## FLAMING GORGE RESERVOIR AUGUST 19 TO 23, 2011

MARSHA DOUGHERTY REPORTS, with additional details and pictures from Anne Fiore: We had a very enjoyable trip to Flaming Gorge Reservoir this August. Members on the trip were Deb and Walt Jenkins, Anne Fiore, Gary Cage, Bernie Dahlen, Brian Hunter, Jay Gingrich, Jane Lewis, Dick Dieckman, Marsha Dougherty and our trip leader, Jud Hurd.



The 12-mile group heading east toward King Fisher I sland where, later in the day, they would take refuge from a lightening storm. Their destination was Horse Shoe Canyon.

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Starting Friday night we camped in Utah at the Deer Run campground on the south side of the lake near the dam. We had campfires, and a pot-luck on Saturday night.

The camp ground was exceptionally clean and had many nice flat tent spots in between the juniper trees and free showers.

Paddling started on Saturday morning. We drove 20 miles to put in at Sheep Creek Bay boat ramp. The water was beautiful, pristine and clear.

We divided into two groups; one group paddled eight miles round trip and the other paddled twelve. The 12-milers might have paddled more but the weather was iffy and they started heading back, and then got caught in hail and spent some time on shore huddled together. I think it was Jay who had the forethought to pack a small tarp which was used to break the impact. I think it was Gary who discovered a new and special technique of holding a paddle blade horizontally over the head to deflect the incoming hail.



Sunday's paddle also had two groups, but the people were rearranged. One group checked out a "boat-in only" state camp ground which required you to pack in your own water but was only was three miles or so from the put-in.

The third day, Monday, we had three groups. We put in close to the dam at Cedar Springs Marina. One group paddled toward the dam and discovered a keeno finger to paddle in and then docked their boats and took a formal tour of the dam. Another group paddled way up to the area that they had paddled on Saturday and then came back. The last group paddled upstream and checked out another state run boat-in campsite which was very nice, with nice outhouses that had solar powered fans, some shore-side campsites and, farther up river, an awesome spot (not state run) that was flat for camping and very scenic.

DEB JENKINS ADDS: The trip to Flaming Gorge was awesome fun! The Gorge is a beautiful place to paddle and the campground was perfect. We will definitely go back when the opportunity presents itself. We are also looking forward to more kayaking camping trips with the group.

Walt and I do not have a lot of experience in our kayaks but we enjoy paddling very much. RMSKC is a great group of people. This was the first trip with the group and I have to say that the kayak club has amazing members.



holding Wilson; Deb Jenkins took the photo.

Everyone was willing to lend a hand and every person on that trip helped us in some way Some were eager to share a paddling tip or technique or answer a multitude of questions about how to dress while boating. Some were right there lending us something we needed or sharing some equipment to try out. Some stayed right with us and gave us encouragement while paddling across the bay in a really strong headwind.

I am grateful to each and every one of you for all your support! Thanks for making it such a fun trip.

More pictures on the next page

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