

Nicola River — August 2020

.... The good news is we left so much coloured paint behind that future paddlers can actually see all the dark coloured algae infested rocks.

Curse my rotten luck for choosing day 1 to dump thereby earning trip report honours. Carey did the quick rescue thing. He had my boat upright and water free before my sorry Toosh made contact with the water. Come to think of it I made contact with solid granite before I splashed in (is that a real word?). After a short lumpy bumpy ride careening off many rocks I was able to stand up mid river. Since it was only a half rescue I reckoned less than a full can of the obligatory rescue beer was appropriate. Do I round down to zero or up to one? I settled the dilemma by providing Carey with one full but very warm beer. I considered downgrading to a wimpy Bud light but that would be 'below the belt'.

Leigh and I must be fully invested creatures of habit. She and I both chose the exact camp sites we occupied last year. Leigh parked her tent/hammock on the exact same two trees. I foolishly parked my tent adjacent to last years prickly pear garden. I repeated last years dimwit of the year award by running my car battery to the ground while playing too much jazz and blues. Stay tuned for next years repeat of imbecile behaviour (I'm a pathetically slow learner).

On a positive note my new Kevlar Duraflex solo boat survived unimaginable bashing without serious damage. It was light before, but now much lighter thanks to my generous rock deposits of paint, resin and other miscellaneous coatings.

Saturday saw a total of 11 boats on the water (or should I say on the rocks). Kara and Carey were having their usual playful verbal sparrings. Kara was determined to have the last laugh when she snuck up behind him during a lunch time swim. She grabbed Carey's gunwhale and executed a very stylish trapeze move only to find the combination of her weight and Carey's balancing skills would not yield the desired tipping effect. I'm sure Kara will eek out her revenge next year, be it more bulk, more leverage, sneak attack or other nefarious idea.

All in all It was a great 4 days of aquatic fun. Looking forward to more summertime paddles.

Dave (duraflex deficient) Apps