

Canoe Outpost-Peace River Low Water Camping Suggestions

Note: First two bold words indicate start and end of trip and third word after slash indicates camping option.

Camping recommendations when the river is over 24" below normal.

Zolfo Springs to Gardner (19.5 miles): not recommended and not available at this time. The water is very, very low on upper half of the 19.5 mile with walking involved.

Gardner to Gardner/Upstream: Check-in at Arcadia, then drive to Gardner to park and depart from Gardner. Paddle upstream to into 19.5-mile stretch, camp anywhere on left-hand side or at your favorite campsite on the west side. Paddle back to Gardner when done, back to your vehicles. Very, very popular, not too bad going upstream.

Gardner to Arcadia/Upstream (12+ miles): Check-in and park in Arcadia and be transported to Gardner to depart. Paddle upstream to into 19.5-mile stretch, camp anywhere on left-hand side or at your favorite campsite. When done, paddle back to Arcadia (12 miles from Gardner) the last as a normal day run, back to your vehicles. There is hardly any current. You take your camping gear with you.

Gardner to Gardner/Gardner South (1+): Check-in and pay in Arcadia then drive to Gardner to park and depart from Gardner. Paddle downstream from Gardner to camp on left hand-side south of Gardner on Canoe Outpost property. There is hardly any current. Paddle upstream back to your vehicles in Gardner when done. Depart anytime between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. You take your camping gear with you.

Gardner to Arcadia/Gardner South (12 miles): Check-in and park in Arcadia and be transported to Gardner and paddle downstream to camp within the first 20 minutes on the left-hand side south of Gardner on Canoe Outpost property. Next day continue paddling downstream to Arcadia (10+ miles) and back to vehicles. You take your camping gear with you.

Gardner to Arcadia/Brownville (12 miles): Check-in and park in Arcadia and be transported to Gardner and paddle downstream (about 4 miles) toward Arcadia, make camp just above Brownville bridge on any of the sandbars and low beaches. These sites are first come, first serve, open to public. Next day paddle down to Arcadia (8 miles) and back to vehicles. Must stay down by the water. You take your camping gear with you. Gardner to Arcadia/Oak Hill (12 miles): Check-in and park in Arcadia and put-in at Gardner and paddle downstream to Canoe Outpost-Oak Hill (7.75 miles downstream) to make camp at reserved site. Next day paddle downstream to Arcadia (4.25 miles), back to vehicles. We can guarantee a campsite as long as supply lasts. We can deliver your camping gear to your site or you can take it with you.

Brownville to Arcadia/Oak Hill (8 miles): Check-in and park in Arcadia and put-in at Brownville and paddle downstream to Canoe Outpost-Oak Hill (3.75 miles downstream) to make camp at reserved site. Next day paddle downstream to Arcadia (4.25 miles), back to vehicles. We can guarantee a campsite as long as supply lasts. We can deliver your camping gear to your site or you can take it with you.

The 12-mile trip from Gardner to Arcadia is the normal day run, 5-6 hours of paddling, the 8-mile run from Brownville to Arcadia is the normal half-day trip, 4-4-1/2 hours of paddling at this level. Camping is very limited south of Gardner, not as open as the 19.5-mile trip.

Low water means fishing and fossil hunting are great! Remember river channel is on the steep, high bank side of river. Stay in the dark water, the river channel. You'll need to zig-zag as you come down the river. Most of the time, you'll need to just jump out and let the canoe float over a sandbar. The current is extremely slow. During low water the Gardner office is closed for check-in. You will need to check-in with the main office in Arcadia. Check-in and payment can also be made by credit card via fax and/or phone. Bring firewood (it's getting scarce). There is no firewood at the Oak Hill camping area.