

ON THE EDDY LINE

IDAHO WHITEWATER ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Still getting my feet wet as the president of IWA but with the help of a very dedicated board of directors, things are happening.

The spring equipment sale was a great success. The weather cooperated and with the generous help of Cascade River Gear and Maravia, and all who volunteered, we had a great sale and a good time.

Lochsa River Madness saw some epic flows and a great turnout for both Saturday and Sunday Movie nights. IWA was well represented and the help with events by all who helped with setup, takedown, cleanup, and the raffle was greatly appreciated.

Safety Saturday is our next and last summer event. This year we will center activities around the Banks Main Payette River put in on Saturday July 15th with displays and demonstrations geared toward safety first in all river activities.

The AIRE Factory Store will be on site with a display and demonstration of PFD's that are acceptable and not acceptable for white water use. We have also teamed up with AIRE and NRS to promote the use of Coast Guard approved white-water life jackets by the novice river users. AIRE and NRS have made it possible for IWA to purchase 40 youth size white water PFD's at a very discounted rate that we will give away free to anyone of our younger friends planning to run the river with a less than acceptable life jacket.

Join us at Banks on Saturday, July 15th, if you can, and have an enjoyable and safe 2017 river season!

Scott Laxson
IWA Board of Directors

SAFETY SATURDAY-JULY 15TH

LET'S LEARN ABOUT SAFETY

Please join us for an exciting day of fun and free interactive whitewater safety skills.

Check in between 10 A.M. – 2 P.M. MDT to learn and/or practice at the following stations:

- Knot Tying Techniques;
- Throw Bag Practice;
- First Aid;
- Proper Pre-Rafting Safety Talk;
- Boat Flipping; and
- Proper PFD & Helmet Fitting.



We are excited to announce that AIRE has teamed up with us this year to host the PFD & Helmet Fitting station!

Whitewater life jacket required to participate



Come up and join us at the launch site for the Main Payette at Banks. IWA will be grilling up lunch and offer raffle prizes for participants. We look forward to seeing you all!

**SAFETY SATURDAY
JULY 15TH, 2017
10 A.M. – 2 P.M.**

**MAIN PAYETTE RIVER
BANKS PARKING LOT**



SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR IDAHO RIVERS

Support Idaho Rivers by purchasing a “Wild Rivers” license plate for your vehicle.

A portion of the proceeds go toward whitewater and boater education and safety programs throughout the state of Idaho. Additionally the funds promote Idaho as the Whitewater State.



Each county assessor's office in Idaho and the Idaho Transportation Department has application forms for the Idaho Wild Rivers plates. We just recently added a link to our webpage that you may find useful. Check it out at <http://idahowhitewater.net/>.

Currently the IWA Board is working on an agenda to present to the board who delegates these funds. We have a few ideas. Your ideas are always welcome and much appreciated! Please send us your ideas contact@idahowhitewater.net.

A FEW THOUGHTS ON TRAILER MAINTENANCE

BY TYSON STELRECHT

My rig had a little mishap up at Lochsa Big Water Blowout this year. I say my rig and not me, because I was happily floating down the river when it happened. The trailer tongue snapped completely off and the trailer separated from the van. No people or rafts were hurt, but my van certainly was.



I'm a mechanically meticulous person. Generally, anything mechanical I own is dialed in. However, doing a thorough inspection for cracks on my cast aluminum trailer was not on my preseason checklist. The best I can figure is after thousands of heavily loaded miles of rough shuttle roads, it had just finally had it. There was a rough turnaround at the White Pine put in, but I firmly believe that had nothing to do with it. Metal fatigue where the pin held the tilt mechanism down was right where it cracked. It always bounced a little there and finally gave up the ghost.

As we are all getting ready to head down these rough roads this summer with thousands of dollars (or tens of thousands of dollars) worth of rafts on our trailers, I feel it is worth urging everyone to do a good inspection and check of your trailer.

Lights are important. Trailer wiring is very simple and YouTube is your friend if you need help. Make sure your grounds are good by simply loosening and re-tightening any bolt or screw that has a ring terminal on it. Go at the mating surface with some sandpaper or Scotch Brite if there is a significant amount of corrosion. As far as the trailer to vehicle connector goes, simply plugging and unplugging a number of times will wear off any corrosion and allow those little electrons to flow freely. Some dielectric grease will keep moisture out.

Bearings are also very important and often neglected. Make sure your bearing buddies are full of grease. If it has been several years since the bearings were repacked, they need to be done. It is really cheap insurance to just have it done if that is beyond your capability.

Inspect your tires, don't just check the pressure. Pull them off the trailer and look at them in the sunshine for cracks or embedded objects. By pulling them off you have also assured there are no seized lug nuts that you can't get off in the middle of nowhere.

How about your spare tire? Pull it off the trailer and inspect where it was contacting the trailer for abnormal wear. Is it holding air? Is it getting weather checked? Do you have the right tools in the tow rig including lug wrench and jack that works with the trailer? Don't assume that what is in your truck will work for your trailer.

Look really closely at the coupling and safety chains or cables. Dragging chains can start forest fires from sparking and they can also wear through so they won't do their job in an emergency. Check for frayed or broken strands if you have a cable type safety system. Hit the locking mechanism of the coupler with some WD or similar lubricant so it operates smoothly.

Finally, give it a really good crawl under and look for issues or anything out of the ordinary. Is your axle loose? Are there hanging wires? Is there anything else that is going to leave you stranded? Nobody wants to be stranded on the way to the put in.



UPCOMING IWA EVENTS

JOIN US FOR WHITEWATER FUN!!

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Safety Saturday	7/15/17	Main Payette River Banks Put-In
Summer Roundup at Payette Brewing	9/13/17	Payette Brewing
Adopt A Highway Clean up	10/7/17	Beehive Take Out
Member Meeting	11/1/17	AIRE Factory Store
Member White Elephant Christmas Party	12/6/17	Idaho River Sports
Annual Member Meeting & Election	1/10/18	Cascade River Gear
Annual Dutch Oven Cookoff	2/7/18	Cascade River Gear
Member Meeting & River Predictions	3/7/18	Cascade River Gear
Movie Night	4/5/18	Idaho River Sports Spring
Equipment Sale	4/28/18	Maravia
Adopt a Highway Cleanup	5/5/18	Beehive Take Out
Lochsa River Madness	5/26-5/28/18	Wilderness Gateway
Safety Saturday	7/14/18	Banks Put-In

SUMMER ROUNDUP – PAYETTE BREWING

Join us for an evening of story telling & comrodary with our fellow rafting buds over a nice cold brew at Payette Brewing Company.

**Bring a friend for our raffle & silent auction
& we will see y'all on the Highside!**

20% of all proceeds will be donated to IWA



733 S. Pioneer Street – Boise, ID 83702



MAIN SALMON CAMP RESERVATION PRACTICES

BY HOWARD MILLER

Recently the Salmon-Challis National Forest, the Salmon River Outfitters Association, the Idaho Whitewater Association, and other private boaters met to discuss some issues that were identified with the way camps are being reserved at Corn Creek for the permitted Main Salmon.

At issue is something called the "9am Rule". The current system allows for all permits holders to submit their camp choices from 5pm the night before launch to 9am the day of their launch. Groups who have chosen the same camp choice preference are encouraged to work it out among themselves before a coin flip or straws are drawn. Once all the groups present have made their choices by 9 A.M. a small group may show up late or change their mind about camp choice and the small group is allowed to take any of the large reservable camps not chosen by other groups. This sounds reasonable as a camp that was not chosen would otherwise go unused. In theory. This results in the small group which is allowed to take 7 or 8 days having a large camp reserved for night 5 for example. Then on the following day a large group shows up at Corn Creek that can only do 5 or 6 day trips. They try to make their camp choice but by the end of their trip they are running into the large camps that have been taken by small groups. Most typically the large groups doing short trips are outfitters but private trips would have the same problem. It is understandable that outfitters need to maximize profits by having large groups and turning trips around quickly. They also want their clients to go home with a great river experience. Allowing small groups to reserve a large camp might mean that large groups end up in a camp that is not ideal. However, outfitters wanting to maximize their profits should not come at the expense of private boaters. And private boaters should not expect to use the river in a manner that comes at the expense of outfitters. So, what to do?

There are all kinds of official rules about what group size can use which camp based on the official (but outdated) definition of each camp size. If a camp has a limit of 20 people a group of 25 is not allowed to use it. You can actually be fined for doing so. This applies to private and commercial groups. A small group, however, is allowed to use a large camp, but remember, there are reservable and non-reservable camps. Most boaters like to know that they have a camp waiting for them at the end of the day. That allows you to stop for side hikes and long lunches knowing you are not racing other groups for open camps. So it causes an issue when that large group shows up at Corn Creek for the next day's launch and they want that great camp for night 5 only to find a small group snagged it using the 9am rule. The 9am rule is not part of the official management plan but something private boaters argued for at the start of the partial reservation system on the Main Salmon. It technically does not violate the management plan because it is just allowing use of large camps by smaller groups. The camp capacity is not being exceeded. One of the options presented to alleviate camp selection was to allow large groups to use smaller camps which have changed or become larger at low water. However, that is seen as a violation of the management plan. A group of 25 or 30 cannot use a camp rated for 15 or 20, even if low water has created a beach big enough for 30. You can be fined and outfitters get an "Out of Compliance" notice which is not good for them. This could be resolved by considering the language in the management plan as a guideline and allowing for common sense to be used. But, common sense and the Government? Need I say any more?

The good news is that after hours of constructive discussion, we came up with a plan that will be implemented this year. The 9 A.M. rule will remain available to small groups doing a 7 or 8-day trip, but they will only be allowed to request 1 reservable camp that is out of classification for them. This hope is that this will make it easier for large trips to get the camp they need. And maybe someday common sense will.....nah, never mind.

ADOP A HIGHWAY CLEANUP 2017

BY KEVIN JONES

VOLUNTEERS PACK THE BEEHIVE TAKEOUT TO HELP CLEAN UP TRASH ALONG HIGHWAY 55



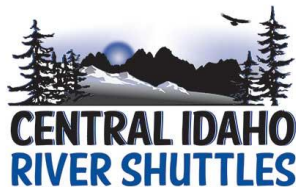
This year's annual spring highway cleanup was a huge success. Quite a few volunteers showed up at Beehive bend on a cool and cloudy Saturday morning to help clean up the Idaho Whitewater Association's section of Highway 55. The volunteers were able to collect quite a few bags of trash. The family that I helped cleanup trash with wanted to get out and volunteer with their son. I am sure glad they volunteered and helped continue to make Idaho such a great place to live. After the trash cleanup, several

volunteers rafted the Banks to Beehive section. The Idaho Whitewater Association would like to thank all the volunteers that made this possible.

THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING SPONSORS!



Cascade
RIVER GEAR



OUR MISSION

The purpose of the Idaho Whitewater Association, Inc. (hereafter, IWA) shall be to promote the appreciation, understanding, and safe recreational use of the whitewater river resources within the State of Idaho among its members and the general public, and to inform the members of issue affecting whitewater rivers and their use. In essence, the IWA is for whitewater boaters and paddlers, who have a passion and experience in whitewater and others who desire to explore that passion.

Membership paid through: [PAID THROUGH MONTH]/[PAID THROUGH]



JOIN!! IWA Annual Membership Dues
\$20 Individual / \$25 Family
MEMBERS! PLEASE VERIFY YOUR
INFORMATION FOR OUR RECORDS

Check one: New Membership
 Renewal

Please Check ALL that apply:

- Raft
- Cataract
- Canoe-whitewater
- Canoe-touring
- Kayak- whitewater
- Kayak-touring
- Kayak-inflatable
- SUP
- Other: _____

Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Street: _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phones: (____) _____ Cell (____) _____ Other

Email Address: _____

Check one: Individual Membership (\$20)
 Family Membership (\$25) - # in Household _____

VOLUNTEERING: I am interested in volunteering: ____ Used Equipment Sale; ____ Setting up events;
 ____ Safety Saturday; ____ Guest Speaker; ____ Board of Directors; ____ Newsletter; ____ Getting Sponsors;
 ____ Adopt A Highway; ____ Social Media/Graphic Design; ____ Lochsa River Madness
 Other: _____