

The Nationwide Rivers Inventory 6 Segments for the State of Iowa

Reference Source: <http://www.nps.gov/nrcr/programs/rtca/nri/> Note: Outstanding Resource Values (ORVs) Definitions at List Bottom

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River	County	Reach	Length (miles)	Year Listed/Updated	Potential Classification	ORVs	Description	Other States
Boone	Hamilton and Webster	From Webster City to confluence with Des Moines River.	25	1995	S	S, R, F, W	See Boone Comments	

Boone Comments: Iowa's first designated "Protected Water Area." Identified for it's scenic and natural qualities, including relatively undisturbed riparian habitat and excellent smallmouth bass fishery.

Cedar River	Louisa, Muscatine	Iowa River to Highway 6.	26	1982		F, W, C	See Cedar River Comments	
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Cedar River Comments: Two federally listed endangered species of mussel and one federally listed species of bat may be found along the river; potentially rich in cultural resources; nice streamside relief with bluffs and ridges.

Maquoketa River	Jackson, Jones	Mississippi River to US 151 Bridge (omit small reservoir northwest of Maquoketa)	68	1982		S, R, G, F, W, H, C, O	See Maquoketa River Comments	
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Maquoketa River Comments: River cuts narrow, gorge-like valley up to 150 feet deep through limestone; excellent water quality supporting productive smallmouth bass fishery; potentially rich in cultural resources; threatened northern wild monkshood has been found in basin.

Middle Raccoon River	Gutherie and Dallas	City of Panora to the city of Redfield dam.	15	1995	S	S, R, F, W	See Middle Raccoon River Comments	
<u>Middle Raccoon River Comments:</u> A designated Iowa "Protected Water Area." Beautiful canoe route with good access. Excellent smallmouth bass fishing and wildlife viewing.								
Turkey River	Clayton, Fayette, Winneshiek, Howard	Mississippi River to Vernon Springs.	110	1982		S, R, G, F, H, C, O	See Turkey River Comments	
<u>Turkey River Comments:</u> Gently rolling hills with dense stands of trees; good trout stream; high potential for significant cultural resources; northern wild monkshood, a federally listed endangered species, has been found in the basin.								
Upper Iowa River	Winneshick and Allamakee	City of Kendallville to Highway 76 crossing.	64	1995	W	S, R, G, F, W	See Upper Iowa River Comments	
<u>Upper Iowa River Comments:</u> A designated "Protected Water Area." The state's most scenic canoe river with towering limestone outcroppings and beautiful riparian habitat. Good bass and trout fishing.								
Wapsipinicon River	Clinton, Scott, Cedar, Jones, Linn, Buchanan, Black Hawk, Bremer	Mississippi River to State Highway 334 at Frederika (omit reservoir northwest of Independence).	195	1982		S, G, F, W, H	See Wapsipinicon River Comments	
<u>Wapsipinicon River Comments:</u> A designated Iowa "Protected Water Area." Wide, wooded flood plain with only limited development and agricultural encroachment; wide diversity of fish and wildlife habitat; exposed geologic fault; historically valuable Stone City quarries.								

River	County	Reach	Length (miles)	Year Listed/ Updated	Potential Classification	ORVs	Description	Other States
Yellow River	Allamakee	Entire segment within Effigy Mounds National Monument	1	1982/ 1993	S	S, R, G, W, H, C	See Yellow River Comments1	

Yellow River Comments1: One of fastest falling rivers in state, providing excellent fishing and canoeing opportunities. Numerous prehistoric Indian burial mounds. Site of Jefferson Davis Sawmill upstream from boundary.

Yellow River	Allamakee	Mississippi River to Highway W60 near Myron.	34	1982		S, R, F, W, H, C	See Yellow River Comments2	
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Yellow River Comments2: Heavily wooded with marked relief, camping and backpacking opportunities; unusual ecological niches and plant life, including the northern wild monkshood, a federally listed threatened plant, has been found in the basin; good fishery; high potential for cultural resources (Effigy Mounds National Monument adjoins near mouth).

Outstanding Resource Values (ORV) Definitions:

Scenery (S): The landscape elements of landform, vegetation, water, color, and related factors result in notable or exemplary visual features and/or attractions. When analyzing scenic values, additional factors -- such as seasonal variations in vegetation, scale of cultural modifications, and the length of time negative intrusions are viewed -- may be considered. Scenery and visual attractions may be highly diverse over the majority of the river or river segment.

Geology (G): The river, or the area within the river corridor, contains one or more example of a geologic feature, process or phenomenon that is unique or rare within the region of comparison. The feature(s) may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a "textbook" example, and/or represent a unique or rare combination of geologic features (erosional, volcanic, glacial, or other geologic structures).

Recreation (R): Recreational opportunities are, or have the potential to be, popular enough to attract visitors from throughout or beyond the region of comparison or are unique or rare within the region. Visitors are willing to travel long distances to use the river resources for recreational purposes. River-related opportunities could include, but are not limited to, sightseeing, wildlife observation, camping, photography, hiking, fishing and boating.

- Interpretive opportunities may be exceptional and attract, or have the potential to attract, visitors from outside the region of comparison.
- The river may provide, or have the potential to provide, settings for national or regional usage or competitive events.

Fish (F): Fish values may be judged on the relative merits of either fish populations, habitat, or a combination of these river-related conditions.

- *Populations:* The river is nationally or regionally an important producer of resident and/or anadromous fish species. Of particular significance is the presence of wild stocks and/or federal or state listed (or candidate) threatened, endangered or sensitive species. Diversity of species is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of "outstandingly remarkable."
- *Habitat:* The river provides exceptionally high quality habitat for fish species indigenous to the region of comparison. Of particular significance is habitat for wild stocks and/or federal or state listed (or candidate) threatened, endangered or sensitive species. Diversity of habitats is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of "outstandingly remarkable."

Wildlife (W): Wildlife values may be judged on the relative merits of either terrestrial or aquatic wildlife populations or habitat or a combination of these conditions.

- *Populations:* The river, or area within the river corridor, contains nationally or regionally important populations of indigenous wildlife species. Of particular significance are species considered to be unique, and/or populations of federal or state listed (or candidate) threatened, endangered or sensitive species. Diversity of species is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of "outstandingly remarkable."
- *Habitat:* The river, or area within the river corridor, provides exceptionally high quality habitat for wildlife of national or regional significance, and/or may provide unique habitat or a critical link in habitat conditions for federal or state listed (or candidate) threatened, endangered or sensitive species. Contiguous habitat conditions are such that the biological needs of the species are met. Diversity of habitats is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of "outstandingly remarkable."

Prehistory (P): The river, or area within the river corridor, contains a site(s) where there is evidence of occupation or use by Native Americans. Sites must have unique or rare characteristics or exceptional human interest value(s). Sites may have national or regional importance for interpreting prehistory; may be rare and represent an area where a culture or cultural period was first identified and described; may have been used concurrently by two or more cultural groups; and/or may have been used by cultural groups for rare sacred purposes. Many such sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, which is administered by the NPS.

History (H): The river or area within the river corridor contains a site(s) or feature(s) associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare or one-of-a-kind in the region. Many such sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A historic site(s) and/or features(s) is 50 years old or older in most cases.

Cultural (C): The river or area within the river corridor contains archaeological sites or areas significant to traditional cultures. Examples might be American Indian burial grounds, petroglyphs, the oldest known human use site in a region, or streams that support traditional agriculture, subsistence fishing, or religious ceremonies.

Other Values (O): While no specific national evaluation guidelines have been developed for the "other similar values" category, assessments of additional river-related values consistent with the foregoing guidance may be developed -- including, but not limited to, hydrology, paleontology and botany resources.