

Camp S'alxwitsel and Bear Slough Paddle Routes

Rose Road to Dayton Pool

Paddling Etiquette

You must wear a personal flotation device (PFD).

Don't paddle alone – you never know when you need a hand.

Respect wildlife – the sloughs are important habitat for a wide variety of waterfowl, songbirds, amphibians, reptiles and mammals. Keep your distance.

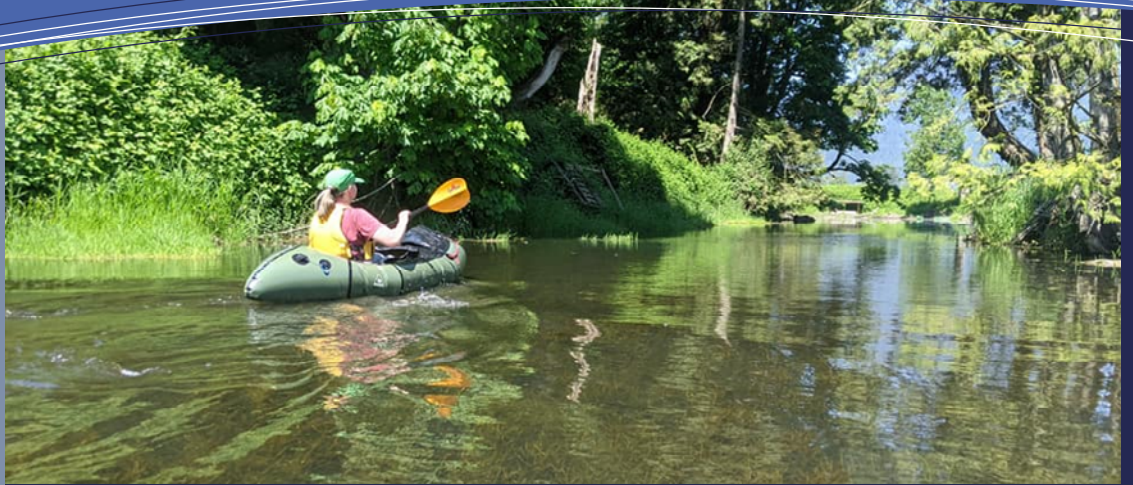
Do not disturb nesting waterfowl.

Respect private property – the shoreline might look wild (which is good!) but the adjacent property is probably residential or a farm. Don't trespass.

Your voice carries and others can hear – be mindful of what you say.

Don't block other users – move your craft out of the way.

Use leave no trace practices – please pack out all your garbage and take only photographs.



Route Description

The Camp Slough S'alxwitsel and Bear Slough paddling route includes the segment of Camp Slough near Rose Road and Dayton's Pool. Bear Slough is a slender watercourse that meanders to the north from the east side of the Rose Road crossing, to connect to Gravelly Slough, which links to Camp Slough at Dayton Pool.

Difficulty: Moderate to Challenging. Two or three portages.

Hazards: The route requires crossing two beaver dams and passing two large tree obstacles. Depending on water levels, you may be able to go over or under the logs and dams. Driveway culverts on Gravelly Slough adjacent to Kitchen Road may be impassable at high water levels. Portaging these culverts may be very challenging. This segment may be best paddled at lower water levels. We recommend scouting this section from Kitchen Road before launching.

The Rose Road bridge is not be passable at high water. A recently constructed fence makes it difficult to put in at Rose Road. The City is aware and is working on a solution.

Parking: Parking is available at Rose Road and Dayton Pool. Many nearby landowners would appreciate if parked vehicles did not block passage of tractors and other vehicles. Please park with care on the roads.

Disclaimer The route depicted here may be different than described. Watercourses may have fluctuating water levels, downed trees, or other obstacles. Paddlers should be familiar with the risks they are assuming when using these watercourses.



We acknowledge that we are on S'olh Temexw, the unceded traditional territory of the Stó:lō people.

Halq'eméylem is their language.

S'alxwitsel is the Halq'eméylem name for Camp Slough. It means the middle.



S.O.S. SAVE OUR SLOUGH

Trip Report

May 7, 2023



We completed Bear Slough yesterday starting at Kitchen Road and continuing through to Camp River and Rose Road. There are two main obstructions that require portage. These are certainly doable but not easy if there were small children. There were approximately 5 other problem areas which we fixed and navigation through them is possible.

“Low water on the slough presented challenges,
but it offers beautiful paddling in parts.”

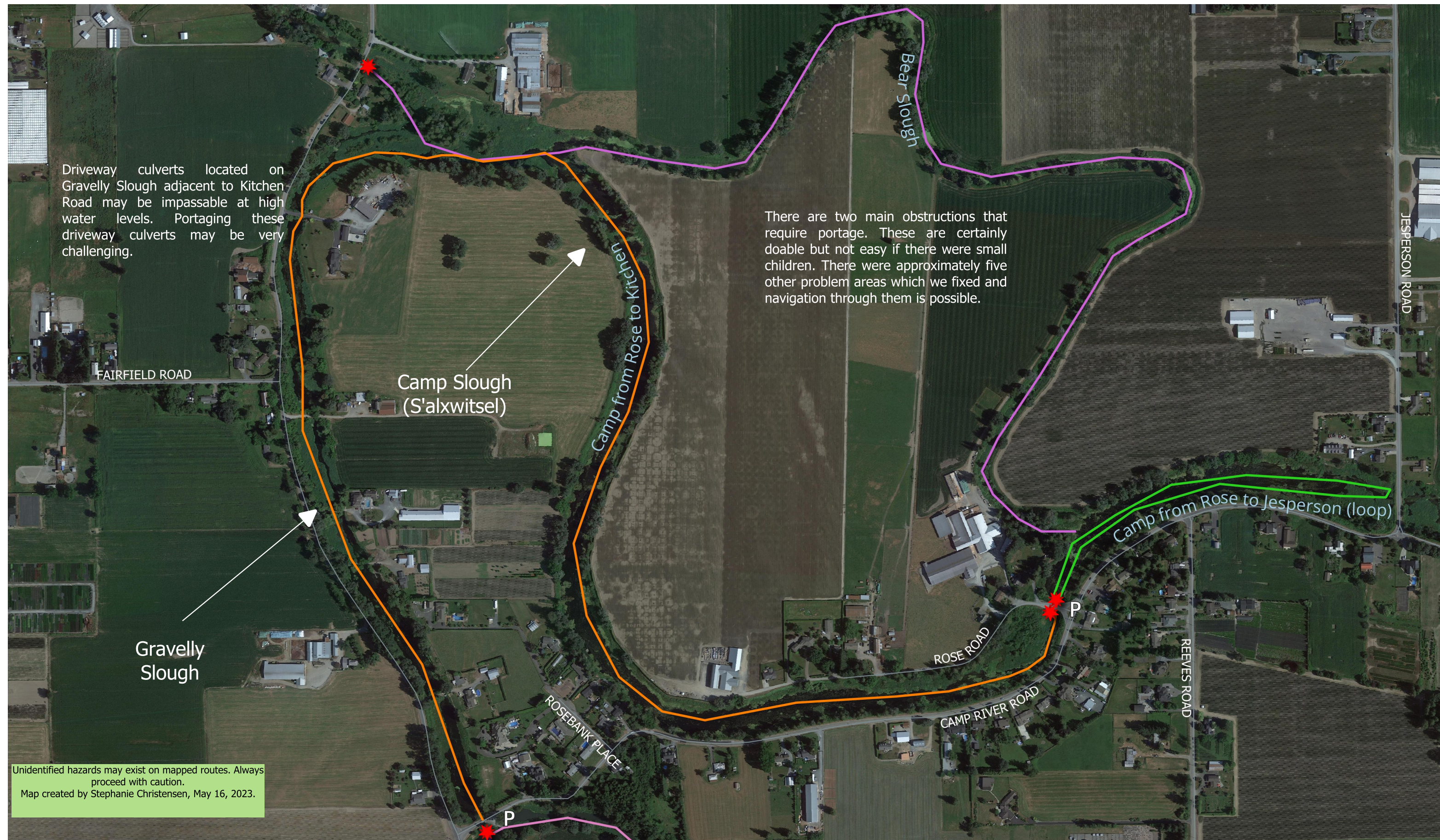
The slough is muddy and shallow for most of its length. The water is smelly and brown and the route, compared with other choices is not particularly attractive. It is interesting for sure and if the water rose a third of a metre, it would be improved.






Route Highlights

- 3.1 km easy paddling on Camp Slough from Rose Road to Dayton Pool
- 2.5 km of more difficult paddling with some portages on Bear Slough
- 1.2 km very easy loop on the east side of Rose Road
- 90 minutes of beautiful paddling
- Parking at Rose Road and Dayton Pool
- Beavers, birds, and many aquatic creatures live in these watercourses.

There are no public washrooms on this route. Please make sure to plan accordingly.

Camp Slough (S'alxwitsel) and Bear Slough Paddle Routes- Total length 6.8 km



-  Launch
  Camp Slough from Rose Road to Jespersen Road (loop)- 1.2 km
 Parking
  Bear Slough- 2.5 km
 Camp Slough from Rose Road to Kitchen Road (via Gravelly Slough)- 3.1 km

