



Manger Ranger Wish List

Born to Run
Cass Jar
Where I'm Bound
Got the Time
Balto

Coffee / I know Places
Staid Candles

Looking for Lewis & Clark
My Chinchilla
Into the Sunrise
Celebration of the Lizard
Jeremy Raychel
CDs etc for sale --- To

Wanna Say Love
Diggin' It
Jerusalem / Breathe

Thank You
Blue Goose Saloon
RIVERSONG

RIPPLE
IF You Gotta Go
Things Have Changed
Big Time
Take Me Home

Sunbirds
To All The Girls
BB lines
Damn these vampires
Dewey
Angelina

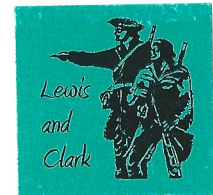
Chuck
Dying Embers / Crest
Dixie Drug Store

The Vets
To All the Girls and the women
Source Deery /
Hardstone Family

RIVER
KERNIT
SOURCE DEERY

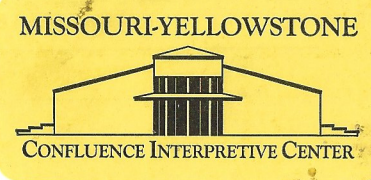
MANGER RANGERS
MARLIN ~~~ DEC. 19
a little bit naughty, a little bit nice
Scott Spring pants

WILLISTON



In case of loss, please return to:

Missouri loves company



As a reward: \$

HEADWATERS	2321	
GREAT FALLS	2121	
WILLISTON	1552	
BISMARCK	1312	
PIERRE	1065	967 Chamberlain
SIoux CITY	732	875 Nebraska border
OMAHA	626	840 Running Water
KANSAS CITY	367	812 Gavins Point Dam
ST. LOUIS	-10	553 Missouri border
		490 Kansas border
		452 St. Joseph
		424 Atchison
		400 Leavenworth

MIWHYU - AKA

12-11	LAX - SEA - FAI	12-25	FAI - SEA - LAX
	13:25-16:08 19:55-22:49		1:15-5:55 7:30-10:19
	451 117		128 462
	28F 28F		28A 28F
	American XUAIAJ	12-26	LAX - ABQ
	AJSLQA		13:40-16:36

the plane carrying will rogers home

M

9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
	left Fairbanks	LA	LA	LA	LA	LA	
16	17 left LA	18	19	20	21	22	
LA	DENVER	Yellowstone Gardiner	Bekka Jean Livingston Helena	1	2	3	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
30	31	1	2	3	4	5	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
32	33	34	35	36	37	38	
27	28	29	30	1	2	3	
39	40	41	42	43	44	45	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
53	54	55	56	57	58	59	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
60	61	62	63	64	65	66	

AUGUST 2015

SEPTEMBER 2015

OCTOBER 2015

25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
67	68	69	70	71	72	73	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
74	75	76	77	78	79	80	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
88	89	90	91	92	93	94	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
95	96	97	98	99	100	101	
29	30	1	2	3	4	5	
102	103	104	105	106	107	108	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
109	110	111	112	18	19		
13	14	15	16	17	25	26	
20	21	22	23	24	1	2	
27	28	29	30	31	8	9	
3	4	5	6	7	15	16	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	

NOVAK 2015

DECEMBER 2015

JAN 2016

the plane carrying all rogers home

? yes? what message

didn't work

THREE FORKS, MT to ST. LOUIS, MO
8-20-15 11-12-15

85 days

13 zeroes { 3 days off in Williston
1 day off in Mobridge
1 day in Walthe Bay
2 days off in Pierre
1 day at Big Bend Dam
4 days off at Omaha/Grinnell
1 day off in St. Joseph

72 paddling days

August 20, 2015 Toston, MT

11:46 I'm tired... but happy. Day 1 of the Missouri River... finally. And it was a good day. And it'll be a good night. If I don't get hassled for camping at the Toston boat ramp. Just across from the BUNKHOUSE BAR, seems not to have any traffic here, so I hope I can sleep through the night blissfully unnoticed and undisturbed---well, damn→ I'm near the train tracks and it's a mighty loud whistle.

I didn't work so hard today ~ paddled/floated 26 miles in 5½ hours, from 13:09 to 18:39, from Three Forks to here. Fastish current, except Toston Lake.

I'm not tired from the paddle, rather I'm tired from all the days preceding it. With luck I'll summarize the

TEN DAYS between Fairbanks and Three Forks.

But not now: they left me tired. As for today's float: wanted to start earlier and go farther, but I'll take it. Smoky sky, obscuring views and far horizons. Fires in Montana--- even a smoking hillside on the Missouri shore. I really kinda wanted to paddle 9 more miles to York Islands campground, but didn't want to paddle in the dark--- unknown camp situation between here and there. So I went to the BUNKHOUSE and had a beer. Saw many birds today→ ducks, geese, herons, pelicans, birds of prey. Also fish and deer. And a cow. Working on the boat. One portage down (got an immediate ride). Preading low-water shallows. Bedtime.

August 21, 2015 Less smoke, some bluey sky

12:14 YORKS ISLANDS CAMPGROUND - started late, after a great sleep. Great weather. Left Toston at 10:10. Got here noon. Warm day, bit of a breeze. Adjusted pedals- rudder is sweet. Half-hour break.

AUGUST 2015

8 ²⁰	Headwaters	2321
20 ¹	Toston	2294
21 ²	Silos	2273
22 ³	Fish Hawk	2253
23 ⁴	Colter	2228
24 ⁵	Prewett Creek	2188
25 ⁶	Riverside	2143
26 ⁷	Great Falls	2121
27 ⁸	Fort Benton	2074
28 ⁹	Coal Banks	2031
29 ¹⁰	Judith Landing	1983
30 ¹¹	Lower Woodhawk	1940
31 ¹²	Moonrise	1902
9 ¹	13 Driftwood	1863
2	14 Bone Trail	1823
3	15 Bone Trail	1823
4	16 Sixth Ridge	1790
5	17 Fort Peck Marina	1713
6	18 PUMP STATION	1737
7	19 Cow Trail Ridge	1688
MT 8	20 Riverbend	1636
9	21 Confluence	1581
10	22 Williston	1550
11	23 Williston	1550
12	24 Williston	1550
13	25 Williston	1550
14	26 L&C Point	1520
ND 15	27 Tobacco Garden	1511
16	28 Four Bears	1480
17	29 Calm Sunset Bay	1440
18	30 Fucking Dakota Waters	1412
19	31 Downstream Garrison	1389
20	32 Cross Ranch	1348
21	33 Fort Lincoln	1311
22	34 Huff	1288
23	35 Cows	1260
24	36 Stateville Resort	1233
25	37 Log	1215
26	38 Exile Bay	1210
SD 27	39 Bridge City Marina	1191
28	40 Bridge City Marina	1191
29	41 Walth BAY	1182
30	42 Walth BAY	1182

10-1	43 Swan Creek Bay	1174
10-2	44 Dodge Draw	1164
10-3	45 West Whitlock	1154
10-4	46 Bob's	1151
775 10-5	47 Little Bend Ramp	1108
10-6	48 Griffin Park PIERRE	1064
10-7	49 PIERRE	1064
10-8	50 PIERRE	1064
10-9	51 De Grey ramp	1041
10-10	52 West Bend camp	1009
10-11	53 Downstream Big Bend Dam	987
10-12	54 Downstream Big Bend Dam	987
10-13	55 CHAMBERLAIN	967
10-14	56 SOUTH of ELM CREEK	937
10-15	57 Platte Creek	912
10-16	58 Fort Randall Dam	880
10-17	59 Verdel Isl and	857
10-18	60 SPRINGFIELD, SP	832
10-19	61 GAVINS PT DAM	810
10-20	62 PONCA SP RIVERFRONT	754
10-21	63 SIOUX CITY	732
10-22	64 DECATUR	691
10-23	65 COTTONWOOD	651
10-24	66 NARROWS RIVER-OMAHA	619
10-25	67	
10-26	68 GRINNELL	
10-27	69	
10-28	70 AMERISTAR CASINO	614
10-29	71 NEBRASKA CITY	563
10-30	72 THURNAU RAMP	509
10-31	73 ST. JOSEPH	450
775 11-1	74 ST. JOSEPH	450
11-2	75 RM 416 SANDEAR	416
11-3	76 PARKVILLE KC	375
11-4	77 LEXINGTON MO	317
11-5	78 WAVERLY MO	293
11-6	79 GLASGOW MO	226
11-7	80 COOPERS LANDING	170
11-8	81 JEFFERSON CITY	144
11-9	82 HERMANN	97
11-10	83 WASHINGTON	68
11-11	84 ST. CHARLES	28
11-12	85 CHAIN OF ROCKS	-5

11-13
11-14
11-15
11-16
11-17
11-18

21:00 SILOS CAMPGROUND --- Canyon Ferry Lake ^{Dammed} Lake #2

I got to the ~~Townsend~~ Bridges about 14:00 - Miller sez there's drinking water at the Indian Road campground. Miller is a bastard. But I suppose the old pumps mighta worked 11 years ago. Ah, time.

I grumpily left the campground at 14:30, after filling a bottle with gross Missouri River water and popping a pill in. (Townsend proper is a ways down the road - didn't feel like hoofing it.)

I made the terrific mistake of taking the side channel as I left Indian Road. I thought it went right back to the main channel, but no... it meandered a long long way, often very shallowly... I had to get out and tow the boat multiple times. That wasted a half-hour. Then I got to the lake. The south-end delta "mud flats" weren't bad, but the waves on the lake were a drag. A tough 3 miles on the lake to SILOS camp. I pulled onto shore at 17:00. I didn't really want to stop, but the wind and waves were again and they didn't seem likely to stop. Next camp 8½ miles. I decided to stop. Another short day, ~7 hours paddling. 21 miles. \$10 camp sites. RVs galore. One tent - getting shredded by the wind. I took a very long time to move all my stuff from shore to site 30. Then a long time with my tent, making it as bombproof as possible. Kayak and cement picnic table blocking the wind. All kinds of extra lines tied to the picnic table and the fire pit. Finally dinner, in a campground shelter. The wind died down for awhile, but now - 22:35 - it's outrageous. Hope the tent survives. Hope the wind goes away.

Bald eagles and Kingfishers today.

Big Water
Confluences
R & W

The Incomplete Paddler
What I Said to the River
Let it Bleat

Too many words, Too many songs
World Gone Wrong

August 22, 2015 BLUE SKY FLAT LAKE

12:40 WHITE EARTH CAMPGROUND

Today's turning out lovely. A bit grey and windy this morning; I rose slowly then carried gear and kayak to shore. Got off at 10:00. Slight headwind, small waves (nothing like yesterday), warmish, many clouds, tiny bits of blue sky. 2:20 paddling steady to get here. Now it's warm, I'm in the sun, still lots of clouds but lots of blue sky. The water has gotten flatter and flatter. Cam batteries seem to have died. Don't wanna dig out the others. No phone yet.

6.5 miles to Mahogany Cove, 5 more to the dam/marina.

15:20 The day just gets more gorgeous, much like life. Almost no clouds now. Big Blue Sky. Just under 2 hours to get to Mahogany Cove. Nice place. Some other peeps here, though. Tents. Kayaks. FISH JUMPING! Been seeing 'em the past 2 days, but neglected to mention 'em. 5 hours to get here from Silos, with a 40-minute stop at White Earth. Paddling steady. A sailboat. A paraglider. Camera works again... Onward to the marina!

21:30 Made short work of that 5 miles... Got to the marina at about 17:00 after 1:15 paddling. But it was sunny, bright and fairly warm. I was parched on arrival. Drank my aqua, got a drink at the store, then hiked up to the Yacht Basin bar & restaurant. Burger and beer and INTERNET! Sent a few e-mails. After a couple hours, I shoved off and paddled to the free FISH HAWK camping area... AWESOME. I'm up a steep hillside from a tiny beach where my yak is ~~is~~ locked to a tree. Clear sky, slight wind, stars out, bright bright half moon...

This spot overlooks the lake, from Yacht Basin all the way past the dam and south down the east side. Aaaaah... Too bad I gotta immediately portage this dam tomorrow...

PADDLE, PEDAL, and HOOF

A WEE ^{one year} TRIATHLON AROUND
THE AMERICAN WEST

August 23, 2015 The Lord's Day

The good lord has blessed all of us today.

It's just that he's been particularly good to me.

13:43 A little hazy, but otherwise an even nicer day than yester.

YORK'S BRIDGE Clear, warm-to-hot, and a tailwind!

Woke at 7:30. Packed slow. Funky solar radio seems to work well except no display for the frequency, Kenneth. Trudged stuff down to the tiny beach, packed kayak, 5-minute paddle to marina — coffee! water! wifi! 13-minute paddle to Shannon Ramp.

Loitered for a while, failed to ask a truck or two... then got a ride from a cool Anaconda schoolteacher — boating with the fam on his penultimate day of summer vacation. "Don't say the S..."

So in below Canyon Ferry Dam at 11:43. In here about 2 hours later. Onward, Outta here by 14:00.

22:45 COLTER CAMPGROUND ~ Gates of the Mountains

I've been here since 20:00, but I paddled later this evening than the previous 3. My paddling day was

9:42-9:47 camp to marina

10:17-10:30 marina to Shannon Ramp

11:43-13:45 Riverside camp to York Bridge

14:00-16:00 York Bridge to Holten Dam

17:30-20:00 Holten Dam to Colter Camp

For a total of almost 7 hours of paddling. Two portages. I'm at about 92 miles so far. Almost lost my SALMONFEST cup at the Holten Dam portage. One more portage tomorrow, and then an uninterrupted stretch to Great Falls. Great weather all day... and into the night. Stars and moon. And a searchlight that keeps sweeping by overhead. Boats, waterskiers, fishermen. I'm the only one at Colter camp. Last speedboat came through about 21:00. It's still and quiet except for the crickets... and some far off jet.

August 24, 2015 MONDAY, GREAT WEATHER

14:45 Got up at 6:30. Heated water for coffee while I packed. Tasty.
Got off at 8:30. Paddled 15 minutes to Meriwether Picnic area. Jogged
up the Mann Gulch Trail in 30 minutes. Big climb up from the river.
Ran down in about 12 minutes. Back on the water at 10:00. First
motorboat of the day not long after. Looking forward to Indian Trails
lunch, but it was closed when I got there at 12:30. Onward to the
end of Holter Lake, Less traffic - weekends over. Bikinis. Eating
at the bait shop/dock store. Now → portage #4. Junk food.

22:25 PREWETT CREEK - Fishing Access/Campground

Big Day! After the Northwest Energy Dam guys gave me a ride around
the dam - it was a river again! Easily did 23 miles in 4½ hours
16:00 - 20:30. Zipped in here and did a quick camp setup, thinking
that I could go to the restaurant across the street. But it's closed.

FOUR PLACES today that are in Miller's book → closed

Indian Trails Bar/Restaurant

Holter Lake Lodge

Pearborn Country Inn

Missouri Inn

I guess that's what an 11-year-old guidebook gets you.
Anyway, I did ~41 miles today... gotta crosscheck my various
resources for an accurate total. Hot, hazy, amazing cliffs
and mountains. Now I wanna read L & C's original journals.
coz they spelt stuff all funny. I just keep taking pictures
of deer, eagles, herons, rock formations.

BEAVER ALL OVER THIS EVENING

So now, with current, I should make Great Falls tomorrow.

August 25, 2015 LONG DAY

22:30 Great Falls is further than I thought. And the current slowed down a lot. So I gotta do about 20 more miles to get to GF tomorrow. I got off at 9:00 this morning. Smoky/hazy. Bighorn Sheep at Prewett Creek. Couple hours to Cascade. Kept paddling steady till 16:00 reached DUNES pullout. Another hour to Ulm, where I walked to the CENEX station for pizza and Dr. Denali. And water! No water anywhere. Kind of a drag. Missouri water is just too gross. River otters! A couple hours more after Ulm. Set my tent up right by the shore. Probably somebody's property. Beavers splashing around outside. (I assume it's beavers) A bee or wasp stung my back today while paddling. Busted. Another hot and hazy day. Arm workout.

August 26, 2015 GREAT FALLS

[written next day in Fort Benton] The map sez this section doesn't get floated... I don't think I saw a boat after Cascade. I didn't see a boat today. Left at 8:30. Not much to see and head down for Great Falls. About 11:00 went by the castle on the right. Stopped at Big Bend FAS for a half-hour walk, drink, snack, etc. On to town. Houses on both sides. Tied-up boats, nobody on the water. Oddfellows Park at 14:00. Cell service, called Jim, booked LaQuinta, Jim arrived, TOUR GUIDE! checked in, went to L&C interpretive center, went to Craig's shop, went to Mackenzie River Pizza, back to LaQuinta. Up till 3am but got little done.

AUGUST 27, 2015 Drunker'n 3 Indians on payday

Stayed up too late. Jim couldn't come later than 9am. Dammit. Got up at 8, barely got ready. LONG way to Carter's Ferry... I hadn't paid attention to the distance. Got there at about 10:00. Took my time packing/prepping. Got on river at 10:40 and went upriver for about a mile, around the bend. Hard work, almost impossible at the first bottleneck. Turned around about 11:10, back where I started at 11:20 ~ Fort Benton Canoe Camp at 13:50. Some river current. Some clouds, 15-20° cooler than the last buncha low-90 days. Some canyon walls, fun shapes—river level dropped through Great Falls, plains remain the same. Birds of prey. Dad and 2 kids in kayaks. Set up my camp till 15:00 — HOT and sweaty. Walked into town... COOL LITTLE TOWN ^F_B — nice riverside walk with signs and statues about its crazy history. I hit the tasty freeze by the boat ramp for dinner—pizza burger, onion rings, chocolate shake, beers. Hit the library for WIFI. Hit the food farm for groceries. Hit the PALACE BAR for a couple beers and funny regulars. Wandered back to camp and got a great sleep.

AUGUST 28, 2015 COAL BANKS LANDING

21:30 Dang. It got dark fast. I was racing to get my tent up and dinner cooked after arriving at camp just before 20:00. It got dark fast. I couldn't quite grok it, but I had things to do... plus the wind picked up and I suddenly had to ~~hide the knives~~ secure all my many things. I continued eating, cleaning up, throwing everything in tent, and by then it was dark and I was hot and exhausted. Took my top off and sat down here to write. And it smells smoky. A-HA! Heavy smoke rolled in, bringing early dark!

I think there's an almost full moon up there, and it's nowhere to be seen. No stars. The last few nights have featured a bright moon, only slightly yellowed by the smoke. So I think this is as bad as it's been since I started. Shucks, Will it go away anytime soon? Will I have to paddle through this tomorrow? While I push to make time through this Scenic Upper Missouri Breaks With No Water. It was nice all day today. I dawdled at Fort Benton and didn't shove off till 11:20. Good current and steady paddling → 6mph. Took about an hour at the $\frac{1}{2}$ mark to eat and stretch at WOOD BOTTOM and then to jog up to the overlook of DECISION POINT...

The river Marias deep and wide.

Then paddled steady to here. $8\frac{1}{2}$ hours total, 1-hr break. Popular camp, popular starting place for boating, according to the guides... But it's late in the season, and now it's shitty with smoke. Not many folks here. The canoe couple that left FB yesterday afternoon. And a guy on a bike.

LONG DAY EVERY DAY

AUGUST 29, 2015 Judith Landing

20140 The fun never stops. I will not allow it. Don't kill the party. I did almost get killed by a falling Cottonwood tree. But let me start at the beginning → Potted out at 8:50 this morning, just after the canoe couple. Chased 'em for miles. Caught and passed 'em on the opposite side of an island. Then floated into the White Cliffs rock formations.

20-minute break at Eagle Creek Rec Area. 11:40-12:00

It got hotter. 20 miles to Slaughter River camp...

I'd passed a flotilla of folks, possibly elderly, in canoes about 5 miles earlier, so I didn't dally. The last 12 miles went pretty fast. A few drops of rain even. As I pulled into Judith Landing at 19:10, there were dark skies and lightning back upriver, whatever direction that is... I got my stuff and boat to a campsite and **SUDDENLY**, and I mean **instantaneously**, there was a freakishly strong windstorm. It wrought havoc among the camp cottonwoods, and it brought down a whole tree at the campsite next to me. A big fucking tree. 2-foot diameter trunk. Nice. Gotta find what David Miller sez about widowmaker cottonwoods. Then the winds calmed, and I set the tent and ate ramen. Then it rained a bit so I got in the tent. Then the TLD thunder/lightning/downpour came. And then it went. And now it's almost 23:00. All is serene. Except a cow somewhere nearby making a lot of noise. I feel good. Tired arms, but not bad. Like yesterday, I stayed feverishly hot for hours after getting off the river.

WATER ~ No sources. After COAL BANKS, it's 108 miles with no good water - the river and its few tribs are gross--- I'd have to be pretty desperate to kick a penguin. So I was prepared to go pretty dry at the end... but I was able to totally fill up at Judith (Jugs), so I'll have 2.2 gallons for the remaining 61 miles. No worries

AUGUST 30, 2015 WOODHAWK CAMP

A TURTLE, TWO BIGHORNS, A BOBCAT, A RATTLESNAKE
The day started with rain - I got up and dilly-dallied during a lull then had to pack wet tent and shove off in drizzle. Was wet for 2 hours and then back to sunny and scorching hot.

THE OLD NORTH ROAD

Wonderful bright
Almost Full Moon tonight
Rising over the river

2060

ere you were here

Seemed like the smoke was almost gone. Blue sky and non-smoke smells. Took it pretty easy but still did 43 miles. Saw only 2 other boats (and the Stafford Ferry)—2 canoes about 5 miles upriver from here. Took a quick mucky break in nowhereland at 13:00, then straight here—in at 18:00. Thought about going on, but dark ugly skies ahead. And it's rained off and on since I landed. Jogged up to the Upper Woodhawk camp, a little over a mile, and back. Crazy windy again tonight. And lightning. No rain yet at 22:00... Will a cottonwood fall on me? Is this what I'll face on Lake Peck? Do I dare to eat a peach?

AUGUST 31, 2015

9:00 Loitering a bit on a warm sunny morning at Woodhawk. Some writing. Some reading. Some maps. Some coffee. Some laptop tunes. Miller's bummed me out talkin' SIX gallons of water to do Fort Peck Lake, I'll be thirsty and/or drinking the lake... Guy drove in on a 4-wheeler. Saw him go by above. He went Upper Woodhawk, then the outhouse at Lower, but he didn't come down to my camp at the lower end. Watched him drive away above.

21:37 Ah, goodness. This kinda night by the river makes the whole thing worthwhile. Sure would be sweet if Kandy were here. Shucks. A clear big sky Montana night; smoke is behind me, back west; stars out; no wind; Missouri River placid, reflecting the stars; crickets; an owl; the occasional fish splash in the river — and up from the eastern horizon, a wonderful bright almost-full moon. I've got a seat at a creaky old picnic table just up from the water's edge. An unnamed little access point, five miles down from the Rock Creek Boat Ramp in the Charles M Russell National Wildlife Refuge. Lotta spiders at this table.

So, I got off at 10:25, made Kipp by about 13:45. Got water, left at 15:00 after talking to the camp host. Nervous about the upcoming lake. Kinda wanna go long when it's good like tonight, but didn't wanna find a camp in the dark. So pulled in here at 19:50. Tomorrow!
The end of August.

Greybeard ~ Take out vox on break

All I Can Is Nothing

Coyote Song ~

The beginning of September

SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

08:00 What a great and wistful morning to begin September... As I'm about to paddle onto Fort Peck Lake. 'Twas chilly last night. Not nekkid in the tent, but fully swaddled and zipped into the sack. No tent fly, tho; starry sky too clear and dreamy, 'twas dewey this morn. Thought I mighta left by now, but I'm chilling and letting things dry. Up before 7AM sunrise. Sky all clear, sunny, no wind. Go!

21:25 WAITING FOR THE MOON

In the tent with no fly again. Sky gone crazy with stars. But tonight I'm not under cottonwoods. No trees here on the side of Fort Peck Lake--- west shore of the eastside of UL Bend. Don't wanna take my contacts out so I can see the stars. Don't wanna read or write cuz that requires my headlamp.

I prolly did 40 miles today... 36 river miles plus a slight side trip to the Crooked Creek Rec Area. Paddled straight 9AM→5PM from camp to Crooked Creek. Good current till about 14:30, then hit the lake. Good weather all day. Baking hot. Got a sunburn. Water at Crooked And nice campsites. I almost stayed. But it was just too nice on the water. Poor Miller had low water and bad weather. I hope the weather gods give me a few more good days.

SEPTEMBER 2, 2015

12:22 DEVIL'S CREEK REC AREA - Poor Miller. He had a helluva time getting this far on the lake. For me, a cakewalk. 3½ hours to paddle over here from last night's camp. At least 15 miles. Slight wind at my back waves pushing me along. Off at 8:30, in at noon. Back out soon. Slightly cloudy, still hot. Nobody on this lake: swimming family right after Kipp, 2 ATVs at Hutton, one RV couple at crooked, one boat this mornin. Fishing, 2 guys fishing off the dock here. Nobody on this lake. No water here at Devil's Creek.

BLESSED WITH GREAT WEATHER AND ONLY FAVORABLE WIND, I TOOK THE SOUTH SHORE - SHORTER. MILLER WENT NORTH... AND MISPLACED DEVIL'S CREEK RAMP ON HIS MAPS.

22:00 BONE TRAIL REC AREA / BOAT RAMP

I like paddling all day, but I'm less a fan of hurried camp setup as darkness falls. The last push to get here took longer than I expected. But easy serene paddling all day. Great sunset as I rolled in here. But now the weather may be turning. Folks been saying it's gonna. (The few folks I've seen.) There's some stars, but also clouds.

The wind is picking up — NORTHWEST. I'm sitting at the cement picnic table by the boat ramp, writing by headlamp. I put up my tent right by this table, and I have about 6 extra cables tying tent to table. Should be bombproof for any northwest wind. Probably overkill but this place is famous for its big wind. And what will tomorrow be like? Minor northwest wind pushes me the right direction... Big wind might keep me off the water... With decent weather, I'm done with this lake in 2 days. We shall see. Weird flashing light in the dark a few miles back upriver. Don't know what it might be... paddled by there, didn't see nothing. Left eye contact hurt today. And tomorrow I start drinking lake water.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2015

ARE YOU GUARDING THE BLUE KEY?

12:00 BONE TRAIL - ugh. Big mistake, dragging my boat up the ramp last night. I got off at 8:30, only to have the cockpit filling with water after about 5 minutes. Muddy shore stop revealed a huge hole in the very back. So about an hour to unpack the yak, walk stuff back here, duct tape the hole and paddle back here. Waiting for superglue to dry in the hole. Very impatient... but unsure how to proceed. Prolly paddle to Fort Peck and see how the patch holds up... A speedboat just passed. First I've seen since Devil's Creek.

15:54 THE LONGEST DAY--- sitting and waiting for glue to dry. Watching a perfect paddling day go by. It's killing me. But I think the patch is much more likely to hold up if I let the glue dry all night. I can do a bunch of duct tape patches to get to Fort Peck if I have to, but this patch might hold. Hoping for good weather again. There is nobody at this site. There is nobody on this lake. This is a lovely place, but I wanna get out of here and off of this lake. Then worry about my leaky boat.

20101 24 hours at the Bone Trail, I want to believe... tomorrow will be a great paddling day—like today was. It was lovely here, but I couldn't enjoy it. Antsy about the lake, antsy about the hole, antsy about food. One good paddling day tomorrow (without leaks) would go a long way. Western sunset sky looks good, but clouds in the south and east look ominous. We shall see. Two guys showed up and put in a boat at about 6pm. There's the only passerby today, except that boat earlier. Light upriver is a navigation beacon. Wind is currently calm... blowing SOUTHWEST...

SEPTEMBER 4 THE PATCH SURVIVED

8:00 Morning musings. Pretty glorious, so no time to write. Coffee. Orisons of foot and wheel and sail. Last Man on Earth—monologue. Ivan Coyote. K. Go!

22:00 Sixth Ridge---I had to fight a headwind all day. At times it was brutal, and never was it fast. All morning just fighting eastward. Terrible waves at the north bend. A dicey cross of Sutherland Bay. And then OK crosses of the next few bays, but they got worse and worse with bigger and bigger waves against me. Was trying for the PINES REC AREA and maybe I could have made it there, exhausted, with the last hint of daylight... but I pulled off one bay early at 19:30 and made my camp up in the trees. I paddled pretty hard for 10½ hours. 33 miles or so. Ate much of my remaining food. Weather allowing I'll get to the Fort Peck Marina for a late lunch tomorrow. The E beacon beeping across the water. Body still rolling on the wave.

THANK YOU FOR PLAYING THE WAY YOU PLAY.

SEPTEMBER 5 ~~~ FORT PECK MARINA, BABY

(8) It's ugly out, but better here than still out on the lake.

(11) I just got in my sleeping bag in my tent at the little camp by the marina. I'd been lying on the tent floor and in damp clothes, enraptured by the sounds of 2 mixes from Pat—"On the Loose" and "Greybeard"—which I just got via the magic of Marina Bar wifi. It was raining when I walked back from the bar, but now it's stopped. It was cold when I awoke, and the day was halfway done. Nearly spring in San Francisco...

So, it was a late lunch indeed by the time I paddled into the marina, but early in the morning I didn't even think I'd make it → big waves and sketchy bay crossings. By the time I got to duck creek bay, things were rough but tolerable. Still, that 40-minute crossing was spooky. So, 8:30 out, 4:00 pm in. Basically 5 days from Kipp... with a 25-hour stop at Bone Trail. Tomorrow I'll portage down below the dam and reassess the situation.

I ate a slow burger dinner at the bar, then hurried to paddle around the point to set up a camp, turns out the marina owners woulda let me pitch a tent anywhere for \$5, then back to the bar for slow chicken dinner. All the while internet... expected more e but didn't get much.

9-15 THE BURLINGTON NORTHERN To Williston!

To about mile 1737. PUMP STATION across the river.

Park Grove Bar/Cafe at noon. Off at 13:00. Puddled in here 19:40.

Deer snorting at me.

It rained a lot last night, but it was bright and sunny this morning. Got up and ready, went over to the marina for coffee and e-mail, and then got a ride down below the dam. The marina owners gave me a ride (free!), and he took me by the nearby convenience store - it was pretty lame. I got a few things, assuming I'd go somewhere else - but there's nowhere else to go. I didn't wanna waste time trying to get a lift to the grocery store. So I got a few things at the Park Grove Bar and got off at 13:00. Puddled till 19:40. Not too exciting. Not a great camp.

FROM CONVENIENCE STORE: 2 small bags of tuna
Saltines
Skrappy Chunky Peanut Butter
Trail Mix
couple NutriGrain Bars

FROM PINE GROVE BAR: BLT, ham & cheese, grilled cheese
Cheetos, Doritos, trail mix
Candy Bars
Slim Jims

9-7-15 MILE 1688

A little nicer than last night... Camp right by the river, nice place if you ignore the mosquitoes and cattle's business. Woke at 7:50. Off at 9:30. Pretty boring stretch. Started getting WOLF POINT radio. Passed Wolf Point. Bridge campground looked good. Water pumps didn't seem to work. BNFS trains in the distance. Geese, coyotes, beaver nearby. Getting chillier at night. Wearing a hat. (ASC)

9-8-15 DAY 20

I'm singing with Dan Bern and the Coyotes
By the riverside, south of the Fort Peck Rez
Beavers splashing slappin' tail out in the water
Hanging on every word the Coyote sez

Yeah, I've not been much into this section. Several reasons ~
① stupid resupply in Fort Peck, ② north of the river is Injunland and David Miller paints it as hostile enemy territory, ③ it's a bit boring...

Miller got shot at, though, plus some other sketchy encounters. Still, I gotta figure that I coulda ventured into Wolf Point, Poplar, or Stockton --- and maybe found a store with no trouble... The Wolf Point radio sounds civilized enough.

And I'm drinking the river, too. No fucking water sources. Day started fuzzy --- right eye hurt from contact lens, so I wore my glasses. Slept well, up around 7:00, off at 8:45. Immediately passed a kayaker bound for St. Louis --- didn't see him till I was downriver... he said he'd catch up, but he didn't. I never slowed down 52 miles or so. Wearing my glasses, I forgot about my shades... and dropped 'em in the river. 2nd pair already.

Got off the river at 7:30. Nice spot, right off the river. About mile 1636. Should make Williston easy Thursday, ND tomorrow. Nice clear night. Stars, distant trains.

9-9-15 SO MANY LYRICS...

NORTH DAKOTA! Also North Dakota time, which means I lost an hour and it's now 22:30. I put in a long day, too, so I'm ready to sleep--- at this Confluence campground which is nicer than when Miller came through... but maybe not so nice that they deserve the \$10 fee they wanna charge. The only other soul around is a shirtless dude in a trailer. He hasn't come out or said a word. There's a new interpretive center here, too. They open at 9AM; guess I'll stick around to check it out. Only 5 or 6 hours to WILLISTON now.

Great morning. Got off at 8:10. Clear sky. Got to the Culbertson Bridge at 11:15—"new" camp there—jogged 20 minutes toward town, turned and jogged back. Also a "new" camp by the Snowden Bridge ("new" means Miller doesn't mention it.) No sign at the state line. No path to Ft. Union. Lotta clouds gathering as I did the last 10-20 miles. Got here about 19:10 Montana time. Rained a tiny bit. I've had a cozy few hours here under the picnic shelter. Now to bed.

9-10-15

Up and packed, then walked over to the (newish? Not in Miller...) Confluence Interpretive Center. OK. \$5. Bought some postcards, WiFi. Worker ladies doing a puzzle. Woulda maybe liked to stay and absorb the info—mostly about Fort Buford—but I wanna get to Williston. Off at 10:30. Fairly boring 6 hours. Herons! Lots of 'em. Haven't seen so many since way back upriver. Got to the highway 85 bridge—the Lewis & Clark Bridge (How many of those are there?) about 4pm—It's heavy under construction/maintenance—massive workforce. Not a nice camp. Not a place ~~that~~ that I wanna leave my boat and stuff. So back on the water, onto the tiny OUTSIDE channel to the ACE HQ... tiny channel...

9-13-15

✓ \$4299.03

\$8014.70

\$ 300.00

-\$ 5171.87

+ 400.00

+\$ 2000.00

\$7841.86

WEEKEND IN WILLISTON

If my kayak is still where I left it out beyond the levee, then this will be a very successful weekend break...

Not cheap. And not productive in getting down the river. But productive in other ways, and relaxing, and I got a decent feel for Williston, and I watched the semis and finals of the US Open.

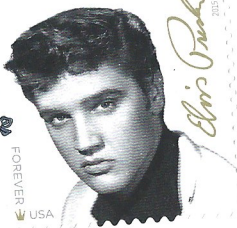
Now I really need to get back on the river.

THURSDAY 9-10

FRIDAY 9-11

SATURDAY 9-12

SUNDAY 9-13



FIRE!

9-14-15 SAKAKAWEA!

23:30 Back on the water! I checked out of the Missouri Flats Inn at 10:00. Called a cab and had him take me to the levee. Tough walk to the boat with groceries and my stuff. Took a while loading. Off before noon. Good paddling for 15 miles - river and current. Then headwind and lake. Paddling through a forest. Pulled off at 20:00 at a lovely beach. Don't know what I've been doing for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours. But I took my time with tent and food. Gorgeous warm night. No fly on the tent's stars. And across the water on the north shore → glowing oil fires.

9-15-15 TOBACCO GARDEN BAY

20:00 I only did about 10 miles today. I got a late start, only getting off at 10AM. I was up late last night, and I haven't been in the habit of waking any earlier than I feel like it. 'Twas cloudy and windy... and the wind was against me, thus so were the waves. It was especially bad after I left the north-south bit and turned into the east wind at about mile 1515. 'Twas paddling but slow and enervating. Took me almost 4 hours to get here... And though it was early afternoon, this place looked a lot nicer than the lake. And they're really good to paddlers. So here I am - in the cozy bunkhouse. Hoping to get off early tomorrow. But the forecast is more of the same.

9-16-15 FOUR BEARS REC AREA AND CASINO

21:50 It's raining. I'm in my tent. The rain just started and I just got in my tent. For about 2 hours I've been in the picnic shelter (#8) sorting stuff, drying stuff, eating stuff, reading stuff... and watching lightning across the river off to the east. Now thunder, lightning, rain. My tent is right next to the picnic shelter... even tied to it for added wind protection. Kayak is under the shelter 'twixt 2 picnic tables.

I'm happy I made it here... took some effort. 10 hours to do maybe 33 miles from Tobacco Garden. Lovely morning. Got off at 8:40 — boat on the water by the dock all night. Flat calm water and no wind all morning, heading east, till turning the corner at about 1497... After that, all headwind and waves as I went southeast for 15 miles. Slow. Hard paddling. Kinda fun, for awhile anyway. At the end of the section, I caught Dave Randolph making camp — about mile 1484. Talked to him briefly, then continued on. Thought of crossing over and going to Newtown Marina, but decided not to do those extra miles and to brave Four Bears. Funky place. Big recreation, some nice sites and facilities, not maintained at all, nearby casino couldn't give a fuck about the camping area, beer cans everywhere. I arrived at 18:40, wandered around for an hour trying to figure things out. Hauled ALL my stuff up a hill to #8. Visited the casino and bought a beverage... and by 19:40 I was set up under the picnic shelter. **THE RAIN IS REALLY COMING DOWN — MOST I'VE HAD THIS TRIP, BY FAR.** Hoping for no rain or wind in the morning.

9-17-15 Calm Bay at 1440

22:30 Intense day of paddling. Almost 11 hours with all kinds of waves. Vfy clouds everywhere in the morning, but they dissipated pretty quick. First into small annoying headwind/waves. Then the river gradually turned till I was riding huge waves all the way to Skunk Creek Bay — workout. Stopped for 30 minutes. Snack and drying/bailing. Then hard cross-waves to get around Independence Point. Then increasing tail-waves pushing me here — pulled in after sunset. Crescent moon. Totally clear → made camp slow; tried to dry stuff, but already chilly and no sun. STARS! Mashed potatoes and tuna. No fly on the tent. Wake up dewey. Keychain thermometer sez 50°... Feels chillier, I see my breath. DAKOTA WATERS TOMORROW?

Gifts to the river gods:
 Shakespeare (2nd day)
 Yellow shades (Crooked Creek)
 Blue shades (day after Kipp)
 White shirt (Williston)
 Big stove (???)
 Spork (???)

9-18-15 CLOSED Dakota Waters Resort

DAY 30

21:20 Well, this place is closed... but it's still a nice elevated campsite with a picnic table, where I sit writing by headlamp. There's no good water access to this site, though, so I had several steep scrambles hauling my gear up. The place is closed for the season AND the ballyhooed 1806 STEAKHOUSE is MIA. Once again, Miller's book isn't a help but a hindrance. I'm pissed Peg at Tobacco Garden didn't tell me about this. From here, I must assume Miller's info about businesses is always wrong. I had great weather all day, and I could've gone 6-12 more miles, maybe even to Hazen Bay. But I paddled way down here. Got in early, so had time to haul stuff, sort stuff, kinda dry stuff. No water... got 2 gallons from a guy in a nearby warehouse. No toilet. Pretty easy paddling today - some wave action crossing McKenzie Bay/Li'l Missouri, but after that ~20 miles paddling east with a tiny tailwind. Heading into this DW bay the water was placid. Hope to finish the lake and get below the dam tomorrow... Starry night, crescent moon to the west.

EQUINOX MARATHON TOMORROW!

9-19-15 GARRISON DOWNSTREAM CAMPGROUND COCO!

18:00 I'm having a relaxed session setting up my camp here... just downstream from Garrison Dam... amidst an amazing thicket of "bumpers" in RVs with the lawnchairs and bicycles and satellite tellies. Once again, a somewhat disappointing end-of paddle destination - CAPTAIN KIT'S MARINA is indeed a great marina - but no restaurant, nothing open, no portage service, no payphone... and of course my cell doesn't work. I was quite annoyed, but hardly surprised (see yesterday). I left Dakota Waters at 9:45, arrived "Cap'n Kit" at 15:45. Plenty of time to go around to the dam, but after looking around for an hour, I figured I'd ask about a portage - Mark and Pam immediately agreed. Savours... Kindness of strangers. They put my loaded kayak in their truck

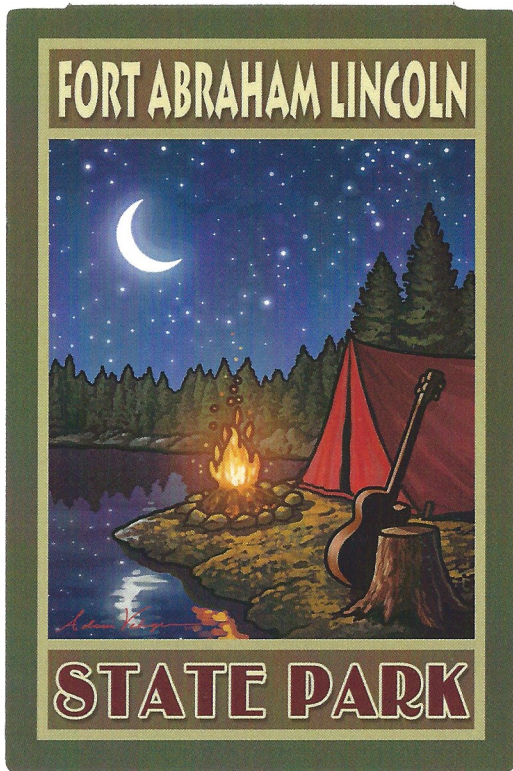
and drove me to the downstream campground. Clueless, I took the first site that looked like I could get to the river. *20. Among the RRs #18 vs. #12 for primitive camping, but no big deal that—and it saves a double-haul of the kayak. And I have electricity. And I'm near a hot shower... And I'm ready for the river to Bismarck tomorrow! Way ready.

In my spare time here, I finally worked on the broken kayak loops on the top deck—knife/screwdriver, pliers, superglue. We'll see how it goes. The paddle today was easy, by the way. Tiny bit of tail. LOTS of boats. Sunny and hot. Thought I'd have WiFi yesterday and today, but nope. Dumb guy and his kid walking through camp after dusk with no light both walked right into my kayak—myself sitting at the picnic table 10 feet away.

GOOSEBUMPS BEEN GONE WAY TOO LONG

9-20-15 CROSS RANCH OVERPRICED CAMP

2136 OF course, I haven't paid the fee yet... if I don't pay then it won't be overpriced. I think I'm supposed to pay a \$17 camping fee PLUS a state park entrance fee. Come on guys, get over yourselves. This place is huge... it runs along the shore for a mile, at least--- and it's also empty. And it's also not especially boat friendly. I had to haul stuff and kayak up a steep embankment, and I found myself at site 44. Far from the visitor center and the far end of the park (the business end). It's quite a hike. There's a tipi in site 43. I left the crowded dam camp at about 9:10 this morning. Straightforward downstream paddle. Not a fast current, but some... I paddled pretty hard all day. Took a half-hour break at the UPA boat ramp (12:30-13:00) and a half-hour at the Washburn bridge (16:30-17:00). Some bald eagles and other raptors. Passed the site of the first winter camp—Fort Mandan. Quite sunny and hot—that can't last much longer. Sunburning my arms—lost my long-sleeve shirt. It's clear sky and starry again. Moon not half yet. Felt a bit tired today. Shoulders, arms, hands definitely feeling it. Even with an easy last 2 days on the lake. Bismarck tomorrow, then Lake Dahe coming up. Maybe there's WiFi at the Visitors Center—I'll check when they open at 8 AM...



9-21-15 FORT LINCOLN STATE PARK #17 campground

22:00 Rolling right along. Got wifi and soda at the vizzy center this morning.

MATIAS WON THE EQUINOX AGAIN!

That guy is awesome. We all suck. Uneventful day on the river.

I got off at 10:15, paddled about 6½ hours to Bismarck. Brutally hot for the autumnal equinox. I went topless all day - baked a bit but don't feel burned. Lotta nice hooses and boats for miles and miles before town. Nice parks once the bridges start... brief waterside running path on the east side. I stopped at Captain Freddy's BEFORE the Broken Oar. 15-minute ugly walk to a convenience store...

My phone works in Bismarck first time since Benton → that's my Bismarck resupply. Then the Broken Oar. Hot bartender, whom I called earlier about nearby stores. Miller's much-touted Southport Marina was sold in 2008 and changed phone #s. I didn't bother. Left the BROKEN OAR at 19:30, got to Fort Lincoln at 20:00, hauled my stuff to a campsite by 20:30.

There's hot showers here - think I'll go have one. Wifi and coffee at the "COMISSARY" here in the morning.

I've gone over a thousand river miles.

9-22-15 **DON'T TURN AROUND OH-OH-OH**

11:10 Pushing back my take-off time for today as I sit in the coffeeshop at the COMMISSARY --- hard to pass up coffee, wifi, electricity, and a sweet place to sit... but I'm in earnest to get back on the water...

NEVER GET OUT OF THE BOAT. ABSOLUTELY GODDAMN RIGHT. Bought more provisions - like 1½ ounces of bison jerky for \$5.50. Well, at least I didn't get a motel or rental car in BizMarck. There's always that. A woman could cut off your penis while you're sleeping and throw it out the window of a moving car. Tyler Porden and Cheryl Stoy. I'm charging devices and double-backing photos so I can wipe the SD card for the cam - funny... all its contents take up way less GB on the USB. O Brave New World...

22:30 CAMPING ACROSS FROM HUFF

I didn't get away from Fort Lincoln till 13:10. Stopped briefly at Sugarloaf/Graner [nice campground] and Maclean boatramps. Took me till 19:00 to get to Huff ~ 23 or 24 miles. Of course, the bar & grill has been closed for a long time - it burned down 8 years ago. But Don, who lives behind where it used to be, gave me tomatoes, potatoes, onions, info, and beer. At 19:30 I paddled across the river to some fishing spots and set up camp.

9-23 MILE 1260?

So there I was on Lake Oahe... once again I fucked up and trusted Miller. This time I knew better. He's been wrong about where the lakes start because he paddled at low water. So I was expecting a river channel with some current all the way to Beaver Creek campground... instead, I got lake and headwind/waves right after Fort Rice. After wasting an hour jogging there (no gas station). Slow slow slow. So I'm stuck 4 or 5 miles before Beaver Creek. I'm not exactly sure where I am... some nice beach which is full of cows and is no doubt private property. Not my fave camp. Hope I get out easy in the morn. Paddled 9:00-20:00 with 2 ramp breaks.

9-24 STATE LINE RESORT

23:13 I left the cows at 8:30. Tent was dewey, ally was drizzly misty foggy. But no wind and flat water. Stayed that way all day, and the sun eventually burned all the fog away - and it got hot. Slow going. 8 hours to Langeliers Bay boat ramp. Half-hour break. Then an hour to the State Line Resort (not really open). Been enjoying the evening - WIFI, hot shower, funny fisherman, potato/onion, beach. But I must sleep...

Amazing night. Bright moon, stars, waves lapping 20' from my tent.

9-25 FIGHTING OAHE

And I said yesterday's flat water was slow...

I dawdled at the cozy STATE LINE RESORT, got off into waves at 10:20—immediately had problems. Fought the waves all day. Southerly headwind. Paddled back into Pollock Inlet... still a punchy crossing. Then looked for a ramp or resort at Riggins Bay—shoulda axed the guy on the golf cart. Fought to get to Shaw Creek → a skiff zipped out! Nice bay, not nice camp spot. 6:30 pm, decided to push on. Wind had subsided slightly—still wavy. Paddled about another hour. Sun went down at 19:25. Tried to get some shelter from southerlies. Pulled over at 19:40. Nice beach, lots of cow shit, no cows. Coyotes! Cell phone reception! Pat sent "Into the Sunrise" and "If You Gotta Go" this morning! Hope I can get to Mobridge tomorrow. Strong south wind forecast again tomorrow.

9-26 LOSING TO OAHE

14:00 I didn't sleep much last night. Radio last night—Mobridge Station—forecast SW winds 10-15 mph. This morning that station said 20-30 mph with gusts even higher. Figured I'd try it. Got off well at 8:30 this morning. Big headwind, but I was making OK time at first. Wind and waves gradually picked up. Passed some houses. About an hour later I docked into a bay for some relief and to dry out everything. Unpleasant bay—no trees, loads of cows—but a break from the wind/waves. About 11:30. Went back out at 12:30 but it was no use... went 15 minutes, then turned and came back to this bay—took about 2 minutes to get back. Hot, no clouds, no shade. Sitting on a log feeling the wind and watching the whitecaps out on the lake. The houses aren't far back... tempted to go bug 'em... this is such a crummy camp spot, I need water, too. At some point I'll hike to the lake cuz this bay water is all cow... Gotta pass cows to get to the lake. Not even 5 miles today. Maybe the wind'll die off later...

WATCHING THE COWS

16:10 This is a test of my fortitude... this wind is prohibitive... but if I could've gotten just a little further ~ or if I could push myself further now ~ I'd get to the westward bend in the river at ~ 1210. And the left shore prolly has enough pro to be an okay paddle, damn. Also, I can't really judge the whitecaps out on the lake. Want them to be gone... but I want me to be gone, too.

THIS IS MY SECOND TOUGH WAITING DAY.

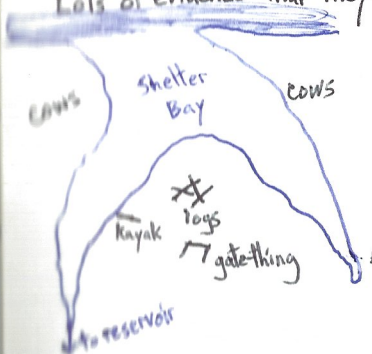
Like Tom Petty sez...

18:00 If the wind died completely by 19:00 or 19:30, I'd paddle off into the sunset. But I don't think it will. Lake whitecaps are now backlit by the sun and they seem diminished. But the breeze on this log is still strong... and gusty. The waves in the tiny bay are still there. The pop radio weather says "Breeze tonight gusting to 30 mph." and says 10-15 mph tomorrow. Which was their forecast for today. Gotta get out early tomorrow. Gotta. Or not. Bernie! I didn't care about carrying a radio, but my solar-powered one works... till it runs out of power... and I like it... and the occasional superficial weather forecasts. I even get pop radio now - strictly country in Montana. I should get a better radio. And a GPS.

Speaking of solar - this is a hot dry south wind. Sunny and no clouds all day. Temps in the 80s. Tonight's low forecast → 59! (not factorial)

Got water earlier and got muddy. Climbed the hill → many big tri-windmills, none moving. There seems to be a small reservoir (and a tree) to the east, small crick flowing from it to this bay. Saw a single prickly-pear thing, some yucca-like things, and --- down by the water, hopping amongst the cow shit --- two leopard frogs.

Cows everywhere... but not on this central peninsula I've occupied... Lots of evidence that they've been here, though. No wind shelter. I've been scheming where I'll put my tent to get a decent spot, avoid cow shit, use big logs for tent shelter.. Gonna have to get on that soon. I did kinda mend my spray skirt. No reading of UNDAUNTED COURAGE, though... But!



A little map! How very Lewis & Clark!

SUNBIRDS

9-27-15 MOBRIDGE, SD ~ BRIDGE CITY MARINA

Woke up in Exile Bay. Seemed like it was windy all night... But at 6AM, it was dead calm. I half-slept till 7:00, then hustled to get up and packed and on the water. Took some time - I put my tent up a ways away from my Kayak. Out on the water and out of the bay by 8:30. Amazing. What was impossible yesterday slides by easily as I paddle south. I almost do a doublecross to cut the corner where the lake goes west. But already the north wind is picking up, and it worries me. Since it's a tailwind, it would've been fine and sped me around the corner. Little did I know that when I turned south again five miles later, that tailwind would whip the waves up huge. I rode them south, all the way to the bridges outside Mobridge, but they got so big that I was barely in control and I was quite wet. Some scary moments. But some crazy fast surfy ones, too. Into town in no time - pulled into WATER PLANT BAY right before the bridge at 11:30. Shelter and sunny. Dried off. About an hour later I continued. Wind already down, easy around the corner. Then Mobridge on the left. Pizza Ranch just up from the water. Closed on Sunday. So I walked up to SHOPKO - groceries. Then an hour more to get down to Bridge City Marina. Was gonna camp next door at Indian Creek campground, but opted instead for a very cozy cabin at the Marina - TV and WIFI.

9-28-15 DAY 40! DAY OFF!

Ha! Was gonna go this morning. But I didn't sleep enough or do enough. And so I took the day off at the Marina. Got a few things done. And I aim to sleep. I might not have to pay for this sweet cabin. Owners like paddlers. Like Tobacco Garden. We'll see. Sweet tailwind I missed out on today - dang. Forecast is for headwind tomorrow. We'll see. Wind forecasts have been spotty at best. Go big or go home.

PRETTY GIRL

9-29-15 LEAVING MOBRIDGE... DAYS BEHIND

18:00 Yup... some regrets of missing a day of tail yesterday...

Took off at 10:00. Maybe no headwind at 8am, but it was picking up...

Awful. 2 1/2 wet hours to get to the south end of Blue Blanket Bay.

Prob'ly take a whole hour here to dry and prep to push to Thomas Bay.

It should be more sheltered from the SE wind than the first leg was.

But the waves are big and go around corners. Lame paddling day.

SPRAY SKIRT!

10/26 The leg to Thomas Bay was okay... superslow but small easy waves.

Pretty much stayed dry. So I passed right by the bay and headed for Walthe Bay - visions of developed campsites in my mind. Waves, wind, and wet got worse. [Nice waterfront houses just south of the ^{Thomas} bay mouth.]

Arrived at Walthe camp/ramp about 16:30. Nice enough... not much shelter from the wind... BUT THE WIND SEEMS TO BE DYING DOWN

FOR THE DAY! DAMMIT. I made awful mileage into the wind today.

Which is why I finally decided not to go on tonight. Hopes that these next few miles will go much faster tomorrow morning. We'll see.

But I could've made some miles tonight, especially now it's dying down.

By the time it started dying, tho, I'd hauled all my stuff up to the picnic tables. Sat here eating PB on way white bread - grabbed a loaf

before I left Bridge City. Watching the water. Tempted to load up and go - but sunset's only 40 minutes away now. And it's still head

wind and waves, just smaller. Prayers for dead calm in the morning.

PATIENCE

There was a truck/boat-trailer parked here when I arrived. They came back with fish and cleaned 'em at the station. The station is guarded by kittens. With good weather, I wanted to try for Whitlock today. Perhaps tomorrow.

Sarah, Keri, Kathy Marie

Kendra, Kalesha, Katrina, Kathy Marie

20:30 The wind didn't really go away, it just went down a notch. Hope it's gone when the sun comes up. Put up my tent - anchored to the picnic table. Tried to dry everything... it only the rear compartments were watertight. Shucks. I'm gonna end up all wet one of these days. Down to one fuel canister - none in Mobridge. One should get me off this lake, anyway. Clear skies and stars overhead - clouds on all hori

Why is Fargo?

9-30-15

OAHE

10:45 Sitting around Walth Bay. Got up at 7:00, before sunrise... wind was already blowing. Didn't feel like pushing off into that... Thought I'd take off later, with the sun well up... Wind's only gotten worse. Otherwise, warm and clear skies. Dammit.

Can't believe I might just sit here all day.

"Tried to dry everything" last night. Except I didn't realize that my blue dry bag full of clothes was compromised. Everything soaked, except the few things in ZIPLOCs. Guess I need to shut that blue bag better — since the rear compartment fills with water from the cockpit. So all is almost dry now from sitting out in the wind and sun.

I also let my maps and part of UNDAUNTED COURAGE get wet. They're dry now, too, but a bit worse for wear.

Just keep staring at the water — wind blowing in my face, waves and whitecaps coming toward me.

14:45 More of the same. I can't quite tell how it'd go paddling in this... How fast I could go, how wet I'd get. I think I could paddle, but only about 1mph — of course, maybe the bend in the river would give me 5 miles of windbreak (if I could get down to it). I'd surely get wet — how much depends on the wave dynamics, and that's a complicated thing. At this point in the day, at 1mph, I couldn't get around the corner to SWAN CREEK if I left. Without a lull, I guess I'll be here again tonight. Make myself go early tomorrow, if at all possible. At least I can have everything dry and ready to go.

19:45 Still here. So this time I really mean it — early tomorrow. The little inlet across the lake suddenly appears at sunset — it's just a tiny strip of still water visible from here... and it doesn't show up in the daylight. Once again, the wind seems to die down at sunset... but it's not gone. I filmed a 10-minute interview bit. It was mostly about being stuck here, but also some summary of the first 42 days.

22:25 Still breezy... some clouds to the NE. The rest of the sky gone crazy with stars. Big day tomorrow, ladies.

1989

10-1-15 OCTOBER!!!

13:15 Swan Creek Rec Area

Slight change of scenery from the past couple afternoons. Same general theme - big SE wind, looking out across a bay at a lake full of whitecaps. The wind now seems bigger than the past days - at least during the big gusts. It let up at 7:30 this morning, and I hastened to get off by 8:40. I got out of Walthe Bay and underway, and it was picking up. Nice few miles along the west bend, then extremely tough into the wind after the south turn. Worked to get into Swan Creek Bay. Still dry. Then a struggle to get back into the bay to the boat ramp. Big weird choppy waves and whitecaps in the bay. Got soaked getting to the boat ramp/camp. Pulled in at 11:40. Emptied rear compartment to dry everything. Been here almost 2 hours now. Not gonna leave until a serious lull in the wind. This night be all for today. I'll wait till 5 or 6 to give up and make camp. If nothing else, there's a funky hot shower room here. Camp guy sez it'll only be open another week. There's one or two other parts of this camping area, not visible from here. This part is empty, save one truck/trailer whom I saw putting their boat on the water as I came in.

11:32 one hot shower later...

everything seems more comfy. Soaked in the high wind makes for some chill, and as soon as I'm sitting around doing nothing, it feels cold. The hot shower didn't calm the wind, though... Watching whitecaps roll across THE BAY before getting to the open water of the lake. Marching left to right, which is south to north... not the way I need to go. This is 3 bad SE wind days in a row.

FIRST NINE DAYS ON OAHU

- W 9-23 Lake started near Ft. Rice --- annoying SE wind
- R 9-24 To state line resort --- sunny, no wind
- F 9-25 To the cows --- annoying SE wind
- S 9-26 To exile Bay --- impossible SE wind
- S 9-27 To Bridge City --- huge N tailwind
- M 9-28 didn't paddle --- tailwind
- T 9-29 To Walthe Bay --- almost impossible SE wind
- W 9-30 didn't paddle --- almost impossible SE wind
- R 10-1 to Swan Creek --- impossible SE wind

21:00 still at Swan Creek. Wind has had lulls, but not for long. Very gusty. Thought it was totally done at sunset, but it's come back up. Put my tent on the beach. No fee. Hoping for a nice paddling day... someday.

DAN GUINAN

(402) 657-2364

OMAHA

Sioux City News - Trump
dead man

Des Moines Register - ISU Forensics
SPRAY SKIRT

Bruce - "Time" [contacted]

~~Pat - "Time"~~

© michael✓

YASR art - Diskmaker.com

aldrich
merbak

PDF MISSISSIPPI

SPOT list

Channelized border



Costume/Candy
Corn Maze

Bret Michaels -

Sufjan - Omaha - Oct 28

KC v NY - World Series

GLOVE/HAT
WEATHER/SUNMOON
DESCENDENTS

Scale: 1 square =

Rite in the Rain

OAHE SONG

Big water big waves big wind
Coming on autumn once again
Wind blows cold when
you're soaked to the bone

Big water
Coming on

Here's a song for the people we've known
places we've been

And the streams that used to flow
under the waves down below
deep water backed up behind the dam

Big water
Coming on

Scale: 1 square =

Rite in the Rain

10-28-15

WALMART

costume

candy

boots/gloves/hat

Prep mail - Grinnell PO hours

GUITAR

Prep printout

cover art

Photos, journal, wordpress?

CONTACT FB peeps

Fargo, DL, audio extract

10-2 DODGE DRAW

22:22 Four days in a row of huge SE headwind... making progress difficult and at times impossible...

I'm feeling energized just cuz I put in a late push to get here to Dodge Draw - for a whopping 12 miles today. It wasn't easy: Rained last night at Swan Creek, 7AM it was still drizzling and windy. I didn't try to get ready. Then rain and wind stopped at 8:30, but I didn't manage to get on the water till 10:00. Wind was already picking up to crazy levels - rather a steady wind was frothing the lake into very kayak-unfriendly waves. I got to "LE-BEAU" (just a toilet) pretty easy by 11:30, but after a break it was almost impossible to continue - I fought crazy chop and got soaked and tired just to get to the south end of the next inlet. There I stopped at 13:45, and I figured I'd end up stuck there for the night, I waited, but was wet in the wind and somewhat chilled. At 17:00 I started to set up my tent - and the waves mellowed! I swore, took down tent and took off → a hard-paddling 2 hours

lost my
Whitlock blue
shades on takeoff

17:30 to 19:30 to get to DODGE DRAW. Mostly tame waves but two very rough inlet crossings.

Now in my tent here with gusty wind and sprinkly rain. Was telling myself that I gotta rethink the PATIENCE thing. Maybe Whitlock tomorrow? Maybe decent conditions?

FORGOT A PIC OF DODGE DRAW ROCKPILE CAMP...

and indeed, few pics from white-knuckle days on OAHE.

10-3 WEST WHITLOCK BAY, campsite 90 (#17)

COLD

Damn. Autumn came very suddenly. IF the conditions stay like this → cold, no sun, big wind, big waves... then OAHE is gonna be tough to finish. I was already whining about the wind and waves, but at least there was sun and warm. If it stays like this, every time I get on the water I'll have to work to stay warm. And if I end up wet, I'll have to be careful not to freeze when I get off the water. Either with dry clothes or straight to tent/bag. My equipment is not the best for this challenge...

A kayak that kept my stuff dry would be a nice start.
Better gloves, hat, and dry suit would help.
Not likely I'll be able to get better gear on the river, though...
Maybe a car in Pierre...

I got in late and wet to DODGE DRAW last night, but warmed up fine and was cozy in the tent. Some stuff stayed wet, though. And it rained in the night and drizzled through the morning. Super gloomy and chilly. But the waves were down from the previous 4 days... a fairly pleasant paddle... at least after the recent days. I pushed it into the headwind and got to the Whitlock Bay Entrance in about 200 minutes. 3 mph. ~10 miles, 9:00-12:20. Because it'd gone well, I was planning to go further ~ "paddle when you can" ~ other ramps across the bay, plus BOB'S RESORT. But I pulled into West Whitlock, and as soon as I got my soaked self outta the boat and into the wind, it was very hard to think about continuing... especially with cozy campsites and HOT SHOWERS here. The only things nearby are uncertainty and a 100% certain hot shower is hard to resist when yer freezing. Annoyingly, though, there's no staff at the camp (off-season), the alleged WIFI doesn't work, the alleged cell service doesn't work, and I don't think the nearby RESORT is open (not sure where it's s'posed to be). There's a real good LOWER OAHU map in the entrance kiosk, but the kiosk is closed. I'm just about to paddle off the southern edge of the UPPER OAHU map that I got at BRIDGE CITY...

AND BY THE WAY... **RIVER MILE 1154**
Missouri Halfway Point Last Night

Thought I'd get here a week sooner. Shoulda. Lazy.
It's 7 pm. Almost sundown. I hate getting up in the cold and dark, but it seems a good thing to shoot for. So into the tent soon.
Took a good hot shower. Visited the Arikara Earth Lodge. Ate dinner.
Charging phone, ipod, laptop on the RV electrical.

STOVE FUEL
SPRAY SKIRT
DRY JACKET
HAT
GLOVES

10-4 BOB'S RESORT - South Whitlock
Shucks. Coulda been here last night. Couldn't resist staying, even though this was prolly the best paddling day since Monday (6 days ago). Forecast is for 2-3 more good days. Hoping for mileage.
Bob's is: OPEN YEAR ROUND, gas station/store, ^{nice} motel rooms, great bar/restaurant with AMAZING view of this stretch of lake and bridge.

As usual, I'm up too late. Gotta hit the hay.

More about BOB: I left West Whitlock about 9:40; some waves but not much. By 11:10 I was at Bob's/Bridge boat ramp. Some boat folks pointed out Bob's Steakhouse at the top of the hill. I hiked up cross-country - 15min. Booked a room and Frank helped me fetch my kayak. Watched TV, bought convenience-store resupply, and had a walleye dinner with plenty bones. SALAD BAR!

10-5 LITTLE BEND RAMP

Hallelujah! I forgot that paddling the lake could be like this... Tired getting up, slow to pack. Frank took me to the boat ramp around 9:00. Off by 9:30. Nice: no wind, no rain, cloudy. Basically paddled 10 hard hours. Passed Sutton Bay at 13:00, way out midchannel. Passed Bush's Landing 15:30, way out midchannel. Approaching LB Boat Ramp at sunset, watched a boat go in and then watched truck+boat drive away. Pulled in stoked... then couldn't find my headlamp/flashlight. Grumpily set up tent and packed gear, eventually using iPhone flashlight. Then found the headlamp/flashlight. Then heard somebody drive up and turn off the engine. They're still out there.

Dear God, please give me one more day like this one.
OATHE DAM just 36 miles away.

vocals	BILL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	main
	'BALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	backing
	'BALL		2	3	4	5	6	7	second
instruments	BAND	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

1929
-1400

5690
-1074

Theatre e list
SPOT
Pat notes
Cover
Web

10-6 GRIFFIN PARK, PIERRE

23:40 Almost midnight in the free waterfront park. So I'll be brief. Taking a day in Pierre tomorrow... maybe I'll write more. Great sleep last night. Great morning: clear, dry, and warming. Better weather than yesterday - sky cleared and SUN, plus a hint of tailwind out of the NW. Got off at 8:30. Pike Haven ~ 9:30, left bend at 11:00. Decided to cut all the corners since the lake was calm → TRIPLE-CROSS. penultimate bend ~ 13:00, last bend ~ 14:00, dam ~ 15:50. Got an immediate ride with 3 old fishermen. Downstream Marina closed, of course. Had to run to the ^{camp entrance} ~~vis center~~ for maps. Back on the water at 17:00, past the Pierre bridges 18:20. And into "free campground" at Griffin Park. Nice park. Some vagrants in the tent camping area, so I didn't feel like hitting the town. Dominò's delivered to my tent. And now I've been here for 4 hours. Hitting the town tomorrow.

10-7 PIERRE

I was gonna push on... I was raring to go, really I was... But I needed stove fuel ~ hadn't gotten any since Williston. None at the Bismarck gas station, none at Mobridge Shopko, none at Bridge City marina, none at Bob's. I was a couple burns into my last small canister. I traded some fuel for a couple hours with the bunnies. That was the clincher. The clincher is only the beginning... Funny, how I schemed at Griffin Park last night → I booked at the Super 8; I planned to get a car at the airport, drive back and break camp, find a place to lock the yak... it all worked great. No taxis in town, but a fleet of River City Public Transit shuttles - I took one to the airport, got a car, drove back and put ALL in the car, locked the yak at the marina, shopped, drove to Fort Pierre, drove back to OAHEDAM, checked into SUPER 8, post office, visited the capitol. Ate at ARBY's - right across from the motel. I thought I wouldn't find fuel, but WAL-MART had it. I bought 3 canisters.

to the kindred
from some elsewhere

10-8 PIERRE go now or else you got to stay all night

I was gonna go today, but I was up late last night without accomplishing the organizational or internet or computer things I wanted to get done. And, of course, not getting the relaxing sleep I think I want... I sleep better in the tent - no TV, no internet.

DAY 50

Funny - took days 49 and 50 off, not really needed. Except the fuel.

10-

GEAR LIST

10-9 DeGrey Boat Ramp

22:45 Didn't leave PIERRE till noon. Headwind and waves, so I couldn't go as fast as I'd hoped. Pulled in at De Grey at 19:00. Set up camp, cooked, got in the tent. Fairly warm night. Very clear sky. Stars stars stars. Seems windy out now. This lake has been very narrow so far. It'll widen around the BIG BEND tomorrow. With more paddling hours I coulda made Cedar Creek. More hours (and less headwind) → Joe Creek. Oh, well. After DeGrey, it's Indian rez on both sides of the river.

10-10 WEST BEND #27 CAMPGROUND, site 75

20:10 "All the amenities" --- whatever... two amenities that are lacking → kayak-friendly sites and #-friendly sites. I must soon go take a hot shower to get a tiny bit of bang for my 27 bucks...

'Twas a wonderful morning at DeGrey. A good day to try to get up early, but I didn't. Got off at 9:00, after 15 minutes of searching fruitlessly for 2 missing bags: the tape/glue bag and the mystery red bag. I took off grumpy and baffled that I'd lost these two bags somehow --- especially the all-purpose tape/glue. Quite later, I realized that they were proly in the new backpack dry-bag with the wetsuit.

The water was calm. Tiny ripples of headwind at first, but it went away fast. Quick double-cross to cut the bend. Into Joe's Creek at 13:30. Ate some lunch. Hunters firing shots. Out at 14:00. Then paddle paddle paddle. As I got to IRON NATION, annoying side-on waves from the south started rolling in. Got here at 19:00. Can't believe it took so long, paddling hard, not much headwind.

21:30 → Going for a shower. This better be good...

28/16 'Twas pretty good. Got hot after a couple minutes,
Couple hits of FIREBALL...

It's Saturday night at West Bend campground! Old people in RVs
are mostly quiet; youngsters near me not so quiet.

When I got here, pulled the yak up on the beach-- those sites
all closed. Eventually reserved \$75 by phone, brought stuff up,
locked yak to a tree. Ate dinner.

It's October 10... and today was sunny and high 80s!
Cold will come sometime, and it'll come fast.

Tonight is clear, starry, and calm.

Tomorrow's forecast is windy... but going my way,
About 22 miles to get to the dam.

10-11 BIG BEND DAM--- DOWNSTREAM CAMPGROUND

20/16 The campground is closed. There's nobody here.

All that means for me is no hot shower, no stupid fee.
I still expect somebody to come hassle me. But it's dark now
and I'm keeping a low profile. Currently I'm sitting just outside
the locked comfort station door--- it's got a $\frac{3}{4}$ wall around
the door, and that's the best protection to be had from the

WIND!

I heated water here and I'm waiting on my victuals.
This is the first downstream dam camp where I've gotten
a good view of the illuminated dam. It's something...

Much of the sky is clear/starry to the north and east.
There were some clouds south and west, but they've almost
gone now. **DINNER TIME!** More later from the tent.

Campground is closed, but there's water at the fish station, vault toilet,
and loads of dumpsters. I've got my tent set up--- wind in the trees,
but not too much down at my tent.

Today's paddle ~ clear, calm, slightly chilly morning. Shoulda rose earlier, but didn't. Off at 9:10. Quick cross. "JIGGS" isn't in Miller or ACE, but it's an awesome new boat ramp area at mile 1001 or so. Then another cross. Stop at "NORTH SHORE" at 14:00. Why taking me so long? Dang. HOT! Wx radio says it hit 95°, record for this date. No wind. Third cross to get over to GOOD SOLDIER ramp. Wind starts picking up just as I hit the ramp. Guy at the ramp immediately gives me a ride, and by 16:00 I'm at the right tailrace. I take up the paddle at 16:20, some tailwind... then, after a mile, BIG tailwind, instant whitecaps and dust storm. I was right by the shore, and still struggled to get off the water. Potted the boat way out, then ran around a nearby corner. 1½ hours later, the wind had diminished. I fought back, against the wind, to this campsite. There was no good camping place for about 12 miles — Indian Reservation on both sides — Lower Brule on the west, Crow Creek on the east. If I'd gotten caught much later, I'd've hadta camp on a rez... I bought a Wx radio at Pierre Walmart — using it now for the first time. WIND WARNING TILL 1 or 2 PM ~~tomorrow~~ tomorrow. Today's high: 95°, lows 44°. Lower temps tomorrow.

10-12 STUCK AT BIG BEND DAM

COLUMBUS DAY!

11:00 Dam. I thought I was on the penultimate lake yesterday at 4:20 PM FRANCIS CASE LAKE. But then I retreated to this dam campsite. Second retreat of the trip. My pullout 1 mile downriver had a pretty nice shelter cave/den... Coulda stayed there, esp. if retreat was impossible. But it's Lower Brule rez, and Miller sez camping/anything there is "actively discouraged". Not so windy when I turned in last night, but it picked up and up and up. 3AM I got out to further secure the tent with more storm lines and rocks on the windy side. After midnight to 3AM, I only slept bits, watching the tent strain in the wind. Made no attempt to rise early. Finally exited tent at about 9AM. Looked around, made coffee, read some UNDAUNTER

The wind hasn't let up. At all. Before leaving the tent, I listened to the NOAA WX radio --- SEVERE WIND WARNING extended to 4pm, 25-35 mph sustained winds, gusts to 45-65 mph. We'll see what afternoon brings, but it seems likely I'm in for another night here. Radio said mellow weather for the rest of the week --- but cooler, with highs in the 50s (the lows some days recently) and lows in the 30s. It almost hit freezing back in early Montana, but not since. It'll freeze soon.

The sky is clear and blue. Sun is warm. I'm sitting in the sun by the closed comfort/cook building which blocks the wind. A guy and fam drove down to the ramp with a huge boat, but after 20 minutes gave up. Not sure if that was cuz of boat or weather or both.

I also watched a car and trailer pull up to the camp entrance, but the CLOSED signage apparently dissuaded them.

The wind is so much worse and crazier than any time on OAHU... there, a mild steady headwind built up crazy wave action. This NW wind is WAY bigger.

I finally finished pages 317-406 of UNDAUNTED COURAGE. That's a bit I tore out long ago and put in my larger waterproof map case for reading while paddling. I never read unless the paddling is super-monotonous, though, and I hate all the work of turning pages. That section covers Fort Clatsop all the way back to St. Louis.

WAITING WAITING WAITING WAITING WAITING

I can't help thinking that I might be able to paddle this. It's a tailwind, after all. It's a notch or two below the dust-storm level that drove me off yesterday. I don't wanna be wrong, and I don't wanna get wet. I DO wanna get to Chamberlain in one push, be it today or tomorrow. And the waves right here — all whitecaps — are smaller than the ones downriver. A small boat crew just went out, just around the corner below the dam, tho. Big boat crew is back, but the boat's just up in the parking lot.

987 MILES TO ST. LOUIS

20 DAYS TO HALLOWEEN --- and this one's a zero.

Dam,

16:30 Still big wind. I sat on a bench from 14:00 to 15:30, watching boats and the water. Wind was down a bit. I kept second-guessing myself. Seemed like I could prolly go... but I expected the wind to go down. It has not. Sitting in the tent now. Maybe I should blow through Chamberlain if I have a good day tomorrow...

17:30 And... the winds seem to have subsided. This lake is such a tease.

21:00 Dead calm. Clear starry sky. Okay, lake wind, you had your fun, now give me some more good paddling days. One episode of FARGO--- SEASON TWO STARTING TONIGHT--- Dammit. I coulda watched in Chamberlain. Finished the FIREBALL snifter. Try to sleep early, maybe rise early. Only after 24 hours did I realize that cars can't drive back here into the camp when the CLOSED FOR SEASON gates are locked. So that's why I'm so all alone.

It's a beautiful ride, kids.

10-13-15 CHAMBERLAIN, SD

16:22 I did not get up early early. But about 7:10. Pack up, haul kayak, haul gear, pack tent, I watched 4 boats put in while I did that. The sunrise crew. Little wind. Off at 8:45. After the first bend, SE wind made some ^{headwind} rollers. Four boats. Lots of "trees" river right. I crossed toward 2nd bend. While crossing, wind/waves switched to west. After 2nd bend, big west rollers pushed me all the way to 3rd bend. Funny line of "trees" diagonally across that straight. After 3rd bend, bridges came in sight, crossed again. Wind picking up, waves choppy. Got to American Creek boatramp just after 13:00. Wind getting bigger. Decided to at the campground. Got a cabin for \$20. Wifi, electricity, 2 dbl beds, microwave, fridge. No plumbing. Took a while to haul, do some e-mail, settle. Walked to the marina bar & grill → The Busted Nut. Beer, burger, salad. Baseball playoffs on TV → Cubs v. Cardinals, Cubs lead series 2-1. Gonna roam Chamberlain now.

17:50 Roamed Main St. Nice. Hwy Bridge. Lewis & Clark Center on I90. Too far away. Why do I need another L & C center. Walked up to FOOD CENTER. More food. Now the ANCHOR GRILLE! Tho I'm in the Shipwreck lounge. 7th Inning now, One FAT TIRE bottle. I'll see the result on WIFI.

10-14 A bit past Elm Creek

11:38 Left Chamberlain/American Creek at 12:20 (dang). Morning → coffee/donuts, internet, FAMILY DOLLAR, packing. No wind, Clear, sunny. Tried to push. Cut all corners. Some west wind picked up afternoon and pushed me a bit. Got to Elm Creek nicely at sunset (19:00). Skipped boat ramp like Miller suggests. Got to campground - looked nice - but no approach. No way to get in without a lengthy and challenging mud wallow. Thanks, Miller. Then I paddled way down to the bend as it got darker and darker. It looked like trees and shelter and nice pullout down here. Dark when I made it here at 19:40. Seems nice. No sign of cows. Really clear night. No wind. Stars. Supposed to be a bit windier tomorrow. TAILWIND. Listening to JAZZ hour on NPR --- been getting NPR lately. My weird white solar stick radio is good, but this new MIDLAND Wx radio is awesome → solar, crank, and USB charge. Antenna. NOAA Wx band plus AM/FM. There is a light across the bend and it never goes out. Elm Creek, either camp or ramp.

10-15 PLATTE CREEK

20:15 Great start this morning. Great sleep. Up at 7:00. On the water at 8:15, before sunrise had hit my side of the river. Easy paddling. NW wind starting. "Buryanek" looked nice on the right, but I crossed and went to Dock 44, just before the HWY 44 bridge. Got there at noon. Restaurant closed till 7pm, but they cooked me a cheeseburger and fries. Took off at 13:00. NW wind making pretty big tailwind rollers. I rode 'em to Platte Creek where I stopped at 15:30. Shoulda kept on. Coulda made North Wheeler. Damn. Campground is empty. Comfort station closed. Watched a few boaters come and go from the ramp. FREEZE WARNING tonight. May dip below 32°. My boat's on a gross muddy beach. Ex Machina

10-16 FORT RANDALL BRIDGE

21:55 Yeah, dipped below freezing last night. Ice on tent fly, steam off the water. Got up just about 7:30. Sunrise boaters beat me to the water. I got off at 9:00-headwind all day... not much, but making waves, I cut all corners. Stopped at South Wheeler bay at 14:00. Mud. Off at 14:30. Trying to push to the dam, but didn't arrive till 18:50. Mud at the campground beach-lake must be low → scummy low muddy beaches everywhere. Not a soul at the South Shore ramp/camp, so I had to camp here tonight. Gotta get around the dam tomorrow. Dam. Clear starry sky, no wind. Not s'posed to freeze tonight. I'm tired.

10-17 VERDEL ISLAND

21:44 Really nice night, really nice campsite... A little sandy island where Lewis & Clark camped in 1804 (September 4) and 1806 (Aug. 30). So this L&C Lake---that's about the point where it took 'em 2 years to get to the Pacific and back. TWO YEARS... It DID freeze last night. I slept well. Up at 7:30. Made coffee and prepped for manual portage. Started at 9:30. Three trips to move all my stuff on foot. I did one leg, up to the highway crossing... and then a birdguy gave me a ride to the lower boatramp. He couldn't take my kayak, but he took my stuff. Then a guy at the boatramp said he could help with the yak. Ta-da! ONE DAM LEFT! Once I got going at 11:30, the paddling absolutely sucked. Some combination of river current and straight-on headwind made for miserable waves. With the current, I made progress... but it was no fun. After about 10 miles, the river angled a bit more east, and the south shore offered some pro. The wind/waves mellowed. Met some peeps at the SUNNYSIDE BOTTOMS ramp. Funny duck-hunting bush boat. Wanted to go farther today, but not sure about possible camps. No camping in Nebraska. So stopped here at 18:15. Bombs in Nebraska.

DAVID GUNDEL - OWNER
(402) 657-2364

/MOLESKINE
to
Steve
The Old North Road

10-18 SPRINGFIELD, SP

21:04 I'm reminded of a year ago on the Appalachian Trail - passing through all these places just after the rush. On the AT-hostels and hiker places were closed or just empty. Same with these camps I'm staying at - in summer they're filled with peeps, RVs, and nice amenities. Now they're ghost towns. This one is Springfield is especially egregious: no courtesy phone and no vault toilet - the boat ramp vault is a fair hike around the bay. Even the friendly local cop (who told me what I could find in town) said I should just camp and not pay.

Walking back here from the bar about an hour ago, another similarity with the offseason AT struck me → HALLOWEEN! Great small town autumn feel with halloween decorations...

The bar? ah, yes, the bar... I got up 7:30ish, got off the island 9:15. Some south wind → cross wind. Paddled by Verdel about 10:30. Nice. Around the bend toward Niobrara - some annoying wind, duck hunters and decoys, super-annoying shallows and marshes around the confluence. But good current. Hwy 37 bridge at 13:06. RUNNING WATER ramp at 13:15; 15-minute brk. Then flew to Springfield with southwind behind me. In about 15:15. Stayed. Nice out. Lotta boats came in as I set up tent in the ghost town camp. Cop told me DOUG's grocery closes at 17:00 on Sunday. Hurried. Bought bananas, apple, cheese, tortillas, triscuits, cocoa, chocolate milk. Then hit the nearby bar/restaurant/casino for burger, beer, wifi, electricity, NFL. Green Bay in blue beat SP.

clear, starry sky.
Walked back here to ghost camp. Wind was calm. Started writing at the picnic table outside, but winds picked up. Pretty windy now. I retreated to my tent. Seems windier than Wx radio sez. Forecast for tomorrow is 5-15 mph tailwind. Push me right to the dam... IF the forecast is true...

Post office right by the bar. I had PCs and stamps but nothing written.
Much warmer tonight, tho...

ONR
I can feel (it in the ^{air}) as the days grow shorter

10-19 LEWIS & CLARK RESORT, GAVINS POINT DAM

(already after midnight, so briefly...)

TWO MONTHS
To the last dam

Done with the lakes! Done with the dams!

Warm this morn. Turkeys in the campground.

Off at 8:45. No water at the Springfield rec area... even the fish station was shut off. FFS. So off with about one cup of water.

Hot day, too. 80°. First 5 miles easy in marsh channels.

Then 5ish choppy miles when the open lake built up rollers from the south wind. Pretty rough, but I mostly stayed dry. Into TABOR

for a break, snack, half-cup of water... 11:53-12:15. Waves became more and more favourable in direction, then diminishing amplitude. Rounded Gavins Point at 13:45. Marina at 14:30.

By 3pm I'd booked a room and a portage for the morrow.

10-20 PONCA SP RIVERFRONT CAMP

$\frac{2}{3}$ of the MD

Ride showed up just a few minutes after 8am and I was ready. SHANE from SD state parks. Off at 9AM. The goal was to get to Sioux City tomorrow, ~80 miles. So I wanted to do more than half of that today. But no particular stop in mind. Good weather. Good forecast. Got to the riverside boat ramp in Yankton at 9:53 and took a quick lock break. Then paddled 3 hours to the ramp at Highline/Myron Grove. River had some current... I started to think I could make it here to Ponca--- but that makes for ~56 miles, and I only had about 10 possible daylight paddle hours. So no more breaks and pretty steady paddling and

TAYLOR SWIFT DAY

on the iPod for 4-5 straight hours. Shallow water approaching Vermillion. Check. (Also lots of other places.) It became obvious I could make it. Eased up a little at the end. In about sunset. Nobody here. "RIVERFRONT CAMP CLOSED FOR HALLOWFEST"... Whatever. Hauled gear, set up, cooked dinner, NPR FRESH AIR. Calm night. Some clouds, some stars. IOWA coming up...

Bob Dylan Watson ad

MOVIES

A Walk in the Woods
✓ The Martian
Sicario

10-21-15 SIOUX CITY

NINE WEEKS
into IOWA
the channelized lower MO

It's somebody's birthday today.
It's almost 8pm, and I'm sitting in the
ritzy bar/restaurant attached to the ritzy waterfront hotel where I'm
totally splurging it up... I got to the north of town around 12:30,
and before I even went under the bridge, before the marina...
there appeared this boat dock. And right at the kayak dock ~
A KAYAK RACK! And right next to the yak rack → HOTELS.
I couldn't resist. And, as usual, I had no cell service to look for
a deal. There's a RODEWAY INN across the interstate... but I gave in
and went to the expensive place right by the boat ramp. Gotta soak
it up. For tomorrow we die. And prolly get rain and headwind.

And it's really nice here at the Chris Larsen waterfront park.
There's yet another L&C interpretive center ~ a pretty good one, with a
funny little video narrated by a Clark re-enactor, and a good bit of
focus on Sergeant Floyd - who died here, before "here" was Sioux City.
There's a big obelisk on Floyd's Bluff with what remains of his remains.
That's a few miles further down the river --- couldn't even glimpse it
yet on my sunset jog. But there's a SERGEANT FLOYD MUSEUM
AND WELCOME CENTER here - which is the actual sternwheeler
named the SERGEANT FLOYD which plied the waters here. I got some
IOWA and NEBRASKA postcards... and the guy gave me the whole
ACE publication for the rest of the MISSOURI. Thick book of
aerial photos/maps --- each page is about 2-3 miles. Overkill.
Each page is gonna be 10-30 minutes.

Woke before 7:00 and slowly rose, did the routine, off at 9:00.
Tailwind. Current. Didn't push it, but paddled steady. Lotta RVs
everywhere. Then houses. Then crazy big houses in the Dakota Dunes.
SOUTH DAKOTA ends where the Big Sioux river flows in from
the north. And it's a cool little corner - sharpened by the riprap.
So so early into town here... but I may linger till checkout time.
Study the coming route, check the facebook river angels.

10-22-15 DECATUR, NE

22:51 Weird day. And now it's late...

* I DID stay in Sioux City till noon checkout. Nice morning.
Sent a lot of sloppy postcards and a cuppa envelopes.
Still didn't sleep enough...

* Got off at 12:30 and did 42 miles in 6:15.
ALMOST doing 7 mph, but not quite. Arrived Decatur at 18:45...
and it was getting dark already!

* Back really hurten today. Lower right back muscle.

* RIVER MILES SIGNAGE is fun.

* ACE map book is fun.

* Got here, hauled gear, made "camp"...
ate hot dogs with RV John and Mary.

* Walked to the GREEN LANTERN for burger and beer.

* MY OWN PRIVATE FARGO

10-23-15 COTTONWOOD MARINA/BAR... COVERED SLIPS

22:00 Sitting in the crazy big bar at the marina. Arrived here
at about 18:20 — after the storm, after the double rainbow.
It's offseason, it's slow, the owner let me put the yak in a
covered slip AND ~~pitch~~ put my tent in there, too. I gotta get back
out there to sleep. Been in here a couple hours. 22 miles to
OMAHA. <4 hrs tomorrow. Good forecast + tailwind. Changed car
details to afternoon. DAN GUINAN ready to help. 'Husker game at
11:00... prolly can't catch any of it...

Rain last night, rain this morning. Slowed me. Up at 8:00. Took
a hot shower. Called popo. Slow pack. Off at 11:00 in drizzle. Didn't
push. Headwind. Only about 5 mph. Ramps, rivers, rain → rainbows!
Then got in here. Headache all afternoon. Pelican Point → 14:15-14:30

ANHYDROUS

10-24-15 SOMEWHERE IN MIDDLE AMERICA

A great paddling day ~ after a great sleep under a covered marina. Still new experiences every day, even at this ripe old age... Still not able to get going right at sunrise. Even though I was right next to my boat, my boat was 2 feet below the slip... awkward load, and slower. Also the weird tent take-down... in the wind.

Off at 9AM, fast-current and tailwind. ALMOST hit 7mph...

Proly did hit it, but couldn't quite sustain it.

Good thing, cuz when I reached DODGE PARK (north of town) at 12:30, I realized the new meeting place at THE NARROWS RIVER ramp...

was quite a ways down river. 8 miles, I was lazyangry briefly, but it was a far better meeting place... and easy paddling conditions.

Got there about 13:40 ~ 32 mi / 4:40 → $\frac{96}{14}$ → $6\frac{6}{7}$ mph. 😊

DAN GUINAN was right there - with a borrowed pickup... what a guy.

Took me to his Council Bluffs place about 8 miles east, dropped off my boat at his quite large suburban home, went to downtown Omaha to pick up the rental car → and ZOOM to Grinnell, IOWA, only briefly lost in greater OMAHA.

The paddle? oh... great conditions... channelized nuda... bald eagles... Blair/Bridge looked nice, FORT CALHOUN! Shucks. Boyer Chote, Goose Haven. Omaha airport. Planes. Big City Skyline, etc.

GRINNELL - in at dusk. Went to Walmart. No waterproofing?!! Bought food, bandanas, thermal tights, strap/thread. To the mansion. Lazy internet donut eating. Then rallied my strength to go see Matt Damon as the Martian. Then slowly off to a tired sleep in the NW room of the Budd mansion - no sheets, polar bear fleece bag liner - yet to be used on the river. Creaky wooden floor. I remember that. Noam Chomsky book from 1992.

CTE-Traumatic
Chronic Degenerative Encephalopathy

10-25-15 GRINNELL, IOWA

I was almost too tired to get to the cinema last night, but then it took me a while to get to sleep when I got back to the big house. Matt Damon does that to you. I was dead tired when I finally got in bed (in the NW room) (in my polar bear polar fleece bag). Too tired to write in this book. Too tired to read Undaunted Courage.

Woke at 7AM but went back to sleep till 9AM.

Then drove for breakfast at the Frontier Cafe.

Then sat for hours at SAINTS REST coffee shop.

Then went to the GAMETIME sports bar - some beer and NFL.

Then went to the Chinese place for egg rolls and fried rice.

Then McNulty's for some food.

And then back home.

Got some stuff done, but lots to do. I instantly got Graham audio. The Budds returned about 10PM. We had some dinner.

I got 3 mixes from 10th Pat - Train, Texas, Chemical Boy.

Good Krejčí parts. A few problems.

To bed again.

10-26-15 GRINNELL, IOWA

Another relaxing day... Not super productive.

Tomorrow's gotta be better.

I edited Graham's "distant station" audio and sent it to Pat.

I kept communicating with Pat about yesterday's 3 songs.

I called the Bruce to solicit "Time" audio/monologue.

I emailed CJG and Rebby.

I got some waterproofing stuff for my skirt (but forgot to apply it).

I had lunch at McNulty's with Steve.

I helped Steve with ladders, gutters, and leaves.

I watched a "chimney guy" check out Steve's chimneys.

I made my plan to get to St. Louis in 2 more weeks [see next page]

I went with Steve to Lonnski's and watched the last 10 minutes of MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL - Arizona beat Baltimore.

I started to contact FB Missouri peeps...

MISSOURI ENDGAME

L	619	NARROWS RIVER, OMAHA	
L	614	AMERISTAR CASINO, COUNCIL BLUFFS	
R	601	HAWORTH PARK, BELLEVUE	10-28
R	547	NEBRASKA CITY	10-29
R	509	MCADAM'S LANDING *	10-30
R	488	THUBNAU RAMP	10-31
L	452	ST. JOSEPH	10-31
R	400	LEAVENWORTH	11-1
R	~360	KANSAS CITY	11-2
R	293	WAVERLY	11-3
R	263	MIAMI	11-4
L	180	KATFISH KATY	11-5
R	~140	JEFFERSON CITY	11-6
R	97.7	HERMANN	11-7
L	~53	ST ALBANS	11-8
L	~0	CONFLUENCE PT SP	11-9
		ST. LOUIS	11-10

Caught up for
Halloween

Then took
a day off.

10-27-15 GRINNELL

CAROLINA's 22nd or 23rd birthday. She's Budd's Colombian au pair. Got up after 9... thought I heard Steve outside with the big ladder ~ hurrying to clear the high gutters before the 100% rain. It wasn't Budd. So I grabbed coffee and went out to treat my spray skirt with some silly cone stuff. It started raining. But not till me and Steve and Wally took a walk to the student center. Steve showed me stuff - NOYCE, PODFATHER. When I got back, Pat had sent "TIME"... Amazing. Made my day. Then I went to the laundrette - Budd has no laundry. Ate at Pizza Ranch while it laundered. Got back and played the blue guitar. Then helped Steve outside in the rain. Then CASA DE PANCHO for birthday dinner for Carolina. Shrimp Enchiladas. Then home for cake. Ziggy didn't play guitar. Really tired. Contacted FACEBOOK peeps. Needed to do more but needed sleep. Hit it by 11PM. The spray skirt didn't really dry much outside on the cold rainy day.

10-28-15 AMERISTAR CASINO, COUNCIL BLUFFS

I depress myself when I stop short, but then I depress myself more when I don't get anything done. It's coming on midnight and I didn't do much here in my pricey casino room. Can't FTP. Didn't e-mail SPOT list. Didn't do YASR art. Didn't sew skirt.

Got outta Grinnell late - farewell Budd breakfast, wrong turn at Des Moines, late to Council Bluffs, left kayak seat in Ron Chatt's car, windy... said fuck it and pulled in here. Not ^{any} great river access... Great forecast for tomorrow.

TRAINS

Moving Windows
FIREBALL TRAIN
AMTRAK ~ SPRING 2015
DARJEELING LIMITED
BAMBI
AK train

BNSF

Trains on the river

$$5900 + 300 + 100 \\ - 2200$$

COLD is a slight drag
WET is a slight drag
COLD + WET is a real drag
COLD, WET, WINDY sucks

10-29-15 NEBRASKA CITY

Didn't try to go early this morning. Enjoyed the cooshy room.
11 AM CHECKOUT. On the river 11:35... Wondered early if maybe I could make it here ~ so I pushed with no stops. Platte River added some current about 20 miles in. I got to this boat ramp at 18:47... 51 miles, 7:12 $\Rightarrow$ over 7mph. Nice place, nice night, clear sky - but gonna get chilly, maybe freeze. Stupid SPOT not working from here. Phone works, but no SPOT. Pretty tired. Dewey.

10-30-15 THURNAU RAMP

21:00 ~~Sitting~~ Lying in the tent, listening to the steady rain, wondering how much of the wet will find its way to my gear. The tent, she ain't as waterproof as once she was... when did I get this tent? The 2012 Yukon River trip? I just don't recall. I was wet to begin with $\rightarrow$ Forecasts said rain at 5pm, and amazingly, it started at 5:09, JUST as I was passing Indian Cave camp spot. I thought about it. Woulda stayed dryer, but woulda been 10 miles back.

I also thought about the Brownville Boat BnB some 26 miles back at 14:20. Woulda been cozy... and dry...

Everything was cold and wet with dew this morning.

BARGE! I went to sleep early but didn't rise early. Stirring at 7:30. Off at 9:30, 28 miles to Brownville, 14:16-14:40... Got here at 18:30, getting dark cuz of the clouds, everything wet, tent near the river, everything in. BARGE! coming upriver as I got everything in. Attempted to arrange wet stuff. TARP inside. Listened to some GAME 3-- really poor reception. Mets up 5-3. Texted dad, emma. Ready for bed

Cajun Food
Halloween Concert

10-31-15 HALLOWEEN!

Last night was kinda fun... I made good miles through the day, then got rained on for about the last 80 minutes of paddling, then set up the tent in a nice riverside spot - Thurnau's developed area is just a gross gravel parking lot, but there's a shore below the ramp, and there's some elevated grass between the river and the trees. Took me 3x longer to get the tent up than it shoulda → 3x wetter. Got in and situated self and everything to keep the dry dry. Moist but warm. Fargo episode, some Game 3, texted dad. Good sleep.

Got up wet, but the rain had stopped. Booked a "riverfront" room in St. Joseph. Took off just before 9AM. Paddled hard all morning. Pretty good paddling weather. BARGE! Eased up a little but didn't stop till Nodaway Ramp at 15:30. 47 miles in 6½ hours. Funky toilet there. Quick break, then onward to French Bottom ramp in St. Joseph. In at 17:30.

Called Emma and Derrick - local river angels extraordinaire. They took my boat and took me to the hotel.

Tired. Accomplished little. Watched game 4, Royals won. Pomb error.

11-1-15 DAY OFF IN ST. JOSEPH!

NOVEMBER!

NICE DOWNTOWN.

LUNCH WITH EMMA, DERRICK, GOAT.

ROYALS WON THE SERIES.

PEYTON BEAT RODGERS.

PAT'S DONE W/ MIXING!

WAITING FOR SOMETHING
TO CARVE ~~THE~~ SOME SHAPE
INTO THE KANSAS
IN MY SOUL

poutine
slightly altered routines

Ramen and cheese sammy
Phone gets service a lot now
able to get e-mail and text
river angels,
of course, NOW, in KC
We'll see about inner
MO.

11-2-15 RM 416 A GORGEOUS SANDBAR

19:41 It's funny that I keep trying to get to some lame boatcamp every night - riverside sandbar camps are so much better; barely gotta move boat and gear and nobody else is around. This one is great - of course, an awesome clear warm night doesn't hurt. Really cozy. Wanna sleep early and rise early... Half the sun is in the morning now. Pulled in here at 17:30 cuz that's when it's getting dark now.

Good times in St. Joseph, but I still didn't do the cover art. Off at 11:20 after Emma drove me back to French Bottom. She's great. Slow current, a touch of headwind, a dredge, a downriver barge. 27 miles to Atchison took $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours - 6mph. I walked to the Atchison grocery store - nice riverside park, nice downtown. Off at 16:39, but only paddled about another hour.

3 SNAKES

11-3-15 RM 375 OUTSKIRTS OF KANSAS CITY

20:00 A less gorgeous sandbar/mudbar. KC isn't a great place for paddler camps. I got to the English Landing ramp in Parkville at about 16:30. Took off at 17:00. A couple more miles around a bend and pulled out at 17:30. Some mud, some mosquitoes. Pretty good isolation from the city all around, though. Around a bend from the next bridge, a fair distance from the rails, no roads nearby. Another clear, warm night. Another forecast for fog in the morning.

I rose at 6:30, raring to go. Very foggy and dewey. Tent fly soaked. The wet slowed me a bit. Off at 8:00. Into Leavenworth at 11:00. Waited for Clinton Marsh for an hour. Walked to SONIC. Burger. Clinton met me and showed me around. Off at 13:00 and straight to Parkville. 375 miles to the Mississippi.

SALT AS WOLVES seems lyrically weak self-indulgent
RYAN ADAMS is lame.

11-4-15 LEXINGTON, MO

11 weeks, 2005 miles

20:57 Another nice night, another forecast for clouds/fog in the morning. Supposed to rain on me tomorrow. Nice shelter/grass area by the Lexington boat ramp. Not much traffic. Trains pass by close and noisy. River angel ROBIN contacted a local guy to give me a ride to town (MARK). SONIC! 2nd time in 2 days.

Kinda boring paddle. Long and steady. Off at 7:50. Passed Kaw at 9:00, through KC, stopped at city ramp (363) at 9:45. Left at 10:00. 34 straight miles to Napoleon, quick stop, then to here at ~~16~~ 17:20. Quick haul and tent-up cuz Mark was coming. So ~ 59 miles, 9 hours.

11-5-15 WAVERLY, MO

^{20:34} Up early... and it started raining at 6:30, though NOAA said showers would start 4pm. I was sad. But rain stopped after 15min. and I was still in tent. No hurry, I moved to the shelter, dried tent, packed, made coffee,,, off at 9:00. No hurry. Into Waverly at 12:45. Set up tent, everything in, locked kayak, walked up the hill to the BBQ. Sat there, ate, wrote 2 postcards, some notes, some net... Robin and Connie Kalthoff arrived 4:30pm. Beers, then their place for shrimp & Return to Lonesome Dove. Back to tent at 9:00pm. Some wind and rain...

TRAIN IS SO CLOSE AND LOUD!

Way way worse than Lexington. Ear plugs necessary.

Wanna try to get up really early tomorrow--- long long day. Feeling pretty great tonight.

Slept with earphones in playing Genghis Khan. Fell asleep and didn't turn the iPod off till ~3:30. Only noticed a couple trains.

A COUPLE TRAINS! A COUPLE TRAINS! A COUPLE TRAINS!

XMAS LIST

GPS
bike
panniers
Foo Fighters

moving the goalposts
moving the chains

ST. LOUIS

turn ~~the~~ glass
put your boat on the river

mail ~~MM~~ budd PCs
honza

\$ — pay BOA
check etc

YASR — zip file online
cd, sleeve
poster

sew skirt
H2O proof

etsy
dennis

CAHOKIA

WEB
LAUNDRY

journal
dates
pics online
front page
YASR zip
DM files online

~~How's your margin?~~

~~economist~~
~~life on the mississippi~~
mail stuff
~~gloves, boots, hat~~

PREP 4 RAIN
more water

AFTER THE RIVER

Fairbanks
✓ computers/HD
mail computers/HD
HIT
web
Soka2
Paddle...

Bandathon?

6414 Potomac Ave
22307

JANUARY

taxes
jobs
webs
novels

White Russian

Memphis - Dale Sanders
Natchez - JOHN PAVIS
Greenville

Morgan City

THE TRAILHEAD

Missoula, Montana



THE TRAIL HEAD

EAGLE CLAW®

WILLI\$TON®

No. 083756

Entrance Permit

Name WILLIS FIREBALL
Address FAIRBANKS, AK

Vehicle Copy

Place on dash on driver's side so readable from outside of vehicle.

King of Poin
St. Joe - Nov 1, 2015
Regular Joe

Menger Rangers
YASR
\$
web

Sculpture Walk
Cajon restaurant

PO
I missed stuff last night
I missed Sufjan in Omaha

WEATHER
mississippi

med money
MAIL

RESERVED

B 12 1

SEC/BX ROW SEAT

OCTOBER 8, 2015
THURSDAY 7:30 PM

ADMIT ONE THIS DATE

PIERRE
PLAYERS
PRESENT
* * *

HOUD OF THE
BASKERVILLES
* * *

GRAND OPERA
HOUSE

NO REFUNDS PRICE NO EXCHANGES

Below the thunders of the upper deep,
Far, far beneath in the abyssal sea,
His ancient, dreamless, untroubled sleep
The broken sleepeth; faintest sunlight fire
About his shadowy sides, above him swell
These spanges of millennial growth and height
And far away into the sickly light
From many a stuporous grot and secret cell
Unnumbered and enormous polypi,
Whom with giant arms the slumbering green
There both he looms for ages, and will lie
Bottoming upon huge sea worms in his sleep
Until the latter fire shall heat the deep
Then once by man and angels to be seen
In fasting he shall rise and on the
surface die

Red Dot 10K

kayaks along the CDT...

8-14-15

trailhead, missoula: 1 perception catalina - \$500

sunshine sports, billings

seayak 1550

touryak 1450

kodiak 1450

jackson journey 1399

kestrel, current designs 975

confluence kayaks, denver

seayaks

touryak \$1099

deltas

jackson

craigslist, lyons - perception carolina (what #?) \$500

craigslist, denver - necky zoar (sport?) \$600 with bunch of stuff...

call craigslist about necky zoar (with rudder, skirt, etc. bags, paddle, etc. denver)

174 e tanango

aurora co 80015

call craigslist about perception carolina (with rudder) lyons

touryak from confluence kayaks, denver

BOA pay, \$ check
web

rangers

maps

Ming

Gasoline stove

Aquamira - Water Jug

~~Montana map~~

PFD

throw line

map case

3 AAA lithium

hand string

K
po box 750187

ftown, ak 99775

KJ
1299 Farmers Loop Rd #C
Squarebanks, AK 99709

Dykstra
Po box 314, 99587

Krejer
484 marshall drive
fairbanks, ak 99712

Brookes
724 museum drive, los angeles ca 90065

Miranda
137 Smith St., DARWIN NT 0800

Heather
6404 Potomac Ave, Alexandria VA 22307

beckel - jessiah
3157 SE Belmont Street
Portland, OR 97214

maja
(907) 590-9694

becka jean - get address - phone
810 1/2 Stoddard St.
Mesa, AZ 85202

rachelinmeskaplan@gmail.com

Avery
1932 Kifude
Fair, ak 99709

Detach Your Receipt From This Stub



SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF PARKS & RECREATION CAMPING PERMIT

No. **068835**

Name _____

Today's Date _____

Address _____

Vehicle _____
License No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Park Name _____

Camping Fee	x	No. Nights	=	Total Amount

Campsite No. _____ No. in Party _____

Type of Camping Unit (Check ✓)

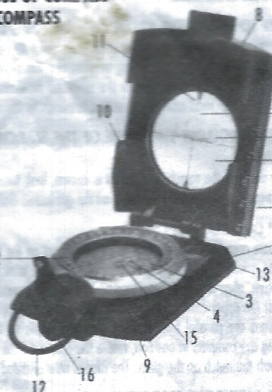
☐ Motorhome ☐ Trailer Camper ☐ Tent☐ Pickup/Van ☐ Other _____**No Refunds Will Be Given.**

After inserting fee in attached envelope, please deposit in tube. The top (original) copy is **your camping receipt** — please display this on the pad post at your campsite if post is available. If post is unavailable — display on dashboard in vehicle.

ENGLISH

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF COMPASS LET'S USE THE LAND COMPASS

1. Graduated metric scale
2. 360° pivoting dial
3. Wind rose
4. North line with north arrow
5. Glass
6. Distance-measuring notches
7. Aiming line
8. Cover
9. Case
10. Hinge
11. Reading lens or prism
12. Holding ring
13. Level bubble
14. Thread and tripod
15. Central support
16. Reading adjustable eyepiece



MOUNTING INSTRUCTIONS

Remove the compass from its case, lift the cover (8) with the aiming line (7) until it is at 90° from its original position. Later, through the aiming line (7) and the slit over