



↘ *Middle Tennessee Fly Fishers, Inc.* ↙



# Outing Information

**White River/Norfork River Arkansas  
October 10-14, 2012**

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## ***Group Leaders***

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## ***Outings Committee Chair***

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## ***River Information***

### White River

Below Bull Shoals Dam, the White River is one of the most famous float fishing streams in the world. And with good reason. Probably more rainbow trout are caught here each year than in any other trout stream in America. The Game and Fish Commission stocks hundreds of thousands of rainbows in the White annually, and more than 90 percent of them are caught each year by anglers who come here from all corners of the globe.

Brown trout? Well, let the figures speak for themselves. In 1972, Gordon Lackey landed a monster brown weighing 31-pounds, 8-ounces. This stood as the North American record until fellow guide Leon Waggoner landed a 33-pound, 8-ounce giant in 1977, now just mere ounces under the world record brown trout. Missouri angler Tony Salamon landed a 30-pound, 8-ounce leviathan in 1986 that set a new world line-class record for 6-pound-test line. Very few browns grow that large, of course. But frankly, 5-10 pounders are common, and anglers have a good chance of landing an 11-20 pound trophy. And, yes, a few 20-pound-plus monsters are usually corralled each year.

Although White River rainbow trout don't approach North American record size, the river still boasts the 19-pound, 1-ounce Arkansas state record. Ten-pound fish are considered large, but there are plenty of real thoroughbreds in the 2-6 pound class.

As an added bonus, White River anglers can also find cutthroat and brook trout in these fine waters. Cutthroats were first stocked in 1983, but the river has already produced 9-pound-plus fish. Brook trout are a rare catch, but they have reached up to four pounds in the North Fork (Norfork River) of the White.

Bull Shoals to Cotter is the stretch best known for trophy browns. Many are taken on live crayfish or sculpins, but a variety of other live baits and artificials can also be employed successfully, especially at night since brown trout are nocturnal feeders. Flyfishing is extremely popular on the White during low water periods, but most anglers opt for the standard White River rig--a 16 to 20-foot johnboat equipped with a 10-20 hp motor.

### Norfork River

The North Fork (Norfork River) of the White from Norfork Dam to the White has produced two record rainbow trout and the state record brook trout. The Crooked Creek and Buffalo River junctions are also good lunker trout holes.

## ***Fishing Species***

Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, Cutthroat and Brook Trout

## ***Club Location***

### ***Rim Shoals Resort***

153 Rim Shoals Camp

Mountain, Home, AR 72626

Phone: (870) 435-6144 Fax: (870) 435-5698

[info@rimshoals.com](mailto:info@rimshoals.com) [www.rimshoals.com](http://www.rimshoals.com)

## ***Club Location Description***

Located on the bank of the White River between both Bull Shoals and Norfork Dams, just five river miles downstream of Cotter; Rim Shoals is the only resort located in a Blue Ribbon Trophy area. Fully equipped cabins have a river view, satellite television and the comforts of home; one mile of free walk-in access to the White River. Lodging, fishing guides, boat/canoe rentals are also available at Rim Shoals Resort. Camper cabins are available. Bunk House sleeps up to 12.

## ***Alternative Lodging***

### **Hampton Inn – Mountain Home, AR**

The Hampton Inn® hotel in Mountain Home is located just off Highway 62 in downtown Mountain Home, a town nestled in the beautiful Ozark Mountains of Arkansas framed by two massive lakes, three rivers, and breathtaking mountain scenery.

995 Coley Drive, Mountain Home, Arkansas 72653

(870) 425-0344

[hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/hotels/maps\\_directions.jhtml?ctyhocn=WMHARHX](http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/hotels/maps_directions.jhtml?ctyhocn=WMHARHX)

### **Days Inn – Mountain Home, AR**

Located in the heart of the Ozarks in Mountain Home, Arkansas, approximately seven miles from the Baxter County Regional Airport. Within minutes of many local attractions and a short drive from some of the state's most popular scenic destinations, Days Inn Mountain Home provides a tranquil respite near Lake Norfork, Bull Shoals Lake, White River, and Norfork River.

1746 Hwy 62 East

Hwy 62 East, Mountain Home, AR 72653

(870) 425-1010

[www.daysinn.com/DaysInn/control/Booking/property\\_info?propertyId=12776&brandInfo=DI](http://www.daysinn.com/DaysInn/control/Booking/property_info?propertyId=12776&brandInfo=DI)

### **Comfort Inn – Mountain Home, AR**

Comfort Inn Mountain Home is 12 miles from Lake Norfork and approximately 10 miles from Mountain Home Municipal Airport. 12 miles from the Twin Lakes area and White River, and 14 miles from Bull Shoals Caverns and Bull Shoals Lake.

1031 Highland Circle, Mountain Home, AR 72653

(870) 424-9000

[http://www.comfortinn.com/hotel-mountain\\_home-arkansas-AR607](http://www.comfortinn.com/hotel-mountain_home-arkansas-AR607)

### ***Driving Directions***

To Rim Shoals Resort from NASHVILLE, TN – 390.1 mi (about 7 hr 5mins)

[www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com)

Take I-40 W towards MEMPHIS – 129.2 mi

Take the US-412 exit, EXIT 79, toward ALAMO/DYERSBURG. 0.3 mi

Merge onto US-412 W/TN-20 W toward VANN DR. 42.6 mi

Merge onto US-412 W toward ST LOUIS (Crossing into MISSOURI). 43.5 mi

Turn LEFT onto US-412/S BY PASS. Continue to follow US-412. 1.4 mi

Turn SLIGHT LEFT onto US-412 W/MO-25 S. Continue to follow US-412 W (Crossing into ARKANSAS). 56.2 mi

Merge onto US-67 S via the ramp on the LEFT toward US-63. 2.1 mi

Merge onto US-63 N toward NEWPORT/HARDY/LITTLE ROCK. 40.3 mi

US-63 N becomes US-63 BR/US-412/US-62/AR-175. 1.0 mi

US-63 BR/US-412/US-62/AR-175 becomes US-63/W MAIN ST. 0.1 mi

Turn LEFT onto US-412/US-62/AR-175. Continue to follow US-412/US-62. 10.1 mi

Turn SLIGHT RIGHT. 0.1 mi

Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto US-412/US-62. 49.8 mi

Turn LEFT onto SHEID HOPPER BYP/US-412 W/US-62 W. 5.5 mi

Turn LEFT onto US-62/US-62 W/US-412. Continue to follow US-62/US-412. 4.0 mi

Turn LEFT onto CR-4. 1.4 mi

Turn LEFT onto BUFORD CUTOFF. 0.8 mi

Turn RIGHT onto CR-58. 1.3 mi

CR-58 becomes RIM SHOALS CP. 0.1 mi

153 RIM SHOALS CP is on the RIGHT – Welcome to Rim Shoals.

### ***Local Fly Shops***

Blue Ribbon Fly Shop  
1343 Hwy 5 South  
Mountain Home, AR 72653  
(870) 425-0447  
[www.blueribbonflyfish.com](http://www.blueribbonflyfish.com)

Mountain River Fly Shop  
1200 West Main (Hwy 62/412)  
Cotter, TN 72626  
(870) 435-6166  
[mtnriverflyshop.com](http://mtnriverflyshop.com)

### ***Local Guides***

*Contact the local fly shops.*

### ***Gear***

- For casting nymphs or smaller streamers, a 9', 4-5 WT fly rod with a floating line will work well.
- For casting heavy streamers, a 9', 6-8 WT fly rod with a floating line will work well.

### ***Recommended Flies***

#### Nymphs:

Bead Head Pheasant Tails (14-18)  
Copper Johns (14-18)  
Bead Head Prince Nymphs (12-18)  
Bead Head Hare's Ear Nymph (12-16)  
Zebra Midge (16-24)  
Y2K or any egg pattern (8-12)  
Yellow or Orange Soft Hackle (16-18)  
Pheasant Tail Soft Hackle (16-18)  
Natural and Red San Juan Worm (10-16)  
Sow Bugs (14-18)  
Scuds (14-18)

#### Streamers:

Wooley Buggers (8-12)  
Sculpins (8)

#### Dry Flies:

Tan Elk Hair Caddis (16-20)  
Griffith Gnat (16-18)  
Midge Patterns (20-24)  
Parachute Adams (16-18)  
Hoppers (6-10)  
Ants (14-16)  
Beetles (12-14)

### ***Water Release Schedule / Information***

Southwestern Power Administration provides a current day schedule – online using the links to the left and by telephone at **(866) 494-1993** – to keep the public informed about estimated generation at the projects from which we schedule power.  
[www.swpa.gov/generationschedules.aspx](http://www.swpa.gov/generationschedules.aspx)

***Note that the number of megawatts to be generated, and consequently, the rate at which water is released at each project, is subject to change as demand for power increases or decreases. In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may schedule releases for purposes other than hydropower.***

## ***River Access***

### White River

- [Jim Griffin Access](#) (Damsite Catch and Release) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Forrest and Nina Wood Access](#) (Damsite Catch and Release) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Bull Shoals State Park Trout Dock](#) (Seasonal Catch and Release) Wading & Boat Launch  
Very Limited Vehicle+Trailer Parking
- [Big Spring](#) (State Park - Seasonal Catch and Release) Wading & Boat Launch
- [White Hole](#) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Bronie Yurkonis Walk In Access](#) (The Narrows) Wading
- [Wildcat Shoals](#) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Cotter](#) (City Park) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Roundhouse Shoals](#) (Roadside) Wading
- [Rim Shoals](#) (Catch and Release) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Ranchette](#) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Buffalo City](#) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Cartney](#) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Cartney Walk-In](#) Wading
- [Shipps Ferry](#) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Norfolk Confluence](#) Wading & Boat Launch  
Excellent boat trailer parking above the access area
- [Red's Landing](#) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Chesmond Ferry](#) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Calico Rock](#) Boat Launch
- [Boswell Shoals](#) (Optimus Forest Service Access) Wading & Boat Launch
- [Mt. Olive](#) Boat Launch
- [Sylamore](#) Boat Launch
- [Roundbottom](#) Boat Launch
- [Guion](#) Boat Launch

### [Jim Griffin Access](#) (Damsite Catch and Release)

UTM 15 537451E 4024197N (NAD83/WGS84)

Access is on the Baxter County (east) side right below the dam. Take the State Park and Gaston's turn off of Hwy 178 just east of the dam and then the right fork to the access area. Launching or recovering a boat can be a little tricky at dead low or high flows. Good wading access at low water. Boating access in the area is limited at low flows.

An oddity in regulations (long story) allows for one lure with one barbless treble hook in this .8 mile catch and release area. Artificial and a single barbless hook per rod otherwise. *Area closed to fishing November 1 - January 31.*

### [Forrest and Nina Wood Access](#) (Damsite Catch and Release)

UTM 15 537177E 4024294N (NAD83/WGS84)

This access is on the Marion County (west) side at the dam. Watch for the Riverview Golf Course turn off (off of Hwy 178 in Bull Shoals). The access road splits the golf course. Easier boat launch than the Jim Griffen access. Good wading access at low water. Boating access in the area is limited at low flows.

An oddity in regulations (long story) allows for one lure with one barbless treble hook in this .8 mile catch and release area. Artificial and a single barbless hook per rod otherwise. *Area closed to fishing November 1 - January 31.*

The Forrest and Nina Wood access is through the Riverview Golf Course. Be aware golf balls frequently land in the parking lot!

[Bull Shoals State Park Trout Dock](#) (Seasonal Catch and Release)

UTM 15 537548E 4024260N (NAD83/WGS84)

Access is within the Bull Shoals White River State Park below the dam. There is a dock and store as well as a boat ramp. Parking for vehicles with trailers is limited.

The area becomes a seasonal catch and release area during the spawning closure of the catch and release area at the dam from November 1 - January 31. It is closed to night fishing at this time. Because of its good fishing and ease of location for campers it can receive heavy pressure much of the year.

[Big Spring](#) (State Park - Seasonal Catch and Release)

UTM 15 536689E 4022907N (NAD83/WGS84)

Access is within the Bull Shoals White River State Park below the dam. Also known as Dew Spring. It flows into the river at the head of Dew Eddy Shoals.

The area becomes a seasonal catch and release area during the spawning closure of the catch and release area at the dam from November 1 - January 31. It is closed to night fishing at this time. Because of its good fishing and ease of location for campers it can receive heavy pressure much of the year.

[White Hole](#)

UTM 15 541756E 4020674N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Eight miles below Bull Shoals Dam on Marion County or west side)

This access provides some wade fishing and bank fishing possibilities at low water. When generators are off it offers a long pool which fishes well from a drift boat. A shallow mossy run extends upstream from the access and opens up into another deep pool which starts below Three Chutes. Dry fly fishing is sometimes good in the run and at the gravel bar drop off just above the boat ramp. A float from the State Park area to White Hole is possible at low water in a canoe, kayak, or drift boat. Cane Island (main channel to the left of the island) offers a challenge to the traditional johnboat at low water. Because of narrow bedrock ridges, only more maneuverable boats can make it through the channels. Drift boaters may have to walk the boat over a few spots. There is a private boat ramp at Gaston's below Cane Island.

A float from White Hole to Wildcat Shoals (the next public access downstream on Baxter County or east side) is a nice float but makes for a long shuttle of over 20 miles one way. The float includes the gravel shoal in front of Sportsman's Resort, the Narrows (stay to the right) and Tucker Shoal (stay to the left)--excellent wade fish spots at low water.

[Bronie Yurkonis Walk-In Access](#) (The Narrows)

The Bronie Yurkonis Walk-In Access area at The Narrows was constructed by AGFC in the summer of 2009. The access provides easy access to the islands at The Narrows.

*Wade anglers need to exercise caution when fishing since rising water can cut off return access from the main channel and strand anglers on the island.*

### Wildcat Shoals

UTM 15 538276E 4018493N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Eleven miles below Bull Shoals Dam on Baxter County or east side)

Wildcat Shoals access is above the shoals by a quarter of a mile or more. At low water anglers can walk downstream and wade fish the shoals. ***The good wade fishing is complicated by the fact that water can come up fast here and trap wade anglers who venture out to fish the far side of the runs. It is a dangerous area, so be very careful. Water can rise in as little as 2.75 hours from when generation starts at the dam. Wade anglers should carry their cell phone [put it in a zip-lock bag] with them and call the current status number periodically to make sure they know the status of generation as well as keep a watchful eye on river levels.***

A float from Wildcat Shoals to Cotter goes through some quality water. Boaters however will have to carefully navigate the shoals at low water. Canoes and kayaks will have little trouble [stay to the left], and drift boaters can walk their boats through the more shallow parts of the shoals. Most of the johnboat guides don't attempt to float the entire shoals at dead low flows. Once you make it through Wildcat Shoals, the rest of the float is fairly easy. When minimum flow is established, floaters will be able to navigate the shoals more easily.

### Cotter (City Park)

UTM 15 541053E 4013637N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Eighteen miles below Bull Shoals Dam on Baxter County or east side)

The Cotter Access is a block south of the east end of the old Hwy 62 downtown Cotter bridge in the Cotter City Park. The unique concrete arch suspension bridge was reconditioned in 2005, and the boat ramp at the access was rebuilt and the parking lot improved in 2005-2006. Good wade fishing is possible between the old bridge and upstream to the new Highway 412 bridge. This is only possible for wade anglers at dead low flows and involves a hike. Access to the area between the bridges is possible via a boat anytime. A trail that begins in the city park follows the river upstream. Access from the trail is limited but possible. ***Most who are familiar with the river conditions wade across the river at the boat launch and walk upstream on Bayless Island and then cross to the west side of the river and continue on upstream to the shoals. This is not advised if you are not familiar with the generation trends and times of flows, as it is possible to get caught in rising water.*** The area has received some habitat improvement and provides good fishing at different water levels.

Wade access is also good down river of the boat ramp and through the private access at Roundhouse Shoal Fishing Service. Public access to Roundhouse Shoal is available off the road further downstream.

The new boat ramp at Cotter allows easy boat launching at low water levels now.

[Roundhouse Shoals](#) (Roadside)  
UTM 15 542311E 4013757N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Twenty miles below Bull Shoals Dam on Baxter County or east side)

The Roundhouse Shoals Access is south of Cotter City Park Access. There is public parking access off the road. ***Wade anglers should avoid wading into and across the channel to the island. This is treacherous wading because of the slick bedrock. If water comes up you are stuck.*** There is plenty of good riffle and pocket water fishing close to the roadside anyway.

[Rim Shoals](#) (Catch and Release)

(Twenty-four miles below Bull Shoals Dam on Baxter County or east side. South of Gassville a few miles off County Road 3 - also know as "Buford Cut-Off." Access to Buford Cutoff also off Hwy 126 south of US 412. Watch for large sign.)

Rim Shoals access has a new parking lot and ramp making access easy. Turn left immediately after crossing the railroad tracks to go to the walk-in only access. Turn right to go to the boat launch which is visible when you cross the railroad tracks. If wading is possible, the rock about 75 feet out from the Rim Shoals trout dock will be visible. This is prime water in the second catch and release area below Bull Shoals dam.

Rim Shoals provides plenty of water for wade anglers at low flow and dead low water in a prime catch and release area. *Gary and Paul Flippin who operate Rim Shoals Resort and also run shuttles for anglers out to the islands.*

[Ranchette](#)  
UTM 15 546890E 4006708N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Twenty-eight miles below Bull Shoals Dam on Marion County or west side. Take Hwy 101 south off of US 412. Watch for turn off to the access at about 6 miles.)

Ranchette Access is half way between Rim Shoals and Buffalo City. Upstream about two miles is Shoestring Shoal and Crooked Creek and downstream about another two miles is the start of Buffalo Shoals--one of the larger shoals on the river. There is also good water closer to the ramp both upstream and downstream. Wade fishing is possible at the access if generation has been shut down for 18 hours or more. *Being downstream of a major tributary, the water can be muddy after heavy rains.*

The boat ramp at Ranchette has recently been reworked improving the ramp significantly. However, it is of moderate difficulty to launch a motorboat here as there is not much room to park a boat--there being a deep, steep bank directly upstream and a small shoal directly downstream of the ramp.

[Buffalo City](#)  
UTM 15 550223E 4002431N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Thirty-two miles below Bull Shoals Dam on Baxter County or east side. Take Hwy 126 south off of US 412 about 12 miles.)

Buffalo City access is less than half a mile above the confluence of the Buffalo River. It provides access to canoers as a take out point from a float trip on the Buffalo and access for johnboats going up the Buffalo. There are beautiful bluffs on the far side of the river and a trailhead a little ways up the Buffalo. The hiking trail goes to the top of the bluffs. The Buffalo River is a National River maintained and run by the [National Park Service](#). The river is subject to the rules of the National Park Service.

Wade fishing on the White is possible at the access point during low water. Upstream of the access is Buffalo Shoals--a major fishing spot. The shoals can only be reached by boat. There are two private docks that service the area. Anglers can hire a shuttle up to the shoals and back, pay a wade access fee to reach Smith Island downstream, or rent boats.

There are two ramps located at Buffalo City access--one a double wide. They stay busy as there is often a lot of traffic on the river at this point.

[Cartney](#) UTM 15 555633E 4005350N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Thirty-six miles below Bull Shoals Dam on south side. Turn south on Hwy 341 off Hwy 201 and proceed for several miles. Turn right on gravel national forest service road at access sign and go about 3.5 miles. **Caution: Cockran Creek ford. Not for low clearance vehicles or when stream is up.**)

The river turns and heads east at the confluence of the Buffalo River. From there to below Red's Landing, both sides of the river are in Baxter County. Cartney Access is about four miles below the Buffalo River and just two miles above Shipp's Ferry Access. Access at Cartney is provided through National Forest access off Hwy 341. The forest service maintained road fords Perry Creek and Cockran Creek before coming to the public access area on the river. ***If Perry Creek is flowing freely, fording Cockran creek can be a challenge in light trucks and SUVs. Only high clearance, larger 4-wheel drive vehicles can easily make the ford. Smaller low clearance vehicles should not attempt it--period.***

Although more isolated and difficult to get to, the access area is frequented by locals. It is the first access below the confluence of the Buffalo River. Be aware that the area is prone to major spring flooding. Wading is often limited in this area, although possible at times if generation is shut down for 24-36 hours or more and feeder streams are not flowing much. Good wade access then is upstream off the island. ***Don't get caught in rising water. Water can flow around the back side of the island during rising water!*** There is also a good fishing trough right off the boat launch at low water. An easier to drive to walk-in access is on the opposite side of the river (north side which is off Hwy).

The boat ramp at Cartney is steep but usually in good repair.

[Cartney Walk-In](#)

UTM 15 555539E 4005619N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Thirty-six miles below Bull Shoals Dam on south side. Turn south on Hwy 126 off US 412 and proceed to Buford community (6 miles). Go straight at the four way and follow signs. Steep grade of gravel road before parking area.

The river turns and heads east at the confluence of the Buffalo River. From there to below Red's Landing, both sides of the river are in Baxter County. Cartney Accesses are about four miles below the Buffalo River and just two miles above Shipps Ferry Access.

### [Shipps Ferry](#)

UTM 15 557800E 4007794N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Thirty-eight miles below Bull Shoals Dam on north side. Take Hwy 201 south from Mountain Home 412 by-pass. Watch for turn-off to access just beyond the Shady Grove store.

Shipps Ferry and Cartney (see index) accesses can be wade fished under the same river conditions. If water is up, only angling from a boat is possible. Below the access is a good mix of trout/smallmouth habitat. Matney Mountain Shoal is about half way to the Norfolk confluence. These are more isolated areas and boaters should exercise caution since help may not be found readily. Hypothermia is likely if you wind up in the water.

*This section of the tailwater is marginal trout water and subject to high temperatures at times. It will benefit greatly from minimum flow once it is established.*

### [Norfolk Confluence](#)

UTM 15 563909E 4007525N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Forty-four miles below Bull Shoals Dam. Go south on Hwy 5 across the Norfolk tailwater bridge and into the town of Norfolk. Take the sharp right turn at the [Wolf House Cabin](#) (fly shop on the left) and follow the road around and across the railroad tracks to the river.

Norfolk confluence is a wide, sprawling part of the river. Wade fishing is often good here. There are times, however, when heavy generation from either Bull Shoals powerhouse or Norfolk powerhouse or both will limit wadable access.

Rising water from generation at Bull Shoals dam takes about 11 hours to come up, but water from Norfolk dam can start to rise in as little as 1.2 hours. The cold water from Norfolk dam recharges the tailwater and drops water temperature to benefit the trout fishing for another 45 miles on the White River. Care needs to be taken in launching a boat at the Norfolk Access boat ramp. Swift current often flows close to the ramp.

### [Red's Landing](#)

UTM 15 566925E 4002092N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Forty-nine miles below Bull Shoals Dam. Go south on Hwy 5 through the town of Norfolk and continue south for several miles. Turn off is after the cemetery and church on the right.

Steamboat Shoals, a major shoal, is about half way upstream to Norfolk Access. Downstream about half way to the next access at Chesmond Ferry is a catch and release area called "Monkey Island." There is good habitat for both trout and smallmouth here. Motor boating both upstream and downstream past the long pool at the ramp at low water can be difficult however.

Red's Landing has a newly reworked boat launch making for easy launching. There is limited wade fishing access here also at low water.

### [Chesmond Ferry](#)

UTM 15 573178E 3996338N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Fifty-nine miles below Bull Shoals Dam on the east side of the river in IZARD County. Take Hwy 5 to Calico Rock. Turn off is in the old historic downtown area of Calico Rock. Access is about three miles from the town.)

Chesmond Ferry offers a good boat launch. Lindsey trout dock is at the ramp. Upstream holds good water, and downstream is Herd Island and Racetrack Shoals.

Lindsey's Trout Dock is at the Chesmond Ferry access. The area offers good fishing although wade access is usually limited.

### [Calico Rock](#)

UTM 15 577183E 3997163N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Sixty-two miles below Bull Shoals Dam on the east side of the river in IZARD County. Take Hwy 5 to Calico Rock. Turn off is on the north end of the White River Bridge. Narrow road goes under the train track and makes a sharp turn into the Calico Rock park.)

As is the case with all the accesses below Norfolk tailwater, the river here is subject to rises and flows from generation from both Bull Shoals and Norfolk powerhouses. If both powerhouses are operating at full capacity, which is often the case in the winter, spring, during summer peak power demand or during flood events, flows can exceed 30,000 cfs. Low water fishing is only possible when the powerhouses have been shut for extended periods as sometimes happens in dry years during the spring and fall or on some weekends. ***Only experienced boaters should attempt to float the river at higher stages. Some areas are very isolated, cell phone coverage poor, and no help available for long stretches.***

Calico Rock is an historic settlement town on the White River. It has survived several floods and fires. Upstream is the Calico Rock bluff and Racetrack Shoal. It can be waded at low water using a boat to get upstream to the shoal.

The city park at Calico Rock by the White River bridge has a boat launch and is serviced by two trout docks.

### [Boswell Shoals](#) (Optimus Forest Service Access)

UTM 15 584033E 3989029N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Seventy miles below Bull Shoals Dam on the west side of the river in Stone County. Take Hwy 5 south of Calico Rock. Turn off is on the left at Optimus. The access is through Ozark National Forest and is forest service maintained.)

Optimus Access is primarily provided as walk-in access to Boswell Shoals at low water which is downstream. There is a trail. It is possible to launch small boats and take out here. Upstream is Piney Chute where Piney Creek flows into the White on the east side of

the river. Downstream is Boswell Shoals. The river can be surprisingly shallow for this far down stream under low water conditions, but that is not often or typical. ***Be careful going around the bluff curve on the forest service road. It can be hazardous on the gravel if you meet an oncoming vehicle going too fast. Optimus Access is a forest service maintained area. There is a rough sand and gravel "ramp." An easy place to get stuck.***

#### [Mt. Olive](#)

UTM 15 581816E 3983993N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Seventy-four miles below Bull Shoals Dam on the east side of the river in IZARD County. From Hwy 5 at Allison/Sylamore take Hwy 9 east towards Melbourne. There is a cutback near Melbourne (Jumbo Road) which goes to the access.)

Mt. Olive access is a long way from Sylamore by road, although the drive is worth it. Hwy 9 reminds me of how the old Pig Trail (AR Hwy 23) from Hwy 16 to Ozark used to be. At periods of dead low water, there is limited wade fishing access at low water, but overall it is mostly for boating access. The Sylamore catch and release area starts downstream of Mt. Olive. Landers Island is across the river. Soldiers Rock Eddy is upstream.

#### [Sylamore](#)

UTM 15 579913E 3977796N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Seventy-nine miles below Bull Shoals Dam on the west side of the river in Stone County. There is also a corresponding ramp on the far side of the river where the old ferry landing used to be.)

Sylamore access has a double ramp at the confluence of Sylamore Creek. The downstream boundary of the catch and release area is a little upstream.

#### [Roundbottom](#)

(Approximate) UTM 15 586816E 3978078N (NAD83/WGS84)

(About eighty-four miles below Bull Shoals Dam on the west side of the river in Stone County. Watch for the turn off (Herpel Road) on Hwy 5 south going towards Mountain View from Allison.)

Roundbottom is a new access and the gravel road to it is scheduled to be paved in late 2006. The ramp is first rate.

Upstream from the new ramp is Buck Island. There are also several large feeder creeks which flow into the river in the area. Big bluffs break up the bottom land in the river bends and bald eagles frequent this areas in the winter.

#### [Guion](#)

UTM 15 594934E 3976158N (NAD83/WGS84)

(Ninety-two miles below Bull Shoals Dam on the east side of the river in IZARD County. From Mountain View take Hwy 14 east, then Hwy 58 north to the river bridge. Turn off is across the river on the left.)

Guion is the last stocking point for trout although trout can be found all the way to Batesville. There is a fair amount of open land for bank fishing on the east access side. Boat ramps are on both sides of the river at the old ferry landings.

***Guion Access signals the end of the trout tailwater portions of the White River.***

Norfolk River

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| • Dry Run Creek Access (Youth/Handicap Only)                                       | Wading Only          |
| • <a href="#">Dam Site Access</a>  | Wading & Boat Launch |
| • <a href="#">Bill Ackerman River Ridge Handicap Access</a> (Walk-in/Fishing Pier) | Wading Only          |
| • Norfolk Confluence on the White (See under White River above)                    | Wading & Boat Launch |

Dry Run Creek Access (Youth/Handicap Only)

Dry Run Creek is located next to the Norfolk National Trout Hatchery. The outflow from the Norfolk hatchery feeds the one-half-mile long Dry Run Creek—one of the nation's premier trout streams for youth under 16 years of age. Mobility impaired access is also available. There are some very fine handicap ramps for those who require them. This catch and release stream is just packed full of monster brown, rainbows and cutthroat trout. It is a great place for parents to introduce children to the sport of fly-fishing.

Fishing at Dry Run is strictly artificial fly with a single barbless hook ( natural or scented baits are not allowed ). Fishing is allowed from sunrise to sunset. So pack your picnic basket and head out for a day with your kids that you will never regret.

[Dam Site Access](#)

UTM 15 567990E 4011616N (NAD83/WGS84)

There is good wade fishing at the damsite access. Just be careful of changing water levels and get out when the horn sounds. Norfolk tailwater rises and drops out extremely fast.

Norfolk dam was the first of the five White River dams to be built. A war time building project, it was finished in 1944. Trout stocking started in 1948.

There is a strange mixture of cultures below the dam. Local lawn chair bait fishermen coexist with some of the best fly fishermen visiting from around the country. It's quite an atmosphere.

Don't overlook some of the obvious places to fish. There are some large trout that hold around close to the access areas. Careful presentations and patience is the key to finding nice fish here.

[Bill Ackerman River Ridge Handicap Access](#) (Walk-in/Fishing Pier)

UTM 15 564891E 4009108N (NAD83/WGS84)

There is good wade fishing access here at low water directly out from the walk down area. Being the only public access in the middle to lower stretch of the tailwater, it received fair pressure at times. Many anglers venture farther upstream or downstream, but extreme care should be taken as water can come up exceedingly fast here and trap anglers.

The fishery receives a lot of pressure and tactics have to be learned to fool the fish which can be aware under low, calm conditions.

As is the case at the dam, don't overlook some of the obvious places to fish. There are some large trout that hold in the obvious areas. Careful presentations and patience is the key to finding nice fish here.

*The River Ridge Access is wheel chair accessible, but generation has to be running to fish off the pier.*

See maps provided on the White and Norfolk Rivers (AR) Outing Resource page.

### ***Recommended Resources***

#### Maps:

***Arkansas Atlas & Gazetteer*** by Delorme

[shop.delorme.com/OA\\_HTML/DELibeCCtdItemDetail.jsp?beginIndex=0&item=4535&section=10096](http://shop.delorme.com/OA_HTML/DELibeCCtdItemDetail.jsp?beginIndex=0&item=4535&section=10096)

***Bull Shoals Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Cotter Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Mountain Home West Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Mountain Home East Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Buffalo City Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Norfolk Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Norfolk Dam North Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Norfolk Dam South Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Callico Rock Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Boswell Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Sylamore Quadrangle*** by USGS

***Guion Quadrangle*** by USGS

[www.usgs.gov/pubprod/maps.html](http://www.usgs.gov/pubprod/maps.html)

Also See maps provided on the White and Norfolk Rivers (AR) Outing Resources page.

#### Books:

***White River, Arkansas (River Journal Series)*** by A R Danny Hicks

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

***Home Waters*** by Mid South Fly Fishers

[www.msff.org](http://www.msff.org)

***Tailwater Trout in the South, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*** by Jimmy Jacobs

[www.countrymanpress.com/titles/TailwaterTroutintheSouth2.html](http://www.countrymanpress.com/titles/TailwaterTroutintheSouth2.html)

#### DVDs:

***White River*** with Davy Wotton

[www.chartingnature.com/books.cfm?book=B16108](http://www.chartingnature.com/books.cfm?book=B16108)

***Emergency/Medical Information***

Hospitals:

***Baxter Regional Medical Center***

624 Hospital Drive

Mountain Home, AR 72653

Main Hospital Number: (870) 508-1000

**Ambulance Service:** (870) 508-1121

[www.baxterregional.org](http://www.baxterregional.org)

Always remember to only call **911** if you have a life threatening emergency.