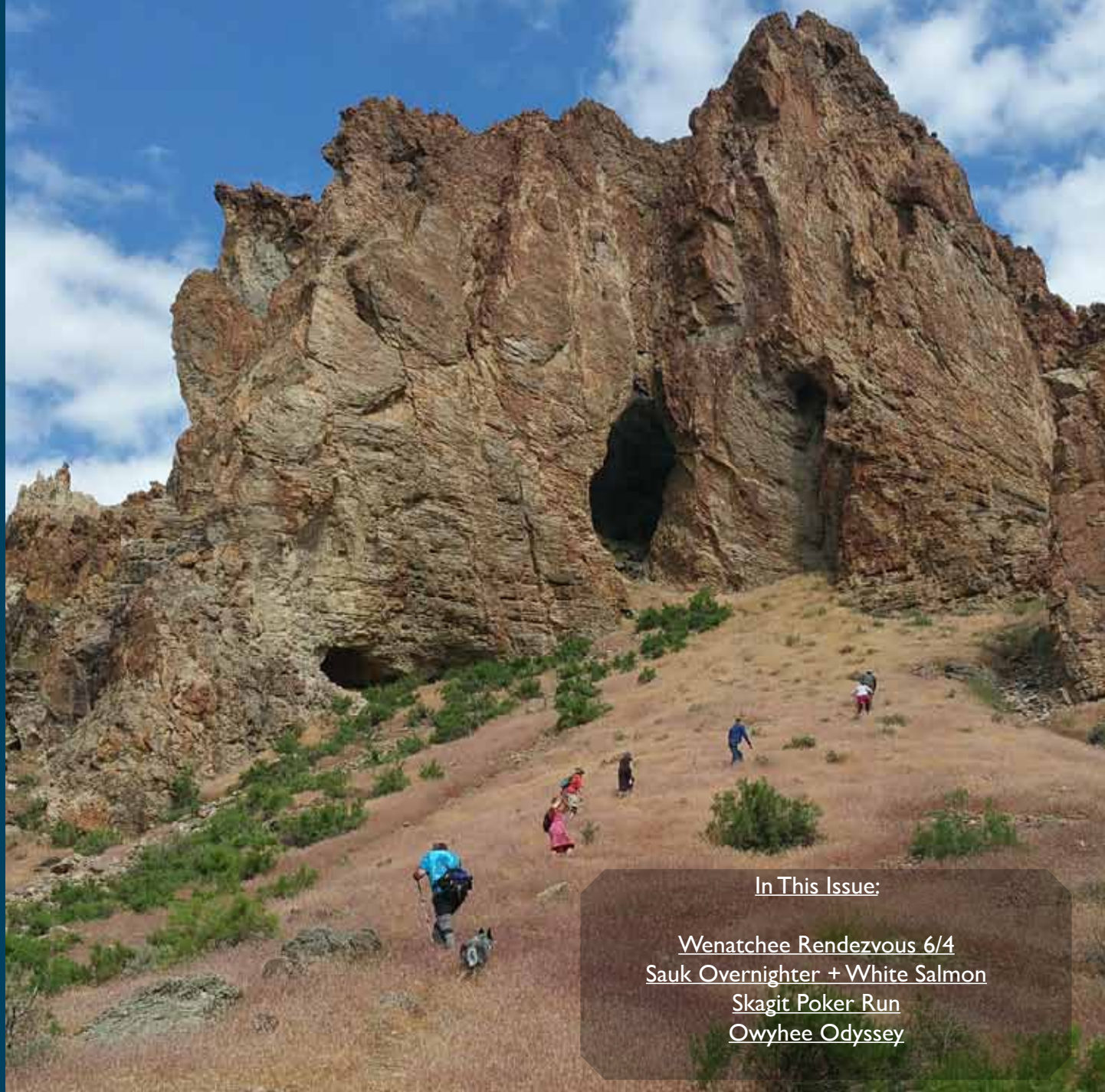


THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WASHINGTON RECREATIONAL RIVER RUNNERS



# The Waterlog

MAY 2016



## In This Issue:

Wenatchee Rendezvous 6/4  
Sauk Overnighter + White Salmon  
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Owyhee Odyssey

*Desert wilderness on Oregon's Owyhee River*



**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)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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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:  
**Washington Recreational River Runners**  
PMB 501  
330 SW 43rd ST. Ste K  
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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# The Bob Johnson Memorial Wenatchee Rendezvous

June 2-5

Come join your fellow WRRR members for our annual Bob Johnson Memorial Wenatchee Rendezvous. Be a part of the greatest flotilla of inflatable boats on the Wenatchee followed by camping, raffle prizes, and a potluck dinner.

## Don't Miss It!

**Boating:** The main float is Saturday morning for some Summertime Class 3 fun! Flows are back this year, so get ready to rumble! Fun in the sun, big water and classic Wenatchee Rapids! Be ready to shuttle at the East Leavenworth Put in at 9:52am. The WRRR lead boat will launch at 10:45 am and the Sweep boat will launch at 11:30. Win this game of skill by being on time!

**THE RUN:** Join us for some classic class 3 bigwater boating. Rapids such as Rock-N-Roll, Gorilla Falls, Drunkard's Drop, Snowblind and Grannies are some of the notable ones. The group eats lunch at lunch island or Rodeo Hole. Sometimes Both! Bring your throw ropes and cameras for lunchtime surf carnage at Rodeo Hole!!!

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**SAFETY:** Please follow the American Whitewater safety code. PFD's, Helmets, Wetsuit, Etc. The weather should be great so pack some water and a lunch and enjoy the day. With big flotilla fun, also comes some danger in the form of you getting lost in the group. Make sure there are at least 2-5 people are looking after you and you are looking after them. Boating within many pods, inside the main group, is the key to success. By this time, all the people attending the Rower's Progression Events should be comfortable in all the rapids. If you aren't sure ask J

There will be Friday and Sunday trips depending on interest. Check the Campground, trip leaders, or Yahoo/FB/Forum Groups for Friday trip planning. Sunday plans are usually made in the campground Saturday night or Sunday morning. In 2013, there was a trip at 7am, so you never know unless you make it! Other popular floats that have been run on this weekend are the Peshastin Creek, Chiwawa, Methow and other stretches of the Chee!

**Camping:** The Tumwater Campground Facility and dispersed

camping in/near Tumwater Canyon is still closed for the 2016 season due to prior years fire danger. We will be camping in the same spot as last year. It's dispersed camping and in a nice spot (Eagle Creek up Chumstick highway area). WRRR will provide toilets and firewood (or propane if there is a fire ban) Directions to the campground:

1. From US 2 (near Safeway) in Leavenworth go north on Chumstick hwy for just over 2.2 miles
2. Take a right on eagle creek road go for 5.5 miles to the end of pavement and go LEFT.
3. Continue on the gravel For 1.5 miles.
4. Take a right at FS road 7531 for 1 mile! You have arrived. We will have wrrr signs at all the turns starting at Eagle creek road. We request that you keep dogs on leash and police their do-do.

**Saturday Night Potluck Dinner:** As usual, we will be having a great meal, but we need your creative and wonderful camp-fire cooking skills. You bring your favorite dish, and your own beverages. WRRR will bring paper plates, plastic utensils, cups and napkins. Dinner is at 6:30 PM on Saturday to allow time for the raffle and general membership meeting. New this year if you bring your own reusable/washable utensils and plate/baskets you will get 1 free raffle ticket! We are trying to cut down on trash and volunteer time.

Anybody with a Dutch oven will be coveted this evening. If you aren't sure what to bring the following is a suggestion for the type of dish to make or bring. If you have a specialty or preference please bring what you like. Last name begins with:

A-Z Main dish A-Z Side dish or salad A-Z Dessert

**Raffle:** Following dinner on Saturday at the Tumwater group camp the club will raffle off some great river gear. You can buy your tickets at the campground before the raffle starts (or you can buy tickets from the newsletter editor after the raffle is over for half price!)

**Trip Leaders:** Rebecca Post, Brenan Filippini, WRRR board

## *Sauk Overnighter*

June 25, 26th

Join us on a new popular event the Sauk Overnighter!

To sign up please email [Brenan@plasteringplus.com](mailto:Brenan@plasteringplus.com). Cost is free for WRRR members. I will send over the spreadsheet of info and gear/meals. This is a great trip to get started into overnight boating. If you need to borrow gear or have any questions please ask! We ask you email RSVP prior to June 12 so we can finalize our plans. We hope each participant can bring or haul some group gear. We will have tables, groover, stove, fireman, etc. This trip will

There should be a good amount of water this year in the sauk! The plan is to meet at the darrington IGA at 11am Saturday June 25th. From there we will drop the cars we can at the takeout, and head up to Bedal put in. We will then rig and try and launch boats around 230. For folks ready early we will do a shuttle leaving the put in at 1pm. Launch time is around 230pm. Saturday night, camp is on a beautiful beach on the upper sauk. Views of nearby peaks and a young riverbed should be plentiful. There is a potluck style menu for Saturday's dinner. There will be a menu planner and group gear spreadsheet posted on Google docs.

Sunday breakfast is provided by the club, and then the trip continues on downriver running class 3+ rocky road. There is a takeout at Whitechuck if you don't want to run the more difficult middle sauk with Six of one, Alligator, Jaws, Graveyard and whirlpool!

Hope to see you soon! Trip leaders: Jason Cohen, Brenan Filippini  
The White Salmon Retreat!

## *White Salmon*

July 15th-17th

Camping is at Hollenbeck Park and free for WRRR members. We will be meeting ready to go at the BZ Corner Put in at 11am. Shuttle leaves from the old Northwestern Lake Takeout at 12pm Sharp!!! The river is a pool drop Class 3+ with optional Class V Husum Falls. The portage/lining is fairly straightforward at Husum falls, but does take skill. It is usually best to keep boats moving and regroup in the Eddie's below the footbridge just around the corner.

It is usually best to think light and bring paddle rafts and IK's / Hardshells. Boats require some effort to get to the bottom at the put in.

Camping is available Friday through Sunday nights at Hollenbeck Park 33 Mt Adams Road, Trout Lake, WA (off Hwy 141 to Mt Adams about 1/2 mile north of the store restaurant) Some years she has guests Thursday night so please respect others if you are arriving earlier Friday!

There is a Sunday trip going TBD at camp. Who's going to the Columbia with us!?

Trip Leaders: Aaron and Kat Birrell, Nancy Douty, Randy Rogers, WRRR Board

# The Carey Berger Memorial Skagit Poker Run

August 11th - 13th

A poker game played with skill, you draw cards at river stations while you float the Skagit River at Newhalem-Marblemount\*. Not to be missed, the WRRR Poker run is one of the club's most popular events. The Skagit River is one of the few rivers still running late in the summer, the run is rated easy class 2-3 at most levels. Other activities include camping and a potluck dinner in the North Cascades National Park. Bring the family. There are often boats with 3 and 4 generations of family in them! Contact any board member for more information or check out the WRRR forums (wrrr.org)

TRIP LEADERS: Wrrr board or Brenan Filippini (pinkofilippini@yahoo.com)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!:** Anyone interested in helping with this event by running a river station, prizes, shuttle, BBQ, Safety, etc please contact Brenan, we could use the help!!!

**POKER RUN DETAILS:** Poker Run registration is from 9:00 AM to 11:29 on Saturday at the boat launch in Goodell Creek Campground. The station dealers launch at 9am, don't launch before them or you will miss your next cards.

Last boats launch BEFORE 11:29. A "sweep" boat will launch at 11:30 and card stations shut down after the sweep boat arrives at them. Don't get behind the sweep boat or you may lose out on cards and play with a short hand! Cost is \$5 per poker hand, you may buy/play as many hands as you want until we run out of cards. To play this game of skill you get your first card at the put-in and your next 4 cards are drawn at river "dealers" that you must eddy out for. If you miss the station you have to play a card short. Boaters with class

2-3 ability should have no problem. We will compare poker hands after dinner at 7:30 PM at the group camp, you will want to be there when we start because top prizes go first to the highest hand present. Pick the cash prize or river gear then subsequent highest hands choose prizes. There is a prize for the lowest hand also.

**CAMPING:** Free camping for current WRRR members from Thursday noon to Sunday noon at the Lower and Upper Goodell Group Camp. Due to last year's fire, the loop across the river will be closed. We ask that you please accommodate everyone and share spots and parking as best we can. There is room to leave trailers down at the lower pit parking area.

The Group camps are on the north side of Hwy 20 along the west side of Goodell Creek. To find the camp look for an unmarked dirt road under the power lines on the north side (left as you head east) of Hwy 20 just after you pass the main campground, about 1 mile west of Newhalem. The dirt road is just west of the bridge where the highway crosses Goodell Creek. Camping for non-members is \$10. The park service requests we secure food/coolers inside vehicles when camp is unattended due to wild animals. All food must be stored in sealed containers until use, violators subject to fine. For extra quiet and more privacy you can buy a spot at the nice campgrounds on the other side of the Hwy 20 at Nehalem campground and at the put in Goodell creek campground.

**FOOD:** Potluck dinner on Saturday at the group camp at 6:30 PM. Bring your favorite side dish, main dish or dessert, and a beer for the Waterlog editor. WRRR will provide plates, forks, etc. There will be a small BBQ lunch on the river until food runs out at station #3. Come early or bring extra food for the grill.





## Owyhee Odyssey

May 2016. The Owyhee River is located in southeast Oregon with an awesome canyon of geologic beauty. There are plenty of rapids but nothing too difficult... it's all read-and-run, with a lot of wave trains. It is fed by melting snow and some years there just isn't enough water to get a raft down it. The BLM guy said if it is under 2000 cfs, don't bother to go. We had wanted to go for years, but the water level never got high enough. So, this year we lucked out. We started with 2600 cfs and finished with 1600 cfs.

We launched Monday morning at Rome, Oregon. We had hoped to launch at 8:30 am to miss the super strong winds that we'd heard about..... We managed to launch at 10:30. Not too bad! We had 11 people, 4 rafts, 1 catboat, 2 kayaks and 2 dogs. And there were no headwinds. We did have some wind and it was blowing softly downstream. Lucky us!

The river starts with slow water moving through braided channels. A commercial guide rowed past us and we took clues from him as to which channel to head down. We saw a herd of deer up on the left bank, close to 25 of them. As we rowed a bit farther, we got to see 5 deer swimming across the channel ahead of us. We stopped at First Camp to enjoy our lunch. We continued floating to Weeping Wall Spring, where we

filled our water bottles. Delicious! At the end of Sweet Water Canyon, the area opens to the Owyhee Canyon Cliffs. We floated past many campgrounds that were already occupied and camped somewhere between Weeping Wall and Sands Hill Creek...close to 19 miles the first day.

Day 2 was beautiful sunny weather as we floated 5 miles to Lower Rye Grass camp. At Read It and Weep rapid, our new inflatable kayaker managed to take a swim. It was warm and he claimed he was cooling off. Randy maneuvered his raft to grab the Thrill Seeker kayak, and followed a small floating and diving piece of gear a ways down the river, to finally snag it...a camp shower! There was plenty of room at our camp, which includes a shallow pool, where we parked the kayaks. The shallow water had heated up in the warm sun. I had thrown in a big block of dark chocolate in my clothes bag at the last minute and it melted all over my clothes, so the warm pools assisted me in rinsing the chocolate out with Dr. Bronner's. I did lick off as much of the chocolate as possible and now swear to always put chocolate in a plastic bag in a cooler in the future! With the sun beating down on us, we were turning into raisins quickly. Brennan is a big believer in coconut oil and if it wasn't for him, we would all be prunes. That stuff is awesome for the skin, especially sun burned



skin. We did put up a sun tarp too. Yes, it took all 11 of us to get it to stay right.

Day 3 first thing in the morning, Brennan and Jim hike back to some hot springs. We floated through Chalk Basin and scouted Whistling Bird Rapid, which has the main current of water heading into a dead end cave. Staying left was done easily at this water level. At our camp, just below Whistling Bird rapid we saw several rattlesnakes, a gopher snake, a scorpion and a big rock full of agates.

Day 4 was a layover day. We had fresh biscuits and

gravy for breakfast, yum. Most of us went out for a hike, up and down hills covered in soft, maroon rye grass. Some went higher and farther than others, and the dogs loved it! Brennan organized a "water collection" trip... we paddled a raft and a kayak upstream, with 7 of us, to a wall that had water dripping from it. Then we held some containers to collect the drips. After that, we dumped the water into a jug, attached an in-line filter and let it filter into a second jug. I am guessing he saw this technique on *Survivors*!! We did have 2 engineers with us who suggested we use our dish pans to collect drips A LOT quicker. So, someone kayaked back to camp to get them and Randy headed off to a small pool to collect water











there. It was a time consuming project...there was beer involved and Shawn got to see a ground squirrel swim all the way across the river. The squirrel was exhausted by the time he reached the bank and let Shawn scratch his head before he laid to rest in the tall grass. Back at camp, dinner was delicious, though there was a rain storm as it was being prepared.

Day 5 we stopped to check out some petroglyphs and had a stop at Greeley Bar Hot Springs along the route. We ran the main rapids in Iron Point Canyon. Somewhere, { Montgomery Rapid?} Brennan managed to stop his raft on a rock in the middle of a rapid and Shawn popped right out...just like there was an ejection seat! Shawn and his paddle were rescued, but

not his hat. Near Montgomery Rapid, vertical walls of rhyolite rise 1400 feet to Iron Point...fabulous! After we ran the last rapids of the day, we stopped to get water at Rhinehart Falls, with the assist of a kayaker paddling right up to it. We camped at Pothole Arch. As the sun set, there was a great wind and rain storm that included thunder and lightning! Some gorgeous photos were taken of the setting sun as it glowed on the hills and the beautiful clouds.

Day 6 was our second layover day and we hiked up to Pothole Arch. As you walk through the arch, you enter into a circle of tall walls of rock...so, it is like being in the center of a rock! More rattlers hiding under rocks along the path. Some folks hiked farther up,





some down and some upstream. We appreciated the lovely assortment of wild flowers....wild rose, Indian Paintbrush, wild yellow daisies and some unidentified flowers of orange, purple and blue, and white. We saw some birds floating on the wind currents...guessing they were Canadian geese...Shawn clarified that they were pelicans that live down on the lake. They were beautiful as they didn't flap their wings at all, just cruising around, enjoying the updrafts. We had another rain and wind storm that evening at sunset, with more lightning and thunder.

Day 7 we were packed up and ready to go by 9:30. We had about 20 miles to go to take out at Leslie Gulch. There were tiny riffles and more great big rocks of every shape, color and size on the way. When the current stopped, we tied all the rafts to Jim's catboat, 2 by 2, and deflated the kayaks, as we hoped the outboard motor

we brought was strong enough for our flotilla. Yes! It worked and we were so grateful to NOT be rowing across the lake. We did stop at a dandy of a hot springs, just a few miles before our takeout. Someone spent some time, money and love to build them...sweet! You could easily flush out the old water and refill with fresh hot water.

It was a great trip, with yummy food and nice folks, good water levels and very nice weather. Thanks to Jared for all of his time and energy organizing the trip!

**-Randy and Nancy**





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WRRR members can receive a 15% discount on any OS Systems surface water product, including drysuits, drysuit options and upgrades including custom sizing charges, undergarments, and accessories. This will not apply to drysuits made for other uses, to repair parts or to repair services. Visit <http://ossystems.com/> for info

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
Apr 2nd	Shang-ri-la Cleanup	II	WRRR Board
Apr 17th	FLIP PRACTICE Vasa Park	III	WRRR Board
Apr 30th	GREEN RIVER CLEANUP	IV	WRRR Board
Jun 2nd - 5th	BOB JOHNSON MEMORIAL WENATCHEE RENDEZVOUS	III	WRRR Board
Jun 25th	SAUK SUMMER OVERNIGHTER	III+	WRRR Board
July 16th - 17th	WHITE SALMON RETREAT	III+	WRRR Board
July 16th - 23rd	HELL'S CANYON to Heller Bar	III-IV	Greg Mohler g8014@hotmail.com
Aug 11th - 14th	CAREY BERGER MEMORIAL SKAGIT POKER RUN	II+	WRRR Board
Sep 17th - 18th	TIETON RALLY	III	WRRR Board

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