Photos:

Boaters putting in at CTS&I. At normal water levels there is a nice sandy beach to launch boats into the water.

Floaters taking out early at low water. Blue Bend Road runs alongside the river at the end of this float.

Float Notes:

Franklin County

A Natural Setting for Opportunity

Grassy Hill Section Upper Blackwater River Blueway

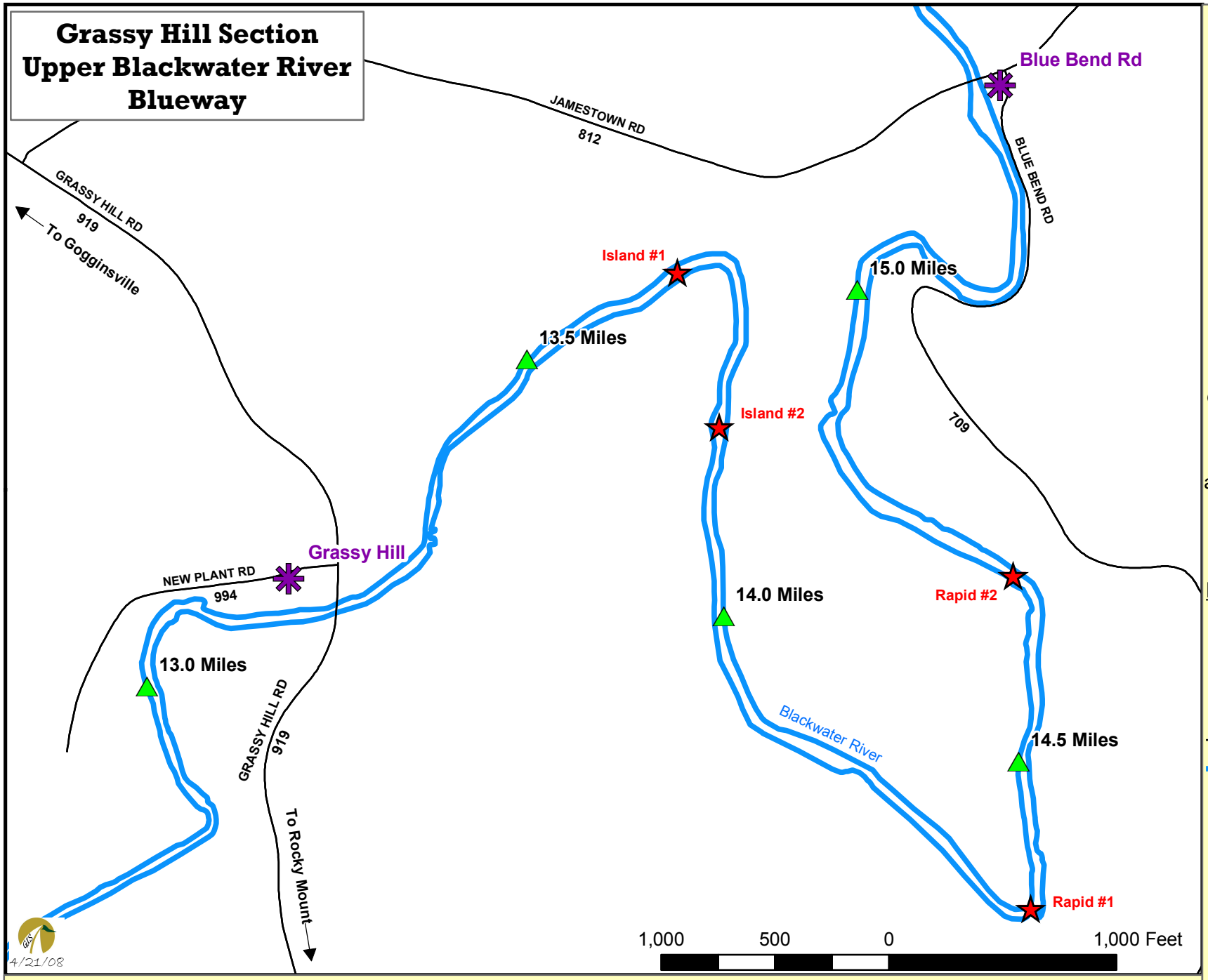
Section of River Running From:

Put In: CTS&I Millwork

Take Out: Blue Bend Road

FRANKLIN COUNTY BLUEWAYS

Grassy Hill Section Upper Blackwater River Blueway



General Information

Running from CTS&I Millworks to Blue Bend Rd., this stretch is home to the Blackwater Blackout Float each June. This 2.5 mile stretch of river is the perfect after-work, early evening float. Runnable just about all year long, it features two small Class I rapids, two islands, and is a great place to take first time paddlers. Depending upon time spent exploring, this float can be done in as little as one hour. Park on the outside of the gate at CTS&I. Note that Blue Bend Road floods out at 5 foot on the Rocky Mount Blackwater River gauge.

Legend

- Blueway Access Points
- Points of Interest
- 1/2 Mile Markers
- Main Roads
- Blackwater River

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DIRECTIONS FROM ROANOKE(220 N): To Put In: Take first Rocky Mount Exit south on Business US 220. Take right at first light onto Grassy Hill Rd and continue two miles. After crossing the Blackwater River take the first left to the put in. Park in front of the gate. To Take Out: Take a left on Grassy Hill Road upon exiting, Continue 1/4 mile and take first right on Jamestown Road. Continue 3/4 mile to Blue Bend Road, take right. Park on right next to river.

DIRECTIONS FROM MARTINSVILLE/ROCKY MOUNT(220S): Take third Rocky Mount Exit (Business 220 S). Take left at stop sign. Follow directions above.