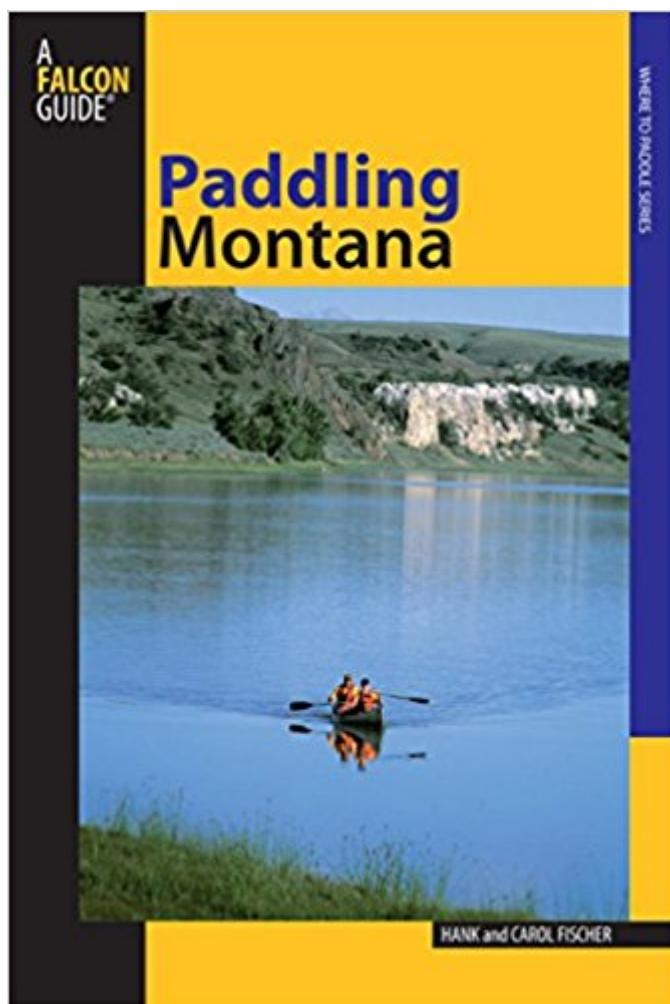


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# Paddling Montana, 2nd (Regional Paddling Series)



## Synopsis

Detailed paddling information on 32 Montana rivers, including such paddling destinations as the Yellowstone, Flathead, Smith, and Missouri. Access points, detailed maps, fishing information, average monthly stream flows, and much more.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Montana's rivers hold a wealth of riches, and *Paddling Montana* features thirty-two river trips for avid paddlers, floaters, and anglers. History buffs can follow the routes of Lewis and Clark along the Missouri, the Jefferson, the Beaverhead, and the Bitterroot. Whitewater enthusiasts can head for the Gallatin or the Madison's Beartrap Canyon. Authors Hank and Carol Fischer, who live in Missoula, Montana, joined forces with their son, Kit Fischer, to update this guide and offer additional tips on the best rivers for bird-watching, wildlife viewing, fishing, waterfowl hunting, and guided rafting trips. For more than twenty-five years, FalconGuides® have set the standard for outdoor guidebooks. Written by top experts, each guide invites you to experience the adventure and beauty of the outdoors. Look inside to find: Detailed river descriptions; Maps showing access points and river miles; Level of difficulty, optimal flows, rapids, and other hazards; Who to call for up-to-the minute information on floating conditions; A brief overview of Lewis and Clark's historic paddle through Montana.

Hank Fischer has been floating Montana rivers for 30 years and has written about them in publications like Canoe, Backpacker, Sierra, and Montana Outdoors. He is author of *Wolf Wars: The Remarkable Inside Story of the Restoration of Wolves to Yellowstone National Park* (Fischer Outdoor Discoveries, LLC, 2003) and co-author of the *Montana Wildlife Viewing Guide* (Falcon, 1995). He received a master's degree from the University of Montana in Environmental Studies, and worked for Defenders of Wildlife as their Northern Rockies field representative for 25 years. He now works for The National Wildlife Federation in Missoula, Montana. Carol Fischer holds a Master of Science degree in Forestry from the University of Montana with an emphasis in recreation resource management. She is co-author of the *Montana Wildlife Viewing Guide* (Falcon, 1995). Carol is an avid floater, angler, hiker, golfer, skier and fisherwoman. She has worked as a fishing guide and was a co-owner of an international wildlife travel company. Carol lives with her husband Hank in Missoula, Montana.

This guide accomplishes exactly what it sets out to do in a thorough and stylish layout. The reader can flip through the pages until they see the river in question at the bottom right and have immediate access to nearly all put-ins and take-outs along the prospective float. Included with every river is a great summation of popular routes for fishing and white-water, and info on major hazards that the floater should be aware of. Even a nice summary of each route's notable fishing or whitewater features. If you're a boater, floater, or just a curious hobbyist, this book is an essential starting point for any Montana river exploration. I found that the points other reviewers took issue with were inconsequential to the scope of what the authors attempted to accomplish with this book. As a starting point for the clue-less, there really is no better publication available for us Montanians. If you want advanced or indepth information about the potential float, such as new seasonal hazards (strainlers, landslides), the fishing report, or legal information, contact the local authorities on the river - listed conveniently at the beginning of each chapter. This book deserves prominance on any Montanian's collection of hikes, floats, and maps section of the book case. The authors did a great job!

Good info on the waterways in Montana. Well organized and easy to read.

A complete dud. Long on trivia, short on necessary information. Places are mentioned in the text, but not shown on the map. Example - The Yellowstone chapter mentions Yankee Jim Canyon, but

it's not on the map. The history of Yankee Jim George, after whom the canyon was named is interesting, but it shouldn't have been included at the expense of information on where the canyon is. This is but one of many examples. I've paddled in several states, and own several paddle guides. This one is by far the worst. Save your money.

Will be taking this with us! Many places to paddle

Some out of date material. I was looking for more detail concerning specific rivers. All in all, it was adequate.

Great book with lots of tips and details

This book had a review of a river that we rafted down. It told of the same hole we went into and explained why the hole was so big. Should have read the book before the raft trip. Nice book.

As the book points out there are many critical putins, takeouts, channels and obstacles when rafting or boating rivers. That's one reason why you buy these guides-- to help avoid problems. Given this essential safety role this book plays it is very disappointing and potentially deadly that this book does not include GPS coordinates for these key features. The guide uses the archaic river miles system to mark navigation hazards and points of interest which I find are hard to use when actually floating the river. While having GPS coordinates should not substitute for scouting the river and asking for local information before floating, it is another arrow in the rafters safety quiver to avoid problems. To me, it is a major flaw that 2008 revised edition of a rafting book would not contain them. Makes you wonder about how much updating of the other information the authors did for this edition. Also, I think it also a point of review ethics that people who know the authors should disclose it when writing rosy five star reviews.

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