

Appendix C Dams and Portages - Current Conditions and Needs

The 22 dams on the Rock River through Wisconsin and Illinois were evaluated for dam and portage safety and accessibility in 2012-early 2013. These checklists provide an important reference point for determining the need for safety improvements and enhancements. Much work has been done by the Council to address some of these needs, so field verification of existing conditions should be made.

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location	Theresa, Wis	Waupun, Wis		
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to read from a reasonable safe distance Comments	Yes	Yes		
-Signage is easy to understand Comments	Yes	Yes		
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments	One sign	One sign on railroad bridge		
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments	No - No portage at dam	Yes		
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments	No	No		
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself Comments	No	Yes		
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments	No	No		
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments	No	No		
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments	No	No		
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	No	Yes		
<i>General Comments</i>	Fixed crest weir with stop logs - no portage at dam	Easy take out in Shaler Park river left - put in down hill after dam on left.		

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location	Theresa	Waupun		
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	No portage at dam	Grassed shoreline		
Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:	Take out at Rivers Edge Park, put in at Village Park – distance too long	Shaler Park (Harris Mill Park) take out at shore river left		
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	No	Yes		
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	No	Yes		
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	No	No lights		
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	No	Yes		
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	No	No		
-Take out identification signage is clearly visible Comments	No	Yes		
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	No	No		
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	Walking distance to downtown	Yes - Shaler and Harris Mill Park		
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	Walking distance to downtown	Yes - Harris Mill Park		
-Potable water is nearby Comments	Walking distance to downtown	Yes - Harris Mill Park		
-Shelter is nearby Comments	Walking distance to downtown	Yes - Harris Mill Park		
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	Yes	Put in down grassed hill on river left at Shaler Park		
General Comments	Great need for portage at low-head fixed crest weir.			

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location	Horicon	Kekoskee	Lower Mayville	Upper Mayville
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance Comments	Yes	No	No	No
-Signage is easy to understand Comments	Yes	No	No	No
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments	No (1)	No	No	No
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments	Yes	No	No	Yes
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments	No	No	No	No
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself Comments	Yes (2)	Yes (1)	Yes (1)	Yes (1)
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments	Yes	No	No	No
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments	No	No	No	No
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments	No	No	No	Yes
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	Yes	No	No	Yes
<i>General Comments</i>	No portage right at dam.	Ramp and step take outs at end of mill pond on river right	Take out river right – down hill to put in	Concrete ramp at river left before dam - Need portage

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location	Horicon	Kekoskee	Lower Mayville	Upper Mayville
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	City park ramp	Public ramp and steps	Public grassed area	Concrete ramp
<i>Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:</i>	Legion Park	Village parking	Limited parking	City parking lot
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	Yes	No	No	Yes
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	Yes	Yes	Yes, at river right near dam	Yes
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	No – long distance to put in	Yes	Yes – no lights apparent	No
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	No (0.427 mile) (2,259 ft) Legion to Kiwanis Parks	Yes	Yes	Yes
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	No	Yes	No	Yes
-Take out identification signage is clearly visible Comments	Yes	No	No	Yes
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	No	No	No	No
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	Yes	No	No	Yes
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	Walking distance to downtown	No	No	Walking distance to downtown
-Potable water is nearby Comments	Walking distance to downtown	No	No	Walking distance to downtown
-Shelter is nearby Comments	Walking distance to downtown	Walk to village park for shelter and put in	No	Walking distance to downtown
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	Yes – long distance Kiwanis Park	Yes, at village park	Yes, down hill at dam or at bridge at water utility	Yes, on river left at end of parking lot or across foot bridge to river right

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location	Hustisford			
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance Comments	Yes			
-Signage is easy to understand Comments	Yes			
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments	No (1)			
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments	Yes			
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments	No			
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself Comments	Yes			
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments	Yes			
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments	Yes			
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments	Yes			
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	Yes			
<i>General Comments</i>	Dam is being reconstructed; inspected recently by WDNR			

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location	Hustisford			
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	Public park, concrete w/ dock			
<i>Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:</i>				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	Yes			
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	Yes			
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	Yes			
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	Yes			
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	Yes			
-Take out identification signage is clearly visible Comments	Yes			
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	No Downtown facilities within short walking distance			
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	Yes			
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	Yes			
-Potable water is nearby Comments	Yes			
-Shelter is nearby Comments	Yes			
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	Yes			
<i>General Comments</i>	Path to put-in is signed; new shoreline improvements			

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location	Upper Watertown Dam	Lower Watertown Dam	Boomer's Dam (primitive rock dam)	
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance Comments	Yes – 3 foot sign on dam	Yes – 3 foot sign on dam	None	
-Signage is easy to understand Comments	"Dam"	"Dam"	N/A	
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments	No – one sign on upstream bridge	No – one sign on upstream bridge	None	
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments	Yes	Yes	N/A	
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments	No	No	No	
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself Comments	Yes ("Dam")	Yes ("Dam")	No	
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments	No – Newer anchor posts are in place for cable	No	No	
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments	No	No	No	
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments	Unlikely	Unlikely	TBD – rustic dam	
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	Yes ("Take Out")	No	No	
<i>General Comments</i>			Chute/gap on right ¼ of dam allows it to be run in	

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location	Upper Watertown Dam	Lower Watertown Dam	Boomer's Dam (primitive rock dam)	
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	Two portages - Grass, rock, gravel and asphalt	Public rocks, concrete pad, asphalt	Rustic – rocks, grassy lift-over	
<i>Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:</i>				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	Yes	No	No	
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	Yes, second portage close to spillway	Yes	Yes (rocky shore)	
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	Yes, mostly	Yes	No	
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	1 - short; 2 - Long on public streets	Yes (~900')	Yes (~50')	
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	Yes, mostly	Yes	No	
-Take out identification signage is clearly visible Comments	Yes	None	None	
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	No	No	No	
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	Yes	Yes	Yes	
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	No*	Yes (Senior Center)	No	
-Potable water is nearby Comments	No*	Yes (Senior Center)	No	
-Shelter is nearby Comments	No*	No	No*	
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	Yes	Yes	Yes	

<i>General Comments</i> Portage near spillway needs buoy-safety cable in place, improved path to put in. Willow Street access site is long distance on city streets to put in below dam.	Two portages - Willow Street and near spillway. Good landing with sign, choice of grass path or longer street route. Some is rustic, with mostly ambient light	Good landing, asphalt riverwalk path with aesthetic lighting	Rocky shoreline with path, or short rustic carry over grassy point. Chute (river right) allows this dam to be run in low to medium water	

* Though there are not public facilities, nearby businesses (restaurants, etc.) may provide options.

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST JUNE 1, 2012

Dam Location –	JEFFERSON WI			
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance Comments	Yes			
-Signage is easy to understand Comments	Yes			
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments	Yes			
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments	Yes			
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments	None observed			
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself Comments	No – on cable & buoy line 100' upstream of the dam			
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments	Yes			
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments	None Observed			
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments	Does not appear to be			
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	None observed			
<i>General Comments</i>				

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location	Jefferson, WI			
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	Public – concrete and grass			
<i>Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:</i>				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	no			
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	yes			
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	Easy to navigate but not illuminated			
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	yes			
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	no			
-Take out identification signage is clearly visible Comments	no			
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	no			
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	Garbage – yes Recycling - no			
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	yes			
-Potable water is nearby Comments	yes			
-Shelter is nearby Comments	no			
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	yes			
<i>General Comments</i>				

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location	Beloit	Jnsville CNTRL	Jnsville MNTRY	Indianford
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance Comments	Yes	No	Yes	No
-Signage is easy to understand Comments	Yes	No	Yes	No
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments	No, Only one warning sign	No	No, Only one warning sign	No
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments	Yes	No	No	No
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments	No	Somewhat, insufficient	Somewhat, insufficient	No
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself Comments	Yes	No	No	No
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments	Yes	No	No	No, Cable on bridge, not in the water
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments	Yes	No	No	No
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments	No	No	No	No
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	No	No	No	No
<i>General Comments</i>				

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location Rock County Page 1	Indianford, West Side of Bridge TAKE OUT	Indianford, PUT IN	Janesville, Monterey TAKE OUT	Janesville, Monterey PUT IN
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	public, shoreline-dirt beach	public, dirt beach	public, dirt beach	public, sloped gravel beach
<i>Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:</i>				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	no		yes	
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	no	yes	no	no
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	no	yes-easy to navigate no-not illuminated	yes-easy to navigate no-not illuminated	yes-easy to navigate no-not illuminated
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	no	no	no	no
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	no	no	no, but street lights are present above portage trail	no
- Take out/put in identification signage is clearly visible Comments	yes	yes	yes	no
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	no	no	no	no
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	yes	yes	no	no
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	yes, private restroom in nearby restaurant	yes	no	no
- Potable water is nearby Comments	yes, in nearby restaurant	yes	no	no
- Shelter is nearby Comments	no	no	no	no
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	yes	yes	yes	yes

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location Rock County Page 2	Janesville, Central TAKE OUT	Janesville, Central PUT IN	Beloit, Armstrong Eddy Launch TAKE OUT	Beloit, John Rose Kayak Launch PUT IN
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	public, gravel beach	public, paved canoe- kayak launch	public, paved boat launch	public, paved canoe-kayak launch
<i>Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:</i>				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	yes		no	
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	yes	yes	yes	yes
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	yes	yes	yes	yes
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	yes	yes	no	no
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	yes	yes	yes	yes
-Take out/put in identification signage is clearly visible Comments	yes	yes	yes	yes
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	no	no	yes	no
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	yes	yes	yes	yes
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	no	no	yes	yes, at nearby outfitter
-Potable water is nearby Comments	no	no	no	no
-Shelter is nearby Comments	no	no	no	no
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	yes	yes	yes	yes

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location Rock River, Rockton IL				
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance No, one small sign approx 1.5 x 1.5, R Right at portage. Large sign approx 5' X 6' R Rt partially covered be leaves Comments				
-Signage is easy to understand Comments yes				
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments 2 signs, one half covered by leaves				
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments Definitely not				
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments NO				
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself CommentsNO				
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments YES				
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments NONE				
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments NONE				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments YES				
<i>General Comments</i> A unique dam layout and very inadequate portage				

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location Rockton, Illinois

Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock) Public, eroding gravel

Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:

- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage

Limited sign

Comments

- Portage area is easily accessible

Trail is accessible but badly maintained with the need to carry under at least one fallen tree

Comments

- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated

Easy to navigate but not illuminated

Comments

- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile

barely

Comments

- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated

Day time, but no illumination at night

Comments

-Take out identification signage is clearly visible

Several places to put in dependent on water levels

Comments

- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info

Not present

Comments

- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse

No

Comments

- Restrooms are nearby

none

Comments

-Potable water is nearby

Not available

Comments

-Shelter is nearby

no

Comments

- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace

yes

Comments

General Comments

This portage needs a lot of work

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location	Beloit	Jnsvl Cntrl	Jnsvl Mntry	Ford ham			
Dam Hazard Rating							
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>							
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance				no			
-Signage is easy to understand				no			
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach				yes			
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress				yes			
- Buoys indicate portage channel				no			
- Warning signs exist on the dam itself				no			
- A safety cable is in front of the spillway/hydropower house				yes			
- Safety lights are visible on the dam				no			
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated				no			
<i>Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:</i>							
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage				no			
- Portage area is easily accessible				no			
- Path to put in is easy to navigate				no			
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile				yes			
- Portage area and path are sufficiently illuminated				no			
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info				no			
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse				yes			
- Restrooms and drinking water are nearby				no			
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/hydro discharge/tailrace				yes			
<i>Type of Portage:</i>							
Pavment							
Gravel							
Sand							
Natural Embankment				X			

The dam

has an extremely dangerous portage route, hard to see from the water, no signage, up and down with sharp rocks. Should only be attempted by the most experienced paddlers.

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location	Oregon			
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance Comments	Signage is near the dam off the riverbanks			
-Signage is easy to understand Comments	Yes			
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments	No			
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments	No			
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments	No			
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself Comments	No			
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments	No			
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments	No			
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments	No			
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	No			
<i>General Comments</i>				

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location	Oregon Dam			
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	Public/shore			
<i>Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:</i>				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	No			
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	Yes			
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	No			
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	Yes			
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	No			
-Take out identification signage is clearly visible Comments	No			
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	No			
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	Yes			
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	Yes			
-Potable water is nearby Comments	Yes			
-Shelter is nearby Comments	Yes			
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	Yes			
<i>General Comments</i>				

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location	Dixon, Illinois			
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance Comments	No			
-Signage is easy to understand Comments	no			
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments	Yes			
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments	No			
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments	No			
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself Comments	yes			
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments	Yes			
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments	Somewhat			
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments	Somewhat			
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	no			
<i>General Comments</i>				

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location	Dixon, Ill.			
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	Public launch			
<i>Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:</i>				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	No			
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	Yes			
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	No			
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	No			
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	Maybe			
-Take out identification signage is clearly visible Comments	No			
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	No			
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	Yes			
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	Page park launch only			
-Potable water is nearby Comments	Page Park launch only			
-Shelter is nearby Comments	Page Park Launch only			
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	Yes			
<i>General Comments</i>				

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location	Upper Sterling/Rock Falls	Lower Sterling Rock Falls		
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance Comments	No	No		
-Signage is easy to understand Comments	No	No		
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments	No	No		
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments	No	No		
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments	No	No		
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself Comments	Yes	No		
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments	Yes	Yes		
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments	Yes	No		
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments	Yes	No		
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	No	No		
<i>General Comments</i>	TO at either left of right bank	Unsafe TO too close to dam		

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location	Upper Sterling/Rock Falls	Lower Sterling/Rock Falls		
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	Public concrete launch-south	Public ramp		
Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	No	No		
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	Yes	Unsafe – too close to dam		
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	Yes	Unsafe		
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	No	Yes		
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	Yes	Yes		
-Take out identification signage is clearly visible Comments	No	No		
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	No	No		
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	Yes	Yes		
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	Yes	No		
-Potable water is nearby Comments	No	No		
-Shelter is nearby Comments	Yes	Yes		
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	Yes	Yes		
General Comments	Two TOs – south and north			

ROCK RIVER DAMS SAFETY CHECKLIST

Dam Location	SEARS DAM, ROCK ISLAND		STEEL DAM MILAN	
Dam Hazard Rating				
<i>Warning Signage and Dam Safety Measures:</i>				
-Signage is easy to visually read from a reasonable distance Comments	YES WARNING SIGN ONLY		YES	
-Signage is easy to understand Comments	YES		YES	
-At least two warning signs are apparent upon approach Comments	NO		NO	
-Signage is far enough upstream to provide for safe egress Comments	YES		YES	
- Buoys indicate portage channel Comments	NO		NO	
- Warning signs are found on the dam itself Comments	YES		YES	
- A safety cable exists in front of the spillway Comments	YES		YES	
- Safety lights are visible on the dam Comments	NO		NO	
- The dam is sufficiently illuminated Comments	NO		NO	
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	NO		NO	
<i>General Comments</i>	AVOID THIS DAM		DAM HAS PORTAGE ON SOUTH BANK	

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location Steel Dam in Milan, Illinois				
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	PUBLIC			
Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	NO	There is no sign to indicate that paddler should exit	South bank on left	
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	YES	There is a large gravel parking lot at	Lock 30 on the Hennipen Canal	
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	No illumination	Path partly mowed 70 ft. on up stream side		
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	YES	Bank is steep at dam, downstream 200 ft. is better		
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	NO			
-Take out identification signage is clearly visible Comments		Large Red sign on left bank	Danger Dam Thin ice	
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	NONE			
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	YES	Garbage containers	No recycling containers	
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	NO			
-Potable water is nearby Comments	NO			
-Shelter is nearby Comments	NO			
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	YES			
General Comments	There should be a sign to direct	Paddler to left bank and south channel	To avoid North Channel that goes to Sears Dam	Did not see any signs directing paddlers

ROCK RIVER DAMS PORTAGE SAFETY and ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

Location SEARS DAM, ROCK ISLAND, IL				
Type of Portage: (such as public or private, launch, gravel, beach or dock)	PUBLIC			
Safety and Accessibility of Take Out and Put In Sites:				
- Signs indicate to which side paddler should portage Comments	There are no signs Telling which side To get out			
- Portage area is easily accessible Comments	No portage area			
- Path to put in is easy to navigate and sufficiently illuminated Comments	There is no path			
- Distance between take out and put in is less than ¼ mile Comments	THIS DAM SHOULD BE AVOIDED			
- Portage area is sufficiently illuminated Comments	NONE			
-Take out identification signage is clearly visible Comments	Large red sign on	Left bank	DANGER DAM	THIN ICE
- Information sign/kiosk on site provides wayfinding info Comments	NONE			
- Garbage and recycling containers are available for refuse Comments	NONE			
- Restrooms are nearby Comments	NONE			
-Potable water is nearby Comments	NONE			
-Shelter is nearby Comments	NONE			
- Put-in site is far enough downstream of spillway/discharge/tailrace Comments	NOT ACCESSABLE			
General Comments	THIS DAM SHOULD BE AVOIDED			