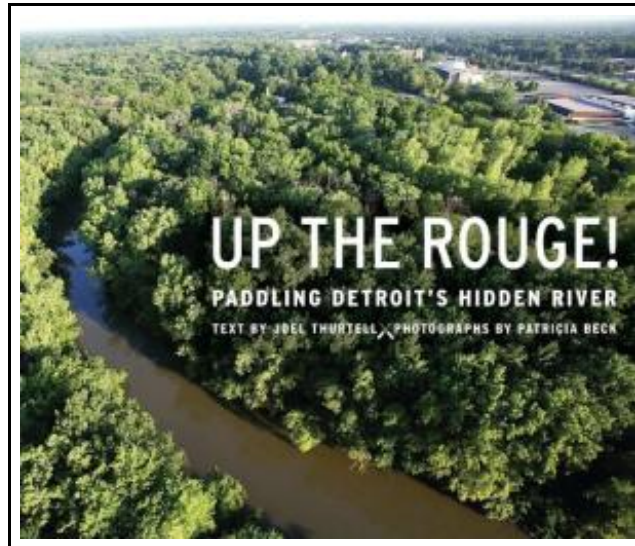


Up the Rouge!: Paddling Detroit's Hidden River



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Reviews

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UP THE ROUGE!: PADDLING DETROIT'S HIDDEN RIVER

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Wayne State University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Up the Rouge!: Paddling Detroit's Hidden River, Joel Thurtell, Patricia Beck, This title chronicles in words and pictures a five-day trip made by two Detroit Free Press journalists up the abused Rouge River in metro Detroit. There is no river quite like Detroit's Rouge River. Named by French explorers, the Rouge's moniker was borrowed by Henry Ford for his huge automobile factory at the river's mouth. The river is also home to two steel mills; cement, gypsum, and salt operations; and the largest single-unit wastewater treatment plant in the country. Although the Rouge is too polluted for public recreation and too log-jammed for a motorboat, Detroit Free Press reporter Joel Thurtell and photographer Patricia Beck decided to travel up the Rouge by canoe to explore not only the river's industrial side but also its beautiful and hidden urban wilderness. "Up the Rouge!" is the surprising and educational account of their journey, narrated by Thurtell and heavily illustrated with Beck's evocative and eclectic photographs. Thurtell and Beck logged more than sixty hours during the first week of June 2005 as they paddled their canoe up more than 27 miles of the Rouge from Zug Island at the Detroit River to Nine Mile and Beech roads in Southfield. Though the Rouge is heavily polluted by sewage, and large sections of the 127-mile-long river have been purposely made inaccessible to the public, government agencies have spent \$1.6 billion dollars trying to clean it up. Thurtell and Beck show that despite its environmental contamination, the Rouge is home to wildlife and that its very seclusion makes it a sanctuary. During their trek, the authors saw animals such as green and blue herons, snapping turtles, musk turtles, mallards, feral dogs, and the first adult female...



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