

# **WaterTreks / Jenner Kayaks: Rental and Tour Limitations**

For the Russian River "Estuary" in Sonoma County California\*\*\*\*

*No rentals or guided tours for ocean activities. All activities are within the estuary or river for special events.*  
**Seasonal currents upstream of Vacation Beach may remain hazardous into May: Rain may extend closures.**

**River Mouth Limitations: Sustainability:** Resting Wildlife Seals, Birds, Otter, Fox etc: 50 to 100 yards.  
**Human Safety:** Outgoing river currents – Varies Seasonally, 50 to 100 + yards, to full periodic closures.  
**Rain:** Mist or occasional sprinkles is fine above 60°F. **Ongoing wetness with cold, or wind is not (hypothermia).**  
**Air Temperature: Below 55 °F: Currents: 4000+CFS Cancels all rentals, and 6000+CFS Cancels All Tours.**  
**River Flows: Heavy Seasonal Rain Greatly Increases River Currents: Paddler deaths can occur from watercraft and people being trapped by river currents passing through trees or bushes, or entering deadly Ocean conditions.**

## **Guided Tours (WaterTreks EcoTours): Limits that cancel guided Tours.**

**Wind:** Sustained Wind or Gusts above 12 MPH for experienced paddler. Above 10 MPH for beginner paddlers.

**Estuary Island Loop Routes: River Flows: 4,000+ CFS at Hacienda gauge or 10.5+ft (5250 CFS) at Guerneville, when summer dams are not in place and unless river mouth is closed\*\*.**

**Monte Rio or Duncan's Mills: 6,000+ CFS at Hacienda gauge or 12+ft (6820 CFS) at Guerneville gauge**  
Paddling 4000+ CFS Activities start upstream and will not proceed downstream into the rear island river channel, or main river currents rushing to the Pacific Ocean beyond the take out at the Jenner State Park Visitor Center.

## **Russian River Upstream Routes: River Flows:**

Squaw Rock below Hopland to below Asti are professional "seasonal" moving water kayak trips and should not be attempted without professional water rescue training or a guide to avoid accidental death. Locations near Healdsburg to Guerneville are generally more novice friendly June through October, or longer during droughts.

## **Kayak and SUP Rental (Jenner Kayaks): (Limits that cancel "Athletic Paddlers for Standard Rentals")**

**River Flows: 3,000+ CFS at Hacienda gauge , unless river mouth is closed. (Guided Tour Option) \*, \*\*\***

**River Height: 9+ feet at Guerneville gauge with incoming tide, or 7+ feet with outgoing tide. \*\*, \*\*\***

**River Mouth Closed Negates Upstream Flows and Tidal Influence\*\*\*. We Reopen if other factors are good.**

**Wind: Sustained wind above 12 MPH or Gusts above 14 MPH**

## **Kayak and SUP Rental (Jenner Kayaks): (Cancels "Families with Children or New Paddler Rentals")**

**River Flows: 2000+ CFS at Hacienda gauge, unless river mouth is closed. (Guided Option)\*, \*\*\***

**River Height: 8+ feet at Guerneville gauge with incoming tide, or 6+ feet with outgoing tide. \*\*, \*\*\***

**Wind: Sustained wind above 10 MPH or Gusts above 12 MPH**

## **After Dark Activities:**

**Rentals are not available to individuals or groups without appropriate guide and rescue skills certifications.**

## **Guided Night Tours (WaterTreks EcoTours) Limitations: Cancels Evening and Night Tours**

**River Flows: 500+ CFS at Hacienda gauge , unless river mouth is closed. \*, \*\*\***

**River Height: 6+ feet at Guerneville gauge. \*\*, \*\*\***

**Wind: Sustained wind above 9 MPH or Gusts above 10 MPH Rain: Any rain, mist or fog cancels.**

\* Hacienda: is the most downstream Cubic Feet per Second (CFS) flow gauge on the Russian River.

\*\* Guerneville: Without recreational dam and River Mouth Open:

\*\*\*River Mouth Closures: When the river mouth closes at Jenner it forms a dam. We can experience deep wide lake like conditions as far upstream as Guerneville. Most often the river height being affected by river mouth closure is limited to below the Vacation Beach Seasonal Dam. On rare occasions the effect may reach Guerneville and we can experience flooding in Jenner without true flood conditions upstream. Monte Rio Beach may experience significant river level rise during sustained river mouth closures. There are no perceivable tidal conditions or river currents in the Marine Sanctuary when the river mouth is closed. However, river currents may still be present above Duncans Mills or Monte Rio depending on river height and flow.

\*\*\*\* These limitations do not include **American Canoe Association (ACA) or equivalent** advanced skill, guide or water rescue **Certification Courses.** In fact, these may be the best conditions for upgrading river rescue skills.