

# Effective Outdoor Program Design & Management

Training & certification in Effective Outdoor Program Design & Management is proprietary and includes in depth instruction in expedition and activity specific site management. Practical mastery takes commitment, study, practice, and time. It is NOT an overnight process. You cannot expect to take a course or workshop and upon leaving have mastered the material. That said, you WILL immediately gain useful information, concepts, and techniques that you can immediately put into practice and IF used correctly WILL improve the quality and safety of your outdoor course(s) and program(s). Workshops and coursework ARE a necessary component of your route to mastery because they put you on the right path and help you avoid time-consuming and potentially dangerous pitfalls en route to becoming an effective outdoor leader and administrator. The entire certification process takes years to complete and fully integrate...as it should if it is to be truly valuable. While certification is NOT a requirement for attending our basic courses, it is for our advanced courses because it helps insure that everyone is on the same page at the start of the course; the certification process is outlined below.

## The Basic Workshop

The basic workshop examines the complex relationships surrounding outdoor program design & management from both the field instructor and program administration perspectives using PowerPoint, interactive whiteboard lecture, video, and small group activities. It addresses the BIG PICTURE, provides the theoretical foundation for field courses in site management, and is a prerequisite for the Basic Field Expedition. The workshop includes the text: Effective Outdoor Program Design & Management; a CD with our course and incident reporting systems is available for purchase to those who successfully complete the workshop.

While there are no prerequisites for the workshop per se, participants are required to do some work prior to the start of the course and there will be homework during the course. An detailed letter will be sent to participants at registration.

## The Basic Expedition

The basic expedition is a 7-10+ day land-based expedition that focuses on the practical application of site management theory as it applies to backpacking, basic route finding, campcraft, and stream crossings. The water-proof-tear proof Site Management Handbook is the primary written reference and included in the course tuition. This practical introductory course lays the groundwork for more advanced site management training. The Basic Workshop and current WFR certification are required prerequisites.

## Activity Endorsements

Activity endorsements are advanced and specific training in practical site management as they apply to: multi-pitch climbing, top-roped climbing, alpine climbing, sea kayaking, mountain biking, river kayaking, river canoeing, river rafting, etc. Each endorsement course is 7-10+ days in length and ends with a full day devoted to designing and managing course/programs that focus on or include the activity studied. Prerequisites include Basic Certification in Effective Outdoor Program Design & Management and demonstrated mastery of the specific skill as outlined in the application; other prerequisites may apply and are defined in the course application.

## the Certification Process

### Basic Certification

- Application Required
- Basic Workshop (2-day didactic/theory workshop)
- Basic Field Expedition (7-10+ days in field, prerequisite is WFR certification, and workshop):
- Field Instructor Recommendation
- $\geq 85\%$  on written text (test to be sent via pdf file after courses have been completed and recommendation received; there is a processing fee for the test.)

## Activity Endorsement

- Application Required
- Basic Certification
- Activity Specific Field Training (7-10+ days in field)• Field Instructor Recommendation
- ≥ 85% on written text

## Admittance to Instructor Training Course

- Application Required
- Basic Certification
- 2 Activity Endorsements
- Field Instructor Recommendations
- ≥ 90% on written text

## Instructor Certification

- Instructor Training Course
- Apprenticeship
- ≥ 90% on written text
- Trainer Recommendation

Instructor certification allows graduate to teach and offer certification in Basic courses & the Specific Activity Endorsements they have trained and apprenticed in.

For more details or information regarding courses in Effective Outdoor Program Design & Management please contact the WMTC office by phone or e-mail.

