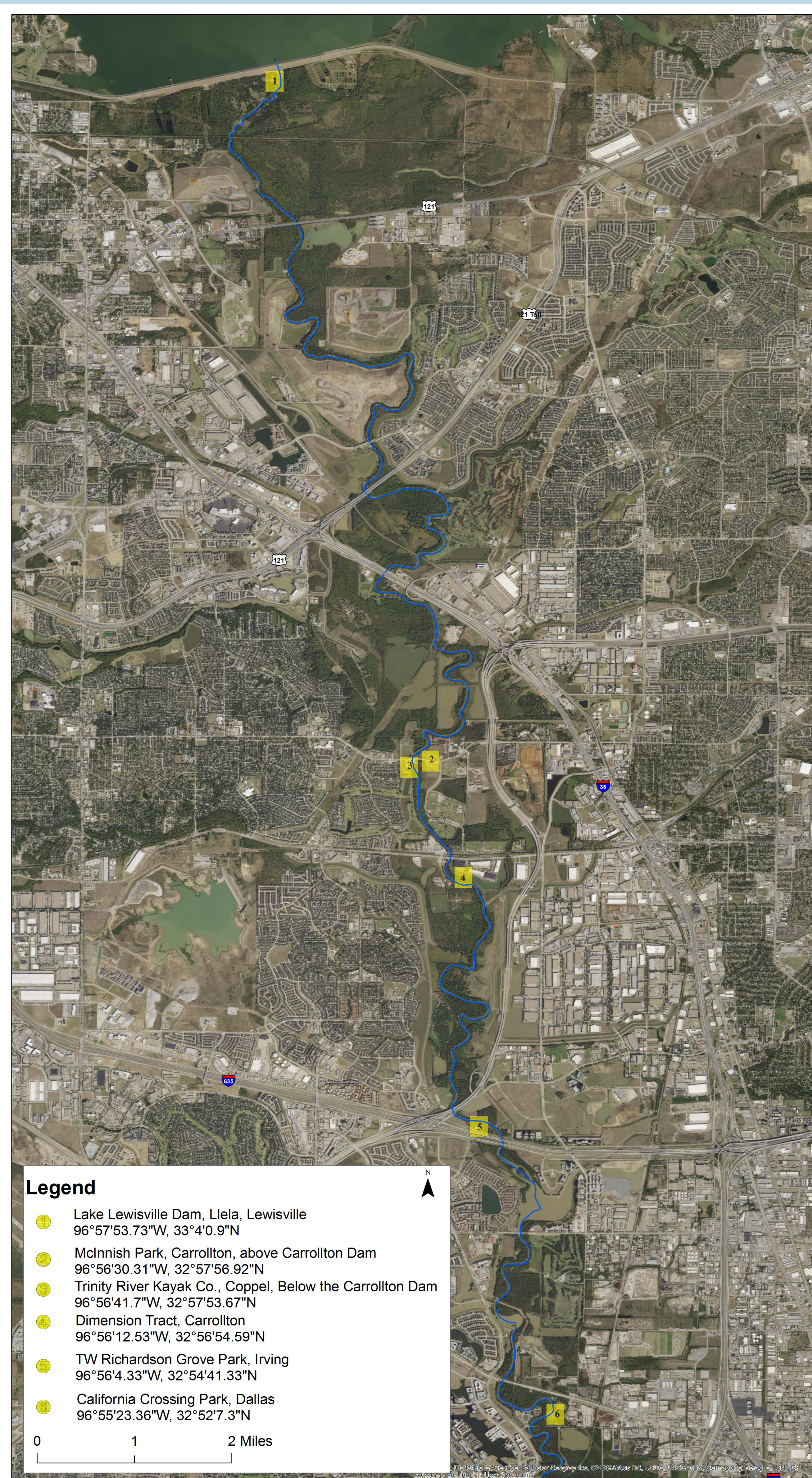


# The Elm Fork Trinity River Paddling Trail



This section of the Elm Fork Paddling Trail starts at Lewisville Dam and flows to McInnish Park in Carrollton, TX. It is approximately 11.5 miles long with the take-out on river left at McInnish Park.

The complete paddling trail runs from Lewisville Dam to California Crossing Park in Dallas, a distance of 22.5 miles. There are 6 access points, with the longest stretch being 12 miles.



## Trail Conditions

This section of the paddling trail starts out with fast water over a gravel river bottom and has some small rapids. The last half of this section is slow moving with a silt and clay bottom. **Warning:** There are several Hazards on this part of the paddling trail:

1. Carrollton Dam. Please take out on river left at McInnish Park to avoid the dam – this is 500 yards above the dam.
2. The lower section of the river bottom and river bank are made up of silt and clay which is soft and offers very little support – please stay in your canoe or kayak.
3. Flood events have left fallen trees and other obstacles in the river channel. Use caution.

## Know Before You Go

Check the Lewisville Army Corps of Engineers web site for Lewisville Lake to see the current rate of flow. Here are some guidelines:

- Less than 80 cfs **Unfloatable.** River is reduced to puddles.
- 100-200 cfs **Low.** River is recommended for all skill levels. Some dragging across gravel in low spots.
- 200-500 cfs **Good.** Recommended for paddlers of all skill levels.
- 600-1,000 cfs **High.** Recommended only for paddlers with swift water experience.
- 1,000-3,000 cfs **Very High.** Recommended only for paddlers with white water experience.
- Above 3,000 cfs **Dangerous.** River is closed to all boating activity.

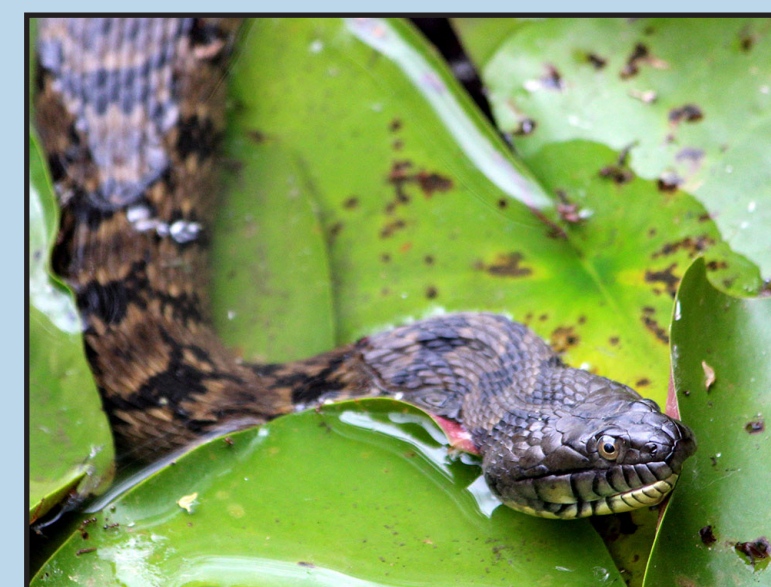
## Wildlife along the Elm Fork



Watch for beaver activity



Egrets and other wading birds



Non-venomous water snakes, as well as venomous cottonmouths



Listen for bullfrogs and cricket frogs in warm weather

## Always remember ...

### Be Safe

Rivers are ever-changing dynamic systems with inherent dangers. Use this trail at your own risk.

Follow basic safety rules:

- Plan your trip so that your paddling skills are equal to the water conditions.
- Wear a Coast Guard approved Type III – V personal flotation device and protective footwear.
- Always file a “float plan” – tell someone where you are going and when you are expected to return.
- Check weather forecasts.
- Carry a map so you can find your location at any time.
- Carry drinking water, sunscreen, and insect repellent.
- Never paddle alone.

### Conserve

Healthy rivers and streams supply drinking water, support agriculture and industry, assimilate wastewater, sustain fish and wildlife populations, and promote excellent fishing, hunting and other recreational activities which positively affect Texas’ economy. Water conservation is one way to ensure that the natural heritage of Texas is protected for all. Every drop counts. To conserve rivers and streams, keep them clean, maintain native vegetation along the banks, and support water conservation efforts.

### Respect Private Property

Respect private property by not trespassing or littering and by keeping noise levels down. This river is classified as navigable, which permits public use of the streambed and, if necessary, the banks to portage (go around) any hazard. However, when encountering an obstruction in the riverbed, one must take a direct path around and return to the streambed without lingering on the banks. Any other use of private river banks without permission of the landowner can be considered trespassing. Under Texas Penal Code (§30.05), criminal trespass occurs when one enters property after receiving notice not to enter. Notice includes verbal notice, a fence, sign(s), purple paint on posts or trees, or the visible presence of crops grown for human consumption.

### Emergency Numbers

Denton County EMS	911
Denton County Sheriff	(940) 349-1600
LLELA Gatehouse	(972) 219-7980
Operation Game Thief	(800) 792-4263
Sign Maintenance	(972) 219-3550