

# BUCKHANNON & TYGART VALLEY RIVER WATER TRAIL

## SECTION 4 – BOULDER TO PHILIPPI

Buckhannon River & Tygart Valley River

Section Length: 10 miles

Conditions: Class I and Class II+

Hazards: 1 mile stretch of Class II+ below Carrollton, low-head dam just above Philippi Covered Bridge, section is remote

### In This Stretch:

- This section is the most difficult and remote section of the Water Trail and contains difficult Class I and Class II rapids. Only experienced paddlers are advised to paddle this section.
- Downstream of Boulder, the Buckhannon River slowly flows and meanders. Approximately 4 miles downstream of Boulder, the river gradient increases and flatwater is replaced with Class I/II+ rapids.
- Just above Carrollton and continuing through, the river flows through a difficult stretch of continuous Class II+ rapids to the Buckhannon and Tygart Valley River confluence.
- Downstream of the confluence, the gradient decreases and alternates through shallow runs and deep pools. Here, the river flows through the tail-end of the remote Tygart Gorge. Access is very limited.
- As the river enters Philippi, a low-head dam appears just upstream of the Philippi Covered Bridge. The best portage is on right river.

### Access Site & Mileage

#### Boulder RM 26.5 - Carry Down

From Rt 119 near Volga, follow Audra Park Road for 2.5 miles. There is a small parking area at this carry down access site on river right.

#### Philippi Dam Pool RM 36.5 - Concrete Boat Ramp

Near the Philippi Covered bridge at the Blue & Grey Park on river left, follow the gravel road at the southern end of the parking lot down a gravel road. The road is a dead end with a boat ramp located upstream of the low head dam.

#### Philippi Bridge RM 36.8 - Concrete Boat Ramp

Located under the Philippi Covered bridge, enter the Blue and Grey Park on river left off Rt 119. This access site is located downstream of the low head dam.

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## Water Trail Overview

### Map Legend

### Access Site Type

-  Carry Down
-  Planned
-  Ramp

## Features

-  Class I/II
-  Flatwater
-  Tributaries
-  Railroad
-  Parks
-  Water Trail Mileage
-  Dam

