

**S**hare the river - with everyone  
**T**read lightly and leave no trace  
**E**tiquette is for ALL river users  
**W**ait your turn and be patient  
**A**dhere to closures & regulations  
**R**espect all life - wild and human  
**D**o your part to protect the river



Explore • Value • Protect

[www.roaringfork.org](http://www.roaringfork.org)

- Prepare boat and gear in a staging area away from the ramp. Ramps are for launching or loading watercraft only.
- Launch boats as quickly as possible. Move upstream or downstream and tie off or anchor away from the ramp.
- Load boats and passengers quickly (5 minutes).
- Use a single launch lane.
- Keep ramp clear of gear and passengers.
- Move vehicle and trailer away from the ramp once launched/loaded.
- Respect the order in line for launching/loading.
- Offer assistance to other boaters launching/loading.
- Kayakers and stand up paddlers are encouraged to use alternative launch points where available.
- Be patient and cooperative.
- Pro tip – Run shuttle prior to launching.

- Always wear a life jacket.
- Check weather and river levels before launching.
- Maintain respectful distance and volume, especially around wildlife and other users.
- Use public restrooms when available.
- Pick up and pack out all trash, food waste and toilet paper.
- Anglers wading downstream have the right of way. Quietly float around anglers or communicate otherwise.
- Follow the Golden Rule – treat others as you would like to be treated.
- It is your responsibility to know where private property exists. In Colorado, private property can extend to the river bottom. Anchoring, stopping on a rock or exiting boat may be trespassing on private property.

**Riparian Area**



- Riparian areas are the most biodiverse habitats in Colorado.
- Riparian areas are just as much a part of the river as the water in the river.
- Only 1% of the land in Colorado is riparian yet 85% of wildlife depend on it.

- Riparian vegetation embodies all that we love about rivers while helping to maintain water quality by filtering pollutants, mitigating floods, and providing food, shade and habitat for fish and wildlife!

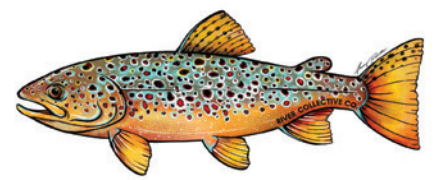
Local regulations are in place to protect riparian areas. Questions? Concerns? Call Roaring Fork Conservancy at (970) 927-1290.

**Fish Identification**

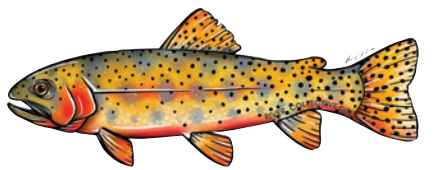
**Rainbow Trout**  
Silverish in color with horizontal pink/red stripe; small irregularly shaped black spots on head, body, and tail.



**Brown Trout**  
Golden brown in color; large dark spots with rings around them intermixed with red/orange spots.



**Cutthroat Trout**  
Silverish to yellow in color with red/orange slash on underside of lower jaw; heavier black spots toward the tail.



**Brook Trout**  
Greenish back with wavy lines and red spots with blue ring; white leading edge of fins offset by black line.



**Mountain Whitefish**  
Silverish to white in color with round body shape and larger scales than trout; a small mouth overhung by the snout.



**Fishing Etiquette**

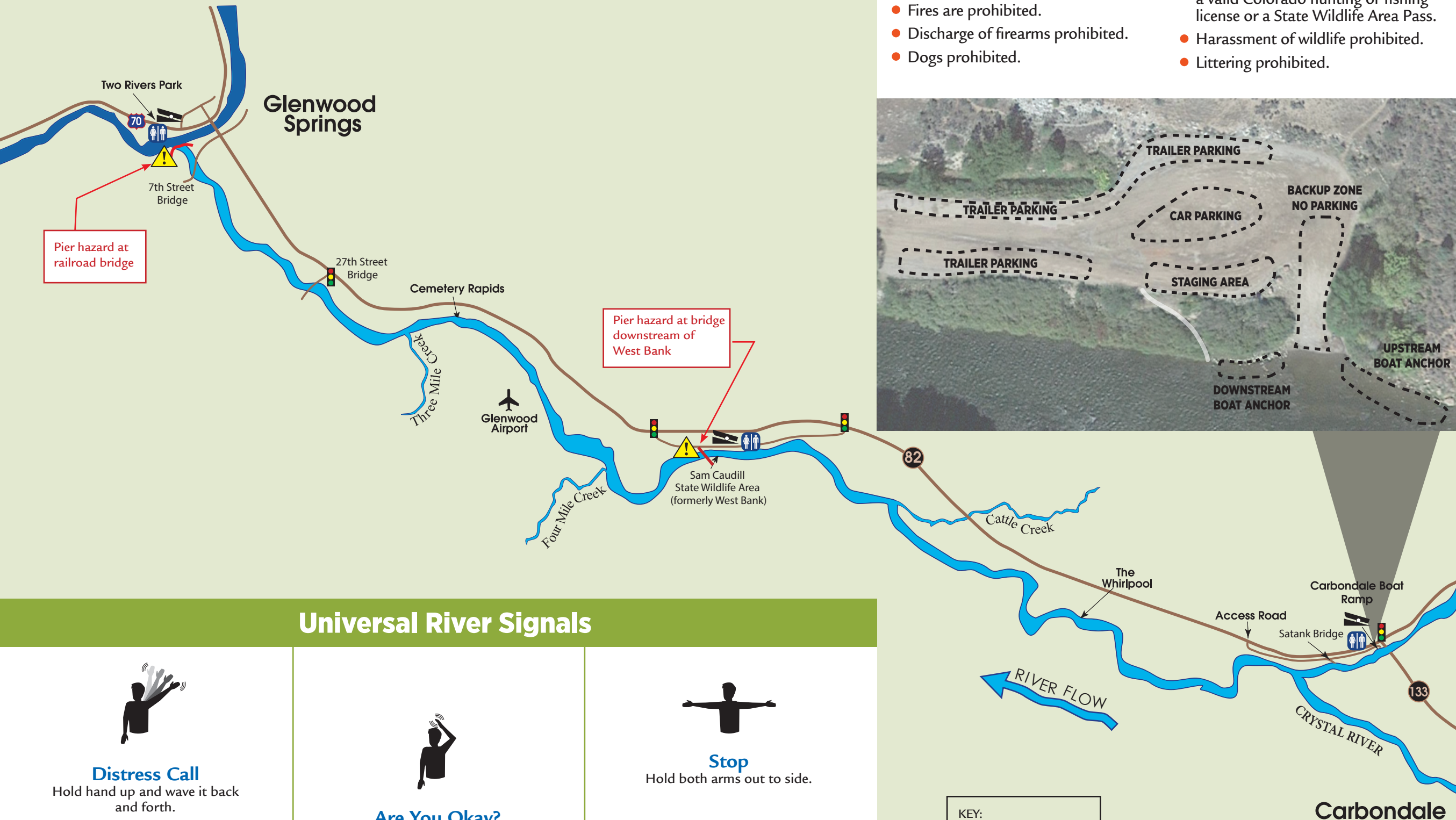
- Obtain a valid Colorado Fishing License.
- Learn and follow all local fishing regulations.
- Respect private property.
- Land fish quickly.
- Use a landing net to minimize fish handling. Keep fish in the water. Handle fish with wet hands.
- Release fish gently in clean water and allow fish to swim away when ready.
- Barbless hooks – all the time.
- Give other anglers plenty of room.
- Wade anglers generally move upstream. Enter the river well downstream of another angler.
- Refrain from loud noises, splashing or shouting.
- Pick up trash.
- Share knowledge and be friendly with other anglers.

- Ask yourself:
  - Is the water at a safe level for me and my guests today? Am I capable of navigating the river?
  - Do I have a plan? Does someone know where I am floating and when I plan to be back? (Remember to make contact when float is finished and take out reached safely.)
- Life Jackets – for each passenger plus one spare
- Whistle and safety knife
- First aid kit
- Sun protection
- Medication
- Patch kit
- Phone
- Spare oar or paddle
- Boat pump
- River shoes or sandals with heel strap
- Dry bags for clothing (thermal layers, rain jacket etc.)
- Drinking water and snacks
- Throw bag
- Whitewater:
  - Helmets strongly recommended in all whitewater, and for kayakers and stand up paddleboarders in all conditions.
  - One rescue kit (including Z-drag) per boat.



# Lower Roaring Fork River

## Carbondale to Glenwood Springs

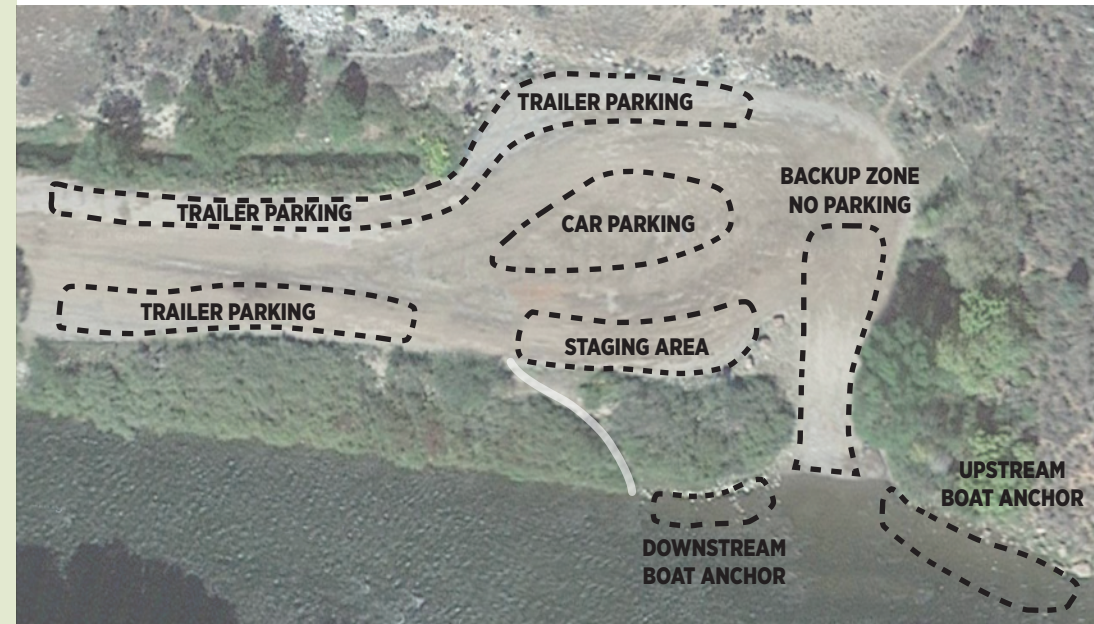


## Carbondale Boat Ramp

### Bob Terrell State Wildlife Area

#### REGULATIONS:

- Camping is prohibited.
- Fires are prohibited.
- Discharge of firearms prohibited.
- Dogs prohibited.
- All persons 16 and older accessing this property are required to possess a valid Colorado hunting or fishing license or a State Wildlife Area Pass.
- Harassment of wildlife prohibited.
- Littering prohibited.



### Universal River Signals



#### Distress Call

Hold hand up and wave it back and forth.



#### Are You Okay?

Tap the top of your head three times and point to the person whom you are questioning. If they tap their head three times they are okay. Otherwise assistance is needed.



#### Stop

Hold both arms out to side.



#### Go This Way

Point toward direction of travel/safety.



#### All Clear

Hold one hand straight up in the air.

#### KEY:

- Boat ramp
- Intersection
- Public restroom
- Hazard

Map is not to scale.

Fish illustrations by River Collective  
Illustrated map by Shook Book Publishing

PROTECT  
VALUE  
EXPLORE



Scan the QR code to learn more and check the flows!

# USER GUIDE to the LOWER ROARING FORK RIVER

Presented to you by  
Roaring Fork Conservancy  
River Stewards



CONSERVANCY

Bringing People Together  
to Protect Our Rivers®