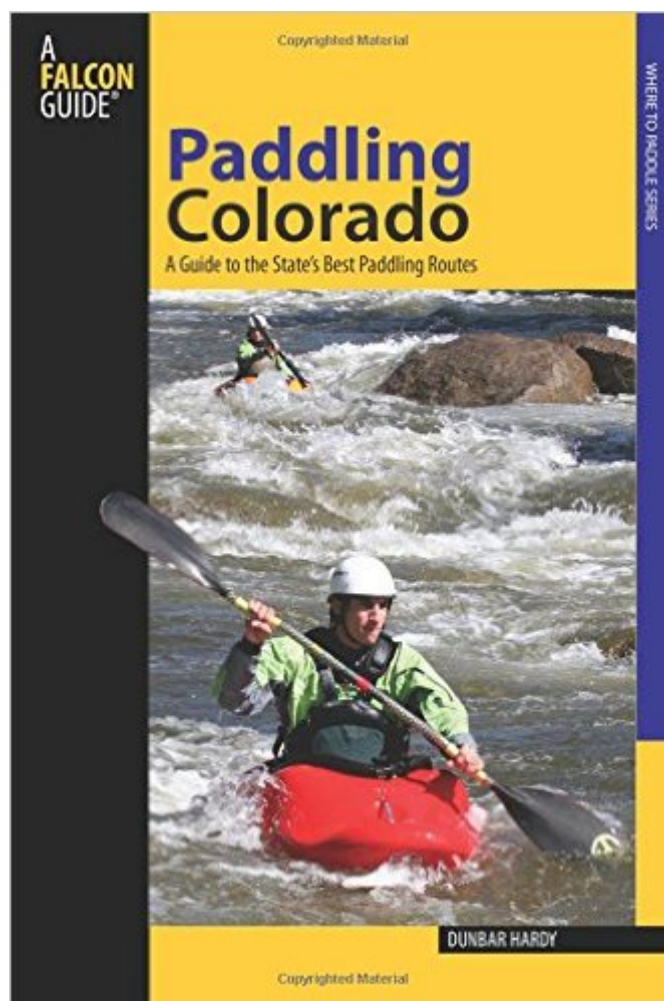


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# paddling Colorado: A Guide To The State's Best Paddling Routes (Paddling Series)



## Synopsis

Paddling Colorado describes thirty-four trips in a remarkable variety of settings-from downtown Denver to the remote canyons of the Dolores River.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I bought this book to provide me with ideas for local float trips. I've been a river guide in Colorado for more than 20 years, and found the information on runs that I knew quite slim, and commonly misleading (eg: to say the Granite Gorge of the Arkansas is a class II-III run is going to get someone hurt! III-IV is more appropriate, and no mention of the mandatory portage at the diversion dam!). In addition, there is no information what-so-ever about runs harder than class III (e.g.: on the Arkansas: Numbers, Royal Gorge, Pine Creek are not in the book). Several of our local runs on the Uncompaghre are not even in the book, but floating Chatfield reservoir is. Overall, this book is probably ok for inexperienced canoeists, mostly because they'll probably never find the put in with the directions provided. but don't trust the grades that are given.

This book looks to be a good choice for those of us looking for rivers in Colorado with Class 1 - 3 ratings. Most of the other current guidebooks are focused on Class 3 - 5, which rules out most of us casual boaters. The information on rivers I am familiar with seems accurate and I have found a bunch of runs I want to try out next spring and summer. On thing that appears to have been omitted in some of the description is contact info for land management agencies when a permit is required.

This can probably be found pretty easily online, but it is still an oversight. The section on lakes looks good for canoeing/kayaking but it's small size really emphasizes that paddling in CO is all about the rivers.

I lead a trip to Colorado for white water and none of us knew any of the rivers. It was a lifesaver and we were able to pick out rivers that were in our skill level. ( Class II-III). Good directions to put ins. I trust this book.

For misleading title alone, I would give this book a rating of 2 stars. For the extremely poor (virtually useless) descriptions of the few non-river paddling trips in it (apparently the author included them as an afterthought), I give it 1 star and would give zero if it were possible. I've paddled the lakes and reservoirs he supposedly paddled. It is obvious he considers such paddling beneath his abilities--so beneath them that he could only manage to paddle less than half of Chatfield's circumference, which is a whopping 9 to 10 miles at full water. And only in the most sheltered portion of it. If the author didn't have the background to do justice to Colorado's lake paddling (yes, there are some really fine ones in the state), he should have left those trips completely out of the book and retitled it a RIVER paddling guide. At least that would be truthful. However, given Falcon's history of compiling trips from existing guides and hiring "compilers" to put together all-state guidebooks that obviously were not fully researched by competent practitioners of the sport involved, I should not be surprised.

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