



Wilderness Wind

2945 Hwy 169 Ely, MN 55731

218-365-5873

www.wildernesswind.org

Completing the Reservation Form

The suggestions and information below will make the permit reservation process easier and the trip more fitting and pleasurable for your group. **If you have questions, contact Wilderness Wind; 2945 Hwy 169 Ely, MN 55731 (316) 217-1129 or Kathy@wildernesswind.org**

1. **Group Information section** of reservation form:

- a) **If a majority of your group represents a specific non-profit** (i.e.: a church, school or place of business), please put the non-profit's name as the *Name of the Group* and include the *tax id #*. This will allow **anyone** in your group to sign the permit. Include the name of a person from the non-profit as the *Trip organizer*. They will receive the reservation confirmation from the Forest Service. If you know of three other people who will likely be on the trip, please include their names as well.
- b) **If your group does not represent a non-profit**, include three names of people who will likely be on the trip as the *Trip Organizer*, and *Alternate Leaders*. (They can be under 18 years old). The Trip Organizer will receive the permit reservation confirmation via mail or email. In order to pick up the permit at the time of the trip, one of these people **must** be on the trip. If at some point you realize all three people can't join the trip, inform us as soon as possible and we will reserve a different permit. Each permit reservation is a non-refundable \$30 charge/ permit. Permits are subject to availability.
- c) **The group description** and additional information you provide helps us better serve your group. It is helpful for our trip leaders to have as much information as possible as they prepare. Thank you.

2. **Trip date section:**

The length of your trip is completely up to you. Our most typical trip is five or more days in length, but some trips are shorter. A majority of groups spend one day at Wilderness Wind in orientation prior to the canoe trip. See the fees sheet for more specifics about orientation day. Orientation is adjusted according to the experience level of the canoe group and is sometimes shortened to a partial day. At the end of the trip we ask each group to assist in cleaning the equipment used for the trip. Unpacking, cleaning gear and taking showers takes about two hours. Many groups find it helpful to make a slow re-entry after a wilderness trip so you are welcome to stay at Wilderness Wind the night after your trip, or depending on your travel plans, depart that day.

3. **Route information section:**

Talk with your group about what type of experience they are interested in and respond to the difficulty level section of the reservation form accordingly. Discuss some of the following questions:

- 1) Does the group want to move camp every day or would they prefer a layover day?
- 2) How long of a portage feels manageable?
- 3) What are people's interests? Do people want to rest and read, travel and see the Boundary Waters' diversity, work hard to get to more remote areas, or fish? (not an exhaustive list!)

We work hard to tailor the trip to your group's interest as we work out of our mission statement.

There is no typical route. We listen to your interests and suggest routes accordingly. Generally groups paddle from 6-8 miles in a day. Portages range in lengths of 20 feet to one mile. An "easy" trip usually covers 15-30 miles, allows for at least one layover day and most portages are well under 1/4 mile. A moderate trip would involve about 35 miles with some portages closer to a 1/2 mile in length. A difficult route would involve 45 miles with the occasional portage close to a mile. Groups also paddle in, camp in one place, and paddle back out.

There are many options. We look forward to working with your group's interests on this wilderness journey.