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Pair paddles the Androscoggin from source to mouth

By Daryn Slover

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Danielle Katz and Matt Palmariello shove off from Festival Plaza in Auburn on their paddle boards Friday morning. Katz, of Truckee, Calif., and Palmariello, of Westport Island, are nearly finished with their two-week paddle from the headwaters of the Androscoggin River to the Gulf of Maine. They started where the Magalloway River joins the outlet of Umbagog Lake in Errol, N.H., on Oct. 6

and plan to reach Fort Popham on Sunday. Katz said the 192-mile paddle has been an eye-opener. Speaking of the highs and lows, she said, "We have seen tons and tons of bald eagles" and "there have been a lot of dam portages. We have both been surprised at just how beautiful the river is." Katz is the co-founder of Rivers for Change, a nonprofit group dedicated to changing the way people think about the water.

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"Izzie" the duck is making the two-week, 192-mile Androscoggin River trip with Matt Palmariello and Danielle Katz.

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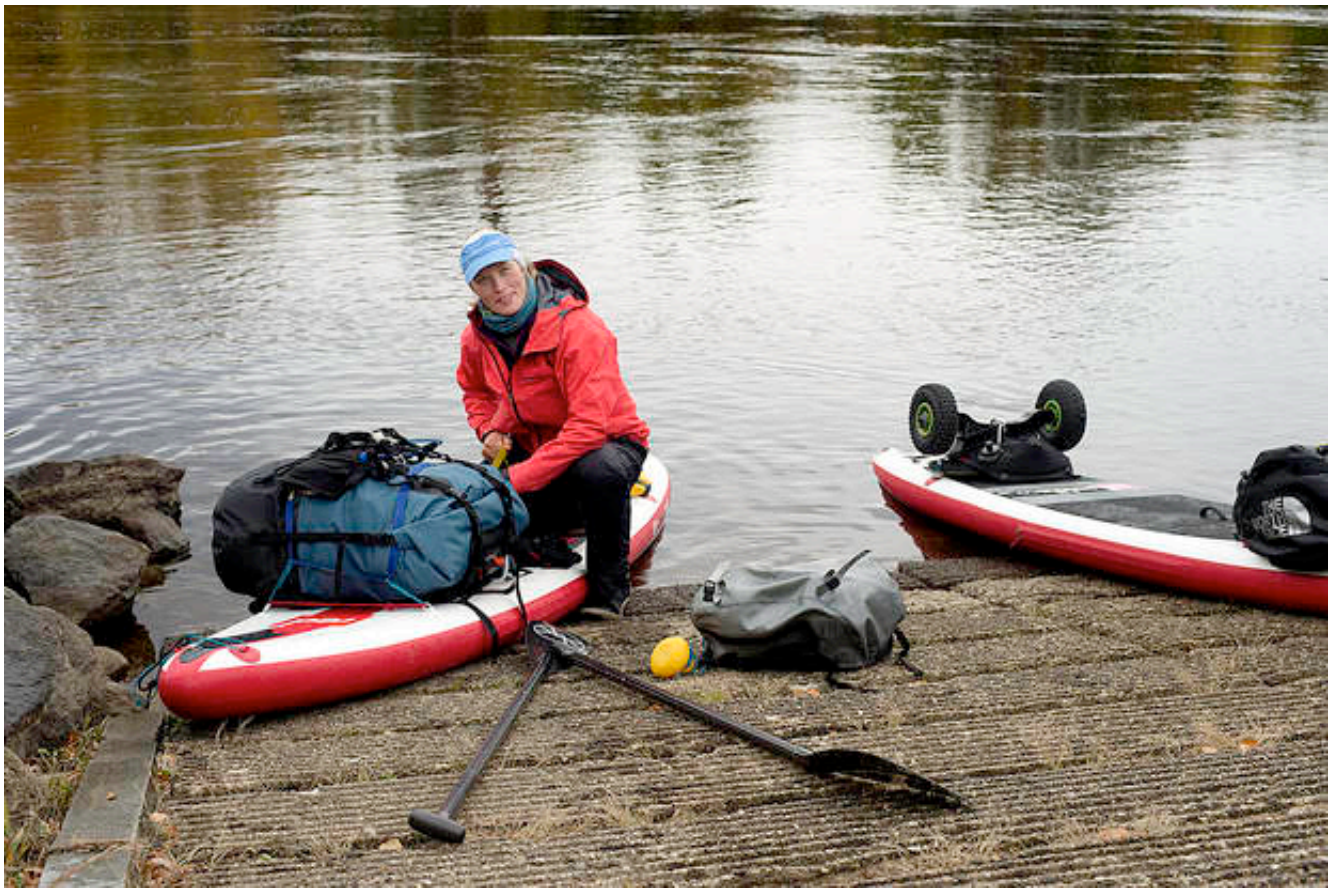

Danielle Katz said about 80 pounds of gear is attached to each paddle board.

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Danielle Katz gives Judy Marden of Greene a hug before Katz and Matt Palmariello paddle down the Androscoggin River in Auburn on Friday. Katz and Palmariello stayed at Marden's home Thursday night. Marden is a board member of the Androscoggin Land Trust and has been a source of information for Katz and Palmariello. "It's a privilege to benefit from the work that they are doing," Katz said about the land trust.

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Rivers for Change board member Matt Palmariello waves to the Androscoggin Land Trust director of conservation, Deb Charest, and Androscoggin Lane Trust board member Judy Marden as he paddles the river.

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Danielle Katz and Matt Palmariello paddle down the Androscoggin River on Friday. Their plan was to paddle about 15 miles and camp below Lisbon Falls on Friday night. They will have paddled 192 miles when their adventure is complete.

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