APA Outings Program

Introduction
What is an APA Outing?

1. Non-Commercial
APA Outings are led by unpaid volunteers. There is no fee to participate, just expenses for the outing.

2. Sponsored by the APA
The APA provides advice, liability insurance, and promotes the outing on their website and Facebook.

3. Conservation Focus
In addition to being fun, and building skills and community, there must be a conservation focus.
Conservation Focus

• A **Leave No Trace awareness** workshop taught during the outing
• A **formal presentation** about the location by a land manager, ecologist, or other expert
• Arranging **co-sponsorship** with a conservation group, and inviting their members
• Using packrafts to **gather data** for a conservation study or citizen science
• Bringing **decision-makers** into an at-risk wilderness area
• Using packrafts for **trash retrieval**, invasive species removal, trail building, outreach...
First Ever APA Outings Program Trip!
April 2017. Forrest McCarthy and Luther Propst led an 8 person team on the San Juan River, UT.

Trip Stats
4 days, 3 nights. 11 miles hiking and scrambling, 22 miles paddling, class II - III.

Conservation Focus
Learning about contested Bears Ears National Monument. Petroglyphs and archeological sites.
Bears Ears: Protect and Packraft
Bears Ears: Protect and Packraft

Photo © Bill Hatcher
Bears Ears: Protect and Packraft
Kachemak Bay Stitch

July 21st – 25th, 2017

1 – 2 spaces still available for people who can commit to the dates, and be in Alaska for the outing

Trip Stats

5 days, 4 nights. 10 miles trail hiking + optional day-hike, 20 miles ocean & lake paddling, 12 miles rivers

Conservation Focus

Scientific expedition exploring change in a dynamic environment. Guest naturalist: intertidal ecosystems
Kachemak Bay Stitch

Photo © Bretwood Higman
How to Organize an Outing

1. It Starts with the Leader!
The leader comes up with the idea, designs the outing, finds a co-leader, and approaches APA.

2. APA Decides to Sponsor
APA Outings folks assess whether to sponsor. If so, participants apply through APA website.

3. Trip Leader Selects Participants
Trip leader reviews applications, decides who to take on the trip, contacts participants.
How to Organize an Outing

4. APA Obtains Insurance
The APA obtains liability insurance through the ACA. Need a safety plan, adhere to ACA safety guidelines.

5. The Outing Happens!
Hooray! Leaders and participants meet at the trailhead, have a great time, learn a lot, take photos.

6. Follow-Up and Publicity
APA files a brief report for insurance. APA works with leaders to publicize outing with photos, writing, etc.
Who Can Lead APA Trips?

- Leading takes enthusiasm and commitment!
- Every outing needs a co-leader
- The “main” leader must be WFA or WFR certified
- The co-leader needs at least basic CPR and first aid
- APA Outings Committee assesses leaders’ experience against the demands of the outing
- Don’t take it personally -- it’s all about safety
Contact Us!
outings@packraft.org

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