

2018 Explore North Coast Get Together “Thingy” aka “Social”

Explore North Coast is excited about hosting its Ninth Annual Get Together “Thingy” aka the “Social” - one of the most talked about kayak events on the planet! We are thrilled about sharing our local paddling opportunities with anyone willing to make the beautiful drive to Humboldt County. This is a non-commercial event where like-minded folks get together to share, have fun, and paddle some of the most spectacular waters along the north coast.

We’ve got a lot of ocean to share, from mild to wild, flat water to big swell, rock gardening and kayak surfing. If the ocean is too rough, we have lagoons and bays. We make every attempt to cater to all levels, from beginners to hard chargers. Local and distant talent will make sure you have fun and get back to shore, safely. Every year we get to watch people ooooh and ahhhh, push comfort levels (or not), work on skills, learn new ones and then promise to come back and do it again next year. Well this is next year and we hope you can join us!

Schedule

The event will run through Sunday, April 29th. Daily events are described separately for each day in this calendar, but you can download the entire event schedule from our website at <http://explorenorthcoast.net/events/>.

Launch Locations

Go to our website <http://explorenorthcoast.net/favorite-places/> for maps of the launch locations.

A Place to Stay

For a great place to stay while you’re here, the Emerald Forest (707-677-3554 or <http://emeraldforestcabins.com/>) offers RV hookups, small cabins and tent sites. Let them know you are attending ENC’s Social and you’ll receive a 10% discount. The Emerald Forest is located about one mile north of Trinidad on Patrick’s Point Drive.

Discounts on Paddle Gear

Mention ENC’s Social at Adventure’s Edge (shops in Arcata and Eureka) and you will receive a 15% discount on paddling gear. Thank you, Jennifer, for supporting our event and the paddling community.

Liability Release Forms

EVERYONE will be required to sign an ACA Liability Release form before the event. Please bring the signed form with you (download from <http://explorenorthcoast.net/forms/>). There will be a one-time \$5 fee to cover insurance if you are NOT a current ACA member. Please bring the exact amount.

Questions? Contact Mike Dedman at 559-804-4415 (mikededman@hotmail.com), or Greg at 707-839-3553 (gbundros@suddenlink.net).

Day 1, Thursday, April 26th

While not sanctioned by ENC or the ACA, the iNCREdIBLE TOm Humphries will be offering a Sea Kayak Surf Workshop on Thursday at 8:30 a.m. as a benefit for the Marine Mammal Center of Sausalito. TOm is an accomplished long-boat surfer. If you enjoy surfing, you really should attend. Your surf skills will benefit significantly from his insights and training. If you are wondering about TOm's skills, check out this video (<https://vimeo.com/245548888?ref=fb-share&1>) created by Mark Boyd of TOm surfing at Dillon Beach. And, yes, he can surf in the forward direction, too. Please go to the Lodi Paddle Club Meetup page at <https://www.meetup.com/Lodi-Paddle-Club/events/246704359/> for more information and to sign up for this workshop.

As ENC's opener, we will do an easy flat-water paddle out to the spit on Stone Lagoon. We will launch at 4:00 p.m. from the beach next to the Stone Lagoon Information Center on the east side of the lagoon, and along Hwy 101, and paddle along the beautiful shoreline to the spit and have a meal and general BS session. Please bring whatever you would like to consume and/or share.

The paddle is suitable for all paddling skill levels. If you do not have a dry or wet suit, please be sure to wear layered synthetic clothing (no cotton), including a splash jacket or windbreaker. PFDs must be worn at all times on the water.

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Day 2, Friday, April 27th

This will be a double-hosted day at Trinidad. One group, led by Mike Dedman, will cater to the more extreme paddlers - rock gardening, surfing, smack wall, etc. The second group, led by Michael Morris, will be a safe and easy paddle suited for all skill levels.

The estimated time for this paddle is two to three hours, depending on conditions. Bring water, a snack and lunch. A sea worthy kayak with a spray skirt is required. A wet suit or a dry suit is recommended, but if you don't have one wear a few layers of synthetic clothing (no cotton) and make sure to bring a change of dry cloths. The paddle is suitable for beginners with prior instruction and practice in wet exits and rescues unless the prevailing swell and wind are forecasted from the south. Check forecasted weather and ocean conditions and the ENC's website for updated information as the date approaches. PFDs must be worn at all times. A helmet is also required, if you plan to surf or play in rock gardens.

We will launch at 9:00 a.m. from Launcher Beach (aka Indian Beach) which is by the boat trolley next to the pier at the south end of the Seascope Restaurant's parking lot. Unload your boats by

the beach making sure not to block the access road to the beach. After unloading, please park your vehicle in the sandy parking lot by Trinidad State Beach so we don't impact the parking for the restaurant customers.

BBQ-POTLUCK! Our BBQ-potluck at the Trinidad Town Hall starts at 4 p.m. ENC will provide BBQ hamburgers with all the fixings. Please bring your favorite side dish to share. We should be done by around 7 p.m. as we know folks will be tired and will want to get rested for the next day. The Hall is located across from the school in the heart of town. BYOB.

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Day 3, Saturday, April 28th

This day will have three hosted paddles. In Crescent City, Michael Morris will show off a beautiful section of the coastline, while Mike Dedman looks for some nice surf at South Beach. They will be rock gardening, if the surf doesn't pan out. For those who do not want to drive to Crescent City, there will be a flat-water paddle hosted at a nearby location that will be determined at that time.

Crescent City paddles will meet at the "Whaler Island" launch at 9 a.m. Crescent City has surf, rock gardening, plus gorgeous sightseeing opportunities, and is about an hour and a half drive north of Trinidad.

The ocean paddles are suitable for intermediate skill levels and above. The flat-water paddle will be suitable for all paddling levels. Wet suits or dry suits, and helmets are required for the ocean trips. Bring your towing equipment and safety kits, too. Layered synthetic clothing with splash jacket can be worn on the flat-water trip. PFD's are required at all time when on the water. Bring water, a snack and lunch.

DINNER AT THE SEASCAPE RESTAURANT!

We would love to have you join us for a no-host dinner starting at 5 p.m. The Trinidad Rancheria is very accommodating to kayakers year-round. We use the Social as one way to give back a little. We have reserved the Seascapes' small banquet room ("Cabana") and hope you will join us. Besides good food and great service, "fishing" stories abound. The Seascape is located next to the Trinidad pier.

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Day 4, Sunday, April 29th

We head back to Trinidad to do everything we didn't get to do on Friday, including both paddles described for Friday. The estimated time for the Trinidad paddle is two to three hours, depending on conditions. Bring water, a snack and lunch. A sea worthy kayak with a spray skirt is required. A wet suit or a dry suit is recommended, but if you don't have one wear a few layers of synthetic clothing (no cotton) and make sure to bring a change of dry cloths. The paddle is suitable for beginners with prior instruction and practice in wet exits and rescues unless the prevailing swell and wind are forecasted from the south. Check forecasted weather and ocean conditions and the club's website for updated information as the date approaches. PFDs must be worn at all times. A helmet is also required, if you plan to surf or play in the rock gardens.

We will launch at 9:00 a.m. from Launcher Beach (aka Indian Beach) which is by the boat trolley next to the pier at the south end of the Seascape Restaurants' parking lot. Unload your boats by the beach making sure not to block the access road to the beach. After unloading, please park your vehicle in the sandy parking lot by Trinidad State Beach so we don't impact the parking for the restaurant customers.

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