

Delonegha Launch A Boating Trail Partnership



Kern River

- The Kern River is considered by many to be one of the top 10 boating rivers in the country. This picturesque location represents a gateway to the Kern River Valley offering recreational opportunities to whitewater boaters, fishermen, hikers, picnickers, and mountain bicyclists.

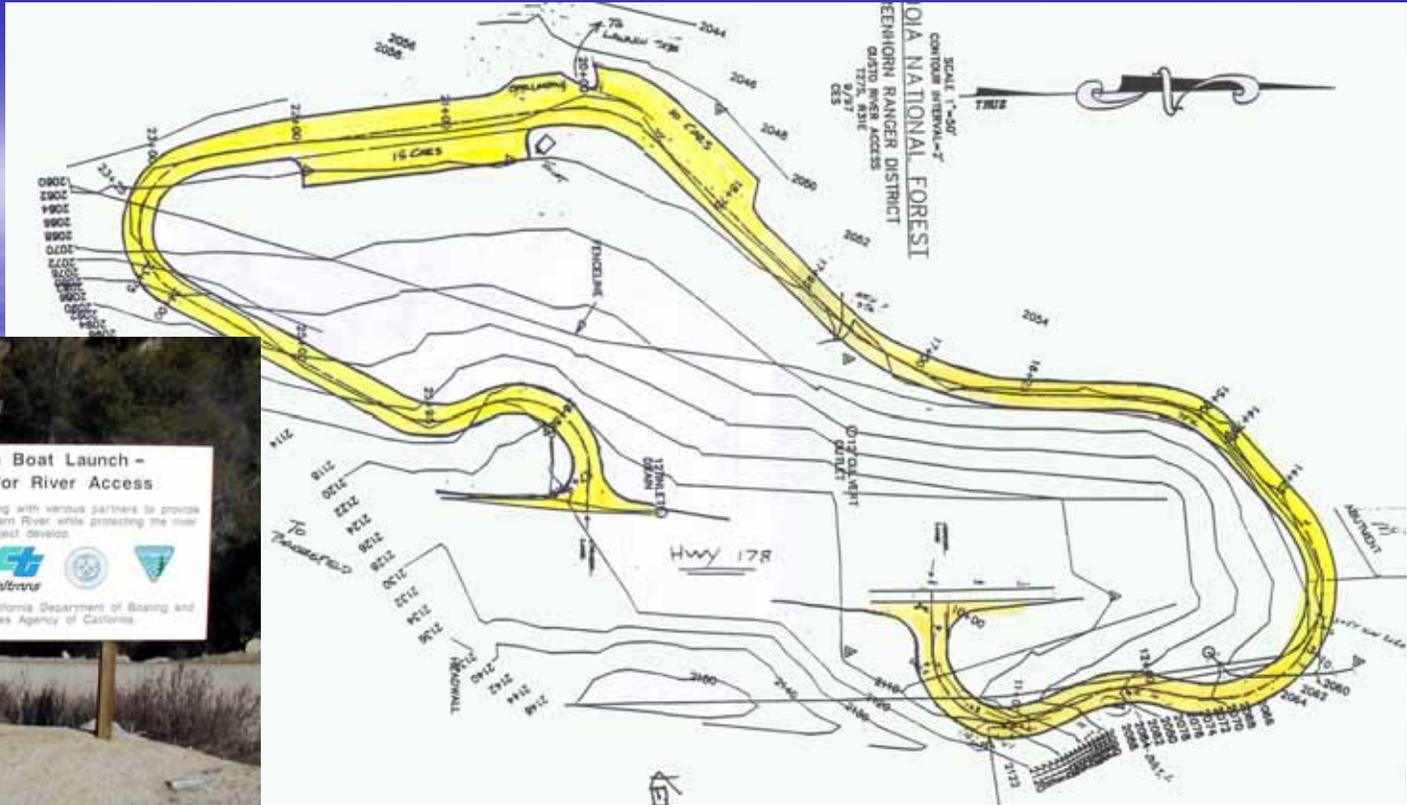


- Attracting about 12,000 boaters each year from all over the USA, the Lower Kern River offers a mix of challenging rapids with more moderate stretches for a total of 18 river miles.





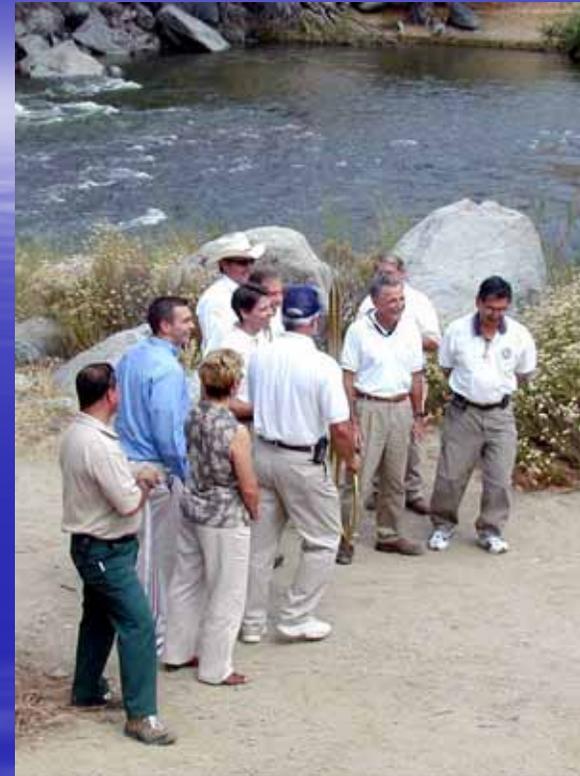
- Because of the river's recreational importance and because a safe launch/takeout point was needed toward the end of the runnable river, a site at the Delonegha Bridge on Hwy 178 was considered as an important halfway point on the lengthy 12 mile run between Miracle and Democrat Dam.



- Working with California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the local community, the Forest Service (FS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) identified areas to develop legal parking and river access with the Delonegha Bridge as the top priority. The California Department of Boating and Waterways became interested because of public concern about not being able to exit a long stretch of whitewater.

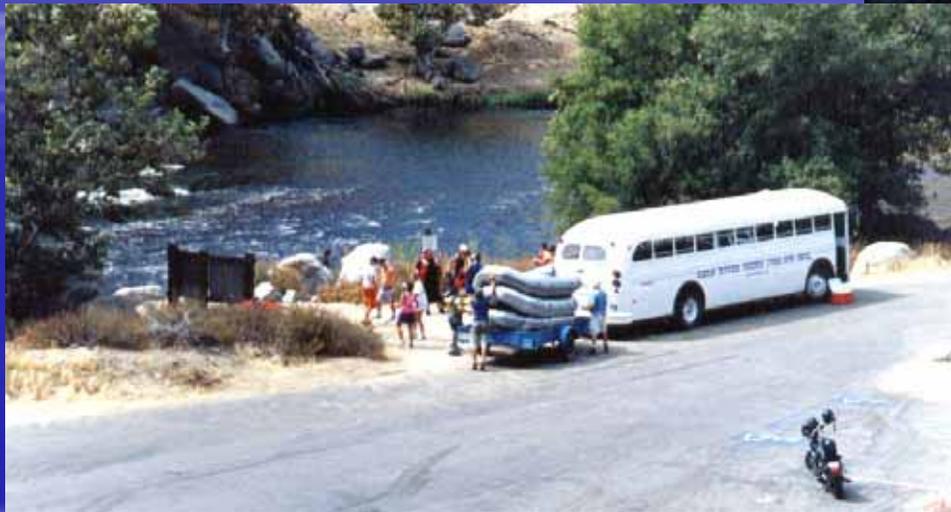


- The local community was very interested in the project and was actively involved in the planning process through meetings set up by FS and then later by Caltrans.



- The local newspaper took an interest from the very beginning of discussions and printed frequent articles to keep the public apprised of the progress.

The Final Product



What it Cost

■ Department of Boating and Waterways	\$ 250,000
■ Bureau of Land Management	\$ 15,000
■ Department of Natural Resources	\$ 200,000
■ U.S. Forest Service	\$ 60,000
■ Volunteers	\$ 5,000
■ TOTAL	\$ 530,000

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