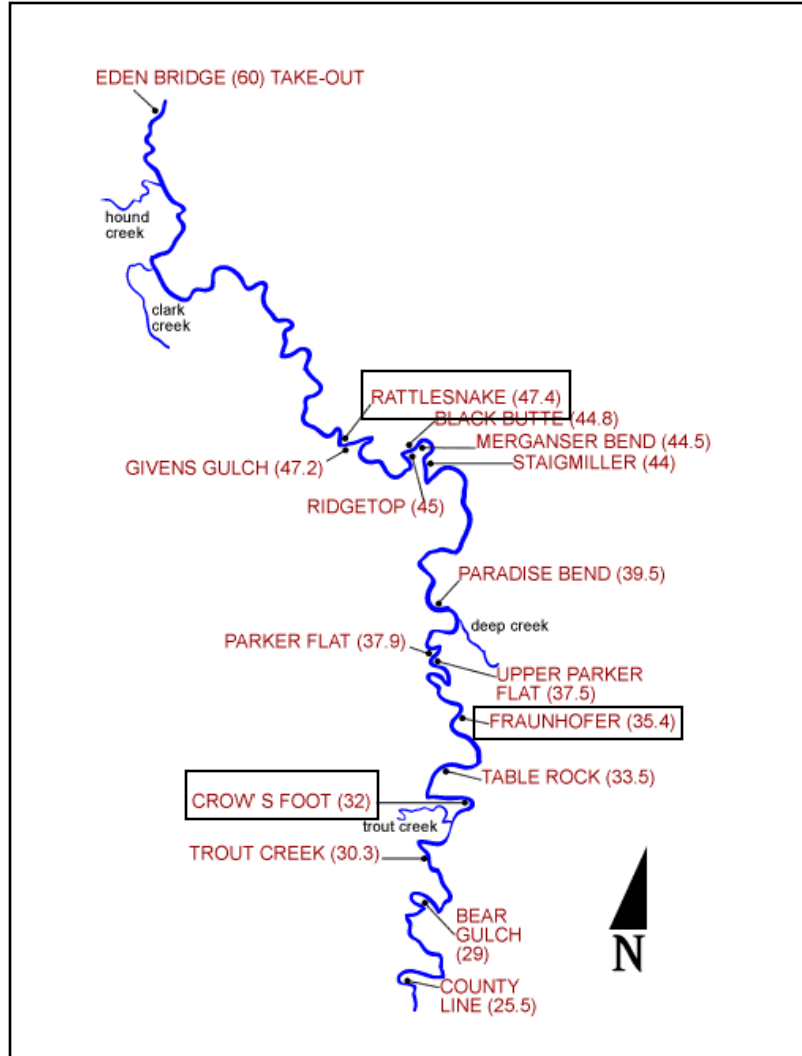


The Best Campsites



- Rock Creek (Fish)
- Canyon Depth
- Upper Cow Coulee
- Crowsfoot – (Fish)
- Fraunhauffer
- Upper Rattlesnake

Smith River Map





Equipment

You are self contained – don't forget it

- ~ Driftboat, Canoe or Raft, Oars, Life vest, Anchor, Tie off rope
- ~ Tent, Sleeping bag, Sleeping pad, Pillow – (Dry bags)
- ~ Tarp, Rope
- ~ Cook Kit, Propane tank, Propane stove and BBQ, Folding table, chair
- ~ Waders/belt, Boots, Rain Jacket
- ~ Two flyrods – 1 dry and 1 nymph rig, Flies, Vest, Leader material, Floatant, Strike indicator
- ~ Clothes – prepare for hot weather 78-95 degrees, but it can snow any day of the year in this area.
- ~ Ice chests – Dry ice and block ice



Gourmet Dinners for 5 Days

You can eat better on the river than you do at home!



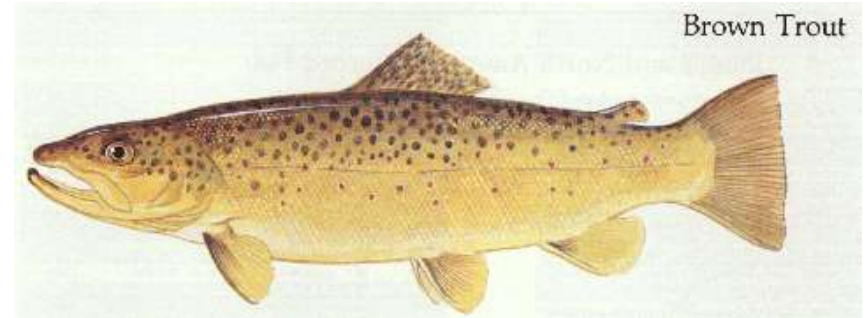
- Extreme Cooler
- Grub Box
- Pre-Plan Meals
- Vacuum Seal Meals
- Pre-Cook Some items
- Dry Ice
- Rafts
- BBQ - Propane



Rods, Lines & Flies?



2 - 5 weight flyrod with a floating line and a sink tip. Bring two rods if possible to have a dry and nymph rod set up at all times.



Predominantly a brown trout fishery. Fish will range from 10 to 20 inches.



PMD – size 16 - 18



Sparkle Dun – size 14 - 16



Stimulator – size 8 - 12



Streamers – size 2 - 6



Raft Rentals

- **Swiftwater Sports**

17703 15th Ave. N.E.

Shoreline, WA 98155

(866) 626-0303 (toll free)

<http://www.swiftwatersports.com>



Pricing for 5 days on river and 3 days travel

13 foot self bailing raft, frame, oars, pump, dry bags

\$322 + tax

14 foot self bailing raft, frame, oars, pump, dry bags

\$368 + tax



Cost of the Trip per Person

• Individual River Permit	\$55
• Raft Rental ½ (13' SB)	\$175
• Montana Fishing License	\$70
• Shuttle (½ of cost)	\$100
• Gas (700 miles each way)	\$160
• Food	<u>\$75</u>
TOTAL Estimate	\$635



Outfitters & Websites

~ Lewis and Clark Expeditions

<http://www.lcexp.com/rivers.htm>

~ Smith River Flyfishing Expeditions

<http://www.smithriverflyfishing.com/01-sre-pages/s01-about-smith.html>

~ Paul Roos Outfitters

<http://www.paulroosoutfitters.com/smithriver.html>

Typical cost for a 5 day, 4 night trip with an outfitter is **\$3400**

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Questions

