

**Middle Fork American River  
Middle Fork Interbay to Ralston Afterbay  
Single Flow Evaluation Form**



## Middle Fork Interbay to Ralston Afterbay: Single Flow Evaluation Survey Results (May 8, 2010).

Question	Respondent <sup>1</sup>				
	EP	KS	BB	SL	PB
<b>Q1</b> What type of craft did you use for this run?	Kayak	Kayak	Kayak	Kayak	Kayak
<b>Q2</b> What type(s) of watercraft would be suitable for this reach at today's flow? ( <i>Circle all that would be appropriate</i> ).	Kayak Closed deck canoe	Kayak Raft	Kayak Closed deck canoe	Kayak Closed deck canoe	Kayak Closed deck canoe
<b>Q3</b> Was access from the parking area to the river at the put-in adequate?  If No, please explain	Yes	Yes	No  Steep, difficult, slippery trail	No  Had to use ropes to lower boats to the water	Yes
<b>Q4</b> Was egress from the river to the parking area at the take-out adequate?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Q5</b> Would you typically boat this reach as a single or multi-day trip?	Single	Single	Single day Multi-day	Single	Single
<b>Q6</b> If this reach was boated as a two-day run, did you notice any sites that would be suitable for overnight camping?	N/A	N/A	Clear bench on river right about 1/2 way down Clear bench on river right about 3/4 of the way down	N/A	Middle section of river - lot of gravel and wooded beaches
<b>Q7</b> Estimate the number of times you stopped and got out of your boat for breaks, scouting, or for portaging and estimate the total amount of time spent.					
Number of stops for breaks	2	1	1	1	1
Total minutes out of boat	35	20	30	35	30
Number of stops for scouting	12	x	12	15	12
Total minutes out of boat	90	x	60	30	90
Number of stops for portaging	4	x	2.5	3	3
Total minutes out of boat	60	x	45	30	60
<b>Q8</b> Please identify rapids or sections you needed to portage and rate the difficulty of those portages (using your type of craft at this flow level) <sup>2</sup> .	Just below put-in - Slightly difficult - RL - 5 minutes	Second steep section Moderately difficult - RR - 20 minutes	Long rapid with wood about 1/3 of the way down - Slightly difficult - RL - 5 minutes	Near put in - Easy - RR - 3 minutes	Lower steep section - Moderately difficult - Lowered boats with rope - RL - 30 minutes
	Upper Part of lower steep section - Moderately difficult - RL - 5 minutes		1st rapid with large sieve about 3/4 of the way down - Moderate difficult - RL - 15 minutes	About 1.5 miles upstream of take-out - Moderately difficult - RR - 15 minutes	Lower steep section - Easy - RR - 5 minutes
	Approximate 1/2 mile above falls - Extremely difficult - RL - 20 minutes		2nd rapid with wood 3/4 - Slightly difficult - RL - 30 minutes	About 1.5 miles upstream of take-out - Slightly difficult - RR - 12 minutes	Lower steep section - Slightly difficult - RR - 20 minutes

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	EP	KS	BB	SL	PB	
<b>Q9</b> Did you observe any specific safety hazards beyond those normally encountered running a river of this difficulty at this flow? If so, please describe them below	Numerous logs and wood throughout run	x	Several downed trees along river	Wood throughout the run	Trees in river channel	
	Trees growing in channel throughout run			Trees in channel		
<b>Q10</b> How would you rate the whitewater difficulty of this run? (Use American Whitewater's International Scale of Whitewater Difficulty that ranges from Class I to Class VI)	V	IV/V	V	V	V	
<b>Q11</b> Please evaluate this flow for each of the following characteristics.	Boatability	2	2	2	2	
	Availability of challenging technical boating	2	2	2	2	
	Availability of powerful hydraulics	1	2	2	1	2
	Availability of whitewater "play areas"	0	1	-2	-2	-1
	Overall whitewater challenge	2	1	2	1	2
	Safety	0	1	1	1	2
	Length of run	2	1	1	1	2
	Rate of travel	2	1	1	1	2
	Number of portages	1	2	1	1	2
<b>Q12</b> Please rate your overall satisfaction with today's flow.	2	2	2	2	2	
Please explain your rating -	Maybe 100 cfs more would be better - Things were covered, channels clean for the most part	Great flow - would not want any less water - could use 100+ more cfs - it was very manageable for first time run	Flow of 480 was perfect - too much lower or higher would not be acceptable	Perfect flow - less would be very rocky in places - more flow could produce big holes	The run has plenty of technical rapids at the beginning and end of the run - Middle section consisting of great "read and run" rapids - Scenery and wildlife fantastic  The flow made for great channels in all rapids when needed - The flow covered a lot of the smaller boulders in the middle read and run section making for a much clear run	

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Question	Respondent <sup>1</sup>				
	EP	KS	BB	SL	PB
<b>Q13</b> In general, would you prefer a flow that was higher, lower, or about the same as this flow  Please explain	Slightly higher flow	Slightly higher flow	About the same	About the same	Slightly higher flow
	Maybe 100cfs more	Maybe 100cfs more	Much higher or lower would be dangerous		A similar to slightly higher flow would clean up the flow in the tight channels
<b>Q14</b> Based on today's study and your experience, can you identify a range of flows that would be suitable for boating this part of the reach  <u>Minimum Acceptable:</u> The lowest flow at which you would be willing to return to boat on this run.  <u>Optimal:</u> The flow that creates the best combination of characteristics for your craft type and skill level.  <u>Maximum Acceptable:</u> The highest flow at which you would be willing to return to boat this run.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	450	400	400	425	400
	550	520	480	475	500
	600	650	550	525	600
<b>Q15</b> Please provide any additional comments about the reach at this flow					Great wildlife - 3 different black bear sightings - great blue herons - ducks - awesome scenery

*Flow at put-in: 425 cfs Flow at take-out 475*

*Upramp travel time: about 4 hours to hit gage - 5.5 hours to stabilize*

*Downramp travel time: about 3.25 hours to hit gage*

<sup>1</sup>Boating Team Members: EP (Eric Petlock), KS (Katie Scott), BB (J. Brad Brewer), SL (Scott Ligure), PB (Phil Boyer)

<sup>2</sup>RL=river left; RR=river right



**Middle Fork American River  
French Meadows Dam to Middle Fork Interbay  
Single Flow Evaluation Forms**



## French Meadow Dam to Middle Fork Interbay: Single Flow Evaluation Survey Results (May 22, 2010).

Question	Respondent <sup>1</sup>			
	DM	MB	CC	TM
<b>Q1</b> What type of craft did you use for this run?	Kayak	Kayak	Kayak	Kayak
<b>Q2</b> What type(s) of watercraft would be suitable for this reach at today's flow? (Circle all that would be appropriate).	Kayak	Kayak	Kayak	Kayak
<b>Q3</b> Was access from the parking area to the river at the put-in adequate?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Q4</b> Was egress from the river to the parking area at the take-out adequate?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Q5</b> Would you typically boat this reach as a single or multi-day trip?	Multi-day	Multi-day	Multi-day	Multi-day
<b>Q6</b> If this reach was boated as a two-day run, did you notice any sites that would be suitable for overnight camping?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Q7</b> Estimate the number of times you stopped and got out of your boat for breaks, scouting, or for portaging and estimate the total amount of time spent.				
Number of stops for breaks	0	1	0	0
Total minutes out of boat	0	20	0	0
Number of stops for scouting	10	10	10	10+
Total minutes out of boat	10	40	30	30
Number of stops for portaging	5+	5	5	5+
Total minutes out of boat	45	60	45	45
<b>Q8</b> Please identify rapids or sections you needed to portage and rate the difficulty of those portages (using your type of craft at this flow level) <sup>2</sup> .	1 mile DS of Put-in - Moderately difficult - RL - 30 minutes	Big drop 1 mile DS of put-in - Moderately difficult - RL - 20 minutes	Logs -easy	1 mile DS of put-in - Moderately difficult - RL - 30 minutes
		Wood in small slides - 1.2 miles DS put-in - easy - RR - 5 minutes	Logs -easy	Many logs - Moderately difficult - RR & RL
		Wood in small slides - 1.3 miles DS put-in - Moderately difficult - RL - 30 minutes	Logs -easy	
			Logs 1 mile DS put-in - Moderately difficult - RL - 20 minutes	
<b>Q9</b> Did you observe any specific safety hazards beyond those normally encountered running a river of this difficulty at this flow? If so, please describe them below	Downed trees everywhere	Excessive amount of wood in the river from Star Fire	Tons of logs - every rapid has log issues	Many logs
<b>Q10</b> How would you rate the whitewater difficulty of this run? (Use American Whitewater's International Scale of Whitewater Difficulty that ranges from Class I to Class VI)	V	V	V	V

**French Meadow Dam to Middle Fork Interbay: Single Flow Evaluation Survey Results (May 22, 2010).**

Question	Respondent <sup>1</sup>			
	DM	MB	CC	TM
<b>Q11</b> Please evaluate this flow for each of the following characteristics.				
Boatability	-1	1	1	1
Availability of challenging technical boating	1	1	1	1
Availability of powerful hydraulics	1	1	0	0
Availability of whitewater "play areas"	0	n/a*	n/a*	0
Overall whitewater challenge	0	1	1	1
Safety	-1	n/a**	-1	-1
Length of run	0	1	0	1
Rate of travel	-2	1	-1	-1
Number of portages	-1	1	2	-2
<b>Q12</b> Please rate your overall satisfaction with today's flow.	2	1	2	2
Please explain your rating -	Great - perfect, just too many logs	Flow seemed good - it would be acceptable - wood in the river was the main obstacle  *not a play run ** not due to flow	Great flow	Flow was perfect for first time
<b>Q13</b> In general, would you prefer a flow that was higher, lower, or about the same as this flow	About the same	About the same	About the same	About the same
Please explain		Good flow		
<b>Q14</b> Based on today's study and your experience, can you identify a range of flows that would be suitable for boating this part of the reach	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<u>Minimum Acceptable:</u> The lowest flow at which you would be willing to return to boat on this run.	200	200	200	252
<u>Optimal:</u> The flow that creates the best combination of characteristics for your craft type and skill level.	252	250	250	250
<u>Maximum Acceptable:</u> The highest flow at which you would be willing to return to boat this run.	300	350	300	400
<b>Q15</b> Please provide any additional comments about the reach at this flow		Steep technical creek - expert only run - slow progress due to wood	The flow was good. The character would be good except for the enormous amount of logs. Basically, with the number of fallen tress, the desire to come back would not be high.	The flow of 250 was optimal because the river picks up natural flow down river.

Flow at put-in: 252 cfs

<sup>1</sup>Boating Team Members: CC (Charlie Center), DM (Darin Mc Quoid), TM (Thomas Moore), MB (Marcy Burnham)

<sup>2</sup>RL=river left; RR=river right; DS=downstream