

News Article
December 1, 2008
Roger Vines
County Extension Coordinator

Kayaker Earns \$1000 Award

Ardie Olson is an experienced kayak and canoe enthusiast. Recently he put his skills to the test by being the first person to complete the Alabama Scenic River Trail. He completed the 631 mile river trail that runs from the Georgia line, down the Coosa River, and all the way to Fort Morgan where with river merges with the Gulf of Mexico. He completed the trail in just 12 days and earned the \$1000 cash award for the first person to complete the entire trail.

The trail has only recently been completed. Numerous volunteers worked hard with Alabama Power and other authorities to establish portages around all the dams and locks to complete the trail. Extension Regional Agent, Andy Baril was instrumental in developing the portage around Mitchell Dam. So now if you have a canoe or a kayak and you are up for an adventure, you can float the entire river trail, the longest in the country.

For more photos visit Ardie Olson on the River Trail - al.com at the below website.
(http://photos.al.com/birmingham-ews/2008/10/ardie_olson_on_the_river_trail_7.html)

Photo: Ardie Olson receives \$1000 check for being the first person to complete the Alabama Scenic River Trail.