



### Wildlife Viewing

A wide variety of birds and other forms of wildlife are seen on every trip down the Republican River Water Trail. Species have been known to include deer, turkey, beaver, fox, and coyote, as well as hundreds of bird species, including herons and bald eagles.

### River Activities

Thousands of tubers typically travel the section of river from the Harlan County Dam to Naponee during the summer months, especially on the summer holiday weekends.



### For More Information

Estimated travel times for various segments of the river, as well as a complete guide for canoeing on Nebraska water trails, is available on the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission website or by calling 402-471-0641.

For a complete listing of camping/lodging facilities, restaurants, retail stores, and other trails, activities and events in Harlan County, Nebraska, visit [www.harlantourism.org](http://www.harlantourism.org).

Canoeing, Kayaking and Tubing  
on the

# Republican River Water Trail



*Harlan County, a lake and more!*

Harlan County Tourism Office  
311 Main Street  
Alma, Nebraska 68920  
Phone: 800-762-5498  
Email: [harlancountytourism@yahoo.com](mailto:harlancountytourism@yahoo.com)  
[www.HarlanTourism.org](http://www.HarlanTourism.org)



# About the River

The Republican River as it flows through Harlan County is slow-moving, braided, and beautiful. On the International Scale of River Difficulty, the Republican River in Nebraska is rated as Class I: "Easy". This means the water can be fast moving with riffles and small waves, but there are few obstructions and they are generally easily missed with little training. The risk of swimming is slight, and self-rescue is considered easy.

The most popular access point for canoeing, kayaking or tubing down the Republican River is below the Harlan County Dam at either the North or South Outlet Park. The meandering river and its abundant birds and other wildlife also can be viewed from various points in the county west of the lake, especially at Orleans and Oxford, but there are no official canoeing access sites above the reservoir. Visitors are advised to check with private landowners before accessing the river via private ground.

Water levels in the river are significantly impacted by dry or wet weather conditions during the year, and flow below the Harlan County Dam depends on the amount of water being released from the dam. The most current data available regarding the cubic feet per second (cfs) of water being released from the dam is listed online by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; however, flow rates can change very quickly, and it is best to contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Harlan County Lake, 308-799-2105, prior to your trip.

# River Man

