TVC Live Notes - Boondocking with @UnknownNormal

Tuesday, May 28, 2019

**DEFINING THE DIFFERENCES**

* No official definition, but here is ours:

Boondocking - off-grid vehicle camping on undeveloped land; can be paid or free.

*Versus:*

Dry Camping - off-grid camping; can be on developed or undeveloped land.

* Other references - primitive, wild, and backcountry camping

Hookup Camping - developed land with electric, water and/or sewer access.

Lotdocking - camping on a parking lot. The term ‘camping’ is used loosely here.

Moochdocking - camping for free on residential property usually owned by a friend/relative.

**ESTABLISHING AUTHORITY**

We started boondocking on April 12, 2018 and continued to do so for 242 days of the remaining 265 days in the year.

**WHY WE BOONDOCK**

Beautiful places

Quiet, remote locations

Greater sense of self-reliance

More of an adventure

Conservation

Freedom - minimal rules; no dog leash

**WHERE WE BOONDOCK**

Good weather locations with usable cell service that we can fit our rig into

National Forests

National Parks

BLM land

**Some places we’ve stayed:**

* Sedona, Flagstaff, & Quartzite, AZ
* Divide & Buena Vista, CO
* Olympic Nat’l Rainforest, near Lake Crescent, WA
* Sisters, OR (near Bend)
* Tonopah & Lake Mead, NV
* Susanville, Chiriaco Summit, & Ogliby, CA

**HOW WE BOONDOCK?**

**Power:**

(1) 100Ah AGM battery

(1) 400Wh all-in-one portable power station (AC/DC out/in, solar)

(2) 120W lightweight, foldable solar panels

(1) 20A PWM solar charge controller

(1) 600W pure sine inverter

(1) 20,000mAh DC power pack

(1) 3200W propane power generator

We don’t have:

* More than 1 house battery
* Tons of solar
* A large inverter
* An expensive generator

**Water:**

(1) 30gal portable water bladder

(1) DC water pump

(1) 6gal portable drinking water container

(2) 1gal water jugs (flush water)

(2) cases of bottled water

(1) 2.5gal filtered water

**Propane:**

(2) 30gal RV tanks

(1) 4gal grill tank

(2) 1lb camping tanks

**Day-to-Day Life:**

- Little Buddy heater and oscillating fan

- Drip coffee maker

- No microwave or toaster oven

- Small trash bags

- Personal cleansing wipes

**ADD’L RESOURCES**

**Helpful mobile apps for finding campsites:**

* Campendium
* FreeRoam
* iOverlander
* Boondocking
* Google Maps
* Avenza Maps [for NF MVUMs]
* Fires (wildfire locator)
* Public Lands (paid) [map of US public lands]
* Coverage? (paid) [cell phone coverage map]
* AllStays (paid)

**Helpful websites for finding campsites:**

* Campendium.com
* AllStays.com
* FreeCampsites.net
* Fs.fed.us (Nat’l Forest Service)
* BLM.gov
* DaysEndDirectory.com (paid member site)

More helpful information:

* Weather.gov | weather.com | accuweather.com | usclimatedata.com
* Facebook boondocking groups
* Instagram: #boondocking
* DarkSkies.com
* AtlasObscura.com (find unique places)
* Gas Guru mobile app (locates cheapest fuel prices)