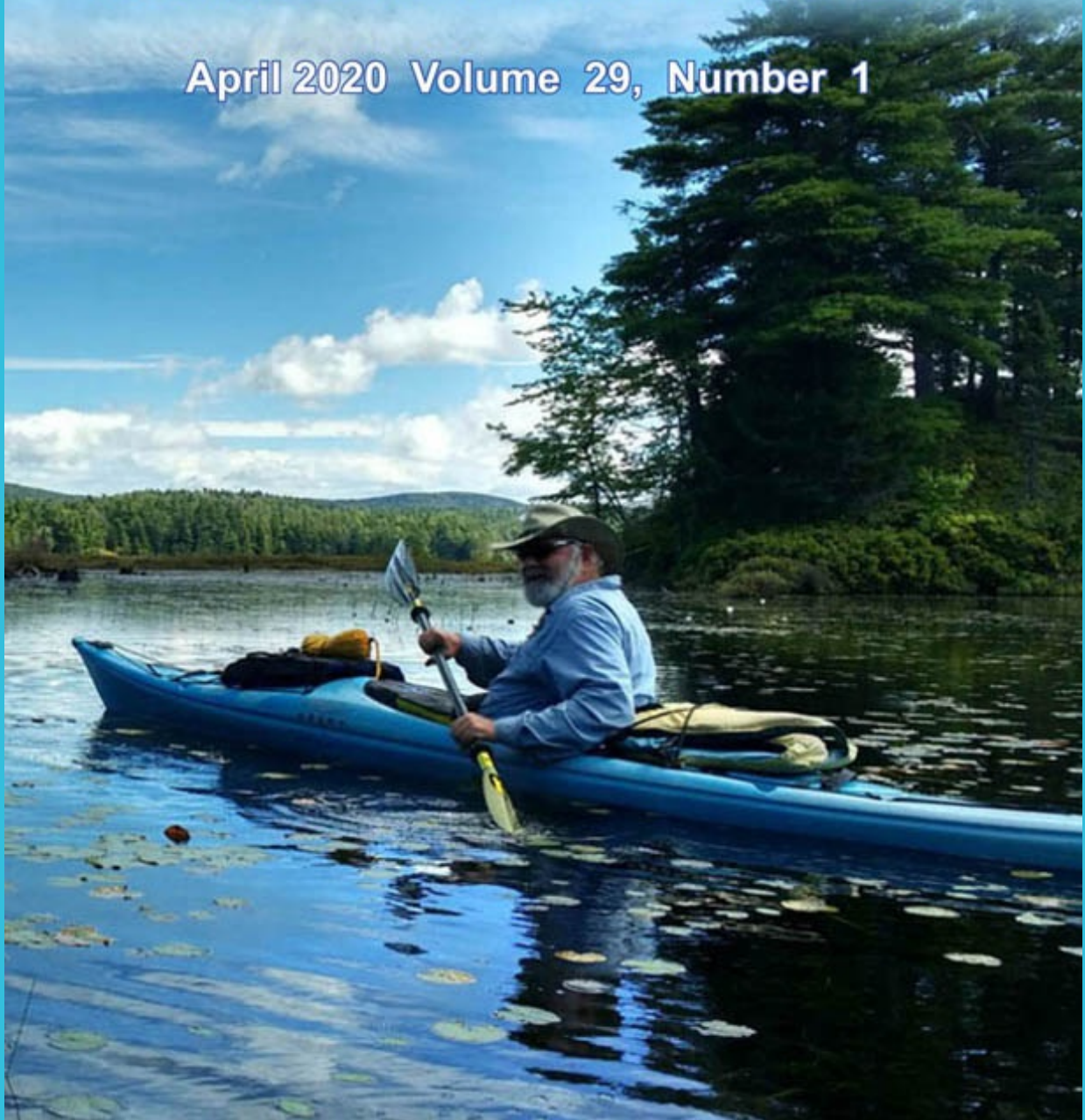


ATLANTIC COASTAL KAYAKER

April 2020 Volume 29, Number 1



Larry MacIntosh enjoys a placid paddle on Holland Pond, Rindge, N.H. Photo by Sandy Brewer.

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News & Notes



At 74, Gail Ferris Isn't Slowing Down

Gail is a long time ACK contributor, telling about her adventures from Connecticut to Greenland. Gail writes us, "I am buying a new Long Haul Mark 1 so that I can explore Sitka Alaska shores.

And More!

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Features

Jersey Paddling Club Members Find Creative Ways to Weather the Virus

By David Eden

With paddlers in many cases unable to leave their homes

even to paddle, contributor Kevin Mansell, cut short in an extended paddling vacation, cudgled his brains to come up with a solution to the lost camaraderie of paddling.

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Larry McIntosh Leads Brattleboro Outing Club Paddle Program

By Tamsin Venn

Vermont kayakers are lucky to have long-time kayaker Larry McIntosh as a trip director. McIntosh leads the Brattleboro Outing Club's paddling program, with a lot of experience behind him. He started hosting paddle trips in the late 80's in the tri-state Brattleboro area (Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts), when he managed a local outdoor store, Wildwater Outfitters.

[READ MORE](#)



Jersey Paddling Club Members Find Creative Ways to Weather the Virus

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With paddlers in many cases unable to leave their homes even to paddle, contributor Kevin Mansell, cut short in an extended paddling vacation, cudgled his brains to come up with a solution to the lost camaraderie of paddling.

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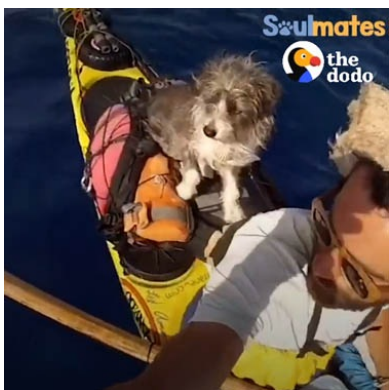


Guy Kayaking Across The Ocean Meets A Stray Dog

Here is a wonderful video from the dodo.com about a fellow who paddles around the Mediterranean with a stray dog he adopted. The video tells the tale of Sergi and his friend Nirvana.

The Dodo website's (thedodo.com) mission statement : "The Dodo for animal people: The Dodo's goal is to serve up emotionally and visually compelling, highly sharable animal-related stories and videos to as many people as possible to help make caring about animals a viral cause."

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Covid Kayaking

By Tamsin Venn

Sea kayaking and social distancing work well. Use your seven-foot paddle to measure distance, take it with you everywhere, and no rafting up, except under extreme duress. With fortitude and hope to keep our hearts and souls intact, we paddle onward.

[READ MORE](#)



Places



Fishers Island Sound Mystic Seaport to Stonington

By Tamsin Venn



Although the Connecticut Coast is densely populated, the sea kayaker has the great advantage of being able to launch car-top boats in Long Island Sound without the high fees charged for putting power boats or sailboats in the water. Other benefits include no need to get tied up in boat traffic while waiting for bridge openings and no reservations required months or years in advance for moorings.

[READ MORE](#)



Flip That Kayak!

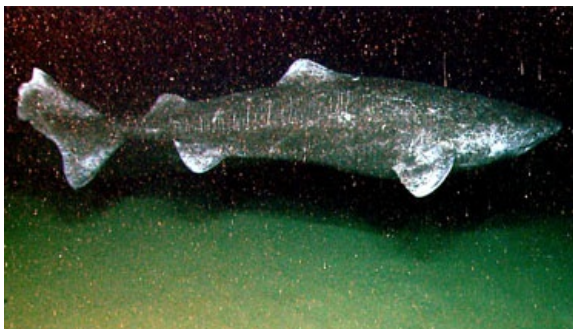


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Creatures of the Ocean



L:Greenland Shark. Public Domain. R: Greenland shark meat or kæstur hákarl in Iceland.By Chris 73 / Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1788334>

The **Greenland shark** (*Somniosus microcephalus*), also known as the **gurry shark**, **grey shark**, or by the Kalaallisut name

eqalussuaq, is a large shark of the family Somniosidae ("sleeper sharks"), closely related to the Pacific and southern sleeper sharks. The distribution of this species is mostly restricted to the waters of the North Atlantic Ocean and Arctic Ocean.

Greenland sharks have the longest known lifespan of all vertebrate species (estimated to be between 300 - 500 years), and the species is among the largest extant species of shark. As an adaptation to living at depth, it has a high concentration of trimethylamine N-oxide in its tissues, which causes the meat to be toxic] Greenland shark flesh treated to reduce toxin levels is eaten in Iceland as a delicacy known as *kæstur hákarl*.

The Greenland shark is an apex predator and mostly eats fish. It has never been observed hunting. Recorded fish prey have included smaller sharks, skates, eels, herring, capelin, Arctic char, cod, rosefish, sculpins, lumpfish, wolffish, and flounder.

Greenland sharks have also been found with remains of seals, polar bears, moose, and reindeer (in one case an entire reindeer body) in their stomachs. The Greenland shark is known to be a scavenger, and is attracted by the smell of rotting meat in the water. The sharks have frequently been observed gathering around fishing boats It also scavenges on seals.

Although such a large shark could easily consume a human swimmer, the frigid waters it typically inhabits make the likelihood of attacks on humans very low, and no cases of predation on people have been verified.

The flesh of the Greenland shark is toxic because of the presence of high concentrations of trimethylamine oxide (TMAO). If the meat is eaten without pretreatment, the ingested TMAO is metabolized into trimethylamine, which can produce effects similar to extreme drunkenness. Occasionally, sled dogs that eat the flesh are unable to stand up because of this effect. Similar toxic effects occur with the related Pacific sleeper shark, but not in most other shark species.

The meat can be treated for safe consumption by boiling in several changes of water, drying, or fermenting for several months to produce *kæstur hákarl*. Traditionally, this is done by burying the meat in boreal ground for six to eight weeks, which presses the TMAO out of the meat and also results in partial fermentation. The meat is then dug up and hung up in strips to dry for several more months. It is considered a delicacy in Iceland.

The Greenland shark's poisonous flesh has a high urea content, which gave rise to the Inuit legend of Skalugsuak, the first Greenland shark. The legend says that an old woman washed her hair in urine and dried it with a cloth. The cloth blew into the ocean to become Skalugsuak. Another legend tells of a girl whose father cut off her fingers while drowning her, with each finger turning into a sea creature, including Skalugsuak.

The Greenland shark plays a role in cosmologies of the Inuit from the Canadian Eastern Arctic and Greenland. Igloodik Inuit believe that the shark lives within the urine pot of Sedna, goddess of the sea, and consequently its flesh has a urine-like smell, and acts as a helping spirit to shamans.



An Air Station Elizabeth City C-130 Hercules aircrew and a Coast Guard Station Inigoes boat crew are continuing the search Friday morning along with the crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Angela McShan.

Also assisting in the search are members of the Queen Anne Police Department, Arundel Police Department, Maryland Natural Resource Police, and Maryland State Police.

Coast Guard suspends search for missing canoers in Maryland

ANNAPOLIS, Md., April 3 - The Coast Guard suspended the search Friday evening for two canoers who went missing near Herring Bay, Maryland, Thursday evening.

Coast Guard personnel searched a combined total of 3658 square miles over air, sea, and land over a period of 26 hours.

"This was a difficult case, and even more difficult to make the decision to suspend the search," said Cmdr. Matthew Fine, deputy sector commander and active search suspension authority at Sector Maryland-National Capitol Region command center. "Our crews and partners did everything they could to find them. We've kept the family informed at every step during the search, and our thoughts are with them tonight."



Speed Bumps on the Water, a song by Jon Cons

In our May, 2018 issue, we ran a poem by Jon Cons, a long-time ocean kayaker, former ACA Coastal Kayaking Instructor, songwriter, and charter member of the Maine Island Trail Assn. called "Speed Bumps on the Water." Jon has incorporated the song into his new album and has generously agreed to share the song with us.

Jon describes the genesis of his song: "I was at a songwriters' open mike, when one performer sang a song about his small sailboat, and I thought: 'I have been sea kayaking for more than 35 years. Why don't I write a song about that?'"

"And then, a little over a year ago, I heard a British paddler mention that, where she comes from, sea kayakers are viewed as 'a bunch of old guys in floppy hats getting back to nature.' Worse yet, the lobstermen here in Maine describe kayakers as 'speed bumps on the water,' a phrase that scans with the title of a traditional fiddle tune called 'Midnight On The Water.' And so, this song came about."

Here are the words, so you can sing along. The mp3 file is number nine on the web page:

[Speed Bumps on the Water](#)

We're just old guys, wearing floppy hats,
The young surfers say,
But we're getting back to nature,
In our old-fashioned ways,
With our 18-foot long boats,
In the waves we will play,
Now we're speed bumps on the water,
So the lobstermen say.

Now when I was a bit younger,
I could roll on both sides,
I could rescue any swimmer,

Now the ocean's so big,
And a kayak's so small,
Some paddlers we knew of,
Never came back at all.
Some got fat, some quit boating,
Some just faded away,
Rest are speed bumps on the water,
So the power boaters say.

Well, the young folks take classes,
So they can get 'certified,'
They paddle calm water,

I would play the rip tides,
Every weekend would find me.
On the gulf or the bay,
Now I'm a speed bump on the water,
Like lobstermen say.

With our boats fully loaded,
We could stay out for weeks,
We knew first aid and navigation,
We could fix cracks and leaks,
We saw glaciers in Alaska,
And whales off Gaspe'
Now we're speed bumps on the water,
Like the lobstermen say.

Wearing helmets with pride,
And they laugh at the old sea gypsies,
Who once showed the way,
Now we're speed bumps on the water,
So the lobstermen say.

When my last trip is over,
Put me back in my boat,
Fill the hatches with kerosene,
And light me afloat,
When the young folks ask "what's burning?"
Shrug your shoulders and say,
Just a speed bump on the water,
Paddling on his last day.

Just a speed bump on the water,
Paddling on his last day.



At 74, Gail Ferris Isn't Slowing Down

Gail is a long time ACK contributor, telling about her adventures from Connecticut to Greenland. Gail writes us, "I am buying a new Long Haul Mark 1 so that I can explore Sitka Alaska shores. The video link shows my first Long Haul. My purpose in paddling is to explore extensively in comfort for hours taking pictures and videos. There is no kayak so seaworthy and comfortable as the Long Haul. I have been doing exploration kayaking since 1989. Now I am 74 and can just paddle right where I live here in Sitka on the Pacific as I wish."

[2003 Paddling from Upernavik via PrÄ, ven Orpit Aappilattoq](#)

Coast Guard Rescues Two Kayakers on Tybee Island

CHARLESTON, S.C., Nov. 16, 2019 - The Coast Guard rescued two kayakers after they became stranded on Tybee Island, Georgia.

At approximately 6 p.m., a Coast Guard Air Station Savannah MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew landed on Tybee Island beach and located the kayakers. The Dolphin crew embarked the kayakers and transported them to Hunter Army Airport.

At 4:25 p.m, Coast Guard Sector Charleston watchstanders were notified by the Tybee Island Fire Department of two kayakers who camped overnight on Tybee Island and became stranded due to bad weather.

No injuries were reported.



CBD Says Bring Down the Dams to Save Salmon, Orcas

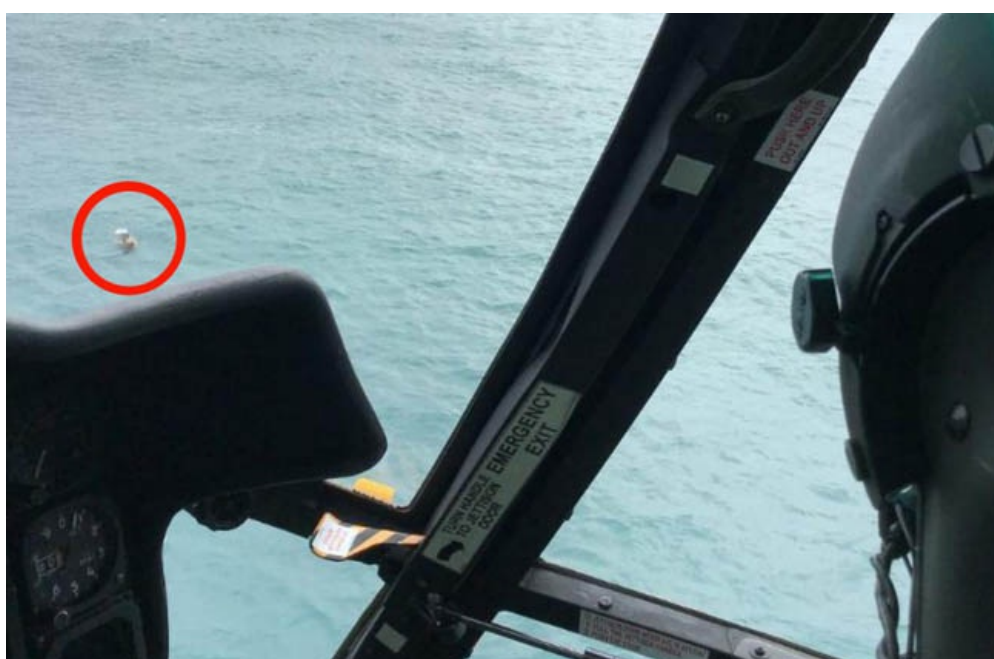
Salmon are the cultural lifeblood of the Pacific Northwest - supporting jobs, communities, and the natural world. Their unique life cycle brings nutrients from the ocean back to high mountain streams and forests. And they're a critical food source for more than 100 species, including endangered West Coast orcas, which are dying out due to lack of prey.

The Columbia and Snake rivers were once the greatest salmon rivers in the world. But now more than half of their salmon habitat is permanently blocked by dams.

The Center for Biological Diversity believes it is time to remove the four lower Snake River dams to save the salmon and orcas before it's too late.

Federal, tribal, and independent scientists concluded years ago that removing these four dams is the best way to restore the area's wild salmon. These dams kill up to 50% of juvenile salmon before they even reach the ocean, and are roadblocks to adult salmon returning home to spawn, but the federal government is proposing to keep the status quo and keep the dams - putting these species and the ecosystem at risk.

To join in this effort, visit the [CBD website](#).



Coast Guard Rescues Two Kayakers off Ocean Park Beach in San Juan, Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Dec. 1, 2019 - The crew of a Coast Guard Air Station Borinquen MH-65 Dolphin helicopter rescued two kayakers Sunday morning, in waters just off Ocean Park Beach in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The two men rescued were reported to be tourists, who used a smart watch to relay a distress call to 911, and reported being in the water for several hours after both kayaks began taking on water and ended up sinking.

Watchstanders at Sector San Juan diverted a Coast Guard MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew to the scene, while a Puerto Rico Joint Forces of Rapid Action helicopter also responded. The two kayakers were initially spotted by the crew of the Police helicopter, who vectored in the Coast Guard aircraft to their location.

The Coast Guard aircrew lowered their rescue swimmer and deployed the aircraft rescue basket that was utilized to hoist and recover both men from the water. The men were transported to the Isla Grande Airport in San Juan, where they were received by Emergency Medical Service personnel, and were released to friends after declining further medical assistance.

"The kayakers are very fortunate to have survived," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Austin Hornbruch, an Air Station Borinquen aviation survival technician. "The survivors were able to use a smart watch to communicate with 911 and Coast Guard watchstanders. After their kayaks sank, they were treading water in unfavorable sea conditions due to not having lifejackets. We commend our Sector San Juan watchstanders and the Puerto Rico Police aircrew, who did an excellent job assisting our crew with the rescue effort."



CBD Sues to Take On Oil and Gas Threat to Cook Inlet's Belugas

New government data reveal a dramatic decline in Alaska's endangered belugas, down to just 279 animals in Cook Inlet. That's why the Center for Biological Diversity and allies have notified the Trump administration that they intend to sue over its approval of oil exploration in the white whales' home.

The feds relied on higher beluga numbers in 2019 when giving the green light to Hilcorp Alaska to harm these whales (and other animals) as it expands oil and gas operations in the inlet. The CBD's notice says the company must consider the new, smaller numbers and much steeper rate of decline.

"The Trump administration needs to stop handing out permits for the fossil fuel industry to blast, pile drive, and drill in Cook Inlet," said the CBD's Julie Teel Simmonds. "These animals are hanging on by a thread. We have to protect them and give them some peace."



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MSRP: \$199.95 for the 40-liter, \$249.95 for the 70-liter, \$299.95 for the 100-liter.



Chouinard Adds a Wood-burning Stove To its Super-Light Untethered Camping Kit

The stove, which was to appear as part of the Untethered Kit in the spring or early summer of this year, has been put on hold with the rest of Patagonia's operations, as explained in this announcement from CEO and President Rose Marcario:

"The COVID-19 pandemic is taking over communities around the world at an astounding rate. While testing availability in the United States is still limited, and so the extent of the virus' spread is largely unknown, we want to do our part to protect everyone. The safety of our employees and our communities is our top priority, and we are taking responsible precautions to help stop the spread of this scary virus where we can.

"We have temporarily closed our stores, offices and other operations in the United States. We have also closed stores and offices in Argentina, Chile, Japan and across Europe. Our Australia and South Korea operations will continue on a modified work schedule in stores and offices, with some stores closed depending on location. Employees who can work from home will do so. All Patagonia employees will continue to receive their regular pay during these closures.

"We are working to find solutions to protect the safety of our warehouse team, and we hope to have an update about online orders in the coming weeks. We apologize that over the next two weeks there will be delays on orders and customer-service requests. We ask for your understanding and patience. We will continue to keep you updated with new developments.

"We encourage our friends everywhere to take the extra precautions necessary to safeguard their health and that of others. It's everyone's responsibility to help stop the spread of this virus. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and your local health authorities are the best resources for updates and answers to questions.

"Over the years, as our Patagonia community has been faced with challenges, I have always been inspired by how we emerge stronger and with an even deeper sense of purpose. We will persevere through this challenge, too.

"Thank you for your business, loyalty and patience."



Monk Seal Safely Transferred by USCG From Oahu To seal rehabilitation facility on Hawaii Island

An adult female monk seal, nicknamed Pohaku, was discovered ill on the beach. The seal was taken to the Marine Mammal Center's Ke Kai Ola monk seal rehabilitation facility in Konma on Hawaii Island for the long-term care she needs.

The seal was rescued by federal wildlife officials in January near Ko Olina, Oahu. She had been diagnosed and is being treated for toxoplasmosis, a disease that results from infection with *Toxoplasma gondii*, one of the world's most common parasites.

Personnel from the Coast Guard 14th District, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and The Marine Mammal Center loaded her into the HC-130 fixed wing helicopter to transport from Oahu to Kona on February 19.

"Protecting the Hawaiian monk seal population provides the Coast Guard a unique opportunity to play a part in the recovery of this critically endangered species," said Maile Norman, marine resource specialist, Coast Guard 14th District.

"The Coast Guard [helps] to assist NOAA in seal transports like this when Coast Guard resources are available," said David Schofield, NOAA Regional Marine Mammal Response Coordinator.

"We're proud to support patients like Pohaku at our facility in Kona," said Megan McGinnis, the MMC's Animal Care Program Manager at Ke Kai Ola. "We are grateful to the U.S. Coast Guard, who reacted quickly and helped [us] give this animal a second chance at life."

The most recent annual count shows that the Hawaiian monk seal has increased in numbers by three percent annually for the past three years. The population is now estimated to be around 1,400 seals - about 1,100 in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and 300 in the main Hawaiian Islands.



Coast Guard Rescues Two Kayakers Near Ketchikan, Alaska

JUNEAU, Alaska, March 23, 2020 - The Coast Guard rescued two kayakers in Ketchikan after one of their kayaks sustained damage and took on water.

The crew of Coast Guard Cutter *Bailey Barco* arrived on scene and recovered both kayakers along with their kayaks and brought them to their launch site at Mountain Point in Ketchikan. No injuries or medical concerns were reported.

Watchstanders in the Coast Guard Sector Juneau command center in Juneau received initial notification from a Metlakatla fish and wildlife officer at about 2:40 p.m. reporting the two female kayakers stranded on Race Point in Nichols Passage.

The Coast Guard issued an urgent marine information broadcast to alert mariners in the area and launched a 45-foot Response Boat-Medium crew with a skiff from Station Ketchikan.

The crew of *Bailey Barco* was in the vicinity of the kayakers, arrived on scene first, and rendered assistance.



Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership to Close Through June 14

Message from Bo Hoppin, Executive Director

"After careful consideration during this unprecedented situation, the Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership's Board of Directors has made the difficult decision to close all on-island programming from the start of the season through June 14, 2020. Our own mission and approach to education emphasizes the use of science to inform decision-making. The science for the coronavirus pandemic clearly supports delaying the start

of our 2020 season. This is the prudent choice for the safety of our participants, staff, and the greater community.

"This news is very sad for the broad range of people served by Hurricane, especially those students for whom their school's spring 2020 trip may be their sole opportunity to visit Hurricane. Making island programming accessible, invigorating, and inspirational from May through October is the foundation of our work. Many of our supporters have their own life-changing Hurricane stories, which are at the heart of why they have worked so hard to ensure the island is available for the next generation of emerging leaders. We regret denying anyone a Hurricane Island experience.

"I find great comfort in knowing the Hurricane staff are embracing opportunity in this coronavirus challenge. We know the immersive island experience and the skill of our educators inspires program participants to ask rich questions. Our educators and scientists are now tracking new questions: Will we notice an appreciable decline in worldwide carbon emissions with this slowdown? Are there lessons from a slowdown that contribute to sustainable solutions in the future? What do patterns of this virus spreading tell us about social mobility? What are the strategies, skills, and norms our society needs to put in place to address a global crisis? What is Hurricane's role in answering these questions?

"We challenge our students and emerging researchers to take the inquiry process they learn on Hurricane home to then solve meaningful local problems. Our charge is to ensure Hurricane sustains this work without visitors to the island for the near term. Over the coming weeks we promise to demonstrate the important work of Hurricane is alive and well. Please follow us on social media, our website, and through our email outreach to experience Hurricane magic this spring.

"Hurricane, as the site of our place-based programming, will be on a brief hiatus. It is our hope that through this challenge, the lessons of Hurricane will magnify and compound to prepare leaders who are ready to solve important and difficult questions for their home communities. We are eager to continue our work."



COVID-19 and the NFCT: What you need to know

"As the snow and ice continues to melt across the Northern Forest, many of you are reaching out with questions about paddling on the Northern Forest Canoe Trail in light of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

"The team at NFCT continues to track the best public health guidance for being outside during the coronavirus pandemic. We've created a page on our website to track advice, tips, best practices and recommendations if you plan on paddling in the coming weeks.

Getting outside and active, even for short periods, is good for your mental and physical health. That said, we're all in this together, and we must be responsible - avoid crowds, stay close to home, be prepared and be respectful of other people. Additionally, it's imperative that we all recreate within our limits; this is not the time to injure yourself and put additional strain on our healthcare facilities."



Old Quarry Ocean Adventures Up For Sale

After 22 seasons, Bill Baker of old Quarry Ocean Adventures outside Stonington, Maine has put his 8.5-acre campground up for sale for \$2.5 million. He has retired and is moving to Greenville, Maine.

He plans to keep it operating this summer but is letting someone else do the work.

"I've been working seven days a week for 22 years. I'm not doing it anymore," Baker told the local newspaper *Island Ad-Vantages*.

Baker has expressed interest in having a land trust take over the property to keep the 1,000-foot shorefront open to the public.

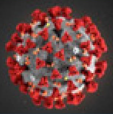
Currently, three parties are interested in the property and would probably keep the campground the way it is.

"It is very upsetting to think that such a very special place may be lost to us," says Rufus Zogbaum, a long-time ACK subscriber and one of many who wrote letters of support for Baker for a meeting last October to discuss Old Quarry's future.

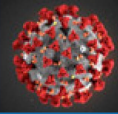
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COVID KAYAKING



Good Distancing on Kevin Mansell's trip around the Channel Islands in 2019. Photo by Kevin Mansell.

Jersey Paddling Club Members Find Creative Ways to Weather the Virus

By David Eden.

With paddlers in many cases unable to leave their homes even to paddle, contributor Kevin Mansell, cut short in an extended paddling vacation, cuddled his brains to come up with a solution to the lost camaraderie of paddling.

Kevin and his wife, Nicky, are undergoing enforced isolation, together with the rest of the population of his home island. He describes their experiences and solutions in a recent email to us:

"Guernsey is in total lockdown and if you are out of your house without one of four very good reasons you can be arrested, fined and in worst case scenario sent to prison. They are adopting a soft approach and currently it seems to be working."

"Nicky and I got back from Malta last Tuesday. We managed to get out on a flight although we had to buy new

tickets. There they introduced a 1000 Euro fine if you were out of the house when you should be inside. So many people ignored the rules that the next day the fine was increased to 3000 Euros. One guy was fined 9000 Euros in a couple of days. He was then threatened with prison so finally he stayed in.

"All our paddling plans have been put on hold. We should still be in Malta, then we were off to Greece with our Canoe Club and then two weeks in France, so that has all gone. We are due to go to Greenland in the middle of July for six weeks but actually can't see that happening. Luckily we have four great launch spots within a mile of our house so as soon as we are allowed some movement we will be on that water.

"I have just been arranging the Jersey Canoe Club activities for the weekend. One night we are had a shelter-in-place bivi. There are two rules: You have to be at your normal place of residence so you can bivi in the lounge, conservatory, balcony ,etc. and you have to post a picture.

"One evening we are having club drinks so you have to get dressed up in some paddling kit and then drink beer and eat crisps whilst having a conference call on Zoom. All good fun."



JPC members demonstrate their "Bivy At Home" solutions. Photos courtesy Kevin and Nicola Mansell.

And later he sent an update: "We had a successful quiz for members with questions sent out on Friday and due back in on the Monday. Again had about 30 people take part. Somebody else is arranging a quiz for this weekend.

"Tonight we are holding the monthly Jersey Canoe Club meeting on Zoom. Won't be much to discuss but its nice to touch base with people and to have some tentative plans for when things start to get better.

"The drinks evenings have been going well. Last Thursday we met wearing paddling kit. PFDs and helmets were the most popular items of kit. 40 minutes of having a chat and a beer. Thursday night is our Club so it was good to do it on the same night. The 40 minutes of free video conferencing on Zoom is perfect as there are no uncomfortable silences waiting for somebody to call time. It just finishes.

"As it looks like we are in for the long run somebody in the Club is looking into arranging an online talk for members about one of the trips that he has been on. All this plus the fact that the Club has used WhatsApp for all communications for the last two years means that we have developed a really strong supportive community."

ACK would love to hear from all our readers about how they are coping with the limitations COVID-19 has put on our paddling and lives in general. Send your stories and pictures, and we will publish them in an upcoming issue.

Paddle safely and keep healthy and sane!



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KAYAKING PEOPLE



Larry MacIntosh on Lowell Lake, Londonderry, Vt. Photo by Mary Stowe.

Larry McIntosh Leads Brattleboro Outing Club Paddle Program

By Tamsin Venn. Photos courtesy of Larry MacIntosh.

Vermont kayakers are lucky to have long-time kayaker Larry McIntosh as a trip director.

McIntosh leads the Brattleboro Outing Club's paddling program, with a lot of experience behind him. He started hosting paddle trips in the late 80's in the tri-state Brattleboro area (Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts), when he managed a local outdoor store, Wildwater Outfitters. It was a way to get the public into kayaks, since that's some of what he sold. It worked! He even brought stock up to the original LL Bean Sea Kayak Symposia in Castine, Maine, four years in a row so he could paddle saltwater. That's when he got hooked on the Maine

coast. He did a week-long solo trip out of Castine around Deer Isle and Isle Au Haut after one of the symposia. He has been a Maine summer person ever since, mostly on Vinalhaven and Down East.



Larry relaxing after a hard day relaxing on Lowell Lake, Londonderry, Vt. Photo by Mary Stowe.

McIntosh went off to the Peace Corps in 1995, to Namibia, to teach English, math and science in a little village school. It was one of the best jobs he ever had, he notes, on par with being a year-round ranger in Yellowstone, for four years. When he came back in 1998, he went back to school, to get certified and licensed to teach ESL in Vermont and New Hampshire schools.

While in Africa, he had two friends carry on the Wildwater Outfitters paddle trips. When he got back, he presented paddle plans to the Brattleboro Outing Club, and the club took on the program in addition to tennis, XC skiing, and rowing as part of its mission. McIntosh also became a board member.



Just 85 and still loading his double by himself! Photo courtesy Larry McIntosh.

"The idea was to have a program that was free, open to the public, and didn't cost the BOC anything," he says. So he started a consignment sale/swap of various watercraft. It does between \$2,500-\$4,000 of sales annually

which gives him between \$250-\$400 a year to run the program. So far, the paddle program has always put money back into the club and no membership fee is charged, unlike other BOC programs.

"Paddling is free, as it should be," he says.

It is the 21st year of the Paddling Program and 20th year for the Sale/Swap, he adds happily.



L: Larry, out on the ocean, is steersman in his big Necky double. Photo by Irene Ellis. R: Paddling companion caught this regal bald eagle on a BOC trip.

McIntosh is also an avid racer. He has done three Blackburn Challenges (the 20-plus-mile open-ocean race around Cape Ann, Mass.), ten Adirondack 90-Milers (the classic three-day event in September), and tons of other races. "It's been a blast," he says. He has also started races which are still running today: in 1980 the Yellowstone Park to Paradise-Run/Bike/Paddle, an annual May event in Wyoming and the Nashua River Spring Run-Off on Earth Day in the 1970s, from Harvard to Groton, Mass.

"At 85, I look back on my past, and realize how blessed I've been. The 'good old days' are still with me, just in a different form," he says.

"If I survive this latest virus outbreak, I'll be amazed, and blessed again," he adds.

MacIntosh feels so fortunate to still have children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren living in places he loves to visit, hike, and paddle: Vermont of course, as well as Colorado, Montana, South Dakota, Washington, Wyoming, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine.



Some local talent checking out the gear during a rest stop on a BOC trip.

His favorite paddle places are the Boundary Waters, Northern Forest Canoe Trail, and the Maine coast - the Maine Island Trail, Vinalhaven/Northhaven, islands off Stonington, Blue Hill Bay, Frenchman Bay, the waters around Great Wass Island, Machias Bay, and Cobscook Bay. His local Vermont favorite is Somerset Reservoir, on a weekday. He had two trips planned there this summer.

Due to Covid19, all BOC programming has been cancelled until further notice. The schedule would have included 14 trips, April 25 to Oct. 7, including an overnight trip on the Connecticut River. The BOC consignment "Sale and Swap" of canoes, kayaks, rowing shells, SUPs, is also on hold.



Larry and his Necky double rest surrounded by happy paddlers on a BOC trip.

In the past BOC members have paddled the Thimble Islands (Long Island Sound) as well as Plum Island in Massachusetts and in Maine - Brave Boat Harbor, Cape Porpoise, Muscongus Bay, Vinalhaven, and Frenchman Bay.

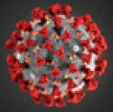
Meanwhile, like many seeking social distancing outdoor pursuits, he plans to spend mid July to September out on Maine saltwater, one of his favorite places to paddle.

For more information, visit BrattleboroOutingClub.org

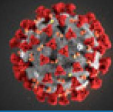
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COVID KAYAKING



Bad Distancing on a trip down the Weeki Wachee River in Florida. Photo by Tamsin Venn.

Covid Kayaking

By Tamsin Venn

Sea kayaking and social distancing work well. Use your seven-foot paddle to measure distance, take it with you everywhere, and no rafting up, except under extreme duress. With fortitude and hope to keep our hearts and souls intact, we paddle onward.

But the seascape has definitely changed, and as we all know, can change swiftly.

We talked to a few kayak leaders about how they see Covid-19 will affect on-water recreation this spring.



David and Peter Jones of Driftwood Kayaks are well-separated on this MITA island rest stop, as is Peter's white kayak. David's and Tammy's boats are too close together if they didn't belong to a married couple. Photo by Tamsin Venn.

Covid is definitely on the radar of the Maine Island Trail Assn. (MITA).

"In most cases I believe the island use guidelines (# visitors, etc.) will remain in effect and people will then be on their own to practice social distancing. And that of course assumes there are no Stay At Home orders in effect," says Doug Welch, MITA's executive director via email.

"We haven't heard from any island owners yet, but we're planning to reach out to them if the situation does not improve," says Brian Marcaurrelle, MITA's Program Director. "Particularly those with infrastructure on their islands (cabins, platforms, docks, etc) since they are the most likely to have concerns.

"We're also considering ways to maintain a strong stewardship presence this season while keeping volunteers, staff, and island users safe. It's strange to be having conversations about island logbooks and pens in the context of disease vectors.

"The paper guidebook went to print just before things got crazy, but the mobile app gives us the ability to provide updates to island guidelines instantaneously. More so than in years past, we'll be encouraging folks to consult the MITA app for the most up-to-date info," he says.

Meanwhile to help provide "some measure of joy and distraction" until MITA members can come together again, MITA has launched a platform for virtual events called All in the Same Boat. For the first edition it teamed up with Zack Anchors of Portland Paddle for a presentation on essential kayak gear. Go to mita.org



Getting help launching your boat, as Larry MacIntosh does here, should be safe. Photo courtesy Larry MacIntosh.

Larry McIntosh, who leads the Brattleboro Outing Club paddle program in Vermont (see related story), says it will remain closed until further notice. BOC typically runs more than a dozen paddle trips April to October for its members. The BOC Board will use the latest information from the Vermont Dept. of Health and the governor's directives to determine when facilities can reopen. Governor Phil Scott has issued a "stay home, stay safe" order.

McIntosh is sending emails to the Vermont Department of Health and governor, suggesting more details, and asking for exemptions for such "exercising" as paddling which he feels can be done within the CDC limits.

"Paddling is good for both body and soul, and done right, can still keep folks safe and well," McIntosh says.



Group tours of strangers or casual friends, like this one through the Everglades mangrove forest, are increasingly not offered by responsible tour operators. Photo courtesy of Everglades Area Tours.

Paddling.com has a good infographic on social distancing paddling. It advises: Keep the group small, maintain six feet at all times, only touch your own gear. If you grab a stern toggle to help take a boat to the water, grab the same toggle next time. Paddle six feet away from each other. Avoid sharing food/water. File a float plan. Post your trip to entertain other paddlers.

Everglades Area Tours, Fla., has made all tours private. Bring just your family and it will provide your own guide and no other guests. The outfitter sanitizes boats and gear before each tour, hand sanitizers and washing stations available to all.

"No decisions about the 2020 Sojourn, currently scheduled for June 20-26 (with a volunteer cleanup on June 19), have been made to date, but we are going to delay opening registration until May 1," says Kate Schmidt, Communications Specialist for the Delaware River Sojourn. "We will be making our decision based on the most up to date information and recommendations by health officials. As we always say, it's the people who make the Sojourn, and while we do not want to change our plans, we will do what is needed for everyone's health and safety," she says.

Donna Lind, race organizer for the annual Essex River Race in May and the Blackburn Challenge mid-July off Cape Ann, Mass. says, "We tentatively set the date for the Essex River Race to be Oct 3. I think if this goes on and on, we would cancel the Blackburn Challenge. We meet again in a week to discuss. Maybe we would throw out the ERR but October isn't always a good month for open ocean." Lind will send email updates from a list of former participants.



Distancing is easy on this Adirondack river trip, but the locks are a real problem. Photos by David Eden.

The Northern Forest Canoe Trail has taken precautions and sends this message to thru-paddlers: Everyone must follow any and all state-issued mandates for travel. Currently, all states on the NFCT except for Maine have issued "stay at home" orders. Under these guidelines, all paddlers should stay close to home, wherever that is. We recommend holding off on travel plans until it is safe to do so. Until this guidance changes, we cannot recommend thru-paddle attempts.

It also echoes what other outdoor programs have said, that now is not the time to take unnecessary risks while engaging in outdoor activities, since the health care system is already under enormous stress.

In Massachusetts, Trustees of Reservations has closed all properties making landing prohibited at its seaside properties like Crane Beach at Castle Hill and World's End, Mass.

RICKA (Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak) has posted this message to its members: "Until further notice, RICKA will not be posting any show and go trips on the message boards. Any bootleg paddles/hikes/activities posted on the board will be removed. Outdoor activity is crucial to a healthy lifestyle, but now is not the time to participate in large group activities. Please take all suggested precautions and hopefully this crisis will be over and we'll be back together soon."

As of press time, RICKA was still planning its annual Adirondacks week-long trip in August.



Although technically a family, this group included members from both sides of the country. It would be inadvisable for them to paddle together now. Photo by David Eden.

Tampa Bay Sea Kayakers in Florida posted this: "The TBSK Board has decided that at this time, in order to abide by the government health recommendations, it is best to shut down official TBSK Paddles for now - those advertised on our web site and with TBSK trip leaders. We will keep a close watch on the situation, and as soon as we can, we will resume operations that are deemed appropriate. Trying to get a grip on this corona virus is tricky and trying to figure out the best policy for TBSK is just as difficult. Each day seems to bring a new government regulation and another beach or park closing. To get the virus under control we have responsibilities as individuals and as a paddling club."

Some overrun National Parks are closing by request of their local communities. Acadia National Park in Bar Harbor, Maine, said March 25 it was indefinitely shutting down public access because of the coronavirus outbreak. That includes all park roads. Park officials echoed what many rural communities and summer retreats have stated, "Continuing to keep park facilities open is encouraging visitors from outside local communities; this is placing local residents, health care workers and first responders at risk," said park Superintendent Kevin Schneider.

Meanwhile, in an effort so slow the spread of Covid-19, the Appalachian Mountain Club has temporarily closed all lodging and foodservice facilities and suspending all in-person staff and volunteer-lead programs. Good-bye for now to Knubble Bay, Maine.

The ocean beach at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Mass., had plans to close all public access beginning April 1 to provide undisturbed nesting habitat for the piping plover, listed as a threatened species under federal guidelines. It usually entirely reopens by mid to late August.

[Annapolis Canoe and Kayak](#) in Maryland has closed its store for as long as Maryland's restrictions for non-essential businesses remain in effect. That is also the case for many kayak stores. Some are making gear sales available other ways. Newbury Kayak and Canoe, Newbury, Mass., is encouraging customers to check out its online store, call and it will take the order over the phone and arrange a curbside pickup or a no-contact delivery. Someone will answer the phone a few days a week. Newburykayak.com

For larger outdoor retailers, REI has temporarily closed its stores, online store still open, and is offering free shipping. Patagonia has temporarily shut down all operations, including website orders. Its food business is still open, however, selling responsibly-sourced, shelf-stable, and nutritious foods.



Good separation on a recent H2Outfitters trip to the Saguenay Fjord, Quebec. Photo courtesy of H2Outfitters.

At [H2Outfitters](#) in Maine, owners Jeff Cooper and Cathy Piffath are working on safe strategies. Right now, Piffath, who serves as Captain of their local volunteer Fire/Rescue Department, is directing energies there.

For sea kayaking, "As far as social distancing goes we see it more as a physical distancing," says Piffath. "There certainly seems to be plenty of socializing going on these days! We have had a couple of staff meetings already and while the on-water aspect of sea kayaking lends itself well to maintaining some private space, the preparation and physical outfitting for clients presents an entirely different set of challenges.

"Right now we are looking at ways to instruct and guide people to simply get in their boats and make the appropriate adjustments without one of our staff members sticking their head into a cockpit - this both for the safety of the client as well as staff. The other challenge is the cleaning and sterilization of wetsuits, sprayskirts, paddles, PFDs - this could go on ad infinitum. It gets crazy to be running around with Chlorox wipes and hand sanitizer. We are wondering how salt water affects viruses, which would without a doubt, ease some of these pressures on the outfitter," she says.

H2O is looking ahead. "We have several family trips already booked as well as some private group trips, however, the latter presents some unknowns especially if this outbreak continues into June and July. So to answer your question, we are in a state of flux and quite honestly do not have any concrete solutions to the situation I have described. It cramps our style, puts a bit of a damper on the 'Fun' factor, however, we are putting our trust in our Director of Fun to keep everyone smiling, we hope, on the water!," says Piffath.



This paddler has carried social distancing to the extreme. Photo by Olive Sauder.

Wilderness Systems recommends embarking only on a solo or family paddle trip and to:

- Abide by all instructions, regulations, and restrictions from international, national, and local authorities.
- Keep travel distances short.
- Keep your distance (6 feet) from others on and off the water.
- Avoid crowds and take turns at put-ins and take-outs.
- Plan your route appropriately and be mindful of conditions, weather, etc.
- Bring and wear the appropriate safety gear and clothing.
- Bring a charged cell phone or communication device.
- Inform someone where you're going and when you plan to return.
- Upon returning make sure to clean gear, clothes, and yourselves.

It also has a useful [graphic](#) on social distancing.

Ultimately, as NFCT says, "Getting outside and active, even for short periods, is good for your mental and physical health."

Let's go paddling. Safely.

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Places



The Connecticut Coast. Map by David Eden.

Connecticut: On The Inland Sea and Fishers Island Sound Paddle

By Tamsin Venn. Photos by Steve North.

Although the Connecticut Coast is densely populated, the sea kayaker has the great advantage of being able to launch car-top boats in Long Island Sound without the high fees charged for putting power boats or sailboats in the water. Other benefits include no need to get tied up in boat traffic while waiting for bridge openings and no reservations required months or years in advance for moorings.

The kayaker also has the benefit of the sheer variety of paddling. Along the 250 miles of Connecticut Coast, every kind of water is available: from sound to bay; river to cove; salt marsh to creek - from fully exposed water to winding passageways you could lose yourself in. The main interaction is with Long Island Sound, which is generally protected because the arm of Long Island acts as a buffer to the Atlantic. An east or west wind, however, can bring up some strong currents and sizable waves.



From sheltered coves to relatively exposed offshore islands, Connecticut offers a plethora of paddling venues.

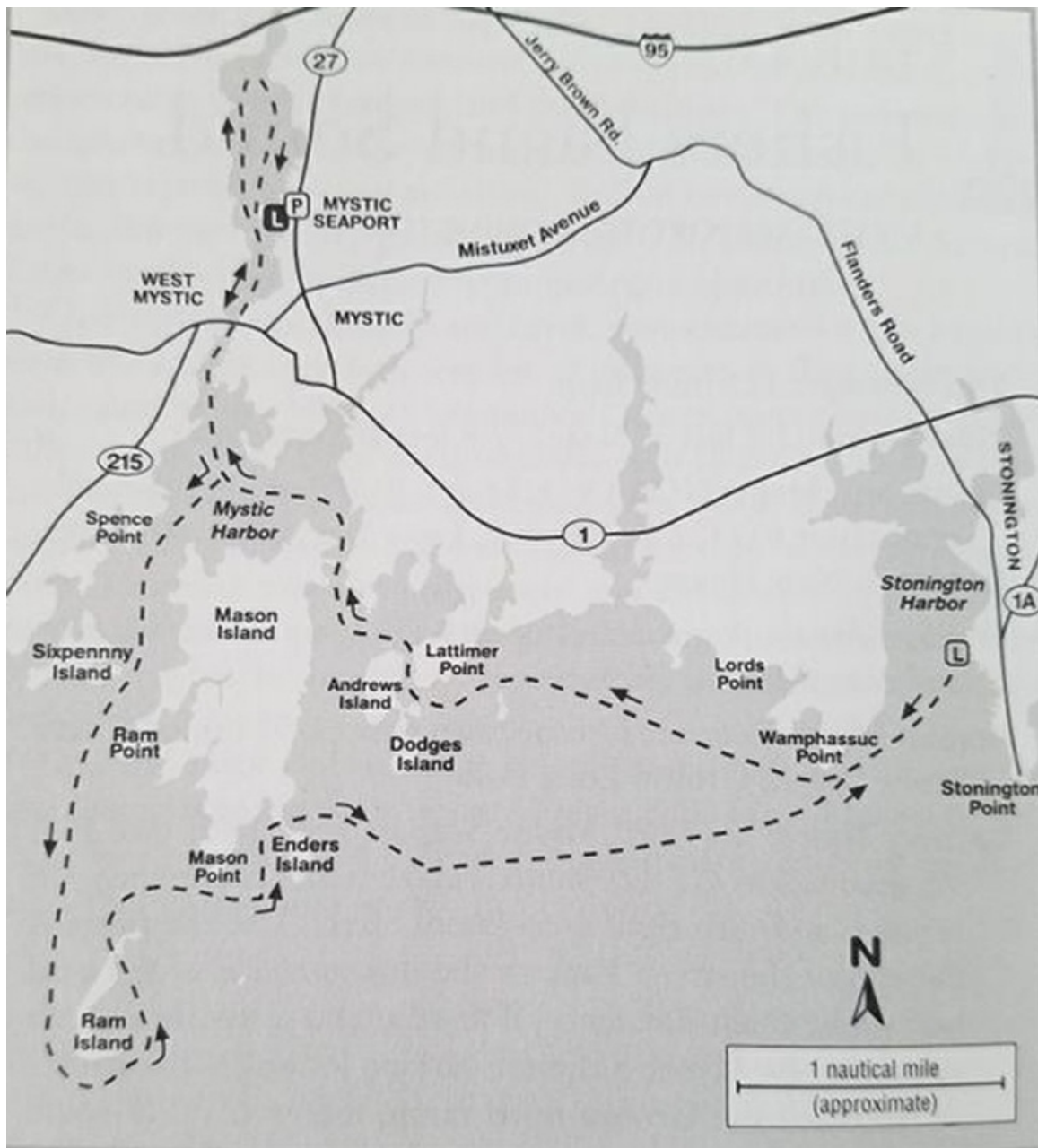
The shoreline offers quiet refuges wedged between industrial activity. Smaller towns like Stonington, Mystic, Clinton, and Guilford with white colonial homes and one-way streets lie between the commercial sprawls of Stamford, New Haven, and New London. Shoreline is the only visual access to some of Connecticut's more exclusive neighborhoods, if you're interested in a coastal real estate jaunt. It is pleasant to use the many white church steeples as onshore navigation aids.

Many houses, beaches, marinas, fish piers, jetties, lighthouses, power plants, and harbors all blend together in a dynamic mix of past and present, tourism and commerce, primary residences and weekend homes. Nuclear submarines motor into Groton. Lobster boats and dragger fleets work away. The last commercial fishing fleet in the state operates out of Stonington and has an annual blessing of the fleet in July. Antique boats sail in and out of Mystic. All are reminders of the strong historic maritime economy from the days when New London, Mystic, and Stonington were major whaling ports.



Paddling on Long Island Sound can offer many surprises, none more astounding than the sudden appearance of a nuclear sub in your path.

Generally, the farther east you go, the less crowded the shoreline becomes until you arrive at the beautiful Barn Island marshlands at the end of Fishers Island Sound. Many local Connecticut sea kayakers tend to paddle east instead of west. Off-season trips before Memorial Day and after Labor Day are highly recommended to beat the confusion of wakes produced by motorboats and the traffic crush, which some paddlers say is worse than the Connecticut Turnpike.



Fishers Island Sound

Fishers Island Sound Paddle

Mystic Seaport to Stonington

Charts and Maps: NOAA # 13214 at 1:20,000 or NOAA Small Craft Chart #12372 at 1:40,000, Long Island Sound, Watch Hill to New Haven

Trip Mileage: 12.5 miles

Access and Directions:

Mystic Seaport: From I-95, take exit 90, then follow CT 127 (Greenmanville Rd.) south. Pass the Seaport entrance. Just past the entrance, turn right on Isham Street. Use the ramp at the end of the street. Parking is limited. If there are no spaces, it may be possible to park in the Seaport parking lot across the street.

Groton Town Ramp: Follow CT 127 south past the Seaport, turn right on Willow Street, then right on East Main Street, which turns into West Main Street across the drawbridge. Turn left on Water Street just across the bridge. Bear left at Captain Daniel Packer Inne restaurant. The town boat ramp is on the left. On street parking only.

I-95 Bridge: Put-in is under the bridge on the river's west side. From West Main Street, turn right onto Pearl Street, left onto Grove, which turns into River Road. Parking area is on the right just north of the I-95 overpass. Parking for eight cars.

Esker Point Beach, Groton Long Point: Follow CT 215 (Groton Long Point Road) south of Mystic; at junction

with Marsh Road. Rest rooms, snack concession in season, picnic area with hibachis and picnic tables. Free parking.

Camping: No established site

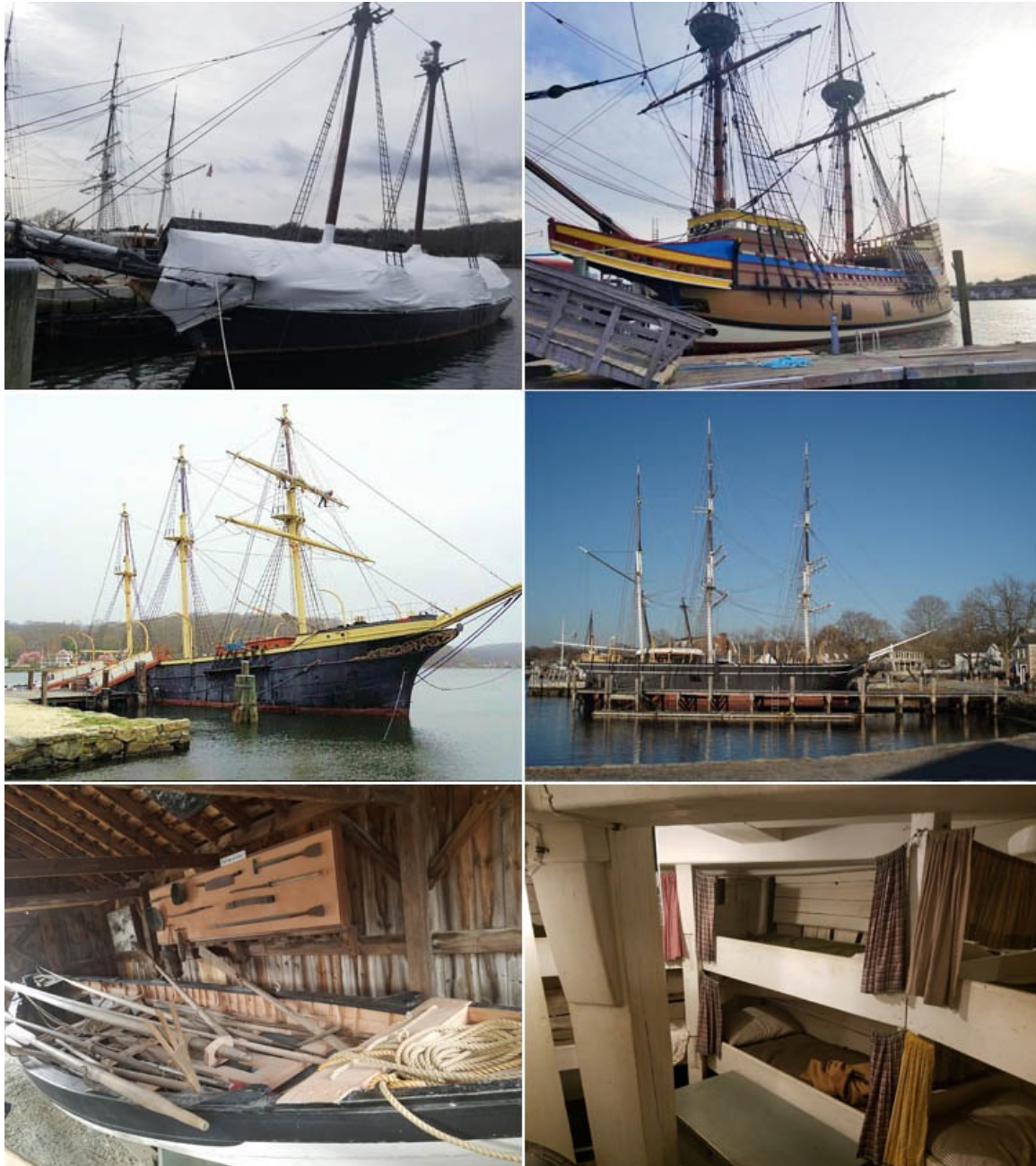
Tidal Range: 2.3 feet at Noank; 2.8 feet at Stonington

Caution Areas: A great deal of motorboat traffic travels in and out of Mystic Harbor.

Resources: [Connecticut Coastal Access Guide](#). Click on Cartop Boat Launch.

This trip takes you out past the inviting rocky islands in Fishers Island Sound to scenic Stonington Harbor. The trip's highlight is paddling by the historic boats of Mystic Seaport, a replica of a nineteenth-century waterfront community and the largest maritime museum in the country.

Start at Mystic Seaport and paddle north under the bows and sterns of more than 13 historic vessels, including the whaler *Charles W. Morgan* and the training windjammer *Joseph Conrad*. Then paddle down the Mystic River toward Fishers Island Sound, a distance of about three miles.



In the off season, you may see ships wintering at Mystic Seaport, or under repair. Top L: Reproduction of the slaver Amistad stored for the season. Top R: Mayflower II under repairs for the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrim's arrival in the New World. Center Left: The training vessel Joseph Conrad, a typical windjammer. Center R: Charles W. Morgan whaleship, a regular exhibit. Bot L: A whaleboat and display of flensing tools. Bot R: The Morgan's fo'cs'le or crew quarters. Photos by David Eden.

Paddle under the Mystic River's famous bascule drawbridge, which raises from May 1st to October 31st at 40 minutes past the hour from 7:40 a.m. to 6:40 p.m., otherwise on demand. Then paddle under the railroad bridge.

You will hear Amtrak roaring by. Pass several marinas and slips, waterside condos, and restaurants. Stay to the right (west) of Mason Island, the end marked by a sandspit. To the right, is the Mystic Shipyard with hundreds of vessels and just beyond marked by a white church steeple, is Noank. The town's great distinction during the 1880s was being home to the largest fisheries business in Connecticut. Also, Abbotts in Noank is the biggest lobster pound in southern New England, take out window currently open. At the south tip is the deactivated Morgan Point Light, a private summer home renovated in 1991, including a new lantern room fashioned by the U.S. Lighthouse Service. The granite structure, resembling more a house than a tower, is similar to those found in Greenwich and Norwalk.



L: The famous [bascule bridge](#)¹. R: Abbott's Lobster in the Raw.

Paddle past the beach at Ram Point, a nature preserve - look for oyster catchers. Then head straight out to privately owned 16-acre Ram Island, once site of an exclusive Victorian era hotel where steamships from Boston and New York City dropped passengers twice a day. Fires in 2013 and 2014 destroyed the barn and home that was there. Your view is dominated by the long hulk of eight-mile-long Fishers Island to the south and the brown-striped lighthouse on Latimer Reef to the east. Built in 1884, the cylindrical spark-plug-shaped lighthouse marks Fishers Island Sound. While there may be wild conditions nearby at The Race just off the west end of Fishers Island, within Fishers Island Sound conditions can be benign. Strong southeast winds can make the going a little rough, however, as you struggle to avoid taking the waves straight on a beam. Use the peninsulas and points for wind lees in such conditions.

Paddle past 11-acre Enders Island with its rock-reinforced point. A few Edmunites, a Roman Catholic order of brothers and priests, live on the island and welcome those seeking spiritual sabbaticals. It is also home to the St. Michael Institute of Sacred Art and offers master classes in stained glass and sacred music, and other workshops. You can paddle under the stone causeway to the east side of Mason Island. In winter, you may spot seals on Cormorant Reef, just south of Dodges Island. Steer a course toward the Red Reef green buoy and enter Stonington Harbor between the jetty and Wamphassuc Point. Stonington is one of the prettiest coastal villages in Connecticut, well preserved from its days as a major shipbuilding and whaling center during the nineteenth century. Stonington Point is the site of the state's first lighthouse, and the large town dock is originally built for steamboats from New York that connected with the Stonington and Providence railroad. Park your kayak and head into town to one of the seafood restaurants or to the Old Lighthouse Museum.

To return, pass back through the jetty entrance and head for bald and rocky Lyddy Island. Paddle to the south of Lyddy, avoiding rocks, and between Andrews Island and Latimer Point, a passable route even with all the rocks marked on the chart. Paddle under the bridge joining the north of Mason Island to the mainland. Just to the right of the bridge, see if the osprey nest is still active. Bear left (west) back into the Mystic River.

In February, you will have the sound to yourself except for the presence of a few fishing trawlers and lobster boats. In mid-May you will also have the sound to yourself but be acutely aware that the literally thousands of berthed boats will soon be set free. In summer you probably won't be able to hear yourself talk over the roar of motorboats.

An alternative trip, for beginning kayakers as well as youngsters, is to go down the Mystic River, and circumnavigate Mason Island, a total distance of seven miles.

At Mystic Seaport, collections of old buildings and sheds, boats and artifacts, and a working shipyard are included in the 19-acre complex of more than sixty buildings including the new Thompson Exhibition Building, host to a recent show of J.M.W. Turner's fabulous marine watercolors. The museum is currently closed due to Covid-19 but you can take a walk through the [Watercraft Hall here](#) (and other parts of the museum).

The North Boat Shed exhibits the small-craft collection, including several catboat models, well worth a look. Also, the museum keeps up to date with modern maritime activities with a dinghy sailing fleet for classes of old and young alike, a rental fleet of traditional sailing and rowing wooden craft, a dock full of sculls, and in general welcoming kayakers. Note that it is nearly impossible both to see the Seaport museum and accomplish a day's paddle. Check out [Mystic Seaport's website](#).

Downtown Mystic a good apres-paddle spot is still The Captain Daniel Packer Inne (which currently has curbside pickup), an old tavern on Water Street in West Mystic with fires burning in cold weather. Mystic Pizza was the subject of a movie starring Julia Roberts.



Race Light on the haunted Race Rocks is on the far southern edge of Fishers Island Sound.

Other Options Another good access spot to Fishers Island Sound farther east is Barn Island Management Area on Little Narragansett Bay, not far from Watch Hill, Rhode Island. Barn Island is the only major boat ramp in the area that is protected and that gives you access both to Block Island Sound and to Fishers Island Sound. Sandy Point Island and Napatree Beach help provide the buffer zone.

Barn Island is an 800-acre state wildlife preserve with lots of tidal marsh, great bird watching, clear saltwater, and good swimming and exploring. Many paddlers make a day trip out of paddling from Barn Island to Stonington, Mystic, and Groton on the Thames River; one Connecticut paddling group often puts in here during a full moon and paddles up to the Stonington for dinner and back.

The free, state-owned public launch attracts many motorboats. In the past, on a summer weekend, cars were parked for at least a mile up the road, and early morning arrival is necessary. You may be able to grab a parking place from a departing fisherman. The bay channel has extremely heavy motorboat use during summer, particularly waterskiing boats. Always choose the shortest crossing possible. The best plan is to visit in spring and fall.

To reach the launch ramp from U.S. 1, turn off at Greenhaven Road, then within 50 feet onto Palmer Neck Road, and take it all the way to the end following signs to Barn Island.

[Go back](#): A bascule bridge is a moveable bridge with a counterweight that continuously balances a span, or "leaf", throughout its upward swing to provide clearance for boat traffic. It may be single- or double-leafed. The name comes from the French term for balance scale, which employs the same principle.



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Flip That Kayak!



BETSIE BAY VALKERIE - Boat is Inuit style, 17 feet long and 20 1/2 inches beam. It is fast with a medium weight paddler, and very controllable in challenging conditions. Comes with cockpit cover, spray skirt and Betsie Bay very light weight Greenland-style carbon fiber reinforced paddle and other accessories. Always stored indoors. Boat and paddle are in excellent condition. Boat is currently in eastern Florida, but could be brought to Ohio or eastern Penn. in mid-April for a sure sale. \$1000. Contact Jim at jbedford46@gmail.com. (6)

WANTED TO BUY - One used L.L. Bean Calypso kayak , Eddyline Skylark kayak, or similar used recreational kayak in the 12-foot range. Must be near Rhode Island for my pick-up. Mike Rubin, Pawtucket, R.I. mike.rubin54@gmail.com (6)



EPIC V10 SPORT SURFSKI - Excellent condition - Performance layup. <https://www.epickayaks.com/v10-sport> \$1,950 Custom padded insulated cover cover available - \$200 (cost new \$350). Pictures available. Email to nelowk2@gmail.com (please put Epic in the subject line).

NECKY AMARUK TANDEM DOUBLE KAYAK - Excellent condition - polyethylene construction. Great for all conditions and types of water - ocean or fresh. Very stable and suitable for all levels of paddlers. 18' X 29". Over stern rudder. We have completed the Blackburn Challenge, Essex River Race, and been out to the Isle of Shoals and back in an Amaruk. Pictures available. \$950 Email to nelowk2@gmail.com (please put Amaruk in the subject line). (6)

PRIJON SEAYAK - with rudder; 16 ft, very good condition; best offer. Paul Foster-Moore, Florence, Mass. pfostermo@gmail.com. (6)

QCC 600X: 16'8"x 21", 43 lbs. in kevlar, rope skeg, narrow but not twitchy and fast, good for a woman or slender man to 6'3". Foot pegs adjust while sitting. Second hatch cover with compass. Light blue and maroon over white. Bought new in 2008, used about 30 weeks over nine years. Stored inside. Plus professionally-made Greenland paddles, helmet, NRS titanium wet-suit, NRS eVent dry top (gaskets replaced last year), Immersion Research spray skirt, Aleutian deck bag, Kokatat Poseidon PFD with customizable pockets, custom canvas cover, and more. \$2,000 OBO. vhme.137@gmail.com. (6)

2015 NDK ROMANY CLASSIC: Wire skeg, underdeck pump holder, Valley day hatch cover. Blue over white. \$2,915. Contact Jesse 864-884-4957 or jhtjr51@gmail.com. (6)

BETSIE BAY RECLUSE: Greenland-Style. 2007-original owner; 19' long and 20 1/2" wide; weight 32 lbs. For paddler 175 lbs. & greater; spray skirt, cockpit cover, Tuktu Greenland Paddle, Brooks Tuilik (large), and other accessories; Excellent Condition (stored indoors/only fresh water use); \$2750 (\$4500 value); Photos available on request; Contact Charlie ccummins55@gmail.com or 518-234-9235 in Albany, NY area; Meet half way possible. (6)

NDK EXPLORER: Navy over White 2002. 17' 6" Overall Length. 21" Beam. 10" cargo hatches and 8" day hatch. Fiberglass, drop down skeg, deck lines, deck compass. Custom foam seat, or original seat can be reattached. Cockpit cover and spray skirt. Stored in garage, usual scratches from use, two small punctures fixed with fiberglass patches. Still very seaworthy craft. Located in Sloatsburg, NY. Asking \$1000. More pictures available. Contact Greg Sullivan at gregsullivan1@mac.com (6)

KOKATAT DRY SUIT: Men's XL Front Entry Gore-Tex with relief zipper and integrated socks. Cobalt/mango. Excellent condition, used 4x's. \$500. Located in Springfield NH. Contact Linda 603-763-4824 or 4LindaHowes@gmail.com (6)

CONN KAYAK INSTRUCTION 20-YR BUSINESS for sale. Principals only to michele@kayak-Adventure.net