## BUCKHANNON & TYGART VALLEY RIVER WATER TRAIL

## **SECTION 1 – SAGO TO RIVERWALK PARK**

Buckhannon River

Section Length: 7.5 miles

Conditions: Class I/II near Sago then flatwater

Hazards: Rapids below Sago, low head dams below Riverwalk

## In This Stretch:

- The Water Trail starts upstream of Sago. The river flows through Class I/II riffles downstream of the Sago bridge that can difficult for beginner paddlers.
- The river then enters a scenic forested stretch where the flow significantly decreases. The river alternates between pool (deep) and run (shallow) sections. There is some in-stream wood that require paddlers to maneuver around.
- As the river approaches Hampton, the flow significantly deepens and depth increases. This section is slow and deep as in known as the Buckhannon Pool. This is excellent beginner and family friendly flatwater that continues for 4.5 miles to Buckhannon Riverwalk Park. This section can be paddled in almost any water levels, even drought conditions!
- All paddlers are advised to exit the river at the Riverwalk Park. Two low-head dams are downstream of the park. There is no easy portage around the dams.

## **Access Site & Mileage**

<u>Sago RM 0.0 - Future Access Site</u> Currently there is no public access near Sago. This is a focal area for improvement as the Water Trail is improved.

Hampton RM 3.5 - Concrete Boat Ramp Follow Rt. 20 south of Buckhannon for approximately 4 miles, turn onto Sago Rd for 0.7 miles, turn left onto Co Rt 22/1 for 0.2 miles, then turn right onto Ivanhoe Road. Continue 0.3 miles down to the access sites near Hampton bridge.

Riverwalk Park RM 7.9 - Concrete Boat Ramp
Follow Rt 20 south through Buckhannon, turn
onto Marion St, then turn left onto Camden St and
continue 0.7 miles to Buckhannon Riverwalk Park.
Seasonal bathrooms are available here.

