

# Dusey River Adventures

## Trip Planning & Gear Recommendations

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### PLANNING!

We put this checklist together to help assist groups in planning/packing for their trips with Dusey River Adventures. You may find that you need more or less than what is outlined here. The absolute best advice we can offer up is to get your group together for a pre-trip planning session to hash out the details. There are several ways to optimize your gear and discovery comes with conversation & planning. You are going to be in a remote wilderness area and self-sufficiency comes into play every day.

### PACKING IT IN (AND OUT)

Soft sided packs or duffles are recommended, rather than traditional luggage. The exception is packing expensive camera gear – where a hard-sided (pelican type) case is always a good idea.

There is a limit of 80 lbs of gear per person, when using Nakina Air. Excess weight/gear may result in additional transportation charges and/or gear may need to be left at the vehicle. Make those tough choices about gear at home, before your fly in trip.

Remember that you will be in bear country, so food and trash will need to be stored accordingly. Also remember that all waste/food packaging material will need to be flown out at the end of your stay.

### CLOTHING

Select clothing appropriate for the season. You are in the far north, so bear in mind that even mid-summer temps can be relatively cool. Layering is always a good strategy. Items that dry quickly are always a good choice. With fly in trips, packability should also be a consideration. Down is lightweight and packable, you just need to have a strategy to keep it dry. Wool keeps its insulating value when wet, but is heavier and bulkier.

### FOOTWEAR

Waterproof boots (knee high) are a great choice, as you'll be frequently getting in and out of boats and even the float plane, upon arrival. Crocs or water shoes are another lightweight, comfortable and pack friendly option.

### FOOD

One of the most common things we see, with regard to over packing, is excess food. This can be prevented with good group planning, including daily meal plans. Weight can be reduced by bringing dehydrated or freeze dried meals. Modern day grocery isles are full of easy prep, conveniently packaged items like vacuum sealed tuna, dehydrated potatoes, stuffing, etc. Hopefully you'll be enjoying fresh fish each day but have some reserve rations to fend off hunger if a day's weather prevents you from fishing.

**Canadian Law - Alcohol is prohibited in boats!** Penalties are stiff! Arrest, driver's license confiscated, fines, lifetime criminal record.

Duty free maximum alcohol volumes:

- 40 ounces of liquor
- 24 - 12 ounce cans of beer
- 1.5 liters of wine

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### BORDER CROSSING TIPS FOR OUR US CUSTOMERS

Please remember that you are entering a foreign country. Have your passport ready for each passenger in your vehicle---you will be asked for them. Remove sunglasses and hats so the Canadian customs official can easily identify everyone. Please have a signed permission paper from your spouse for any children less than 18 years of age. Be polite and respectful to the border customs agent and they will likewise treat you well.

### CONSUMABLES – DUTY FREE LIMITS WHEN ENTERING CANADA (per person)

- One case of beer (24-twelve ounce cans or bottles)
- 40 ounces of hard liquor
- One carton of cigarettes
- A 4 day supply of food

### PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Potatoes and other whole root vegetables
- Mace/Pepper Spray
- Fireworks
- Firewood
- Any live bait or dead smelt
- Handguns/Handgun Ammunition

### DWI/DUI AND OTHER LEGAL ISSUES

Canadian Customs and Immigration have instant computer access to your legal history from the US. They will deny entry to anyone convicted of a DWI or felony in the US. Please contact Canadian Immigrations well ahead of your planned trip to ask about a possible waiver by making application and paying a large bond.

### LAST MINUTE SUPPLIES

There is a grocery store in Geraldton, which is going to be your last – best bet – for supplies. Again, it is a good practice to plan ahead and pack everything you will need at home.

### CURRENCY EXCHANGE

Currency exchange rate is ever changing. We suggest you review prior to your trip and plan accordingly. At the time of this writing, you can make a currency exchange before crossing into Canada at Rydens Border Store in Grand Portage, MN:

Rydans Border Store  
9301 Ryden Rd.  
Grand Portage, MN 55605  
218-475-2230

As for Credit/Debit Cards – it is highly advisable that you notify the card issuer prior to your travels, informing them that you are traveling to Canada, or they may take measures to prevent use once they see international transactions posting to your account (card issuer consumer protection efforts).

#### FISHING GEAR

Fishing rods that break down would be best. Rod tubes or DIY PVC tubes are a good idea, to protect your rods. A three piece rod should fit inside a large duffle, providing additional protection during transport.

#### HUNTING GEAR

Big game hunters should discuss meat care with Dick prior to your hunt. Special care needs to be taken to ensure harvested game does not spoil. Moose will need to be quartered in the field and brought back to the outpost, where you will need to safely store the meat until your scheduled fly out.

Grouse hunters who wish to travel into Canada with canine companions should inquire with Canadian customs prior to your visit, to find out what vaccinations are required for your dog(s). Also, make sure to bring proof that all of the required vaccinations are current.

Groups that intend to hunt should disclose planned activities, firearms & ammunition at border checkpoints (going both into and out of Canada). Hunters need to register their hunting firearms with the Canadian government ahead of their arrival. Bring a completed Canada Firearms Declaration Form with you. Do not sign the Firearms Declaration Form in advance. Present the form to officials and wait until a Canadian Customs Agent instructs you to sign it.

Big game hunters who use our fly in outposts are granted additional cargo weight for the float plane.

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## Gear Checklist (Recommendations)

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### **Per Group:**

- First aid kit
- Emergency contacts for each traveler
- Medical conditions details for each traveler (if any)

### **Per Person Essentials:**

- Passport & Photo ID
- Parental consent in writing for non-accompanied minor child\*
- Personal hygiene kit
- Prescription medications (must be in original bottles)
- Bug repellent
- Sunscreen
- Prescription glasses/sunglasses

\* All minor children traveling from the US into Canada without legal parent/guardian are required to have documentation clearly identifying the legal guardians of the minor, and include relevant contact information for one of both parents/guardians (cell phone included).

### **Per Person Clothing:**

- Convertible pants
- Short sleeve T's
- Swimming gear (summer season)
- Fleece top layer
- Insulated top layer
- Thermal base layer - top
- Thermal base layer - bottom
- Several pairs of socks – thermal in shoulder seasons
- Stocking hat (especially in shoulder seasons)
- Cap with visor
- Quick drying gloves
- Quality rain gear (tops & bottoms recommended)\*
- Footwear – Rubber boots & crocs/sneakers\*
- Bug head net

\*Chest waders offer an alternative to rain pants & rubber boots

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### **Fishing Gear:**

- 3 Piece Rod (3 rods per two guests provides adequate spares)
- 8 to 12 lb test
- Steel leaders
- Species specific lures (varied by guest for minimal yet flexible assortment)
- Landing Net
- Multi-tool
- Snippers
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### **Hunting Gear:**

- Firearms w/cases\*
- Ammunition in locked, watertight case
- (Non-residents) Firearms Declaration Forms\*\*
- Additional cold weather clothing
- GPS/Compass or wilderness navigation
- Big game field prep tools (quartering/wrapping moose, etc)
- Moose & black bear hunters must wear solid blaze orange with coverage of at least 400 square inches or solid blaze orange above the waist.
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\*Note that handguns are not allowed in Canada. Do not bring any hand guns with you!

\*\*Do not sign the Firearms Declaration Form until the Canadian Customs Agent instructs you to do so.