

## Raft Proposal:

This past year our rafting trips were very successful and had a high demand in the student population. All of our raft trips had long wait lists and we frequently have requests for more raft trips. Currently we are planning to offer more raft trips this spring and are designing a rafting course, similar to the Whitewater Kayak and Mountaineering Courses we offered this year. In order to continue the program we require new rafts.

Our current rafting program is run as a part of our Excursions Department.

A typical raft trip consists of:

- Pre-trip meeting
  - o Fit Gear
  - o Team building games
  - o Safety talks
  - o Logistics
- Day Rafting
  - o Basic skills demonstration
  - o Rafting on easy whitewater

We would like to offer more rafting trips next year and implement the above mentioned raft course, which would look something like this:

- 3 Workshops where basic skills are learned
- A weekend rafting and learning basic river running skills and practicing skills from the workshops
- A multi-day trip over spring-break or Memorial day weekend

Our current rafts were purchased in 1998 and have outlived their useful life. They now present numerous safety concerns based on their current condition. For instance one of the rafts internal bladder system has blown out and only has 2 chambers instead of 4. This is a major safety hazard if the raft gets a hole in it. Between the 2 rafts there are dozens of patches required. Both rafts have started to delaminate. Overall, the rafts are not in safe working condition right now. Thus we cannot offer any rafting excursions at this time. In order to continue offering rafting trips and expanding our services to students new rafts need purchased.

The specifications for the new rafts we would like are as follows:

**Self-bailing:** yes

**Length:** 14'

**Width:** 511"

**Weight:** 115 lbs.

**Frame Width:** 54"

**Max Frame Length:** 78"

**Tube Diameter: 19"**  
**Number of Thwarts: 2**  
**Thwart Diameter: 13.5"**  
**Center Compartment: 33"**  
**Kick/Rocker (Bow/Stern): 15"**  
**Number of Air Chambers: 7**  
**Valve Type: Leaflet C-7 & Pressure Relief**  
**Weight/Denier of Tube Fabric: 35/1670**  
**Weight/Denier of Floor Fabric: 43/1670**  
**Number of D-Rings: 14**  
**Number of Handles: 4**  
**Load capacity: 1158 lbs**  
**Warranty: 10 Year Retail, 5 Year Commercial**  
**Number of Thwarts: 2**

More information and Pictures can be seen at:

<http://www.nrsweb.com/shop/product.asp?pfid=1159&pdeptid=1131>

We would also request the raft to have:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> (Center) Thwart
- Color: Blue

**Estimated Costs:** Based on the Outdoor Center's professional discount at NRS.  
(Customer #541216)

Raft (each): \$3,275  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thwart (each): \$200  
Surcharge (each): \$75

Total: \$7100