

Souris River Bend South hike June 10th 2023

Everyone was assembled at the meeting point before I got there, so I guess everyone was on time. We got pooled up for the drive and we're at the South Camp trailhead before the scheduled departure time.

Bert, Judy, Arron and James headed east from the trailhead through Prairie Grass that had grown in to a height of about 2 ft. (or should I say 61 cm.). Because it was the Souris River Valley which I believe is the tick capital of Manitoba, we were stopping about every 10 or 15 minutes to do a tick pick. After about a kilometer of the long grass hiking, we headed north up a trail that was fairly well packed and groomed. Then we climbed up out of the river valley, our first stop was at a spot overlooking the Souris River and the Bend.



Then it was on down the trail to the Wayne's Trail turn off that took us back down a fairly steep incline to the river.

Note: You need to keep a count of these ups and downs into and out of the Souris River valley. Once we were back down into the river valley we continued East down Wayne's Trail. Then we came part way back up out of the River Valley continuing East through a more Prairie like area. After a side trip to the deer hunter's camp area we soon arrived at Middle Camp. After using the modern washroom facilities with no TP, we had a short discussion about the high level of the water at the river crossing that the horses would normally use to get on to the Souris River Valley North trails.

From here we headed back about a kilometer to the spot on the riverbank where there were some perfect rocks to sit upon and enjoy our light lunch.



We took a slightly different return route from this point which consisted of a pre-up section, and severe-up section, and a post-up section to get to the top out of the valley where there were some views back down into the valley and the river.

As was expected Bert brought up the rear of the group while “getting down” to get some great shots of the local flora. (*His photos are at the end of this document.*)



From here we headed west through a more forested area, passed the Wayne's Trail turn off and back to the first look off point.



Photo by Bert

Then it was downhill all the way back to the trailhead.



The weather for the hike was perfect.

Total tick count would have been into the 100s, and that is before everyone did their at-home strip-down tick check.

I must apologize, I promised 10.7km and only delivered 10.58km. :(



James

Plus some photos by Bert.

