

CHERRY POINT PADDLE

SATURDAY APRIL 19, 2008 AT 9:30

WHEN: SATURDAY APRIL 19, 2008

WHERE: CHERRY POINT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, STARTING AT THE NCWRC RAMP ON SLOCUM CREEK, THEN ALONG THE NEUSE RIVER, ENDING AT THE NCWRC RAMP ON HANCOCK CREEK

PADDLE DISTANCE: 12+ MILES

TRIP DIFFICULTY: ** DEMANDING

SKILL REQUIREMENTS: ** INTERMEDIATE TO EXPERT

** Please consider your paddle abilities and weather conditions when planning for this trip. If you have any doubt, contact your trip leader for advice. TRPC membership not required however applications available on site.

TRIP DETAILS: This will be an exploration paddle trip around Cherry Point. With the exception of the beginning ¾-mile of paddle (in the West Prong of Slocum Creek) and the (ending) east shore of Hancock Creek, the entire paddle is bordered by Cherry Point Marine Air Station property. DO NOT attempt to go ashore unless an emergency or with personnel cleared on base. This paddle takes you from the small-protected prong of Slocum Creek, into a fairly wide portion of Slocum Creek. You are exposed to about 3 miles of the Neuse River, which can be very challenging to paddle if there are strong winds from any direction but south. The final couple of miles are again in protected waters.

PROVISIONS NEEDED: A type II or III PFD must be worn and properly secured. Dress appropriately for weather conditions wearing synthetics and in layers. Bring a change of clothes in a dry bag and do not forget your lunch and plenty of water. **Spray skirts are a must for the open waters of the Neuse River.**

LAUNCH: No later than 10:00.

TIME ON WATER: 5-hour max. Off the water by 3:00.

SHUTTLE: Paddlers please meet at the Slocum Creek Wild Life Ramp, from there, we will shuttle cars to the take-out. Your return shuttle will be arranged at the Hancock Ramp

DIRECTIONS:

TO PUT-IN: Slocum Creek NCWRC Ramp.

From New Bern, take RT 70 East. When you come to the Havelock Visitor's Center, Prowler Aircraft on display next to the highway, take a right onto the service road and then a left on the service road to the parking area at the NCWRC Ramp.

TO TAKE-OUT: Hancock Creek NCWRC Ramp.

Take a right onto RT 70 from the Slocum Creek Ramp. Follow RT 70 until RT 101 turns off to the left in the center of Havelock. This takes you towards the Cherry Point ferry. Follow RT 101 for 4.9 miles. Turn left onto Cahooque Road, SR 1717, and proceed 3.5 miles to the end of pavement, turn left on gravel road for 1.6 miles to the ramp.

TRIP LEADER: Bob Kent (252) 249-0839 or rkent@coastalnet.com.

RSVP: Please let me know by e-mail or phone if you plan to come on the trip or if you have any questions. Hope to see you on the water.