

Minimum Guidelines for a State Designated Paddling Trail

1. A local, regional or state entity agrees to be the manager of the trail in terms of development and long-term maintenance. The manager must agree to monitor the trail at least once a year and clear up any logjams or other impediments as needed. A trail use plan shall be part of the agreement and an example can be provided.
2. The trail has scenic, historical or other unique qualities that make it attractive to paddlers.
3. The trail is at least three miles in length.
4. There is adequate public access.
5. Adequate information is provided in terms of difficulty, mileage, safety considerations and environmental conditions.
6. Signage can help to identify a trail for its users and provide direction, especially in confusing areas, but it is not required. GPS points on a clear map will suffice.
7. Though desirable along many paddling trails, campsites and overnight stops are not required as long as public access points are less than 20 miles apart so paddlers can complete day trips in a reasonable amount of time.

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