categories. Six of the evaluated rivers are used by boaters in at least three of the four categories (Table 22).

Table 22. Rivers Suitable for Three or More Types of Boating

River	Types of Boating Opportunities
Barren River	backcountry, flatwater, power
Cumberland River	backcountry, flatwater, power, whitewater
Green River	backcountry, flatwater, power
Kentucky River	backcountry, flatwater, power
Licking River	backcountry, flatwater, power
Red River	backcountry, flatwater, whitewater

The highest ranking rivers in each category are listed below. Two of the rivers, the Green and the Kentucky, tied for first place in the flatwater category. (Table 23).

Three of the study rivers are nationally significant and located within federally owned or designated areas. The Green River within Mammoth Cave National Park and the Big South Fork within Big South Fork National Recreation Area are on federally owned lands administered by the National Park Service. The Red River flows through an area designated by the National Park Service as a National Natural Landmark.

Table 23. Highest Ranking Rivers in Each Boating Subcategory

Boating Subcategory	Study River(s)
Flatwater	Green River (Houchins Ferry to Liberty, KY) Kentucky River (Ohio River to Beattyville, KY)
Whitewater	Cumberland River (Cumberland Falls to Cumberland Lake)
Power Boating	Ohio River
Backcountry	Big South Fork of the Cumberland River

Flatwater Boating

Twelve rivers covering 1,031.3 miles were identified as Class 1 flatwater boating rivers. Class 1 rivers ranged in length from 8.1 to 254.8 miles, averaging 85.9 miles. They are distributed throughout Kentucky.

Twenty-six rivers covering 1,732.4 miles were identified as Class 2 flatwater rivers. Class 2 rivers ranged in length from 8.1 to 664 miles, averaging 66.6 miles. They are also distributed throughout Kentucky.

Five rivers covering 249 miles were identified as Class 3 flatwater rivers. Class 3 rivers ranged in length from 16.4 to 137.6 miles, averaging 49.8 miles. The majority are in western Kentucky.

Whitewater Boating

Five rivers covering 39.6 miles were identified as Class 1 whitewater boating rivers. Class 1 rivers ranged in length from 3.7 to 15.3 miles, averaging 7.9 miles. All Class 1 whitewater rivers are located in eastern Kentucky.

Sixteen rivers covering 165.2 miles were identified as Class 2 whitewater boating rivers. Class 2 rivers ranged in length from 0.7 to 32.3 miles, averaging 10.3 miles. All are located in eastern and central Kentucky.

Eight rivers covering 77.6 miles were identified as Class 3 whitewater boating rivers. Class 3

rivers ranged in length from 1.2 to 22.3 miles, averaging 9.7 miles. The majority are in central Kentucky.

Power Boating

Two rivers covering 918.8 miles were identified as Class 1 power boating rivers. Class 1 rivers ranged in length from 254.8 to 664 miles, averaging 459.4 miles.

Five rivers covering 329.7 miles were identified as Class 2 power boating rivers. Class 2 rivers ranged in length from 22.4 to 182.7 miles, averaging 66.1 miles.

Two rivers covering 141.4 miles were identified as Class 3 power boating rivers. Class 3 rivers ranged in length from 43.6 to 97.8 miles, averaging 70.7 miles.

Backcountry Boating

Six rivers covering 693.4 miles were identified as Class 1 backcountry boating rivers. Class 1 rivers ranged in length from 14.9 to 254.8 miles, averaging 115.6 miles. All are located in eastern and central Kentucky.

Fourteen rivers covering 906.1 miles were identified as Class 2 backcountry rivers. Class 2 rivers ranged in length from 8.1 to 182.7 miles, averaging 64.7 miles. The majority are located in eastern and central Kentucky.

Four rivers covering 229.9 miles were identified as Class 3 backcountry rivers. Class 3 rivers ranged in length from 26.3 to 89.4 miles, averaging 57.5 miles. The majority are in western Kentucky.

Table 24. Summary of Recreational Boating Evaluations

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Total
	Number of Segments			
Backcountry	6	14	4	24
Flatwater	12	26	5	43
Power	2	5	2	9
Whitewater	5	16	8	29
	River Miles			
Backcountry	693.4	906.1	229.9	1829.5
Flatwater	1031.3	1732.4	249.0	3012.7
Power	918.8	329.7	141.4	1389.9
Whitewater	39.6	165.2	77.6	282.4

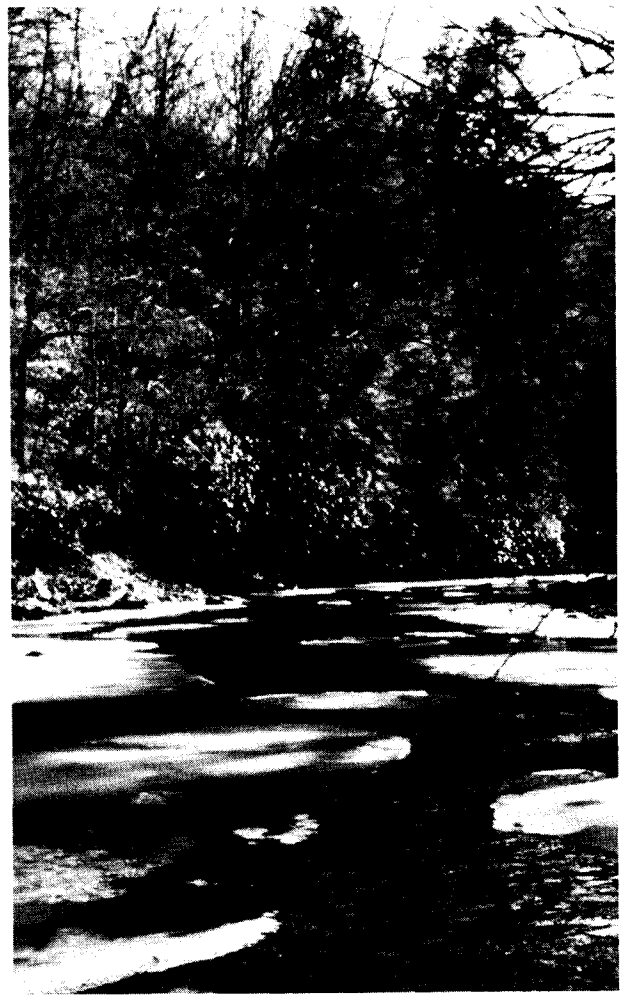
SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Bluegrass Wildwater Association, Personal Communications, 1990.

Elkhorn Paddlers, Personal Communications, 1990.

Sehlinger, Robert, *A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Kentucky*, Thomas Press, Ann Arbor, Michigan 1978.

Rock Creek



Sherri Evans

FLATWATER BOATING -- CLASS 1 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Barren River	Green River	0.0	Barren River Lake Dam	79.2	Butler	Allen	79.2
Cumberland River	Ohio River	0.0	Lake Barkley Dam	30.6	Livingston	Livingston	30.6
Cumberland River	Tennessee State Line	385.5	Wolf Creek Dam	460.9	Monroe	Russell	75.4
Gasper River	Barren River	0.0	Bucksville Road	32.3	Warren	Logan	32.3
Green River	Ohio River	0.0	Lock & Dam No. 6	181.7	Henderson	Edmonson	181.7
Green River	Houchins Ferry	185.2	Ky 70 at Liberty, Ky.	358.5	Edmonson	Casey	173.3
Kentucky River	Ohio River	0.0	Beattyville	254.8	Carroll	Lee	254.8
Middle Fork Kentucky River	North Fork Kentucky River	0.0	Buckhorn Lake Dam	43.3	Lee	Perry	43.3
Nolin River	Green River	0.0	Nolin Lake Dam	8.1	Edmonson	Edmonson	8.1
Rough River	Green River	0.0	Rough River Lake Dam	89.4	Ohio	Breckinridge	89.4
South Fork Kentucky River	Kentucky River	0.0	Red Bird River	45.1	Lee	Clay	45.1
Tennessee River	Clarks River	4.3	Kentucky Lake Dam	22.4	McCracken	Marshall	18.1

FLATWATER BOATING -- CLASS 2 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Bayou de Chien	Ky 239	11.2	Ky 1283	22.7	Hickman	Hickman	11.5
Beech Fork	Rolling Fork	0.0	Ky 49	32.2	Nelson	Nelson	32.2
Blaine Creek	Big Sandy River	0.0	Yatesville Dam	12.0	Lawrence	Lawrence	12.0
Clarks River	Tennessee River	0.0	West Fork Clarks River	16.0	McCracken	McCracken	16.0
Dix River	Herrington Lake (Ky 52)	34.6	Logantown, Ky.	50.3	Boyle	Lincoln	15.7
Eagle Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	Ky 36	41.0	Carroll	Grant	41.0
East Fork Little Barren River	Little Barren River	0.0	Mell-Cork Road	15.0	Metcalfe	Metcalfe	15.0
Floyds Fork	Ky 44 at Shepherdsville	0.4	Ky 1408	50.7	Bullitt	Oldham	50.3
Hinkston Creek	South Fork Licking River	0.0	Millersburg, Ky.	15.0	Bourbon	Bath	15.0
Levisa Fork	Big Sandy River	0.0	Fishtrap Lake Dam	126.1	Lawrence	Pike	126.1
Licking River	Ohio River	0.0	Cave Run Lake Dam	173.6	Campbell	Bath	173.6

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Little River	Lake Barkley	16.3	Ky 272	24.4	Trigg	Trigg	8.1
Mayfield Creek	Ky 121	10.7	Hickory, Ky.	35.0	Carlisle	Graves	24.3
Mississippi River	Tennessee State Line	882.6	Ohio River	953.8	Fulton	Ballard	71.2
Muddy Fork Little River	John King Road	11.4	Ky 126	33.2	Trigg	Trigg	21.8
Obion Creek	Mississippi River	0.0	US 51	12.0	Fulton	Hickman	12.0
Ohio River	Mississippi River	0.0	Big Sandy River	664.0	Ballard	Boyd	664.0
Pond River	Green River	0.0	Ky 70	26.3	Hopkins	Hopkins	26.3
Red River	Tennessee State Line	50.2	Prices Mill	74.9	Simpson	Logan	24.7
Rolling Fork	Salt River	0.0	US 68	107.4	Bullitt	Marion	107.4
Salt River	Ohio River	0.0	Taylorsville Lake Dam	59.5	Bullitt	Spencer	59.5
Salt River	Taylorsville Lake	82.0	Ky 1160	118.5	Spencer	Spencer	36.5
South Fork Licking River	Berry, Ky	26.6	Ruddels Mills, Ky	65.1	Harrison	Bourbon	38.5
Stoner Creek	South Fork Licking River	0.0	Thomas Road	30.7	Bourbon	Bourbon	30.7
Tradewater River	Ohio River	0.0	Ky 70	63.9	Crittenden	Caldwell	63.9
Tug Fork	Big Sandy River	0.0	Ky 40	35.1	Lawrence	Martin	35.1

FLATWATER BOATING -- CLASS 3 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Drakes Creek	Barren River	0.0	West & Middle Forks	23.5	Warren	Warren	23.5
Mud River	Green River	0.0	Ky 949	17.4	Butler	Butler	17.4
North Fork Kentucky River	South Fork Kentucky River	254.8	Roxana, Ky.	392.4	Lee	Letcher	137.6
North Fork Licking River	Licking River	0.0	Lewisburg, Ky.	54.1	Bracken	Mason	54.1
Panther Creek	Green River	0.0	Ky 81	16.4	Daviess	Daviess	16.4

WHITEWATER BOATING -- CLASS 1 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Cumberland River	Laurel River	552.1	Cumberland Falls	562.3	McCreary	McCreary	10.2
Laurel River	Lake Cumberland	0.8	Laurel Lake Dam	2.1	Laurel	Laurel	1.3
Red River	Swift Camp Creek	59.5	Ky 746	68.6	Wolfe	Wolfe	9.1
Rockcastle River	Ky 192	6.8	Ky 80	22.1	Laurel	Laurel	15.3
Russell Fork	Elkhorn City	12.3	Virginia State Line	16.0	Pike	Pike	3.7

WHITEWATER BOATING -- CLASS 2 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Benson Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	Sheep Pen Road	11.0	Franklin	Franklin	11.0
Boone Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	Ky 418	6.5	Clark	Clark	6.5
Christy Creek	Triplett Creek	0.0	Ky 32	5.0	Rowan	Rowan	5.0
Cumberland River	Cumberland Falls	562.3	Redbird, KY	578.5	McCreary	Whitley	16.2
Elkhorn Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	Forks of Elkhorn	17.8	Franklin	Franklin	17.8
Gasper River	Barren River	0.0	Bucksville Road	32.3	Warren	Logan	32.3
Hanging Fork	Dix River	0.0	Ky 590	4.3	Boyle	Boyle	4.3
Hickman Creek	Ky 1268	2.8	Ky 39	8.4	Jessamine	Jessamine	5.6
Little Barren River	Green River	0.0	East and South Forks	20.9	Green	Metcalfe	20.9
Little Sandy River	Grayson Lake	70.6	Sandy Hook, Ky.	76.0	Elliott	Elliott	5.4
Lower Howards Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	Old Stone Church Road	4.8	Clark	Clark	4.8
Otter Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	West Fork Otter Creek	5.6	Madison	Madison	5.6
Otter Creek	Ohio River	0.0	US 60	7.7	Meade	Meade	7.7
Plum Creek	Salt River	0.0	Wilsonville	10.5	Spencer	Spencer	10.5
Silver Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	Taylor Fork	10.9	Madison	Madison	10.9
Taylor Fork	Silver Creek	0.0	Curtis Road	0.7	Madison	Madison	0.7

WHITEWATER BOATING -- CLASS 3 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
East Fork Little Barren River	Little Barren River	0.0	Mell-Cork Road	15.0	Metcalfe	Metcalfe	15.0
Four Mile Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	Four Mile Road	3.5	Clark	Clark	3.5
Harrods Creek	Ohio River	0.0	Ky 53	22.3	Jefferson	Oldham	22.3
Jessamine Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	Ky 29	13.3	Jessamine	Jessamine	13.3
Marsh Creek	Cumberland River	0.0	Ky 679	7.1	McCreary	McCreary	7.1
Ruin Creek	Little Sandy River	0.0	North & South Forks	1.2	Elliott	Elliott	1.2
South Fork Little Barren River	Little Barren River	0.0	Beechville Road	7.0	Metcalfe	Metcalfe	7.0
Tates Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	Crutcher Rd.	8.2	Madison	Madison	8.2

POWER BOATING -- CLASS 1 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Kentucky River	Ohio River	0.0	Beattyville	254.8	Carroll	Lee	254.8
Ohio River	Mississippi River	0.0	Big Sandy River	664.0	Ballard	Boyd	664.0

POWER BOATING -- CLASS 2 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Big South Fork Cumberland R.	Lake Cumberland	16.5	Ky 92	40.3	McCreary	McCreary	23.8
Cumberland River	Ohio River	0.0	Lake Barkley Dam	30.6	Livingston	Livingston	30.6
Green River	Ohio River	0.0	Lock & Dam No. 6	181.7	Henderson	Edmonson	181.7
Mississippi River	Tennessee State Line	882.6	Ohio River	953.8	Fulton	Ballard	71.2
Tennessee River	Ohio River	0.0	Kentucky Lake Dam	22.4	McCracken	Livingston	22.4

POWER BOATING -- CLASS 3 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Barren River	Green River	0.0	Drakes Creek	43.6	Butler	Warren	43.6
Licking River	Ohio River	0.0	Blue Lick Springs	97.8	Campbell	Nicholas	97.8

BACKCOUNTRY BOATING -- CLASS 1 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Big South Fork Cumberland R.	Ky 92	40.3	Tennessee State Line	55.2	McCreary	McCreary	14.9
Cumberland River	Laurel River	552.1	Poor Fork	694.2	Whitley	Harlan	142.1
Green River	Houchins Ferry	185.2	Ky 70 at Liberty, Ky.	358.5	Edmonson	Casey	173.3
Kentucky River	Ohio River	0.0	Beattyville	254.8	Carroll	Lee	254.8
Red River	Kentucky River	0.0	Ky 746	68.6	Clark	Wolfe	68.6
Rockcastle River	Lake Cumberland	8.5	Ky 490	48.3	Laurel	Laurel	39.8

BACKCOUNRY BOATING -- CLASS 2 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Barren River	Green River	0.0	Barren River Lake Dam	79.2	Butler	Allen	79.2
Buck Creek	Lake Cumberland	10.5	Ky 46l	31.8	Pulaski	Pulaski	21.3
Cumberland River	Tennessee State Line	385.5	Wolf Creek Dam	460.9	Monroe	Russell	75.4
Dix River	Herrington Lake (Ky 52)	34.6	Logantown, Ky.	50.3	Boyle	Lincoln	15.7
Drakes Creek	Barren River	0.0	West & Middle Forks	23.5	Warren	Warren	23.5

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Elkhorn Creek	Kentucky River	0.0	Forks of Elkhorn	17.8	Franklin	Franklin	17.8
Green River	Ohio River	0.0	Lock & Dam No. 6	181.7	Henderson	Edmonson	181.7
Kinniconick Creek	Ohio River	0.0	Ky 59	26.3	Lewis	Lewis	26.3
Licking River	Ohio River	0.0	Cave Run Lake Dam	173.6	Campbell	Bath	173.6
Little South Fork Cumberland R	Lake Cumberland	4.1	Parmleysville	31.5	McCreary	Wayne	27.4
Middle Fork Kentucky River	North Fork Kentucky River	0.0	Buckhorn Lake Dam	43.3	Lee	Perry	43.3
Nolin River	Green River	0.0	Nolin Lake Dam	8.1	Edmonson	Edmonson	8.1
North Fork Kentucky River	South Fork Kentucky River	254.8	Roxana, Ky.	392.4	Lee	Letcher	137.6
Tygarts Creek	Ohio River	0.0	US 60	75.2	Greenup	Carter	75.2

BACKCOUNTRY BOATING -- CLASS 3 RIVERS

River Name	Downstream Endpoint	River Mile	Upstream Endpoint	River Mile	Downstream County	Upstream County	Study Length
Floyds Fork	Ky 44 at Shepherdsville	0.4	Ky 1408	50.7	Bullitt	Oldham	50.3
Pond River	Green River	0.0	Ky 70	26.3	Hopkins	Hopkins	26.3
Rough River	Green River	0.0	Rough River Lake Dam	89.4	Ohio	Breckinridge	89.4
Tradewater River	Ohio River	0.0	Ky 70	63.9	Crittenden	Caldwell	63.9