



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
BIG SOUTH FORK  
NATIONAL RIVER AND RECREATION AREA  
OBED WILD AND SCENIC RIVER  
P.O. Box 477  
Oneida, Tennessee 37841

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The information that you requested about the Obed Wild and Scenic River is being provided in this manner since the publication of informational brochures and maps is still one of our "future" projects.

Congress authorized the establishment of the Obed Wild and Scenic River in October, 1976 and directed the National Park Service to complete the planning for the River within one year. Although the planning phase is well underway, no land has been acquired and staffing and development have not begun.

The Obed River system will include portions of the Obed River and its principal tributaries--Clear Creek and Daddys Creek. The watershed which feeds these streams is not very large so, as a general rule, the canoeing season usually parallels the rainy season--from December to April or May. During that period of the year, the system provides highly technical white water that should be attempted only by individuals who are well qualified through training and experience and who have the proper equipment. Some of the rapids are extremely dangerous and there is a substantial risk of loss of life to anyone who attempts to run them. During the remainder of the year, water levels are usually too low for canoeing.

The Obed system streams should never be run in a single canoe, kayak, or raft, or by inexperienced individuals, because of the degree of risk and the isolation from outside help in the event of emergency. The best procedure is to join a canoe club or association\* that serves your area

\*Residents of Tennessee can contact the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association, P.O. Box 3104, Nashville, Tennessee 37219 for further information.

and then participate in its training, recreation, and exploration activities. Group participation also eases the vehicle shuttle problem.

Vehicle vandalism and the theft of property from unattended vehicles are serious problems in the Obed area. If you decide to explore or to fish the Obed, you should make sure that your vehicles are parked in an area where they will be under protective surveillance at all times.

Sincerely,

Doyle L. Kline,  
Project Manager

## OBED WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

### General Information

Maps: The best general map of the Obed area is the Emory River Watershed Map that is available for 75¢ from the Tennessee Valley Authority, Map Sales, 400 Commerce Avenue (WP A3) Knoxville, Tennessee 37902.

The Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association sells the Obed-Emory River Guide for \$1.50. The Guide provides information about access points and river classifications.

U.S.G.S. topographic quadrangles can be purchased from the Tennessee Valley Authority (address given above) for \$1.25. The following quads show the sections of the Obed River, Daddys Creek, Clear Creek, and the Emory River which have been included in the Wild and Scenic River:

Fox Creek, Tennessee  
Hebbertsburg, Tennessee  
Jones Knob, Tennessee

Lansing, Tennessee  
Pilot Mountain, Tennessee  
Twin Bridges, Tennessee

The following show sections of the Obed River, Daddys Dreek, Clear Creek, and the Emory River which are canoeable, but are not included within the Wild and Scenic River:

Clark Range  
Isoline  
Crossville  
Dorton

Ozone  
Grassy Cove  
Camp Austin  
Harriman

Outfitters: There are no outfitters in the Obed River vicinity although Blue Ridge Mountain Sports, 5201 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919 does have canoes available for rent.

Shuttle Service: No commercial service available.

Campgrounds: There is a primitive campground (NO facilities) at Potters Ford in the Catoosa Wildlife Management Area. There is a developed campground in the Cumberland Mountain State Park which is a few miles southeast of Crossville, Tennessee, and there are several commercial campgrounds in the Obed River vicinity.

Motels: Crossville, Sunbright, and Wartburg, Tennessee.

Fishing and Hunting Information: Write to the Manager, Catoosa Wildlife Management Area, 514 N. Main Street, Crossville, Tennessee 38555.

Hiking Trails: We hope to construct some hiking trails along the Obed River, but there is no developed trail system, yet.

Other Canoeing, Hiking, Fishing, Camping, Motel, Craft, and Highway Information: Information about other recreational opportunities available in the State of Tennessee can be obtained by writing to the Department of Tourist Information, 505 Fesslers Lane, Nashville, Tennessee 37210.

WHITE WATER CANOEING INFORMATION; CONT.

- A. Call 615, 525-5751 for the Tennessee Valley Authority recorded message about river and lake levels. Listen for reading as recorded at the Emory Oakdale gauge.
- B. Capitalized place names are located within the Obed Wild and Scenic River.
- C. White water difficulty key:
- I - Easy (Beginner)
  - II - Medium (Novice)
  - III - Difficult (Intermediate)
  - IV - Very Difficult (Advanced)
  - V - Exceedingly Difficult (Expert)
  - VI - Serious Risk of Loss of Life

WHITE WATER CANOEING INFORMATION FOR THE OBED RIVER SYSTEM

Stream Section	Water level for Open Canoeing*			Distance Miles	White Water Difficulty	
	Minimum	Optimum	Maximum		Average for Section	Maximum
	<u>OBED RIVER</u>					
I-40 to Adams Bridge	2000	5000	8000	9	III	V
Adams Bridge to POTTERS FORD (River to east of western boundary of Catoosa Wildlife Mgmt. Area included in Wild and Scenic River	1000	3000	5000	4	II	III
POTTERS FORD TO OBED JUNCTION (With Daddys Creek)	1000	3000	5000	12	II	II
OBED JUNCTION TO JUNCTION WITH CLEAR CREEK	500	1500	3000	4	III	IV
JUNCTION WITH CLEAR CREEK TO NEMO BRIDGE (on Emory River)	500	1500	3000	5	II	III
	<u>CLEAR CREEK</u>					
Hwy 127 to WALTMAN FORD/BARNETT BRIDGE (Stream to east of Morgan County Line included in Wild and Scenic River	1000	1500	3000	20	II	III
WALTMAN FORD TO JETT BRIDGE	500	2500	4000	5	II	II
JETT BRIDGE TO LILLY BRIDGE	800	2500	4000	2	II	III
LILLY BRIDGE TO JUNCTION WITH OBED	1000	2500	3000	2	III	IV
	<u>DADDYS CREEK</u>					
Linary to Hwy 68	2200	3000	4500	8	II	II
Hwy 68 to Center Bridge	1500	2000	4000	9	I	I
Center Bridge to Antioch Bridge	1500	2000	4000	8	II	II
Antioch Bridge to DEVILS BREAKFAST TABLE	1200	2000	2500	7	V	
DEVILS BREAKFAST TABLE TO OBED JUNCTION	700	1500	3000	2		II

\*From Oakdale gauge on Emory River