

Animas River Users

Be safe - Be prepared - Be careful

- Wear Coast Guard approved life vests
- Helmets and secure footwear are recommended
- Respect anglers, give them plenty of room
- Weather and water conditions can change rapidly
- Watch for rocks, logs, strong currents and other obstacles
- Expect river water to be very cold

Attention Tubers:

Tubing is only recommended at water levels under 800 CFS in July and August when the weather is warm. Please behave responsibly and enjoy the river quietly. The best launch site is near the foot bridge behind the Durango Recreation Center. Take out at 9th Street.

TUBERS SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT SMELTER RAPIDS AT ANY LEVEL.

Leave No Trace

- Please use restroom facilities and trash receptacles along the trail
- No open alcohol containers
- No glass containers
- Pack out all trash
- Dogs must be on a leash; and please scoop the poop!
- Respect private property, do not trespass
- No smoking or open fires

Durango State Fish Hatchery and Wildlife Museum

Built in 1893, the hatchery raises native Colorado cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, brown trout, and kokanee salmon. Each year, more than 1.25 million fish are raised at the hatchery and then released into waters throughout Southwest Colorado. On the hatchery grounds, you can see and feed trout in the raceway; and don't miss the "big fish" show pond.

Visit the Wildlife Museum and learn about the native animals of southwest Colorado.

Open: May 15 - Sept. 15,
10 am to 4:30 pm, Monday-Saturday;
11 am to 3 pm Sundays.

The hatchery and museum are open free of charge.
Group tours can be arranged by calling
970-247-0855 or 970-375-6766.

Walk the nature trail and learn more about Colorado's wildlife.
The hatchery facility is also part of the Colorado Birding Trail,
www.coloradobirdingtrail.com.

Fishing

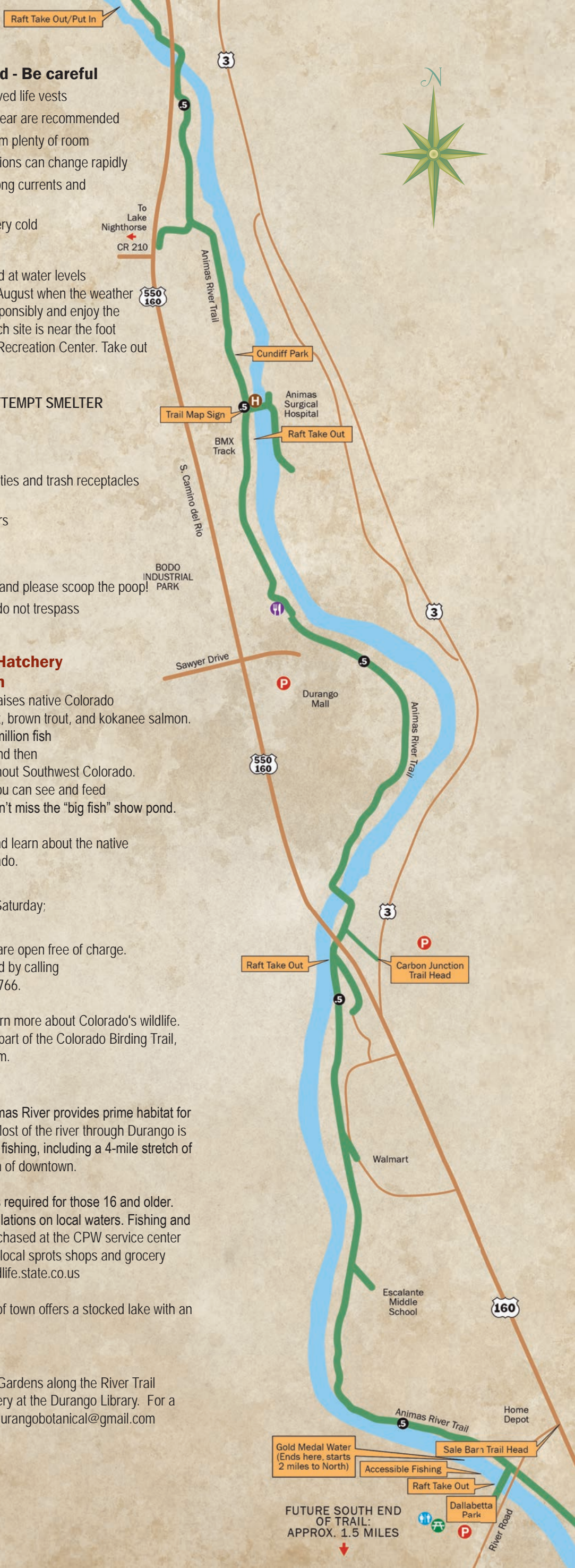
A renowned fishery, the Animas River provides prime habitat for Brown and Rainbow trout. Most of the river through Durango is accessible to the public for fishing, including a 4-mile stretch of Gold Medal Water just south of downtown.

A Colorado fishing license is required for those 16 and older.
Check fishing brochure regulations on local waters. Fishing and hunting licenses can be purchased at the CPW service center on the hatchery grounds, at local sports shops and grocery stores, or online at www.wildlife.state.co.us

Lake Nighthorse just south of town offers a stocked lake with an ADA accessible dock.

Botanic Garden

Enjoy the Durango Botanic Gardens along the River Trail just North of the Fish Hatchery at the Durango Library. For a private or group tour email: durangobotanical@gmail.com or call 970-880-4841.



Welcome to the Animas River Trail

Walk, bike, run, picnic, fish and float through the heart of Durango! Along the 9-mile paved scenic trail you'll enjoy public art, a wildlife museum, parks, historical markers, a skate park and even a fish hatchery. And just a block or two from the trail... Shop Durango!

Animas River

The headwaters of the river are located 60 miles North of Durango above Silverton. The name "Durango" translates to "water town" in the Basque language. Spanish explorers named the river El Rio De Las Animas - the River of Souls. Explorers said the river and its environs exuded a beautiful and soulful character.

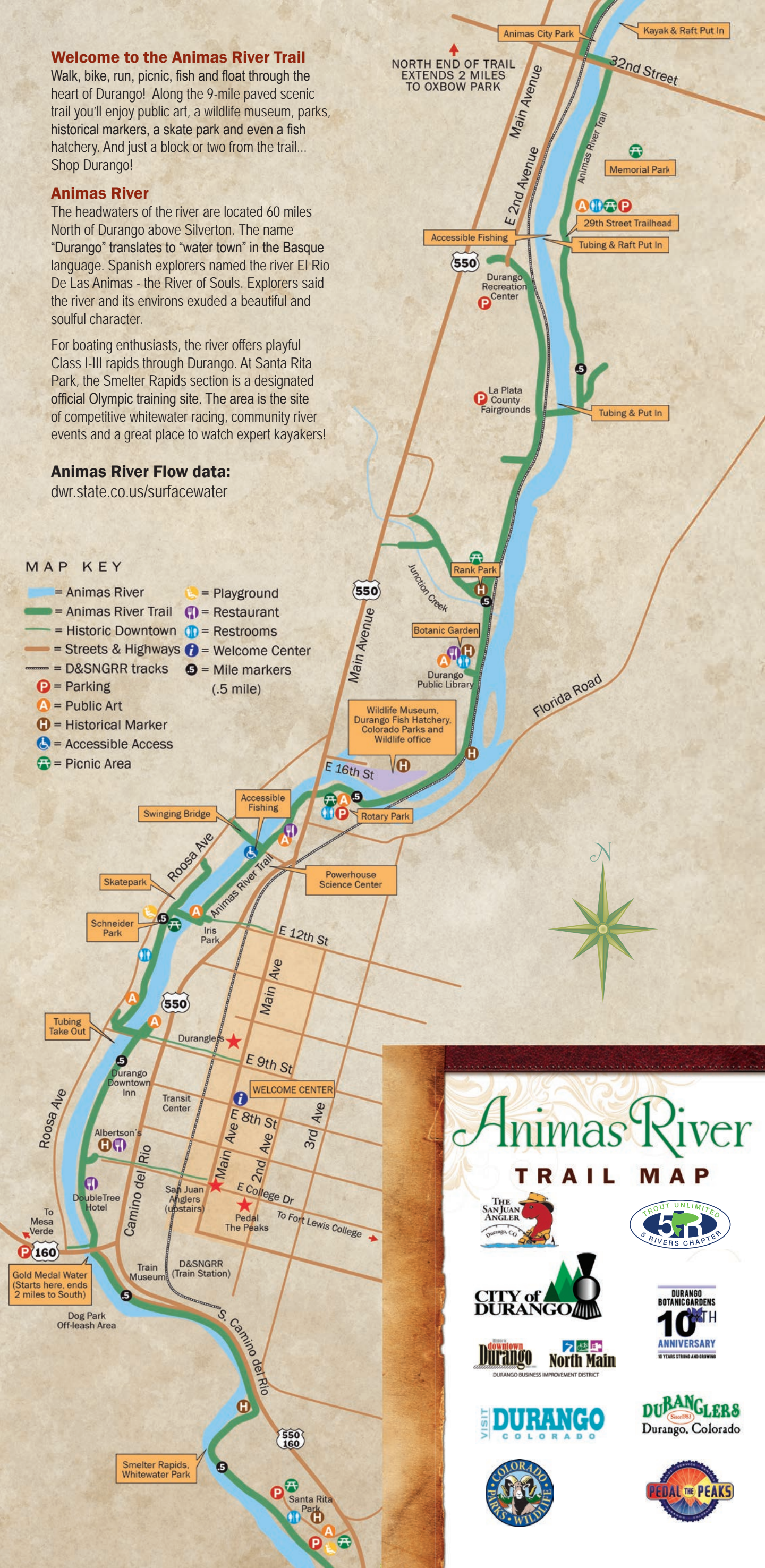
For boating enthusiasts, the river offers playful Class I-III rapids through Durango. At Santa Rita Park, the Smelter Rapids section is a designated official Olympic training site. The area is the site of competitive whitewater racing, community river events and a great place to watch expert kayakers!

Animas River Flow data:

dwr.state.co.us/surfacewater

MAP KEY

- = Animas River
- = Animas River Trail
- = Historic Downtown
- = Streets & Highways
- = D&SNGRR tracks
- = Parking
- = Public Art
- = Historical Marker
- = Accessible Access
- = Picnic Area
- = Playground
- = Restaurant
- = Restrooms
- = Welcome Center
- = Mile markers (.5 mile)



Animas River TRAIL MAP

