#### Cycling on the Water

Michael Lampi Open Water Cycling, Inc.

#### **Overview**

- What exactly is "Cycling on the Water"?
- What are the benefits?
- What do I need?
- Where can I go?
- What will I see?
- What resources are available?
- Summary

# What is "Cycling on the Water"?

- Traveling in a pedal powered vessel
- Generally going anywhere a sea kayak could go
- Able to move at speeds exceeding 4 mph
- Able to cover distances over 20 miles a day
- Enjoy outings in both smooth & rough conditions
- Being competitive with non-pedaled craft

# What are the benefits?

- Fantastic scenery
- No cars, trucks or buses
- Much quieter
- No stop signs or traffic signals
- Generally much cleaner air
- If you stop pedaling you won't fall over
- No flat tires!
- No road rash!
- No hills!
- Great exercise!

# What do I need?

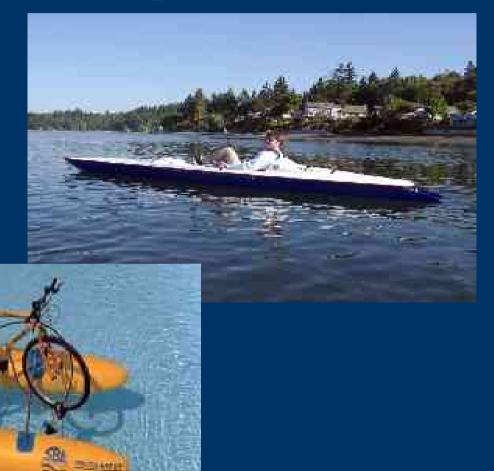
- Boat
- Safety gear
- Basic understanding of navigation
- Travel plan
- Means of getting to and from the water
- A sense of adventure!



#### • Do you want it to be fast or cheap?



Padde Wheeler II in white



#### **Boats**

- Propulsion
  - Propellers
  - Paddle wheels
  - Flapping fins









#### • Retractable vs. fixed propulsion







#### Boats, continued

- The long and the short of it
- Displacement vs. Hydrofoils





## **Boats, continued**

#### One hull or two? Dry vs. wet







# Safety Gear

- Boat with internal flotation
- PFD
- Bailing device
- Air horn or whistle
- Waterproof compass and chart
- Extra drinking water and food
- Extra clothing in dry bag
- Sun glasses w/strap and sunscreen
- Waterproof matches and fire starter
- Visual signaling devices (flares, mirror, dye, etc.)
- First aid kit
- Waterproof flashlight, extra batteries and bulb
- Knife













# Safety Gear, continued

- Paddle
- 50' tow rope
- Waterproof jacket
- Hat with visor
- Repair kit (tools, duck tape, etc.)
- Marine VHF radio
- GPS
- Cell phone
- Water shoes

# Safety Gear, continued



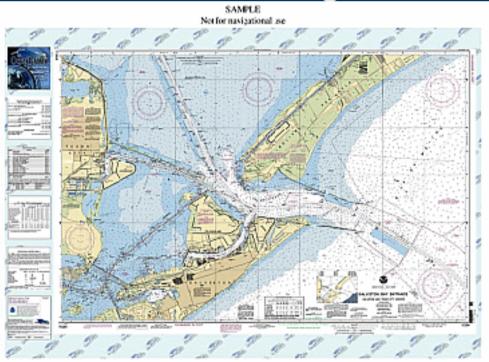
# Safety Gear, optional

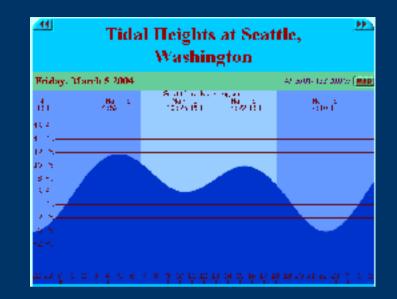
- EPIRB or PLB
- Wet or dry suit
- Paddle float
- Paddle tether
- Fenders
- Gloves
- Anchor

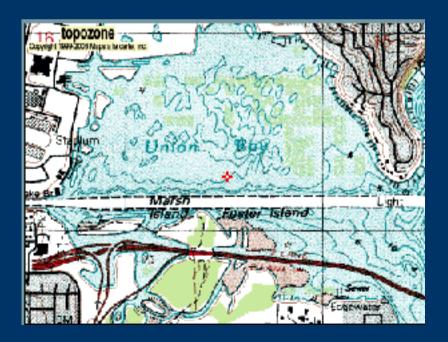


# **Travel Plans**

- Know your limits
- Know your boat's limits
- Use current navigational charts

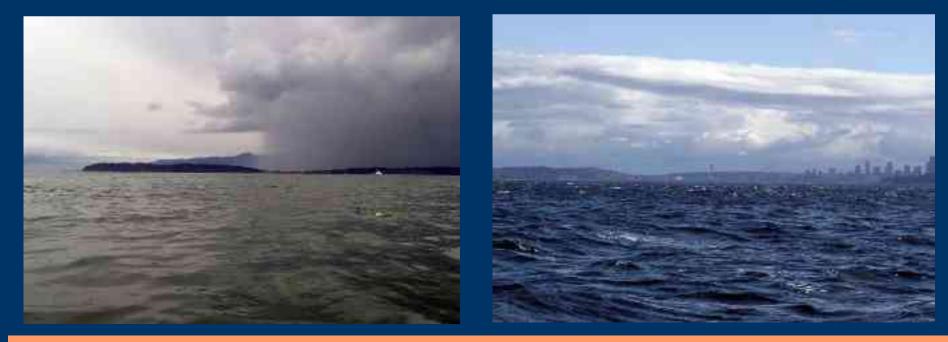






# Travel Plans, continued

- Include options for bailing out
- Plan for the weather
- Plan for the water
- Let others know your plans



# Means of Getting To and From the Water

- Dollies
- Trailers
- Boat ramps
- Public water access
- Marinas







# Where Can I Go?



# Where can I go?

- Lakes (Union, Washington, etc.)
- Rivers (Cedar, Duwamish, Columbia, etc.)
- Sea (Puget Sound, San Juans, Gulf Islands, Inside Passageway, etc.)
- The World!

#### Lake Access Points



#### Cascadia Marine Trail



#### Cascadia Marine Trail, North Sound



































































## What Resources Are Available?

- Pedal boat dealers and web sites
  - www.pedalcraft.com
  - www.humanpoweredboats.com
- Kayak and boating stores
- Paddling and rowing clubs
- Marine oriented web sites
  - www.boatwashington.org
  - snorlax.lampi.org/mike/boating.html
- Government web sites
  - access.wa.gov
- Public library

# Summary

- Cycling on the water is
  - a superb way to explore new areas
  - a remarkable way to get around
  - great for exercise!
- Be familiar with and take along safety gear
- If the conditions are hazardous, don't go
- Plan ahead for contingencies
- Have fun!