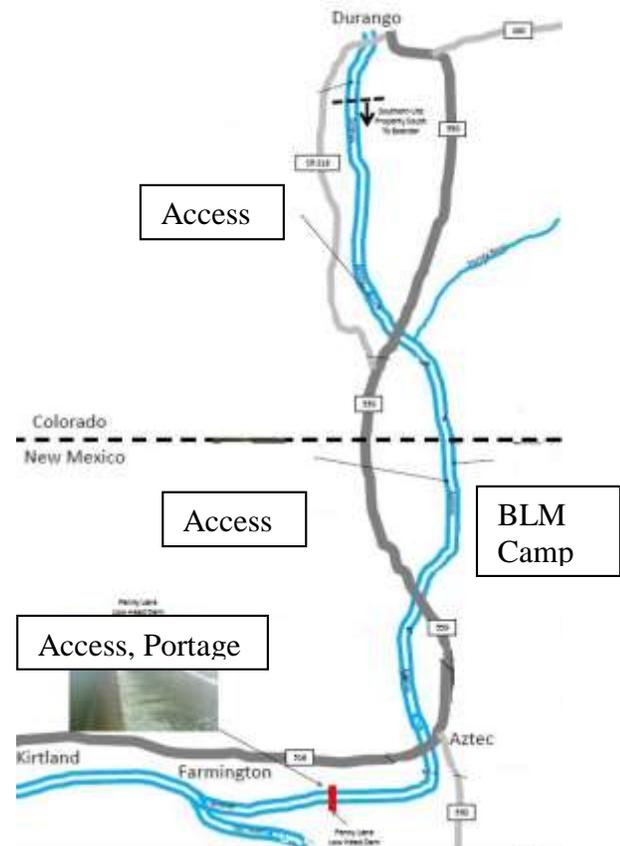


The Animas below Durango

Version June 2014

Quick Planner:

- Mile 0 Launch Dalbetta Park Durango
- Mile 13.9 Private Island tiny camp-picnic spot
- Mile 15.3 Danger Undercut Rocks
- Mile 15.4 Bondad Bridge access for steep carry
- Mile 19.4 New Mexico State Line
- Mile 19.7 Best Camping (BLM Property pending approval)
- Mile 20.6 Boat Ramp Animas River RV Park
(505) 386-8033
- Mile 22.3 Stacie Ditch metal rebar. Easy scout.
- Mile 34.7 Backyard campsite call Rod for permission
(505) 330-9376
- Mile 38.7 Aztec Riverside Park
- Mile 42.5 (3.8 below Aztec) Mandatory Portage
Penny Lane Dam, Boat Ramps
- Mile 53.7 Kirtland Lions Park Boat Ramp (downstream
of Farmington)



Support river protection organizations such as River Reach, San Juan Citizens Alliance, Friends of the Animas, and American Whitewater. Rivers rely on dedicated support from river runners like you. Are you a member?

General Rules:

Please Support Rivers In Colorado, the shore and beaches are private property. Trespass by people (or even dogs) aggravates landowners, may disturb wildlife, and threatens our access to rivers. Leave no trace. Carry wag bags or groovers for human waste. We suggest no fires, as this area has been extraordinarily dry in recent years.

SECTION: COLORADO

Much of this section cuts through Southern Ute Indian Tribe property. Their care for the river shows with beautiful cottonwood stands and riparian zones. A smattering of private, non-indian property also adjoins the river. River drops 560 feet in these 15 miles. Recommended use: long day trips and overnights for committed paddlers due to lack of public access.

The Southern Ute Tribe allows recreational boaters (non-commercial) to float through tribal portions of navigable rivers that traverse the Southern Ute Reservation. However, this boating access does not include put-in or take-out on tribal land. Commercial trips have other requirements. The Tribe offers one exception to the put-in / take-out restriction, as follows: Fishermen who have a valid tribal fishing permit and who are engaged in fishing may put-in or take-out small, portable craft on tribal lands. Portable craft are those that can be carried by hand to and from the river, but do not include boats that must be trailered into or out of the river. From: <http://www.southernute-nsn.gov/wrmweb/other-recreation/>



Mile 0
ACCESS Dalbetta Park (City of Durango Boat Ramp)

Mile 4.5
Basin Creek and Southern Ute Property/Access for commercial use. Animas La Plata reservoir water may someday be released to downstream users at this point.

Mile 7.1
Weasleskin Bridge, no access without fishing license and equipment.

Mile 13.9
Stephan and Robin Saltsman Island. Tiny campspot or picnic spot.

Mile 15.3 DANGER Undercut Rocks- Proven killers. Large sized undercut rocks on river left shore. Especially dangerous at flows below 1500 cfs. Scout or portage recommended. Stay on the inside of the bend (stay on river right).

Mile 15.4
ACCESS Highway 550 bridge just below "Bondad Hill" Takeout river left below bridge with a short steep carry suitable for small rafts, kayaks.

Mile 16.7
Historical Train Water Tank
This rail line was called the "Red Apple Flyer" and was in service 1905 until the 1960s. When the freight line from Farmington to Durango was no longer viable, the right of way was sold. For more google "red apple flyer train new mexico" or check out the book "When the Railroad Leaves Town: American Communities in the Age of Rail Line"

Mile 17.4
Abandoned Train Bridge. Potentially dangerous pilings.

Mile 19.4
Colorado New Mexico State Line

SECTION: NEW MEXICO

The New Mexico section of the Animas is a hidden jewel, surprisingly out of view of the road. Rocky bluffs give way to a corridor of Russian Olive trees that buffer the river the remainder of the way to Aztec.

Recommended use: long day trips and overnights for committed paddlers due to lack of frequent access.

Mile 19.7 Pending BLM approval
CAMPING BLM Property "Animas 1"
GPS -107.864184, 36.99754

USE a GPS to find! No eddy. Pull in early near the bottom of flat pool without entering next riffle. Camp located at river left, gas compressor facility directly across on river right. This is the best public camping between Durango to Aztec. Primitive. Also has hike access to Line Canyon.

Mile 20.6 ACCESS

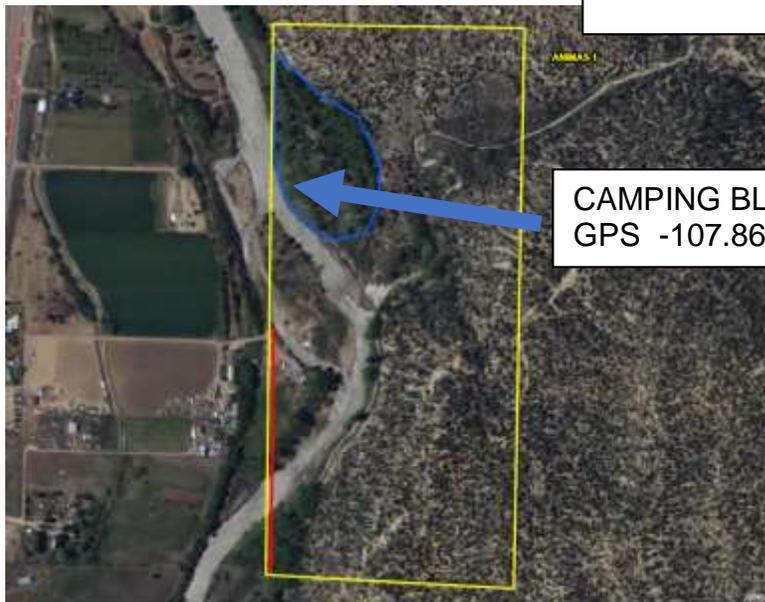
Animas River RV Park

2767 Hwy 550 Speak with Mike 505-386-8033

Tiny primitive boat ramp. Approximately under a pipeline across the river, just below a swinging bridge. View the takeout when you set shuttle. Pay for parking, help encourage this access point!

Colorado

New Mexico



CAMPING BLM Property "Animas 1"
GPS -107.864184, 36.99754

Mile 22.2 Pending BLM Approval

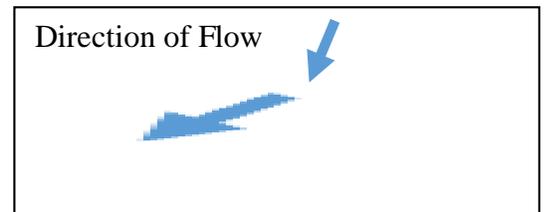
BLM Property "Animas 3" GPS -107.869758, 36.966197

Small camping possibility on river right. Stop early, because when re-launching you will want to be on the other side for recommended scout of diversion dam very close downstream.

Mile 22.3

DANGER Stacie Ditch Co. diversion dam

You will want to be on river left for scout and/or portage of ugly metal raft-ripping posts. This 2 foot tall junky dam is frequently run on the far left. To avoid rebar punctures, line your boats on river left. The green wall of a Oil/Gas facility is visible high on the ridge on river left.



Mile 22.3 Nasty metal raft ripping or worse



Mile 22.3 Low water view from river right. Note gas plant on hillside as a landmark. Upright metal posts across entire river.

Mile 22.5 Abandoned bridge
Mile 23.8 Roadbridge 2290
Mile 24.5 Old Bridge abutments
Mile 26.3 Abandoned Roadbridge 2380

Mile 26.9

ACCESS 550 Bridge Cedar Hill

ACCESS walk down river left between road and old bridges. 300 foot carry suitable for small rafts, kayaks.

Mile 28.6

Aztec Ditch Diversion Dam potential rebar danger, don't fall out.
House on river left.



Mile 32.2 creek joins river from river right

Mile 33.6 BLM Property "Animas 8" -107.957486, 36.880837

Very Small camping or picnic possibility on river right.

Red line on photo is disputed property.



Mile 34.5 Farmers Irrigation District, FMN Diversion Dam
This 5 foot tall smooth ramp drop is commonly run in the middle.



Mile 34.7 CAMPING Contact homeowner Rod Baade (505) 330-9376 a day in advance!
This is a wonderful backyard camp, right on the river, and far enough from the house that you don't feel like you are imposing too badly. Rod works at Jacks Plastic Phone: 505-334-8748 (boater friendly). His brother Errol Baade is general manager at Jacks Plastic. Their neighbor Lindal is full of river lore.



Mile 38.5 550 Bridge

Mile 38.7 Aztec Riverside Park Landing. Takeout for small craft.

SECTION: AZTEC- FARMINGTON

Establishment of access in this zone is due to the River Reach Foundation, a private non-profit organization established in 1986 to promote and protect the unique resource of the San Juan and Animas rivers. River Reach works in cooperation with the Cities of Aztec, Bloomfield, Farmington, and San Juan County. Frequent public access allows for varied use.

Mile 38.7 (Mile 0) Aztec Riverside Park Landing. Launching for small craft.

Mile 0 Aztec Ruins Trail Side Excursion <http://www.nps.gov/azru/index.htm>
Gateway trail connection to Aztec Ruins. The path follows a section of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail, the 1000 mile course that pack mules followed from Santa Fe west to Los Angeles in the 19th century.



Mile 42.5 (Mile 3.7) Penny Lane Boat Ramp 100 yard MANDATORY PORTAGE. Easy trailer friendly boat ramps available above and below dam. You might find someone in the neighborhood to help the portage with their pickup truck. We paid \$20 on a recent trip. Or pre-set your shuttle to here, and use your own car for the portage



Mile 3.8
DANGER Penny Lane Diversion Dam.

MANDATORY PORTAGE
Very ugly recirculating backwash. Don't be tempted. This 3 foot tall dam may some day be re-constructed with a boat chute, a project accelerated by several fatalities.

Mile 7.8 Animas River Park Landing ACCESS Best for raft trailers.

Mile 8.0 Tucker Ave ACCESS Closest access to Farmington Whitewater Park.

Mile 9.2 Boyd Park Landing ACCESS

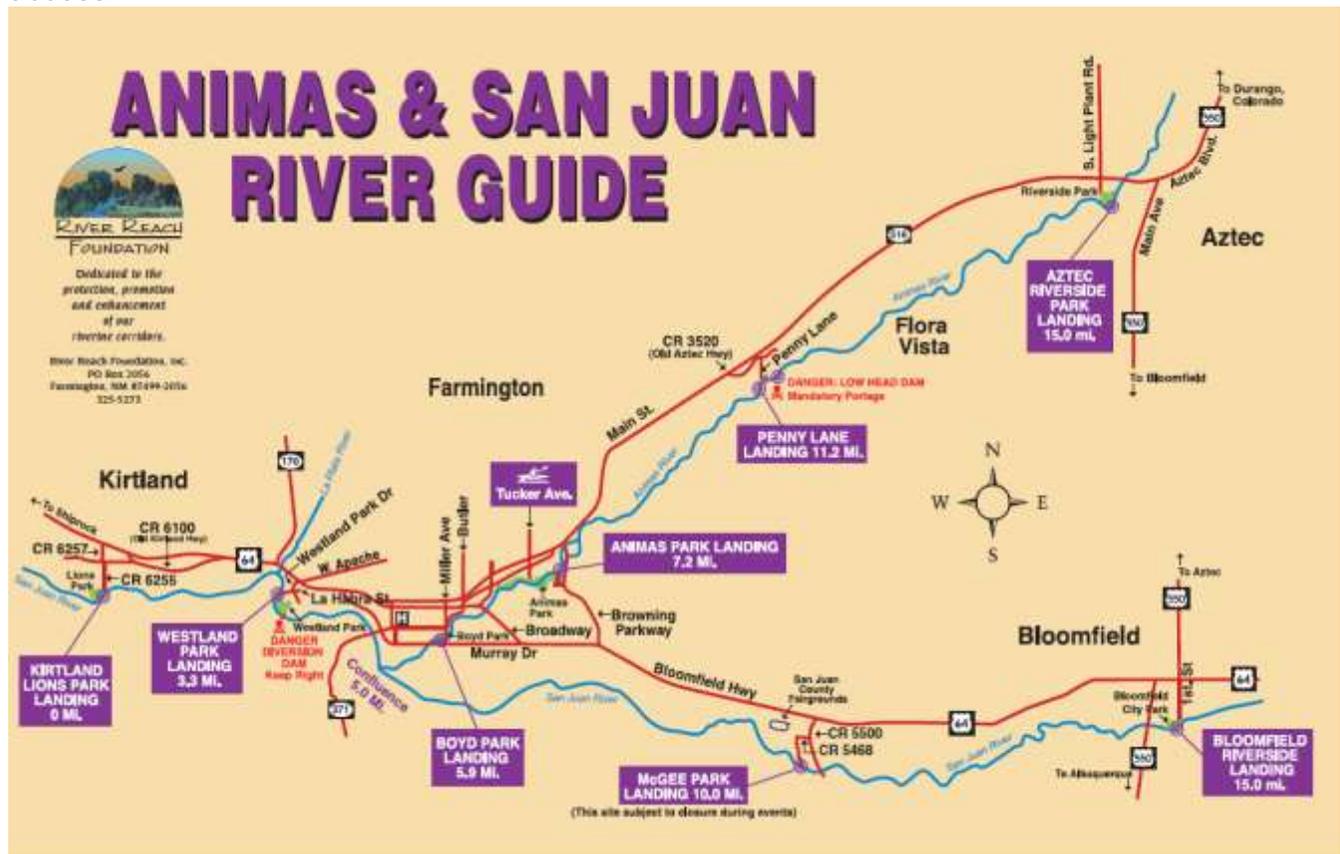
Mile 10 Confluence with San Juan River

Mile 11.7 DANGER Diversion Rubble Dam Keep right for boat passage

Mile 11.8 Westland Park Landing ACCESS Hard to find tucked back in neighborhood because you can not see the river from the parking lot. Lift cable for trailer access to water.

Mile 53.7 (Mile 15) Kirtland Lions Park Landing ACCESS Good Boat Ramp for trailers.

Below this takeout are two large and very unfriendly large dams (appx 20 feet tall) with poor access.



Want more adventure? Try the San Juan River below the quality waters.
Edits for this map, contact kentford@gobrainstorm.net