

PIKE RIVER (PK1)

Put-in Amberg, Highway 141 Landing
Take-out Yellow Bridge Landing
Distance 9.4 miles
Approximate Time 4 hours
Most Difficult Rapids Class 2 (3 @ Yellow Bridge Falls)

Elevation Drop 90 feet
Average Gradient 9.8 feet per mile
Minimum Suggested Flow 125 cfs / 2.25 ft
 USGS Gage @ County V Bridge
Water Level Info / Phone see website (USGS link) or gage

Paddler's Notes

Suggested River Levels for Paddling

Please note: The river gauge referenced below is located one mile upstream from the Highway 141 Landing in Amberg and should provide an accurate indication of current 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!

Bank Full Stage is 4.5 feet. (Source: National Weather Service)

Below 2.5 feet	Paddling not recommended
2.5 feet to 2.9 feet	Low runnable flow. Scenic river trip for novice paddlers from Highway 141 to County K Bridge. Likely have to portage Bull Falls. Paddling not recommended below County K Bridge.
2.9 feet to 3.5 feet	Low runnable flow. Scenic whitewater river trip for novice paddlers from Highway 141 to Yellow Bridge Landing. Yellow Bridge Falls are barely runnable at low end of this range.
3.5 feet to 4.1 feet	Medium runnable flow. Scenic whitewater river trip for novice paddlers from Highway 141 to Yellow Bridge Landing. Yellow Bridge Falls (class 3) developing fun waves at high end of this range.
4.1 feet to 4.6 feet	High runnable flow. Challenging whitewater river trip for novice paddlers from Highway 141 to Yellow Bridge Landing. Bull Falls are approaching class 3. Yellow Bridge Falls (class 3) producing pushy waves at high end of this range.
4.6 feet to 5.0 feet	High runnable flow. Novice paddlers should avoid the river. Pushy waves developing in several rapids. Waves at Yellow Bridge Falls (class 3-4) may overpower intermediates.
Above 5.0 feet	Rare, unusually high flows. Paddling not recommended.

- 14.2 Mile Amberg, Highway 141 Landing River:** A few riffles are located between the put-in and the bridge. After the bridge, the river is calm until Bull Falls. **Shuttle:** On U.S Highway 141, south of Amberg, the landing is south of the bridge, on the west side of the highway. Walk down the gravel trail from the parking lot and you will see a couple of spur trails toward the river. Hand carry access, parking, trailer turnaround.
- 13.6 Mile Bull Falls (Powerline Rapids) (Class 2)** After a sharp right bend, you will pass underneath power lines with cleared slopes on both sides of the river, Bull Falls lies directly ahead. At Bull Falls, the river constricts and rumbles through a picturesque dells setting, tall pines and cedars canopy granite ledges. This short yet challenging class 2 rapids features a couple of drops over two feet. Land above the rapids on the right bank and scout or portage from the rocky trail. Pine needles cover the trail and ledges overlooking the river so watch your footing!
- 11.5 Mile Rapids (Class 1)** Four short pitches of unnamed rapids occur over a half-mile. All the rapids are pretty straightforward and may be boney in lower flows.
- 10.3 Mile KC Creek** The creek enters from river left. Trees often overhang the river so be careful of strainers and deadfall.

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- 9.8 Mile Slough Creek** The creek enters from river left.
- 9.3 Mile River Bend** After passing several cottages and homes on the left bank, the river bends sharply south. There are several pitches of riffles and class 1 rapids over the next 1.5 miles. Dense forest surrounds the river and there are almost no signs of development from the bend to County K.
- 7.8 Mile County K Landing** **River:** The access is above the bridge, before a large partially submerged rock shelf on the left bank. A short class 1 rapids runs below the bridge. **Shuttle:** On County K, the access entrance is east of the bridge on the north side of the highway. Hand carry access, parking, trailer turnaround.
- 7.7 Mile Rapids (Class 1-2)** A series of low-hazard rapids begin within sight of the bridge, and extend through several bends. The river constricts noticeably through a couple of pitches. This is another beautiful dells-like area with scenic rock formations, cedars and mixed-pines surrounding the river.
- 7.4 Mile Scrounge Canyon (Class 2)** The river narrows into a small and scenic dells named Scrounge Canyon. These are excellent, wavy rapids for novice whitewater enthusiasts to improve their skills in a beautiful setting. You can bomb the run down the middle, or catch any number of eddies, play a little, and just soak up the scenery. The river widens into a large pool immediately after the gorge.
- 5.5 Mile Lear Road Landing** **River:** The access is on the left bank, just past a small island in a wide right bend. **Shuttle:** From County K, turn south onto Pike River Rd, about one mile south of the County K intersection, the road takes a sharp left bend. At the bend continue straight (south) down the gravel road, named Lear Rd. A trailer turnaround is at the end of the gravel drive. Hand carry access, parking, trailer turnaround.
- 5.4 Mile Horseshoe Falls (Class 2)** Horseshoe Falls occurs in a right bend where a wooded island forces the main channel to the right through a narrow chute and over a ledge. Be careful of the backroller after the drop! Scouting is best from the right bank. Another short rapid (*class 1-2*) is about 100 yards downstream.
- 4.8 Mile Rapids (Class 2), Yellow Bridge Landing** **River:** After a short period of calm water, the river constricts through a right bend with some wave action at the beginning of the constriction. This is the first of two pitches of rapids above Yellow Bridge Landing. Land on the left bank before the rapids and scout from the footpath. The first pitch is the easiest with a drop of less than a foot. The landing is on the left bank just below the first drop on river left in a small quiet pool. The second drop is below the landing and can be difficult to navigate when water levels are low. The river widens after the second drop into a large pool before constricting and rushing under the Barker Rd Bridge. You can also take out below the second drop, and before the bridge. Do not paddle below the bridge! Class 3 Yellow Bridge Rapids begins just below the bridge! **Shuttle:** The landing entrance is on Pike River Road, a few hundred yards north of the Barker Road intersection. A footpath leads to the river from the small parking area. Hand carry access, parking, trailer turnaround.

SHORT RUN - Put-in at Yellow Bridge Falls Landing (see above)

- 4.7 Mile Yellow Bridge Falls (Class 3)** The river flows into a tight constriction as it passes under the Barker Road Bridge. The falls begin 50 yards below the bridge and feature an impressive series of drops ranging from 2 to 5 feet. Scout or portage from the left shore but stay along the riverbank as the land on both sides of the river is privately owned. A long, rocky, class 2 rapids begins after the last major drop of the falls. The rapids continue for about 300 yards ending in a river wide ledge with a 2 foot drop. A pool just above the ledge allows you to land and scout the drop from a rock shelf that extends out from the left bank.
- 4.6 Mile Pike River Road Landing** **River:** The access is just after the final drop of the Yellow Bridge Rapids on river left. It can be hard to spot because of heavy underbrush. **Shuttle:** The access is on Pike River Road, about two tenths of a mile south of the Barker Road intersection. Look for a jeep track on the west side of the road. Hand carry access, roadside parking.

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ALTERNATE TAKEOUT - Paddle to Menominee River Confluence

- 3.4 Mile Unnamed Creek** The creek enters from river right, about 200 yards downstream from an island.
- 2.6 Mile Unnamed Rapids (Class 2)** Following a left bend, the river constricts and runs over a short drop followed by several islands and a long series of riffles and class 1 boulder gardens and rapids.
- 1.6 Mile Pike River Road Bridge Landing** *River:* The access is on the right bank just above the bridge. From here, the river is calm all the way to the Menominee River confluence. *Shuttle:* On Pike River Road, the access is south of the bridge on the west side of the road. Hand Carry Access, roadside parking.
- 0.0 Mile Grogan Road Landing** *River:* The developed landing is on the right bank at the confluence with the Menominee River. *Shuttle:* On Pike River Road, turn east onto Grogan Road. Trailer access ramp, parking, trailer turnaround.

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Driving Directions (Google Maps)



**Amberg
Hwy 141 Landing**



County K Landing



Lear Road Landing



Yellow Bridge Landing



Pike River Rd Landing



**Pike River Rd
Bridge Landing**



Grogan Road Landing

GPS - NAD83 / WGS84

Amberg, Hwy 141 Landing	45.49576,-87.98712
Bull Falls	45.49845,-87.97611
Class 2 Rapids	45.51172,-87.92938
Slough Creek	45.51411,-87.90567
River Bend	45.51379,-87.89694
County K Landing	45.49599,-87.90467
Scrounge Canyon	45.49030,-87.90440
Lear Road Landing	45.47839,-87.88629
Horseshoe Falls	45.47914,-87.88230
Yellow Bridge Landing	45.47494,-87.87593
Pike River Road Landing	45.47189,-87.87381
Unnamed Rapids	45.44801,-87.88848
Pike River Rd Bridge Landing	45.44713,-87.87380
Grogan Road Landing	45.44202,-87.85582