

NORTHGATE CANYON RAPIDS RATING

Rapid Rating System

(I) Very Easy:

Waves small regular, passages clear, very little maneuvering; riffles.

(II) Easy:

Rapids of medium difficulty, some maneuvering necessary; low ledges, slow rock gardens, medium regular waves.

(III) Medium:

Waves numerous, high irregular; rocks, strong eddies, passages clear through narrow, expertise in maneuvering required, inspection necessary the first time.

(IV) Difficult:

Long rapids, waves powerful, irregular; dangerous rocks, boiling eddies, inspection usually necessary; powerful and precise maneuvering required; maximum safety precautions necessary.

(V) Very Difficult:

Very large irregular waves, critical complex maneuvering required; maximum safety precautions necessary. Risk to boat and life; limits of controlled navigation.

(VI) Limits:

Navigation severe, risk to life and boat; rarely, if ever, run.

River Flow Levels

Below 900 cubic feet/second

Very marginal for rafts; small rafts and kayaks may be OK down to 800 cfs or so; depends on skill level and knowledge of river.

900 - 1200 cfs

OK for kayaks, smaller oar boats, and paddle boats. Not advised for loaded oar boats (gear boats).

1200 - 2500 cfs

Good water levels for all rafts - a very technical and difficult run.

2500 - 2900 cfs

Getting pretty fast - still suitable for paddle boats.

Above 2900 cfs

Very significant and dangerous at this point! Water levels about 2900 cfs DEMAND expert experience and maneuvering ability for a successful and safe river trip. Advised for very experienced oar boats and kayakers only.

	1000 cfs	2000 cfs	3000 + cfs
Windy Hole Rapids	II	III	IV
Cowpie Rapids	III	III	III
Narrow Falls Rapids	III	IV	IV
Tootsie Roll Rapids	III	III	IV
Stovepipe Rapids	III	III	III