Canoe & Kayak Rafting Issue June 2008
Reviewing The NRS Otter 140

NRS Otter 140

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$3,360	L: 14 ft	Tube Diameter: 20 in
nrsweb.com	W: 7 ft	Chambers: 7
	120 lbs.	

THE OTTER IS AS VENERABLE A DESIGN as any (nearly as venerable as NRS founder Bill Parks himself.) The Otter's longevity owes itself to a wide, stable design perfectly suited for oar rigs and big water (for a more maneuverable paddle boat, try the slimmer Otter 142 at 6ft and 6in wide.) Made from 41-ounce, 1,100-denier Hypalon, a key feature of the craft is its proprietary, tracking-friendly I-beam floor that the company calls the "Y" beam, which eliminates sheer failure in the floor (NRS hasn't seen a blown I-beam for more than six years). Also look for 40-ounce high-density Hypalon gum chafers (those black zebra stripes along the bottom) that provide the slipperiness of urathane with the repair ease of Hypalon.