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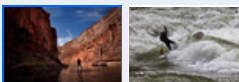
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Kalepa maneuvers stand-up paddleboard down Colorado River

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Archie Kalepa of Lahaina used a stand-up paddleboard to traverse 187 miles of the Colorado River last month. The 46-year old waterman said part of the reason for the trip was to honor Native Americans. "The way the American Indians think and how we Hawaiians think is so alike," he said. "So many of our spiritual beliefs are similar, so we felt like family, like cousins. We really connected. The knowledge they have of their culture goes way back, even further back than what I know of mine. I learned so much more about water than I would ever learn if I was just in Hawaii." Kalepa conducted the trip in conjunction with the Explore organization, which bills itself as "a philanthropic multimedia organization that makes documentary films and photographs to showcase extraordinary nonprofit efforts and leaders around the world." Kalepa met with leaders of the Hopi, Zuni, Navajo, Lakota and Anishinaabe tribes on the journey.

Article Photos



EXPLORE.ORG / AARON HUEY photo

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