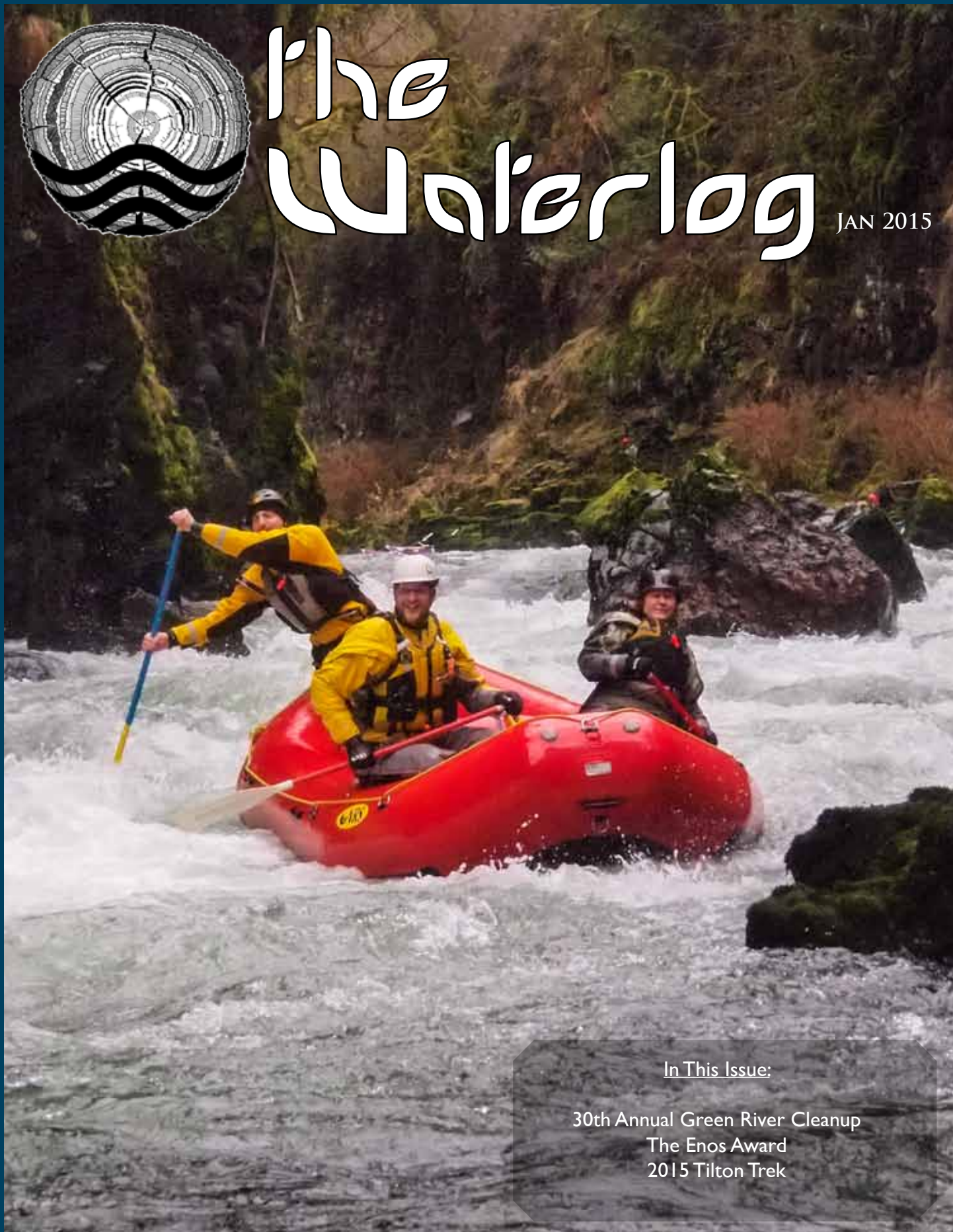


THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WASHINGTON RECREATIONAL RIVER RUNNERS



the Waterlog

JAN 2015



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Aaron, Kat, and Paul make the move in Leap of Faith

JOIN THE FUN! BECOME A MEMBER OF THE "GREATEST WHITEWATER CLUB IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD". Washington Recreational River Runners is a private, non profit corporation organized to promote river running as a safe and fun sport and to provide for an exchange of ideas among its members and public issues concerning rivers. Membership is open to anyone having an interest in the recreational use of rivers upon payment of annual dues as shown below. To join or renew your membership, cut out this form, fill out and mail to the address listed below. The Release and Indemnity Agreement **must** be signed before your application is processed.

Select Membership level. Prices effective \$1/1/13. All membership levels include the newsletter and access to club events

☐ **\$30 HOUSEHOLD** - everyone residing at the registered address

☐ **\$40 SUSTAINING** - same as family plus 5 free raffle tickets at Wenatchee Rendezvous and 1 free hand at the Poker Run

☐ **\$55 BENEFACTOR** - same as family plus 10 free raffle tickets at Wenatchee Rendezvous and 2 free hands at the Poker Run

☐ **\$100 SPONSOR** - for those wishing to advertise a product or service (must be river/outdoor-related)

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Returning Member (prior membership ran out)

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Email Address _____

I hereby state that I wish to participate in courses and/or activities offered by Washington Recreational River Runners Association (WRRR) a non-profit corporation. I recognize that any outdoor or aquatic activity may involve certain dangers including, but not limited to, the hazards of traveling by boat on rivers or other bodies of water, accidents, or illnesses in remote places or occurring during portages, forces of nature, and the actions of participants and other persons. I further understand and agree that without some program providing protection of its assets and its leaders, officers, and members, WRRR would not be able to offer its courses and activities.

In consideration of and as part of my payment for the right to participate in the activities offered by WRRR, I hereby release WRRR and its leaders, officers, and members from any and all liability, claims and courses of action arising out of or in any way connected with my participation in any activities offered by WRRR. I personally assume all risks in connection with these activities, and further agree to indemnify WRRR and its leaders, officers, and members from all liability, claims, and courses of action which I may have arising from my participation in activities including, but not limited to those involving death, drowning, personal injury, and property damage. The terms of this agreement shall serve as a release and indemnity agreement for my heirs, assigns, personal representatives, and for all members of my family including any minors. [Parent or legal guardian must sign for all persons under eighteen (18) years of age.] This agreement is effective as of the date signed, and has no termination date. I have fully informed myself of the contents of this release and indemnity agreement by reading it before I have signed it.

Signed _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Mail your check and signed Agreement to:
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Renton, WA 98057

*Journal of Self-Serving Statistics, June 2009

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Board meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM (except December).

Please visit <http://www.wrrr.org/> for meeting locations.

THE WATERLOG

EARN BIG-TIME RIVER KARMA! Flip less often! Get shuttles from bikini models! Stop losing your hair! Your boat will look better; your beer will be colder; the sun will shine every day you're on the river and it will rain every day you're off the river! All you have to do is...**SUBMIT ARTICLES TO THE WATERLOG!** (Photos & cartoons too! It's just that easy) The Waterlog is published 11 times a year. (Monthly except December) Material for publication should reach the editor by the 25th of the month. An attempt will be made to place submissions received after the 25th. However, no guarantees are given. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for clarity and length. Articles and editorial comment do not necessarily reflect the view or opinions of WRRR, its Board of Directors, or its membership...They seem to think it's important that I print that last bit for some reason, go figure. Authors are solely responsible for the content of their articles.

Submit material for publication in The Waterlog to the editor:

Brian Vogt
bvogt@wwik.org

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2015 Tilton Trek

The 2015 Tilton Trek will be President's Day Weekend February 13-15.

Located near SR-12 some 30 miles east of I-5, the Tilton is a class III-IV run suitable for all craft. It is less technical than the Green River Gorge, but it tends to be a little more pushy as it is more constrained in a tight bedrock channel. The run is 7 miles long and starts with a mellow class II warmup. When you reach the canyon, it's game on!

The Tilton carves a deep canyon over 5 miles long. Many rapids ranging from steep but short ledges to complex boulder rapids fill the canyon. Bouncy wave trains are loads of fun. Waterfalls pour over moss covered walls. Surf abounds. There's a great lunch beach. The canyon is constricted, so boat spacing is critical.

And the best part of all is the take out: Washington State Park's Ike Kinswa park on Mayfield Lake. There are campsites and also 5 cabins available at Ike Kinswa park and reservations can be made online. The cabins sleep 5 people each (1 dbl futon, and a bunk bed with a dbl lower and single upper bunk), have parking for

2 vehicles, and have heat, power, lights, and an outside picnic table and fire pit. They can be reserved online for around \$60.

The Tilton is a rain fed run, so flows are variable. It's a great IK run down to as low as 500cfs. Above 2000 or so, it gets a bit burly in IKs unless you are a big water IV fan. We'll be a go in big boats at any flow 900 or above. An upper II-III run offers 8 miles of backup plan if flows get huge. The Tilton is run at higher flows, but we will be cautious with anything over 3000. If the Tilton is not in, many good nearby runs exist, such as the III+ Upper Cispus, the II Cowlitz, the III+ Toutle, and the III Kalama.

If you haven't had a chance to run the Tilton, put this on your calendar! It's among the most scenic and action packed runs in the state, full of great rapids, surf spots, all set in one of the most under-appreciated canyons in Washington. If you like the Green, you'll love the Tilton! I'll plan to bring both my IK and my cat boat and will lead the run in whatever craft makes most sense for the group and flows. SYOTR!

Brian Vogt / bvogt@wwik.org





The Enos Award

Tom Bradshaw in David's IK running Hell Hole

We had a new boater on the WRRR New Year's Day float. At one point, some people were called out to him: "Darrel! Darrel!". He didn't respond because his name was Derick.

This reminded me of something that happened long ago in a watershed far, far away. It was my first private IK trip. I had recently bought my first IK and I was running the Trinity River in northern California. On Saturday, I ran the class II+ Lower Trinity with a guy named Anis, which is an Arabic name, while the rest of the group rafted the class V Burnt Ranch Gorge section. We had planned to do the full run, but the wind came up 2/3 of the way down and was so strong that we couldn't move downstream. Even lying flat on my back in the boat and paddling, I could barely move downstream. Eventually, we turned around, paddled upstream, and got out at a small farm. Anis walked to the road and got a ride back to the put-in to get the car while I shuttled our equipment up to the road.

That night around the campfire, I noticed that some people were calling him Enos (like the character from The Dukes of Hazzard TV show). It was funny, and he was pretty good-natured about it, so it stuck.

The next morning, we all ran the Pigeon Point section of the Trinity. This is a class III run with one class III+ rapid called Hell Hole, which we could see from the road to the put-in. It was a monster rapid and I was very scared. After we got on the river and ran the first small rapid, I had a very memorable experience - a large bird flew quickly down into the river and came up with a fish! This trip was going to be fun.

We ran through the first half of the run without incident, but

things changed at the last rapid before Hell Hole. It was an easy class III rapid with a pourover rock at the bottom. Some of the IKers were surfing there as Anis and I came down. I started to go around the pourover so the others could continue surfing, but Anis went right over it and then flipped. Next, we scouted Hell Hole. We watched the raft run it, and then I nervously went back to my IK and ran it. I didn't flip, but I didn't stay in my boat. This was before the days of thigh straps in IKs, and I floated out of my boat in the giant hole. A few more boaters ran it and swam. Then one person made it and some of the others walked back up to try again (I recall that only one person made it on this second run). During this, we watched Anis. He paddled up to the slip of the drop, turned sideways, and then proceeded to fall out of his boat and swim the drop with the boat following him.

We regrouped and went downstream. There were a couple more class III rapids, and then we came to the final rapid: Fish Tail. I was leading the group as we neared the rapid, but suddenly Anis went by me, so I turned around and paddled back upstream to give him room. As he entered the rapid, he flipped. He stood up in the river and tried to run to catch the boat. People yelled at him to get to shore and walk down. We recovered his boat below the rapid and took out. I remember that the shuttle driver had realized that he forgot his keys at the put-in, but the drivers were able to quickly hitch a ride up to the put-in.

Anis didn't boat with us after that - I don't know if he ever went again - but his legacy lived on in "The Enos Award". This award was informally given to anyone who had a particularly tough day when conditions didn't warrant it - kind of a not-so-yucky version of the bootie beer. I know I won the Enos Award more than once. Yee ha!

--DAVID ELLIOTT

30th Annual Green River Cleanup



Come join almost every boater in WA, WRRR and the Green River Cleanup Crew on the Oldest, Biggest, Best cleanup in the Universe! For 30 Years boaters have been cleaning the Green River Valley. Come talk to some of the people that started the event. Learn about green river cleanup history and how it all started. There will be lots to do for boaters and non boaters. River stretches from class 2-4. Hiking and ground crew sections from flat trail to adventurous river corridor cleaning. All trash will be left at Flaming Geyser Park and picked up by the parks service.

Camping Friday afternoon-Sunday noon at Shangri-La. This is for WRRR members and will be worth your membership for the entire year. Please keep camping family safe, dogs out of kitchens and on leash, and cleanup your camping area. Quieter areas are on the upper terrace towards the restrooms. Ultra loud zones are by the fire pit and kitchen area.

For anyone who gets closest to guessing the LOWEST GRCU turnout and HIGHEST GRCU gets a prize- In event of a Tie, the win goes to folks who guess the years correctly.

HERE are the KEY dates to mark your calenders:

Saturday April 25th

Shangri-La Precleanup and spring setup. Please reserve this day to help us secure this location and boat the green

Friday May 1st

Preclean trip down the green to find trash and flag it. Gates open to Shangri-la camping and KP free camping for volunteers

Saturday May 2nd

GREEN RIVER CLEANUP

9-1am: Registration at Headworks and KP

~4-6pm BBQ at Flaming Geyser.

9pm Dutch Oven Cookoff at Shangri-La approx.

Sunday May 3rd

Class 2/3 TRAINING RUN from Shangri-La to Flaming Geyser

Shangri-la clean/rake camp / pickup micro trash

WRRR and the Green River Cleanup (GRCU) is 100% volunteer driven. Please help us keep this awesome tradition alive. The GRCU needs your help and is looking for the following volunteers:

1. Registration at Headworks early (2 volunteers 845am-1000am)
2. Registration at KP early (2 volunteers 900am-1015am)
3. Registration at Headworks late (2 volunteers 1000am-1100am)
4. Registration at KP (2 volunteers 1015am-1130am)
5. Trash finder and flagger (volunteers finding large areas of trash and flagging them. Remove flagging Sunday)

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6. Green River Cleanup Lead Boat TO THE NOZZLE (Launch KP at 9am) (We can switch Lead boat Baton at Nozzle area)

7. Green River Cleanup Sweep Boat TO THE NOZZLE (Launch KP at 1145am) (We can switch sweep Baton at nozzle area)

8. Green River Cleanup safety boats
 a. (2 volunteers with RED/Green signal flag river right above Mercury (Expert boaters only))
 b. (2 volunteers at bottom of Mercury River Right with full Z drag kit and trained in its' use and Green/Red flag)
 and c. (4 volunteers at Nozzle River Right with Z drag kits and white water rescue training)

9. BBQ Food gatherer (Help acquire and bring food to the event in the afternoon approx. 3pm. First boat groups or non boaters

10. BBQ Lighter, Charcoal master, event setup Approx 3pm first boat groups or non boaters

11. BBQ Food grill master. Approx 4pm

12. BBQ Cleanup

13. Firewood Termite to secure and bring firewood for the week-end

14. Shangri-La pickup micro trash, sweep, pickup loose firewood, etc (Sunday AM at your leisure)

15. Photographers, Authors and Oath keepers to share our fun and report our stories.

16. Help now setting up the 30 year Green River cleanup Kiosk sign to be installed at Flaming Geyser and Kanasket Palmer

We really hope to see you there! For more information see wrrr.org, Facebook (Green River Cleanup Page or WRRR page), green-rivercleanup.org, or email pinkyfilippini@yahoo.com

Trip Leaders: Jay Cohen, Brenan Filippini, WRRR board







Ode to Winter

I'm sitting in the middle of a raging whitewater river in December in the snow. And I'm doing it for fun. With friends, even!

What would someone from 100 years ago think of that? The water temp is in the 40s. The air temp is in the 20s. My straps are frozen to the boat. In almost any other time, this would be a fatal, reckless endeavor. The equipment to do this safely has existed for only a few years. The materials science alone is daunting: waterproof diving zippers. Highly refined petrochemicals, laminates, and metalurgy. Heck, even Velcro plays a role!

We're coming up to Ledge Drop 2, and I can see much of the wood has cleared out of the left. I work my way over to see how clean things are. A boulder has moved, making for a dynamic move up on the pillow, then sliding off. A half pull back keeps me from burying my tips under a log. Definitely different over here. Another bit of glacial debris has moved a half-turn closer to the sea.

Rowing my cat down, the ultimate self-bailer, I remember my first laps on the Green, frantically alternating between bailing and rowing. I missed the self-bailing revolution, you see. And good luck getting modern boaters to eddy out long enough to bail! I delight in how delicately precise the cat boat is. How precisely it can be positioned, how little brute force is ever needed.

Then I remember drifting into Pipeline, the raft knee-deep full of water. Fighting to pull inside even a little while inexorably the part of the boat that was now effectively river was pushed with the current to the shallow left edge. Paul lent me his day cooler, to expedite the bailing. We may have been down to our helmets otherwise, at that point. The Good Old Days.

That bucket boat is still on the water somewhere. I didn't even own a drysuit when I was rowing her. But today I could go for a swim, just cuz I want to. Rinse the glasses off, thaw the ice out of the beard. Maybe practice a self rescue. I am certainly free to try a new line, or surf a big feature. It is sunny today, in the fresh snow, but I think back to rowing out in a hail of snow with such huge flakes you could barely blink. Maybe I should pack ski goggles, just in case?

The cold is deep into the canyon today. The snow looks inviting, so bright in the sunny aspects, fresh from overnight. Even the midstream rocks have a dusting of fresh white. But the water, the ice on boat, oars, and legs and that frigid stone lining the walls, radiate a cold so total, so inhospitable that summer boating seems impossibly warm. But then, I am plenty warm now, and dry to boot. Thanks, Kokatat.

After an extended surf sesh, we pull over at sunny beach, in the sun. Warm tea? Hot soup? A sandwich? Why, I'm so warm, I can sip a frosty beverage just to spite the cold.



It's truly amazing. We're darn lucky this gear exists, or we couldn't be here today.

The gorge may teem with life and languid, clear water in the summer. But in the winter? The hidden waterfalls peek out, some gushing falls, others wide waves pulsing down smooth, curved walls. The wood moves. The maples shed their coarse broad leaves, leaving the mosses and ferns to show their character. The huge wasp nest at De ja vu is encased in ice, with a 3 inch icicle below and a crown of snow atop. The

herons and eagles are fishing, seemingly endlessly fleeing, or stoically perched, each according to its nature. It is silent but for the wind and splash of waves. The sun is never harsh, and often seen only indirectly where it radiates off the bare canyon walls. Its charms might be deadly cold, but they are varied and gorgeous in these winter months.

Besides, man, that's when there's water.

--Ed





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on their drysuits and accessories. If you are in the Portland area and are a WRRR member, Andy & Bax will honor this discount as well. You will need a WRRR membership number to order. Contact the Membership Chair to get your membership number.

DAY/DATE	RIVER/DESCRIPTION	CLASS	CONTACT
Feb 14th	TILTON TREK	IV	Brian Vogt bvogt@wwik.org
April 19th	FLIP PRACTICE @ Vasa Park	II	WRRR Board
April 25th	SHANGRI-LA CLEANUP 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	II	WRRR Board
May 2nd	GREEN RIVER CLEANUP	IV	WRRR Board
Jun 2nd	BOB JOHNSON MEMORIAL WENATCHEE RENDEZVOUS	III+	WRRR Board
Jun 13th - 15th	WENATCHEE RIVER FESTIVAL	III+	Mike Curtis riverbooty@yahoo.com

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