



Upcoming Events

March 13-14	Glenns Ferry Run
April 15-16	Salmon River Run
April 17-18	Salmon River Jet Boat Races
May TBD	Payette River Run
May 14-16	Veterans Run
May TBD	Weed Run
June 5 & 6	Skills Day Run
September 11 & 12	Confluence Run
November 6 & 7	Hammer Creek Run

Glenns Ferry Run March 13th and 14th

Three Island Crossing State Park – Glenns Ferry, ID

Please join us for the annual Glenns Ferry Run March 13th and 14th, 2021. Please contact Jim or Brandi Moore at 208-250-2267 if you can lead a group. We will have a drivers meeting in camp site 68 on Friday night at 6:00 P.M. and another one at 8:00 A.M. Saturday (same camp site).

Enjoy the history of this area as it was one of the most challenging portions of the Oregon Trail. The area has lots of interesting geological, Native American, pioneer, and current day attractions (agriculture and wineries).

We will be serving steaks at 6:00 P.M. in the lower Three Island Crossing Campground ([Sunrise View Shelter](#)). Please bring your favorite side dish. We look forward to seeing all of you and all the different side dishes and desserts.

We will be doing a can food donation to the Glenns Ferry Senior Center Food Pantry. Please bring canned or packaged foods for this community appreciation activity.

Don't forget to reserve you camping spot, they go fast.

<https://idahostateparks.reserveamerica.com/camping/three-island-crossing-state-park/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=ID&parkId=313036>

Inside this Issue

Glenns Ferry Run	1
Chili Cook Off	2
President's Message	3
Jet Boaters of the Year	3
Legislative Update	4
Call for Safety Boats	4
Food Drive Update	5
ID Boating Safety Classes	5
River Connections	5
Tips and References	6
Advertisements	7-9

Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning.

GoodBye February



COVID -19 Precautions will be observed during our WWA events. Please see the attached link for most current info. This event is primarily in Elmore County and Central District Health Dept.
<https://www.cdh.idaho.gov/covid-advisory.php>

Chili Run 2021 – Jeff Higgins

First, I would like to thank everyone that came out on a beautiful winter day to enjoy a great river run, flavorful chili and properly distanced socializing. There were 13 boats on the Saturday pre-run and 17 boats on the run from Celebration Park to Rattle Snake Eddy (approximately one mile downstream from Swan Falls Dam). While the water was low (in the 6,400 CFS range), for the run on Sunday, there were no incidents.

There were 10 chili entries with the following winners:

Jake Durham – Overall Champion
(and next year's run leader),
Jeff Creel – Best Side Dish – Cinnamon Rolls,
Dave Dickerson – Hottest Chili
(blew the competition away),
The White's - Best Kitchen,
The White's – Most Unique Chili -
White Chili Willie,
Marc & Sharon Claborn – Best Name –
“Blame It On The Dog”

Also on this run, the WWA recognized **Chet and Debbie Thorson** as the **2020 Jet Boaters of the Year**. Congratulations and thanks for your work and contributions to the WWA.

Run leader and **WWA Past President Jeff Higgins** won the honor of housing the highly regarded traveling “**Silver Rock Award**”, for a year. His spirits were buoyed by the presentation of a custom sturgeon rod made by WWA member Andy McKee, of Horseshoe Bend, ID, in recognition of his year as WWA President (2020 – What a Year).



Above: Editor's Pick for Best Run Photo.



Left: White's winning Kitchen and unique chili.

Below: Claborn's Best Name Chili

Photos by Dave D.



Left: WWA Past President and Run Leader Jeff Higgins about to receive the prized “Silver Rock Award”, from Clyde Durham, WWA President.



Jet Boaters of the Year Chet & Debbie Thorson



Congratulation to both of you on your recognition by the members of the WWA as Jet Boaters of the Year. Thanks for your service and the promotion of safe jetboating and the responsible shared use of our rivers.

MARCH 14th



President's Message March 2021

Spring is just around the corner and jet boating season is upon us. I have been able to have my boat in the water several times already and hope to be out at least once a week this year.

The Chili Run was a great success again with fifteen boats on the pre-run and seventeen boats on the run day. That's thirty-two round trips and I only heard of a couple of rock bumps; we're getting better.

One of the biggest highlights of the New Year's run and the Chili run was gathering food donations to take to the Melba Senior Center. I met with Michelle, the manager, as well as one of her helpers, the Tuesday afterwards and what an eye opener that was. The Center also runs a food bank and they supply food items for 300 to 400 families each month. The center gets no financial assistance from the city and relies on donations to provide support. Many struggling families are ending up in the smaller communities, some homeless and some living with friends or relatives. Michelle said they go to the Meridian food bank at least twice weekly and any food stores around the valley that may give donations.

The Western Whitewater Association was able to donate 200 pounds of food along with \$100 in cash. The Melba Senior Center was so thankful that we made the effort to help their community.

At the Glenn's Ferry Run we are gathering food donations to help support that community. I am challenging everyone to bring a nice donation, as I would like for us to give good support to families in need. Our organization is all about family so everyone dig deep and make this a great success. The donations will be dropped off Sunday after the run.

Hope everyone got the permits they wanted for Hells Canyon; it should be a great year for boating as the snow pack is good this year. I saw that Brundage had 101 inches at the summit.

We are planning our runs as normal and hope to get back to some regular meetings later this spring.

See you on the water and be safe.

Clyde Durham

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*2021 **2021 – 2022

Legislative Update

In congress now - Omnibus Land Bill HR 803 which will create 1.5 million acres of Wilderness in California, Oregon, Washington and Arizona and many hundreds of miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers has passed the House and is going to the Senate.

Look up Bruce Westerman's (Rep-AR), newsletter regarding HR 803 at <https://republicans-naturalresources.house.gov/> (Dems also have a page on this bill which will pop up when you search the subject).

The American Forest Resource Council also produces a newsletter that gives great insight into the legislation now in Congress.
<https://amforest.org/press-releases>

Salmon – Challis National Forest Plan Revision is now at least one year away from restart and/or future development as the new administration transitions into operation.

Due to the multiple layers of regulations and other natural resource plans please contact Shay White or Bob Hays, (see Officers and Board Contact list), when you have questions or see something that you feel will impact the members of the WWA. We will research the issue and inform the WWA leadership and general membership of the situation and possible solutions or activities needed.



Quote of the Month

**Super Crazy is like Regular Crazy,
only with a cape.**

As Seen on Franklin Building Supply Reader Board

Salmon River Jet Boat Races 2021



The Salmon River Jet Boat Races are planned for April 17-18, 2021. Western Whitewater Association helps sponsor this event and coordinates the Safety Boats. Please consider helping out. Friday night there is a Safety Meeting (following the Community BBQ). An EMT and Radio Operator will be assigned to each safety boat. As a Safety Boat crew you will be on the river Saturday and Sunday. Additionally, a couple boats will be needed for race course set-up and race boat "test and tune" on Friday. If you would like to volunteer contact, Jim Moore at 208-250-2267 or email: mooretruckrepair@msn.com

Idaho Boating Safety Classes

Resources for Idaho Boating Safety courses, including Free Boating Safety classes and online education, are available on the Idaho Parks & Recreation website at: <https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/activities/boating>. Some of the Online Education courses require a fee.

The WWA has a few Idaho Home Study Boating Safety Course booklets available at no charge; you may pick one up at a general meeting, run event or contact WWA via e-mail at jetboat2@westernwhitewater.org. These booklets are also available through Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation and some boat sales locations.

Note – This self-guided training, upon completion, offers a safety card that is recognized for boat operation in Oregon waters, (at this time).

Planning to Boat in Oregon this year?

Please note that the state of Oregon modified their boating laws in 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 boater education card. Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation offers three ways to get a card, see:

<https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/activities/boating>

Food Donation Update

As stated in the President's letter from Clyde Durham, these donations do make an impact in the small communities we visit.

Remember to bring your canned and packaged food donations with you to the Glenns Ferry Run on March 13th and 14th, 2021.

We are making donations to the local food banks and pantries in the towns we visit near the launch sites for our scheduled runs.

This month's donations will be going to the Glenns Ferry Senior Center Food Pantry.

Please let your contributions show the citizens of the Glenns Ferry area that there is a supportive recreational group (The WWA) that appreciates their town.

Our next run will support the Food bank in Riggins during the April run up the Salmon River and the Jet Boat Races, followed by Horseshoe Bend for the Payette River Run in May.

If you are unable to attend the run and wish to participate please, contact any board member to arrange for a pick-up or other arrangement.



River Connections

I would like to introduce the WWA members to an interesting person who many of us have met but did not know her life story or her connection to the Salmon River.

Marjorie Matiska, recently passed at the age of 96 years young. She lived in Whitebird, Idaho for most of her life and waited tables at Hoots Café in Whitebird for thirty years, retiring in 2002 (she started there when she was 48). She lived on Peely Bar, which is below the high overlook (SH95), downstream from Skookumchuck Creek and just upstream from what is commonly known to steel head fishermen as the “haystack hole”. She lived there on a 99 year lease from the BLM until her well went bad and she decided to cancel her lease and moved to Camas Prairie to be near her daughter.

What is also interesting is that her maiden name was Lyons and her father ran a ferry at Lyons Ferry downstream from Whitebird Creek (near the end of the road down the east side of the river) and later at Hammer Creek. It must have been interesting times to see the evolution of “progress,” in the canyon. If you wish to read her obituary look up Marjorie Matiska in the February 10, 2021, Idaho County Free Press. Memorial services are planned for June.

From now on, when I go by Lyons' Bar, I will likely remember Marjorie working like a trooper at Hoots Café. Salute to a Salmon River Personality.

Glenns Ferry Boating Tips

There are three things that come to mind regarding the Glenns Ferry Run, 1) Wind, 2) Moss, and 3) Currents.

1) **Wind** – If you have been in Southern Idaho for a while you will know that the wind can be strong, steady and cold in the spring and the Glenns Ferry area is not exempt from this climatic situation. When you are on the water it will push on you and create situations in which you may need to “crab” into the wind, (i.e. steer into the wind to achieve your desired route). Mix this maneuver with a meandering stream (and meandering current within that stream) and you will find yourself constantly adjusting controls. You may occasionally find that you are outside of the best route of travel, which brings us to the next two topics. PS – more than one boat has received a ding when parking along this river due to wind issues, look for soft places to land (if you are running with the wind) and a helping hand when parking next to another boat.

2) **Moss** – If you find that your pump has ingested enough moss to effectively stop your forward progress there are typically two things that need to be performed, quickly, before you can safely remove the moss from the intake. A. Stop your engine, the moss that has plugged your intake more than likely has also plugged your coolant water line and your engine will over heat soon. B. When you are in the best position you can achieve, (not in a rapid or very strong current) deploy your river anchor attached to your bow ring (never over the gunnel). This will stabilize your position and allow you to work on the plugged intake. Practice the deployment of your anchor and remember that calmer water is the key to making this solution work for you. Once the moss has been cleared from your intake, maybe you can get a tug from one of your fellow boaters to deeper water or you can use your oars and small anchor to move yourself to deeper water to restart the motor. If you are unfamiliar with proper anchor deployment and/or want to practice the process feel free to ask an experienced boater or call me and we can address prior to the run in a “Dry-Dock session”. Also look for this topic at the next Skills Day, in June.

3) **Currents** – The Snake River is famous for its strong and unpredictable currents. Upstream of the King Hill Bridge (note the interesting elevation change on bridge deck, to be saved for a later date). And prior to going under the high freeway bridge you will travel through an area of whirlpool currents and more than likely these will affect the way your boat is handling. This is common but demonstrates the power of these currents and the need to respect them. There is a jetboating phase that comes to mind, “Stay with the current it will define the rock structures below.” On this run there are several places where the river spreads out and attention is needed to stay with the current and deeper waters.

See One, Do One, Teach One

Experiences from an “Old Boater”

Anyone interested in having a “Dry-Dock” discussion a week prior to a run, please call Bob, “The Old Boater,” at 208-880-3522 and we can have an open discussion regarding our experiences on that section of river.



Sometimes you just cannot get to the water you want to be on. Guess where this photo was taken? Ed. buys coffee to first one that guesses closest (state).

Advertise in the Rapids Newsletter

Contact us at bhays@westernwhitewater.org

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Inquire about advertising opportunities on the WWA Trailer, Riggins trip coming up, good exposure from this vehicle.

Western Whitewater has Boating Bling

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Dave Dickerson ddickerson@westernwhitewater.org



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