



Here is some pre-course information for the Lapie River Extravaganza.

Getting there:

Our base will be the Lapie River Canyon Territorial Campground on the South Campbell highway which is about 2km west of the turnoff to Ross River about 50 km east of the turnoff to Faro. From Whitehorse the smoother route is to drive via Carmacks; the South Canol road which leaves the Alaska Highway at Johnson's Crossing is a scenic, slower alternative. Allow 4 ½ -5 hours via Robert Cambell and 6-7 hours via South Canol. We encourage car pooling and you can contact others in the course to arrange.

The campground:

As a YTG campground there is a central cooking area, outhouses, picnic tables, firewood...and a fee! Please have your annual campground permit with you or be prepared to pay the daily fee. There will be government employees checking. We will have a hot shower available. Bring your musical talent and instruments.

The schedule:

We will be starting at 9 am sharp Thursday morning and finish mid afternoon on Sunday. Each day we will leave the campground in the morning for a day on the river. We often paddle the Ross River on the first day and then there are five different sections of the Lapie to choose from. We are going to try to be off the river mid day on some days as to allow for evening paddling. Some evening time will be spent discussing river rescue, watching paddling videos and analyzing video of ourselves on the river that day. The takeout for one of our favourite sections is the campground we stay at. Get ready for an action packed 4 days of paddling! You will be paddling lots, be prepared. Before the course please think of what you want to get out of the course, which rivers you want to paddle and which kind of trips you would like to do.

We choose the sections based on where people will excel at learning. The Lapie level can fluctuate and we choose sections based on safety and learning.

What we provide:

Boats – fully equipped with flotation, thigh straps, throw bags, bailers

Paddles, PFDs, helmets, wetsuits, paddling jackets

Rescue gear; first aid kit for the river

Shuttles; we have vehicles to transport 5 to 7 people and the boats; each day a couple of additional vehicles will be needed for the shuttle.

Video and camera and drying tent.

What to Bring:

Camping and cooking gear.

Clothes; Lots! Bring lots of layers & extra as if the weather turns poor it can be hard to get things dry for the next run and things that dry quickly including:

- wicking material long underwear (polypro or capilene) to wear under wetsuit
- hats, something thin and warm to fit under helmet; a visor cap and a thick warm hat for around camp
- bring your own paddle gear if you have it.
- gloves; to wear paddling if it's chilly; work gloves for around camp
- footwear for paddling (we have some neoprene booties available but bring your own if you have them)
- warm socks, lots of wool socks
- water bottle – drink lots!
- thermos if you have one; we bring several
- sunscreen; lip screen
- personal first aid kit, ibuprofen, aspirin

FOOD

You will want lots of good, nourishing, easy to prepare food.

Plan to bring high-energy snacks on the river each day that you will stash in the pocket of your paddling jacket to have handy throughout the day. Each day we have a lunch break of about an hour and make a fire.

Soups are great; instant soups are nice at lunch if it's a cool day (or if you went for a swim!)

On Saturday evening I would like to encourage a potluck supper with all participants on the course. Keep in mind it is the Lapie River Extravaganza, see what kind of creation you can surprise everyone with.

For Sale

We will have various paddle gear for sale at the Lapie the list includes Wet suit booties for \$25, paddle jackets, wet suits, wood, carbon whitewater paddles and various other paddling misc.

We look forward to a great course with you on the Lapie River. Call 456-4225 if you have any other questions or have any difficulties on the highway. We will check messages from Ross River. Ross River is 10 km away. Also a good idea to bring a jerry can and you will have to make sure you gas up during gas station hours in Ross.

