

Yellowstone River Access Points, Miles City to below Sidney, Montana

By Alan Silverstein, ajs@frie.com, Fort Collins, CO; last update Sep 10, 2020

I welcome corrections or additions. In particular, missing non-FAS access points hidden in towns?

See explanations below the table. **DS** mileages, and **coordinates**, are from measurements using Google Satellite.

| Mile | DS Name | N/S | Coords | Source | Notes |
|------|---|-----|---------------------|---------|--|
| 182 | - Roche Jaune FAS | S | 46.4215, -105.8567 | FWP+web | hwy 59, north side of Miles City |
| - | 9.2 Bill Matthews fishing site | S | 46.5037, -105.7352 | web | just DS of Jones Creek |
| 170 | 2.6 Kinsey Bridge FAS | N | 46.5329, -105.7130 | FWP+web | hwy 489 to Kinsey, 4 mi SW on county rd |
| 159 | 11.0 Bonfield FAS | N | 46.6321, -105.5665 | FWP+web | hwy 489 to Kinsey, 7 mi NE on county rd |
| - | 11.9 Powder River Depot FAS | S | 46.7455, -105.4335 | web | Wolf rapids 1.5 mi DS! |
| - | 11.9 Terry Bridge | N | 46.8058, -105.2941 | web | old only; 0.3 mi walk-in access only (8/2020) (McKeons + White Island rapids before Fallon!) |
| 124 | 10.5 Fallon Bridge FAS | N | 46.8563, -105.1149 | FWP+web | I-90 exit 185 E, frontage road NE 2 mi (De Russys rapids 4.3 mi DS!) |
| 93 | 30.4 Glendive, Black Bridge FAS | N | 47.0983, -104.7313 | FWP | road behind grocery store off Bell Street |
| - | 1.3 Glendive main town ramp | S | 47.1103, -104.7168 | web | S of MDOT bldg between Clement + Borden |
| 83 | 8.2 Stipek FAS | N | 47.2052, -104.6600 | FWP | hwy 16 MM 8.1 N of I-94, then 0.7 gravel S |
| 71 | 12.0 Intake Dam FAS | N | 47.2811, -104.5267 | FWP+web | DS just beyond dangerous low head dam |
| 52 | 21.4 Savage, Elk Island FAS | N | 47.4761, -104.3006 | FWP+web | hwy 16, 1 mi N Savage, E 3.5 mi on county road |
| 40 | 10.0 Crane, Seven Sisters FAS | N | 47.5737, -104.2227 | FWP+R&G | 1.5 mi E of Crane, turn left at T |
| 31 | 9.8 Sidney Bridge FAS | S | 47.6737, -104.1574 | FWP | 1.5 mi S of Sidney on hwy 16, 1.5 mi E on hwy 23 |
| 21 | 9.3 Diamond Willow FAS | S | 47.7568, -104.0551? | FWP | difficult access, 1/2 mi W of ND border |
| 161 | 159.5 Mile diff and DS sum; pretty close total and throughout, except Elk Island wrong in FWP? (my measurements suggest it's closer to mile 50 not 52) | | | | |

Abbreviations:

FWP Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; see especially page 97+ here:

<http://fwp.mt.gov/fish/guide/fasGuide.html>

Mile river miles, from FWP PDF, apparently upstream from confluence with the Missouri River
(ignoring mileages from old website that were about 13 miles lower, apparently just to the border)

DS downstream, including my measured river miles from previous access point, following biggest channel

FAS Montana Fishing Access Site

N/S North or South side of river (river left or right)

Coords WGS83/84 datum (Google maps)

web old website, now lost, lacks attribution; plus one newer from very good:
<https://naturalatlas.com/rivers/yellowstone-809622/boat-launches>

R&G Rock and Gem magazine article