

Trail Section Information

Falls Dam Access to Buffalo Road Access of the Neuse is described as class I-II in ***A Paddler's Guide to Eastern North Carolina***

by Bob Benner and Tom McCloud. This section is primarily moving water without rapids below the put in as the significant rapids lie in the 1/4 mile section upstream. This 1/4 mile is referred to as the Tailrace of Falls Dam and is a small boulder garden that varies greatly in difficulty from class II-III depending on water levels. The entire trip from the Tailrace of Falls Dam to Buffalo Road access is 10.7 miles with no public access points at the bridges of US Highway 1 and 401.

Water Levels

The Neuse River is dam-controlled by Falls Lake Dam, and there is always enough water released to paddle this section. Increased water levels can create additional hazards. The discharge amount will depend on the lake level, which is posted nightly on most local television news programs. Usually, release rates above normal occur when the lake elevation reaches 251 feet or higher. In addition, current stream flow information can be gathered by calling the Army Corps of Engineers at 919-846-9332, or online at: <http://water.usgs.gov/realtime.html> Check gauge # 02087183 Neuse River near Falls, NC

Note: This information does not include flow into the Neuse by tributaries, which can impact the volume of the river.

Hazards

Buffaloe Road is a recommended take out since Milburnie Dam is approximately 3.5 miles downstream. This 10 foot dam is a significant hazard to paddlers and must be avoided.

Paddlers should also watch out for trees in the river as this can pose a serious hazard. Avoid trees and carry around anything that can not be safely paddled around.

Personal Responsibility

Hazards inherent to river boating exist.

Each boater must make his/her own evaluation of individual capabilities and must accept personal responsibility for the consequences of those judgements.

Learn to Paddle

Raleigh Parks and Recreation has a well established Adventure Program that offers instructional opportunities for people seeking to become proficient canoeists or kayakers. For a current calendar of programs and events call the Adventure office at 919-831-6640 ext. 6855 or 6857. A sample of paddling courses includes:

- Intro To Kayaking
- Neuse Canoe Instruction
- Kayak Skill Building
- Canoe Camping
- Kayak Roll Instruction

Visit www.raleigh-nc.org/parks&rec for current program information.

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Raleigh Parks and Recreation
Adventure Programs
2401 Wade Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27607

Falls Dam to Buffalo Road Neuse River Canoe Trail



For

information

regarding Adventure opportunities

including paddling instruction with the

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please call **Adventure Programs**

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Falls Dam to Buffalo Road

Neuse River Canoe Trail

10.7
Miles

Falls Dam to US 1 3.3 miles
US 1 to US 401 4.2 miles
US 401 to Buffalo Road 3.2 miles

