



EL DORADO COUNTY
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, PARKS DIVISION
River Management – South Fork of the American River
330 Fair Lane, Bldg. A
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5360

LARGE GROUP REGISTRATION FORM

Who is required to register? El Dorado County requires all private boaters running the South Fork in a group of 4 or more boats having 3 or more occupants or a total of 18 or more people to register their trip before launching (*County Ordinance 5.50.050*)

How do I register?

1. Designate a trip leader. This person should be one of the lead organizers.
2. The lead organizer completes this form and certifies the trip is a private/non-commercial trip.
3. Keep the top white copy and deposit the yellow copy in the drop box.
4. Review the safety/etiquette information and help spread out river use!

What is a private river trip? A private trip is a self-guided “shared cost” trip where all participants contribute an equal share of the actual trip costs. No money above the actual cost of the trip has been collected. If advertising or marketing for the trip has been made and there is an expectation of care and service typically associated with a professional business, then the trip may not be considered a private trip. If membership is required or solicited, the trip may not be considered private and may require a River Use Permit. Permitted outfitters have trained guides with first aid and river rescue training, carry insurance, have a business license and pay use fees that support river facilities, maintenance and programs. Paying someone besides a permitted outfitter for a river trip is illegal.

Actual costs may include: Camping and river access fees; food and beverage expenses; equipment rental; insurance; transportation or shuttle costs.

Actual trip costs may not include: Any fees or payments to guides or trip organizers; fundraising activities; charges for equipment wear and tear; any compensation for someone guiding a raft.

Comments or Questions? Contact the El Dorado County Parks Division - River Program at (530) 621-5554

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Trip Leader's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Trip Leader's Date of Birth: _____

Complete Address or Email: _____

Is this trip run through an educational institution or tax-exempt organization? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, organization name: _____ Phone: _____

Trip Date: _____ Approximate Put-In Time: _____

Put-In Location: _____ Take-Out Location: _____

Number of people in group: _____ Number of Rafts: _____ Number of Kayaks/IK's: _____

Trip Cost Per Person: \$ _____

Costs Include: _____

As the trip leader, I certify that this is a private river trip. I understand that violating the non-commercial trip requirements by offering or selling any commercial service is considered illegal outfitting.

Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Giving false or misleading information on this form is a violation of County Ordinance 9.04.020, punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and/or up to six months in jail. The County will pursue civil prosecution of illegal outfitting under the Unfair or Fraudulent Business Practice (\$17200) and False Advertising (\$12500) provisions of the California Business and Professions Code, punishable by penalties up to \$2,500 per violation.

RIVER SAFETY - Your actions should not put others at risk

Everyone should wear suitable lifejackets

A Coast Guard approved type III or V PFD is required by law.

The label should indicate that it's designed for either "whitewater", "canoeing" or "kayaking".

Boats and equipment

Use only rafts and equipment designed for class III whitewater.

All raft guides should have Class III + guiding skills

- Boat in control Keep your line through rapids and stay in the current on flat stretches.
- Boat as a group ... Maintain safe spacing between your group and others, particularly in the class III rapids.
- Always yield ... to upstream craft before leaving eddies. Wait for a good-sized break in the traffic.
- Let others pass ... If you are a slow-moving group or water-fighting
- Don't cut into or split up other groups.

Quiet Zone Regulations Apply To All River Users

Respect homeowner's rural tranquility. Please, no water fighting, yelling or screaming in the QUIET ZONE, this starts at river mile 4.5 & ends at river mile 11.5. Noise is OK in Troublemaker Rapid.

Violations of Quiet Zone regulations are an infraction with at \$50.00 fine

Do not use Greenwood Cr. for Large Group put in's or take out's Help Spread Out River Use on Summer Weekends

Saturday River Use Patterns:

Most outfitters run the Gorge section. The river can be crowded in the Coloma-Greenwood stretch from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm, and at Fowler's Rock rapid from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

Saturday Trip Suggestions:

- **Boat the upper or Chili Bar section:**
Launch late in the morning, but keep an eye on the flow – utilities may decrease the flows after noon.
- **For a Gorge Run, launch afternoon:**
Boat traffic will be well-dispersed, and flows will be all the way up.
- **If you launch before noon:**
 - Wait for the flow to reach 1300 cfs. Otherwise, you will get out in front of the release. Both the County Park and Camp Lotus have release schedules and post flow information.
 - Avoid entering the gorge (Fowler's Rock @ river mile 15.8) before 3:00 pm.
 - Use the public lands at river mile 15.3. There is a nice beach and this area is used far less than the beach area at river mile 12.3.

Sunday River use patterns:

Most outfitters will boat the Chili Bar run, launching between 9:30 am and 11:00 am.

Sunday trip suggestions:

- **Boat the gorge run:**
If you launch after 12 pm, you'll see relatively few boats.
- **If you boat the upper section:**
Launch before 10:00 am or after 11:00 am. Between 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm water begins to ramp down slowly.

KNOW THE FLOW Websites: www.Dreamflows.com or www.TheAmericanRiver.com