



Moving Water Practice:

Kersey to Kuner on the South Platte

April 13, 2013

Anne Fiore organized the practice and Gary Cage provided expertise from years of white water paddling. With Sue Hughes, Al Lovas, Andy McKenna and new member Jim Pierce they did the second half of the Multi-Club's South Platte run, from Kersey to Kuner Bridge. It was only a five mile stretch but with lots of ferrying back and forth from bank to bank to practice eddying out it took most of the cool and overcast day. Everyone had the usual good time and enjoyed being on the water with old friends and some people they hadn't known before.

As they launched they reinforced good paddling habits by checking for whistles, and Andy asked who had first aid kits and where they were. He spent his lunch break using a grabber to leave the river bank cleaner than he found it; several people thought that was commendable paddling habit that should be adopted by more RMSKC members.



Andy McKenna



The water wasn't moving fast enough to make it very

challenging, but part of the fun was aiming for something and ferrying across exactly to it.

Sue was impressed she nailed this can dead-on, but she's embarrassed that she just left it there. That wouldn't have happened if it had been after Andy's good example at lunch.

Lunch and time in the cars running the shuttle got people introduced or caught up on recent adventures.

Anne was pleased everyone stayed together, which doesn't always happen, and the day's participants all expressed interest in doing another river practice.



Gary Cage and John Ruger



Al Lovas and Jim Pierce

Anne is hoping to schedule a day on the Colorado River from Dotsero to Bair Ranch later in the summer. That section is rated 1+ or 2, so it's faster and more challenging than the Kersey to Kuner part of the South Platte.

For additional river paddling opportunities, Anne is leading the Brighton to Ft. Lupton portion of the South Platte the first Saturday in June with the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club; the second weekend in June the canoe club is doing the more demanding North Platte from below Saratoga to I-80.

Email Anne for information, check the RMCC website for their schedule and good river information, and read accounts of previous Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club trips to these places:



Sue Hughes

- DOTSERO: *River Training on the Colorado in Glenwood Canyon* by Sue Hughes in the Summer, 2008 issue (16-2)
- DOTSERO: *Moving Water Class* by Annette Mascia in the Summer, 2010 issue of *The RMSKC's NEWS* (18-3a)
- BRIGHTON TO FT. LUPTON: *South Platte Re-run* by Sue Hughes in the Winter 09-10 issue of *The Mountain Paddler* (18-1b)
- SARATOGA TO I-80: *On the North Platte: A First-Timer's Report of a Great Trip* by Kathleen Ellis in the Summer, 2008 issue (16-2)