

Kayaking Skill Level Matrix

	SKI	SKII	SKIII	SKIV	SKV	SKVI
Geography	Protected from wind & waves	fetch less than 10 nautical miles	fetch more than 10 nautical miles	crossings up to 5 nautical miles	crossings over 5 nautical miles	landings may be impossible
Hydraulics	insignificant currents	max current 1 knot	Max current 2 knots	currents above 2 knots	currents faster than paddle speed	anything possible
Route	Day trips near shore	crossings less than 1 nautical mile	Eddy lines & tiderips possible	strong eddy lines, tiderips & boils	possible launching & landing in surf	anything possible
Possible Conditions	Calm	winds less than 10 knots	wind possibility more than 10 knots	steep waves, swells & wind over 15 knots	foul weather, white-caps and fast current	rescues may be impossible
Skills & Experience	willing to learn	wet exits and rescues	group & self rescue bracing	reflexive bracing, navigation	all skills plus roll recommended	extensive surfing and rolling

