## SAFE KAYAKING EQUIPMENT CHECK LIST

By Tom Holty, with John Enomoto, and amended by Jeff Aurrecoechea and Joe Hu (Sept.09)

This is a list of safety equipment that all kayakers should carry with them.

- 1. \*LIFE VEST (Coast Guard Approved Personal Flotation Device –PFD)
- 2. \*PROPER CLOTHING, including AQUATIC FOOTGEAR, HAT, WINDBREAKER and or RAIN GEAR IF WEATHER THREATENS
- 3. \*DRINKING WATER (in waterproof, attachable container)
- 4. \*PADDLE LEASH, and LEG LEASH OR LIFE LINE
- 5. \*SPARE PADDLE
- 6. \*KNIFE
- 7. \*BILGE PUMP
- 8. \*SUN SCREEN and FIRST AID KIT INCLUDING STING AID
- 9. \*SIGNALING KIT: Mirror, whistle and other devices including flares, smoke, dye markers, Floating orange See Rescue®, air horn, flash light and/or strobe light for dusk or night
- 10. \*VHF RADIO and/or CELL PHONE IN WATERPROOF BAG
- 11. PADDLE FLOAT AND SLING
- 12. REPAIR KIT INCLUDING DUCT TAPE, SPARE PARTS, TOOLS, PATCHING MATERIALS
- 13. SEA ANCHOR
- 14. TOW ROPE
- 15. FLOAT BAGS
- 16. HELMET FOR SURFING, ROCK GARDENING AND SEA CAVES

CARRY AS MANY OF THESE DEVICES AS POSSIBLE AND KNOW HOW TO USE THEM. PRACTICE WITH THEM IN A VARIETY OF WEATHER CONDITIONS SO THAT YOU CAN USE THIS EQUIPMENT NO MATTER HOW BAD IT GETS.

## **BE SAFE**

ALWAYS GO WITH A BUDDY

TELL SOMEONE WHO CARES WHERE YOU ARE GOING, WHAT YOU'LL BE DOING AND WHEN YOU'LL BE BACK

PLAN AHEAD AND BE PREPARED

<sup>\*</sup>If you carry nothing else, at least carry these items