

BUCKHANNON & TYGART VALLEY RIVER WATER TRAIL

SECTION 5 – PHILIPPI TO ARDEN BRIDGE

Tygart Valley River

Section Length: 7.2 miles

Conditions: Flatwater & Class I/II

Hazards: Class I/II, Water Trail ENDS at Arden Bridge. Extreme whitewater exists downstream of Arden.

In This Stretch:

- Downstream of Philippi, the river flows through a scenic and flatwater 3 mile stretch to the access site on Arden Grade Rd.
- There are a few shallow riffles/runs, with the most notable feature near abandoned bridge abutments a half mile upstream from the Arden Grade Rd takeout.
- The river continue through flatwater, but eventually the river gradient increases and a section of Class I/Class II rapids exist upstream of the Arden Bridge. This more difficult section can be avoided by taking out at the Arden Grade Rd access site.
- Only experienced paddlers should attempt the lower portion of this section.
- The Water Trail ends at Arden bridge.
Downstream of the Arden bridge, the Tygart Valley River continues a tumultuous journey through extreme whitewater.

Access Site & Mileage

Philippi Covered Bridge RM 36.8 - Boat Ramp

Located under the Philippi Covered bridge, park at the Blue and Grey park off Rt 119. Access site is on river left.

Arden Grade RM 40.5 - Boat Ramp

From Main St. in Philippi, turn onto Pike St and continue onto Meridan Rd for 1.5 miles, then turn left onto Chestnut Ridge Rd and immediately veer left onto Arden Grade Road. The access site is approximately 2 miles.

Arden Bridge RM 44 - Carry Down

Unofficial access at the Arden Bridge. Developing a future access site at the location is a priority.

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Water Trail Overview Map Legend

