

RECOMMENDATION 2-2024

To: Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission
From: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Subject: Kayak/canoe launches
Date: April 26, 2024

DESCRIPTION: The Kankakee and Yellow Rivers are open to the public for recreation. The Commission has supported the natural enjoyment of the river through improved access to both waterways. In 2022, the Commission granted its easement for the construction of a non-motorized boat launch on the Yellow River in Bremen.

LOCATION: Kankakee and Yellow Rivers in Indiana

ISSUE: Recently, governmental units within the watershed have requested the addition of kayak/canoe launches at various Kankakee River and Yellow River locations. In Starke County, units of governments have allocated partial funding for proposed Yellow River launches. In Porter County, their tourism bureau in conjunction with the Indiana Paddlers Association has urged the addition of boat access points between Dunn’s Bridge and Shelby.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee recommends to the Commission support the addition of kayak/canoe launches. Priority locations would include:

- 1) Two locations to be determined on the Kankakee River between Dunn’s Bridge and Shelby;
- 2) At the confluence of the Kankakee and Yellow Rivers;
- 3) At Wythogan Park in the City of Knox on the Yellow River; and
- 4) At State Road 23 on the Yellow River.

The above list does not exclude or prohibit other locations but indicates locations that the Committee believes are particularly well-suited for such assets.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 4/26/2024.

ADOPTED BY COMMISSION 6/28/2024.

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Craig D. Cultice, Secretary