



November 5, 2007  
Wilderness Aware Rafting  
P.O. Box 1550 WS  
Buena Vista, CO 81211

Joe, Eric and Woody,

I just wanted to drop you a quick thanks for helping me get such a great start in the outdoor industry. From where I sit now I can look back and see that Wilderness Aware was a great place to start and it really helped me get to where I am now.

As I look back it was 14 years ago that I was fresh out of my freshman year of college looking for a start in the guiding world. It is hard to believe that I have moved from guiding to managing, and it all started with Wilderness Aware. I remember going on your training trip and falling out of the boat on the first day, heck the first hour! To make matters worse I was in the Boss's boat! To compound that I got second degree sunburn because I neglected to put on sunscreen and I finished the trip by stepping on a broken bottle that put a three inch laceration in my foot! Yet you must have seen some potential in me since you offered me a position that summer. Little did I know that this would be the beginning of what is turning out to be a career.

As Director of Operations for ROW, I look back at the training that I received from Wilderness Aware and realize that it was a step above other companies. After working for 5 years I left with not only solid boating skills but also leadership skills. These are the traits that I look for when hiring for ROW. ROW has hired quite a few guides who have worked for Wilderness Aware, and I find that all of them come with the same solid set of skills. They are confident and safe on the water, they have a great attention to detail, and they are growing leaders.

I just wanted to say thanks again for giving me a chance and keep up the good work on training.

See you on the river!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Koni", written over a light gray rectangular background.

David "Koni" Konigsberg  
Director of Operations

