

August
2020

Rapids

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER OF THE
WESTERN WHITEWATER
ASSOCIATION



Photo by Kristin Sawmiller

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**2020 - 2021
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Photo by Jeff Higgins

Central Idaho Public Lands Collaborative (CIPLC)/Salmon Valley Stewardship Collaborative

Meeting and Activity Report by Robert S, "Bob" Hays, WWA Representative CIPLC Recreational Subcommittee – July 2020

Several telephone/ zoom conferences have been held this spring and early summer mostly regarding the integration of the Collaborative's Desired Future Conditions (DFC) into the Forest Plans. This has been complicated after the administrative decision was made to go back to two different plans based on the old Challis National Forest and Salmon National Forest plans adopted in 1988 and 1989. The change was from a combined plan for the Salmon-Challis National Forest (SCNF) that has been the combined form for at least twelve years. At least two years had been invested in the new plan development, as you may recall these were originally to cycle every ten to fifteen years. That being said, the process is still in the works and I have attached two documents for your consideration.

The first document [Draft WSR Suitability Summary Report for Salmon-Challis National Forest](#) is regarding the draft recommendation from the collaborative regarding Wild and Scenic River (WSR) Designations. Remember this is a "draft" and in its final form, the CIPLC document will recommend to the Salmon Challis National Forest. The SCNF will make the final recommendations to Congress for Designation. This is part of the planning process and a lot of work has gone into this portion of the plan revision, there are around 100 stream segments that qualified for consideration in this process.

Please note that the CIPLC draft recommendations contains no waters that are traditionally navigated and are extensions of existing WSR systems primarily dealing with the Middle Fork of the Salmon River.

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Upcoming Events

- September 12** Confluence Run
- October 5** Board Meeting, virtual or place TBD
- October 12** General Membership Meeting, virtual or place TBD
- October 24** Hammer Creek 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>

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

PRESIDENT

It has been a strange but busy July for us, we started with all of our kids at the cabin and boating on Cascade reservoir, then the next week we were in Hells Canyon. The next weekend was spent buggy riding and camping in the Owyhee's, then a guided float trip on the Salmon River and more exploring on our buggies. Then into August and back to the canyon for a few more days. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy and we will see you in the canyon for the Confluence Run. Hopefully, we can get back to normal and have a meeting in October, please start thinking about the Hammer Creek Run and the WWA Banquet.

Jeff Higgins
President Western Whitewater Association

Confluence Run

The 2020 Confluence run (Hells Canyon run) will be September 12th. Please join us. There will be a drivers meeting at 8:30 A.M. mountain standard time, we will try and get around the camp ground the night before to get a head count of how many want to go to the confluence and how many wish to go up river. We are looking for group leaders if you are able to lead a group please let Jeff or Dave know ahead of time. Due to Covid and the current circumstances, this will be a scaled back event this year there will be no club provided meal on Saturday evening or Sunday morning. Please try and keep your social distance and lets all have a great time. If you have any questions, contact Jeff Higgins or Dave Dickerson.



Bill Davis - "These guys came down for water and weren't bothered by us at all."

----Continued from Page 1

The second document [Sawmill Proposal](#) is the list of Desired Future Conditions for your consideration. If you may recall the WWA sent a letter to the Forest Supervisor regarding our concerns with the “then” draft plan which has now been scrapped and the old plan language must be considered. While this seems pretty straight forward please remember what is going on, with the pandemic, new administrative directions and an impending election, there are several folks/agencies guessing which direction to go.

With that in mind the Recreation Subcommittee put together a trails proposal to demonstrate a collaborative effort between user groups, agencies, property owners and political subdivisions (counties). The proposal included a subsequent field trip to Sawmill Canyon on the Little Lost River, north of Howe and east of Mackay, Idaho. Becky and I attended this meeting in the spirit of collaboration, and found that while the WWA membership may operation on the river many of the issues that were discussed on the field trip where more than likely discussed prior to the permit system being established on the Main Salmon River to limit the amount of use and / or access. The goal of the trails proposal is to maintain the amount of motorized and other trails at the levels established in the original plan.

As WWA Members know with limited resources, use is concentrated, and the seeming solution is to establish a permit system to slot use into time frames and avoid over-crowding on popular recreational sites. With the amount of lands available and the historic trails that were used for everyday travel and commerce you would think that there would be ample opportunities, but then came along such actions as wilderness areas, road-less areas, antiquities act, travel plans, fire restrictions, loss of access due to easement loss, changes in trail machine design and several more items that escape me at the moment but have a cumulative effect on citizen access to public lands for recreational (and other) purposes.

Thanks for reading and feel free to take on a few of these access areas that interest you. Dig into the details and facts surrounding the evolution of accessing the resource you will be surprised and more than likely find folks with similar concerns and your voice is needed to push back on changes that effect access to public lands.

Bob and Becky Hays, WWA Members



Little Lost River – Photo courtesy of Bob & Becky Hays

Member Classifieds



22 Foot Weldcraft Jetboat just over 700 hours total time, with fresh A4 impellor in a Berkley Jet powered by a normally aspirated 454 Chevrolet engine with approximately 150 hours on it since rebuild. Stick steer (solid rod - right side), Trail Boss seats, two new interstate batteries, newer Lowrance HDS 5 electronics, sand trap, center mounted electric start and power tilt 8.8 Yamaha high thrust kicker motor (plumbed fuel line), cover, 2 anchors, spare nozzle and miscellaneous parts included. 92-gallon fuel capacity in saddle tanks. This is an experienced boat and very capable on Salmon River and Hells Canyon / Snake River waters. Trailer axles serviced last year, and trailer tires are in very good condition. Health considerations and alternate boat availability motivates the sale of this set up. We are the third owners of this boat and have had twenty plus years of adventures and great times with this boat.

Contact Bob and Becky Hays at 208-880-3522 for more information and photos. Asking \$26,500 but will consider reasonable offers.

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 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