



Ritt Kellogg Memorial Fund Registration

Registration No. 66SR-TM69Z

Submitted Jan 11, 2017 11:57pm by Peter Lehman

Registration

Aug 29, 2016-
Aug 27, 2017

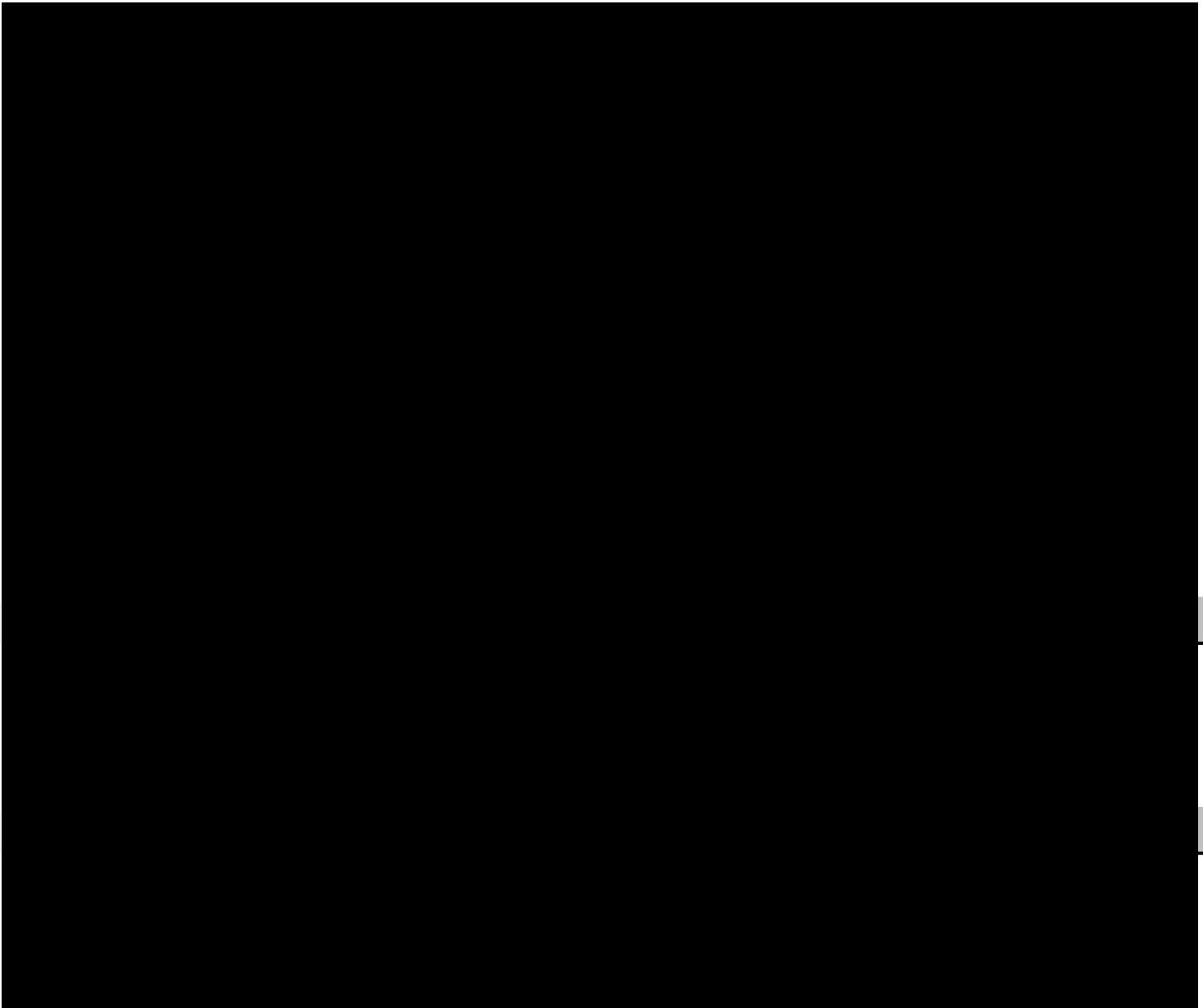
Ritt Kellogg Memorial Fund

RKMF Expedition Grant 2016-2017// Group Application

This is the group application for a RKMF Expedition Grant. In this application you will be asked to provide important details concerning your expedition.

**Waiting for
Approval**

Participant





I. Grant Summary

a. Expedition name:

Sweating it Out in The Everglades

b. What is the primary activity (or activities) of your expedition (i.e. rock climbing, packrafting and hiking, etc.)?

Canoeing

c. Briefly describe the objective(s) of your expedition:

Our objective is to canoe down the 99 miles of the famous Wilderness Waterway Trail in Everglades National Park over the course of 13 days. Our route will zigzag across the many different ecosystems within the park, from the freshwater channels of mangrove swamps to the salty Gulf of Mexico and the many keys that dot its length.

Secondly, we hope to experience the lush, untouched beauty of the Everglades before they disappear due to rising sea levels. This is an environment completely unique to the rest of the world and is home to an array of creatures that are disappearing from this planet, such as The West Indian Manatee, American crocodile, and Florida panther.

Finally, this trip will be a completely new experience to us as our time spent in the wilderness has exclusively taken

place in the northern states. Coming from Wisconsin, we hope this new environment will give us a more developed definition of what it means to be “out in the wild”. We also hope that the challenges we face on our journey will push us to be better leaders and more knowledgeable outdoor recreators.

d. Describe the location of the expedition:

Our expedition will take place entirely within the borders of Everglades National Park. Our drop in point will be in Everglades City, Florida at the dock owned by our canoe rental service. Our pick up point will be located at the Flamingo Visitor center in Flamingo, Florida.

Attach an area overview map.

[Everglades-Park-Map-FY10-1-2.pdf](#) (1.7MB)

Uploaded Jan 11, 2017 10:43pm by Peter Lehman

e. Expedition dates:

Travel Dates- January 3-4, 2018, January 18-19, 2018

Dates in the Field: January 5-17, 2018

f. Number of days in the backcountry:

13 days

g. Describe the wilderness character of your expedition (100 words or less):

Everglades National Park encompasses the most diverse ecosystem in the United States. The region's residents include hundreds of bird and reptile species, including many endangered species found nowhere else in North America. It also hosts some of America's most treasured species including the American Alligator, the Bottlenose Dolphin, and the elusive West Indian Manatee. However, Everglades National Park's spectacular character is in danger. Global Warming continues to rise sea levels threatening the delicate everglades. A change in sea level as little as a couple inches could destroy the landscape and decimate all the unique species that rely on it.

h. Funding request, per person, in \$USD:

\$905

II. Participant Qualifications

a. Participants' Graduation Date

Peter Lehman, 2020

Gabriel Poehls, 2020

b. Medical Certifications

Peter Lehman, NOLS, January 9-19, 2017

Gabriel Poehls, NOLS, January 9-19, 2017

c. Additional Certifications

Peter Lehman, Backcountry 1, March 3-5, 2017

Gabriel Poehls, Backcountry 1, TBD

d. Training Plan

Choosing Everglades National Park as the setting for our proposed expedition was determined by a multitude of factors, one of them being our wilderness background. We both grew up in Wisconsin, the true “land of a thousand lakes.” Many of our summers were spent in the Northwoods, fishing, canoeing, and kayaking. We have also been to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, Peter Lehman spending a week in the backcountry there. Our experience in small watercrafts has well prepared us for the mellow waters of The Everglades.

Along with our individual experience paddling, we have been on many backcountry trips together. We have braved

sub-zero temperatures in Yellowstone National Park, utilizing our off trail orienteering skills to navigate the snow covered forests. We have also climbed Capitol Peak together, the most technical fourteener in Colorado and Greys Peak, during a snowstorm. On each of these adventures we overcame challenges that brought us closer together. We do not underestimate the challenges we will face in The Everglades, but we feel confident that our time in the backcountry together as fortified us into a strong backcountry team.

In order to best prepare for the foreign environment of the everglades we plan to canoe in the Boundary Waters this summer together. We will hone our stroke, and work on efficient portaging techniques. This trip will also give us the ability to test our gear and the canoe's ability to support it.

We understand that The Everglades will propose a new and unique set of challenges. In order to be best prepared, we will review weather dangers and our plans to combat them, including evacuation and alternate inland campsites. We will also review what we learned in WFR. On top of this we will each individually be following a cardio schedule in order to be in top physical shape when we encounter the hot, muggy conditions of southern Florida.

III. Expedition Plan

a. Land Management

Everglades National Park requires a backcountry permit for any backcountry stay. This permit can be obtained at the Visitor's Center in Everglades City. The permit has a 15 dollar processing fee. The Park also has overnight camping fee at 2 dollars per person per day.

b. LNT Principles

Yes

Empty

We are very familiar with the seven LNT principles and plan to execute them to the best of our ability to preserve the delicate ecosystem that will surround us. In order to minimize the impact of our camps we will only camp in designated campsites. All waste that we produce will be carried out in our canoe in garbage bags within our dry sacks. Many artifacts have been found on the ancient shell mounds constructed by the Calusa indians. Any artifacts we may stumble upon will be left alone. Any rocks, shells, or other natural objects will also be left alone. In order to minimize campfire impacts we will keep our fires small and only used dead and downed wood. The environment specific LNT principle to our expedition will be our impact on wildlife. We are bound to encounter anything from Alligators to the Great Egret. We will not feed the wildlife and will keep a respectable distance.

c. Cultural Considerations

No

d. Re-Ration Plans

No

e. Expedition Itinerary

[Maps _ Itinerary - Google....pdf](#) (29MB)

Uploaded Jan 11, 2017 11:42pm by Peter Lehman

Appendix A

f. Equipment List

[Gear List - Google Docs.pdf](#) (58KB)

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Appendix B

g. Food List

[Food List - Google Docs.pdf](#) (209KB)

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Appendix C

Food Storage

Raccoons and rodents are the primary threat to our food supply. In order protect our food we will have a hard sided cooler where we will place our food at night. Black Bears are not a threat in the mangrove swamps or coastal areas where we will be camping.

IV. Risk Management

a. Travel

During the 30 hour drive from Colorado Springs to Everglades City the driver will not go faster than the speed limit. The person in the passenger seat will watch the driver and make sure he doesn't fall asleep. We will also monitor our gas level to ensure we do not run out of gas.

b. Objective Hazards

Weather
Wildlife
Insects
Tides
Zika Virus

Although our group has sufficient experience kayaking and canoeing, Everglades National Park presents a unique set of hazards unlike anywhere else in the United States. Therefore, will approach every aspect of our trip with caution and make safety a priority. Everglades National Park is not a wilderness to be underestimated.

The Everglades are notorious for tropical storms, hurricanes, intense lightning, and immense rainfall. A trip to The Everglades during the wet season, April to November, can be extremely dangerous. As a result, we have decided to plan this trip during the dry season where chances of heavy rainfall are drastically reduced. However, heavy rainfall is still possible. In the event that a storm does occur, depending on the time of day, we may alter our campsite location to a more inland site. We will also be prepared with proper rain gear, including rain pants and a rain jacket. In the event that lightning is present, we will immediately leave the water and take shelter. We will also be equipped with a weather radio to give ourselves ample time to react appropriately.

The Everglades is an amazingly diverse ecosystem and presents the opportunity for many wildlife encounters. However, some of these animals, mainly alligators and snakes, present an increased risk. To stay safe, we will never approach or feed wildlife. We will also make sure our food is properly secured in our cooler when not cooking.

If we are approached by an alligator on our expedition our reaction will depend on if we are on land or on water. In water, our best option is to stay as far away from the alligator as possible, maneuvering our canoe in the opposite direction. If we see an alligator on land we will stay as far away as possible from it. In the rare case that an alligator will charge, we will run. An alligator's top land speed is 10 miles per hour, a speed a fit human can surpass for a short period of time.

In the event that we are bitten by a snake, we will use our WFR knowledge to do the best we can and request an immediate evacuation if necessary.

Insects present another hazard. Excessive bites from mosquitoes and sandflies can lead to blood loss and enough discomfort to unravel an expedition. In order to be prepared we will be equipped with head nets and a bug shelter for our tent, as well as insect repellent.

Our itinerary includes one island site and one beach site. Access to both sites is affected by the tides. At low tide, the

sites require a long portage to reach water. In order to avoid this we will consult the tides for our specified dates.

Zika Virus has been a concern in southern Florida for the past year. However, there is only a warning for pregnant women in Miami-Dade county, a county we will not be traveling to. There also hasn't been a reported case of Zika in over 3 incubation periods, each being 45 days. Even though the current risk is very low, we will continue to check the CDC website for any updates.

c. Subjective Hazards

Heat Stroke
Sunburn
Dehydration
Group Dynamic

The Everglades are very hot and humid, even during the dry season. Heat stroke and sunburn pose a big threat. However, we will be applying sunscreen routinely and will be carrying one gallon of water per person per day. This is the recommended amount of water listed by the National Park Service. We will also not be further dehydrating ourselves through the consumption of alcohol.

The group dynamic on extended expeditions such as this is extremely important. However, we have successfully completed multiple backcountry trips together in the past and don't foresee any problems.

d. Emergency Preparedness

We will both be WFR certified by the date of this expedition. We feel confident that minor injuries such as blisters and abrasions can be taken care of effectively. However, injuries more serious than this, such as a broken bone, may require an evacuation. We will take every precaution to make sure the injured group member is kept comfortable while we decide to either paddle back to our drop in site in Everglades City, push through to our take out site in Flamingo, or use our SAT phone to call for help. If we deem the injury manageable we will paddle out ourselves utilizing the Wilderness Waterway Trail as it is the most direct route out of The Everglades. We function well as a unit and feel confident in our ability to perform a self evacuation. If we deem that our patient is in too much pain or is out of our ability to care for under the current conditions, we will use our SAT phone to call for an EVAC which will come by air boat from either Everglades City or Flamingo.

e. Emergency Resources

Nearest Hospitals

Physicians Regional Medical Center- Collier Boulevard

239-354-6000

8340 Collier Blvd

Naples, FL 34114

*nearest hospital to our entry point in Everglades City, FL. It is 37 minutes away

Homestead Hospital

(786) 243-8000

975 Baptist Way

Homestead, FL 33033

*nearest hospital to our exit point in Flamingo, FL. It is 1 hour and 3 minutes away

Gulf Coast Visitor Center

15 Oyster Bar Lane

Everglades City, Florida 34139

Gulf Coast Visitor Center is located 5 miles south of Highway 41 (Tamiami Trail) on State Road 29, in Everglades City. From Interstate 75 (Alligator Alley), take exit 80 (State Road 29) south and proceed 20 miles to Everglades City. Once in Everglades City, follow the signs to the park. The visitor center is on the right.

239-695-3311

Flamingo Visitor Center

1 Flamingo Lodge Hwy

Homestead, FL 33034

Visitors coming from the Miami area and points north should take the Florida Turnpike (Route 821) south until it ends, merging with U.S. 1 at Florida City. Turn right at the first traffic light onto Palm Drive (State Road 9336/SW 344th St.) and follow the signs to the park.

(239) 695-2945

Everglades National Park Emergency Number: 305-242-7700

V. Budget

Budget

[Untitled document - Googl....pdf](#) (40KB)
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Appendix D

Transportation

\$952

Food and Fuel

\$215

Maps and Books

\$86

Communication Device Rental

0

Permits/Fees

\$63

Gear Rentals

\$494

Total Funding Request

\$1810

Cost Minimization Measures

Most of our expedition costs are a fixed price. However, we took the extra time to compare transportation costs. Flying to The Everglades in comparison to driving was significantly more expensive. The price of the flight itself wasn't more, but once we considered the additional shuttle costs it became hundreds of dollars more.

VI. Expedition Agreement

Expedition Agreement

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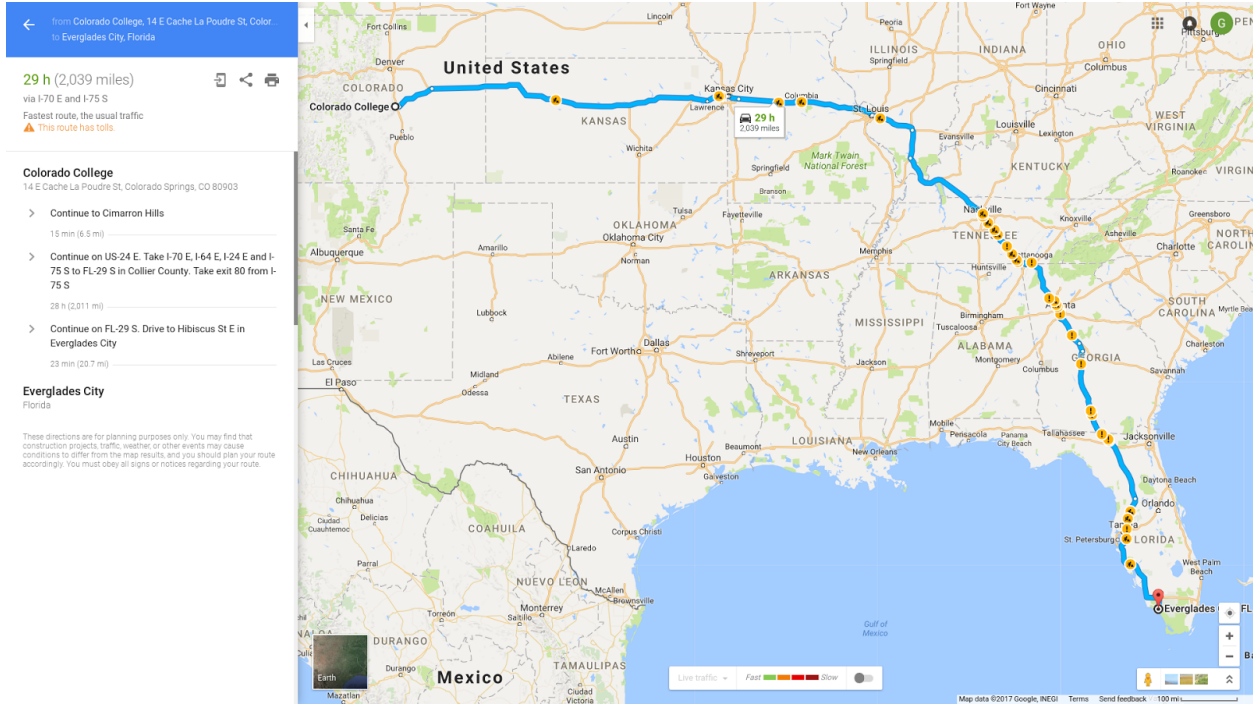
Appendix E

Appendix A- Expedition Itinerary

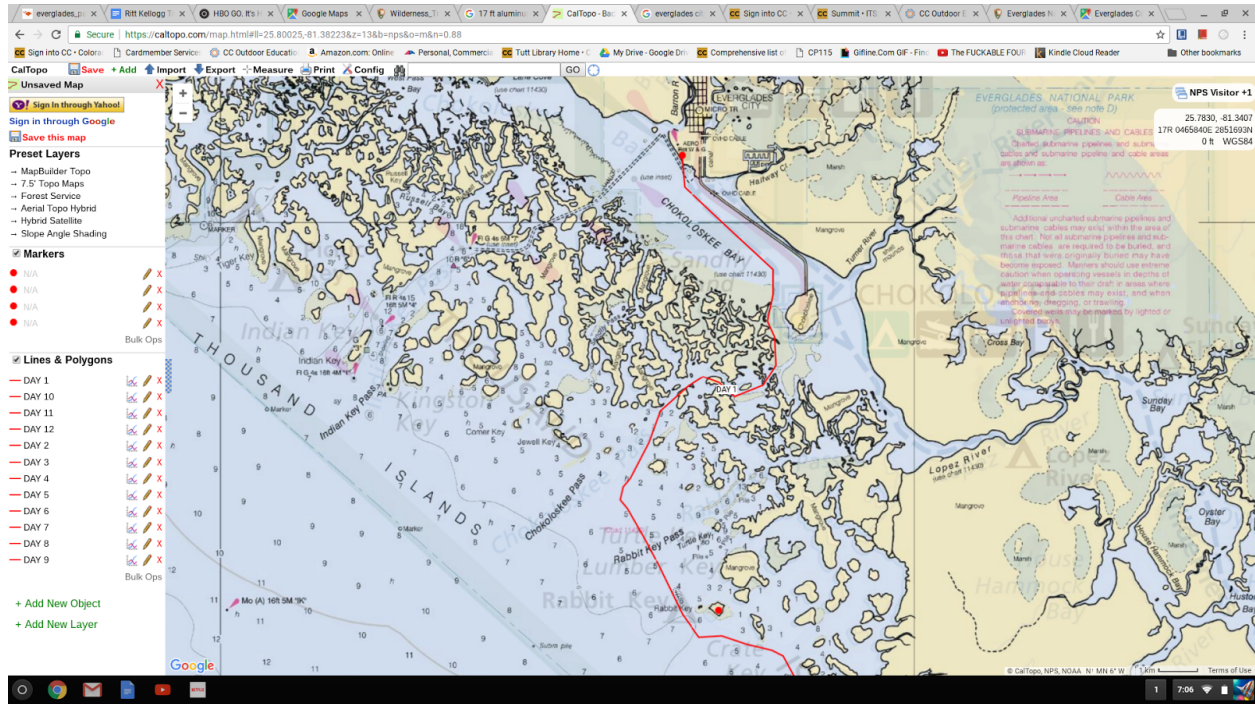


Overview: Our trip will take us down the Wilderness Waterway Trail located along the eastern edge of Everglades National Park. The route we have chosen combines much of the 99 miles of canal from the Wilderness Waterway Trail with several smaller detours to other unique campsites and sections of water we have chosen, meandering a total of 127 miles. The entire system is marked with mileage markers and signage that is easy to follow and can be confirmed by both our maps and compass or GPS coordinates of the campsites that we will have plugged into our GPS.

Link to Caltopo: <https://caltopo.com/m/6KF4>



Pre Backcountry (2 DAYS): The first two days of our trip will cover the 30 hr drive from Colorado Springs, CO to Everglade City, FL. We will take a route that goes east on I-70 before cutting south and dropping through Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia, and down into Florida. We plan on splitting up driving between the two of us in my 1995 Tacoma and will pay for our own lodging along the way. We may stay in a motel or a campsite dependent on conditions and our level of comfort after driving 15 hours.

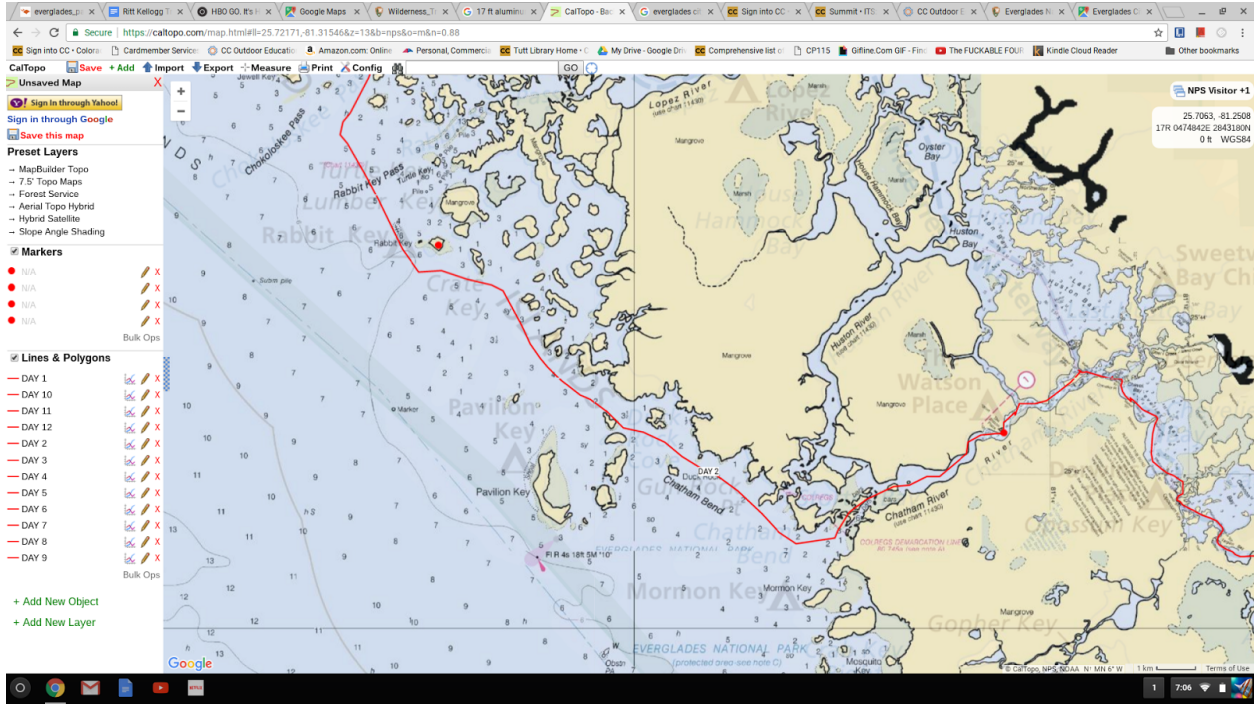


Day 1 ↗

Mileage: 9.4 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 45.048' , W 81° 22.659'

Route: We will pick up our two canoes from Everglades National Park Boat Tours and launch them from their dock. We will follow the Wilderness Waterway until we reach Rabbit Pass. Here, we will follow the pass to our first campsite, Rabbit Key.

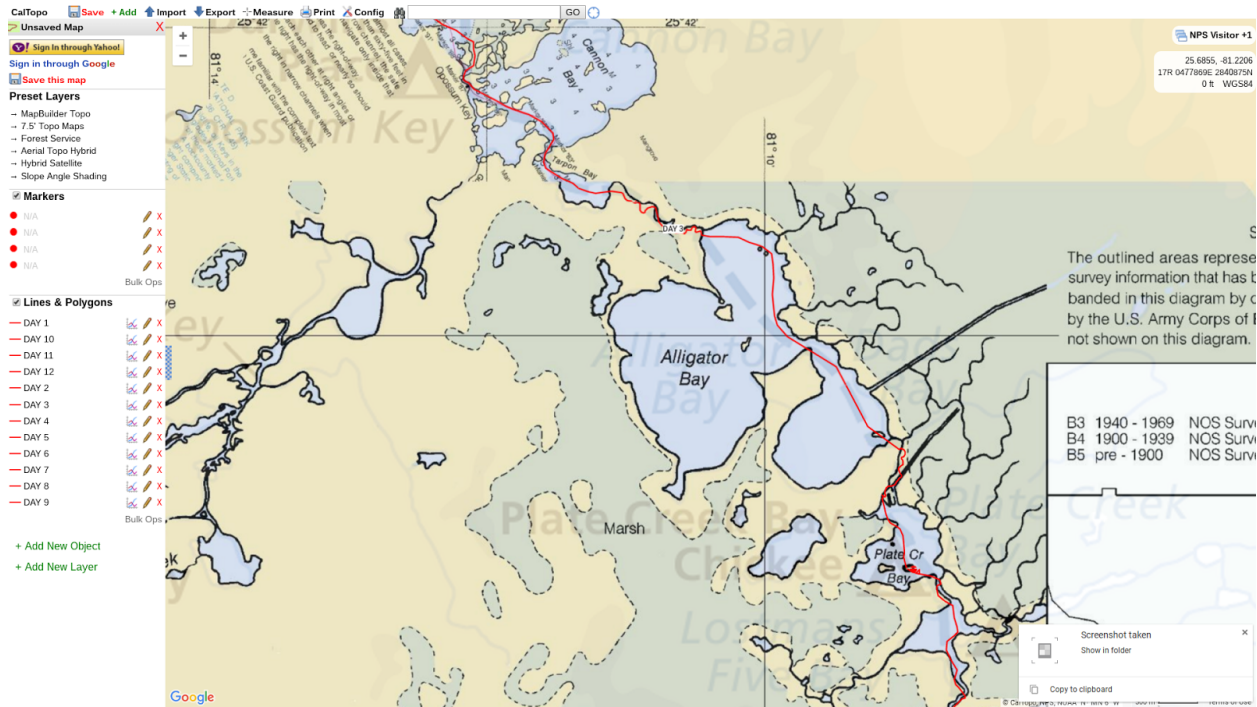
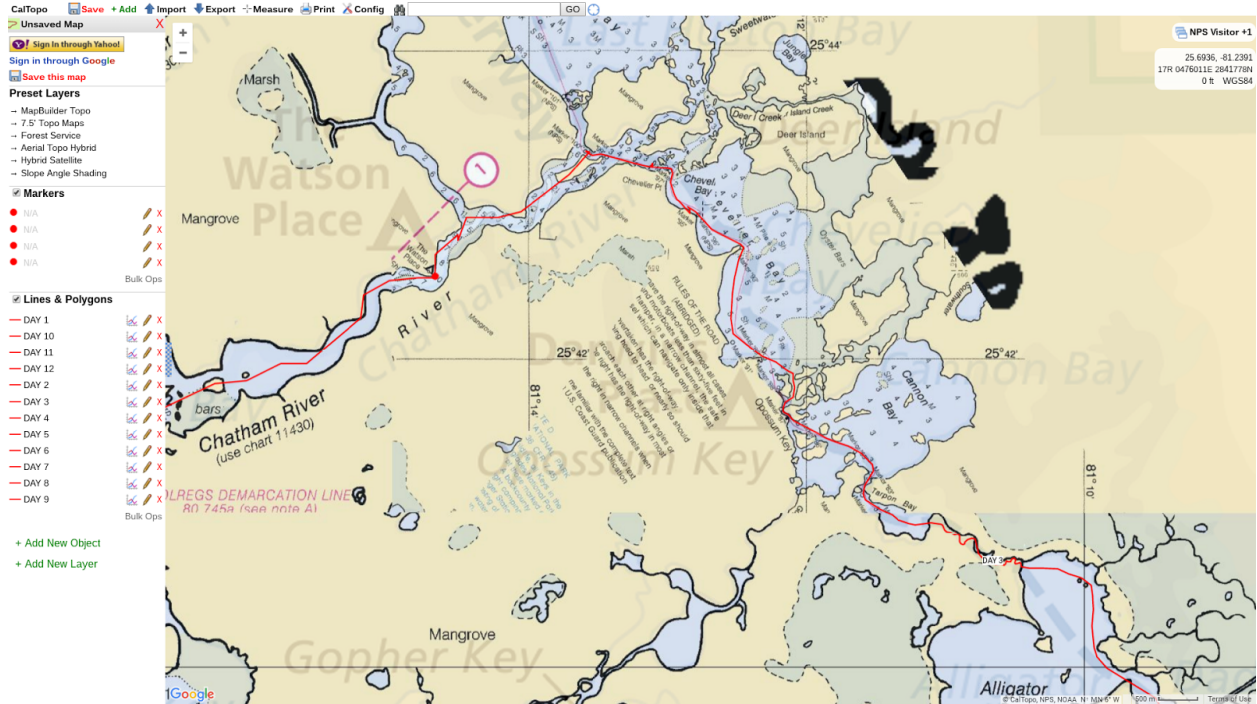


Day 2

Mileage: 11.73 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 45.547' , W 81° 14.738'

Route: From Rabbit Key we will follow the coast to Chatham River., taking Chatham River inland to our next campsite

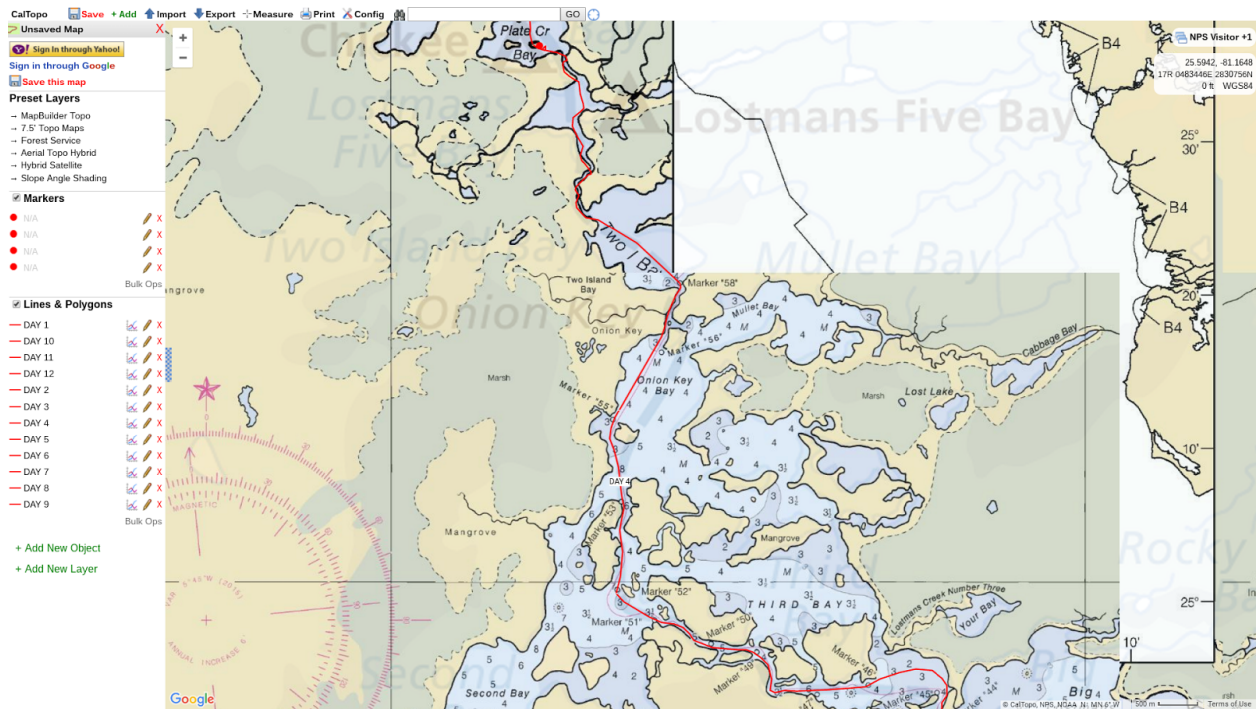


Day 3 ↗

Mileage: 11.18 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 38.5494' , W 81° 8.9379'

Route: We will follow the Chatham River further inland until we re-connect with the Wilderness Waterway. From here, we will follow the Wilderness Waterway south to our next campsite, The Plate Creek Bay Chickee.

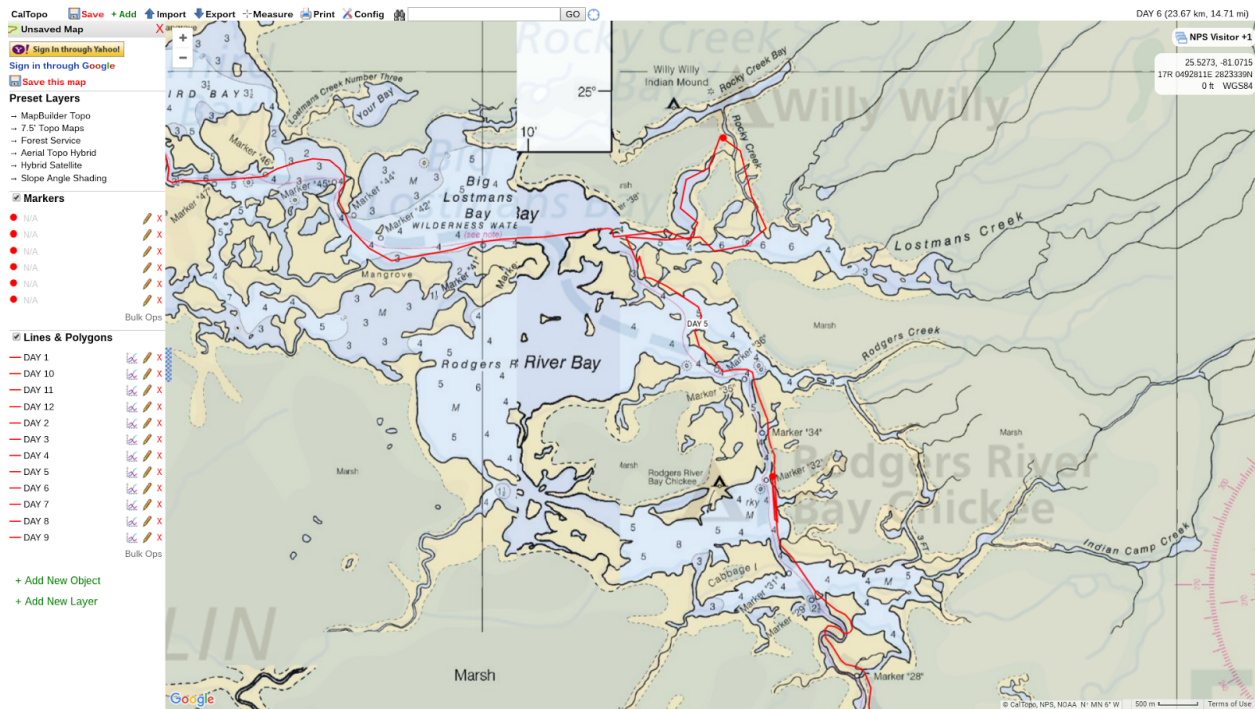


Day 4 ↗

Mileage: 12.14 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 34.836' , W 81° 3.327'

Route: We will continue on the Wilderness Waterway to the Willy Willy campsite

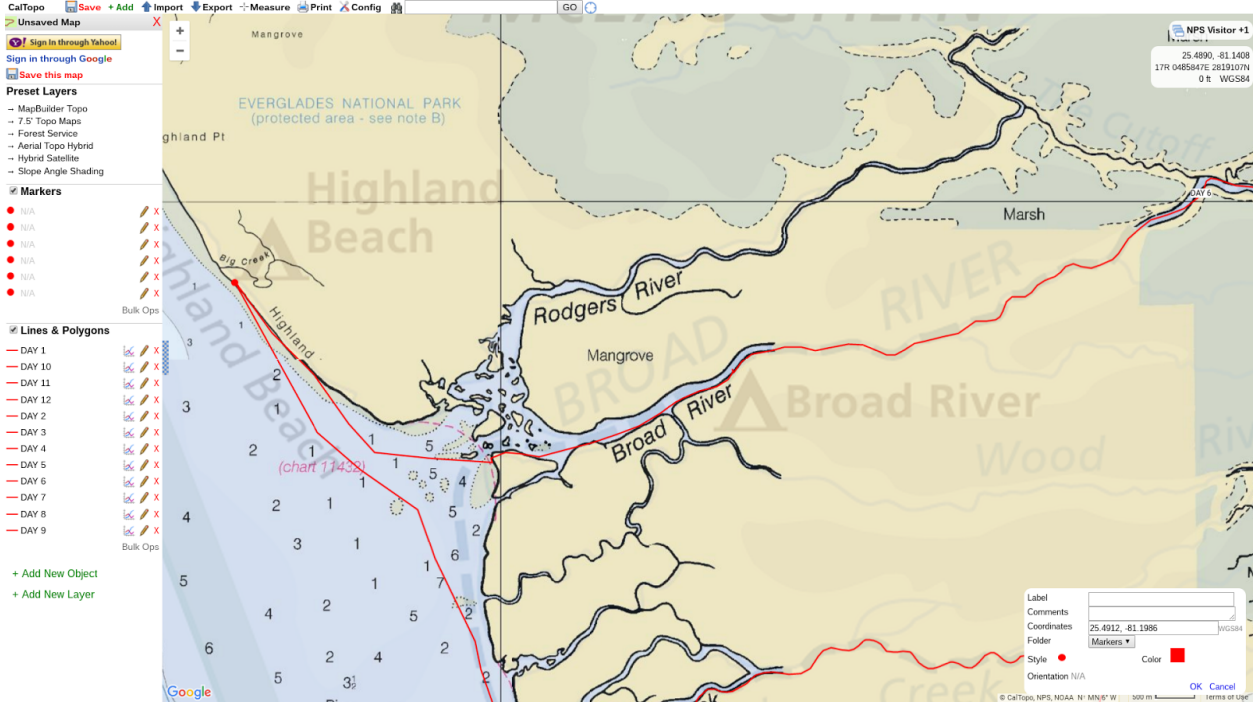


Day 5 ↗

Mileage: 5.3 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 32.148' , W 81° 3.861'

Route: We will explore the freshwater creeks surrounding the Willy Willy campsite and catch up on some much needed rest, traversing only to the Rogers River Bay Chickee.

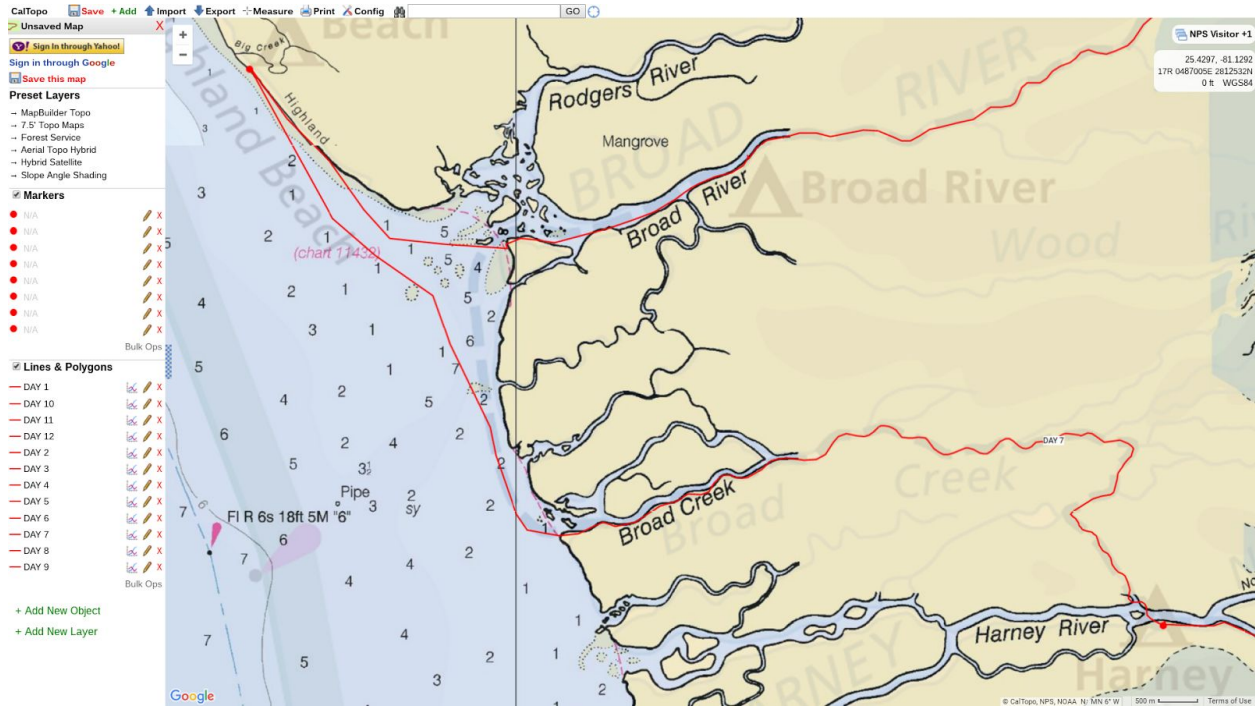


Day 6 ↗

Mileage: 14.71 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 28.754' , W 81° 8.534'

Route: We will continue on the Wilderness Waterway until we reach the Broad River Campsite.



Day 7 ↗

Mileage: 4.7 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 28.509' , W 81° 10.785'

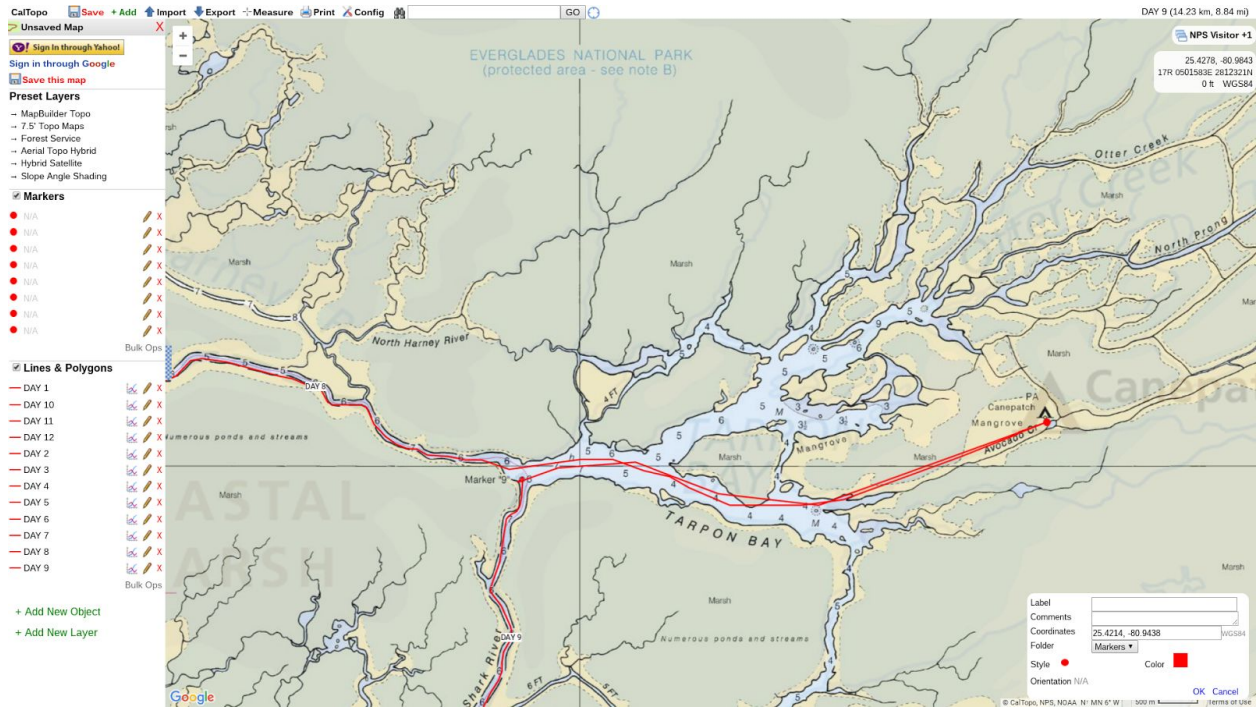
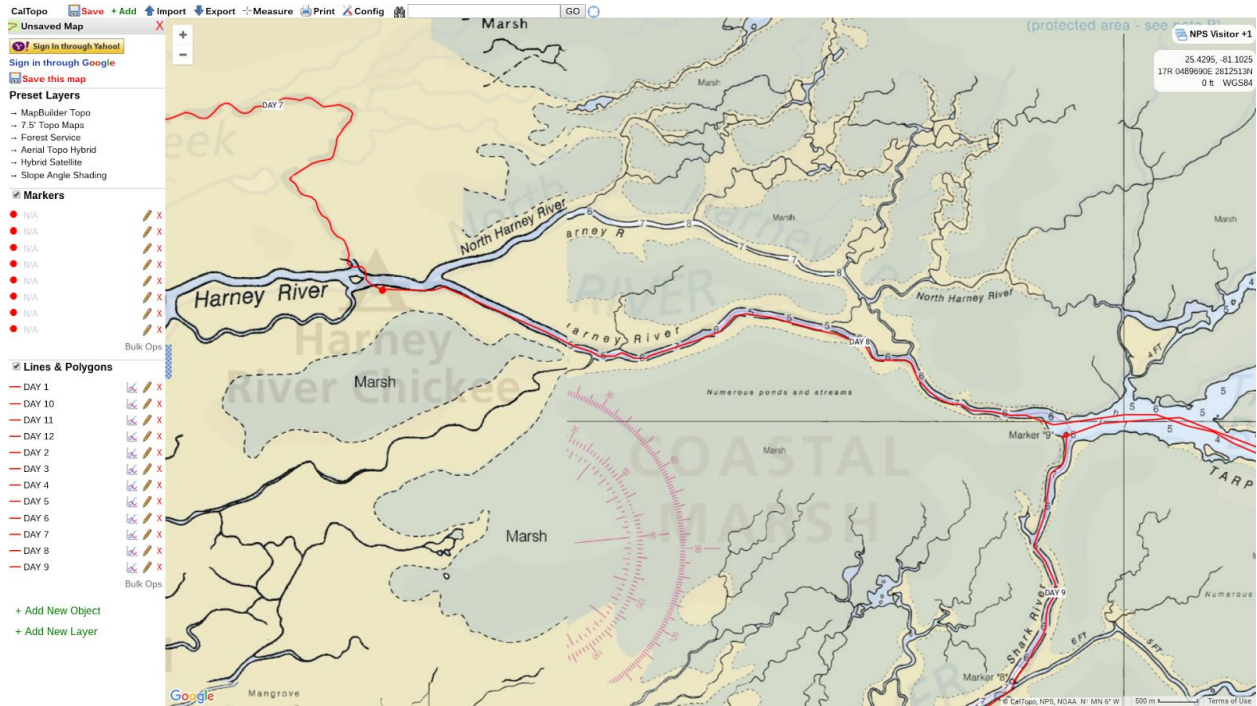
Route: From the Broad River campsite we will follow the river to the coast and then locate the Highland Beach campsite, north of the river opening.

Day 8 ↗

Mileage: 11.09 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 25.958' , W 81° 5.455'

Route: Once the tides come in and allow us to leave we will follow the coast to Broad Creek. Once we reach Broad Creek we will follow it inland to the Harney River Chickee.

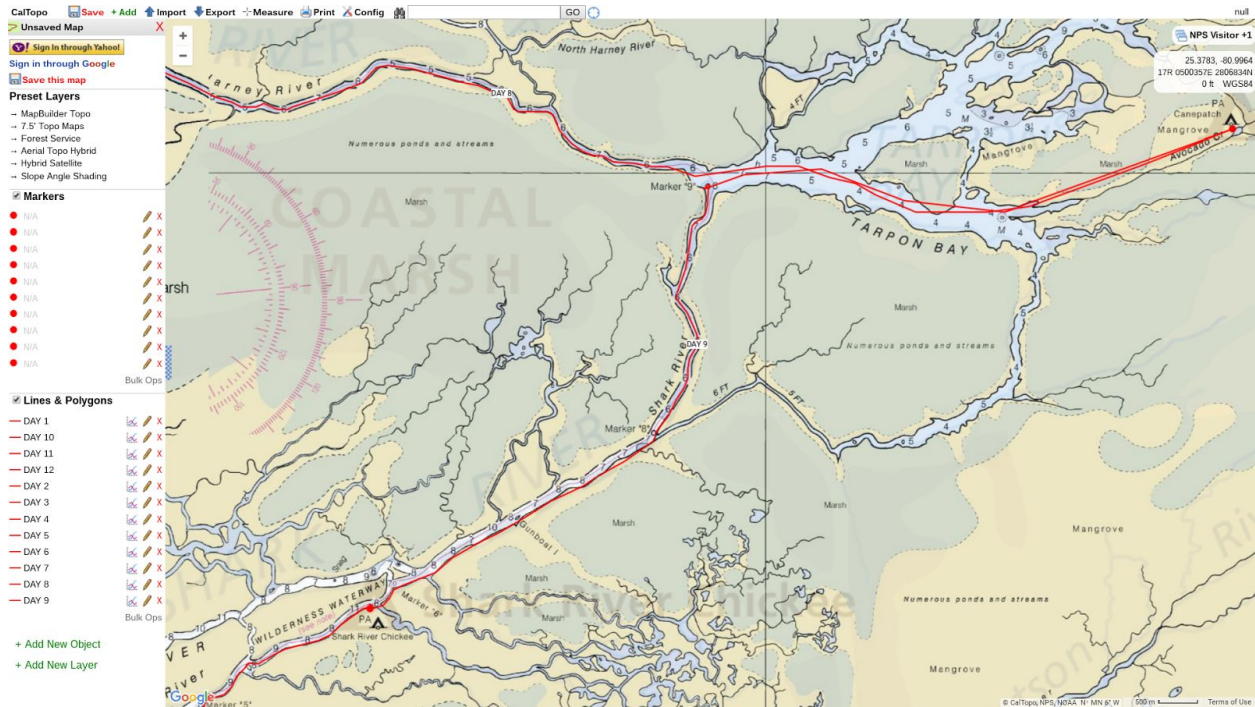


Day 9 ↗

Mileage: 9.82 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 25.3086' , W 80° 56.6078'

Route: We will follow Broad Creek further inland to Tarpon Bay where we will camp at the Canepatch campsite.

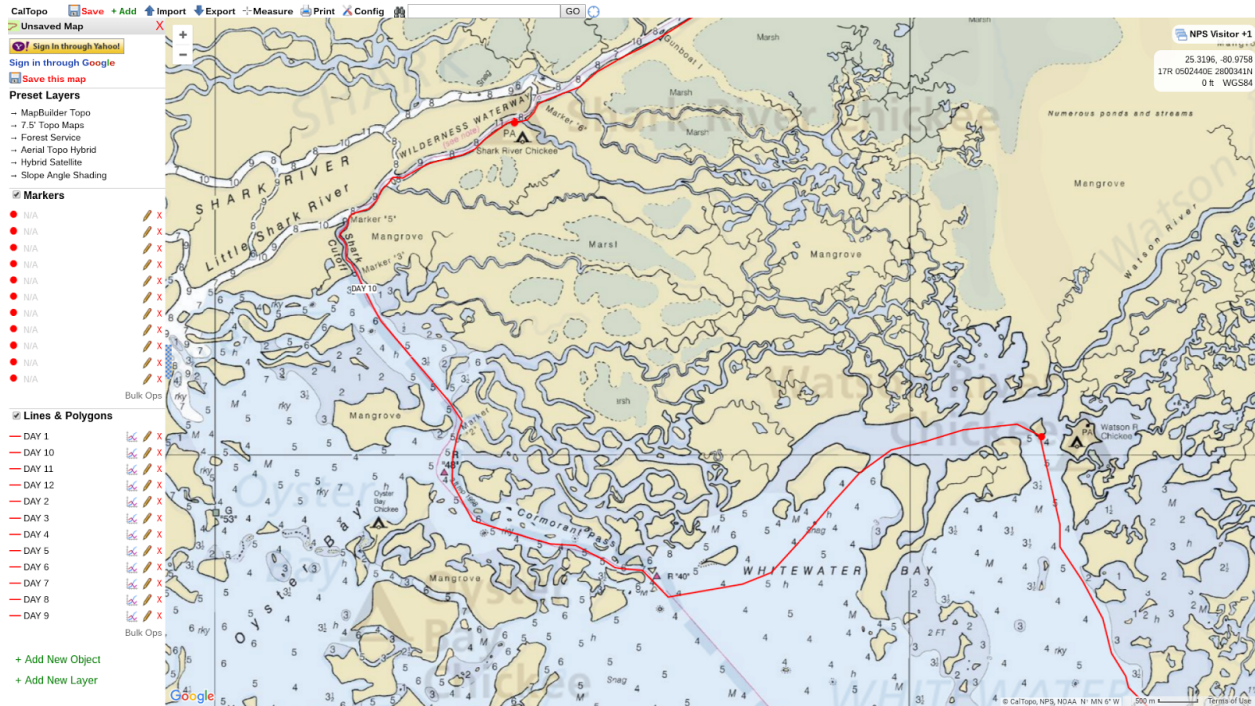


Day 10 ↗

Mileage: 8.84 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 22.128' , W 81° 2.704'

Route: We will leave Tarpon Bay and continue on the Wilderness Waterway to Shark River Chickee.

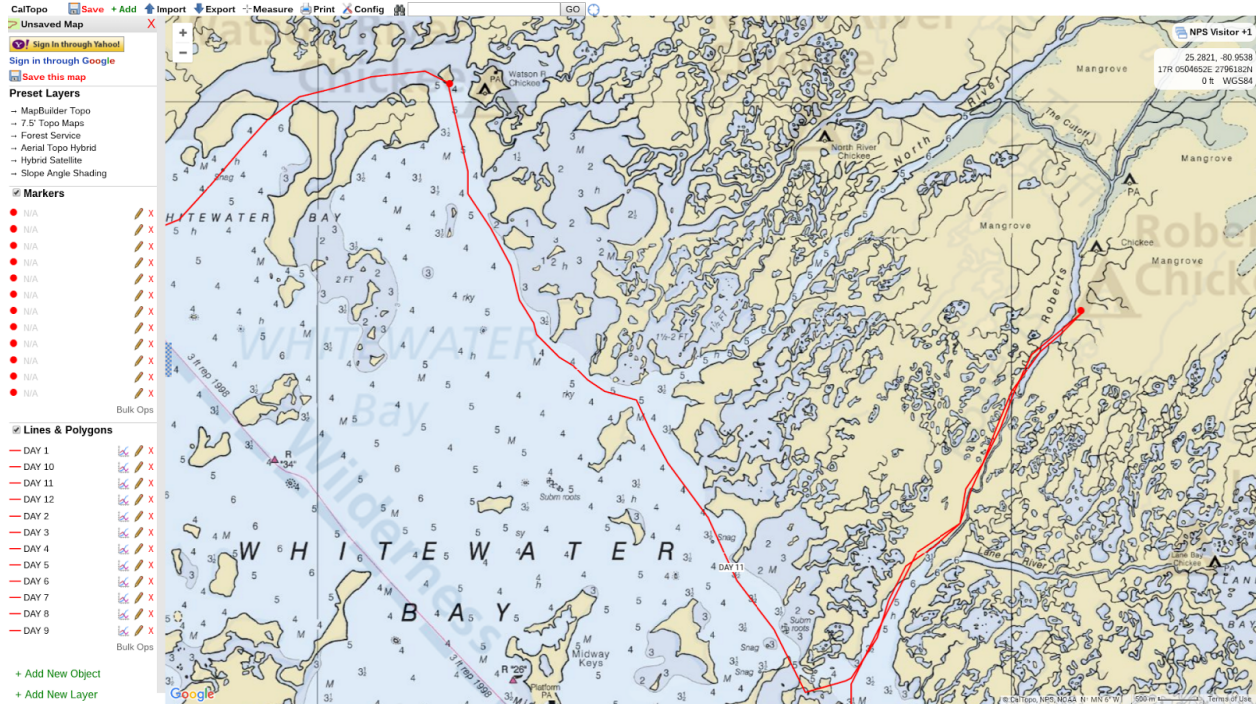


Day 11 ↗

Mileage: 9.28 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 19.958' , W 80° 58.833'

Route: We will leave the Chickee and continue on the Wilderness Waterway until we reach Whitewater Bay. Here, we will locate the Watson River Chickee on the north side of the bay.

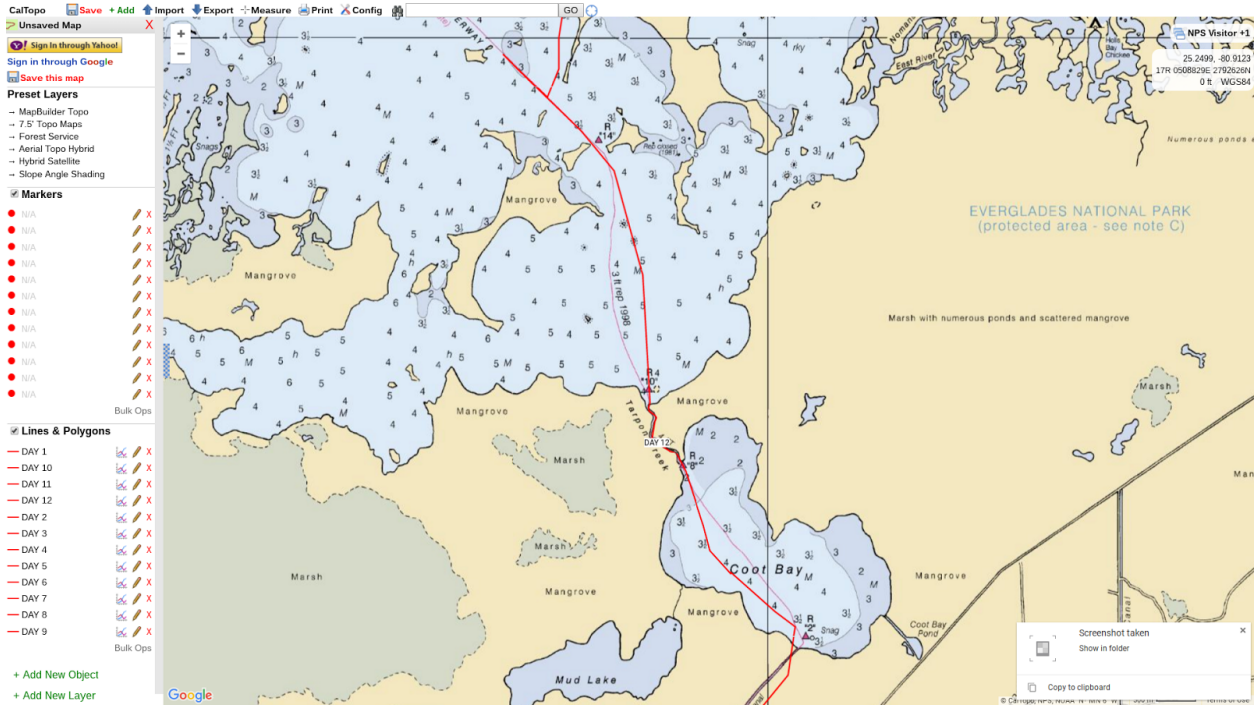
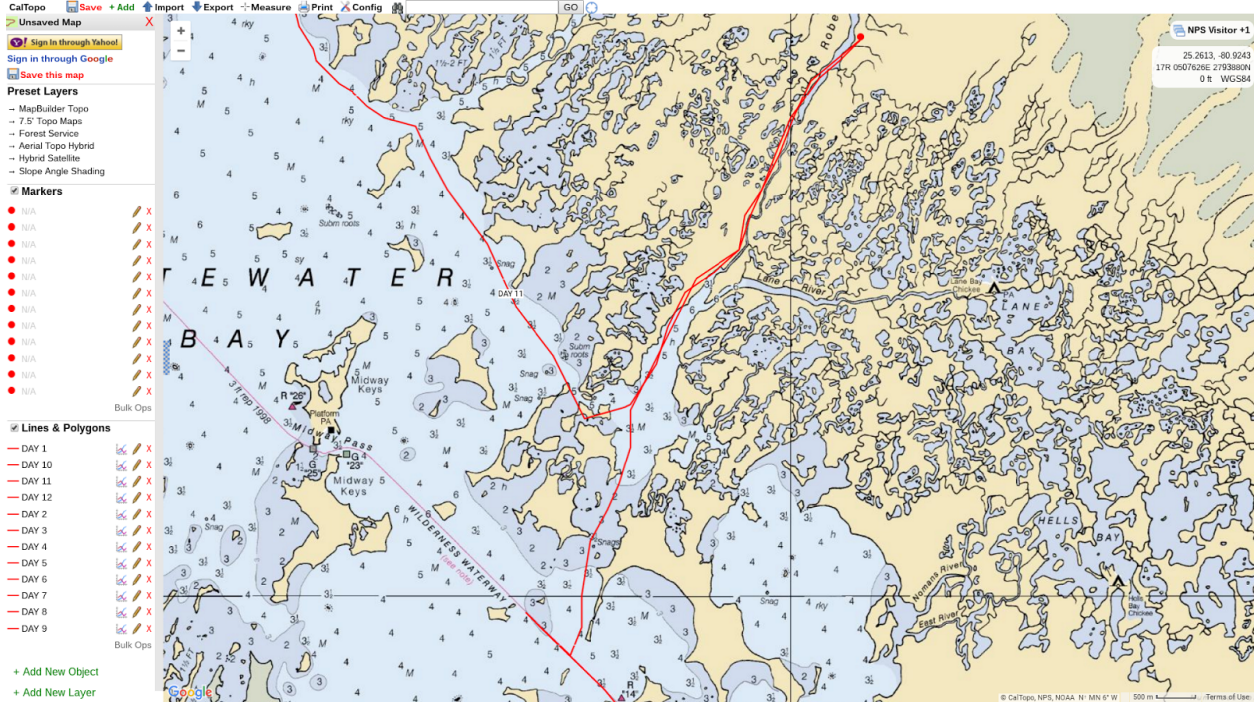


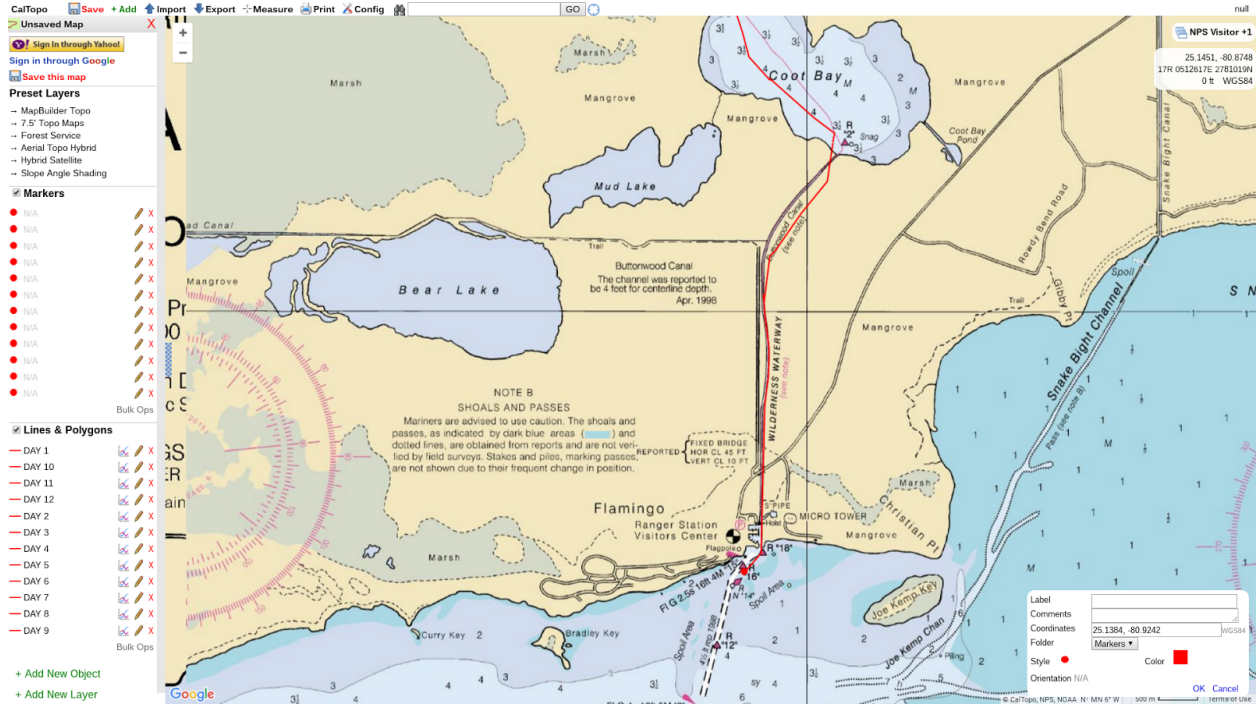
Day 12 ↗

Mileage: 9.01 miles

Camp Coordinates: N 25° 18.973' , W 80° 54.496'

Route: We will travel to the southern half of the bay and locate Roberts River. Upstream is the the Roberts River chickee where we will spend our last night.





Day 13 ↗

Mileage: 14.6 miles

Camp Coordinates: NA

Route: We will follow the Roberts River back to Whitewater bay where we will leave the bay via Tarpon Creek, following it to the Flamingo Visitor Center. That afternoon, we will be picked up by the Everglades National Park Hostel and driven back to Everglades City.

Post Backcountry (2 DAYS): The final two days we will spend making the return trip before 5th block begins. We will return well rested and ready for second semester

Appendix B- Gear List

Individual Gear:

Personal dry bag (35 L)
Mosquito headgear
Thin long sleeve/pant layers (protection against sun and bugs)
Rain jacket/Rain pants
Socks/Undergarments
Personal toiletries
Sleeping pad
Light sleeping bag
Sandals w/ Backing
Fishing Pole
Camera/Cell phones/Other personal electronics
2 nalgenes/2 liter water carrying device (camelbak or other)
Chapstick
Sunglasses
Headlamp
Eating Utensil
Personal Knife/Multitool
Emergency contact card

Group Gear:

Navigation and Communication:

1 x 17 ft Aluminum Canoes (rented through Everglades National Park)
2 PFD's (rented through Everglades National Park)
Paddles (3) (rented through Everglades National Park)
Sat phone
Weather radio
compass
Maps:
NPS Everglades National Park Map (waterproof)
Nautical Charts 11430, 11432, 11433, and 11451

Kitchen:

5 gallon water jugs (5) (25 gallons of water!)

Water Purification System (Sawyer water filter, aquamira tablets)
MSR Whisperlite Stoves (2)

MSR Fuel Bottles (2)
7 L white gas (rationing .5 L per day)
Stove repair kit (1)
Large Pot (1)
Large Pan (1)
Ladle (1)
Spatula (1)
Knives (2)
Lighter/Matches
Dish soap/Hand soap
Sponge/Scrubber (1)

Camp and General Gear:

Dry bag for group goods (60L)
550 Paracord (100ft)
2 person tent (1)
Bug shelter (1)
Large tarp (size of base of tent or larger) (1)
Shared tackle box
Sunscreen (2 bottles)
Bug Spray (2 cans)
Trowel
Duct tape
Sewing kit

First Aid Kit

Gauze (2 rolls)
Medical tape (2 roll)
Triangular bandages (4)
Assorted Band-aids (1 box)
Ace bandages (2)
Sam splint (1)
Tylenol
Ibuprofen
Benadryl
Tums/ Antacid Tablets
Aloe Vera

Moleskine (pack with 5)
Safety pins (12)
Latex Gloves (4 pair)
Sterilizing wipes (pack of 20)
Scissors (1)
Tweezers (1)
CPR face mask (1)
Emergency Information Notebook
Pencil (1)
Flashlight (1)
AAA Batteries (4)
Antibacterial cream (1)

Appendix C- Food List

Food Category	Category Multipliers for					
	1.25 ppppd	1.5 ppppd	1.75 ppppd	2 ppppd	2.25 ppppd	2.5 ppppd
Breakfast	.21	.24	.28	.33	.35	.38
Dinner	.23	.27	.32	.35	.37	.40
Cheese	.15	.19	.22	.24	.26	.28
Trail foods	.28	.32	.35	.37	.45	.49
Flour and baking*	.09	.11	.13	.16	.09	.10
Sugar and fruit drinks	.10	.10	.12	.14	.15	.18
Soups, bases, desserts	.04	.06	.09	.13	.15	.19
Milk, eggs, butter, cocoa	.15	.21	.24	.28	.31	.33
Meats and substitutes**	0	0	0	0	.12	.15

* the milk, eggs, butter and cocoa category was redistributed to other categories as we don't plan on using these ingredients

(2 people) x (13 field days) x (1.75 ppppd) = 45.5 lbs

Food Category	Calculations	Rounded
<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>.30 x 2 x 13 = 7.8 lbs</i>	<i>8 lbs</i>
<i>Dinner</i>	<i>.38 x 2 x 13 = 9.88 lbs</i>	<i>10 lbs</i>
<i>Cheese</i>	<i>.22 x 2 x 13 = 5.72 lbs</i>	<i>6 lbs</i>
<i>Trail Foods</i>	<i>.39 x 2 x 13 = 10.14 lbs</i>	<i>10 lbs</i>
<i>Flour and Baking</i>	<i>.13 x 2 x 13 = 3.38 lbs</i>	<i>3.5 lbs</i>
<i>Sugar & Fruit Drinks</i>	<i>.24 x 2 x 13 = 6.24 lbs</i>	<i>6.5 lbs</i>
<i>Soups, Bases & Desserts</i>	<i>.09 x 2 x 13 = 2.34 lbs</i>	<i>2.5 lbs</i>
<i>Total</i>		<i>46.5 lbs</i>

Breakfast (8 lbs)

18 bagels (2.5 lbs)	\$10
Oatmeal (3 lbs)	\$4.50 *
Brown Sugar (.5 lb)	\$1
Craisins (.5 lb)	\$1.50
Granola (1.5 lbs)	\$4

Dinner (10 lbs)

Potato Pearls (2 lbs)	\$6 *
Rice (2 lbs)	\$1.50 *
Refried Beans (2 lbs)	\$11.50 *
Ramen (2 lbs)	\$2
Zucchini (2 lbs)	\$3

Cheese (6 lbs)

Cheddar variations (6 lbs)	\$27
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Trail Foods (10 lbs)

Snickers (13 bars, 1.5 lbs)	\$13
Jerky (1 lb)	\$24
Trail Mix (5 lbs)	\$20
Cliff Bars (12 bars, 1 lb)	\$6
Gummy bears (1.5 lbs)	\$5

Flour and Baking (3.5 lbs)

Seasoning Kit (.5 lb)	\$6 *
Dumplings (1.5 lb)	\$3
Bullion Cubes (NA)	\$2
Pasta (1.5 lbs)	\$2 *

Sugar & Fruit Drinks (6.5 lbs)

Apples (4.5 lbs)	\$14
Oranges (2 lbs)	\$4

Soups, Bases & Desserts (2.5 lbs)

<i>Brownie Mix (1.5 lb)</i>	\$2
<i>Marshmallows (1 lb)</i>	\$2

Stove Fuel

<i>White Gas (4 L)</i>	\$52
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<i>Total Food Cost</i>	\$215
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Appendix D- Budget

Food Budget \$215

Transportation \$952

1995 Tacoma

Trip Length: 2,040 mi

Fuel Economy: 17 mpg

Estimated Gas Price: \$2.30

Round Trip Gas Cost:

\$552

Shuttle Cost:

\$345 + tax

Maps and Books

A Paddler's Guide to the Everglades \$86

\$10

Nautical Charts (4)

\$19 per

Communication Device Rental

SAT Phone Rental \$0

Permits and Fees

12 days x

\$2 per person per night x

2 people +

\$15 processing fee =

\$63

Gear Rentals

\$38 per night for Canoe	\$494
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Total Funding Request	\$1810
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*no figures were rounded up in our calculations