

MODERN GUIDE TRAINING FRAMEWORK

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Gain a better understanding of external training and certifications
- Share some ideas for internal training
- Learn about new external training courses

BEFORE WE START

- This is rafting focused
- We are all very different and our training will be different
- Meant to start a conversation
- Q&A at the end

TRAINING MODEL

**New Guide
Course**

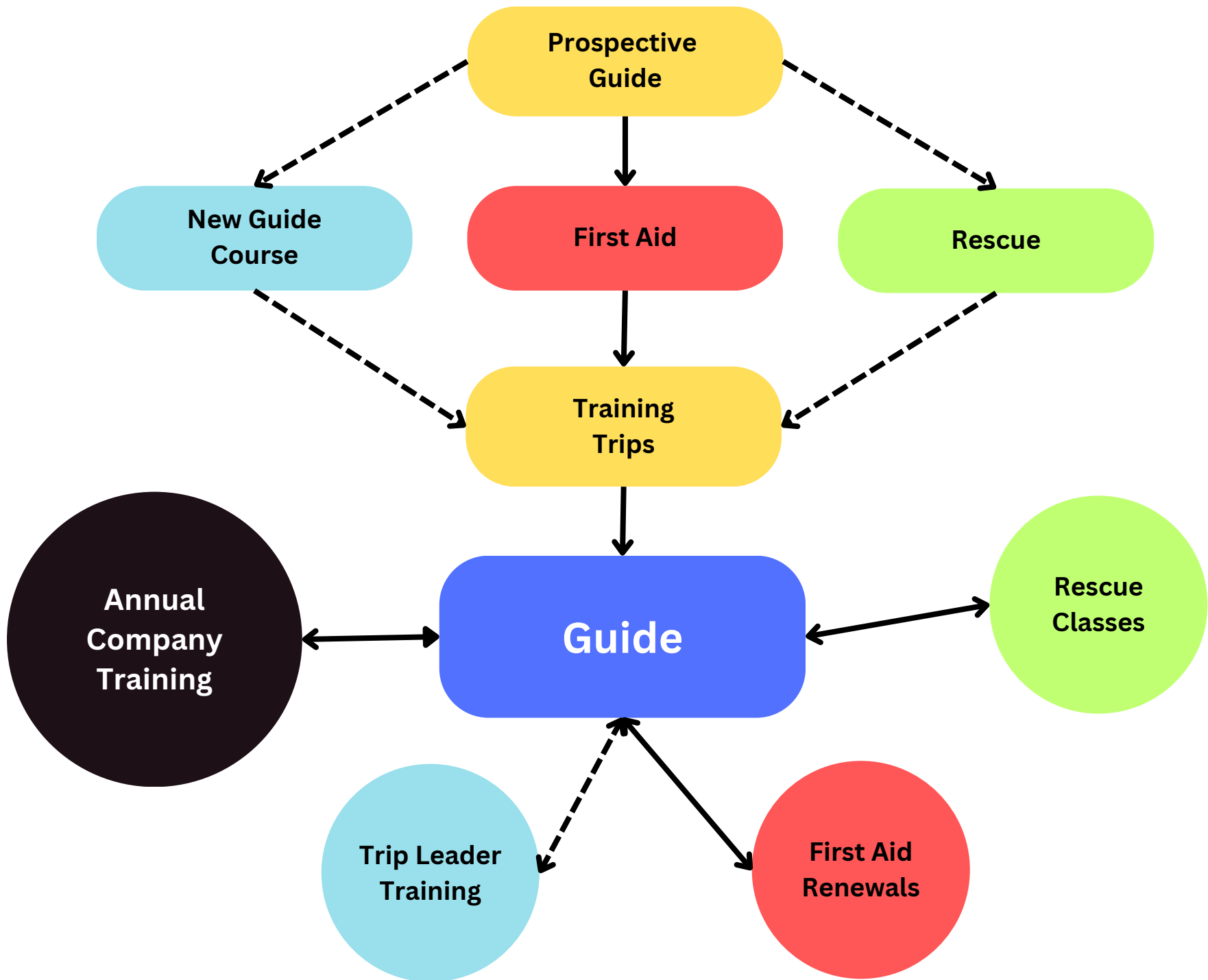
First Aid

Rescue

**Annual
Company
Training**

**Trip Leader
Training**

**Training
Trips**



**HOW DO WE MAKE
OUR TRIPS SAFER?**

**HOW DO WE TRAIN
FOR WHEN
SOMETHING GOES
WRONG?**

INSTRUCTORS

Julie Munger, Sierra Rescue

Eric Riley, Swiftwater Safety Institute

Charlie Walbridge, ACA and AW
Safety Chairman

Nadia Kimmel, Desert Mountain
Medicine

Todd Collins, Wet Planet and Sierra
Rescue

Mark Hirst, Lapin Koskikoulu and IRF

OUTFITTERS / MANAGERS

Erik Weiseth, Orange Torpedo Trips

**Pete Wallstrom, Momentum River
Expeditions**

Todd Collins, Wet Planet

Bryant Baker, ACE Adventure Resort

Tim Thornton, River Drifters

**HOW DO WE MAKE
OUR TRIPS SAFER?**

GUIDE SKILLS

- Controlling the raft
- Keeping guests in the raft
- Rescuing swimmers and flips
- Safety talk
- Accident prevention



PREVENTION

- Develop a Culture of Keeping People in Boats
- High Water Precautions
- Cold Water Immersion
- Boat Order/Spacing
- Proper PPE

GUIDE TRAINING

- Internal Guide Schools
- External Guide Schools
- ACA Raft Guide
Certification Program
- IRF GTE Courses

IRF GTE WORKSHOPS

- Safety Demonstration
- Rafting Skills + Crew Management
- Whitewater Swim
- Ropework
- Flip Test
- Throwbag Test
- PPE Check
- Trip Leader Scenarios



INTERNAL VS EXTERNAL GUIDE TRAINING

Internal	External
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More guide work• More specialized to your outfit• Builds rapport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New techniques• Can tell it like it is• More experienced and trained• No attachment

HOW DO WE TRAIN
FOR WHEN
SOMETHING GOES
WRONG?



RESCUE COURSES

- No overarching authority
- Rescue 3 is a business focused on first responders
- For Profit Companies vs. ACA/IRF Organizations

RESCUE COURSES

- Swiftwater Rescue
 - Swiftwater Rescue Technician (SRT)
- Whitewater Rescue
 - RRC + RRC Pro
 - SRT PRO-I + Pro-II
 - ACA Level 2-4



RESCUE COURSES

- Can be done in house with your guides as instructors
- Instructor understands rafts, professional guiding, and your style of river



RESCUE COURSES

- What is a “Cert”?
- Gold Standard: Sierra Rescue, SSI, Mather Rescue, ACA with Right Instructor

FIRST AID + EVACCS

- Basic First Aid
- CPR
- WFA (16 hr)
- WAFA (36 hr)
- WFR (72 hr)
- W-EMT
- CIRT



WFR COURSES

- Similar to rescue, no general authority
- Some are fully online or minimal in person hours
- Wilderness Medicine Education Collaborative



WEMC STANDARDS

- Minimum 70 hours
- Hybrid minimum 45 hours in person
- At least 50% in person doing scenarios
- Final written exam and practical skills checkoff
- Should follow core topics in the standards “Industry Standard for WFR Certification”

WFR COURSES

- Starting to be more focused on activity
- Gold Standard: Desert Mountain Medicine, NOLS Wilderness Medicine, Wilderness Medical Associates

CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE TRAINING (CIRT)

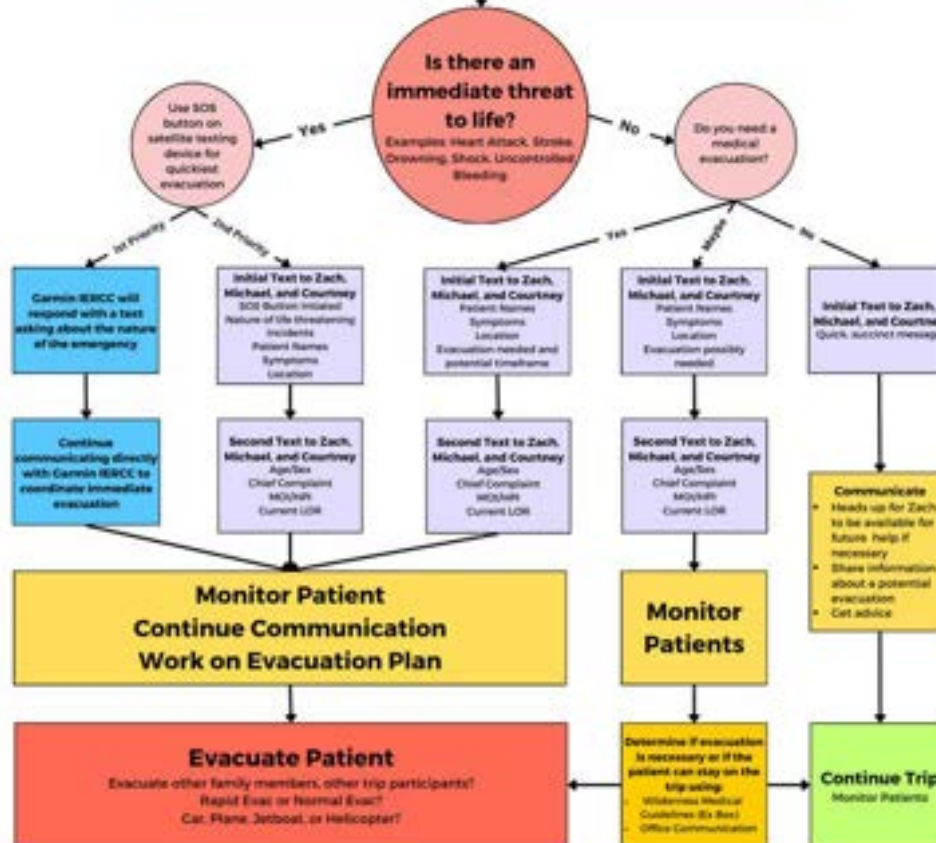
- How to respond to serious injury or death
- Offered by Recreation Law Group
- Fully online with in person scenarios

On-Scene Tool for Critical Incidents

Administer Medical Care + Manage Site Safety

On Scene Manger (Head Guide or Designee) Designates Roles

- **Rescue Lead** handles any on river rescue
- **Primary Caregiver** provides medical care to victims
- **Communication Lead** handles satellite text communication with office and others
- **Group Care** takes care of non-involved guests



Don't Forget

- Provide Emotional Support to Family Members and Other Guests
- Document with Witness Statement, Guide Statements, Accident Report, and SOAP Notes
- Take Photos and Video of Incident, Rapid, and Shoreline

**New Guide
Course**

WFA

**In House Rescue
Course**

IRF Workshop

WAFA

**Sierra Rescue RRC or
SSI PRO - I**

**ACA Raft Guide
Certification**

WFR

**Sierra Rescue RRC-Pro
or SSI PRO - II**

Trip Leader Training

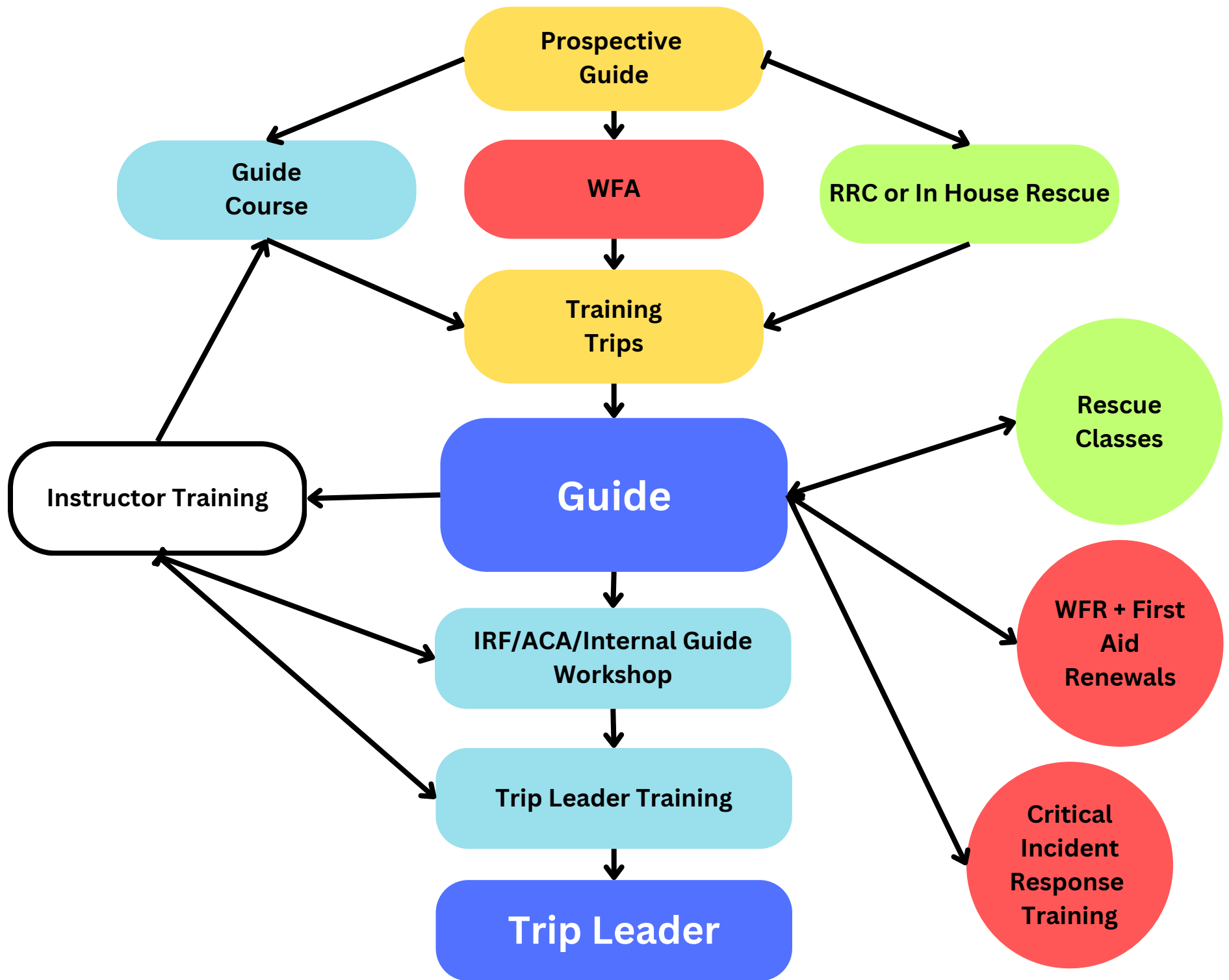
**Training
Trips**

ACA Swiftwater Rescue

Instructor Training

**WFR + First
Aid
Renewals**

**Critical
Incident
Response
Training**



**WHAT MAKES A GOOD
INSTRUCTOR /
TRAINER?**




The weather outside is weather



Share



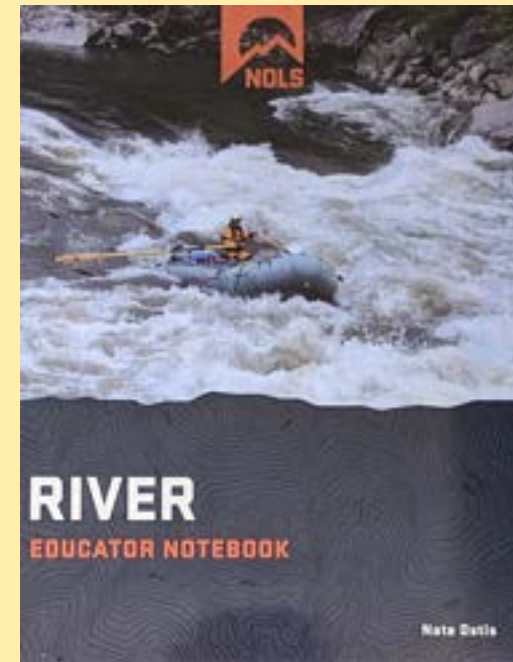
Watch on  YouTube

GOOD INSTRUCTORS

- Have Tons of Experience
- Can Still Walk the Walk
- Know How to Teach
- Are Humble and Approachable
- Can Say “I Don’t Know” and Then Find the Answer
- Are Continually Learning

DEVELOPING INSTRUCTORS

- NOLS River Educator Notebook
- IRF and ACA Instructor Trainer Courses
- ACA Swiftwater Rescue Conference
- IRF GTE Instructor Conference
- NWRC River Educator Workshop



**WHAT ARE OTHER
ELEMENTS OF A
GREAT COURSE?**

GREAT COURSES

- Hands on Scenarios
- Curriculum Written by Guides for Guides
- Low Instructor/Student Ratio
- Assessments
- Good Students



ONLINE OR HYBRID



- Fully Online - No
- There are cost and time savings with hybrid courses
- Course content is better done in person

HYBRID TRAINING

- Great for vocabulary, introductions, and setting an even playing field
- Around 10% online seems like the sweet spot
- Can be used for internal training
 - Teachable is a good platform
 - Could also just email 3-4 YouTube videos

TAKE-AWAYS

- Check out IRF and ACA courses for guides
- Choose which specific rescue and first aid courses are acceptable
- Consider training a line item on your budget
- Find instructor training for your in-house instructors

CONCLUSION

1. Gain a better understanding of external training and certifications
2. Share some ideas for internal training
3. Learn about new training courses

Q & A

Thank you!

Please complete the session
evaluation for this presentation in the
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App.

