

Pontoon Boat Research

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Brad Smith, 2020

I know there are several new members who don't yet have boats, and have been asking for recommendations. I've spent some time on the net looking at what's out there. From my somewhat limited experience I believe you need a craft that is a pontoon style kick boat, under 40 lbs, over 8 feet, not with high profile, reasonably well made, with a sturdy seat and at least some storage and deck space, and with a rowing frame. I felt light weight and portability are lesser concerns for us here in AZ.

This list keeps coming up Scadden, much as I hate to say it. His newest Dragonator for 2019 hits all the checks. The boat is not cheap, although his prices are always, well, flexible? I thought you might pass this along to the club. I'd advise them to speak with those of us who own Scaddens before buying. Scadden is a savant and a Scoundrel, and the buying process is rarely without issues. Still, I could not find a more suitable boat for our particular needs.

Maybe a few of us can discuss this before sending out any recommendations, as I probably missed some boats that should be recommended. Personally, I felt a frame to be very important, along with longer oars as we often find ourselves rowing considerable distances against the wind. An easily handled anchor system and motor attachments could also be factors I have not looked at.

Check the website: Dave Scadden Paddlesports

<https://www.davescaddenpaddlesports.com/product-page/2019-dragonator>