

Skagit River Rafting (ESCI x OC Training)
4/27/24



Location: We will be rafting the Skagit River, located just outside of Marblemount, WA, in the North Cascades National Park.

Transportation: All transportation to and from the river will be provided by the OC. All river transportation will be steered by OC trip leaders, but powered by you and the river.

Weather: Expect temperatures ranging from the high 40s to low 60s. There is always the possibility of rain in the PNW, and we will be getting wet regardless, so come prepared with non-cotton layers and rain coats! More info in the equipment list.

Food: We will be on the river for between an hour and a half and two hours so bring snacks! Bring small snacks that you store in the group drybag. We will be out and about for most of the day so please pack a lunch! We will be leaving the Outdoor Center the morning of the trip and returning to the Outdoor Center later that evening. With that in mind, please eat breakfast before coming to the Outdoor Center that morning and plan to provide meals and snacks for yourself throughout the day. **The Outdoor Center is NOT providing any food.**

Leave No Trace: All Outdoor Center Excursions promote Leave No Trace principles. Excursions offer several trips throughout the year, this has a high impact in the environments

that we are entering. While we are in the field, we will actively be practicing all LNT principles that apply to our group and activity.

Expedition Behavior: Expedition behavior means taking care of yourself and other group members. It means staying hydrated, not unnecessarily endangering yourself, and communicating concerns to trip leaders. Characteristics such as respectfulness, flexibility, tolerance of others, courtesy, direct communication, self-awareness, and teamwork become critical when traveling in small groups in remote areas. Proper expedition behavior can be the difference between an average experience and a great one!

Smoking, Alcohol, and Illegal Substances: Excursions is a substance free program. The use of any drugs or alcohol on the trip can compromise the safety and experience for the entire group. We have a no tolerance policy for drugs and alcohol on our trips. Any person found to be in breach of this policy will be subject to university consequences and/or criminal charges depending on the circumstances.

What is provided by the Outdoor Center: All necessary rafting gear will be provided by the OC. This includes boats, paddles, wetsuits, booties (neoprene shoes), splash tops, and helmets. You will need to provide your own base layers.

Land Acknowledgement: This trip will be taking place in the Skagit River Valley. We will be recreating on stolen lands of the Coast Salish people. Please keep the importance of respect in mind while we are visiting these spaces. We are privileged to be able to enjoy recreational activities on these lands and we must remember that they are not our original lands.

Resources:

Water Level:

Check water levels at the links below if interested.

- USGS: <https://waterdata.usgs.gov/usa/nwis/uv?12178000>
- American Whitewater:
<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/River/view/river-detail/2206/main>
 - If interested, this link includes more information about the river and location. In my opinion, this is a much more digestible resource for both water level and river info.

NOAA:

Check the Marblemount weather forecast at the link below.

<https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=48.5274&lon=-121.416#.Y02Ku3bMLIU>

Itinerary (4/27/24):

- 7:00am- Meet at the Outdoor Center
 - Gather personal river gear
 - Load group and personal gear into trailer
 - Hook up trailer
- 8:30am- Depart from Bellingham
 - Approximately 1.5 hour travel time
- 10:00am- Arrive at Goodell Creek Campground
 - Gear up
 - Pump and rig boats
- 10:45am- Group safety talk + paddle talks
- 11:15am- GO BOATIN'!
 - Potentially eat lunch on the river based on group needs?

- Land acknowledgement
- 1:30pm- Takeout at Copper Creek
 - Change into dry clothes/collect wet gear
 - Eat snacks
 - Load boats
 - Load up all gear/humans
- 2:30pm- Leave for Bellingham
- 4:00pm- Arrive at the Outdoor Center
 - Unload and wash gear
- 4:45pm- Bittersweet goodbyes

Trip Leader Contact Information:

Ruthie Yawney: (509)964-6595

Katrina Doerflinger: (206)434-0655

LET'S GO BOATIN'!