## Summer 2019

# Rapids

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER OF THE
WESTERN WHITEWATER
ASSOCIATION

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## **Upcoming Events**

**August 12** General Membership Meeting

**September 9** General Membership Meeting

September 14-15 Confluence Run Hells Canyon

October 7 4th Quarterly Board Meeting

October 14 General Membership

Meeting
October 26 Hammer Creek Run

**November 11** General Membership Meeting

**December 9** General Membership Meeting

\*General Membership Meetings are at 7PM at TNT Bar & Grill in Nampa



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## Veterans Run

We started off Saturday shortly after 9:30 AM. With many boats on the water that morning I and another Boat (Matt's) talked to our crews and elected to run down river to the confluence of the Salmon River and Snake River from Pittsburg it is approximately 27 Miles down the Snake River. We stopped a couple times on the way down to fish for the Small Mouth Bass in hopes for a Saturday evening fish fry. We all enjoyed many class 2 Rapids and maybe class 3 rapids. The water was moving rapidly 8 + miles per hour. The hill side where there were not solid rock cliffs were very lush and green due to the massive amounts of rainfall this spring. We would not see rain today just nice sunny skies. We got a great picture of a Bald Eagle in the top of a pine tree.

We arrived a little after noon at the confluence of the Salmon River took a lunch Break on the sandy beach had some Brats, Hot dogs and Snacks. Catherine caught a few nice Bass here. What a dedicated fisherman she was. The mighty Salmon was running high around 50,000 CFS. Very few people get to see these two rivers

merge. Rafts, Jet Boats, and hiking are the only means to get there.

Everyone wanted to attempt to hook a Sturgeon on the way back to camp. We stopped many times at some very deep holes 50' + and fished for the White Sturgeon but all we hooked were Bass and we caught quite a few of them and very nice sized ones at that.

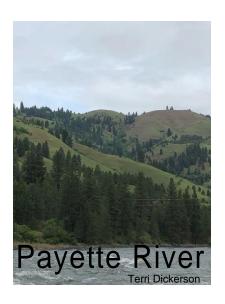
We made it back at the requested time for the chef to prep and cook a fantastic Bass dinner. Imagine how good this could be, the Bass caught just a few hours before then battered up and fried you have to ask yourself what the rich folks are eating? It gets no better than this.

Thanks all and a great time had on my boat by all. -Brent Richards.



## Payette Run

The 2019 Payette river run was a great success. On Thursday we did a pre run at 6pm we had 5 boats run and one with a mechanical issue. The water level on the pre run was 7780 cfs. On Saturday we had 10 boats run and broke into 2 groups, one was led by John Bryant, the other by Jeff Higgins. There were no major incidents, but over the 2 runs a couple boats did get a little cosmetic damage in Landslide. The flow on Saturday was 7740 cfs. Despite the rainy forecast we avoided all but a small sprinkle of rain and enjoyed a really nice day weather wise. After the run we grilled burgers, brats and chorizo's for lunch accompanied by many great sides. We would like to thank the run leaders, Jeff and John and everyone who helped grill and clean up. And a big thanks to all the attendees. Co-chairs were Dave Dickerson and Jeff Higgins.





## We are looking for Volunteers to lead groups at the Confluence Run

Please contact us at jetboat2@westernwhitewater.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Please join us for the annual Confluence Run September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019. This year we will have at least one leader that will take a group upriver from Pittsburg for those that don't want to go downriver. We will be serving steaks at 6:30 P.M. in the Pittsburgh Landing Lower Campground. We would like to suggest those with last names beginning with A-M bring a dessert and N-Z bring a side dish, but more importantly please bring your favorite side dish or dessert. We look forward to seeing all of you and all the different type of side dishes and desserts. The HCRC Volunteer Work Party is also scheduled during this time and thru the week, including the IJBA run the

following weekend, in hopes of getting more volunteers, please consider staying and

volunteering. Thank you to Homer Brown for pulling the BBQ trailer up!

## President's Message PRESIDENT



Time flies, summer has almost come and gone. We've had several great runs this year.

The Veterans Run at Pittsburg Landing was a great success and chaired by John Bryant and Bill Bolinske. The weather was good and the water high, but enough fish were caught to have a nice fish fry. Also, our thanks to Dennis Marguet and Team River Runners for helping make this a great time for our veterans whom we truly appreciate.

There was also a workday at Pittsburg Landing organized by Kelli Rosellini and Shay White to rebuild the bathrooms. We had several volunteers that made some good progress. There is more work to be done and you can help starting September 13. Work will start Friday and on through the next week.

The Payette Run hosted by Dave Dickerson and Jeff Higgins was a great time. We had a couple groups of boats that run successfully followed by a BBQ at the Horseshoe Bend pond. Thank you, Dave and Jeff, for all your planning and good food.

Our Confluence Run will be September 14 which will be a fantastic time on the water and in the campground. We will have a steak BBQ Saturday night and breakfast Sunday morning. There will also be a raffle after the Saturday night dinner for a one-day steelhead fishing trip with Hammer Down River Excursions, eat dinner and win a trip. This will be a great time and I look forward to seeing you there.

As always everyone is welcome to attend our monthly meetings the second Monday of each month. See you on the river. -Clyde Durham







## **HCRC Volunteer Work Party**

The next Hells Canyon Recreation Collaborative's Volunteer Work party is scheduled for Sept 13 - 23.

The volunteers will continue bathroom renovations and general site repairs and improvements.

Bathroom renovation construction support teams needed! Roofing, siding, painting, general construction, cleanup, runners, and more. If you have a desire to help in the Canyon, now is the time to support the efforts to improve our recreation site! No effort is too little, if you want to volunteer, we have projects that need your help.

These 10 days are crucial to the completion of the restrooms at Pittsburg. Those of you who have used the bathroom at the launch ramp have seen improvements in progress and we are aiming to finish all three bathrooms this summer.

More information and volunteer registration available here <a href="http://hellscanyonrecreation.org/">http://hellscanyonrecreation.org/</a>

Please volunteer – our efforts *can* prevent the future implementation of an entrance fee. <a href="https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2018/nov/10/idahoans-volunteer-to-make-hells-canyon-improvemen/">https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2018/nov/10/idahoans-volunteer-to-make-hells-canyon-improvemen/</a>

#### Like us on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/Western-Whitewater-345499968794364/

#### We're on the Web

https://westernwhitewater.org admin@westernwhitewater.org

Contribute stories and photos to next month's Rapids here:

rapids@westernwhitewater.org

#### Contact us here:

Jetboat2@westernwhitewater.org



## Riggins to Clarkston Runs

We completed two fantastic runs from Shorts Bar to Clarkston with Homer Brown of Hammer Down River Excursions.

The first run was the weekend of June 22<sup>nd</sup>. 16 members and friends joined Homer on the Boogie Boat and the water was huge at ~30,000 CFS. This was the first opportunity to run Slide Rapid and everybody got wet, especially the McGarvin's. Homer served a delicious hot lunch on the way down, with signature desserts in individual Mason jars. Overnight accommodations and breakfast were provided at the Clarkston Quality Inn on the river, some stayed and dined together in a private room at the Quality Inn while others went separate ways. After breakfast we headed back upriver, again stopping for lunch on the way. Our luggage was waiting when we arrived at the hotel and was at Shorts Bar when we arrived on Sunday – Thank you Hailey for the transports.

The second run was the weekend of June 29<sup>th</sup>. The Boogie Boat was full with 20 members and friends. The water had gone down to around ~24,000 CFS but there were still plenty of opportunities to get wet, Patty Davis got the brunt of it and was very thankful for the tip to bring rain gear from Jim McGarvin. Once again, we enjoyed a gourmet hot meal served by Homer with individual strawberry shortcakes for dessert.

Unfortunately, we were unable to make the third run and all that had signed up received a full refund. The trip was originally planned for the weekend of June 15<sup>th</sup>, but the water was too high for safe passage through Slide. The trip was rescheduled for July after unsuccessfully trying to find a date in May that was suitable for all. The July date didn't work out as the water was too low.









## Fiddle Creek Disaster

As discussed at our last meeting and further discussed by the officers and board of directors, a decision was made to donate \$1000 to Fiddle Creek to aid in their recovery efforts.

The following link is an article in the Lewiston Tribune describing the damage.

https://lmtribune.com/northwest/fiddle-creek-plays-a-harsh-tune/article\_460a4643-45f1-51b9-bfe1-34d4f050de7c.html

Clyde and Sabine Durham hand delivered the check to the owner, Jim Rupp, last week. Following is a short write-up from Clyde along with some pictures of the damage.

Sabine and I went and met Jim Rupp at the Fiddle Creek store last Friday afternoon. It was a short visit as he had customers, but we had a few minutes alone with him. He told us how it all happened and then we explained that we wanted to share with them and help them rebuild. He was in tears when I gave him the check he said "that's so much money. " After handshakes and hugs he told us to drive around behind the store and take a look. The garden is destroyed, the fruit trees are good, but the fruit is gone.

It was a wonderful rewarding visit I told him we would stop on the way to the Confluence. I would like to have a good number of the you stop by and give them some extra moral support as we pass by there. They have a long way to go.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible. - Clyde









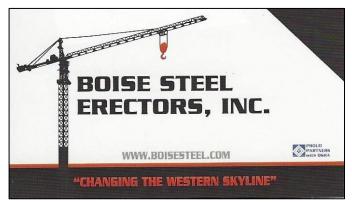




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## Lewiston Thunder on the Snake Jet Boat Races

The WWA would like to express our deepest condolences to the family and friends of the individual who lost his life at Thunder on the Snake and wish a full and speedy recovery to those who were injured. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the entire boating community.



Please consider signing up to provide a meal or even donating a gift card to a restaurant. Let's help Jenna Wessels and their family in time of grief. Freezer meals provided are also so great!!! Jenna's husband (Steve) was in a tragic accident yesterday morning. The Wessels Family lost an amazing husband, father, son, brother, and grandson. We all lost a dear friend. Lift them up in prayers ...

Donation page for the Wessels family. https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/n5oyeo

## WWA/IJBA Picnic

The first, hopefully annual, WWA/IJBA joint picnic was held August 13 at Lakeview Park. There were approximately 40 in attendance and all who attended enjoyed pot luck and good company.



#### **Idaho Current Stream flows:**

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/id/nwis/current?type=flow &group\_key=basin\_cd&search\_site\_no\_station\_nm=

#### **Oregon Current Stream flows:**

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/or/nwis/current?type=flow &group key=basin cd&search site no station nm=

Washington Power Streamflow Information: (03-02) https://waterdata.usgs.gov/wa/nwis/current?type=flow&group key=basin cd&search site no station nm=

#### **Addresses and Telephone Numbers**

**Salmon River Reservations**: Slate Creek Ranger Station:

208-839-2211

Hells Canyon Power Boat Reservations: General

information: 509-758-0616

Reservations must be made online.

River & Reservoir Levels: Bureau of Reclamation: 208-

334-9134

Bliss Dam Outflows: Idaho Power (Call weekdays only)

208-388-2255

Western Whitewater Association P.O. Box 8922 Boise, ID 83702

If you would like to register to be a member, please fill out the following form and send it in or if you know of a boater that needs more information please give them a copy of this form.

## MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION P O BOX 8922, BOISE ID 83707

Please fill in membership information completely and print plainly to update our records

Family Membership \$50 (includes two votes)

Single Membership \$40 (includes 1 vote)

Business Membership \$150 - please include business card (includes two votes and advertising in the Rapids)

| ame(s):                                                                                                                                                                                                     | _ |
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| ddress:                                                                                                                                                                                                     | _ |
| ty, State and Zip:                                                                                                                                                                                          | _ |
| none #                                                                                                                                                                                                      |   |
| mail:                                                                                                                                                                                                       |   |
| you want to receive the Rapids and club alerts by email? Alerts are time sensitive notification checking below, I am electing to have the following information EXCLUDED from the Club Membership Directory |   |
| ll personal Information Email address or City, State                                                                                                                                                        |   |
| is info is for club business and your info will not be shared with non-members or for solicitation.                                                                                                         |   |