

**MAY 2015**



**Inside this issue:**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	5
INTERNET ADDRESSES	6
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	2/3
RIGGINS JETBOAT RACES	5
SKILLS DAY	1/4
WEED RUN	1

## SKILLS DAY 2015

The 2015 Skills Day Run will be held on Saturday May 16, 2015. We will launch from the Hells Canyon Dam boat ramp. For those that have never launched from the dam, surprisingly there are several members that have not, the boat ramp is on the Oregon side. The ramp is easily accessed after crossing the dam.

There will be a drivers meeting at Eagle Bar above the dam on the Idaho side at 8:00

AM MDT on the 16<sup>th</sup> and we will plan to launch at 9:00AM MDT. When I last launched from that ramp it is helpful to crowd the bank side of the ramp as there is a drop off on the river side of the ramp. There is still plenty of room just easier if you crowd the bank side of the ramp. After launching, we will head downriver to the beach on the Idaho side below Stud Creek (about 3/4 mile from the launch). From there the boats will be placed in

small groups to work on skills of maneuvering in the current, navigating a class two rapid, and reading the water 101.

Depending on the group, the skills event will wrap up around noon leaving some time for fishing and continued practice on the water and rapids. We will wind up the day with a dinner gathering at five that evening at Eagle Bar above the dam. The meat dish will be sup-

*(Continued on page 4)*

**Special points of interest:**

- Thanks to the Safety boat drivers and their crew.
- Thanks to all who contributed to make the Riggins races safe
- Skills day set for May 16, at Hells Canyon Dam
- Weed Run has been postponed

## 2015 WEED RUN

The 2015 Salmon River Noxious Weed Control Project which was originally scheduled for May 1, 2 and 3 has been postponed due to high water flows.

This event will probably be conducted about mid June. As soon as we have more concrete information, I will send a notice to all the expected participants.

Please give **Don Moore (208-377-0272)** a call if you have any questions or plan on attending this fun event.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Can you believe how fast this year is going by? The Salmon River run and jet boat races have come and gone but not without leaving us with some great memories. We started on Thursday with a great ride up the Salmon River with the Hortons, which allowed me to take in all of the scenery and wildlife and not have to give all my attention to driving. On Friday several of the club members went on an ATV ride including 8



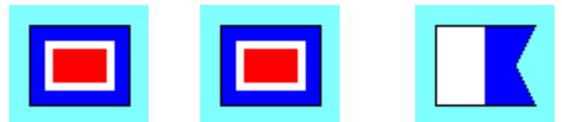
down into Pittsburg landing for lunch. Thanks to the DeMond family

Looking at the pictures taken, you might think we were doing a Polaris commercial. We rode up Race creek and over Cow Creek summit and

for the food. The days ride totaled 80 miles with the only problem known was a flat tire on Jim's machine and was quickly repaired thanks to several helping hands and tools. Made it back to town in time for the barbecue put on in Rig-gins at the Salmon Rapids Lodge. Good food and visits with the jet boat teams.

Normally every year Wanda and I watch the races from the roadside, moving from spot to spot looking for a different view of the action. This year I spent 2 days on one of the safety boats. This was

(Continued on page 3)



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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*(Continued from page 2)*

kind of like watching a game on the 50 yard line in the front row. I want to thank Clyde Schrader and Bob Hays for organizing the safety boats. And all of the volunteers who used their boats and time to be there for safety crews, including the EMT's and ham radio operators who were there as volunteer's. I really enjoyed seeing how the races worked from the inside.

It was great to see how many people were drawn to Riggins for the races. Being from a very small town in Idaho. I know the local businesses rely on the revenue generated from the Salmon River Jet Boat races.

The Western Whitewater

Association is fortunate to be able to sponsor these races and has been welcomed by residents and most business owners.

Here is my rant

A large part of WWA members, who were also Safety boat crews, camped in the lot across from the Riggins Rodeo grounds. This has been done for years without any problems. This year however, we were met with some resistance in the form of a fee by the property owner who demanded we pay \$30.00 for the stay. It was tough to accept at first. Later, I realized that it was cheaper than a RV park. Finding out later that people who wanted to just park their

vehicle to watch the races, were also ask to pay the same \$30.00 fee. I really think that this needs to be brought to the Riggins Chamber of Commerce attention.

We have our next meeting at the Shilo inn in Nampa on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Come join in have a chance to win door prizes and enter the drawing for the fishing trip for two.

Happy boating .

Randy Clagg President WWA



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## SKILLS DAY 2015

(Continued from page 1)

plied by the club so bring a pot luck dish to dinner and let's enjoy some re-hashing of the day over dinner.

There are a couple of things to be aware of in Hells Canyon. First, each boat must have a porta-potty on board. This is a part of preserving our Wild and Scenic river way. Next, keep in mind the two most common health issues that require medical attention for campers in Hells Canyon are spider bites and poison ivy. So don't bite any spiders unless you are on a first name basis and certainly don't try to poison Ivy unless you are on a first name basis with her as well. Lastly, make sure your equipment including CB radio are in top working condition. This is not a place to "work out the kinks".

Personally, I will be headed to the canyon early Friday for some fishing and plan to camp at Idaho Power's Hell Canyon Reservoir campground. The fee there is \$18.00 per night for RV's and \$10.00 per night for tents. There are no reservations taken for any of the Idaho Power campgrounds so it is first come first served. At Hells Canyon Reservoir campground there is overflow parking and camping near the boat dock and not to jinx anyone but, I have never seen the park and the overflow completely full except

4<sup>th</sup> of July and Labor Day.

Lastly, this is an opportunity to get a feel of your boat in manageable whitewater and river currents. There will be firsthand and perhaps even co-pilot help available to coach and help build

skills. We will boat in the area of manageable whitewater and yet still see some of the springtime beauty of Hells Canyon. Beyond the boating look for bears, bighorn sheep, turkeys (the gobbler type), and most of all, enjoy the day with friends, the river, and the rest of nature.

PS. we will get an RSVP at the regular membership meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> to have the right amount of steaks or hamburgers for the potluck dinner. Thanks

JED MYERS



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## 2015 Riggins Jet Boat Races

The 2015 (31<sup>st</sup> Annual) Riggins Jet Boat Race is in the history book.

The race was not uneventful, we had our moments. On the second leg we lost a boat at Planner Rock.

Boat #212 rolled over in the rough stuff and went down.

The safety boat at that station was Brad Ford and crew. Brad had prepared himself and his crew to handle just such an incident. They were ready and were able to get the driver and his navigator out of the water and on the safety boat in two minutes. Great job Brad and crew, all your preparation and clear thinking avoided a potential disaster. There were two other safety boats involved

in the rescue, Jim Moore and Chad Colton maneuvered their boats into position to assist in the retrieving of the race boat crew if they managed to slip past Brad. This was a classic example of clear thinking and knowing what to do in the event of a boat going down. I cannot thank you folks enough, and that goes to all the safety boat crews. Thank you.

Providing safety boat coverage for the Riggins race is a big job and could not happen if it were not for all the help provided by others in our organization. Guys like Bob Hays and his brother Gary helping with set up, and you guys that take it all down after the race, and all the members

that provide their boats. This is truly a team effort and an indication of what great people we have in the WWA.

I hear from the Riggins Race Committee how much they appreciate the WWA and all of our efforts.

The racers trust us to come to their aid. All of you should be proud.

Thank you for letting me part of this fine effort.

Clyde Schrader  
The Jolly Jester

## 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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\*\*term expires Jan. 2017

Newsletter: Anita Shore

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## Internet Addresses

### Idaho Current Streamflows: (New Address) 5-01

[http://water.usgs.gov/id/nwis/current?type=flow&group\\_key=NONE&search\\_site\\_no\\_station\\_nm=](http://water.usgs.gov/id/nwis/current?type=flow&group_key=NONE&search_site_no_station_nm=)  
(enter it once and bookmark it!)

### Idaho Power Streamflow Information: (03-02)

<http://www.idahopower.com/h2o/idastream.cfm>

### Riverflow Information:

<http://www.idwr.state.id.us/planpol/techserv/flows.htm>

### Addresses and Telephone Numbers

Salmon River Reservations: Slate Creek Ranger Station:  
208-839-2211

Hells Canyon Power Boat Reservations: Reservations  
must be made online. <https://www.recreation.gov/>

River & Reservoir Levels: Bureau of Reclamation: 208-  
334-9134

Bliss Dam Outflows: Idaho Power (Call weekdays only)  
208-388-2255

## Calendar of Events

**MAY 11, 2015:** General Membership meeting—Canyon Creek Restaurant, Nampa ID

**May:** Payette river run (day to be determined. Depends on water flow)

**May 16,** Skills Day Eagle Bar, Hells Canyon Reservoir

**September 12, 2015:** Confluence Run

**October 24, 2015:** Hammer Creek Fishing Day

**General membership meeting:** Second Monday of the month at Canyon Creek Restaurant, Nampa ID