

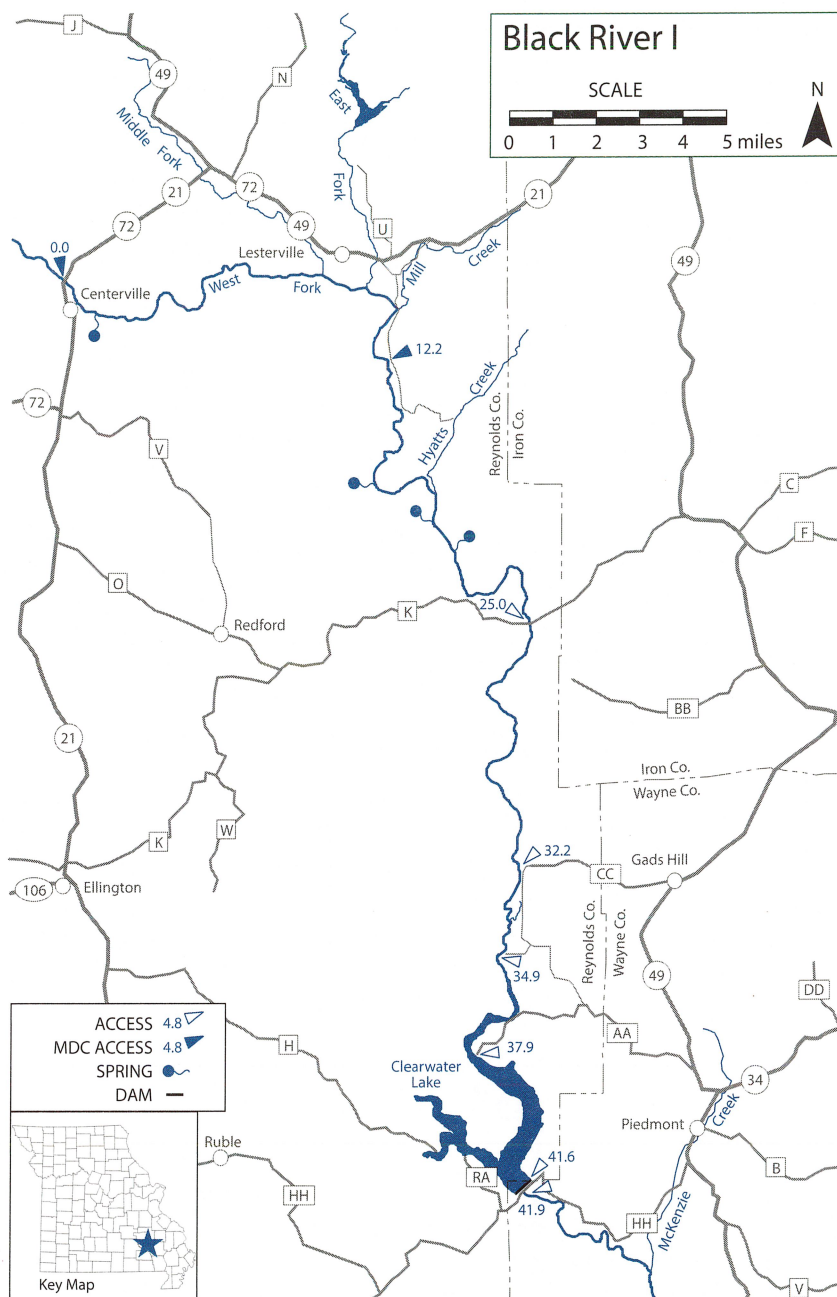
Black River

The three forks of the Black rise virtually within the shadow of the highest point in the state, Taum Sauk Mountain, and join near Lesterville to flow quickly toward the lowest section of the state. The upper Black is exceptionally clear and has enough feeder springs to produce some good smallmouth bass fishing. Below Clearwater Lake, the river moves more slowly and is less clear but is still a good float-fishing stream. Some of the most beautiful scenery in Missouri is to be found in the upper reaches of the Black. This includes several shut-ins, where the stream runs through jumbled rocks and potholes in gorge-like valleys. One such area open to the public is Johnson's Shut-ins State Park (DNR) on the East Fork. Shut-in Creek, a tributary of the East Fork, has a section which drops 70 feet per mile, but these upper shut-ins of the Black are not floatable. Mill Creek is the best starting point during normal or low-water levels. Good camping areas are located at Clearwater Dam and Markham Springs Recreation Area west of Williamsville.

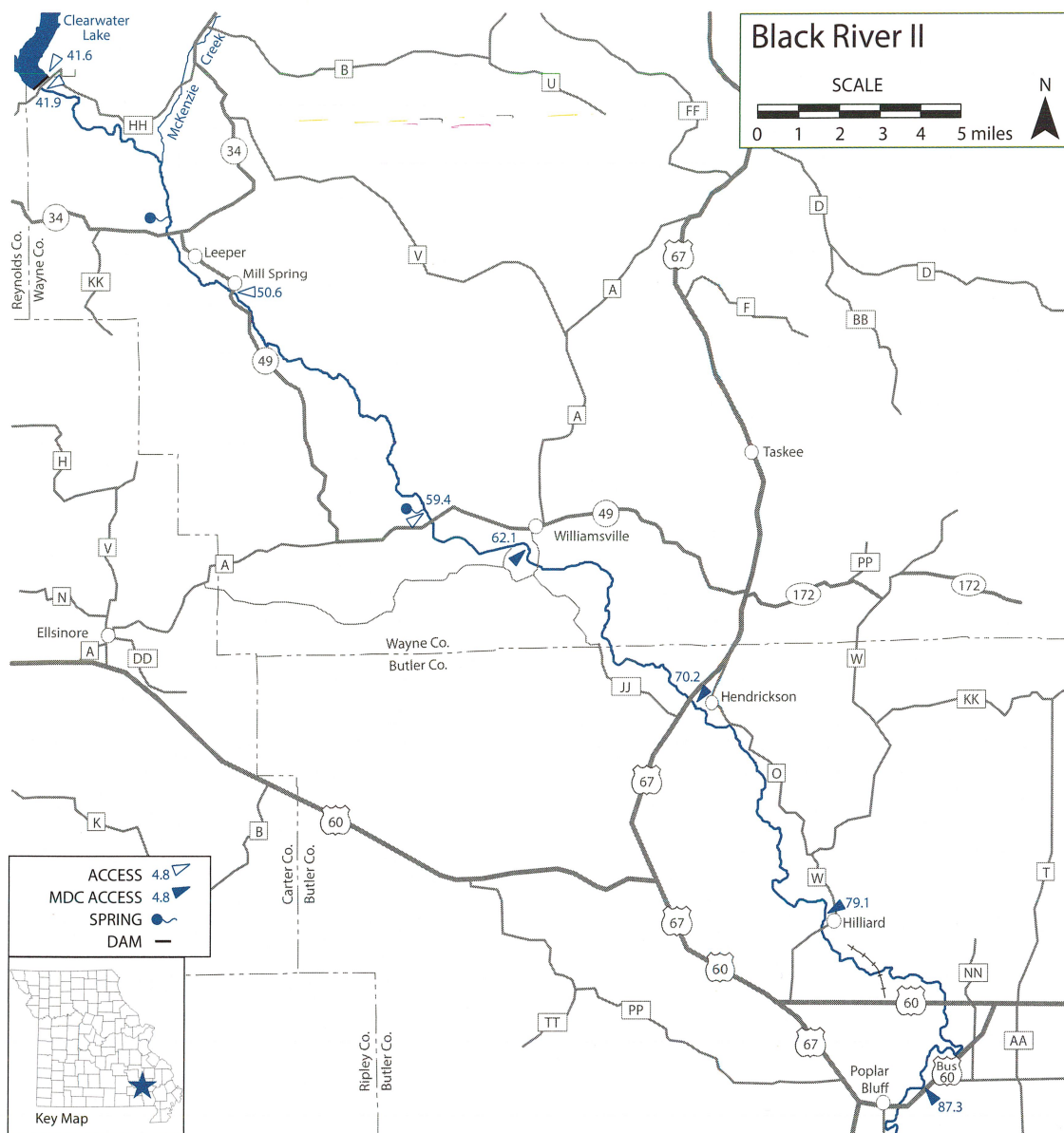
Difficulty: I, occasionally II.
Gradients: general — 4.8; Centerville to Lesterville — 10; to Route K — 5.7; Clearwater Dam to Hendrickson — 3.9; to Poplar Bluff — 1.6.
Counties: Reynolds, Wayne, Butler.

Black River I

- 0.0 Centerville Access, on left, at Hwy. 21 Bridge above Centerville on West Fork. High-water run only. Gravel bar. No ramp.
- 1.5 Reeds Spring on right. Adds considerable amount of water.
- 8.4 Junction with Middle Fork. Middle Fork can be run only in spring or high water. Gradient — 11.1.
- 9.6 Junction with East Fork. A high-water run only, and quite short. Access below Taum Sauk dam. Gradient — 16.
- 10.3 Peola Road Bridge.
- 10.7 Mill Creek on left.
- 12.2 Lesterville Access on left. Off Hwy. 21, to Peola Road to County Road 364. In low water, canoes/kayaks may need to be carried 1/3 mile.
- 14.5 Coil Bluff on left.



- 16.0 Warner Bay Spring Branch on right.
- 17.8 Hyatts Creek on left.
- 19.0 Spring and cave in bluff on right side.
- 19.7 Cave Spring 0.2 mile left, against bluff.
- 25.0 Route K Bridge. Last access above Clearwater Lake when lake is at full reservoir. Private campground.
- 32.2 Route CC. Access on left.
- 34.9 Charlton Bluff. Area accessible from County Road 468 at Seematter Cemetery. Good access.
- 37.9 Bluff View Marina and Campground (USACE). Picnic area and access.
- 41.6 Clearwater Dam. Must take out at dam.
- 41.9 River Road Park (USACE). Access. Beneath Clearwater Lake Dam off Route HH. Concrete ramp, camping, restrooms, parking, picnic shelters.



Black River II

- 41.9 River Road Park (USACE). Access. Beneath Clearwater Lake Dam off Route HH. Concrete ramp, camping, restrooms, parking, picnic shelters.
- 46.2 McKenzie Creek on left.
- 47.5 Spring 0.1 mile west of river on right.
- 48.6 Leeper. Hwy. 34 Bridge. No access.
- 50.6 Hwy. 49 Bridge at town of Mill Spring. Access.
- 56.4 Granite Bend. R.R. close on left.
- 59.4 Markham Springs Recreation Area (Forest Service). Large campground. Concrete ramp. On right, above where spring enters the river.
- 59.6 Hwy. 49 Bridge.
- 62.1 [Bradley A. Hammer Memorial Conservation Area](#) access on right. From Williamsville, take county roads 417, to 419 to 424. Easy gravel bar access and dirt ramp. Two primitive camping areas.
- 62.4 Railroad bridge site.
- 63.1 Williamsville Bridge. Road connects with Wayne County Route A and Butler County JJ.
- 66.9 Private access and campground.
- 70.1 Hwy. 67 Bridge.
- 70.2 [Hendrickson Access](#) on left, off Hwy. 67.
- 79.1 [Hilliard Access](#) on left at Route W. River flattens from here on.
- 81.3 Railroad bridge.
- 87.3 [Sportsman's Park Access](#) (Poplar Bluff) on left.
- 88.0 Bus. Hwy. 60 Bridge in Poplar Bluff.