

LOWER CHIPOLA RIVER

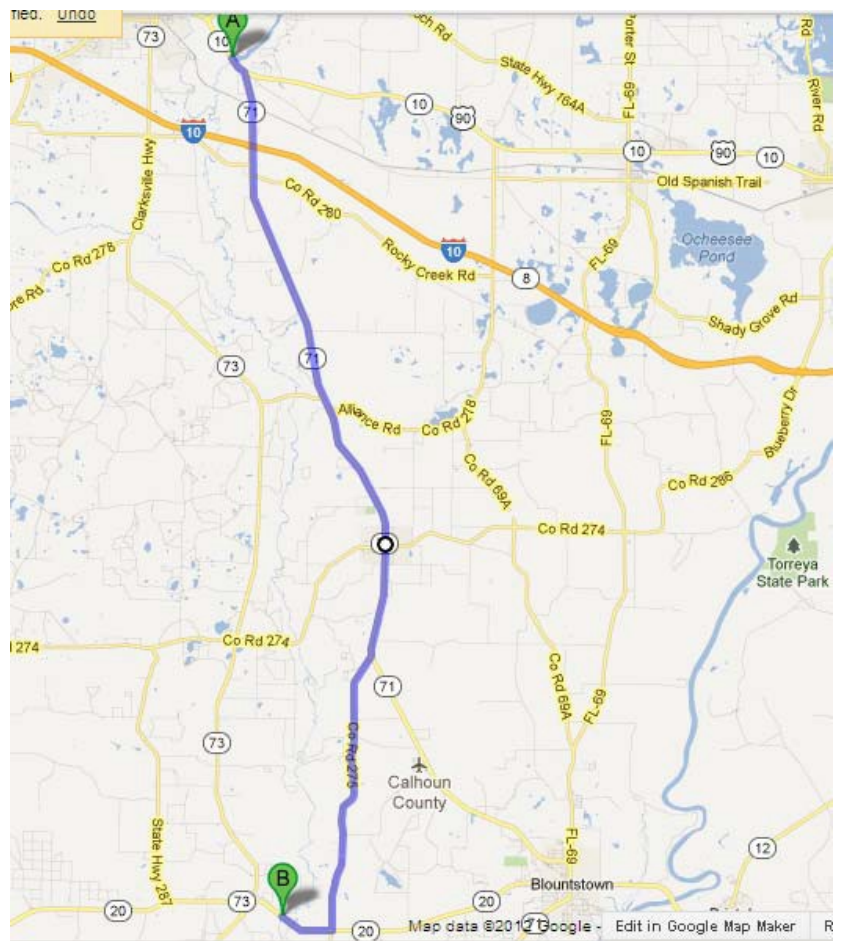
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Highway 20 down to Scott's Ferry: Below Highway 20 the Chipola River straightens and slows. This is a part of the river that once hosted steamboat traffic. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way to Scott's Ferry the river suddenly becomes tangled in a dense network of trees that defy power boaters. But paddlers can stick to the right bank and slip through without too much effort.

We end at a private campsite at Scott's Ferry. We have to pay a \$3 per car parking fee if we'd like to take our cars in the private campground, but it's well worth it to have the cars right there for our use. There's also a rest room up on stilts at the takeout.

From the Campground: Turn left out of the campground on to US 90, head east, and turn right on SR 71, heading south toward the Interstate. Go straight under I-10, heading south.

It's a 25-mile drive down to Blountstown. About 3 miles south of the little town of Altha, veer right to Highway 275 – that saves you some mileage enroute to the put-in. Another 7.5 miles brings you to Highway 20. Turn right, go 1.4 miles, across the bridge and turn right into a county park and boat ramp.



A map of the study area in Blountstown, Alabama. The Mississippi River is shown as a blue line running vertically through the center. Major roads are marked with yellow lines and numbered: 73 (vertical on the left), 20 (horizontal at the top), 71 (diagonal on the right), 70 (vertical in the center), and 72 (vertical on the far right). The town of Blountstown is labeled in the top right. Two study sites are marked with green pins: 'A' is located at the intersection of road 73 and the river, and 'B' is located at the intersection of road 71 and the river. A blue line with yellow dots connects site A to site B, following the river and road 70. A scale bar is located in the bottom left corner.

Going Home: Go north on SR 71. You could veer left on Highway 275, follow that north, rejoin SR 71 at Altha, and save some miles. There's a convenience store and a grocery in Altha. Or, for simple navigating, just following SR 71 up through Blountstown. Pass I-10, turn left on US 90, and the campground is on your right at Merritt's Millpond.