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## Raft Building

### INTRODUCTION

This activity provides an opportunity for the group to consider how to assemble a 'floating vehicle' from a store of plastic barrels, lashings and spars. Guided by the instructor the group are encouraged to manage the design and build using teamwork.

### VENUE

Thurston Beach, Coniston Water, is the normal venue with craft construction taking place on the shore.

- Any other venue to be approved by Head of Centre or deputy.

### STAFFING

- Ratio: The normal instructor/participant ratio.
- Staff must have paddle sport qualifications and in-house training.
- Appropriate safety cover needs to be provided and a full safety briefing given before construction and before going on the water.

### EQUIPMENT

- Improvised rafting should be treated as a paddle sport session in terms of kit to be worn.
- Helmets must be worn during construction and paddling
- Instructor must have a knife available.

### OPERATING CONSIDERATIONS

- A suitable safety craft should be available.
- If the session includes a journey by raft then the instructor should carry appropriate safety equipment.
- During construction it should be ensured that there is no need to turn the raft over.
- Care must be taken to ensure best practice in manual handling.