



The River Chicks

Into the Fog

Greetings everyone and Merry Christmas to all! Well, the River Chicks are at it again. Early Saturday morning, December 27, 2008 in the midst of a thick dense fog three chicks (Reta, Wendy, and Ellen) launched out for a very very very lazy leisurely paddle up the Chowan River.

We launched from Ellen's backyard which is somewhere in Chowan County. Before she moved there I am thinking only God knew where this place was ☺. Very sweet put-in off her pier. The water level was really low but Ellen has it going on over there. Even if the water is low the put-in is of ease.

When I tell you the fog was thick—it was thick! When we drove up I think we only went 25 – 30 mph in the car. The weather was great (60 something) and the air was crisp and fresh. This is when you really have to block out all the horror movies you saw when people get mauled going through the fog. We managed though. The river was incredibly flat. As soon as we turned our first bend on the river we saw two adult bald eagles soaring then landed on a tree branch and pretty much just watched us. It was spectacular! We probably paddled 4 miles or so up and back. Oh yeah, on the way up something was pushing into my boat? For the sake of my sanity we will just say it was a BIG fish.

On the way back our two eagle friends resurfaced. Also sighted was: Kingfisher, Great Blue Heron, Tufted Titmouse, Nuthatch, Chickadee, and we heard a Barred Owl. Another great sighting included: a freestyle swimmer, a soccer player, a stealth bomber, a flying pig, and a bikini line. Now, for those of you who think I am crazy these were all figures we spotted in the clouds. The sun came out and bathed us real good on the way back. It was just a beautiful day to be out on the water.

All-in-all we had a great time and hope to see everyone at our traditional New Year's Day paddle. Until then.....keep paddling and if you don't want to paddle—then dance. *Reta*

