

# Kayaking Trip Put-in Checklist

## INTRODUCTIONS

Paddlers introduce themselves

## ITINERARY EXPLANATION

Where, speed, keeping together

Identification of Lead, Sweep, and First-aid providers

## ABSOLUTELY NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL BEFORE OR DURING THE TRIP!!

Social hour on overnight trips excluded/excesses discouraged.

## EQUIPMENT CHECK

Glasses straps

Gear in bags or fastened down

Boat adjusted properly

Do you have floatation?

Drinking water?

Food?

When on the water, wear PFD at all times.

## GROUP COMMUNICATION

### WHISTLE

One blast - Attention

3 or more blasts - Attention- **HELP**

### PADDLE SIGNALS

Vertical Static: STRAIGHT AHEAD, COME AHEAD

45 degrees right or left - PREFERRED ROUTE, Never point at something to be avoided.

Vertical Waving - HELP

Horizontal - STOP, GATHER AROUND LEADER

## GROUP PADDLING INSTRUCTIONS

Maintain group communications: Stay within audible/visual distance of leader or sweep.

Paddling partners

Do not leave group without telling leader.

If a group breaks away, the new group must be a proper group with a leader, and necessary equipment.

It is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to communicate and problems, difficulties or apprehensions about the paddling situation. What we do not know about we cannot control.

Lead boat sets the pace, **BE AWARE OF WEAKEST LINK**

## WHAT HAPPENS IN CASE OF SWIM OR EMERGENCY

Leader moves into position to provide assistance to victims and rescuing partner.

Sweep is in position to assist if necessary.

## **Kayaking Trip Put-in Checklist**

First-aid person in position to assist.  
Group rafts up and waits for instructions.  
Swimmer holds onto boat and paddle, if possible  
Check status of paddler  
Get swimmer into boat **ASAP** and secure spray skirt  
Pump out cockpit  
Set up tow, if necessary

### **MINIMUM IMPACT TALK**

Garbage and human waste  
Smoking and fires

### **GROUP STRETCH**