

# Stuart Picard

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Wilderness tripping is one of Stuart Picard's deepest passions. He has backpacked in mountain ranges in North America, New Zealand and Asia. It was as a young Boy Scout that he first learned the importance of being prepared, but it was while solo trekking in the Himalaya and Karakorum mountain ranges that the importance of being prepared and managing risk took on new meaning in his life.

Stu enjoys any sport activity that inspires him to try something new and accomplish something difficult. Multisport training and citizen racing events have provided a means for him to set goals, learn new skills and meet new friends. Among Stu's favorite multisport activities are cross-country skiing, endurance mountain biking, whitewater and flat water canoeing, kayaking, and marathon swimming and running.



Stu ran his first marathon at 46 and has been running marathons with Fred's Team in support of pediatric cancer research at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center since 2002. He was a member of Team USA, in 2005, and competed in the 50-54 age-group at the Triathlon Long Course World Championship in Denmark.

As a member of Jim Dreyer's *Team Dire Straits*, Stu swam the Straits of Mackinac in 2007, with 50 other swimmers, in support of *Mentor Michigan* and in celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the construction of the Mackinac Bridge. The following year, Dreyer guided Stu on a 10-mile swim in Lake Michigan while being challenged by 3-5 foot waves during the aftermath of Hurricane Ike.

Stu looks forward to a great river adventure with Dreyer in 2012, and is humbled by the opportunity to build with Habitat for Humanity.