

April
2020



Rapids

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER OF THE
WESTERN WHITEWATER
ASSOCIATION

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**2020 – 2021

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Glenns Ferry Run

The Glenns Ferry run was a great success again this year; the weather held out for the run and most of dinner. On Friday, 8 boats went on the pre-run and to fish. There were 36 boats plus the Sheriff that went on the run Saturday, we had some mechanical issues but no “Silver Rock” candidates. We cooked 84 steaks for dinner there were 81 people, we had some wonderful side dishes. The company was great, we saw some people we haven’t seen in a while. We served breakfast Sunday morning to 48 people; this was a great turn out. We would like to thank our wonderful leaders Willie Bernier and Jeff Higgins; some knew the river and Jim’s group ended up following Jeff which meant Jeff Higgins had 17 boats in his group. We now know who the new wagon master is good job Jeff with no incidents. Thank you all again for everything everyone does by helping the chairperson or persons that is what makes these runs a success.

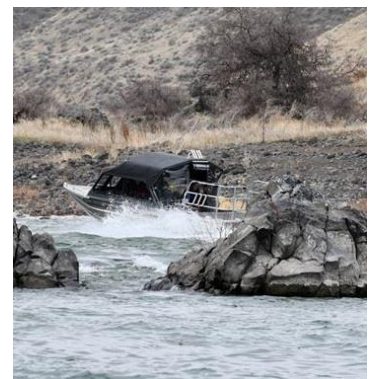
Thanks to all the volunteers, Jim & Brandi Moore
Photo credit – Melissa Bradley

Veteran’s Run

Team River Runners made the decision to cancel this year’s event due to COVID-19 and the current stay at home orders. Thank you to those that had volunteered to be captains.

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Upcoming Events

*** May 2-3 Riggins-Clarkston Run ***

May 16 Veteran’s Run - **CANCELLED**

TBD General Membership Meeting

TBD Payette Run

*** Please stay tuned for information on this trip. We are watching COVID-19 closely as well as ramp/hotel/restaurant availability. If you have purchased a seat on this trip you will be contacted, hopefully this week, with status updates.

General Membership Meetings are held at 7PM at Fiesta Guadalajara, 1202 N Jacob Alcott Way, Nampa, ID 83687.

Oregon Boater Education Card

All boaters who operate a motorboat over 10 horsepower (hp) and youths 12-15 operating a motorboat of any size are required to take an approved boating safety course and apply/carry a boater education card.

Non-Oregon residents will need to either obtain an Oregon Boater Education Card or have a card from any state that issues cards for NASBLA-approved courses.

<https://www.oregon.gov/osm/b/boater-info/Pages/Boater-Education-Cards.aspx>

Idaho Boating Safety Classes

We have several FREE Idaho Home Study Boating Safety Course booklets available; you may pick one up at a general meeting.

Other resources for Idaho Boating Safety courses, including Free Boating Safety classes and Online Education, are available on the Idaho Parks & Recreation website <https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/activities/boating>

Note that some of the Online Education courses require a fee.

President's Message



I hope that everyone is well and staying safe. First, I would like to thank everyone that came to our annual Glenn's Ferry run, it was very well attended and a great time was had by all.

Normally next on our calendar would be the Riggins Jet boat races and our annual Salmon river run, but these are not normal times.

Per the Stay at Home order issued by Governor Little and the recommendations and guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, the Western Whitewater Association (WWA) will cancel the Salmon River Run scheduled for April 16-19. As well, Riggins has cancelled the Jet Boat races.

In addition, all Western Whitewater meetings are postponed until further notice.

The Veterans run scheduled for the weekend of May 15 is being discussed and a notice will be put out via Email, Facebook and the WWA web site.

Stay up on all WWA news by checking the Web page and the Facebook page as well as Email. Stay tuned with some luck we will be running the Payette river soon

At this point we are all getting bored and tired of staying home but resist the urge to go out, stay Home and keep us all Healthy.

Jeff Higgins

President Western Whitewater Association

Snake River

From Clinton Daniel, Regional Director
Rep. Russ Fulcher

In order to slow the spread of COVID-19, we are working to align our Forest operations with executive orders in the states of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. Many of our neighboring Idaho forests have already responded in a similar fashion by issuing closure orders for recreation sites. The Wallowa-Whitman will be issuing a closure order in the next day or so. It will include recreation sites in the Hells Canyon NRA in its entirety, not the Oregon side vs. Idaho side. The purpose of the closure is to limit group sizes at all our recreation sites and discourage non-essential travel to the Forest for recreation purposes.

While we will be closing recreation sites (i.e. visitor centers, campgrounds, trailheads, boat ramps, etc.), we are not closing the Forest or the Snake River. If use of Forest boat ramps is necessary for canyon or local residents for travel to work, purchasing groceries and essential supplies, health care, etc., then use of boat ramps would be in compliance with State orders regarding essential travel.

Commercial use of boat ramps is something we are considering more carefully. Outfitter boards in both Idaho and Oregon have explained the State orders, but are leaving compliance with orders, and the decision to operate up to the outfitter. We are encouraging outfitters and guides to adhere to the terms of their special use permit by complying with state and local health authority requirements. Again, focusing on group size.

The Forest is encouraging residents to stay home, stay safe, and save lives. As you know, this is bigger than all of us. It is not just about the needs of the individual, but the needs of their family, and their community. We'll be here ready for them when it's much safer for all of us.



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Member Classifieds

1998 Chevrolet K3500, 4X4 Crew Cab with 8-foot-long bed, 194K miles, 70% Rubber new last year, primarily used as tug to water.

22 Foot Weldcraft Jetboat built in 1984, less than 700 hours total time, with fresh A4 impeller in a Berkley Jet Pump Unit pushed by a normally aspirated 454 Chevrolet engine with approximately 150 hours on it since rebuild. Stick steer (solid rod - right side), newer fish finder, sand trap, center mounted 8.8 Yamaha high thrust kicker motor (plumbed fuel line), cover, anchor, spare nozzle and miscellaneous parts included. This is an experienced boat and very capable in Salmon River and Hells Canyon / Snake River waters. Health considerations and alternate boat availability motivates the sale of this set up.

Contact Bob and Becky Hays at 208-880-3522 for more information and photos.

Pickup \$7,500 and Boat \$26,900 Both for \$33,000



Classified advertising is free and limited to WWA Members selling personal items that are related to jet boating and may be of interest to other members. To submit an ad, send information to rapids@westernwhitewater.org. Business ads may be purchased (see prices below) by contacting payments@westernwhitewater.org

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<https://westernwhitewater.org>
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Contribute stories and photos to future Rapids here:

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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



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Columbia Basin Bulletin

From Bob Hays

The Columbia Basin Bulletin website is published independently by Intermountain Communications of Bend, Oregon.

The website offers continuous postings of key news and information about Columbia/Snake River Basin fish and wildlife issues, along with complete Archives reaching back to 1998. The CBB Archives offer the most complete news record and background of Columbia/Snake River Basin salmon recovery and other Basin natural resource issues.

<https://www.cbbulletin.com/>

Planning to Boat in Oregon this year?

Please note that the state of Oregon has modified their boating laws starting January 1, 2020. Visiting boaters are no longer exempted from the requirement to have boating education. All boaters, regardless of residency, must demonstrate proof that they have completed a boating safety course.

Oregon will accept the Idaho boating course and card. We offer three ways to get an Idaho boating safety card:

- 1) Home study course (study course materials at your own pace for free). Call Dave Dahms at 208-514-2412 or email david.dahms@idpr.idaho.gov to request a free course book.
- 2) On-line courses. The state of Idaho has approved four on-line vendors. Some vendors charge a fee (\$30-\$35), but the Boat U.S. Foundation course is free.
- 3) IDPR can work with WWA to schedule a class for those interested. Classes run approximately 6 hours and can be done in one day or spread over two days.

All three options require the passing of an exam to get the boating safety card. For more details on Idaho boating education options visit www.boatidaho.gov

For questions on Oregon boating laws or to find out how to obtain the Oregon Boating Education Card visit www.oregon.gov/osmb