

BRULE RIVER (B2)

Put-in	Highway 139/189 Bridge
Take-out	Forest Road 2150
Distance	16.2 miles
Approximate Time	6-8 hours
Most Difficult Rapids	Class 1-2

Elevation Drop	120 feet
Average Gradient	7.5 feet per mile
Minimum Suggested Flow	220 cfs / 3.5 feet @ US 2 Bridge Gauge
Water Level Info / Phone	U.S. Forest Service, Florence 715.528.4464

Paddler's Notes

- 34.5 Mile Highway 139 / 189 Landing** *River:* The river is narrow throughout this stretch with a moderate current. A beautiful northern-mixed forest of cedar, mixed-pine, birch, maple, poplar and ash cover the banks for much of the first mile with steep slopes on the right bank. A short rapids occurs a half mile after put-in. Downstream, the forest gradually gives way to marsh and alder thickets. *Shuttle:* The landing is on the Wisconsin side, on Highway 139, south of the bridge on the east side of the highway. A gravel track leads down to the river. Hand carry access, limited parking.
- 34.2 Mile Powerlines, Unnamed Rapids (Class 1)** Powerlines cross over the river near the start of a short pitch of class 1 rapids.
- 32.4 Mile Wisconsin Slough** The spring-fed slough joins the Brule from river right.
- 28.0 Mile Iron River, Abandoned Railroad Bridge** The Iron River enters from river left in a right bend. An abandoned railroad bridge passes over the Brule about 100 yards downstream.
- 27.2 Mile FR 2152 Landing** *River:* There are two landings, one on each side of the river. They occur near the end of a straight stretch, just before a small rocky island. The island is the remains of a bridge piling in the center of the narrow river. The current is fast as it funnels around the rock pile. *Shuttle (Wisconsin)* The landing is at the north end of FR 2446 Road. An open area for parking with a footpath to the river is on the west side of the road. Hand carry access, parking, trailer turnaround. *Shuttle (Michigan)* The river landing is located at the south end of Scott Lake Rd. Hand carry access, parking, trailer turnaround.
- 26.8 Mile Olsen Creek** The creek enters from river left.
- 26.3 Mile Fisherman's Eddy Rapids (Class 1)** An easy, and very short class 1 rapids that occurs where open marsh on the right bank gives way to a pine-covered slope. The river bends left, then right, into a rocky pitch. The rapids end quickly, where the current swirls into a large, named eddy on river right: 'Fisherman's Eddy'.
- 25.5 Mile Unnamed Rapids (Class 1)** A rocky ledge/gravel bar extends out from the left bank. During moderate to high flows this is a class 1 rapids.
- 25.2 Mile Twin's Rapids (Class 1-2)** A few sets of bouldery riffles lead into a left bend and the first pitch (class 1) of Twin's Rapids. The rapids peter out after about 300 yards and the river calms through a long right bend. The river soon straightens, then angles right and the more difficult second pitch (class I-II) begins. The rapids here will produce up to class II waves in moderate to high flows. The rapids become noticeably easier after about 100 yards. Rocky riffles continue downstream around several small islands.
- Primitive Campsite* A rustic campsite with a fire ring is located on the right bank near the rapids.
- 23.8 Mile Railroad Rapids (Class 1-2)** Railroad Rapids begins after a long straight stretch. Several submerged boulders from a line across the river and mark the head of the rapids. Soon after the rapids begin, the river angles left, then right, into a 300 yard-long stretch of continuous, class 1 whitewater. The rapids are wavy fun in moderate to high flows, and a bumpy boulder garden when water levels are low. The rapids are named for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad that used to run alongside the river on the left bank. The abandoned easement has been converted into the State Line Trail.

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22.4 Mile Pentoga Bridge Landing, FR 2446 (WI), Pentoga (MI) *River:* The river winds through banks choked with alder thicket, spruce, pine, and hardwoods in an intimate setting. The current runs fairly quick under the low road bridge. The access path is on river right, just below the bridge. Several brush covered islands are downstream. The river is mostly flatwater for the next two miles, until Two Foot Falls. *Shuttle (Wisconsin):* On Highway 70, turn north onto Daumitz Rd, then turn east onto FR 2443 Rd, then turn north onto FR 2446 Rd. Continue on FR 2446 until you reach the river. *Shuttle (Michigan):* From County Road 424, turn south onto Pentoga Road and continue to an old wood and steel - single lane bridge that crosses the river. The river access just off the southeast corner on the Wisconsin side. Hand carry access, roadside parking.

21.6 Mile LeRoy Creek The creek enters from river right.

20.3 Mile Two Foot Falls (Class 1-2) You should hear the 'falls' before you see them. The falls are a submerged ledge which spans the river at the start of a left bend. The ledge has a 1 to 2 foot drop on river left and slowly levels off as it crosses to river right forming a nice backroller on the right side. A class 1 in lower flows that becomes class 2 in high water. Land and scout or portage on the right bank. The river runs through numerous stretches of riffles, boulder gardens & class 1 rapids for the next 2 miles

Primitive Campsite A primitive campsite with a fire ring is located below the falls on the right bank, beneath a small pine grove.

The river runs through numerous stretches of riffles, boulder gardens & class 1 rapids for the next 2 miles - all the way to the FR 2150 Landing.

18.3 Mile FR 2150 Landing *River:* Shortly after a medium-sized island, the river flows around the remains of a bridge abutment that supported the old FR 2150 bridge. More piling remains are evident on the left bank. The access is on the right bank where a short footpath leads up to the road. The current tends to rip through here, especially during high water, so be alert if you are using this as a takeout. There is a private pier and cottage on the right bank a hundred yards downstream from the landing. *Shuttle:* The landing is at the end of FR 2150. Hand carry access, parking.

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Driving Directions (Google Maps)



**Hwy 139/189 Bridge
Landing**



FR 2152 Landing



**Pentoga Bridge
FR 2446 Bridge Landing**



FR 2150 Landing

GPS - NAD83 / WGS84

Hwy 139/189 Bridge Landing	45.98767,-88.65238
Wisconsin Slough	45.98777,-88.61694
Iron River Confluence	46.00969,-88.57889
FR 2152 Landing	46.01542,-88.56632
Fisherman's Eddy	46.01306,-88.55010
Twin's Rapids	46.01847,-88.53243
Railroad Rapids	46.01937,-88.51042
Pentoga Bridge Landing	46.00189,-88.50076
LeRoy Creek	45.99430,-88.49499
Two Foot Falls	45.99478,-88.47378
FR 2150 Landing	45.99013,-88.45013