

## **2012 SEAWARD PACIFIC EXPEDITION/WAVE VIDMAR FAQS**

**How long will the expedition take?** Approximately 45-65 days

**What is the distance between San Francisco and Honolulu?** 2047 miles in a straight line, 'as the crow flies.' My route is 3,100+ miles long.

**There are other people with you, right?** No, there are no shadow or support boats, just me.

**Why are you doing this?** Personal challenge, pushing the limits of what humans are capable of, to inspire others, a strong educational component, and lite research

**Has this expedition ever been done before?** Yes, once, in 1987. It's never been attempted before or since.

**How will you get drinking water?** Using manual desalinators –water makers - I can pump seawater through special filters to get potable water. It makes about 5 liters per hour.

**What will you do if there's a storm?** Ride it out. I'm even prepared for a potential hurricane.

**How will you go to the bathroom?** I'll hang over the side

**Will you be fishing?** Yes, I love sushi! But I won't count on fish for my daily food rations.

**How have you been training for this expedition?** Kayaking, bicycling, swimming, and weights - I've been training for over a year and a half for this expedition.

**Are you using sea anchors?** Yes, I have three.

**What happens when you sleep at night, won't you drift away?** No, once I am off-shore my route can vary hundreds of miles.

**How will you sleep?** I am using a tandem kayak and will stretch out inside between the two cockpits.

**How will you stay dry at night?** I have two different covers: a hard cover that allows the kayak to roll and self-right, and a lighter weight nylon cover.

**How will you get power for your electronics?** Using flexible solar panels strapped to the deck of my kayak. They recharge the batteries and electronic devices on my kayak.

**How long will you paddle every day?** Roughly 8 hours, give or take. I'll let my body, and at times, the weather, decide.

**What happens if you get sick?** I can talk with my expedition doctors and I carry an extensive first aid kit.

**How will you move about your kayak?** By deploying inflatable sponsons and pontoons for stability. In calm seas I can scoot about the kayak without aid.

**Will you have pontoons for stabilization?** Yes

**Loneliness, isolation.... How will you deal with this?** I generally don't get lonely, and I can call anyone at anytime, send/receive emails, and have lots of things to do when I'm not paddling, like wash clothes, conduct lite research functions, etc...

**How much food will you bring?** Approx 2.5lbs of food a day for 80 days.

**How will you carry everything you need for 2+ months?** Everything I need to survive - food, water makers, gear, spare parts etc, all fits in my tandem kayak.

**What will you do for entertainment?** I have lots of music and hundreds of movies I can watch. I'll also compose and record music during the expedition.

**How will you cook your food or heat up water?** Using an expedition *JetBoil* stove in a special mount I designed, I can safely cook and paddle at the same time.

**How many calories a day will you consume?** Approximately 5,500 calories per day

**What dangers will you face?** Giant waves, being run over by ships that will never see me, storms, hurricanes. Floating debris from the Japan Tsunami last year is probably my biggest danger.

**What about sharks?** I'm not too worried about them. I have a special shark-repellant pattern painted on the bottom of my kayak to repel Great White shark attacks. The pattern mimics pilot fish and lion fish, both species that sharks avoid.

**How big are the sharks you might encounter?** The Great White sharks are around 17-20 feet long and can weigh 2 tons.