

# PADDLE WISE

## A Responsibility Code for River Runners



### PADDLE SMART

Paddle within your ability · Keep your skills sharp · Communicate with your team on the river · Think for yourself · Don't let bad decisions compound · Go big, but come home safe



### PADDLE PREPARED

Plan ahead · Consult existing beta · Understand International Scale of River Difficulty and your chosen river's rating · Carry proper equipment including medical kit, spare paddle and emergency food/layers



### PADDLE INCLUSIVE

Share it · Everyone with the proper skillset is welcome · Find a mentor · Be a mentor · Acknowledge Indigenous stewardship and land · Be a positive part of the community



### PADDLE SAFE

Wear your PFD · Carry a throw rope, knife & other safety gear · Practice safe river running technique · Set safety where appropriate · Take a swiftwater rescue course · Practice whitewater rescue skills regularly



### PADDLE NO TRACE

Leave no trace · Always be a river steward · Use existing access areas, trails, and campsites · Pack it in · Pack it out · Use restroom facilities or bring your own waste disposal · Be aware of and remove micro-trash



### PADDLE AWARE

Check weather and flow conditions · Check for closures and river regulations · Know your ability and your group's ability · Understand surrounding landscape and escape routes · Research existing hazards, portages, and critical features



### PADDLE RESPECTFULLY

Consider impacts to gateway communities · Consider impacts on other paddlers · Drive slowly · Park in designated areas · Respect closures · Be friendly and represent the whitewater community positively · Appreciate cultural resources and leave undisturbed

