

**AUGUST  
2010**

# RAPIDS



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Something about a fox chasing a rabbit around a tree down into a hole!

## SKILLS DAY 2010

Skills Day happened in July this year for a variety of reasons but the cool spring and temperate weather made it a pleasant visit to the Snake River Canyon in the Brownlee Dam area.

A big THANK YOU to Idaho Power for making the heliport available and providing a couple port-a-pots for this event. Also a big howdy to the Adams County Sheriff for reviewing and approving our water activity permit for the occasion.

The heliport, with the WWA sunshades, provided a great site for the demonstration of "dry land" anchor rigging for anchoring in a current, anchoring out and knot tying (and practice). The anchoring demonstration was conducted by Bob Hays and Jim McGarvin. The crews tried their hands at tying bowline, sheet bend and "truckers" knots. This activity was assisted by Chris Hale (his family attended the event as guest of the Hays').

It was good to see WWA webmaster Pat Brown

and his guest Phil Bevier as they joined the group during the dry land discussions and the evening meal. Also Afton Baker who has been on several of the WWA Weed Runs up the Main Salmon River (and talked her employer – Cargill into a considerable contribution to that effort) joined the group to seek additional information as she works her way to boat ownership.

Following the dry land discussions five crews were matched up with instructors and launched at the Wildhorse Creek ramp on the Idaho side. Randy Fenster was matched up with Tom Roach, Larry Corn was matched up with Jim McGarvin and Ashton Baker (visiting from Kimberly) joined that crew, Jim and Brandi Moore was matched up with Bob Hays and Becky Hays (Hale Family crewing) was matched up with Rich Vaughn. Jim and Anita

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## President's Message

Well, we're halfway through the summer of 2010, and it's time to start making serious plans for our summer/early fall WWA events.

/this month starts off with a significant change in our monthly routine. Starting on August 9<sup>th</sup> the regular WWA monthly meetings will be at a new location, Fuddruckers, 3421 N. Eagle Road, Meridian, ID. Same day – second Monday of each month – same starting time – 7:00 p.m.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) official Jennifer Brown will be our guest speaker on August 9th. The USFWS is embarking upon their comprehensive planning process for both Lake Lowell and Snake River Islands Units of the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge. Once completed the plan will guide the Refuge management for the next 15 years with respect to fish, wildlife, plants and recreation. The WWA is encouraged to be a part of this process. Jennifer will provide us with information about the refuge, the planning process, and several opportunities for us to be a part of the process and contribute in it's development.

September 17-18, 2010 is the WWA Confluence/Barbeque Event. Probably second only to our Salmon River Event the Confluence run and barbeque is one of the WWA's most popular and well attended annual event. Learning operational techniques of the river both upstream from Pittsburg Landing into the wild section of Hells Canyon and downstream to the confluence of the Salmon River is the primary reason. Topped off with a WWA hosted steak barbeque it is easy to see why this is a very popular WWA event. Other than learning the river there are things to learn about just getting your equipment safely into and out of the canyon. We will be discussing preparations at the August and September meetings. So, if you can, you should plan to attend one or both meetings.

The Hammer Creek/Steelhead Event date has been changed to accommodate participation in the Wounded Warrior Fishing/Outing. The Hammer Creek Event will be October 30, 2010, rather than the original date of October 23, 2010. This one week delay is being made to avoid conflict with the Wounded Warrior Fishing/Outing scheduled for October 22-23-24, 2010. If you are not familiar with the Wounded Warrior Fish Event it was started last year by one of our boating friends in Oregon. He decided it was past time for us to

Continued on Page 3

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## President's Message

Continued from Page 2

share our good fortune and freedom with disabled members of our military and their families. These hero's of our great country will be treated to a three day fishing/camping trip. The WWA is honored and proud to be a small part in tribute to our wounded warriors. If you are interested in learning more about the Wounded Warrior Event, or participating in it please make plans to be at the August meeting.

A free country since 1776, thanks to all of our brave fighting men and women past and present. A stone monument, as you enter the veterans hospital grounds here in Boise, inscribed with seven simple words, succinctly says all that can be said in remembrance of our disabled veterans. It is inscribed with these words: ***"THE PRICE OF FREEDOM IS VISABLE HERE"***.

Rich Vaughn,  
President



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- General Meeting August 9  
Fuddruckers Meridian
- General Meeting September 13.  
Fuddruckers Meridian
- Hell's Canyon Run September 17-18
- Board Meeting October 4  
Fuddruckers Meridian
- General Meeting September 13.  
Fuddruckers Meridian
- Wounded Warriors October 22-23-24, 2010
- Hammer Creek October 30

## SKILLS DAY 2010 Continued from page 1

Shore launched as the administrative boat to set up the water noodle obstacle course and float recovery activities.

Clyde and Dana Schrader joined the group at the Launch and then went to set up their camp.

Shortly after launching, the Hays boat experienced an overheating situation and was towed, by the Shore's, back to the ramp providing another skills day experience. It seems that a former boat captain, that will remain anonymous, forgot to put the cap on the recirculation line. Old boater saying, "Wisdom is the ability to recognize a mistake the second time you make it."

The crew on the boat in distress boarded the Moore boat and continued the day's water activities while Bob and Rich evaluated the mechanical situation, "in the shade".

Larry Corn, with his daughter Jamie Logue and four grandkids making up the crew, got some "stick time" as he put the new-to-him boat (former DeMond boat) through the exercises.

Randy Fenster completed the anchoring out and anchoring-in-a-current exercises under the watchful eye of Mr. Roach before moving on to the other exercises which were delayed due to the tow-the-boat situation.

Following the exercises the crews enjoyed a little swimming, casting of practice plugs for the

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 Jim McGarvin 09/2010

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**SKILLS DAY 2010**  
**Continued from Page 3**

kids and shading up prior to retiring the boats from the water.

When all the boats were back in camp we held a recognition ceremony and awarded door prizes to all of the participating boat captains. All of the children also received special prizes for their attendance and participation.

Dinner brought great conversation, hamburgers with all the fixings (I really liked the chili peppers), side dishes and cold watermelon and cantaloupe. Dinner was also highlighted by two muley bucks (4x4 and 3x5) grazing along the heliport on their way to the river for a drink. Wildlife watching also found two big horn sheep working their way across the hill above camp, numerous does and fawns (one pair of fawns still in their spotted coats), and many praying mantis were observed when we set up camp on Friday night.

After a star filled night sky and a cool morning the crews rose to the smell of bacon cooking. The bacon and scrambled eggs were served with huckleberry pancakes (thanks Tom for the huckleberries) to make for a great camp breakfast as the crews stowed the camp gear and prepared for a day of fishing and then traveling back to the home ports.

Thanks again to all of the participants and assistance in making this an educational and enjoyable event.

I also realized that you get an indicator you have advanced the cause when you have a pair little pink Zebco fishing poles in the pole racks and the girls enjoy practice casting

**- Article by Skills Day Co-chair Bob Hays**

★★  
★ I still find each day too short for all the ★  
★ thoughts I want to think, all the walks I ★  
★ want to take, all the books I want to read, ★  
★ and all the friends I want to see. ★  
★ John Burroughs ★  
★ ★  
★★

**The Main Salmon River -  
Controlled Area**

A WWA member unintentionally infringed on some U.S. Forest Service (USFS) camping requirements in the controlled section of the Main Salmon River last month. He suggested we publish some information in the Rapids regarding use of private jet boats in this controlled river area.

**The area referred to as the controlled section** is the Main Salmon River corridor through the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. It starts on the East end at Corn Creek and continues West, down stream, to Long Tom Bar. Long Tom Bar is a point on the river about one mile above (up stream) from the Vinegar Creek Boat Ramp. This controlled section of the Main Salmon River, Corn Creek to Long Tom Bar, is approximately 80 river miles long.

**This article is not intended as, nor should it be** cited as, official or in any way a complete or accurate explanation of the rules and regulations which govern this controlled river area,

**For the official rules, regulations, permits,** camping requirements, etc., please contact:

Nez Perce NF Slate Creek Ranger Station  
304 Slate Creek Road  
White Bird, ID 83554,  
Phone (208) 839-2131

**PERMITS** - Permits for access to the controlled section of the Main Salmon River are a year around requirement. During both the controlled season - June 20 to Labor Day - and at all other times outside this controlled period. You will need a permit, any time, you travel in the controlled section of river between Corn Creek and Long Tom Bar only.

During the controlled season permits are very limited for private jet boat use. You can only obtain a jet boat permit, for the controlled season, through the Slate Creek Ranger Station, White Bird, Idaho.

Outside the Controlled season - Labor Day to June 20th - permits are also required but are self-issued from either the Spring Bar Campground or the

## **The Main Salmon River - Controlled Area**

Vinegar Creek boat ramp. Self-issued permits simply require completing the Fee Envelopes and placing them, with the required amount of fee, in the fee tubes provided at Spring Bar Campground or the Vinegar Creek Boat Ramp. Completion of the fee envelope constitutes a self-issued river permit required in the controlled section of the river.

NOTE; While completion of the fee envelope during the non-controlled season constitutes a self-issued permit it is not considered a valid permit during the controlled season. You need to complete the envelope and pay the fee year around in addition to the controlled season permit you get from the Slate Creek RS.

**CAMP SITES** - During the controlled season only, there are certain areas on the river designated for and requiring a reservation. Don't look for any signs on the river to identify these reserved areas, remember this is a wilderness area, so no signs. Information regarding these areas are a part of your permit. Camp site reservations must be made through the North Fork Ranger District of the Salmon Challis NF located at North Fork, Idaho. Their contact number is (208) 865-2700. They prefer a 7 day advance notice for reservations.

In the non-controlled season - no camp sites can be reserved and reservations are not required.

## **OUR APPRECIATION TO IDAHO POWER COMPANY**

The WWA appreciates and values the relationship that has existed between our association and the Idaho Power Company for many many years. This year Idaho Power contributed facilities for a very successful Skills Day at Brownlee/Oxbow Dams in Hells Canyon. We extend our grateful appreciation to Mr. Ric Bobier, Regional Manager of Idaho Power Co., Oxbow, Oregon for his assistance and contribution.

Rich Vaughn

**This** was the primary source of the unintentional infringement of USFS requirements last month. Our WWA member had beached his boat on an unoccupied and unmarked beach known as "T-Bone" unaware a reservation was required. A floater passed by without comment. An outfitters jet boat went by but did not stop. Later the member was contacted by a USFS personnel who had been aboard the outfitters jet boat and had observed him beached at the reservation required area.

**FEES** - The daily fee for entrance into the controlled section of the Main Salmon River is also year around. The required fees must be paid both during the controlled and non-controlled seasons. The fee is \$4.00 per day/per person. For example, a boat entering the area with 4 people and staying for 5 days would need to pay, in advance, \$100.00 to enter the controlled area.

Be advised, the USFS does enforce the fee requirement year around and non-payment could result in a misdemeanor citation and fine. Fees apply even to private land owners if they engage in any activity other than ingress and egress.

None of the conveniences, normally associated with fee areas, are available and should not be expected. No amenities, such as picnic tables, drinking water, developed campgrounds or tent spaces, improved parking, toilets, fire rings, refuse containers, boat ramps or docks, access roads, or reasonable visitor protection are provided or available in the controlled section of the Main Salmon River.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS** - These are also year around requirements. Fire rings and ground fires are not allowed along the river to protect the scenic quality of the area. So you must bring and use fire

pans. You must also pack out all garbage, ashes, and solid human waste. Adhering to the "Leave No Trace Behind" requirement is the essential thing to remember.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** - The WWA greatly appreciates the contribution of Burket Kniveton, and Teresa Anderson, for their contribution to this article. Burket is the USFS Ranger that patrols the Salmon River and Teresa is the Administrative Support Assist at the Slate Creek Ranger Station in White Bird.

Richard Vaughn

## OUR LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE WATCHING OUT FOR YOUR INTERESTS

Under the able leadership of Chairman Bob Hays and committee members Don Moore, Ron Balderston, and Jim Percy there are a couple of items the committee is tracking to insure our continued access to the lands and waters we recreate on.

In case you missed the last couple of meetings the committee reported the issue of reclassifying the Lower Salmon River as "Wild and Scenic" has met it's demise, at least in the short term. It appears the three Congressional people, Congressman Minnic, senators Crapo, and Risch are not willing to support the effort. Governor Otter has expressed his opposition in much stronger language. On May 18, 2010 Governor Otter sent the following letter to the Idaho County Commissioners:

*"Please allow me to describe my position on an issue important to the citizens of Idaho County and indeed all Idahoans. I oppose additional designation of Idaho's rivers - and specifically the Lower Salmon River - under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.*

*There is no compelling reason to designate the Lower Salmon River under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as it is being proposed under the Lower Salmon River Act of 2009 or any future version of this proposal. The river is already protected from the construction of dams by federal law, Other laws, such as the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act,*

### WHAT HAVE YOUR DIRECTORS BEEN DOING?

Your Directors have assigned a special committee to review and make recommendations regarding the WWA By-Laws. Bob Spencer has graciously accepted chairmanship of this committee and has, in turn, appointed Darwin Ames, Anita Shore, Tom Roach, and Brian Oakey to the committee. If you have any suggestions or recommendations regarding our by-laws be sure to let Bob or any committee member know about them. Additionally, if you have an interest in serving with Bob please make your intentions known to him. Here is another chance for you to step up-to-the-plate!

Rich Vaughn

*along with innumerable regulations with the force of law administered by federal and State governments, provide more than ample protection to its values.*

*The State of Idaho, which owns the beds of navigable rivers below the high water mark, has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) relating to the Lower Salmon River. This MOU is working quite well, so the State of Idaho has no reason to risk losing any of its authority over its property and waters.*

*The Lower Salmon is a unique river for recreation, one of the only whitewater rivers in this region with roadless sections where recreationist can take spontaneous trips without making reservations. The State of Idaho is not willing to disrupt the existing management arrangement. C*

*Commissioners, thank you for allowing me to express my position on this important issue".*

*As Always - Idaho, "Esto Perpetua"*

*S/ C.L. "Butch" Otter*

*Governor of Idaho*

While all of this sounds like a done deal don't believe it. Forces that want designation under the Wild and Scenic Act of the Lower Salmon River have already started renewed efforts to continue the fight. If you run into one of the WWA Legislative Committee Members be sure to thank them for all their hard work they have done to date and the hard work that lays ahead. Their dedication should inspire you to volunteer to help. Don't become a ho-hum WWA member get involved! If you have an interest in learning about the laws, regulations and the politics which control/influence our sport ask Bob to serve on his committee. You will never regret the knowledge and information you will gain or the interesting people you will meet.

Rich Vaughn

### 2010 WWA Officers Board Members

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Vice President— Jed Myers\*

Secretary—Anita Shore\*

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BRIAN DEMOND\*

RON BALDERSTON\*

DON MOORE \*

CLYDE SCHRADER\*\*

JIM McGARVIN\*\*

CARL NORTON\*\*

\*term expires Jan. 2011

\*\*term expires Jan. 2012

Newsletter Anita Shore

Work# 208 454-1669

shore2shore@heritagewiffi.com

## LATE NEWS OF ISSUES WHICH COULD AFFECT YOUR BOATING INTERESTS

**Asotin** County commissioners have scheduled a public meeting for July 26, 2010. The purpose is to discuss a county ordinance which will prohibit motorized boats from the Grande Ronde River from its mouth at the Snake River upstream to the Oregon State line. All of this section of the Grande Ronde lies within Asotin County, Washington. Apparently, several bank fisherman complained last year about a jet boat near Boggan's Oasis. Initially, the County Commissioners have proposed an ordinance which will ban motorized boats from

this section of river permanently year around. WOW! TALK ABOUT AN OVER KILL!!

There are other options and they will be presented at the hearing.

Your Legislative Committee is tracking this issue and will make the concerns of the WWA known to the Asotin County Commission. We should know the results by the time we meet on August 9th.

Rich Vaughn



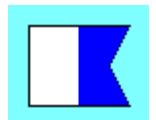
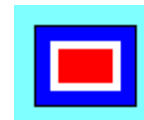
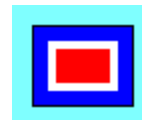
**MULE DEER ATTENDING  
SKILLS DAY 2010**



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Flags if a boat was flying  
a single yellow flag (Q or  
Quebec) what would that  
indicate?*





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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:** Pat

Wurl: 509-758-0270

General information: 509-758-0616

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

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

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- To stimulate and advance the general welfare and safety of boating.
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- To develop a fraternal spirit among all recreational water users.
- To provide a medium for the exchange of boating information.
- To own or lease property for the Association users.
- To perform all desirable and lawful functions for the successful operation of the Association and in the general public's interests.

### CODE OF ETHICS

- I will maintain and enhance the quality of the water upon which I operate.
- I will at all times, drive at speeds as to keep the boat under control.
- I will always respect the rights of other water users.
- I will at all times give down-river traffic the right of way.
- I will leave campgrounds and campsites clean and bring out litter.
- I will get permission and have respect for private property.
- I will give aid to any boatman or water user when in danger.
- I will read the Code of Ethics of the Association and agree to abide by them as an active member and boatman.