



# RAPIDS

## WESTERN WHITEWATER ASSOCIATION

### SKILLS DAY 2012

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Thank You letter from jet boat racer from Mexico
- 2012 Skills Day a successful event.
- Weed Run Rescheduled
- Payette River Run

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The 2012 WWA Skills Day was a successful event with new water encountered by almost all who participated. There were 11 boats and several passengers on each boat that made the run from the Nyssa Bridge on the Snake River to the state park below Ontario, Oregon. One of the several highlights was the Predator FX boat that made the run and provided some demonstra-

tion of the running speed of that boat. Thanks to Grady White and Shay

***For the Skills Day Run the flow was just over 7,000 CFS.***

White who continue to be ambassadors of the jet boat sport.

The actual run was approximately 18 miles and the river is almost all flat water through that stretch but there are several spots

that are skinny. I made a practice run on Memorial Day morning and the river was running just over 9,000 CFS. That day we encountered spots of less than two feet of

water. For the Skills Day Run the flow was just over 7,000 CFS. Despite that, there were no runs, no hits, and no errors for the run. As the temperature was a little warmer the day of

*(Continued on page 4)*

***Bet it is  
A Rare  
Day, the  
Nyssa OR  
Boat Ramp  
Sees this  
Much  
Activity***



## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

Summer is officially here and there is nothing I enjoy more than taking the boat to a body of water and sightseeing, fishing, or just getting away from the normal routine. A couple of weeks ago I was on Lake Owyhee to fish and encountered a small herd of wild horses on the shoreline. I did a "slow pass" so the passengers on the boat could get some pictures of something one just doesn't see every day.

Later that day with a cooler of crappie, we headed home and made plans for a fish fry the following day. As we re-hashed the day and cleaned the fish for about an hour that night (electric fish fillet knives are mandatory) it was the ending of a near perfect day.

The next day at the fish fry there was plenty of discussion as to who could only eat one or two filets as they were unable to catch enough crappie to be a real contributor. My six year-old nephew repeatedly let everyone know that he caught 23 crappie and he could eat all of them. That friendly banter ended when the full meal was brought out with crappie fillets, baby potatoes and peas in a

cream sauce, fried and BBQ'ed asparagus, and strawberry shortcake for desert.

I hope that this reading makes all of you hungry but more importantly I hope that all of you have similar stories and traditions with those you hold near and dear in life. Whether it is powering through some rollers on the Payette, Salmon, or Snake Rivers, or reservoir fishing at Brownlee, Owyhee, or Lucky Peak, a jet boat outing is like the wild horses; not something you get to see every day.

It is always rewarding to me to see the various boats show up at any given club run with friends and family on board to enjoy the outing. Sometimes it is a friend outing with an opportunity to renew a friendship or business acquaintance and sometimes it is a family outing with the same opportunity. Nonetheless, a jet boat outing is the opportunity to unplug from the routine, strengthen friend and family ties, and enjoy the great outdoors that we all call our backyard.

On one trip below Hells Canyon dam with my father and two other friends, we were able

to watch a sow bear grab a salmon out of the water and run up the hill a few yards and devour it with her cubs. That is not something you see every day. Later that night at camp the friends had gone home and my dad and I prepared for tomorrow and one more day of fishing before we were to head back to the routine. He thanked me for the opportunity to see the bears that day.

I don't know how many fish we caught that trip but the opportunity to spend time my father was what I do remember. As Father's Day and summer come upon us, if you have the opportunity to fish with your dad I hope you can. I fortunately have the opportunity to fish several days a year with my dad but as time goes on those days number fewer. For those who don't have an opportunity to fish with your dad, I hope you can fish with your sons or daughters. Those days on the water enjoying friends and family are not something we get every day. Enjoy them. And, Happy Fathers Day to those fathers out there.

Jed Myers

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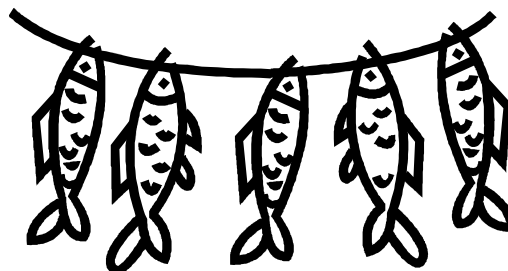
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May 2013

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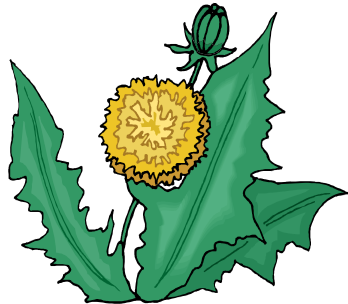


## 2012 WEED RUN RESCHEDULED

### RESCHEDULED - 2012 Salmon River Noxious Weed Control Project – June 15, 16 and 17

With the high water on the Salmon River earlier this year we have rescheduled the Weed Run for the middle of June. We are hopeful the river will be low enough by that time.

We will need approximately **6 boats** and **20 volunteers** to help spray weeds. Since the boats are loaded pretty heavy, and we can typically expect fairly high river flows, we ask that the less experienced Salmon River pilots leave their boats home and ride up with the more experienced pilots. We will also have several Government Agency Representatives along this year to give us a hand. Come enjoy a good workout and lots of fun with friends in the beautiful



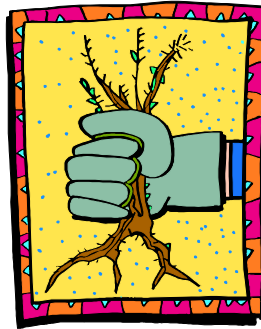
Salmon River canyon.

The WWA will be providing noxious weed control at the private ranches on the river and we will be staging out of Mackay Bar this year. This project requires a significant amount of physical labor, as the weed control methods primarily entail hand application of chemical sprays and some hand pulling with much of the work taking place on steep terrain. Safety equipment will be provided to those that will be handling chemicals. The club currently owns about 20 back pack sprayers that will be our primary application method. Again this year, spray materials and boat fuel are being covered by government grants. We will be departing Spring Bar, 13 miles up river from Riggins, on Friday June 15 at about 8:30am.

Most people will spend the night of June 14 at the Spring Bar campground to make loading go smoothly and to keep unforeseen issues at a minimum. A light breakfast, (muffins, and pastries) with coffee will be provided the morning of the 15th at the campground starting at 7:30 am. Due to weight limitations for the boats and the number of people, we encourage everyone to pack light. Pay special attention to the Salmon River Road construction schedule to prevent any surprises. The road has been open on Fridays, but that could change.

We will arrive at Mackay Bar by around noon. After unloading boats, setting up camp and a quick lunch, we will spend several hours spraying one of the target areas. We will then have a re-

*(Continued on page 7)*



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## SKILLS DAY 2012

*(Continued from page 1)*

the run, I did not see any deer on the islands. They were already shaded up for the day.

Another part of the Skills Day was fielded by Malheur County Marine Deputy Anthony Hackman who performed boat safety checks and also shared a little bit about his work duties and the time he spends on that stretch of the river as well as Lake Owyhee and Bully Creek Reservoir. He shared some of the safety concerns he encounters in his work and commended the club for their proper use of equipment and proper preparation for unforeseen circumstances on all boats he inspected that day.

Deputy Hackman rode along with a boat captain that had never run that stretch of the

river and as a boat captain, he felt a little unsure with the run. With the experience of Deputy Hackman in the co-pilot seat, the captain was less anxious and told me he had a blast on the run and would love to do it again. He was especially appreciative of the advice and teaching of Deputy Hackman as they maneuvered up and down the river. Incidentally, the invitation was extended to all to do a ride along with Deputy Hackman on patrol at some point in the future. If there is some interest just contact me and I can help arrange that.

After the run, lunch at the Tex Mex restaurant gave everyone a chance to socialize and converse over some great Mexican food and plan the next

outing. As the run chair, special thanks go out to Dave Jefferies who, when he is not running rivers, owns and operates Built-Rite Construction a full service general contracting entity in Payette, Idaho. Dave offered without hesitation to run the training run on Memorial Day with me to teach me the part of the river I had never ran. Again on the Skills Day he led the first group through the shallow water and sandbars without incident. Thanks Dave. Also thanks to Deputy Hackman for his training comments and for leading the second group of boats as a navigator on the run. Lastly, thanks to all those who came to participate and share skills and

***Bet the Nyssa OR boat dock  
doesn't very often see this many  
boats***

***Jed Myers and family with race  
boat in background  
Near park in Ontario OR***



## ***PAYETTE RIVER RUN***

The 2012 Payette River Run was held May 19, 2012. There were eleven boats making the run. We ran up to just above Land Slide, where we (I started to say ran into, but decided this did not sound quite right) met up with a bunch of floaters and some people training in the water near the shore, so turned around.

There was one boat bumped a rock. If there were others, I did not hear about them. Maybe they were afraid they would get the “Silver Rock” award.

After a successful, very fun run we met at the Horseshoe Bend ponds for hamburgers/hot dogs etc, to discuss the run. There were 30 to 40 people in attendance.

All together, it was a great day. Not too cold, not too hot. Tee Fisher, the run chair did a great job. Thank You Tee.

Story by Anita Shore



*A close up look at  
Land Slide*



*Good Food  
Good Friends  
Good Times*



## THANK YOU

From: **Hans Hasselkus**

Date: Wed, May 16, 2012 at 10:49 AM

Subject: Thank you

To: Kyla Sawyer

Dear Kim, Kyla, and Gary:

First of all, please accept my excuses for taking so long to send an email thanking all the help that I receive during the River Marathon. Once the race finished, I took some days off and also, at my arrival back to Mexico, a lot of things to do were waiting for me! I preferred to wait until the "Race Fever" came out, and now, with a "Cold" mind, I am writing to all of you.

The next day after the races and according to the information that Kyla sent to me, I mailed the official results to the UIM Office and they published those on its web page. Some days after that, I also

sent my report as UIM Commissioner for the World Championship. About it, I am sure that the UIM General Secretary will be sending very soon a copy directly to you and to APBA.

It is no easy to find the right words to explain how good was the time that I expended in Idaho following the different legs of the race, finding wonderful friendly people everywhere (officials, volunteers and from the communities). I try to resume my feelings in this: Along the last 20 years, this was one of the bests organized races in which I had represented the UIM as Commissioner.

About the organization, I had the chance to take a look at some of the manuals that were elaborated for the official and volunteers (Radio Officials Procedures, for example) and I found on them very clear and complete direc-

tions, well established procedures and politics. In resume, a very professional work. I think that can be a very good idea to share this very important information with organizers from other countries and also, in future races in the USA.

I expect that due the great job of your people, in the close future, more teams will accept the challenge to participate in your races.

Please give my respects and congratulations to all the people that were involved in the races (Officials, Safety and Sweep boats crews, Staff, Radio operators, Local authorities, Fire Depts., Sheriffs and the rest of the volunteers). I now some of the names but not all of them!!!

Ones again, thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Hans Hasselkus

### 2012 WWA Officers

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\*term expires Jan. 2013

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## 2012 WEED RUN RESCHEDULED

(Continued from page 3)

laxing dinner followed by camaraderie around the camp fire and possibly a round of horse-shoes. We will rise early on Saturday for a yummy breakfast and then off to several more hours of spraying - lunch - spray - dinner. Sunday morning we can sleep in a little - break camp and head back down river to Spring Bar.

This year we are hoping to target the Mackay Bar area and Indian Creek.

We may still need to reschedule this event to a later date because of high water or extremely wet conditions. As we get closer the scheduled time we will let all the participants know the status of the event.

Required supplies for volunteers:

1. For spraying you will need work gloves, long sleeved shirts, long pants, high top boots, (old ones are best because they will probably have blue dye on them by the time

you are done).

2. You will need a tent, sleeping bag, blanket (optional) tarp for tent (also optional)

3. Clothing for three days (Pack for Idaho weather conditions – it could be warm and sunny or cold and wet)

4. Drinks that you may want, (WWA will bring pop, water, coffee and cocoa) anything you may want to put in those you need to bring

5. Your own life jacket would be great - most of us have extras on the boat, but your own would be a good idea.

6. Cameras are a must!

7. Flash light

8. Camp chairs

9. Finally, you may bring a dessert to help with the food. (Brownies, cake, pie, etc.) Again meals will be provided by WWA.

**Please give Don Moore (208-377-0272) a call if you have any questions or would be interested in attending this fun event.**

*Members wishing to place ads are free. Commercial ads are \$10.00 each month, or \$100.00 for a year. If you have an ad that you would like run, call Anita Shore at (208) 454-1669*

*FAX (208) 454-1923 or email [shore2shore@heritagewifi.com](mailto:shore2shore@heritagewifi.com). The number at the end of your ad indicates the number of times your ad has appeared in the RAPIDS. After 3 times the ad will be dropped. You will need to resubmit the ad with some changes for further publication.*



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<p>River Boat for Sale:          1992 Weldcraft Jet Boat, 22 ft, Hardtop, 212 Hamilton, ( 2 )          Stick Steer, 460 Ford. \$32,000 208-899-6399</p>	
	



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#### Internet Addresses

##### **Idaho Current Streamflows: (New Address) 5-01**

[http://water.usgs.gov/id/nwis/current?  
type=flow&group\\_key=NONE&search\\_site\\_no\\_station  
\\_nm=](http://water.usgs.gov/id/nwis/current?type=flow&group_key=NONE&search_site_no_station_nm=) (enter it once and bookmark it!)

**Idaho Power Streamflow Information: (03-02)** [http://  
www.idahopower.com/h2o/idastream.cfm](http://www.idahopower.com/h2o/idastream.cfm)

**Riverflow Information:** [http://www.idwr.state.id.us/  
planpol/techserv/flows.htm](http://www.idwr.state.id.us/planpol/techserv/flows.htm)

#### Addresses and Telephone Numbers

**Salmon River Reservations:** Slate Creek Ranger Sta-  
tion: 208-839-2211

**Hells Canyon Power Boat Reservations:** Pat Wurl:  
509-758-0270

General information: 509-758-0616

**River & Reservoir Levels:** Bureau of Reclamation:  
208-334-9134

**Bliss Dam Outflows:** Idaho Power (Call weekdays  
only) 208-388-2255

#### Calendar of Events

**SKILLS DAY June 2, 3023 Launch Nyssa OR**  
**June 11, 2012 General Membership meeting—**  
**Canyon Creek Restaurant, Nampa**  
**June 25, 2012 Board of Directors meeting**  
**July 9, 2012 General Membership meeting—**  
**Canyon Creek Restaurant, Nampa**  
**AUGUST 18, 2012: CAST for Kids Black**  
**Canyon Reservoir**  
**SEPTEMBER 15, 2012 Confluence Run**  
**October 27, 2012 Hammer Creek Run**  
General Meetings are the second Mon-  
day of the Month at Canyon Creek Restaurant  
Nampa ID