

MAY 2017



RAPIDS

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Riggins Jet Boat Races

The Western Whitewater Association assisted in the sponsorship and support of the annual jetboat races in Riggins, Idaho on the Main Salmon River from Island Bar (approximately four miles east of Riggins) to Lighting Creek (approximately three miles north of Riggins). This distance is covered in three rounds (six legs) on Saturday and two rounds (four legs) on Easter Sunday morning (April 15 & 16, 2017).

Safety boat crews were organized by the Association Members and brothers Gary and Bob Hays with the assistance of Mick Cowger. The crews consisted of boats captained by John Faw (Elk Ranch), Dave Horton (Planer Hole), Brad Ford (Preacher's Hole), Jim & Brandi Moore (Park Hole), Bob & Becky Hays (Woodpecker), Doug Martin (Six-pack Eddy), Don Moore (Time Zone), Chris Clemons (Lower Time Zone) and

Nick Giardina (Tight Squeeze).

Operations included setting up the course markers which was completed by Gary Hays and crew on Wednesday. Safety boat coverage during test and tune on Friday was provided by Dave Horton and Doug Martin. Course familiarization was also provided to safety boat crews by Gary Hays on Friday in the sweep boat. Race coverage on Saturday

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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



LUNCH ON BOAT TO CORN CREEK.

Seats for this trip were sold at this year's Banquet and Fundraiser in February.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Last month, I mentioned that the club was as strong as its active members. That was demonstrated this past month at the Salmon River boat races, the Vinegar Creek to Corn Creek Connector Trip and advocacy efforts on the part of several members. All participants were strong activists for our association's mission.

I would like to personally thank the following members for their participation in providing and captaining a safety boat during the races:

John Faw, Dave Horton, Brad Ford, Jim Moore, Bob Hays, Doug Martin, Don Moore, Chris Clemons, Nick Giardina, Gary Hays and Carl Norton

These gentlemen have to be point on for two days to be ready for any emergency that might arrive. The race organizers are very thankful that they have experienced boaters to collaborate with EMTs and other safety

personnel to provide a safe race environment. Without this support, they would have a tough time putting on this event and their appreciation is evident. My hat is off to you all for your time and effort!

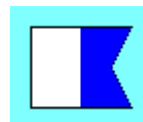
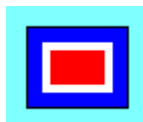
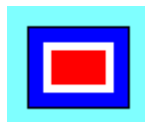
The Thursday and Friday before the races several members took advantage of the near perfect flows for running the Salmon. As many of you know, this river is a very technical run at lower flows and can present some challenges at higher flows. When the river is running between 18,000-20,000 cfs it provides a chance for many, who are normally skittish, an opportunity to experience the beauty of this river. And beautiful it was. The mountain sides were covered with many hues of green. More than one boat load sighted elk and sheep. Two full curl rams were spotted on the north bank just below Pine Tree. Chittam, Dried Meat and Ludwig Rapids provided a few thrills. Everyone had a

great time and only minor damage was reported.

Twenty-two members of WWA bought a seat on the Reho Verona with Heinz from Whitewater Expeditions. Heinz was kind enough to kick back 60% of the sales of this trip to the WWA as a fund raiser at this year's banquet. This trip was collaboration between Whitewater Expeditions, the Salmon River Lodge and the WWA. The trip sold out in an hour and a half and raised \$4200 for the club. The members that stepped up were rewarded with a boat ride and lodging the last weekend of April to go from Vinegar Creek to Corn Creek.

This trip began with everyone gathering at our home in Pinehurst for a potluck the night before we launched. As always, everyone brought their best to share. It was a great kick off to the adventure. Saturday morning we car-pooled to end of the road at Vinegar

(Continued on page 3)



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

(Continued from page 2)

Creek to meet Heinz. This turned out to be more than a boat ride on a beautiful blue bird day. Heinz was a wonderful guide. The Reho Verona's triple power plant made some big water seem small. During the two day trip we stopped at various points of interest along the river. Some of the highlights included stopping at various petroglyphs, Polly Bemis, Buckskin Bill's, Campbell's Ferry, Barth Hot Springs, Yellow Pine Bar, Jim Moore's ranch and Gaines Bar.

The Salmon River Lodge is set in the most beautiful location. We were the first group of the year in for the owners, Natasha and Brooks. There were some exciting moments as the members helped Brooks with a fire in the generator house. Because of quick actions the generator was saved.

When asked, the folks on the trip said it was a memorable experience and that they would certainly do it again. Plans are in the works for a trip for next year. If you are interested,

the trip will be sold again at the banquet. Be sure to be in line early. It was a win/ win situation for all. We made new friends and reacquainted with old. We saw sections of the river that we had not seen before. We learned of the history of the river. We want to go back. That is what the Salmon does to you.

In order to access and enjoy the rivers we all love, there has to be continual diligence. Shay White is collaborating with people outside the club and working tirelessly to advocate for fair and equitable use in Hells Canyon. Action is taking place for improvements to the Pittsburg camp ground. Be looking for a potable water faucet to be installed in the next year. It may not seem like much but it is a move in the right direction.

The board approved a letter last month that was sent to the Oregon Marine Board advocating that a section of the Rouge River remain open to jet and air boats. On April 20th, the Ore-

gon Marine Board denied the petition to close that section of the river to jet and air boat and after a detailed discussion, directed agency staff to consider alternatives to rule-making including education, information, signage, voluntary restrictions and increased law enforcement of existing laws. The Marine Board members underscored the importance of looking for solutions before imposing rules that restrict entire user groups and that all parties need to find ways to share the waterways. The Marine Board's reasoning was in line with what our stand on the matter was.

Once again, thank you to all that make this a great association and keep the mission of the club at the forefront of their actions on and off the water.

See you on the river!

Bill Dutton

WWA President 2017



Riggins Jet Boat Races

(Continued from page 1)

and Sunday started with launches that would get all safety boats into place one hour prior to the race starts, this allows for last minute adjustments and a clear course at the beginning of the race.

Sweep boat operations included Carl Norton's boat piloted by Gary Hays.

Each crew included EMT's organized by Janeen Eggebrecht, (race risk manager) and ham radio operators organized by Tim Rynearson. This system has provided a much improved communications system for the races and trained/experienced medical personnel available at multiple race locations.

A big thank you to Angela at Gradient Shift in Riggins for designing and providing the Safety Boat stickers and safety boat

parking area stickers.

The safety trailer was transported to the races by WWA President Bill Dutton.

The races were well attended and several interesting things occurred during the races. This year safety along the race course was stressed to prevent spectators from being too close to the water's edge and being in harm's way if a boat strayed from the race course. Considerable time was spent asking folks to step back and give themselves a safety cushion of distance. Also drones were observed in several different locations and in completion for the air space with sight-seeing helicopter flights. It was stated that unless a drone was sanctioned by an event they were illegal to fly over "any" sporting event. New

technology always goes through some trial periods.

The race boats included one turbine boat (USA1 – Ross Schlotthauer) but due to difficulties with the turbine on race day it only ran one of the legs. During test and tune on Friday it was very impressive with speeds in the 140+ mph range. On the fifth leg of Saturday's race, boat #313 got a little wide in Time Zone and suffered a traumatic crash on to the rocky river bank and then rolled back into the river. Both crew members quickly surfaced and were checked out by the safety crews at Time Zone (check out Maniac 313 Crash on U-Tube). This incident created a 47 minute red flag stop to the race.



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08-2017

Riggins Jet Boat Races

Final standings and results

Unlimited Class: 1. Ryan Rogers 50:09. 2. Jeff Edwardsen 1:04:26. 3. Ross Schlotthauer 1:07:05.

CX CLASS: 1. Jake Barney 59:13. 2. Barry Fenton (Canada) 1:02:17.

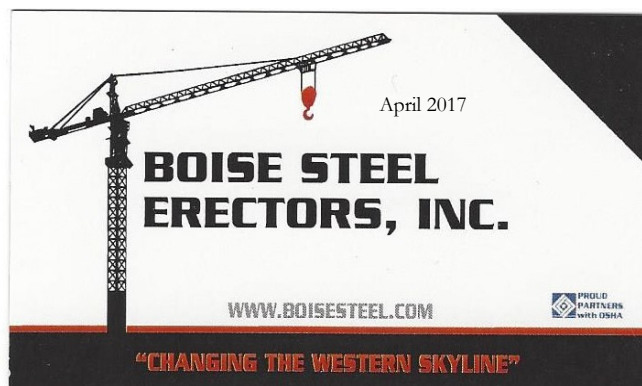
FX CLASS: 1. Chuck Thompson 1:04:18. 2. Shay White 1:08:20. 3. Adam Steffes 1:09:59.

2017 SALMON RIVER JET BOAT RACE													
BOAT/CLASS	LEG 1	LEG 2	LEG 3	LEG 4	LEG 5	LEG 6	SATURDAY	LEG 1	LEG 2	LEG 3	LEG 4	SUNDAY	TOTAL TIME
285 ROGERS	4:41	5:11	4:41	5:12	4:39	5:19	29:43:00	4:58	5:22	4:46	5:20	20:26	0:50:09
313 EDWARDSSEN	6:04	6:46	6:12	6:48	5:07	6:55	37:52:00	6:27	6:59	6:12	6:56	26:34:00	1:04:26
USA1 SCHLOTTHAUER	7:53	8:48	6:11	4:41	6:03	6:55	40:31:00	6:27	6:59	6:12	6:56	26:34:00	1:07:05
CX 212 BARNEY	5:42	6:11	5:36	6:06	5:28	6:09	35:12:00	5:40	6:18	5:38	6:25	24:01:00	59:13:00
121 FENTON	5:57	7:50	5:43	6:22	5:39	6:30	38:01:00	5:50	6:23	5:40	6:23	24:16:00	1:02:17
FX180 THOMPSON	5:55	6:28	5:48	6:26	**6:02	7:00	37:39:00	6:19	7:06	6:12	7:02	26:39:00	1:04:18
FX51 WHITE	6:24	8:00	6:13	7:09	**6:10	7:21	41:17:00	6:29	7:07	6:21	7:06	27:03:00	1:08:20
FX19 STEFFES	7:59	7:16	6:29	7:19	**6:32	7:31	43:06:00	6:22	7:18	6:09	6:59	26:48:00	1:09:54
**ADJUSTED TIME FOR RED FLAG													
* DNF													
** DNS													
*** DQ/DNS													
****PENALTY													

Ryan Rogers was also overall Champion.

The awards ceremony recognized Dave Wilson who assisted with the race for many years and was the Fiddle Creek Ramp Boss for several years. Dave, who always had a big smile and a welcoming Salmon River handshake, passed this spring from a heart condition. He will be missed by many of us, God Speed.

A big thank you for all those that contributed to the effort to make these races a safe and rewarding experience. Bob and Gary Hays





The lucky ones going on the boat trip to Corn Creek (more information in the President's Message)

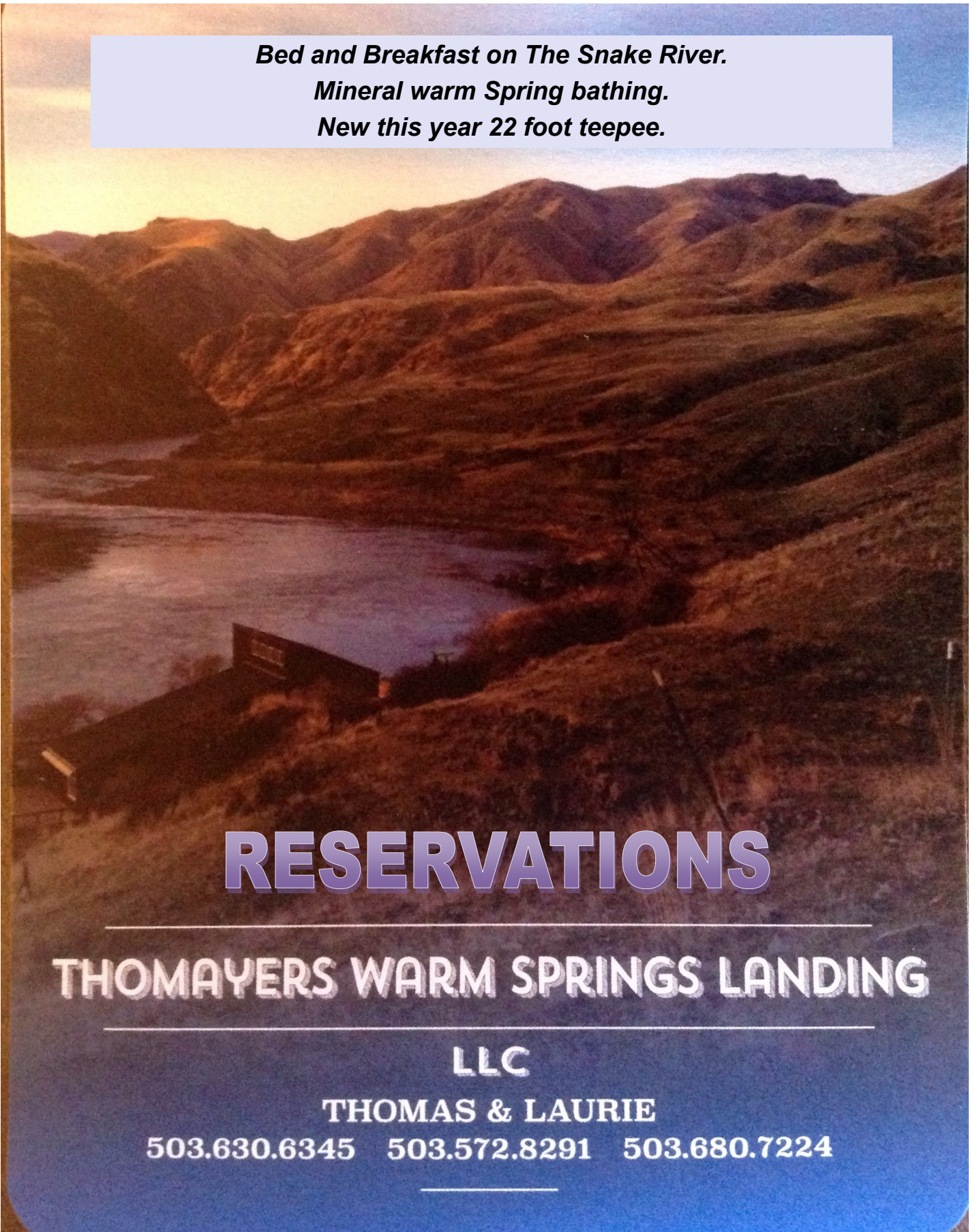
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Jeff Higgins**
Dave Horton**
Jim Moore* Email
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Internet Addresses

Idaho Current Streamflows: (New Address) 5-01

http://water.usgs.gov/id/nwis/current?type=flow&group_key=NONE&search_site_no_station_nm=
(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 8, 2017 *General Membership meeting—Canyon
Creek Restaurant, Nampa*

May 2017 (to be determined) *Payette River Run*

May 14, 2017 *Skills Day Hells Canyon Dam*

SEPT 17, 2017 *Confluence Run*

OCT 22, 2017 *Hammer Creek Run*

*All dates are subject to change. In the event of a
change, we will notify ASAP.*

General Meetings are the second Monday
of the Month at Canyon Creek Restaurant Nampa
ID