

Skills Day Run 2013

The annual Skills Day Run of the western Whitewater Association will be held on June 8, 2013 beginning at the Nyssa Oregon Bridge on the Snake River running down stream to the Ontario Oregon State Park and returning to Nyssa. The run is a flat water run of approximately 17 miles one way following the river channels through some of the most productive farmland and waterfront wildlife habitat in the Treasure Valley. On this run we have spotted deer, turkeys, bald eagles, waterfowl, and even occasionally a John Deere.

The run will begin at 10:00 AM with a demonstration preceding the run of the Columbia River Anchoring System for anchoring in swift current, a demonstration of knot tying and knots commonly used by boaters, a courtesy safety inspection of all boats, and a towing and quick release demonstration for towing of a disabled boat in current. The demonstration along with practice of the anchor and towing will begin at 9:00 AM so the run downstream can begin at ten.

Following the run, we have reserved a room at the Tex-Mex restaurant in Nyssa for a no host lunch to be ordered from the menu. For the locals the restaurant is well known and for those who are not familiar, this is an authentic Mexican restaurant with excellent food for all tastes and plenty of boat parking for hungry jetboaters.

The run chair, Jed Myers, can be contacted for those wishing to camp overnight for locations in the Nyssa area that accommodate campers and boats or even a bed and breakfast location. Also there are locations available on the River for boat camping on a first come first serve basis. The contact for Jed is 208-739-0480 (cell) and rjmyers1@q.com for email contact.

For logistics, there are boat launches on the Idaho side of the river and the Oregon side both on the upstream side of the bridge. The river has been rising with the irrigation water demand increasing (today the flow at Nyssa is 9,800 cfs) and both launches are accessible. Because the Snake River is boundary water an out of state invasive species sticker **is not required for boats registered in Idaho or Oregon**. This run is a unique perspective of the area where we live and work and offers an opportunity for seasoned captains to share knowledge with less seasoned captains in a training setting. Come one come all and remember whether you share knowledge or learn at this event, you are working to make our sport safer for all participants.