

PESHTIGO RIVER (P2)

Put-in CCC Bridge
Take-out Burnt Bridge
Distance 9.2 miles
Approximate Time 4 hours
Most Difficult Rapids Class 2

Elevation Drop 80 feet
Average Gradient 8.7 feet per mile
Minimum Suggested Flow 4.5 feet @ County C Bridge (USGS Gauge)
Water Level Info / Phone Contact local outfitter

Paddler's Notes

Suggested River Levels for Paddling

The river gauge is about 26 miles downstream from this segment. So, while this gauge provides a good indication of the general height of the river, the reading should only be considered as an estimate of the conditions in this reach. At higher levels, several of the rapids become more difficult, and strainers and deadfall become more of a hazard when present.

Scout the rapids and know your limitations!



Below 4.5 feet	Paddling not recommended.
4.5 feet to 5.0 feet	Low runnable flow. Should be OK conditions to navigate the rapids, which are likely bony at the lower end of this range. Preserve Rapids are class I-II.
5.0 feet to 6.0 feet	Medium runnable flow for novice paddlers. Should be excellent paddling conditions in the rapids. Preserve Rapids are class II.
6.0 feet to 6.5 feet	High runnable flow for novice paddlers.
6.5 feet to 7.5 feet	Novice paddlers should avoid the river above 6.5. Several pitches of rapids approaching class III. Scenic whitewater run for intermediates.
Above 7.5 feet	Unusually high flows. Some rapids 'washout'. Some rapids are producing class III waves. Exercise caution if you paddle the river in this range.

114.5 Mile CCC Bridge Landing River: The river runs calm for the first tenth of a mile before rushing through Camp 12 Rapids. **Shuttle:** From Highway 8, turn east on to Peshtigo River Rd (FR 2131), the landing is west of the bridge. Trailer access, parking, trailer turnaround.

114.3 Mile Camp 12 Rapids (Class 1-2) Nearly a half-mile of continuous low-hazard rapids. During low water, this stretch becomes a bony, class 1 boulder garden. The rapids rate class 1-2 in medium water levels and require some maneuvering in several tight constrictions. In high water, these rapids become a wavy class 2. A couple of small islands are located in the rapids.

113.6 Mile Little Camp 12 Rapids (Class 2) A shorter and slightly more difficult rapids than Camp 12, the river narrows and the forest canopies overhead as the river rushes through Little Camp 12 Rapids. In spring and in high water conditions, these rapids are wavy, fun and fast. By late-summer they can be a little bony, but usually navigable. The rapids end in a small, scenic pool.

Several more sets of riffles and low hazard rapids occur intermittently over the next several miles.

112.6 Mile Catwillow Creek The creek enters from river left. Watch for deadfall & strainers throughout this stretch.

111.5 Mile Piledriver Creek The creek enters from river right.

110.7 Mile Coldwater Rapids (Class 1-2) A fast and rocky rapids that will be bony in low water conditions. The rapids end with some fun waves (*medium flows*) flowing into a quiet pool with a small rocky island on river right. Coldwater creek enters from river left, opposite the island. This is a scenic area! The rapids are also known as Calamity Jane Rapids.

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- 110.3 Mile Preserve Rapids (Class 2)** A 1.2 mile-long series of rapids and boulder gardens separated by small, scenic pools and several stretches of flatwater and riffles. The rapids are often long, narrow, and winding with numerous chutes. You should land and scout each pitch. A privately owned bridge in a section of flatwater marks the halfway point. Below the bridge, the river takes a sharp right bend, the most challenging whitewater lies about a quarter mile after this bend - where the river once again constricts into a tight, fast and wavy rapids (in medium to high water).
- 109.0 Mile Marsh and sloughs** The river enters a stretch of lowland marsh where a number of backwaters and sloughs branch off the main channel and several spring-fed creeks feed into the Peshtigo. The current is slower through here.
- 107.4 Mile Rapids (Class 1)** The gradient increases again as the river constricts into a short, unnamed rapids.
- 106.6 Mile Smiley Rapids (Class 1-2)** After a stretch of flatwater in a long right bend, the river narrows into Smiley Rapids. This is a narrow, rocky pitch of whitewater with fun waves in medium to high flows, that tends to be shallow and bony when river levels are low. The rapids are about 200 yards long and end in a wide pool. Two more sets of unnamed, class 1 rapids follow.
- 106.0 Mile Big Rock Rapids (Class 2)** After 2 distinct pitches of unnamed class 1 rapids, the river bends to the right around a densely wooded island. (You may not realize there is an island as the left channel is narrow, shallow and overgrown with brush and trees.) Big Rock Rapids begins where the river bends left, and extends through several more turns before finally finishing in the left channel around another densely wooded island. The lower part of the rapids presents the greatest challenge - you will need to do a little maneuvering in low to medium flows. The rapids are named after a huge boulder on river-left near the mouth of Rock Creek (which enters from river-left). Scout from the path on the left bank. Several sets of riffles and class 1 boulder gardens follow Big Rock Rapids over the next half mile or so - all the way down to Burnt Bridge.
- 105.3 Mile Burnt Bridge Landing, Canoe/Kayak Camping** **River:** The FR 2134 bridge is at the end of a long left bend of rocky riffles. The landing is downstream of the bridge, on river right. **Shuttle:** On Michigan Creek Road, the landing is south of the bridge. There are two rustic campsites located on the downstream-side of the bridge, one on each side of the river. Hand carry access, parking, trailer turnaround.

Driving Directions (Google Maps)



CCC Bridge Landing



Burnt Bridge Landing

GPS - NAD83 / WGS84

CCC Bridge Landing	45.61082,-88.59275
Camp 12 Rapids	45.60984,-88.59031
Little Camp 12 Rapids	45.60577,-88.58131
Catwillow Creek	45.60131,-88.57253
Piledriver Creek	45.58966,-88.57489
Coldwater Rapids	45.58684,-88.56197
Preserve Rapids (Upper)	45.58165,-88.56207
Preserve Rapids (Lower)	45.57213,-88.55248
Smiley Rapids	45.57132,-88.51306
Big Rock Rapids	45.56921,-88.50175
Burnt Bridge Landing	45.56220,-88.49552