

Important Information About the Alaska River Logs

These narratives about trips on Alaska rivers are valuable even decades after they were written. However, we recommend that you to keep the following in mind as you read.

First, a word of warning: use these river logs as one source of information that you will supplement with more. Alaska rivers can be very dangerous because of their remoteness, the climate, their sources, and other factors. Bring adequate and proper clothing, equipment, and food. File a "float plan" with someone who can call for help if you do not return on time. Take a satellite phone or other communications tool if at all possible (but not usually a cell phone because of their limited coverage in Alaska). You should plan carefully for a safe and pleasant trip.

Second, note also that land status information contained in these documents may no longer be accurate. These logs were compiled long before massive land transfers of unreserved public land to restrictive public ownership or private ownership. River users should be careful to follow federal or state regulations where appropriate, and to avoid trespassing on private land. [Here is some additional information Alaska native landowners.](#) You can obtain information about access on public lands from the [Alaska Public Lands Information Center.](#)

Third, be sure to also check current fishing or hunting regulations, as what was legal decades ago may not be legal today. You can obtain information about state fishing and hunting regulations from the [Alaska Department of Fish and Game website.](#) More restrictive federal regulations may apply on certain federal lands.

Finally, there may be errors. We are working to make as much of this material as possible searchable by adding a text layer to the original image-only PDF files using a text capture process. This process is ongoing. Where possible, we have also converted these to HTML files. Please note that while we have corrected obvious errors generated during these processes, errors may still remain. There may also be errors in the original material.



We floated to O'Brien Creek on the Beaver from Ophir Creek a distance of about 10 miles. Ophir Creek was 10'-15' wide and was too rocky and shallow to float. Nome Creek was a series of 1"-4" riffles connecting 1'-2' deep pools; it varied from 25'-50' in width, clear, flowing at 2 mph over a rocky channel with fist to basketball size rocks. Although it was so shallow in some riffles that we needed to pull the canoes across them, Nome Creek is generally floatable from Ophir Creek. Beaver Creek was also a series of pools (1'-4') and riffles (1"-6"), 40'-60' wide, clear, and flowing at 2 mph over a rocky channel. Beaver Creek had some sweepers and boulders, but it and Nome Creek offered good Class I water on the International Whitewater Scale.

The Beaver flows through a dense mixed white spruce-paper birch forest with willows near the water and tundra on the high slopes of the White Mountains. Forested two thousand foot high rolling hills surround Beaver Creek with the White Mountains rising 3,000'-4,000' on the north and east of Beaver Creek. The White Mountains with their limestone peaks were almost always in view. The thick forested area and the clear waters of Beaver Creek combine with the White Mountains to create a beautiful scene for a float trip. Good campsites are plentiful on gravelbars or on the forest edge. There were recently made ATV tracks on the gravelbar at camp. Some garbage, a firepit, and cut wood were evidence of previous campers at O'Brien Creek.

We saw a black bear on the banks of Beaver Creek just below the confluence of Nome Creek, several ducks, and moose sign on the gravelbars. Grayling fishing was excellent, we caught several averaging about 12".

August 5

Floated 14 miles today to an old cabin about three miles below Brigham Creek. The river continued to be a series of long pools (2'-6') deep and riffles (1"-12") deep, but widened to 75' and picked up speed (3-5 mph). It continued to flow through a rocky channel of mainly fist size rocks and some small boulders. There were some sweepers which with the river making several tight bends, kept us alert. We scraped the canoe bottom only a few times and did not have to pull them through any riffles. Good campsites continued to be plentiful and the scenery pleasing. We did not see any more ATV tracks, however we did check out three old fallen down

