

## The Nationwide Rivers Inventory 10 Segments for the State of South Dakota

Reference Source: <http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/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
Belle Fourche River	Meade, Butte	Cheyenne River to Vale, SD	121	1982		F	See Belle Fourche River Comments	
<b><u>Belle Fourche River Comments:</u></b> Large stream in wide floodplain with good flow; high-priority fishery resource (FWS).								
Big Sioux River	Minnehaha	I-90 Bridge north of Sioux Falls to upper confluence of Dells of the Sioux River	23	1982		S, R, G, C	See Big Sioux River Comments	
<b><u>Big Sioux River Comments:</u></b> Meandering stream with unique geologic processes visible in area of the Dells of the Sioux River.								
Cheyenne River	Ziebach, Haakon, Meade, Fall River, Pennington, Custer, Shannon	Lake Oahe to Slate Springs Draw (Sec. 1, T8S, R6E)	206	1982		S, F, W, H, C	See Cheyenne River Comments	

**Cheyenne River Comments:** Wide, shallow, meandering stream bed in broad flood plain with massive, steep bluffs; outstanding wildlife diversity; high-priority fishery resource (FWS); travel route for Cheyenne, some tipi rings; high potential for National Register quality cultural resources.

River	County	Reach	Length (miles)	Year Listed/Updated	Potential Classification	ORVs	Description	Other States
French Creek	Custer	East boundary Custer State Park to Stockade Reservoir	22	1982		S, R, C	See French Creek Comments	

**French Creek Comments:** Scenic mountain stream, steep canyons; rapids; important petroglyph site.

James River	Spink, Brown	US Highway 212 to Columbia Road Dam	154	1982		S, R, G, F, W, H, C	See James River Comments	
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**James River Comments:** Slow-moving, meandering prairie stream; mixed hardwood timber interspersed with thickly vegetated marshes and brushy fields; varied and abundant wildlife community in midst of surrounding prairie environment; important fish production area; historic trading post site.

Little Minnesota River	Roberts	Mouth to Highway 25 north of Claire City	42	1982		S, R, G, F, W, H, C	See Little Minnesota River Comments	
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**Little Minnesota River Comments:** Cool-water stream supporting trout fishery; area rich in Indian heritage and legend.

Little Spearfish Creek	Lawrence	Spearfish Creek to Source	15	1982		S, R, F	See Little Spearfish Creek Comments	
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**Little Spearfish Creek Comments:** Exceptionally scenic mountain stream in very deep, narrow canyon; highest-value fishery resource (FWS).

River	County	Reach	Length (miles)	Year Listed/Updated	Potential Classification	ORVs	Description	Other States
Whetstone River, North Fork	Grant, Roberts	Mouth to Interstate 29	40	1982		S, F, W	See Whetstone River, North Fork Comments	
<b>Whetstone River, North Fork Comments:</b> Densely wooded areas; riffles and pools; northern pike population.								
White River	Lyman, Melette, Jones, Tripp, Jackson, Shannon, Washabaugh, Pennington	Fort Randall Reservoir to Rocky Ford highway crossing	327	1982		S, G, C	See White River Comments	
White River Comments: Large river in wide floodplain; traverses outstanding badland geologic process; high-priority fishery resource (FWS); known Paleo sites and mammoth kill site.								
Yellow Bank River, South Fork	Grant	MN/SD line to Grant/Deuel county line	21	1982		S, R, G, F, W, H, C	See Yellow Bank River, South Fork Comments	
Yellow Bank River, South Fork Comments: Cool water stream with pools and riffles; sustains introduced brook trout populations.								

## 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.

**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.
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**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).

**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.