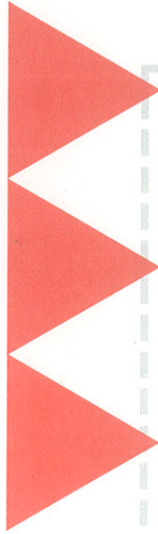


EAST FORK DES MOINES RIVER

Bancroft to the Des Moines River



THE EAST FORK of the Des Moines River originates in Tuttle Lake on the Minnesota-Iowa border. It flows in a southerly direction for a distance of 120 miles before entering the Des Moines River in Humboldt County. The East Fork flows through a light- to moderately timbered floodplain with numerous heavily-grazed pastures encroaching to the river edge, resulting in some bank erosion. Beginning near Bancroft in Kossuth County, the stream contains numerous log jams requiring short



portages, timbered areas forming long canopies and an occasional fence crossing the river. Within this stretch, snags and deep pools on outside bends provide excellent cover for channel catfish. In addition to catfish, northern pike are available to anglers. Canoeists should be aware of two constructed fishing riffles that may be tricky to navigate depending upon the water level of the river. Both are located near Algona, one about five miles

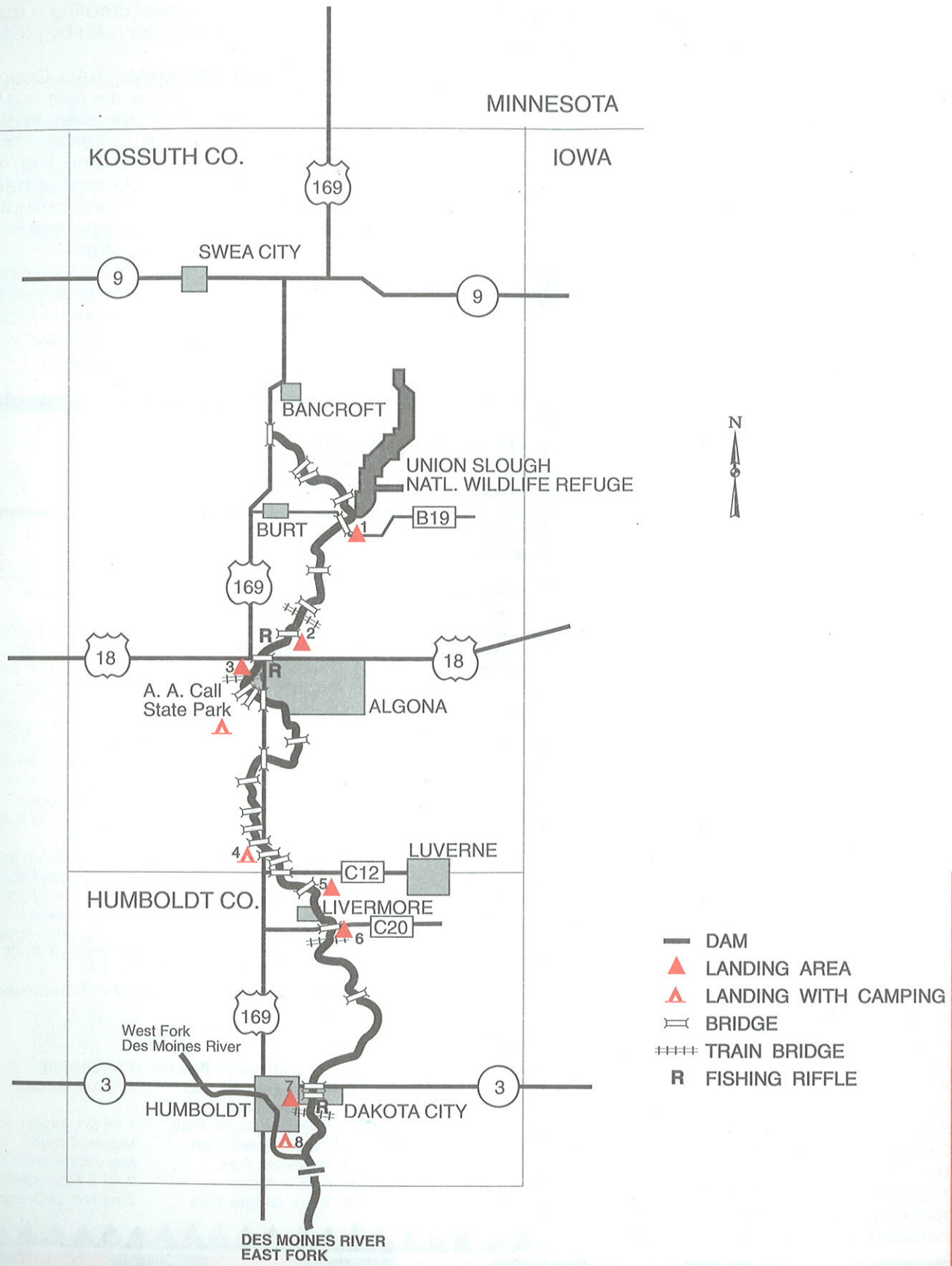
upstream at the Plum Creek Dam access and the other on the north edge of town near Veterans Park.

AS THE EAST FORK leaves Kossuth County and enters Humboldt County, it takes on a different appearance. The numerous log jams and fences are gone; however, the timber canopy remains and riffle areas increase. Fishing enthusiasts will not only find catfish and northern pike, but also walleyes using the rocky substrates and deep pools available in Humboldt County. An old dam at Dakota City Park provides a good rubble area for anglers and fast water that canoeists may want to portage around. THE ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL public access points has improved the East Fork for recreational use in recent years. Despite this effort, there are two relatively long stretches with no public access -- Algona to Devine Wildlife Area and Livermore to Dakota City Access.

EAST FORK DES MOINES RIVER

Bancroft to the Des Moines River

Distance from Previous Access	Access Name	Location
0 miles	1. Patterson Rec. and Wildlife Area	2 mi E Burt
6 miles	2. Plumb Creek Dam	2-1/2 mi NE Algona
2 miles	3. Veterans Park	N edge Algona
9 miles	4. Devine Wildlife Area	8 mi S. Algona
8.2 miles	5. Old Bridge	1-1/2 N Livermore
2.2 miles	6. Livermore Bridge	1/2 mi E Livermore
16.8 miles	7. Dakota City Park	Dakota City
3.6 miles	8. Frank Gotch State Park	2 mi S Humboldt



- DAM
- ▲ LANDING AREA
- ▲ LANDING WITH CAMPING
- ≡ BRIDGE
- ≡≡≡ TRAIN BRIDGE
- R FISHING RIFFLE