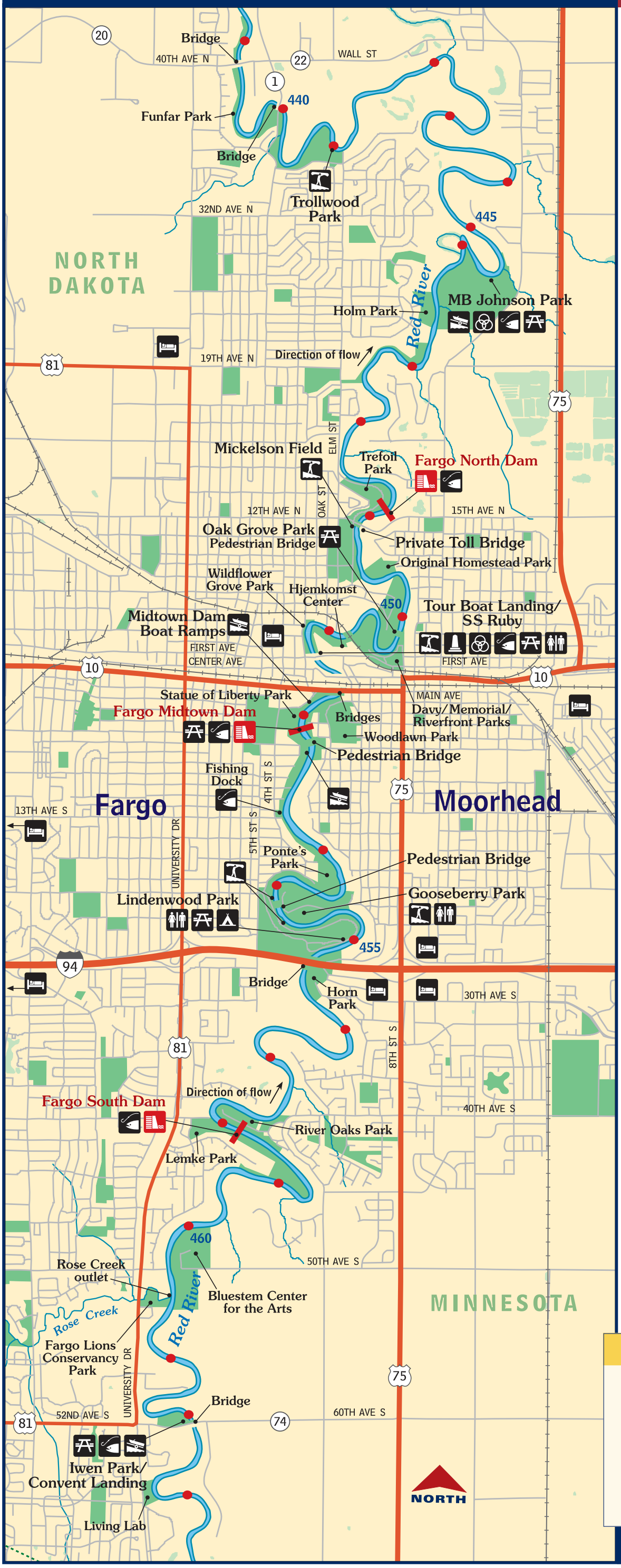
RED RIVER

Fargo-Moorhead Area



FARGO-MOORHEAD ROUTE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this map is to indicate locations of select riverfront facilities and features. Features such as golf courses and schools are not indicated. This map was created in 2012. Facilities are changed and improved over time. Spring and summer flooding may result in closure of facilities. Alcohol policies vary by park. Most parks are seasonal. Call listed numbers or refer to websites for more information.

Locations are indicated by River Miles (RM). RM are counted beginning at the mouth of the Red River at Lake Winnipeg, Manitoba, and ending at Breckenridge, Minnesota where the Otter Tail River and Bois de Sioux River join to form the headwaters. In the RM system, Right (R) and Left (L) refer to the right and left bank when facing downstream. Moorhead, Minnesota (R) and Fargo, North Dakota (L).

(462.8) **Living Lab** (L). Riparian restoration demonstration site, interpretive signs and trails. Call River Keepers (701-235-2895) for more information.

(462) **Iwen Park/Convent Landing** (L). Concrete boat ramp, shore fishing, chemical toilet, disc golf.

(460.5) **Rose Creek Outlet** (L). Shore fishing.

(458.1) **South Dam.** Retrofitted with rock slopeway. Portage left, shore fishing.

(454.4) **Lindenwood Carry-in Canoe Access** (L). Parking, shore fishing.

(454.2) **Lindenwood Park** (L). Picnic shelter (For reservations 701-499-6091) tent and RV camping with hookups (For reservations Jan.–April: 701-499-7797, May–Sept. 701-232-3987), Info Center, restrooms, trails, telephone, bicycle rental (For reservations 701-478-0060 or 701-282-6041).

(454.2) **Lindenwood/Gooseberry Park Pedestrian Bridge.** Seasonal, parking, shore fishing, carry-in canoe access.

(453) **Gooseberry Park** (R). Playground, picnic shelter (218-299-5340 for reservations), restrooms.

(452.6) **Fargo Water Plant** (L). Permanent dock, fishing.

(452.4) **Midtown Dam Upstream Boat Ramp** (L). Parking, shore fishing.

(452.3) **Floating Pedestrian Bridge.** Seasonal. Portage Left.

(452.2) **Midtown Dam.** Retrofitted with rock slopeway. Portage Left.

(452.2) **Dike East** (L). Shore fishing, seasonal farmers' market and chemical toilet.

(452) **Midtown Dam Downstream Boat Ramp** (L). Parking, shore fishing.

(451.4) **Hjemkomst Center** (R). Museum, gift shop, event center, restrooms in museum, parking, (218-299-5515 for information).

(451.4) **Tour Boat Landing/S.S. Ruby** (R). Carry-in canoe access, ADA ramp, tour boat/canoe/kayak rental (701-793-RUBY for info and reservations), shore fishing.

(451.3) **Peach Leaf Willow Tree** (R). Minnesota's second largest, interpretive sign adjacent to trail, parking in Hjemkomst Center parking lot.

(450.6) **Usher's House** (R). Restaurant. (218-287-0080 for reservations).

(450. 6) **Davy/Memorial/Riverfront Parks** (R). Shelter (218-299-5340 for reservations), seasonal restrooms, playground, tennis courts, horseshoes, shore fishing.

(450.5) **Oak Grove/Memorial Park Pedestrian Bridge.** Seasonal, shore fishing.

(450.2) **Oak Grove Park** (L). Picnic shelter (701-499-6091 for reservations), disc golf, horseshoes.

(449.2) **Mickelson Field** (L). Canoe access south of toll bridge. Shore fishing available but not maintained. Parking.

(449) **Private Toll Bridge.** Minnesota's and North Dakota's only privately owned toll bridge.

(448.9) **North Dam.** Retrofitted with rock slopeway, portage right (portage under construction 2011-12). Shore fishing and parking both sides.

(446) **By-pass Channel Inlet** (L). Built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the 1960s for flood control.

(445.7) **MB Johnson Park** (R). Twin concrete boat ramps, shore fishing by ramp, parking, shelter (218-299-5340 for reservations), restroom only available when shelter is reserved, interpretive signage, playground, trails.

(445) **By-pass Channel Outlet** (L). Built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the 1960s for flood control.

(441) **Trollwood Park** (L). Shelter and stage (For reservations 701-499-7788), trails, restrooms, playground.

Map Key

- 450 River Mile
- Carry-in Access
- Boat Ramp
- Campground
- Restrooms
- Lodging
- Dam
- Picnic Area
- Interpretive Site
- Historic Site
- Shore Fishing
- 94 Interstate Highway
- 10 U.S. Highway
- 18 County Road or Street
- Park Land

0 1 2 Miles
0 1 2 Kilometers

RED RIVER
OF THE NORTH

Photos courtesy of River Keepers

This material is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to be an interpretation of Minnesota or North Dakota law, nor indicate how an agency may administer their enforcement policies.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES: Concerns

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) – as they are known in Minnesota, or Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) – as they are known in North Dakota, are a major concern for the Red River because of the serious ecological, recreational, and economic problems they cause. AIS are non-native species that can be plants, animals, or even microorganisms. AIS plants can crowd out native plants and jeopardize fish and animals that are dependent on the native plants. Examples of AIS plants are Eurasian water milfoil, flowering rush, and curly-leaf pondweed. AIS animals, once introduced into a body of water, can take over habitat from native species and consume the foods native animals need. AIS such as zebra mussels can also clog municipal, irrigation, watercraft and industrial water intakes. Other AIS animals are spiny water flea, silver carp, and common carp.

AIS not only affect the ecosystem, but can affect recreation and enjoyment of the Red River. You can help protect the Red River and other lakes and rivers from AIS by following the regulations and guidelines.

AIS REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES:

- Display an AIS Rules Decal issued by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) on watercraft prior to launching or operating on Minnesota waters.
- Clean all visible aquatic plants and zebra mussels from boats, personal watercraft, trailers, fishing poles and associated equipment before leaving the water access.
- Drain water from boats, live wells, bilges, motors and bait containers before leaving the water access. (Drain water away from the boat ramp.)
- Remove the boat drain plug while transporting a watercraft.
- Do not dump bait into the water; instead place unwanted bait in the trash.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES: A Closer Look

Zebra *(Dreissena polymorpha)* and **Quagga** *(Dreissena rostriformis bugensis)* **Mussels**
The zebra mussel was found in the Red River watershed in 2009 and larvae in the Red River in 2010. The small yellowish or brownish "D" shaped stripped clam shell can impact river recreation by attaching to boats and docks and fishing equipment. Zebra mussels damage boats and harm ecosystems by smothering native mussel populations. Their filtering capabilities can also increase water clarity which may cause more vegetation to un-naturally grow at deeper depths. Their microscopic larvae, called veligers, can be carried in water contained in bait buckets, live wells, or bilges. Their sharp shells can cut the feet of swimmers.

Whiskeytown Sailing Club

Purple Loosestrife *(Lythrum salicaria, L. virgatum):*
This invasive plant from Europe and Asia has purple flowers and grows 2 to 7 feet tall. The perennial's aggressive growth can overtake native emergent vegetation adjacent to the Red River. The result could mean the loss of suitable cover, food, and nesting sites for river wildlife. Homeowners and river enthusiasts can help prevent the spread of purple loosestrife by digging up and destroying purple loosestrife in gardens and on your property. Report infestations to MN DNR or ND Game and Fish.

For more information on Aquatic Invasive Species visit: **mndnr.gov/invasives** or **gf.nd.gov**

BOATING SAFETY: Regulations and Guidelines

- Ensure watercraft has the proper state license and registration.
- Children under 10 (MN) and children 10 and under (ND) must wear a life jacket/personal flotation device (PFD) when underway.
- State law in MN and ND requires that a PFD must be readily accessible for each person on board a watercraft.
- It is strongly recommended that PFDs be worn by all occupants of a boat when underway.
- Boats 16 feet or longer also must have one Coast Guard approved throwable device.
- Operate at safe speeds while in close proximity to other vessels and during periods of reduced visibility such as dawn/dusk and when in winding channels.
- Be aware of pending weather conditions.
- In the dark waters of the Red, underwater snags are usually not visible. Swirls or waves on the water surface may indicate snags below. Adjust your speed accordingly.
- Set tilt control so motor will tip up if it hits a submerged obstruction.
- Avoid speeds that produce wakes in areas subject to shore erosion.
- Do not block landings unless launching or retrieving your boat; use common sense and courtesy.
- Do not anchor from the stern of the boat, where the current could cause water to flow over the transom and swamp the boat.

FISHING TIPS

- When in a boat give plenty of room to shore anglers.
- Cast with the current and avoid the strongest currents to keep your line from rolling.
- Keep tension on the line to avoid losing fish.
- Practice (CPR) Catch-Photo-Release, especially with large fish. Some anglers report that crimping barbs on circle type hooks has not resulted in lost fish and facilitates CPR.
- Avoid snags by not fishing in the boulder rip-rap below the dams.
- Use a bobber if fishing in an eddy out of the current.
- Use a landing net or gently drag the fish up the river bank.
- Use heavy sinkers, up to eight oz., for bottom fishing.
- Minimize loss of fishing tackle by using a leader of lower strength so it breaks first when pulled. Place sinker on the higher strength main line connected with swivel to leader.

CANOEING AND KAYAKING: Safety Guidelines

red river of the north

- Always wear a PFD and keep it fastened.
- Avoid standing up in a canoe/kayak.
- Center and distribute weight evenly.
- Bring an extra paddle.
- Keep equipment such as cell phones in watertight bags.
- Avoid letting lose ropes dangle in the water. They can become entrapment hazards.
- Avoid rushing water or rapids unless experienced and capable.
- Stay upstream of and with the watercraft if capsized.

DAM SAFETY

The three lowhead dams in Fargo-Moorhead have been modified with rock rapids to eliminate dangerous undertows below the dams. The resulting rapids also allow fish to pass, especially important during the spawn. Always use portages unless you are experienced and familiar with canoeing or kayaking in rapids. Refer to a map for dam locations, as they are not always marked.

BIKE AND TRAIL SAFETY ALONG THE RED RIVER

- Travel at a safe pace, watching for holes, branches and other objects that may be on the path.
- Slow down when visibility is reduced due to bends in the trails or trees.
- Yield to pedestrians.
- Stay to the right, except to pass.
- Pass by signaling, whistling, ringing a bell or using words such as "on your left".
- Pull off to the side of the path when stopping.
- Be aware that due to varying water levels, pedestrian bridges may not be accessible.
- DO NOT ride through moving or standing water.

AREA RESOURCES

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
888-646-6367 www.dnr.state.mn.us

FARGO-MOORHEAD CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU
800-235-7654 www.fargomoorhead.org

NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH
701-328-6300 www.state.nd.us/gnf

RIVER KEEPERS
www.riverkeepers.org

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!
Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

FARGO•MOORHEAD Always Warm!℠

Minnesota DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

RIVER KEEPERS

This map was produced by River Keepers, in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Fargo-Moorhead Convention and Visitors Bureau – with assistance from North Dakota Game and Fish.

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