

# BATTLE RIVER PADDLE GUIDE: STONEY CREEK REACH

Stoney Creek: Camrose to Battle River

#PaddleTheBattle



@BattleRiverWatershed

## Why Go?

Avid paddlers will love this technical and challenging route! Easily accessible from Camrose it has lots of put-in and take-out options, making it scalable for your time and energy. We did the 10km route from the Pump House to Ferlow Junction in 4 hours, including lots of breaks. Others have done it in 2-3 hours.

### \*This route is not for beginners

It is fun seeing the City from the water, and then quickly entering the valley full of coniferous trees and some badlands. The water moves quickly in the spring and the never-ending turns keep you on your toes.

## Put-in/Take Out

Put-in: In Camrose you can start anywhere along the creek. Popular locations are from Jubilee Park, the Stoney Creek centre, or from the "Ring Road" on Camrose Drive. Our preference is to start at the "Pump House" just north of the water treatment lagoons on Twp Rd 464. There is ample parking here, but it is a bit of a hike from the gate down to the creek.

Take-out: You can take-out in Camrose or at Ferlow Junction culvert, just before the Stoney meets the Battle River. Or for an extra hour (or more) of paddling, go all the way to the Aberhart Bridge. **Check our webpage map for details.**



## Plant and Animal Life

We may have been too busy navigating the curves of this creek to notice much of the biodiversity! However we did see a lot of signs of muskrat and beavers and scared-up ducks downstream of us. There are sometimes Great Blue Herons on the creek. Also watch for fresh-water springs which run out from the valley sides. Don't drink from them, especially while below the lagoons and landfill!

You will be passing through Happy Valley, once a ski hill and motor cross spot, now used for mountain biking. You may see mountain bikers or back-country runners along these trails. Another great use of this beautiful valley!

[www.BattleRiverWatershed.ca](http://www.BattleRiverWatershed.ca)

## Know Before You Go

This route has a lot of obstacles. There are trestle bridges to go under, often with only one clear route. There are also low bridges for the biking trails, some of which you can go under, many you have to portage around. You may also have to portage around beaver dams and culverts. Be very careful of a old ski T-bar post that has fallen into the river. There are also two barbed wire fences and a fallen tree "sweeper" crossing the river. When approaching obstacles, pull over, get out, and take a good look before attempting to pass.



Wear sturdy shoes that you can wet. Take extra food, water, and warm clothes and socks, just in case!

*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 than 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**

WATERSHED ALLIANCE

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