

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 but leave undisturbed