

Appendix L

Wild and Scenic Rivers

Highland Manor Wild & Scenic Rivers



January 14, 2021



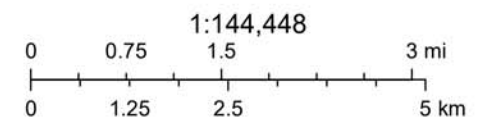
Highland Manor



Search Result (point)



Wild and Scenic Rivers



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

National Wild and Scenic River System in the U.S.

*This story was made with [Esri's Story Map Journal](#).
Read the interactive version on the web at <https://arcg.is/19yiiC>.*



This Story Map application presents a sequence of interactive maps showing the components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

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Rivers often inspire us with their magnificent beauty and have long been recognized for providing us with water, food, energy, and opportunities to recreate and experience solitude. Increasingly there is a growing understanding for the ecological services and values they provide, such as clean water, flood mitigation, and fish and wildlife habitat; and for their role in the global water cycle. During the 1960s the country began to recognize the damage we were inflicting on fish and wildlife, the landscape, our drinking water, and our legacy. Recognition of this fact led Congress to act to preserve the beauty and free-flowing nature of some of our most precious waterways.

The Congress declares that the established national policy of dams and other construction at appropriate sections of the rivers of the United States needs to be complemented by a policy that would preserve other selected rivers or sections thereof in their free-flowing condition to protect the water quality of such rivers and to fulfill other vital national conservation purposes (Section 1(b) of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, October 2, 1968).

This new database includes information about each river and river segment, such as the river name, the classification, responsible agencies, outstandingly remarkable values and links to documents and web pages.

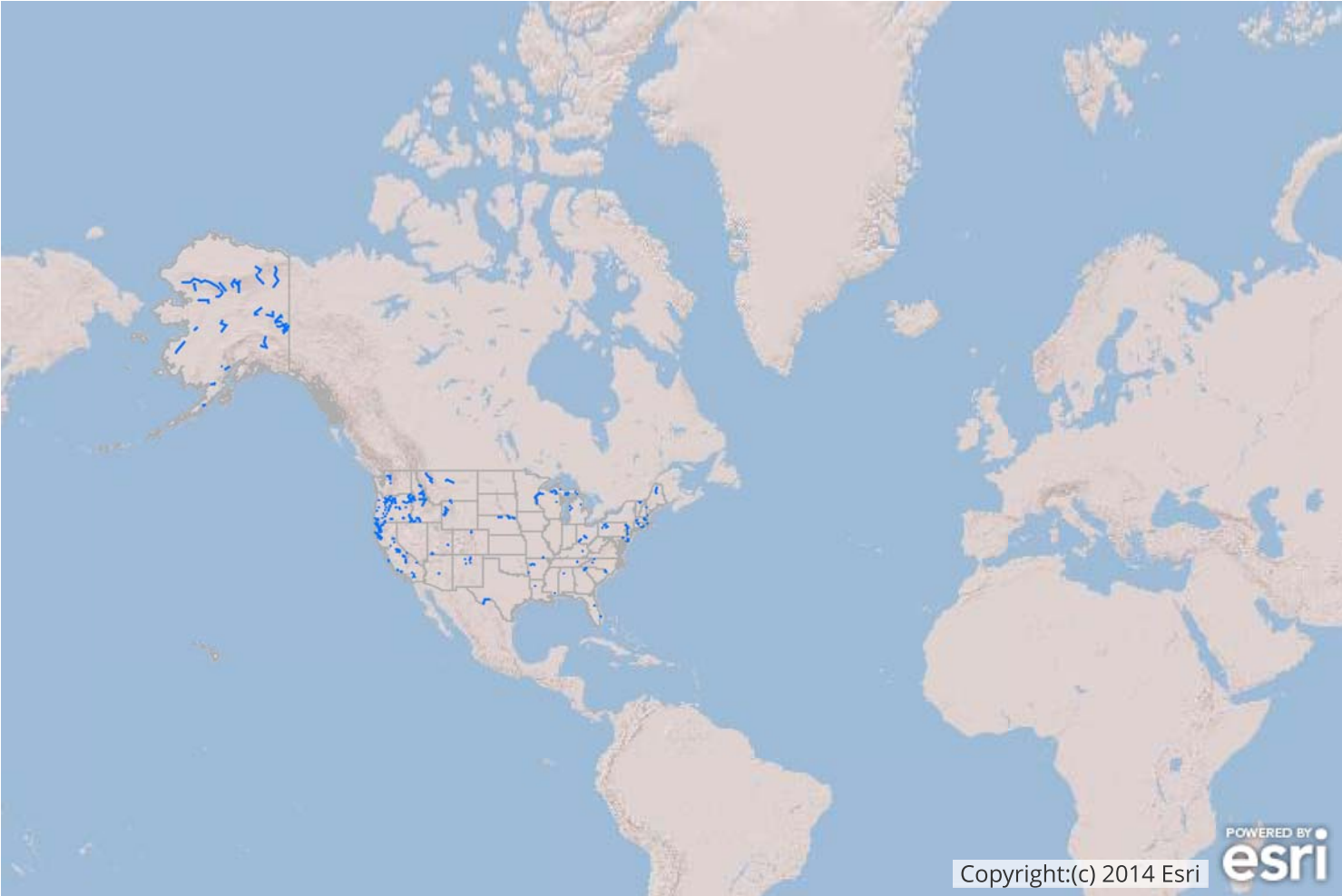
Navigating the Story Map

Each page in this story map journal has an associated map. Information about each river can be displayed in popups by clicking on a river (or river segment). You can also zoom-in and out on the map, which turns on and off different basemaps. A legend can be displayed by clicking the dropdown arrow at the top of the map.

You can scroll through the pages in the story map by using the down arrow or by clicking on one of the dots (on the right side of the panel). Words shown in blue text, such as "Elkhorn Creek, Oregon," (below) provide links to maps or web pages.

Photo (left) of Deschutes River, Oregon (Bob Wick)

Wild and Scenic Rivers



Wild And Scenic Rivers

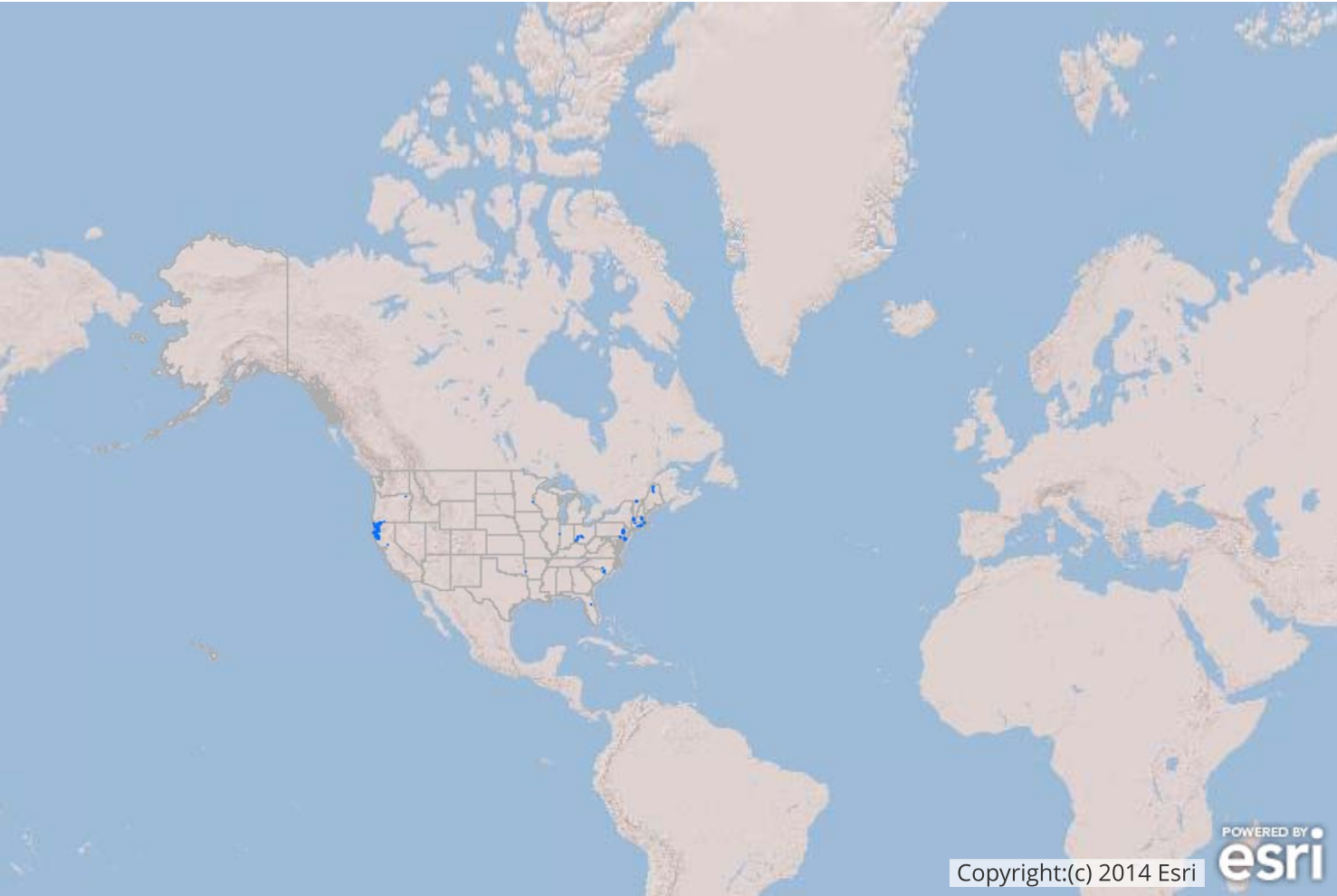
USA States (Generalized)





Photo (above). West Fork of the Chattooga River, Georgia and South Carolina (Tim Palmer).

River Management by States and Partners



Wild And Scenic River Management

USA States (Generalized)



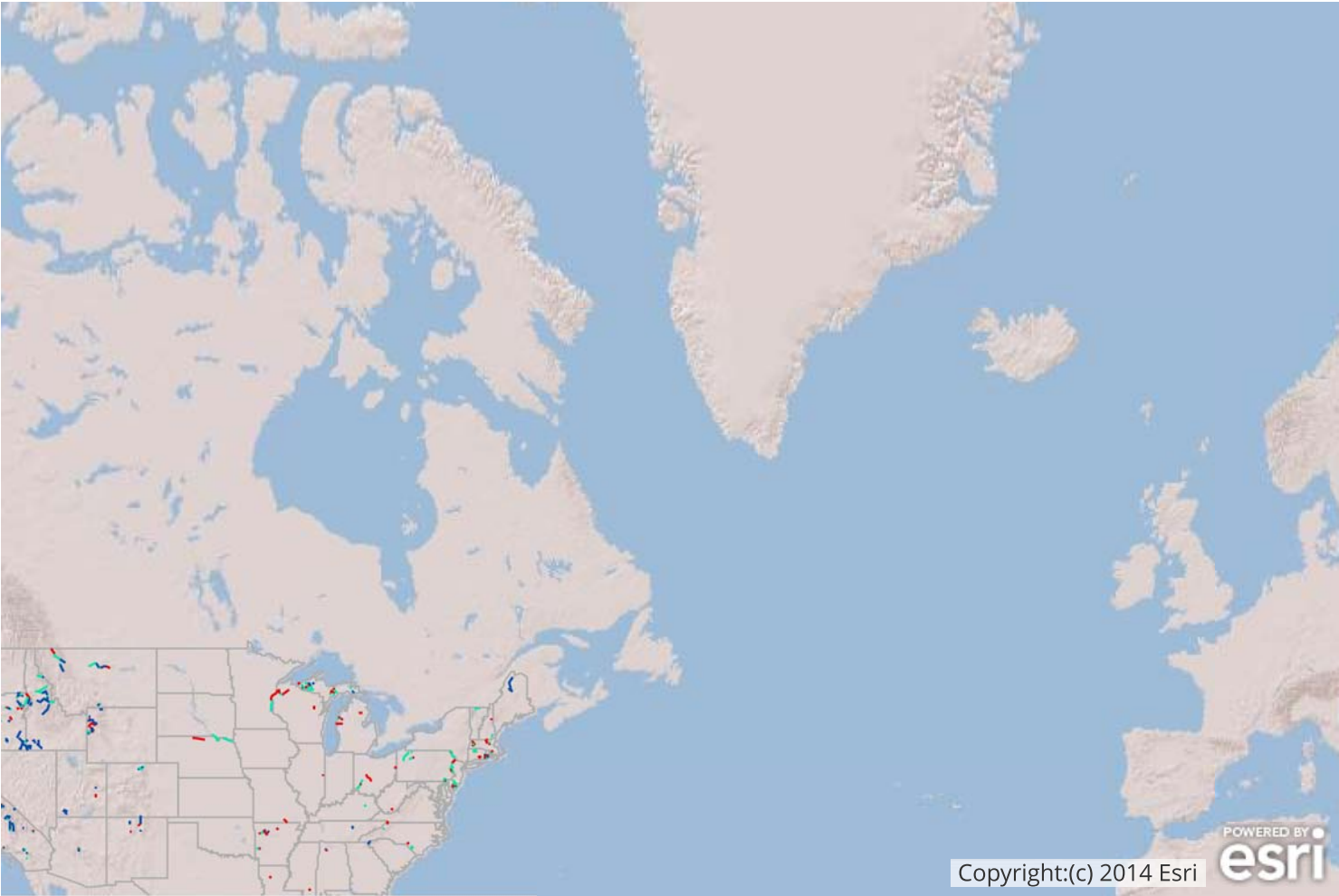


Photo (above). Middle Branch of the Westfield, Massachusetts (Tim Palmer).

Wild and Scenic Rivers are managed in various ways. Many are managed by the federal agencies that manage the land through which they flow, while in other cases, river management is the responsibility of states, tribes, or partnerships as follows:

- State administered national wild and scenic rivers are designated by the Secretary of Interior at the request of a governor. The state is responsible for protecting and enhancing the river values except when sections of these rivers flow through federal or tribal lands. In areas outside of federal land, the National Park Service is responsible for reviewing federally assisted water resources projects to ensure that river values are protected.
- Tribes retain responsibility for protecting and enhancing the river values flowing through their lands. However, the National Park Service is responsible for reviewing federally assisted water resources projects to ensure that river values are protected.
- Partnership national wild and scenic rivers are managed collaboratively between the NPS and state, local and/or non-governmental entities, as specified in the designation legislation and the comprehensive river management plan. To date, locally based river management councils or committees have been formed on each partnership river specifically for this purpose. These rivers are usually designated by Congress; Some state administered rivers also use a partnership model.

Classification



Wild And Scenic River Classification

USA States (Generalized)

- Recreational
- Scenic
- Wild





Photo (above). Elkhorn Creek, Oregon (BLM).

Designated rivers are classified as wild, scenic, or recreational. These classifications relate to the degree of development and access along the river on the date of designation, not its proposed uses. Each designated river in the national system is to be managed consistent with its classification in a way that protects and enhances the values and characteristics that prompted its designation.

According to section 2(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the three classifications are defined as follows:

- "Wild" river areas are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America."
- "Scenic" river areas are "free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads."
- "Recreational" river areas are "readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some shoreline development, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past."

River Values

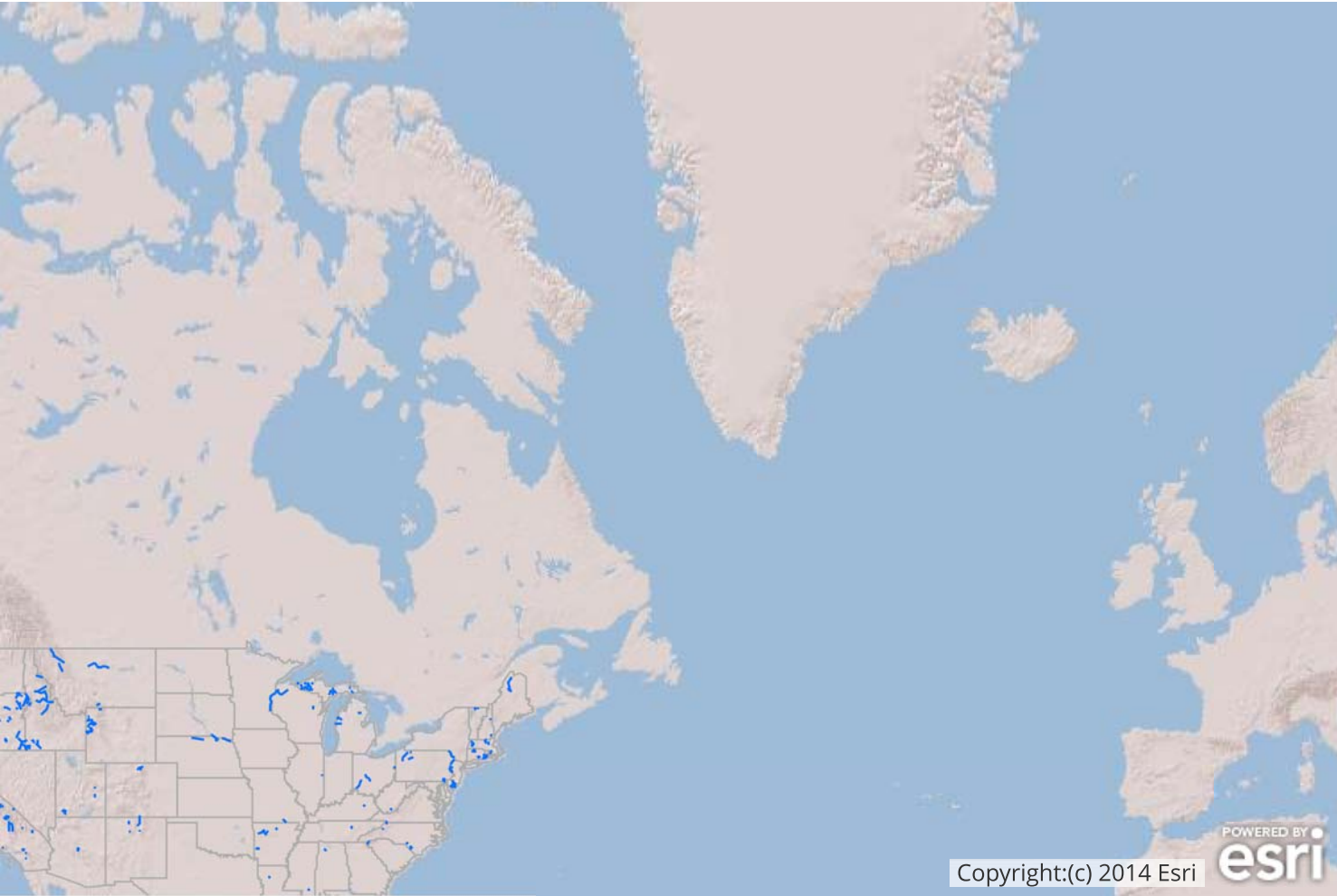




Photo (above). The Grand Canyon of Oregon. Owyhee River, Oregon (BLM).

To qualify for National Wild and Scenic designation, a river must be free-flowing and possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural or other similar values. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act defines free-flowing; as existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway. Water quality is also a river value. River managers work with the Environmental Protection Agency and state agencies to eliminate or diminish water pollution.

Outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) are defined by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act as the general categories of characteristics that make a river worthy of special protection and national recognition. Thus the foundation for wild and scenic river management is a clearly defined set of outstandingly remarkable values.

To be considered outstandingly remarkable, a river-related value must be unique, rare, or exemplary when compared with similar values from other rivers at a regional or national scale. It must also be directly river-related, located in the river or on its immediate shorelands, and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- contribute substantially to the functioning of the river ecosystem, or
- owe its location or existence to the presence of the river.

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Note: this is an incomplete data set; the outstandingly remarkable values are not included in the database for all rivers. In addition, in certain cases new ORVs can be identified as new scientific information or knowledge of values emerges.

Scenic



Wild and Scenic Rivers with scenic outstandingly remarkable value have noteworthy visual features and/or attractions.



Photo (above). Westfield, Massachusetts (Tim Palmer).

Recreational



Wild and Scenic Rivers with recreational values offer exceptional opportunities for visitors to connect with the outdoors.



Middle Fork Snoqualmie, WA (Thomas O`Keefe, American Whitewater)

The Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie offers a fun “escape” that attracts many of the Seattle area region’s paddlers.

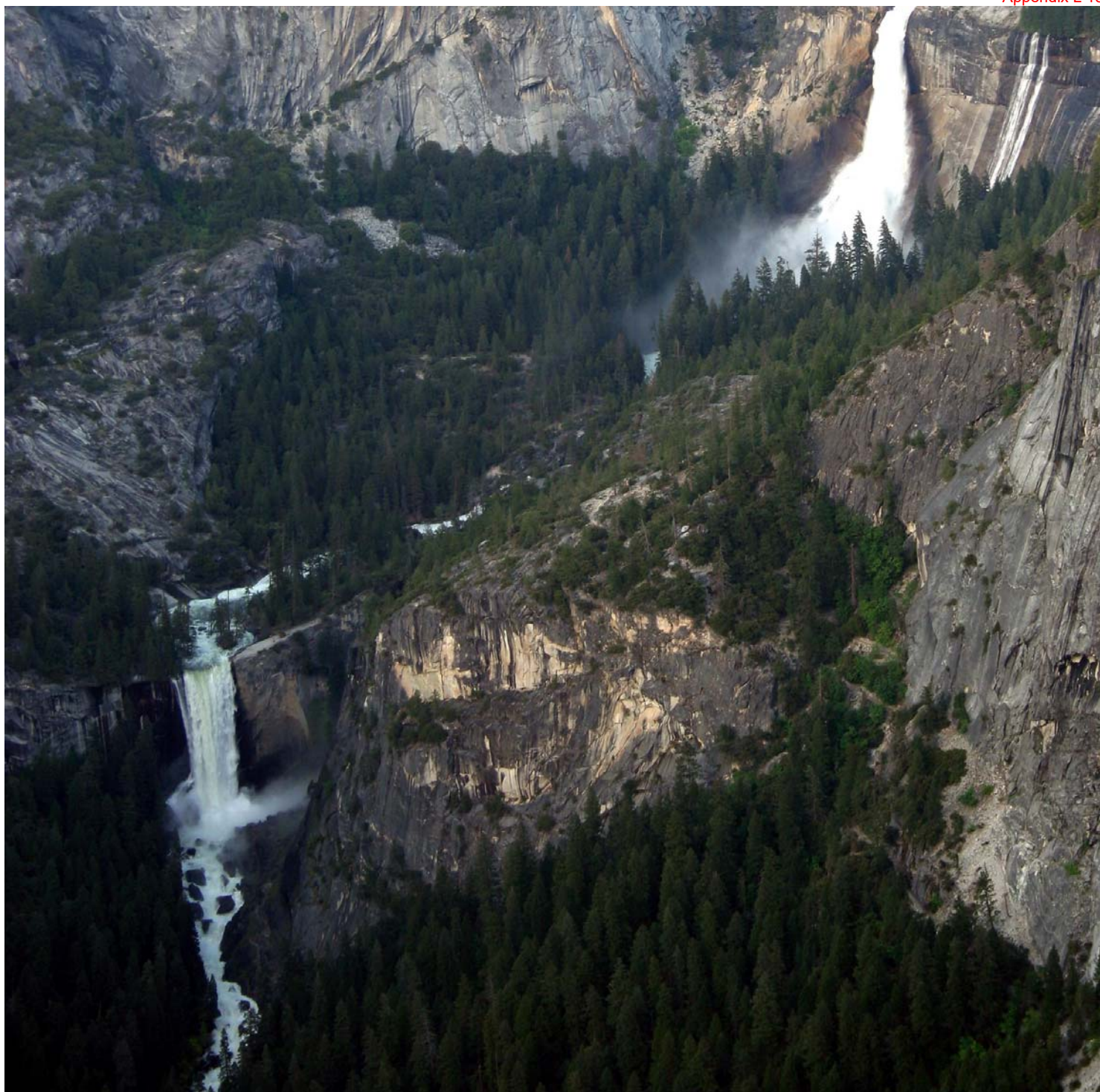
Example Criteria

Geologic



Wild and Scenic rivers that have geologic outstandingly remarkable values include features, processes, or phenomenon that are rare, unique, or exemplary to the geographic region.





The “Giant Staircase,” on the Merced River flows through glacially carved canyons, over sheer cliffs and steep cascades providing an outstanding example of stair-step river morphology.

Example Criteria

Fish



A river's fish outstandingly remarkable values may be judged on the relative merits of fish populations, diversity, habitat, or a combination of these river-related conditions (see criteria below).



This video can be viewed in the online version of this story map

Video (above). The rivers, streams, and lakes of Oregon and Washington are home to a diverse array of fish species; Salmon and trout species include bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout, Yellowstone cutthroat trout, Lahontan cutthroat trout, redband trout, steelhead trout, and chinook and sockeye salmon (BLM).

Example Criteria

Wildlife



Wildlife values may be judged on the relative merits of wildlife populations, habitat, or a combination of these conditions.



Photo (above). Big Horn Sheep, Salmon River, Idaho (Tim Palmer).

Many Wild and Scenic Rivers provide important habitat for wildlife; the Selawik River for example supports much of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd.

Example Criteria

Habitat: The river, or area within the river corridor, provides uniquely diverse or exceptionally high quality habitat for wildlife of national or regional significance, and/or may provide unique habitat for federal or state listed (or candidate) threatened, endangered, or species of conservation concern. The river or riparian area may provide critical habitat connectivity for migratory species or for wildlife that utilizes a variety of habitat types during different life stages.

Cultural



Cultural outstandingly remarkable values are present on Wild and Scenic Rivers that have evidence of nationally or regionally significant river-related occupation or use by Native Americans. Some designated rivers combine historic and cultural values into one ORV.



Photo (above). The Río Grande has attracted human activity since prehistoric times. Evidence of ancient use is found throughout the area in the form of petroglyphs, prehistoric dwelling sites, and many other types of archaeological sites (BLM).

Example Criteria

Historic



Wild and Scenic Rivers with Historic outstandingly remarkable values have sites or features associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was river-related, rare, unique, or exemplary in the region. Some designated rivers combine historic and cultural values.



Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail, VT (Wikimedia)

An example of an historic outstandingly remarkable value is the Missisquoi River Bridge, which is the first of 12 truss bridges on the Missisquoi River between the Canadian Border and Lake Champlain; The Bridge

Example Criteria

Other Similar Outstandingly Remarkable Values



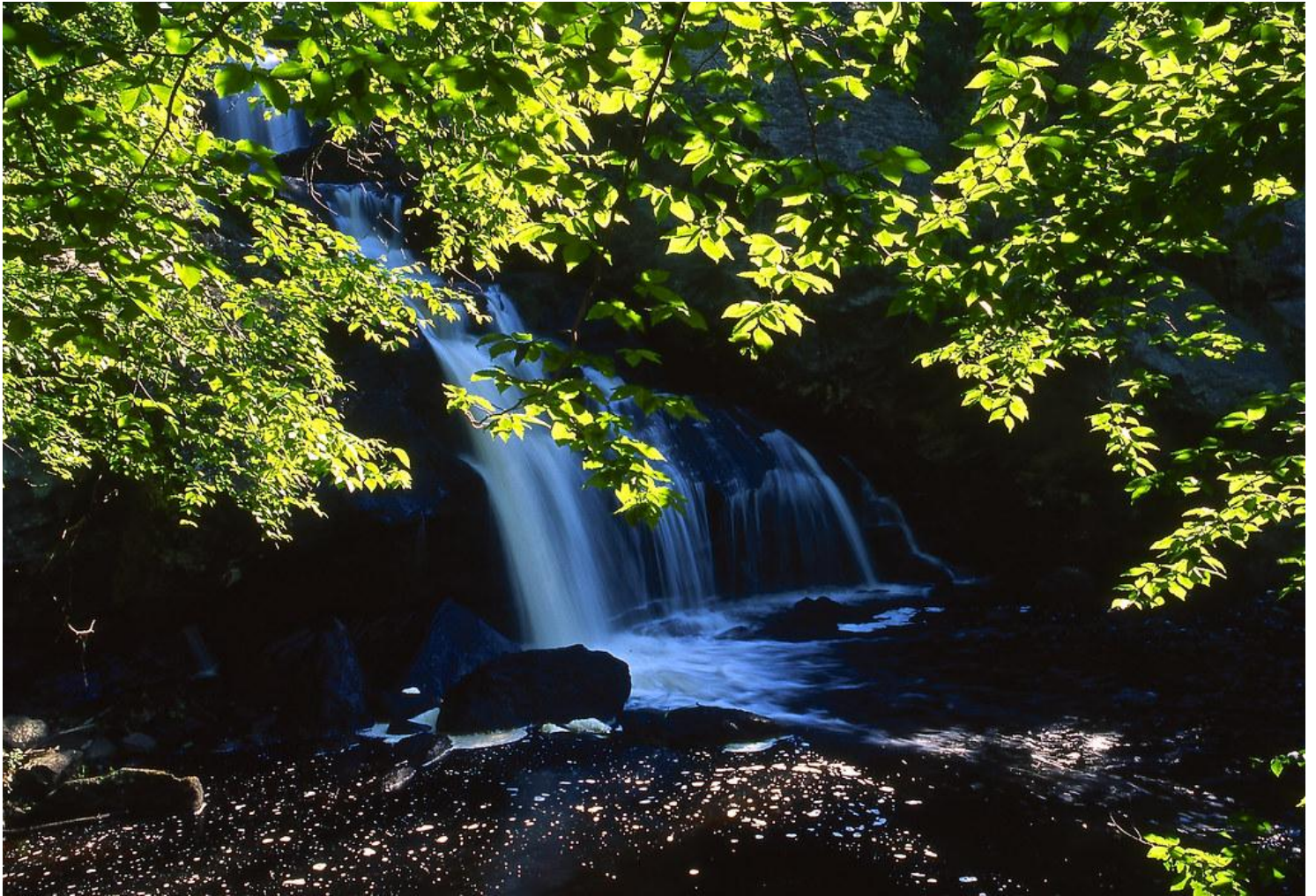


Photo (above). Eightmile River, Connecticut (Tim Palmer).

Explore On Your Own



You can find out more information about Wild and Scenic Rivers by visiting:

- ArcGIS Online [Web Map](#)
- And the [Rivers.gov](#) web page

Find and enjoy the closest Wild and Scenic River near you!

Photo (left). Delta River, Alaska (Tim Palmer).