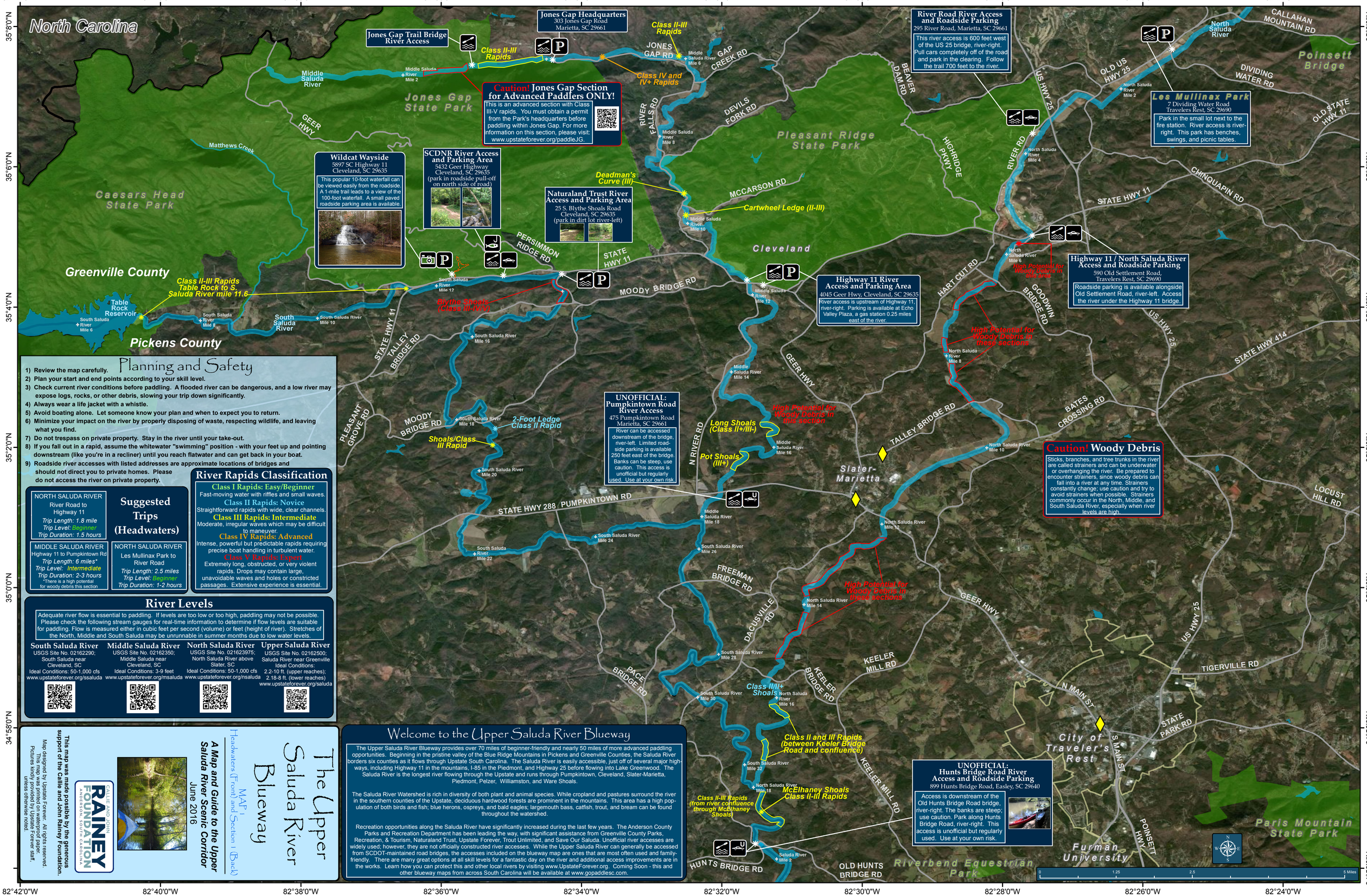
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34°56'0"N
North Carolina
Greenville County
Pickens County
Caesars Head State Park
Jones Gap State Park
Pleasant Ridge State Park
Paris Mountain State Park
Riverbend Equestrian Park
Cleveland
City of Traveler's Rest
Slater-Marietta
Furman University
Poinsett Bridge
Matthews Creek
Middle Saluda River
South Saluda River
North Saluda River
Table Rock Reservoir
Jones Gap Headquarters
303 Jones Gap Road
Marietta, SC 29661
Jones Gap Trail Bridge River Access
Class II-III Rapids
Class IV and IV+ Rapids
Caution! Jones Gap Section for Advanced Paddlers ONLY!
This is an advanced section with Class III-V rapids. You must obtain a permit from the Park's headquarters before paddling within Jones Gap. For more information on this section, please visit: www.upstateforever.org/paddleJG.
Wildcat Wayside
5897 SC Highway 11
Cleveland, SC 29635
This popular 10-foot waterfall can be viewed easily from the roadside. A 1-mile trail leads to a view of the 100-foot waterfall. A small paved roadside parking area is available.
SCDNR River Access and Parking Area
5432 Geer Highway
Cleveland, SC 29635
(park in roadside pull-off on north side of road)
Naturaland Trust River Access and Parking Area
25 S. Blythe Shoals Road
Cleveland, SC 29635
(park in dirt lot river-left)
Deadman's Curve (III)
Cartwheel Ledge (II-III)
Class II-III Rapids Table Rock to S. Saluda River mile 11.6
Blythe Shoals (Class III-IV+)
River Road River Access and Roadside Parking
295 River Road, Marietta, SC 29661
This river access is 600 feet west of the US 25 bridge, river-right. Pull cars completely off of the road and park in the clearing. Follow the trail 700 feet to the river.
Les Mullinax Park
7 Dividing Water Road
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
Park in the small lot next to the fire station. River access is river-right. This park has benches, swings, and picnic tables.
Highway 11 River Access and Parking Area
4045 Geer Hwy, Cleveland, SC 29635
River access is upstream of Highway 11, river-right. Parking is available at Echo Valley Plaza, a gas station 0.25 miles east of the river.
Highway 11 / North Saluda River Access and Roadside Parking
590 Old Settlement Road,
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
Roadside parking is available alongside Old Settlement Road, river-left. Access the river under the Highway 11 bridge.
High Potential for Woody Debris in this area
High Potential for Woody Debris in these sections
UNOFFICIAL: Pumpkintown Road River Access
475 Pumpkintown Road
Marietta, SC 29661
River can be accessed downstream of the bridge, river-left. Limited road-side parking is available 250 feet east of the bridge Banks can be steep, use caution. This access is unofficial but regularly used. Use at your own risk.
2-Foot Ledge Class II Rapid
Shoals/Class III Rapid
Long Shoals (Class II+/III-)
Pot Shoals (III+)
Class III/II+ Shoals
Class II and III Rapids (between Keeler Bridge Road and confluence)
Class II-III Rapids (from river confluence through McElhaney Shoals)
McElhaney Shoals Class II-III Rapids
UNOFFICIAL: Hunts Bridge Road River Access and Roadside Parking
899 Hunts Bridge Road, Easley, SC 29640
Access is downstream of the Old Hunts Bridge Road bridge, river-right. The banks are steep; use caution. Park along Hunts Bridge Road, river-right. This access is unofficial but regularly used. Use at your own risk.
Caution! Woody Debris
Sticks, branches, and tree trunks in the river are called strainers and can be underwater or overhanging the river. Be prepared to encounter strainers, since woody debris can fall into a river at any time. Strainers constantly change; use caution and try to avoid strainers when possible. Strainers commonly occur in the North, Middle, and South Saluda River, especially when river levels are high.
Planning and Safety
1) Review the map carefully.
2) Plan your start and end points according to your skill level.
3) Check current river conditions before paddling. A flooded river can be dangerous, and a low river may expose logs, rocks, or other debris, slowing your trip down significantly.
4) Always wear a life jacket with a whistle.
5) Avoid boating alone. Let someone know your plan and when to expect you to return.
6) Minimize your impact on the river by properly disposing of waste, respecting wildlife, and leaving what you find.
7) Do not trespass on private property. Stay in the river until your take-out.
8) If you fall out in a rapid, assume the whitewater "swimming" position - with your feet up and pointing downstream (like you're in a recliner) until you reach flatwater and can get back in your boat.
9) Roadside river accesses with listed addresses are approximate locations of bridges and should not direct you to private homes. Please do not access the river on private property.
Suggested Trips (Headwaters)
NORTH SALUDA RIVER
River Road to Highway 11
Trip Length: 1.8 mile
Trip Level: Beginner
Trip Duration: 1.5 hours
MIDDLE SALUDA RIVER
Highway 11 to Pumpkintown Rd
Trip Length: 6 miles*
Trip Level: Intermediate
Trip Duration: 2-3 hours
*There is a high potential for woody debris this section
NORTH SALUDA RIVER
Les Mullinax Park to River Road
Trip Length: 2.5 miles
Trip Level: Beginner
Trip Duration: 1-2 hours
River Rapids Classification
Class I Rapids: Easy/Beginner
Fast-moving water with riffles and small waves.
Class II Rapids: Novice
Straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels.
Class III Rapids: Intermediate
Moderate, irregular waves which may be difficult to maneuver.
Class IV Rapids: Advanced
Intense, powerful but predictable rapids requiring precise boat handling in turbulent water.
Class V Rapids: Expert
Extremely long, obstructed, or very violent rapids. Drops may contain large, unavoidable waves and holes or constricted passages. Extensive experience is essential.
River Levels
Adequate river flow is essential to paddling. If levels are too low or too high, paddling may not be possible. Please check the following stream gauges for real-time information to determine if flow levels are suitable for paddling. Flow is measured either in cubic feet per second (volume) or feet (height of river). Stretches of the North, Middle and South Saluda may be unrunnable in summer months due to low water levels.
South Saluda River
USGS Site No. 02162290; South Saluda near Cleveland, SC
Ideal Conditions: 50-1,000 cfs
www.upstateforever.org/ssaluda
Middle Saluda River
USGS Site No. 02162350; Middle Saluda near Cleveland, SC
Ideal Conditions: 3-9 feet
www.upstateforever.org/msaluda
North Saluda River
USGS Site No. 021623975; North Saluda River above Slater, SC
Ideal Conditions: 50-1,000 cfs
www.upstateforever.org/nsaluda
Upper Saluda River
USGS Site No. 02162500; Saluda River near Greenville
Ideal Conditions: 2.2-10 ft. (upper reaches); 2.18-8 ft. (lower reaches)
www.upstateforever.org/saluda
The Upper Saluda River Blueway
A Map and Guide to the Upper Saluda River Scenic Corridor
June 2016
MAP 1 Headwaters (Front) and Section 1 (Back)
This map was made possible by the generous support of the Callie and John Rainey Foundation.
Map designed by Upstate Forever.
This map was printed on waterproof paper.
Pictures kindly provided by Upstate Forever staff, unless otherwise noted.
Callie and John Rainey Foundation
Anderson, South Carolina
Welcome to the Upper Saluda River Blueway
The Upper Saluda River Blueway provides over 70 miles of beginner-friendly and nearly 50 miles of more advanced paddling opportunities. Beginning in the pristine valley of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Pickens and Greenville Counties, the Saluda River borders six counties as it flows through Upstate South Carolina. The Saluda River is easily accessible, just off of several major highways, including Highway 11 in the mountains, I-85 in the Piedmont, and Highway 25 before flowing into Lake Greenwood. The Saluda River is the longest river flowing through the Upstate and runs through Pumpkintown, Cleveland, Slater-Marietta, Piedmont, Pelzer, Williamston, and Ware Shoals.
The Saluda River Watershed is rich in diversity of both plant and animal species. While cropland and pastures surround the river in the southern counties of the Upstate, deciduous hardwood forests are prominent in the mountains. This area has a high population of both birds and fish; blue herons, ospreys, and bald eagles; largemouth bass, catfish, trout, and bream can be found throughout the watershed.
Recreation opportunities along the Saluda River have significantly increased during the last few years. The Anderson County Parks and Recreation Department has been leading the way, with significant assistance from Greenville County Parks, Recreation, & Tourism, Naturaland Trust, Upstate Forever, Trout Unlimited, and Save Our Saluda. Unofficial river accesses are widely used; however, they are not officially constructed river accesses. While the Upper Saluda River can generally be accessed from SCDOT-maintained road bridges, the accesses included on the blueway map are ones that are most often used and family-friendly. There are many great options at all skill levels for a fantastic day on the river and additional access improvements are in the works. Learn how you can protect this and other local rivers by visiting www.UpstateForever.org. Coming Soon - this and other blueway maps from across South Carolina will be available at www.gopaddlesc.com.
0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

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HUNTS BRIDGE RD
DACUSVILLE RD
THOMAS MILL RD
OLD HUNTS BRIDGE RD
OLD WHITE HORSE RD
WHITE HORSE RD
US HWY 25
Furman University
FARRS BRIDGE RD / HWY 183
HAMBURG RD
MOTOR BOAT CLUB RD
HUNTS BRIDGE RD
HWY 183 / CEDAR LANE RD
PISTOL CLUB RD
SALUDA DAM RD
N FISH TRAP RD
OLD EASLEY HWY
STATE HWY 124
HWY 123
S FISHTRAP RD
EASLEY BRIDGE RD
OLD EASLEY BRIDGE RD
WHITE HORSE RD
MILLS AVE
ACADEMY ST
POWDERSVILLE RD
STATE HWY 153
OLD DUNHAM BRIDGE RD
STATE HWY 81
OLD PENDLETON RD
BRUSHY CREEK RD
THREE BRIDGES RD
ANDERSON RD
RIVER RD
I-85
HWY 153
I-185
MOUNT AIRY CHURCH RD
INTERSTATE 85
STATE HWY 86
PIEDMONT HWY
BESSIE RD

Pickens County
Greenville County
Anderson County
City of Easley
City of Greenville
Piedmont, SC

Monoghan Park
Westside Park
Welcome Park
Lakeside Park
Shoeless Joe Jackson Memorial
Greenville County Fairgrounds
Thomas Pack Park

Saluda River Mile 2
Saluda River Mile 4
Saluda River Mile 6
Saluda River Mile 8
Saluda River Mile 10
Saluda River Mile 12
Saluda River Mile 14
Saluda River Mile 16
Saluda River Mile 18
Saluda River Mile 20
Saluda River Mile 22
Saluda River Mile 24
Saluda River Mile 26

Saluda Lake

UNOFFICIAL: Hunts Bridge Road River Access and Roadside Parking
899 State Rd S-39-140
Easley, SC 29640

Access is downstream of the Old Hunts Bridge Road bridge, river-right. The banks are steep; use caution. Park along Hunts Bridge Road, river-right. This access is unofficial but regularly used. Use at your own risk.

Saluda Lake Access and Parking Area
322 Buckskin Road,
Easley, SC 29640

This is the last take-out before the Saluda Lake Dam. There is a small fee to utilize this access. Open dawn to dusk.

Saluda Lake Landing Access and Parking Area
605 Motor Boat Club Road,
Greenville, SC 29611

This boat ramp and parking lot can be used for a small fee. If paddling downstream, the ramp is river/lake-left. The restaurant has seasonal hours. Please visit their Facebook page for more information, or call them at (864) 294-9061.

Caution! The Saluda Lake Dam

Be advised that this dam is large and poses hazards to paddlers. Portage is not available at this time. Avoid the dam and its facilities.

Saluda Dam Road River Access and Parking Area
4014 Saluda Dam Road, Easley, SC 29640

The Saluda Dam Road River Access and Parking Area is located river-right north of the bridge. There is a small dirt parking lot and a fairly steep path leading to the river, downstream of the Saluda Lake Dam.

Saluda River Yacht Club
1307 Old Easley Highway, Easley, SC 29640

This access is located river-right, downstream of the Old Easley Highway bridge and may be used by obtaining a free membership at the Yacht Club. Kayaks and tubes are available for rent. For more information, visit: www.saludariveryachtclub.com.

Class I-II Rapids
Class II Play Spot
Class I-II Rapid

Dolly Cooper Park River Access and Parking Area
170 Spearman Circle, Greenville, SC 29611

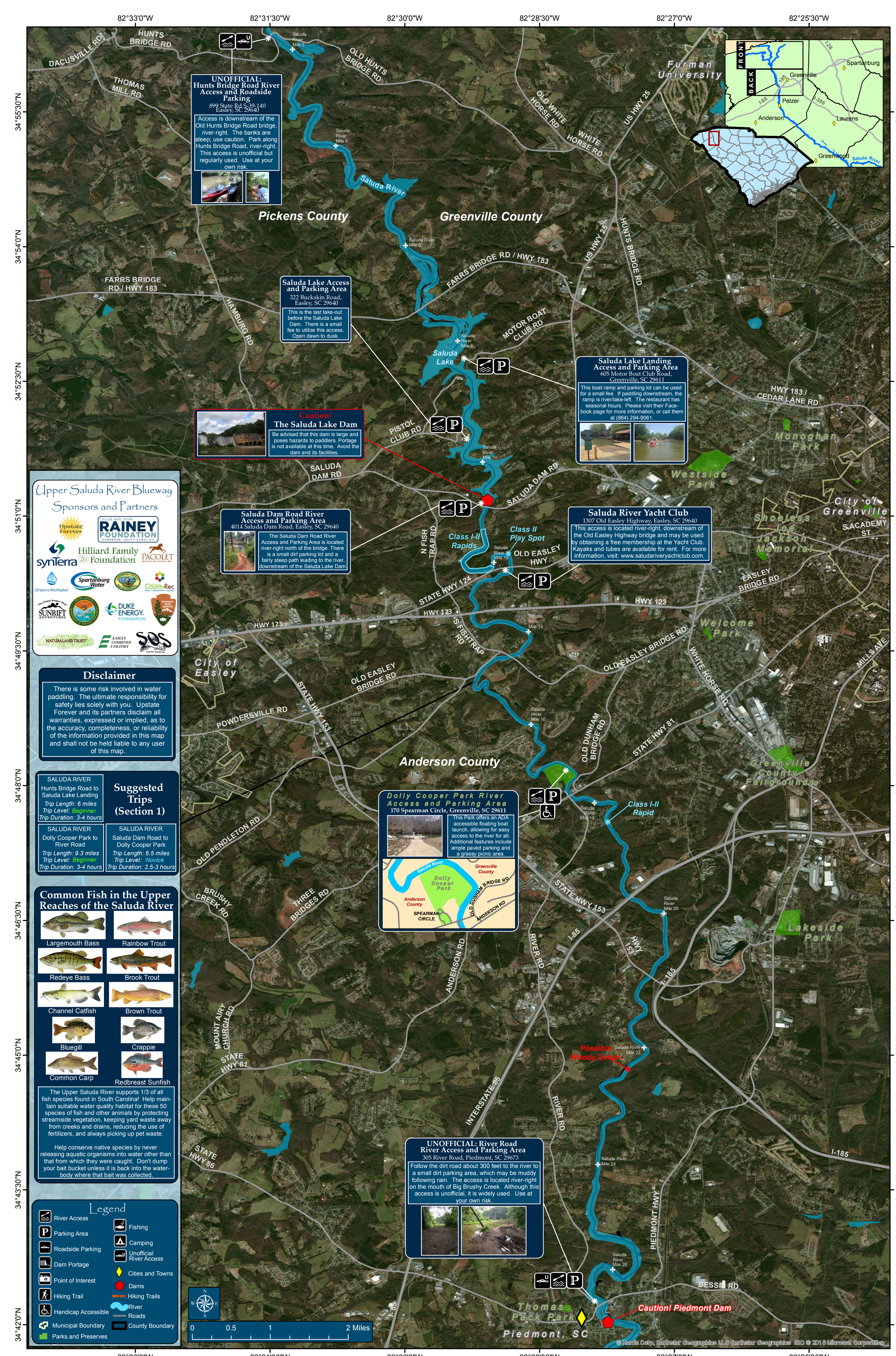
This Park offers an ADA accessible floating boat launch, allowing for easy access to the river for all. Additional features include ample paved parking and a grassy picnic area.

UNOFFICIAL: River Road River Access and Parking Area
305 River Road, Piedmont, SC 29673

Follow the dirt road about 300 feet to the river to a small dirt parking area, which may be muddy following rain. The access is located river-right on the mouth of Big Brushy Creek. Although this access is unofficial, it is widely used. Use at your own risk.

Possible Woody Debris

Caution! Piedmont Dam



Upper Saluda River Blueway Sponsors and Partners

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Hilliard Family Foundation
Pacolet Milliken Enterprises, Inc.
GreenvilleWater
Spartanburg Water
Anderson County South Carolina
Greenville County Rec Parks • Recreation • Tourism
"The Unique Outdoor Shop" Sunrift Adventures
South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
Duke Energy Foundation
National Park Service
Naturaland Trust
Easley Combined Utilities
SOS Save Our Saluda.org

Disclaimer

There is some risk involved in water paddling. The ultimate responsibility for safety lies solely with you. Upstate Forever and its partners disclaim all warranties, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy, completeness, or reliability of the information provided in this map and shall not be held liable to any user of this map.

Suggested Trips (Section 1)

SALUDA RIVER
Hunts Bridge Road to Saluda Lake Landing
Trip Length: 6 miles
Trip Level: Beginner
Trip Duration: 3-4 hours

SALUDA RIVER
Dolly Cooper Park to River Road
Trip Length: 9.3 miles
Trip Level: Beginner
Trip Duration: 3-4 hours

SALUDA RIVER
Saluda Dam Road to Dolly Cooper Park
Trip Length: 6.5 miles
Trip Level: Novice
Trip Duration: 2.5-3 hours

Common Fish in the Upper Reaches of the Saluda River

Largemouth Bass

Rainbow Trout

Redeye Bass

Brook Trout

Channel Catfish

Brown Trout

Bluegill

Crappie

Common Carp

Redbreast Sunfish

The Upper Saluda River supports 1/3 of all fish species found in South Carolina! Help maintain suitable water quality habitat for these 50 species of fish and other animals by protecting streamside vegetation, keeping yard waste away from creeks and drains, reducing the use of fertilizers, and always picking up pet waste.

Help conserve native species by never releasing aquatic organisms into water other than that from which they were caught. Don't dump your bait bucket unless it is back into the waterbody where that bait was collected.

Legend

- River Access
- Parking Area
- Roadside Parking
- Dam Portage
- Point of Interest
- Hiking Trail
- Handicap Accessible
- Municipal Boundary
- Parks and Preserves
- Fishing
- Camping
- Unofficial River Access
- Cities and Towns
- Dams
- Hiking Trails
- River
- Roads
- County Boundary

N W E S

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

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