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Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2010 7:55 PM
To: info@customcabins.com
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October 2010

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The advent of fall in the northland brings about many of the year's most drastic changes. Gone from the previous summer months are the welcome buzz of summer visitors and the prosperity they bring to the region but gone also is the drone of biting insects. With the decreased amount of travelers and the bright autumn colors, many paddlers and fisherman alike find the months of September and October to be prime season for a canoe getaway into the Boundary Waters and the neighboring Quetico Park.



*Newfound Lake*

With the legal use of motors on the Moose Lake Chain and Basswood many paddlers take advantage of a tow service that brings them to non-motorized destinations where they can then enjoy the quiet of paddle-only

lakes. This “jump start” on a trip also means that paddlers can reach more remote destinations well before supper time. With a 20 minute tow from Moose Lake, Indian Portage takes you into Birch Lake; the starting point for many who seek the clear deep waters of Knife Lake at the end of a half-day’s paddle.



*View of Knife Lake from Thunder Point looking southwest and then looking North from Robins Island, respectively.*

Situated to the northeast of Moose Lake, Knife is an expansive body of water with an area of nearly 5,000 acres and a depth of almost 180 feet. Fisherman can expect prime opportunities for walleye, bass, northern pike, and especially in the fall, lake trout. Unlike many fish, lake trout spawn at the onset of fall and into the early winter months and this behavior results in the September end of their legal harvest season. In the warm summer months lake trout prefer the cool darkness of Knife’s deeper regions, but with water temperatures descending in the fall, anglers are apt to find fish suspended in any number of depths. Though it may appear a daunting task to locate fish with so much water to cover, this time of year is an excellent opportunity to troll and cast crank baits.



*Mann's 30+, bait caster, and braided line.*

Trolling or casting crank baits allows an angler to cover a variety of depths; through manipulation of the style and size of the lure, the addition and placement of weights, and the amount of line being extended, an angler can cover depths from 5 to 45 feet without the use of downriggers. This, along with depth charts available free on the Minnesota DNR's Lake finder site, <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html>, two paddlers can enjoy excellent fishing without the addition of a depth finder and other gear used normally in a 16' Lund—a welcome reduction in weight when portaging gear.



*Lake Trout caught at an estimated depth of 45' on a Mann's 30+ deep diver and 150+ yards of line—no weight added.*

Though evening temperatures may drop well below freezing during this time of the year, a warm and comfy sleeping bag and a good tent can provide all the warmth necessary to make a fall trip anything but burdensome. The fall is a transitional period in the Ely area. Situated between the warmth and bustle of summer and the empty chill of winter, many abhor the occasional but abysmal rains that the fall brings and eagerly await the June and July to come. Though this may be true—Octobers have been known leave the unkindest cut of all—the unique opportunity is still available to enjoy the distinct beauty found only with one season's passing and another's return.



Even though this letter reflects activities that occurred in October, in reality it is the latter part of November. That means that it is time to think seriously about reservations with Custom Cabins for next summer.

Applications for the permit lottery open December and close January 15th. After that there will be no more day use motor permits. So, if you think you may want to visit us next summer and want to fish beyond Moose Lake, get out your calendars and think about vacation dates. We hope to hear from you.

**Custom Cabin Rentals**  
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