


# Kern River Whitewater Merit Badge Trek



**Merit Badge Pre-requisites: Canoeing Merit Badge**  
**Non-Merit Badge Attendees must be a minimum of 11yrs old**

- EVENT:** Earn the Whitewater Merit Badge or just spend the day on the beautiful Upper Kern River.
- DATE:** **Friday afternoon May 16th to Sunday evening May 18<sup>th</sup>**
- TIME:** Meet at Sports Authority Parking Lot no later than 3 PM on Friday May 16<sup>th</sup> (Please let me know if you have trouble arriving at this time) It will take approximately 6 hours to drive there on Friday evening. We will return around 10PM Sunday evening (Bring your homework to do on the road )
- Description:** The Boys can either earn their Whitewater Merit Badge taught by the Outfitter, Eagle Rafting (Web Site: [www.eaglerafting.com](http://www.eaglerafting.com)) Please see the program description on the attached sheet or go the outfitter's website. If you already have the MB, you are welcome to come and raft one or both days. Of if you are looking for more of a challenge, I am also planning to have an advanced 2-day trek on the Lower Kern in late June where we will experience class III & IV rapids.
- Friday:** We will drive from Encinitas to Kernville, CA which is located near Lake Isabella (270 miles) We will camp Friday and Saturday nights near the Kern river at Frandy Park (Web Site: [www.frandy.net](http://www.frandy.net)) Friday dinner will be fast-food on the road.
- Saturday:** Patrol cooked breakfast. Boys will meet for Merit Badge at 9AM, See the outfitter's description below. A hot lunch will be provided by the outfitter. We will complete the day with a "gourmet" Patrol cooked dinner and capture the flag.
- Sunday:** Patrol cooked breakfast, everyone meet for the river at 9 AM. Boys will complete any remaining Merit Badge requirements and everyone will spend the day on the river either in whitewater canoes or on a group raft, whichever they are more comfortable with. A hot lunch will be provided by the outfitter. Dinner will be fast food on the road back home. We will leave around 4 PM and will not return home until around 10 PM Sunday night.
- What to Bring:** See the attached list
- Cost:** Boys will be \$235. Adults and non-Merit Badge attendees will be \$135 which includes Sunday on the river. Please add an additional \$85 if you are not doing the merit badge and want to raft both Saturday and Sunday. Plus you will need to bring \$money for Friday & Sunday fast food dinner on the road. If any Adults want to come but do not want to go rafting the cost will be \$55. **Availability will be on a first come, first served basis so please bring a check, permission slip, and signed waiver form to the meeting on Monday May 5<sup>th</sup>.**

**Trek Leader: John Anderson; Cell Phone: (760) 634-7744**

**Scout in Charge: TBD**

# Kern River Whitewater Trek Permission Slip

Friday May 16<sup>th</sup> - Sunday May 18th, 2007

Please bring this form, the signed waiver form and your money to the meeting on May 5th or drop it by Mr. Anderson's house at 483 Via Malaga, Encinitas

Scout Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Boys: \$235 ea x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Account \_\_\_\_\_

Adults or Non-Merit Badge: \$135 ea x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Account \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Rafting participants: \$55 ea x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Account \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to drive\*\* and I have \_\_\_\_\_ total seat belts.

Parent

Permission: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Please Note: Drivers will have the cost of their gas reimbursed as a trek expense.





Our Outfitter is Eagle Rafting. Their Website is: [www.eaglerafting.com](http://www.eaglerafting.com)

### Program Description:

Boy Scouts can earn their Canoeing or Whitewater Merit Badges in just two fun-filled days on the Kern River! We have programs already in place that follow all the guidelines from the Boy Scouts of America Merit Badge series. The programs are run by Boy Scouts counselors and Eagle Rafting staff.



### Whitewater Merit Badge

Once you have mastered canoeing on still water you are ready to challenge yourself with the thrills of whitewater. Once again, we strongly emphasize safety along with the fun.

In this two-day program the scouts will learn how to use and care for the equipment, learn the International Scale of River Difficulty, how to read a river, kayak maneuvers, canoe maneuvers, self and buddy rescue, safety, rafting, and many more exciting subjects.

The scouts are required to pass a Scout Gate Test in under 120 seconds. If they do it in less than 60 seconds they achieve an 'exceptional time'. Testing with the Scout Gates is done at the end of the first day and morning of the second day. Once all the scouts have completed the course on the second day the rest of the trip is spent on the river for the one day adventure.



During the one day adventure the scouts learn how to eddy up and how to enter the moving river. Scouts also capsize their Inflatable Kayaks (I.K.'s) and recover. Time is spent above Big Daddy where we introduce

surfing on waves to the scouts. This is where all their skills are pushed, learning how to stay on the wave and building on their skills.

### **Non- Merit Badge Trailblazer Program**



This one day program is an outstanding day on the river in Rafts and Inflatable Kayaks (I.K.'s). The day starts with two rafting trips in the morning with guided rafts. Lunch is included in this program. After lunch the scouts go to the Inflatable Kayaks where the scouts learn how to maneuver their I.K.'s around the river and rocks.

**Eagle Rafting, Inc.**

**Trip Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Trip Type: Full Day [ ]    ½ Day [ ]    Single Trip [ ]    WWMB [ ]    CM [ ]    TRLBLZR [ ]    PP&R [ ]

**ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND LIABILITY RELEASE**

This is a release. It says; I recognize I will participate in an activity where risk is natural. Even though Eagle Rafting, Inc. holds an excellent safety record (with procedures approved by the U.S. Forest Service) accidents, though rare, can happen. I expressly assume full responsibility for the outcome of my participation and if I get hurt, die, or damage belongings. I will not make claim, sue or expect any legal responsibility for Eagle Rafting Inc. I also understand that I can withdraw from this group activity at anytime.

While Eagle Rafting does not wish to frighten me, it is necessary that I fully understand that risk, either ashore, in a boat, or in the water, could lead to property damage, personal injury or fatality. Ashore, slips and falls could result in accidents. Contact with poison oak or with insects, wildlife or even persons could lead to injury. Other accidents involving shuttle vehicles are possible. In the boat, I could be twisted or thrown around and collide with other people, their paddles, or boat flips. Here, I could experience hypothermia, mental anguish, or heart attack and could break bones or drown. Entanglements with trees or rocks could lead to severe injury or death. In each possibility, exposure to extreme temperatures or bad weather, coupled with distant medical help, would add risk. In addition, I understand that class 2, and certainly class 3 whitewater increases the adventure’s difficulty and risk. **REGARDLESS, MY PARTICIPATION IN THIS ACTIVITY IS PURELY VOLUNTARY AND I ELECT TO DO SO AT MY OWN RISK I EXPRESSLY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL RESPONSIBLY AND RISK (BOTH KNOWN AND UNANTICIPATED) TO MYSELF, TO OTHERS, AND THE PROPERTY.**

In consideration for allowing me to participate on this adventure, I voluntarily agree to release, discharge, and hold harmless Eagle Rafting, Inc. (and owners, officers, employees and associates in any capacity) from making claims. These could be claims arising out of their suggested negligence, recklessness, incorrect decisions, strict liability, breach of contract, or any act which causes my accident, illness death, or from damages in any way associated with my participation in this activity. This release will apply also to any act of negligence in rendering (or in not rendering) any type of emergency or medical aid. **IN SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT, I FULLY UNDERSTAND AND RECOGNIZE THAT IF I ( OR ANY MINOR ON WHOSE BEHALF I AM SIGNING THIS RELEASE) AM HURT, DIE, OR HAVE PROPERTY DAMAGED. I AM GIVING UP MY RIGHT(AND THAT OF MY FAMILY MEMBERS, HIERS, AND ASSIGNS) TO MAKE CLAIM OR FILE A LAWSUIT AGAINST ANY BOAT OWNER, OR ASSOCIATES, AND ALL PARTIES AND AFFILIATES NAMED HERE, EVEN IF THEY NEGLEGENTY, AMLICIOUSLY, OR BY SOME OTHER ACT (OR OMISSION) CAUSE THIS INJURY.**

If a parent or legal guardian or a participant under 18 years of age, I agree that this minor may participate in this activity. I sign this release on their behalf. In addition, I give Eagle Rafting, Inc. permission to treat this minor in case of apparent need. Eagle Rafting, Inc. reserves the right to deny or discontinue service to any person. I agree to follow all rules and their instructions. Any medical services and expenses will remain solely my responsibility. I also certify that I (and any minor on whose behalf I am signing) am physically and mentally capable of this activity. Any photographic record of my participation may be used for advertising and commercial purposes without recourse.

The Venue of any dispute that may arise out of this agreement or otherwise between the parties to which Eagle Rafting, Inc. or its agents as a party shall be either in Lake Isabella, CA Justice Court or the County of State Supreme Court in Kern County.

Should it be necessary for Eagle Rafting, Inc. (or someone on its behalf) to incur attorney’s fees and costs to enforce any part of this agreement, I agree to indemnify them for all fees and costs. If any portion of this agreement is judged invalid, the validity of the remaining portions will not be affected.

**MY SIGNING BELOW INDICATES I HAVE READ AND NOW COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND THIS DOCUMENT. I KNOW THAT IT AFFECTS MY LEGAL RIGHTS AND I AGREE TO BE BOUND BY ITS TERMS.**

Printed  
Passenger Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Is passenger under 18 years? YES/NO  
If minor passengers (less than 18 years old on day of trip) will not be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian, the proper signatures needed to be provided in advance. Instead, bring this parent or legal guardians.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_