SK LEADER MENTOR EVALUATION
Bill Messmer

TO: Tom Unger
Seattle Sea Kayaking MOUNTAINEERS COMMITTEE

REPORT DATE:6/27/26

SK TRIP: Goat Island on 6/27/26, SK III

- **Pre-trip planning –**Excellent, He planned it down to the minute, making use of current and calculating tide height in a tricky area.
- **Sign-ups –** he posted the trip on the website without any problems, and arrived with the emergency contacts. We had one person not show up and he attempted to reach this person.
- **Leading the trip –** he did a great shore talk incorporating all important elements
- **Dealing with on-the-water group dynamics –** He kept track of time and got us back to the car on agreed time. Had good situational awareness - asked group to hold up when we got too spread out. Has a relaxed leadership style.
- **Leadership skills – Communication, informative**, **knowledge of navigation** Excellent - very familiar with area, researched tide height needed to complete the trip.
- **People skills –** great, personable, engaged.
- **Sea kayak paddling and handling skills --**excellent.
- **Judgment -**
- **Trip planning –**many of the folks have paddled with Bill before and stated he always has well planned trips with a good balance of length, interesting route and well organized.
- **Knowledge of potential risks** –yes
- **Safety** –yes
- **Emergency procedures –** Had a radio and knew how to use it.

Bill is a trip leader for NNSK and Seattle Sea Kayaking Club and it shows in all above skills.

CONCLUSION: I do recommend Bill Messmer be assigned trip leader status. Please contact me if you have other questions or concerns.

Thank you!

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