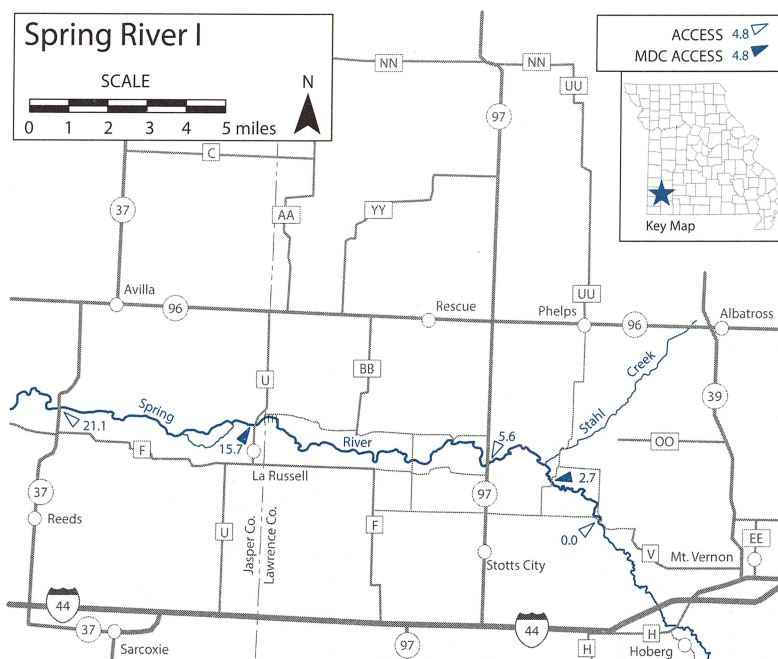


Spring River

Northernmost and largest of the rivers in this region is the Spring River. The largest and most important spring which feeds the river is Big Spring near its source, which has a daily flow of more than 10 million gallons. A fairly fast-moving stream throughout its length in Missouri, Spring River slows down slightly and becomes many-channeled and brushy in its mid-section, but picks up and opens up again below Carthage. It finally slows down abruptly as it drops into flat country in Kansas.

Difficulty: II and occasionally III, due to brush and log obstructions.
Gradients: general — 5.3; Big Spring to Bower Mills — 6; to Carthage — 4.8; to Galesburg — 5.9; to Kansas line — 3.
Counties: Lawrence, Jasper.



Spring River I

- 0.0 County Road 2100 Bridge. Access.
- 2.7 Robert E. Talbot Conservation Area and access on right. County Road 1082 Bridge. Fair access for canoes/kayaks.
- 5.6 Hwy. 97 Bridge. Access. Next 8 miles may be brushy with some log obstructions.
- 8.8 Lawrence County Road 1040 Bridge.
- 14.5 Sharp drop at old mill dam. Approach with caution.
- 14.9 Old Route U Bridge at Bowers Mill.
- 15.7 La Russell Access on left. Route U Bridge. Gravel ramp.
- 21.1 Hwy. 37 Bridge. Access. Next 7 miles difficult, especially in low water, due to log debris in stream.

- 42.0 Route O Bridge and access.
- 44.5 River divides. Right channel carries water to mill race of Old Quaker Mill. The race passes under two small bridges, between which it is stone walled, then plunges through the old mill foundation. This last drop is 5-6 foot (sloping) down a rocky rapids and over a concrete structure at the bottom. It has been run but is not recommended. Private campground near the old mill site.
- 44.7 Route D Bridge over left channel.
- 45.0 Old mill on right. Stream rejoins.
- 49.1 Hwy. 43 Bridge and access.
- 51.6 Old mill dam at Galesburg. The dam, 5-6 feet high, still stands, but the river passes to the right of it. Do not take other right channel above this in low water.
- 51.7 County Road 255. No public access.
- 52.8 North Fork of Spring River, on right, carries little water in dry seasons.
- 53.4 County Road 270 Bridge. Public access south bridge at old Georgia City Bridge site. Last legal public access.
- 55.5 Maple Lane Bridge.
- 56.4 Kansas City Southern R.R. Bridge.
- 56.7 St. Louis and San Francisco R.R. Bridge and Hwy. 171 Bridge.
- 58.6 Kafir Road Bridge, 2.5 miles west of Hwy. 171. No public access.
- 60.4 Missouri-Kansas state line. Kansas law regarding floating differs from Missouri. Research Kansas law before floating beyond this point.
- 65.7 River re-enters Missouri for a short distance, at the mouth of Center Creek.

Spring River II

- 21.1 Hwy. 37 Bridge. Access. Next 7 miles difficult, especially in low water, due to log debris in stream.
- 26.8 Bridge at Forest Mills.
- 30.5 Morrow Mill Dam and Bridge. Portage dam.
- 32.7 Dam at Hwy. 96. Portage right. Public park on right above dam. There is less water below the dam but it is returned to the river downstream at the Hwy. 571 Bridge.
- 33.7 Garrison Avenue Bridge. River becomes channelized and fast.
- 33.8 Railroad bridge.
- 34.5 Concrete arch bridge on Civil War Road. Short drop under bridge.
- 35.2 Hwy. 71/49 Bridges.
- 37.1 Jackpine Road Bridge. No public access.
- 39.0 County Road 180 Bridge.