

June-July
2020

Rapids

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER OF THE
WESTERN WHITEWATER
ASSOCIATION



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**2020 – 2021
*2020



Riggins/Clarkston Run

The run went off without a hitch on the weekend of 6/27, all that went reported a fantastic trip.

There were challenges in Washington due to COVID-19, but the hotel was accommodating and a don't think anyone went hungry, especially with Hammer Down providing their signature hot lunch on the way down and sandwiches on the way back up.

Thank you Hammer Down River Excursions for your support of this event!

Photo credits – Judy Cahill



Kelli Rosellini ▸ Hells Canyon Recreation Collaborative

June 30 at 8:47 AM · 🌐

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Western Whitewater Association brings so much value to our Collaborative, we are proud to have their leadership and support.

The Western Whitewater Association is an organization of jetboating enthusiasts whose purpose is to foster interest in safe whitewater jetboating, encourage family recreation, and promote shared access to rivers for all recreational water users. Chartered in Boise, Idaho, in 1978, the WWA's membership has grown from its eight founders to 350+ members. Today, WWA membership is well represented throughout the western US. Yet, even with its growth and the passage of time, the WWA's purposes and activities hold a course true to the original charter.

The WWA maintains a full calendar of Annual Events to encourage and cultivate family recreational jetboating.

Find them at: <https://westernwhitewater.org/>

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Upcoming Events

August 10 Tentative General Membership Meeting
September 11-13 Confluence Run

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>

President's Message



Well this summer is sure not going as planned. With Covid cases once again on the rise we have decided to cancel the July general meeting and keep our fingers crossed that we can get back to some sort of normalcy in August.

I would like to thank Clyde Durham, Bob Hays, Richard Powell and Bill Davis and anyone else that I missed for moving everything from the old storage unit to the new one.

The WWA is still hopeful that we can put together a Skills day for this fall and that the Confluence run can be held safely. There was a short window for running the Payette River, the club did not have an organized event however I did hear of a few members running it and having a great time.

It's time to start making plans for the Confluence run September 11th and 12th. If you can please volunteer to be a leader, our chairs for this event are John Bryant and Brandi Moore. Remember the campground fills up as this is probably our most popular event. If needed remember that there is usually some camping at the upper lot.

Stay Healthy and we will see you on the river.

Jeff Higgins
President Western Whitewater Association

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.

your brain on a boat
Research shows how being on the water can make you happier and healthier

Americans are taking less vacation and nearly 80% report feeling stressed in their day. We need to restore our minds more than ever. *Blue Mind* author Dr. Wallace J. Nichols finds that being on, in, or near the water brings vast cognitive, psychological and social health benefits. One of the best ways to achieve "Blue Mind" is on a boat.

Red Mind Stress, anxiety and fear cause high stress hormones.	Blue Mind Calm, peacefulness, unity and happiness associated with water.
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Blue Mind is the antidote to Red Mind

On a boat, feel good hormones (dopamine, serotonin, oxytocin) go up and stress (cortisol) goes down

Boating is more accessible than you think

- 72% of Americans feel healthier after spending time on the water.
- 84% of parents think their kids would be more likely to unplug on a boat trip versus a road trip.
- 142 MM* Americans go boating every year.

Why we are drawn to the water

- THE BRAIN IS DRAWN TO BLUE (RECALLS ALL COLORS)
- OUR BRAINS: 72% WATER*
- OUR BODIES: 60% WATER*

Boating resets our brains
Water relaxes, restores & helps us reconnect

Boating is awe-inspiring
Awe & wonder change our bodies and minds for the better

Boating induces creativity
Feel-good hormones reduce stress & water-related play sparks creativity

Boating appeals to our senses
Sight & sound of water increases brain & blood flow

Water takes care of us, let's return the favor. Be mindful of others, including wildlife and water quality.

Credit - As the Impeller Turns

New SCAT machine in Riggins opens June 10

The Salmon River Ranger District of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests is pleased to announce that installation of a new SCAT machine in Riggins has been completed and that the facility will open to the public on Wed., June 10. The machine is located at the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area office located just south of Riggins on U.S. Highway 95.

The SCAT machine is a portable toilet dumping station designed for waste disposal near river take-out points. The system provides a user-friendly, sanitary means to properly dispose of human waste as required for floating and jet boating on rivers such as the Main Salmon. The SCAT machine will rinse and clean self-contained toilet systems such as the River Bank, Jonny Partner, five-gallon buckets, and 20mm rocket box ammo cans. The SCAT machine is not designed for RV dumping or cleaning RV-style toilets.

Moving forward, the Forest Service plans to have the machine operational from April 1 through November 15 annually.

"I would like to thank the public and especially our river users for their patience throughout the development and installation of this new SCAT machine," said Jeremy Harris, Recreation Supervisor on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests. "I am pleased we have a new machine housed on Forest Service property in an enclosed building with ample space for folks to pull their trailers through. Most importantly, this new machine will help keep our waterways like the Main Salmon free of human waste."

The Forest Service would also like to thank the City of Riggins, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, the Bureau of Land Management office in Cottonwood, and the Wallowa-Whitman and Salmon-Challis National Forests, who all contributed to making this project successful. For more information about recreating on the Salmon River or if you have questions regarding the new SCAT machine, please contact the Salmon River Ranger District at (208) 451-4366*.

[City of Riggins](#)

SLIDE - JULY 8 UPDATE

U.S. Highway 95 will open to one lane of traffic between Pollock and Riggins this morning by 10 a.m. and stay open until 8 p.m. PST for the first time since the July 3 rockslide closed it at milepost 188.

Drivers will pass around the slide on a temporary gravel road. They should expect lengthy delays as only a limited number of vehicles will be allowed to pass underneath the slope at one time. Scaling activity above will also require periodic 20-minute closures over the next couple of days.

"We have built a rock berm and placed large container boxes to shield traffic from any unforeseen rockfall," Operations Engineer Jared Hopkins said. "A spotter and a surveyor will watch the hillside and be ready to have flaggers close the highway in the unlikely event it becomes unstable."

Starting Thursday, ITD plans to open the highway from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. PST each day. Approximately 30 minutes before the highway is closed each night, staff at barricades in Riggins and New Meadows will turn traffic away.

Crews will continue breaking down rocks and pushing them up against the existing berm to make it taller and provide more room for any further debris.

Improvements to Old Pollock Road will be completed later today, serving as another one-lane gravel option for local commuters only but not commercial traffic.

"For the time being, motorists should plan for congestion and expect the highway to be closed at night when we can't monitor the slope," Hopkins said. "We expect to keep flagging and monitoring for several weeks until we identify a long-term solution."

Another update will be released when the long-term solution is identified next week.

Member Classifieds

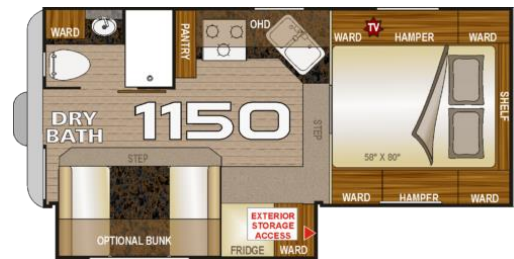
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Contact Chet (208-520-6547) or Debbie (208-520-1274) Thorson for more information and photos.

\$38,500



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 impellor 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

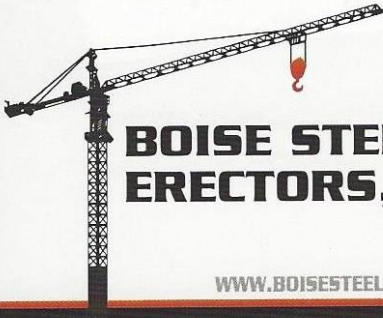


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 Contact us at payments@westernwhitewater.org

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<https://westernwhitewater.org>
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Contribute stories and photos to future Rapids here:
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Contact us here:
Jetboat2@westernwhitewater.org

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