

BLACK RIVER (BK3)

Put-in	David Hansen Landing at Irving	Elevation Drop	19 feet
Take-out	DNR Canoe Landing at Melrose	Average Gradient	1.6 feet per mile
Distance	11.8 miles	Minimum Suggested Flow	cfs / 1.4 feet
Approximate Time	4 hours	Water Level Info / Phone	Black River State Forest HQ
Most Difficult Rapids	Riffles		715.284.4103

Paddler's Notes

- 45.6 Mile David Hansen Memorial Landing at Irving River:** The river runs wide and slow between high sandy banks and hardwood forest. The riverbed is mostly sand and long sandy beaches often form on the inside banks of several wide bends. **Shuttle:** On Hwy 54, at the County X intersection, turn east onto John Deere Rd, then south onto Nichols Rd. The landing entrance is on the east side of the road. Semi-developed landing, hand carry access, trailer turnaround, parking area.
- 43.5 Mile Lost Falls Campground, Private Landing** The landing is on river right in a right bend where a grass lawn fronts the river. The landing is used by guests of the campground only. Downriver, the river is forced into a sharp left bend by a small, steep hill on river right. Towering white pines canopy the scenic hill, look for eagles soaring overhead.
- 43.0 Mile Roaring Creek** The wide, sandy creek mouth is on river right, in front of a two-story house, and a large boulder pile, or 'rip-rap'. A small, scenic waterfall with several ledges are about 20 yards up the creek. Oftentimes you can land just above the creek mouth and wade upstream to check out the waterfalls. Watch your footing! Please do not walk on the lawn since it is private property. Beautiful, dense hardwood-conifer wilderness surrounds the river throughout this stretch.
- 41.9 Mile Wolf Creek** The small creek mouth is on river left.
- 40.2 Mile Big Creek** A sandbar usually forms near the wide creek mouth on river left. About 0.75 mile downriver from the creek, a huge sandy beach often sits on river left in a left bend. The river then narrows and winds through several sharp bends with frequent deadfall, much of it partially submerged in the river! Be wary of becoming hung up.
- 38.9 Mile Kunes Creek** The creek enters the river at the base of a steep, wooded hill from a sharp angle on river right, you may not notice it.
- 38.6 Mile Island, First Fork** The river splits around the first of two large wooded islands. Keep to the main channel which flows down the right fork. You'll likely hear some traffic sounds from River Rd, which is beyond the high right bank, as you approach the fork.
- 37.9 Mile Island, Second Fork** As you paddle down the right fork, the river splits again around a second, and much larger island. The main channel continues down the right fork. With the accumulative loss of flow from the two forks, the main channel can become quite shallow as you paddle downriver. You may have to step out and push your canoe or kayak in several places where the sandy bottom rises to the river surface.
- The narrow left fork located here joins with the original left fork after about four tenths of a mile. If you wish to attempt the left fork, do so from here, just be aware you may have to portage around deadfall.
- 37.5 Mile Rock Formation, Grinde's Landing River:** One of the highlights of this segment occurs where a beautiful rock formation on river right forces the river into a sharp left bend. The river narrows into a slow-flowing, deep pool in the bend. You can paddle right up to the smooth, arching rock wall which sits under a canopy of white pines. Linde Landing is on river right about 50 yards downriver from the rock formation. More scenic rock formations occasionally appear over the next two miles. **Shuttle:** From Hwy 71 in Melrose, turn east onto E Hogg Str. From E Hogg turn east onto River Rd and continue for approx. 0.9 mile. The landing entrance is on river right. Semi-developed landing, hand carry access, trailer turnaround, grassy parking area / roadside parking.

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- 36.5 Mile Douglas Creek** The creek enters from river right.
- 35.6 Mile Confluence** The left fork rejoins the the main right fork as the river bends back to the west. The river noticeably deepens below the confluence, and the south bank forms a low, densely wooded hill.
- 34.3 Mile Scenic Bluff** As you paddle through a long left bend, a tall, scenic bluff comes into view from several hundred yards upriver. Hardwoods and conifers surround and canopy the high, granite cliff which towers over the river. The bluff provides the scenic highlight of this segment and tapers off into a low, moss-covered rock face/wall that continues several hundred yards downriver.
- 33.8 Mile DNR Canoe Landing at Melrose River:** The landing is on river left, immediately downriver from the bridge. The landing is a cement ramp surrounded by boulders. **Shuttle:** On hwy 71, south of Melrose, the landing entrance is south of the bridge, on the west side of the road. Developed Landing, trailer-ramp access, trailer turnaround, large paved parking area, pit toilet.

Driving Directions (Google Maps)



Hansen Landing at Irving



Linde Landing



DNR Landing at Melrose

GPS - NAD83 / WGS84

Hansen Landing at Irving	44.17384,-90.91371
Roaring Creek	44.17167,-90.91715
Wolf Creek	44.16244,-90.90325
Big Creek	44.14642,-90.92567
1st Fork	44.14324,-90.95009
2nd Fork	44.13734,-90.95896
Rock Formation	44.13733,-90.96426
Linde Landing	44.13662,-90.96621
Douglas Creek	44.12950,-90.97765
Island Confluence	44.11949,-90.96746
Scenic Bluff	44.10880,-90.98720
DNR Landing at Melrose	44.10879,-90.99627