



Finish Line Kayak Recovery Job Description

Timing & Location Details

- **Shift time: 5:30am-11:00am**
- **Finish Line Location: Fort Phoenix State Reservation**
 - Green St, Fairhaven, MA 02719

Task Overview: Many swimmers have personal kayak escorts to help them across the course during the Swim. Swimmers will be directed to the finish chute, while kayaks are directed to the left of the chute (if you're standing on the beach facing the water). Kayak recovery volunteers are responsible for managing kayak parking and collecting kayak materials.

Directions: Arrive by 5:30am for the volunteer muster under the food tent. Kayak recovery volunteers will report to the Chute/Corral Captain and assist with unloading the trailer and setting up the chute/corral area (if needed). At kayak recovery area, set up metal tub with coroplast sign stating "return bibs, PFDs, whistles HERE." Space any additional coroplast signs (Protecting clean water, Thank you for your support, etc.) along beach towards parking lot for people to see while exiting beach.

Beginning at 7:30am, stand by to receive kayak escorts as they arrive onto the beach. **Collect whistles, kayak numbers and PFDs (only if borrowed from Coalition).** Keep collected equipment organized in bin for easy transport off beach. Direct kayakers to 'park' their kayak up on sand (far enough away from water as tide is coming in).

Kayakers can:

- Walk off beach to parking lot to retrieve vehicle and load kayak, OR
- Walk off beach to parking lot to wait for shuttle back to Start Line to retrieve vehicle (shuttle schedule is posted at the parking lot, and basically runs on a continual loop).
- Kayakers are strongly recommended to take care of their kayak before attending beach party at finish line. Tide is coming in so kayak could potentially be swept away in water if left unattended and not far enough up on the beach.

If kayaker asks about kayaking back to the Start Line:

- Remind all kayakers that harbor patrol preference is for them to NOT kayak back across, but to take the free shuttle service back to retrieve their cars. Offer to monitor kayak for them while they retrieve their car.
- Paddling back is dangerous because
 - 1) Shipping channel will be open again, with eager traffic ready to pass through
 - 2) Will be paddling against the tide which makes for a long and tiring journey back.
- If kayakers insist on paddling back, they MUST leave beach together in a single group, guided by the BBC boat *Baykeeper*. Finish Corral/Chute captain will have radio contact with *Baykeeper* and can help arrange this. **The paddling group will depart the beach at the conclusion of the awards ceremony around 9:45am.**

Continue to assist kayakers until all kayaks are off the water. Coordinate paddle back to Start Line with Corral/Chute captain and *Baykeeper*, if needed. Ensure all kayaks are picked up by swimmers/kayakers, and assist BBC staff in loading any BBC-owned kayaks. If anything is left in this area past 10:30am, notify the DCR lifeguard on duty and Finish Line Captain.

Any problems or questions? See your Finish Line Captain.

Thank you for volunteering at the Buzzards Bay Swim!