

# UNTAMED NEW ENGLAND : CAPTAIN COMMUNICATION #3



<http://www.UntamedNE.com>

**ARWORLD SERIES**

## Our 3<sup>rd</sup> & Final Communication

This is the final Untamed New England 2010 Captain Communication; you will want to circulate this to your teammates so everyone gets the information.

This information is in addition to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Captain Communications; you can view the 1<sup>st</sup> one via this link:

[http://www.untamedne.com/Media/2010\\_Captain\\_Communication\\_1.pdf](http://www.untamedne.com/Media/2010_Captain_Communication_1.pdf) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> one via this link:

link:

[http://www.untamedne.com/Media/2010\\_Captain\\_Communication\\_2.pdf](http://www.untamedne.com/Media/2010_Captain_Communication_2.pdf)

See you soon!

## Course Overview

The next page of this Communication is a visual overview of the 2010 Untamed New England course.

The graphic shows the 6 "legs" to the race, including the conservation projects, transition areas, and gear staging around the course.

The distances referenced are only approximations.

Note the hot meal that will be available (for \$) at TA #1.

The Primus Camping TA (TA 3/4/5) will have camp stoves and water available for you to cook "just-add-boiling-water" meals. As there are virtually no stores or restaurants along the course, you're encouraged to take advantage of this luxury courtesy of Primus Camping.

This overview should help your packing and final preparations.

### Inside This Captain Communication

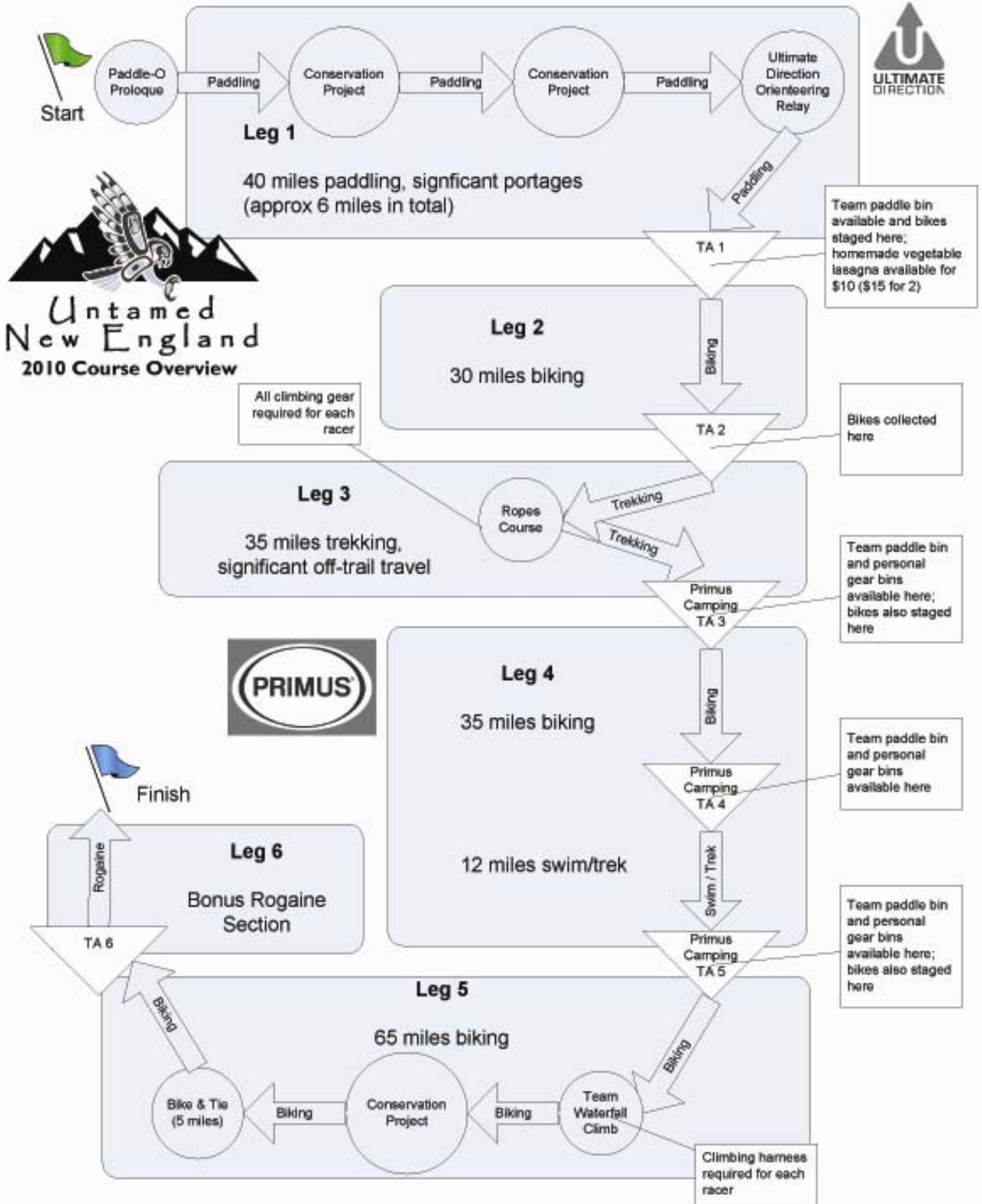
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## Check-In Notes

At 8 AM on Thursday Aug 12<sup>th</sup>, you can complete your check-in formalities and be ready to start the race. Here are some items to note:

- Your whole team must check-in together
- Bring a credit card, as we will take an imprint for each team to cover damage to watercraft, tracking devices, etc.
- You may have waivers to sign (particularly if you haven't completed them online in advance – deadline for online waivers is Fri Aug 6<sup>th</sup>).
- If each racer brings a canned food item to donate, the race can add 150 cans to the local foodbank
- We will not be checking mandatory gear other than your required shelter and your Iridium satellite phone (we will note the number and be sure you know how to use your phone). Gear checks will take place on the course.
- Once you're finished with these formalities, we'll issue your race booklet, tracking beacons, maps, bibs, etc.





## Balsams Ski Lodge Map



### Event Parking

For the Weds Aug 11<sup>th</sup> VIP Reception, there are no parking restrictions at the Balsams Wilderness Ski Lodge. On race morning Aug 12<sup>th</sup>, however, racers must park in the “upper lot” as the “lower lot” is reserved for race staff, media, and buses. Refer to the map above for the location of these lots.

Racer vehicles may be left at the “upper lot” for the duration of the race. You may leave your car keys with Race HQ (leave them with race staff at the Ski Lodge).

### Bike Storage & Service

The Balsams bike storage area at the Wilderness Ski Lodge will be open from 3 PM on Weds Aug 11<sup>th</sup>; you can keep your bikes here overnight – bikes aren’t permitted inside the main resort.

Additionally, the Balsams Bike Shop is available to tune-up or adjust your bike. Professional service is available from their shop for the \$30/hour labor charge, they’ll stay open later on Weds (until 5:30 or 6 PM) and at 7 AM on race morning.



Official watch of Untamed  
New England



## Acknowledgements & Final Remarks

All the preliminaries are over and it's almost go-time. Get to the starting line healthy, rested, and ready to go – that's it!

We are fortunate to have the support of so many outstanding organizations. The New Hampshire Charitable Trust has been instrumental in making our race happen this year. Our host venue, the Balsams, is certainly the finest resort in the US to ever be involved with us gritty adventure racers – two years in a row, now, too!

Our state-of-the-art race tracking is powered by TrackMe360.com (we're in good company as they're also handling the Adventure Racing World Championships for the next couple years, too!).

In this tough economic environment, I should highlight the steady support of businesses like Long Trail Ale, Origo Watches, Primus Camping, Ultimate Direction, Lahout's, and Sierra Designs. I encourage you to patronize all our sponsors (see [www.UntamedNE.com/Sponsors.aspx](http://www.UntamedNE.com/Sponsors.aspx)) so they continue to see value in supporting adventure racing and the Untamed New England!

Until next week: may your maps always be dry,

Grant Killian and the staff of Untamed Adventure

## Final Course Testing Notes

"It got down to 35 degrees Fahrenheit last night – that's cold, tell racers that it may be summer where they're coming from, but it feels like Fall up here!"

"That's a mountain bike eating forest. The trails on the map aren't there anymore, I guess they were eaten by the forest too. It's taken out a couple roads, also!"

"I've never done a bike-&-tie in a race before, but is it normal to have to bushwhack with the bike on those?"

"Such an amazing forest through there; stretches of dense pines and then –poof– it clears off and you can actually make decent time through parts of it."

"Man, when you see a moose up close – in the wild like that – it's a scary thing. Even though they're \*mostly\* harmless, a big animal like that taps some evolutionary instinct."

"While they may not want to wear their warm clothes (even wetsuits if they have them?) to start the race, at midnight when they're coming off the Leg 1 paddle it could be really cold. Bring the heavy warm stuff even if the race starts sunny and clear. Water temps in the low 70s..."

"Are you going to warn racers in advance to bring change for the payphone that's part of that Checkpoint? If not, let me do it: bring 35 cents in a ziplock bag with you. It will say so in your race instructions . . . honest."

## From Race Videographer, Randy Ericksen

Untamed New England will not be the usual adventure racing film. If you want to spend 90 minutes watching one or two of the front running teams, you will be disappointed.

My name is Randy Ericksen and I will be filming and producing the DVD for Untamed New England. I have a different way of seeing the race. I am out there with a video camera and the racers. I want to find the interesting stories, no matter where they are in the field.

Using a combination of small HD cameras and audio gear I do a video that puts the racers back in the moment. I don't cover every inch of the course, but find the places that the racers will remember, maybe fondly, maybe not. The goal of my film is get all the Teams in it. 3 days and 40 teams... sometimes I find a team that has an interesting story (or my wife) and will stay with them for a while.

If you are wondering who is this guy and why does he think he can keep up with us? My Background includes Pro road racing, ultra mountain biking, including an age group World Championship, and lots of trail running. Plus I have the advantage of knowing where you might go. I shot and produce last year's Primal Quest Badlands a full-length film that did have every Team in it.



I am looking forward to seeing you all out on the course.

/randy