

## TRIP LEADER PRE-LAUNCH BRIEFING CHECK LIST

### ENSURE EVERYONE IS PROPERLY EQUIPPED:

#### ALL PADDLERS:

- Proper floatation for the boat
- Personal Floatation Device (PFD) must be worn
- Spray skirt must be worn (except Sit On Tops)
- Sound and light signals as required by USCG (whistle, light)
- Self-rescue aids (paddle float, stirrup if required)
- Bilge pump
- Water / sports drink
- Proper clothing for the water temperature / forecasted weather

#### GROUP GEAR:

- Distress Signals
- Spare Paddle(s)
- Towline(s) / Contact Tow rig
- First Aid Kit

#### OPEN WATER:

- VHF radio(s)
- Chart(s)
- Deck Compass(es) / Bearing (hand) compass(es)
- Additional Towlines
- Emergency blanket / survival kit
- Drinks and snacks / emergency rations
- Warm clothing (wool hat, spare jacket...)
- Helmet for shore surf as appropriate

### BRIEF PADDLE PLAN

- Tides/current predictions
- Weather predictions
- Routes, rendezvous, bail out, break, and lunch locations

Is everyone comfortable with it?

Has everyone wet exited before? (if not pre-qualified)

Leave No Trace reminder

Each paddler brief the following:

- Name and experience level
- Any relevant medical conditions/injuries/restrictions

Assign Leads and sweeps

Assign experienced paddlers to novices as necessary

Any remaining questions?

Everyone on the float plan?

Get a head / boat count