

Trip Planning & Organization

Know:

1. Group

Are my **paddle and rescue skills appropriate** for this river in these conditions?
How about everyone else? **How many** people and boats? **Who is going to watch after me?**
is everyone in **good physical and mental condition** now?
Does everyone have **adequate equipment** in good condition?

2. River

Water Levels, Access, Length, Difficulty, *gages for plan, visual for decision to launch.*
Hazards- typical vs possible at this level and weather forecast.
...and **increase as levels rise** *from low to adequate to high.*

3. Weather

Actual vs Forecast,
Time of Day, Daylight hours, Temperature -- *60°F, Wind, Rain, Thunderstorm, lighting?*

Plan the trip / Communicate Plan

Do we agree on what we are doing, where we are going, and how will we proceed?
Does the plan really fit with Group, River and Weather?
Shuttles !!

Common Adventure vs Leader

individual paddlers are **responsible for their own safety** and
must make their own decisions to participate, select appropriate equipment,
and to scout, portage, continue, or takeout.

Keep the group Together

Each maintain **Visual Contact** to rear, **Lead keeps group together**, Sweep deals with problems,
ditto on river and shuttle