

Diamondback Dash —Pre-Paddle Checklist

The following checklist outlines everything you should do prior to your survey date

- Attend a virtual training session or watch one of the recorded training sessions if you were unable to attend on the day-of
- Confirm that the individuals sampling with you have also attended or watched one of the training sessions and have submitted all needed information to DWR
- Download the Survey123 App, Diamondback Dash, and relevant offline base map for your route.
- Confirm the date, route, and time of your data collection session with the other volunteers who will be assisting you
- Check that your mandatory equipment is working properly — kayak, paddles, PFD, navigation lights, nighttime visual distress signal, noise maker (horn, whistle, or bell), etc.
- Gather any other equipment and important supplies you plan on bringing
- Identify an on-shore contact and discuss their responsibilities with them
- If you have been asked to contact/coordinate with someone at the launch site prior to conducting your survey, do so at least 72 hours in advance
- Review the training materials to ensure that all protocols are fresh in your mind
- Familiarize yourself with how to right your kayak and reboard it in the case that you capsize.
- Check what the tides will be like for your anticipated sampling date/time so you know whether or not you will be paddling against the current at times.
- Fill out your float plan and deliver it and a copy of your route map to your designated on-shore contact
- Complete a practice paddle (optional)