

BATTLE RIVER PADDLE GUIDE: PETER FIDLER ROUTE

South of Bittern Lake to Ross' Flats at Duhamel (Hwy 21)

#PaddleTheBattle



@BattleRiverWatershed

Why Go?

This could be a short, easy, and fulfilling route, or put in further upstream and have a full day. Close to both Camrose and Wetaskiwin, the area is easily accessible, as are the put-in and take out points.

We put in at the RR 215A Bridge, where the Peter Fidler Monument is. It took about 2 hours to go the 8km to Ross' Flats on Hwy 21. For a longer journey, start upstream at Twp Rd 462 A. The bridges are within sight of each other, but add 8km to the journey.

There are no obstacles on this route and it offers beautiful views of the valley. The south valley slope is a continuous forest, which helps you recognize which direction you are heading along the meanders.



Bridge at RR 215 A

Know Before You Go

Where rubber boots to get in and out of the water. The banks are muddy and you might sink in. Be respectful of the farmers field at Ross' Flats. There is a gate opening which allows you to access the river from the field.



Plant and Animal Life

During our paddle in late April, the spring migration was in full swing and we saw thousands of snow geese flying in their great flocks heading north. We also saw multiple pelicans, great blue herons, ducks, and muskrat. The banks are high along much of this reach so you don't get a full view of the surrounding landscape until you climb up onto land. We were also lucky to find crocuses in bloom. Spring is a wonderful time to Paddle the Battle!



Local Attractions

Peter Fidler Monument

European surveyor and map maker Peter Fidler is said to have crossed the Battle River here in November 14, 1792. There is a nice little monument for him on the RR 215A bridge. Have a read and imagine what they valley would have looked like over 200 years ago. Can you see the Bison?



Ross' Flats Campground and Historical Bridge

In 1910, the Grand Trunk Pacific made on of the worlds tallest and longest wooden trestles bridges across the Battle River. Details about it and the town of Duhamel are on the interpretive sign at this Campground. Although fairly basic, the campground provides washrooms, picnic shelter and fire pits and unserviced camp sites. *Please use discretion when choosing a paddling route. You are expected to follow all traffic and boating laws, be aware of weather, respect private property, and assess hazards before going out. Prepare to be out longer then expected- bring extra food, water, and lights. The Battle River Watershed Alliance holds no responsibility for injuries or damage sustained on your paddle.*

BATTLE RIVER

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