Class 4 – Navigation Topics

• Homework review from Class 3: Trip from Friday Harbor to Roche Harbor
• Review trip planning considerations and tools
• Marine weather forecasts - always check before you decide to launch!
• Wind terrain effects
While looking through the Go Guide, you see the following trip listed:

**August 10th, Sat – Friday Harbor to Roche Harbor** SKIII. 12nm.

We will meet in Friday Harbor at ??? for a ??? launch on a one way trip to Roche Harbor. We'll stop at Reuben Tarte Picnic Area for lunch before rounding Limestone Point and heading to Roche Harbor. Wet or Dry suits are required. Using the information learned in the tides and currents session, and the Sea Trails chart provided, look at the proposed trip route.

- Determine what conditions you may encounter that will either challenge you or prevent you from going on this trip.
- Consider different weather conditions and/or tides and current conditions that may affect your decision.
- Look for hazards, obstacles, or cautionary situations to be aware of on this paddle. Look for alternate stopping points or rest stops.
- Why do you think this is classified as a SKIII?
- Personally, what would make this trip one that you would particularly want to go on or not go on?

**Currents:** Point George, west of and Limestone Point, Spieden Channel, north of Limestone Point

**Tides:** Friday Harbor
# Tides & Currents Worksheet

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For the date, note the direction and speed of the current at Point George, west of Spieden Channel, north of Limestone Point.
NOAA Tide Predictions for Friday Harbor on August 10, 2019

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## Tides & Currents Worksheet

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## Trip Name: Friday Harbor to Roche Harbor

**Date: 8/10/19**

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First Half: Friday Harbor to Ruben Tarte Park

- Distance and time to Ruben Tarte Park?
- Currents, tide, fetch considerations?
- Weather, hazards, other possible adverse conditions?
Second Half: Ruben Tarte Park to Roche Harbor

- Currents, tide, fetch considerations?
- Weather, hazards, other possible adverse conditions?
- Distance and time to Roche Harbor from Friday Harbor and from Ruben Tarte?
- When to leave Friday Harbor?
- When to leave Ruben Tarte?
- Estimated arrival time at Roche Harbor?
Trip Planning Considerations

- Tides
- Currents
- Course
- Distance
- Speed
- Fetch
- Hazards, obstacles, cautionary situations
- Alternate stopping or rest stops
- Weather
- Experience and skills
Planning Tools

- Tide & current tables
- Charts
- Marine weather forecasts
- Knowledge & advice from experts with local experience
- Info from the Web on the put in, lunch stop, take out, wildlife, etc
- Ferry schedule
Always check the National Weather Service Marine Forecast before you launch!

Keep track of the weather as you go!!

Be ready to alter your plans if conditions take a turn for the worse.

Don’t let prior plans or commitments override a decision to stay off or get off the water when conditions get bad.

PZZ100-231915-
303 AM PDT THU APR 23 2015

.SYNOPSIS FOR THE NORTHERN AND CENTRAL WASHINGTON COASTAL AND INLAND WATERS...A COLD FRONT WILL MOVE THROUGH THE AREA FROM THE WEST THU...FOLLOWED BY A WEAK TROUGH FRI AND FRI NIGHT. A WEAK FRONTAL SYSTEM WILL REACH THE AREA SUN...AND HIGH PRES WILL BUILD OVER THE REGION MON.

$$

PZZ133-231915-
NORTHERN INLAND WATERS INCLUDING THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS-
303 AM PDT THU APR 23 2015

SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY IN EFFECT FROM 11 AM PDT THIS MORNING THROUGH THIS EVENING

TODAY
S WIND 10 TO 20 KT...BECOMING SE 15 TO 25 KT IN THE AFTERNOON. WIND WAVES 1 TO 3 FT...BUILDING TO 2 TO 4 FT. A CHANCE OF RAIN IN THE MORNING... THEN SHOWERS LIKELY IN THE AFTERNOON.

TONIGHT
SW WIND 15 TO 25 KT...EASING TO 10 TO 20 KT AFTER MIDNIGHT. WIND WAVES 2 TO 4 FT...SUBSIDING TO 1 TO 3 FT. SHOWERS LIKELY.

FRI
S WIND 15 TO 25 KT. WIND WAVES 2 TO 4 FT. SHOWERS LIKELY.

FRI NIGHT
S WIND 5 TO 15 KT. WIND WAVES 2 FT OR LESS.

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/zone/west/sewmz.htm
DETAILED FORECAST

...SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY IN EFFECT THROUGH THIS EVENING...

Synopsis: A COLD FRONT OVER THE COASTAL WATERS THIS MORNING WILL MOVE THROUGH WESTERN WASHINGTON THIS AFTERNOON...FOLLOWED BRIEFLY BY ONSHORE FLOW. A WEAK TROUGH WILL MOVE THROUGH THE FORECAST AREA FROM THE OFFSHORE WATERS FRI AND FRI NIGHT. A WEAK FRONTAL SYSTEM WILL REACH THE AREA SUN...AND HIGH PRES WILL BUILD OVER THE REGION MON.

Today
SE wind 8 to 16 kt. Showers likely, mainly after 11am. Wind waves 1 to 2 ft.

Tonight
WSW wind 7 to 12 kt. Showers likely, mainly after 11pm. Wind waves 1 to 2 ft.

Friday
SE wind 9 to 14 kt becoming SSW in the afternoon. Showers likely. Wind waves around 1 ft.

Friday Night
WSW wind 6 to 13 kt. A chance of showers. Wind waves 1 ft or less.

Saturday
E wind around 7 kt becoming N in the morning. A chance of showers. Wind waves 1 ft or less.

Saturday Night
WSW wind around 8 kt. A chance of rain. Wind waves 1 ft or less.

Sunday
S wind 7 to 9 kt becoming SE in the morning. A chance of rain. Wind waves 1 ft or less.

Sunday Night
Variable winds 5 kt or less. A chance of rain. Wind waves 1 ft or less.

Monday
SSE wind 7 to 10 kt. A chance of rain. Wind waves 1 ft or less.

*Notices:

1. This forecast is for a single location. For safety concerns, mariners should be aware of the weather over a larger area. Forecast information for a larger area can be found within the zone forecast and the NDFD graphics.
2. The forecast conditions at a particular point may not exceed the criteria of a
A wind blowing into a pass produces what is known as the Venturi Effect. As the wind enters the pass, it is compressed and therefore accelerates. This can as much as double the effective wind speed until the wind exits the pass. Orcas Island presents an excellent example of this effect.
A strong wind will hamper paddling. However, if there is a land mass in the direction the wind is originating, moving towards it will reduce the wind’s effect.

There will be some lighter back-eddy winds.
Beach at Ruben Tarte Park at a 5.68’ tide per aerial photos of Washington’s Coast: https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/coastalatlas/tools/ShorePhotos.aspx

NOAA’s tide prediction site was used to determine the tide level for the date and time of the picture.

8/15/2006 11:24 AM

How will the tide level for your visit to Ruben Tarte compare to this photo from the Washington Coast Atlas?