

Texas Paddling Trails



Opportunity for the Upper Rio Grande River

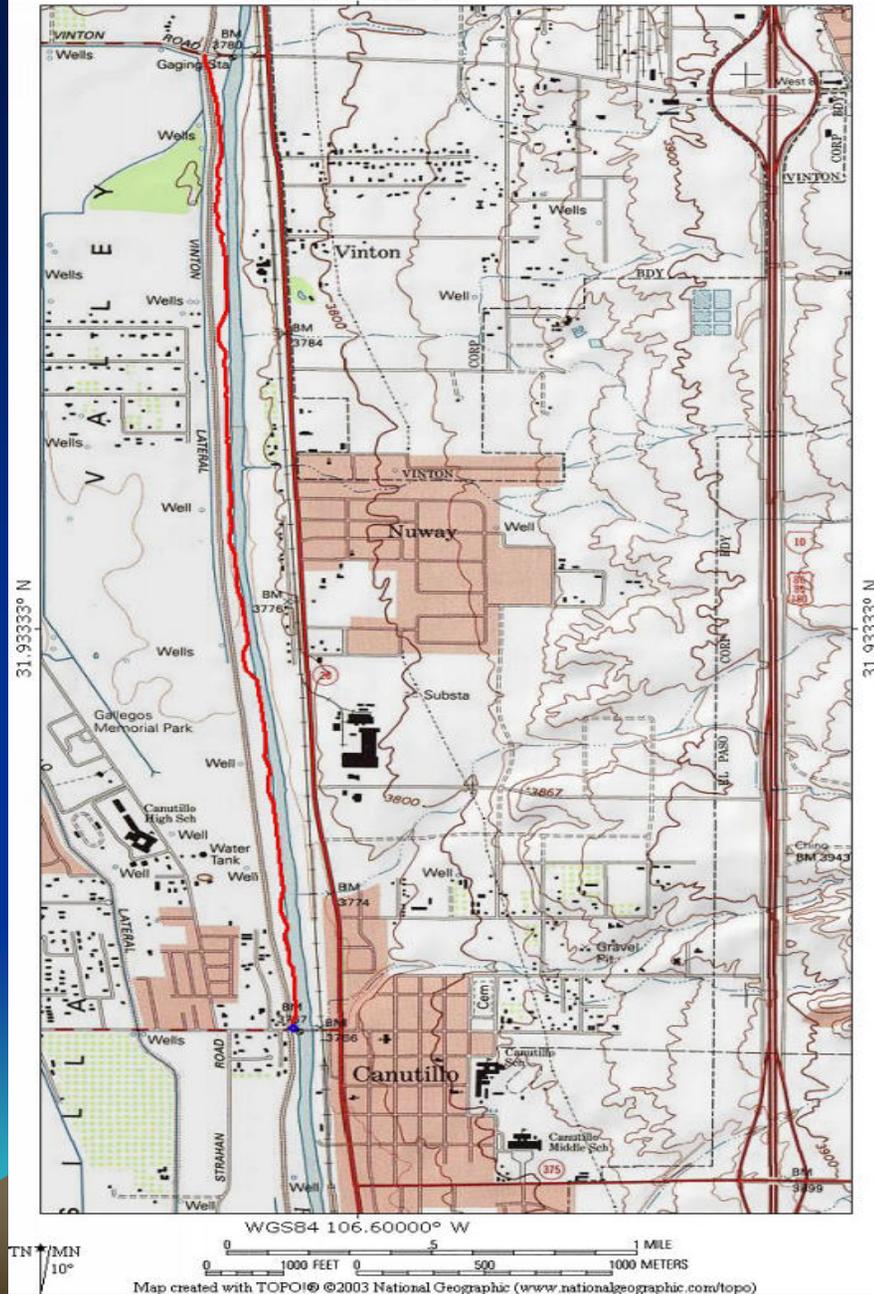
Texas Paddling Trails Program

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department



- conserve habitats
- provide recreational opportunities (canoeing & kayaking) for the traveling public
- promote sustainable economic development
- build public support for conservation of waterways and wildlife
- add upper Rio Grande to the 18 designated Texas Paddling Trails

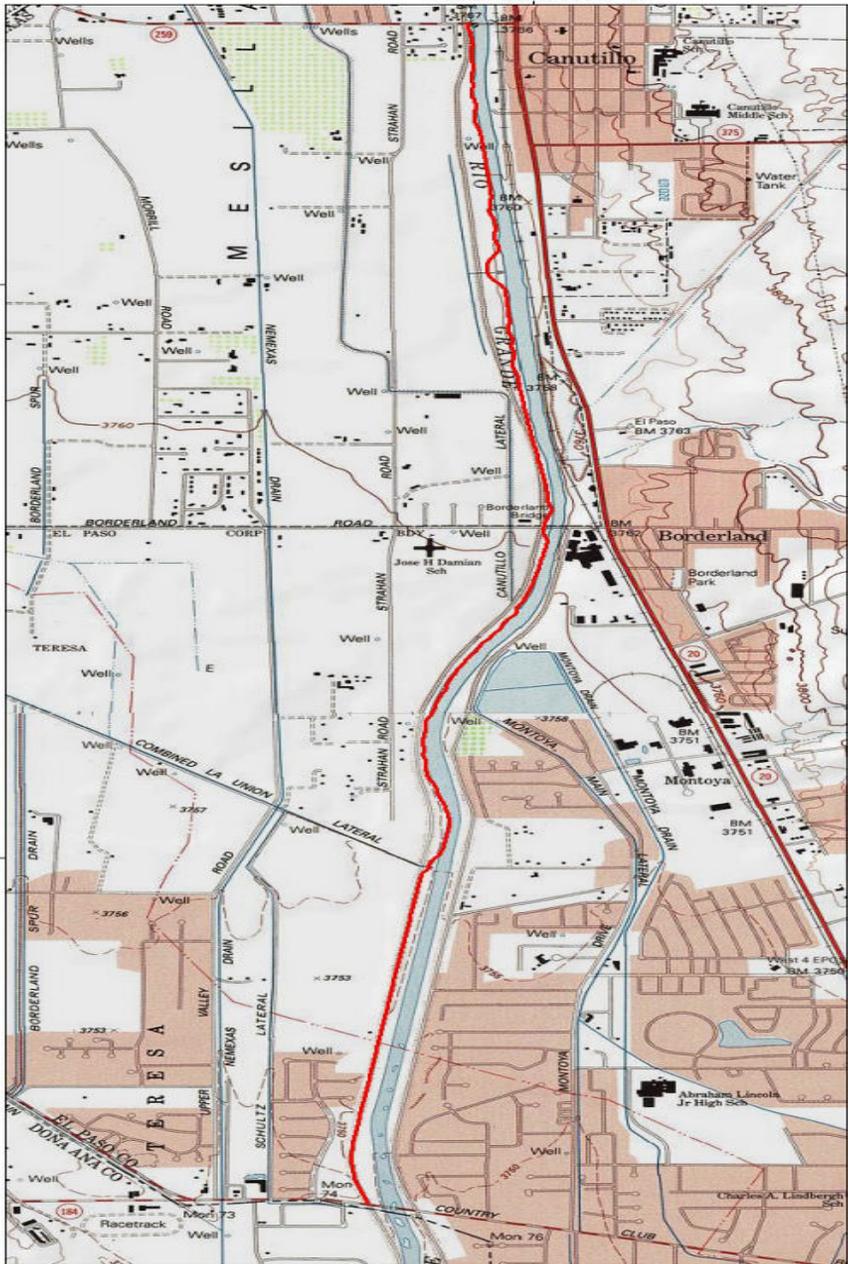
TOPOI map printed on 03/13/05 from "Untitled.tpo"
WGS84 106.60000° W



Rio Grande from Vinton to Canutillo



TOPOI map printed on 09/25/04 from "Untitled.tpo"
WGS84 106.60000° W

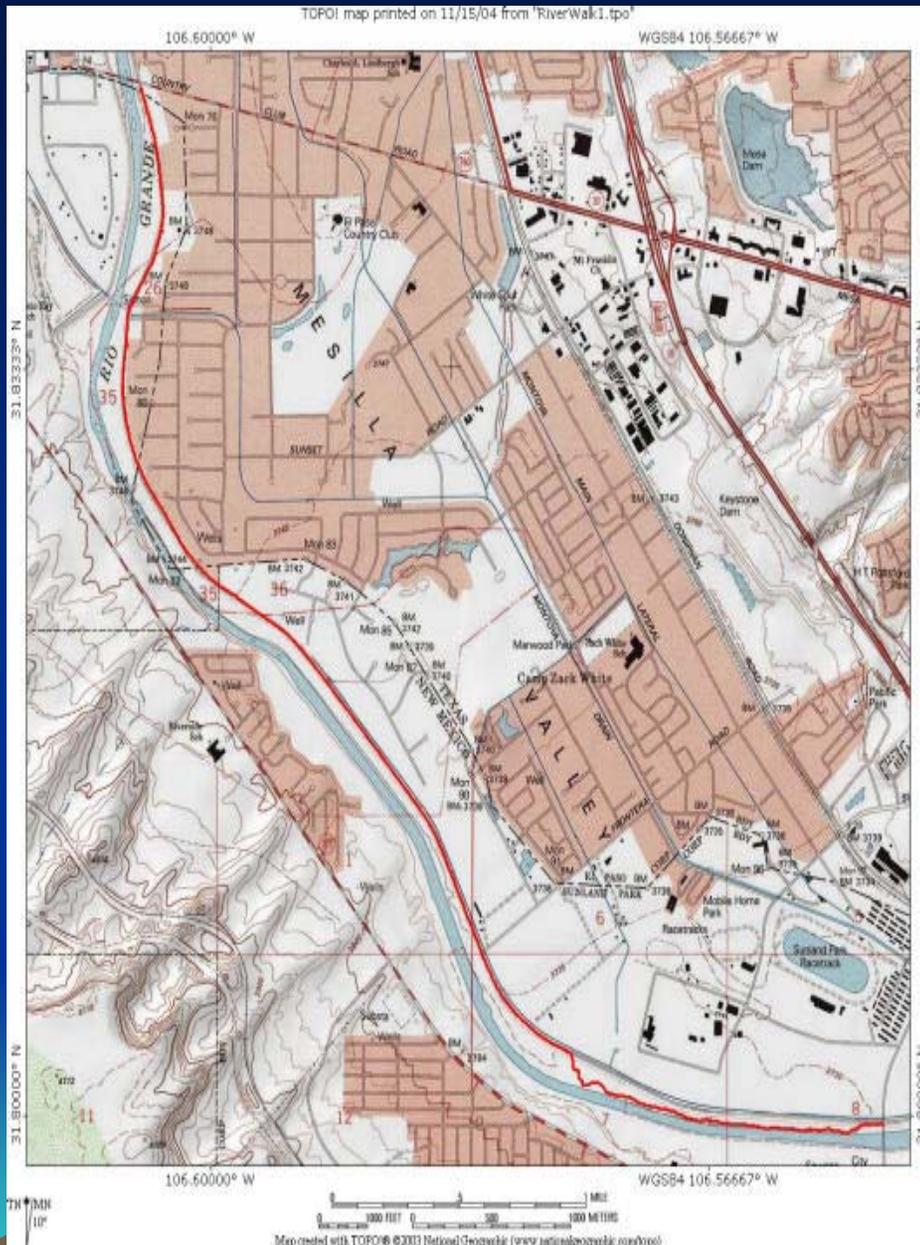


WGS84 106.60000° W
0 1000 FEET 0 500 1000 METERS
Map created with TOPOI® ©2003 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)

Rio Grande from Canutillo to Country Club Road



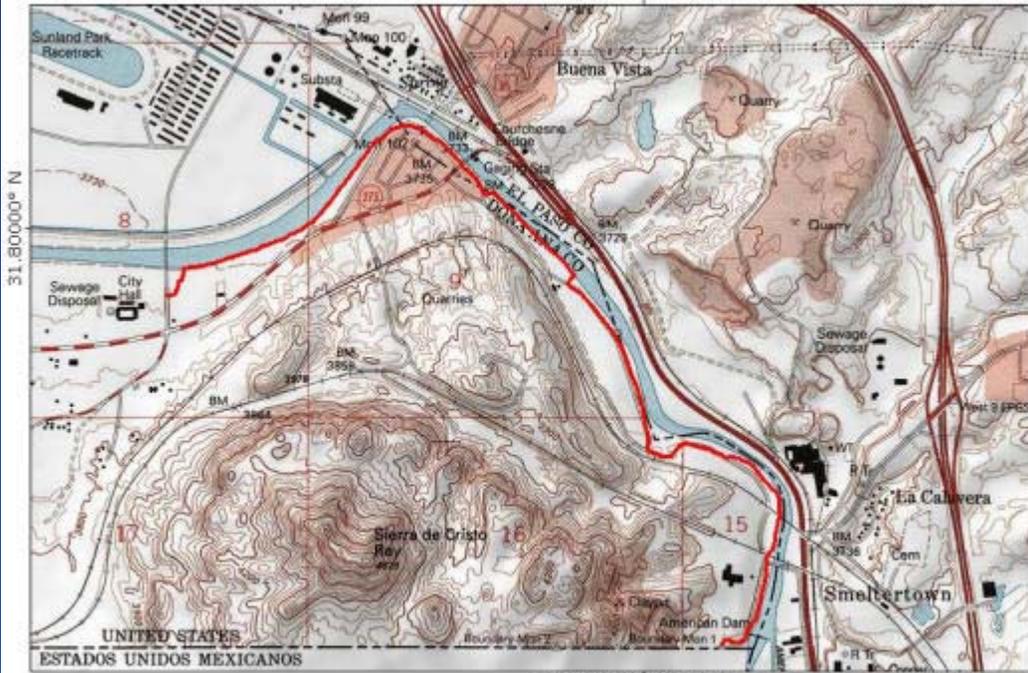
Rio Grande from Country Club Road to Sunland Park



Rio Grande from Sunland Park to American Dam

TOPOI map printed on 11/15/04 from "RiverWalk1.tpo"

WGS84 106.53333° W



WGS84 106.53333° W

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Ways TPWD Can Help

- Work with the local community partners
- Promote your paddling trail as part of the Texas Paddling Trails
- Provide TPT kiosk design options and estimated costs
- Develop trail map and local interpretive information for use in marketing materials (i.e., kiosk inserts, laminated TPT maps, Web site)
- Provide river conservation and river ethics information for use in marketing materials
- Provide official TPT marker signage for roadways and put-in/take-out locations
- Provide interpretive vinyl insert for approved community
- <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/>



Potential Paddling Trail Partners

- El Paso
- El Paso County
- Dona Ana County, NM
- Vinton, Texas
- Sunland Park, NM
- International Boundary & Water Commission
- Texas Parks & Wildlife
- US Dept. of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
- Texas Dept. of Transportation
- Texas Historical Commission
- Southwest Environmental Center
- Equipment rental / sale



Desirable Paddling Trail Characteristics

- Public access must be a minimum of four paddling miles to a maximum of twelve paddling miles for each segment
- Presence of natural or historical attractions such as rapids, mature trees or unique habitat, wildlife diversity, historic sites, etc.
- Adequate water quality, river flows or water depth (seasonal flows acceptable)
- Population center within 100 miles
- Local partner(s) to maintain put-in/take-outs and keep them clean
- Canoe and kayak rentals from local sources
- Designated parking
- TPT marker signage and kiosk



Keep Your River



The Southwest Environmental Center presents the 12th annual

RAFT THE RIO

Raft Race and Festival at the River

from the Picacho Bridge to the Mesilla Bridge

Food
Music
Family
Fun!



"Rafting the Rio" by Rosie McLoughlin, from the collection of John & Leslie Lockhart.

Prizes awarded for:

- Best use of recycled materials
- Most creative
- First to finish
- Least likely to finish (must be floating at the starting line)
- Spirit of the River

Sponsored by

RETHINK Real Estate
Dental Associates
International Delights
Malooly's Flooring
Citizens Bank
Las Cruces Toyota
Andele Restaurant
Boldt Family Trust
Life in Balance Pilates Studio
Las Cosas Kitchen Shoppe
Boris & Padma Valdevit
Kate & Russell Mott
Meg Sanchez-Ikard
Sally Williams & Bill Perry

SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH

Must be a homemade boat to win a prize.

Open to individuals and teams of all ages.

Two divisions this year:

- Kids Only (under 13)
- All Ages

All day at the river!



For more information, call (575) 522-5552.

Recommendation

- City cooperate with other entities on the river to establish Upper Rio Grande Paddling Trail.
- Request to evaluate the feasibility of creating a permanent pool behind the American Dam at the Rio Grande River.
- Authorize the Mayor to submit a request to the U.S. Department of the Interior – Bureau of Reclamation, International Boundary & Water Commission, El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 and El Paso Water Utilities to create a task force to study the issue.

