Yellowstone National Park

Non-Motorized Watercraft Task Book

Trainee	Date Started

Guides must demonstrate all skills to the satisfaction of the evaluator and must demonstrate competence and confidence during evaluation. Evaluators are established by each involved Commercial Use Authorization holder.

Section 1

Paddling Technique/ Boat fitting

Objectives:

- Demonstrate proper watercraft **outfitting** for guiding.
- Demonstrate skill in **moving your watercraft** forward, backwards, sideways, and turning.
- Demonstrate skill in **maintaining an upright position** while unbalanced.

Paddling Technique/ Boat fitting	Completed (Intls/ date)
1. Demonstrate proper way to wear PFD	
2. Demonstrate adjusting watercraft for proper fit and operation for guiding	
3. Demonstrate forward stroke	
4. Demonstrate reverse Stroke	
5. Demonstrate sweep stroke	
6. Demonstrate draw stroke and sculling draw	
7. Demonstrate bracing technique	
8. Demonstrate launching	

Section 2

Rescue Technique and Guide Gear

Objectives:

- Demonstrate competency in watercraft **self-rescue** techniques.
- Demonstrate competency in **assisted rescue** techniques.
- Demonstrate understanding of required guide **equipment** and its proper use.

Open Water Self-Rescue Skills	Completed (Intls/ date)
1. Demonstrate wet exit	
2. Demonstrate paddle float self-entry	
3. Demonstrate scramble self-entry	
4. Demonstrate removing water from vessel with bilge pump	
5. Describe importance of staying with watercraft and paddle	

Open Water Assisted Rescue Skills	Completed (Intls/ date)
1. Demonstrate watercraft capsize and wet exit	
2. Demonstrate T-rescue for single watercraft	
3. Demonstrate T-Rescue for tandem watercraft	
4. Demonstrate removal of water from client watercraft and re-gearing of paddler	
5. Warming up and confirming paddler condition (hypothermia detection, etc.)	

Guide Gear	Completed (Intls/ date)
1. Demonstrate paddle float use	
2. Demonstrate bilge pump use	
3. Demonstrate radio use: -Operating channel and clear communication -Weather forecast -Emergency channels	
4. Demonstrate proper us of whistles and signaling devices and describe limitations	

Section 3

Safety Speech and Understanding Hazards

Objectives:

- Must be able to recite all aspects of **safety briefing**.
- Demonstrate knowledge of **local weather** conditions and impacts.
- Demonstrate knowledge of **no-go situations**.

Safety Briefing	Completed (Initials)
1. Provide safety briefing introduction	
2. Demonstrate how to instruct proper way to hold and use a paddle to include forward and reverse strokes	
3. Demonstrate how to instruct proper adjustment and operation of a watercraft rudder	
4. Demonstrate how to instruct attachment and detachment of watercraft spray skirt	
5. Demonstrate how to instruct proper execution of a wet exit	
6. Demonstrate how to instruct client procedures while in the water after wet exit	
7. Demonstrate how to instruct watercraft re-entry with guide assistance	
8. Demonstrate how to instruct importance of staying with your guide	
9. Demonstrate how to instruct what to do in the event of nausea (“sea sickness”)	
10. Demonstrate how to instruct proper whistle and signaling techniques	

11. Demonstrate how to instruct the following hazards to clients:
    a. weather
    b. other boats
    c. thermal areas
    d. wildlife

Section 3 (continued)

Weather	Completed (Initials)
1. Describe typical wind and wave conditions for the area	
2. Describe the effect of wind direction and speed on wave heights	
3. Describe the effect of wind direction on paddling difficulty	
4. Describe the general effect of waves on the lakeshore	
5. Describe conditions that would determine a no-go situation	
6. Describe procedures for thunderstorms	
7. Describe the criteria for Small Craft Advisories	

Other Hazards	Completed Day (Initials)	Completed Night (Initials)
1. Describe the effects of other boats and how to avoid being run over		
2. Describe other typical boat users along the lakeshore		
3. Describe the primary wildlife concerns and precautions along the lakeshore		
4. Describe what to do in the event of client sea sickness		
5. Demonstrate proper technique of whistles and signaling		
6. Explain why watercrafts must not drift within 25 feet (~7.5 meters) of shoreline thermal features and submerged thermal features and are not allowed to land within thermal areas or within 32 feet (~10 meters) of thermal features.		

Section 5

Completion of Guide Training

Guide has demonstrated competence and proficiency in all skills.

Trainee	Date	Evaluator	Date

Manager Name (print)	Company Name
Manager Signature	Date