



P O BOX 8922
BOISE ID 83707

Special points of interest:

- THIS ISSUE OF THE RAPIDS IS RATHER BRIEF—NOT MUCH GOING ON THIS TIME OF YEAR.
- 2012 CONFLUENCE RUN SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 15.
- HAMMER CREEK RUN SCHEDULED FOR October 27

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RAPIDS

RAPIDS

September 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If you get outside before sunup there is a slight hint of fall in the air. Well maybe not fall but at least there is a hint that the blast furnace of summer is giving way to cooler mornings. With that cooler morning air, fall will soon be here officially or unofficially depending on your perspective.

While I hate to see the summer slip away and the sun start to set a little earlier every day, I know that indicates hunting and steelhead seasons are just around the corner. This weekend I got the steelhead reels down as this is the year to rewind all the spools with fresh line. I usually try to do that every other year and this is the even numbered year for that task. I wish I could tell you that I caught so many steelhead last season that I wore the line out in one year but that

would be a fishing truth or in other words, an outright lie.

This week I will clean the boat and check the trolling motor and anchor lines preparing for several outings to Hells Canyon and Riggings through the fall and winter hoping to hook several of the elusive ocean returning trout. First outing though will be the Confluence run and the enjoyment of Hells Canyon in early fall. It should be another great outing of the WWA as several are preparing to run a little white water and fish for some bass, trout, or sturgeon next week. It almost seems like you can get one over on the elements when you can run the Snake with a t shirt and shorts compared to a winter coat and gloves of late November and December steelhead runs.

Another attraction of the Confluence Run is the pot luck dinner and steak fry Saturday Night after the run. That is always a highlight as the river cooks of the WWA bring out some awesome dishes that are a real treat in the canyon. A few years ago as a new jet-boat owner and new to the WWA, the Confluence Run was my first outing with the club. The river was great and the group leader talked me down river all the way to the Salmon up through the Eye of The Needle and back to Pittsburgh without any major incident. At dinner that night the layout was certainly impressive and I feel fortunate to have been able to be a part of so much more since then.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My co-workers are trying to find a vacation day between now and the end of the year but I have saved most of my allotted time just to get out for some river outings and a hunting trip. Don't let the secret out but, Hells Canyon in September and October is pretty nice with the weather and smaller crowds. That is pay-back for working straight through the long days of summer with no time off.

Now that fall is trying to arrive, get the fresh line on the steelhead reels, check the anchor lines, schedule the days off, brush up on the potluck dish recipes, and make it a memorable steelhead season. Hope to see ya there.

JED MYERS

IF YOU FIND MISTAKES

In this publication, please consider

They are there for a purpose.

we publish something for everyone, and Some people are always looking



For mistakes!

HAMMER CREEK RUN

The main attraction at this WWA event is the unofficial - but traditional - steelhead fishing derby, but the Dutch Oven Dinner on Saturday night is also a major drawing card. Most members arrive Friday afternoon, as the fishing derby begins early Saturday morning. Nearly everyone stays at the Hammer Creek campground; however, there are alternative lodging choices available in the surrounding area. There is camping at the gravel pit across from Carl's driveway.

The "unofficial" fishing derby is scheduled for Saturday with a 8:00 a.m. (Mountain) starting time and cut off time to enter. Fish check-in is 4:00 p.m.(Mountain). Water levels on the Salmon are often low in late October, so some members camp at Hammer Creek, but travel over the hill to Pittsburg Landing and fish on the Snake River. Whether you launch at Hammer Creek on the Salmon or Pittsburg Landing on the Snake, you will need to complete a self-issue river permit before you launch. Permits are available above each of the boat ramps. Safety is very important, if you need help on the river, please ask. If you are going out by yourself, please inform someone where you are going and when you plan to return.

On Saturday night, the Dutch Oven Dinner begins at 7:00 p.m. It will be held in Carl Norton's shop on Benz Lane across from the gravel pit. Please bring your favorite Dutch Oven dish to share with the group. If you are not a Dutch Oven cook, not to worry; just bring your favorite camp dish. Plates, plastic utensils, and napkins are provided, but you will need to provide your own beverages. We also recommend that you bring along some chairs and/or a portable table if you have them, as seating is generally limited at the dinner site.

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HAMMER CREEK RUN

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Hammer Creek has a concrete boat ramp and a large parking lot. There are restrooms and potable water, but no electricity. There is a small sandy beach at the eastern end of the campground where you can leave your boat on the river over night if you wish. If you stay at one of the campsites or park your RV in the parking lot, you must pay the \$10.00 per night fee. Please pay promptly after occupying a site.

To get to Hammer Creek from Riggins, take U.S. 95 north along the Salmon River. About 30 miles out, just before mile marker 222, there are signs that read "Hammer Creek Recreation Area" and "Pittsburg Landing". Take the next left. Follow the road down along the Salmon River about a mile until you come to a "Y". Take the left fork, cross the bridge and follow the road another 1 1/2 miles to the Hammer Creek Recreation site. If you are coming from Grangeville, shortly after you reach the bottom of White Bird hill you will come to Hoot's Cafe. The turnoff to Hammer Creek is about 1/4 mile thereafter.

CONFLUENCE RUN

This is just a reminder—the Confluence run is set for September 15, 2012. Hope to see you there.

2012 WWA Officers

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 Past President —Brian Oakey*
 President Elect — Clyde Schrader*
 Vice President— Darwin Ames*

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*term expires Jan. 2013

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May 2013

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P O BOX 8922
BOISE ID 83707

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER 10, 2012
General Membership
meeting— Canyon
Creek Restaurant,

Nampa

SEPTEMBER 15, 2012

Confluence Run

OCTOBER 8, 2012

General Membership
meeting— Canyon
Creek Restaurant,

Nampa

October 27, 2012

Hammer Creek Run

November 12, 2012

General Membership
meeting— Canyon
Creek Restaurant,

Nampa

DECEMBER 10, 2012

General Membership
meeting— Canyon
Creek Restaurant,
Nampa **ELECTION of**

OFFICERS

JANUARY 1, 2012

New Years Day Run

Walter's Ferry

General Meet-
ings are the second
Monday of the Month
at Canyon Creek Res-
taurant Nampa ID

We're on the web! [http://
www.westernwhitewater.org/](http://www.westernwhitewater.org/)
Visit our new Facebook page.

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>

Addresses and Telephone Numbers

Salmon River Reservations: Slate Creek Ranger Station: 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