

## Carrot Island / Shackelford Banks Kayak

Saturday June 17, 2017

This time we will be launching from the Curtis A. Perry Public Park boat launch located at the east end of Front Street in Beaufort. There is ample FREE PARKING here & rest rooms! You can save considerable travel time from New Bern if you take US 70 East from New Bern and then take NC 101E at Havelock to the east side of Beaufort. Turn/merge right at Lennoxville Rd. & go for 1.5 miles to Broad Street and turn left. Proceed to 2511 Broad St. where you will see the parking area on your left w/ the launch just ahead (**You could just plug in 2511 Broad Street, Beaufort NC 28516 to your GPS**).

Plan to arrive by 8:30 for offloading boats and a **SAFETY BRIEFING before departing at 9:00 am**. We will paddle East on Taylor's Creek for about 1 mile before rounding the east point of the Carrot Island where we will decide whether or not to cross over to Shackelford Island (approximately 2 miles of open water). If conditions look good we plan to cross over to the Middle Marshes and then to the area of the old graveyard on Shackelford Banks. We should have plenty of time to explore the 100+ year old graveyard, the maritime forest to the "Tree of Life" (an ancient oak that we have had lunch in on past trips), hike out to the dunes and/or take a swim.

If conditions are not satisfactory we might paddle along the backside of Carrot Island to Horse Island for a swim & take the cut through back to Taylor's Creek (**if the tide is high enough**).

BTW-The tide will be low at 8:17 am and rising throughout the day until 2:22 pm.

This trip will be a total of 8 miles maximum w/ a stretch of open waters and possibly strong currents so it is **only recommended for the intermediate paddler**. **As with all of our TRPC trips, p.f.d.s (life jackets) are required and must be worn while paddling.** Be sure to wear shoes (for oyster shell protection), sun protection, water, lunch & any other safety items that you may wish to carry. Paddlers w/ tow ropes are asked to bring them as a precaution. *Paddlers are encouraged to stay close enough to assist others, especially when crossing the sound to & from Shackelford Island.*

Hopefully the tone of this trip description has not scared you off but has impressed you with the necessity of making wise choices in regard to your skill level and boat design.

Trip facilitator: Terry Rich at [richenough@centurylink.net](mailto:richenough@centurylink.net)