

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WASHINGTON RECREATIONAL RIVER RUNNERS



the Waterlog

OCT 2016

2017 Board Candidates

Wild & Scenic Rogue

Lower Rogue

Low water, slow water at Blossom Bar

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) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ 2nd Phone _____

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:
Washington Recreational River Runners
PMB 501
330 SW 43rd ST. Ste K
Renton, WA 98057

*Journal of Self-Serving Statistics, June 2009

WRRR 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Rebecca Post
repo461@yahoo.com

VP FINANCE

David Elliott
dce@dccl.com

VP BUSINESS

Adam Schierenbeck
adam.schierenbeck@gmail.com

VP RIVER OPS

Brennan Filippini
brenan@plasteringplus.com

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Nancy Douty
425-413-0948

Jared Cook
jwcook84@gmail.com

Matt McCormick
mmccormick64@hotmail.com

Joe Koncikowski
joe@luckydogglass.com

Jason Cohen
(206) 8909645
duderight@hotmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

CHAIR/Rebecca Post **MEMBERSHIP**/Joe Koncikowski **T-SHIRTS**/Rebecca Post **Programs**/Nancy Douty
RIVER WATCH/Brennan Filippini **COMMUNICATIONS**/David Elliott **THE WATERLOG**/Brian Vogt

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

2017 Board Elections

Your ballot for the 2017 WRRR Board of Directors should be in your email inbox. Please take the time to vote. Even though the candidates are running unopposed, it still helps the Board to receive your votes.

Candidates:

President: Rebecca Post

Rebecca is the current President of WRRR. She has served on the board as VP of Finance and Director-At-Large.

VP River Ops: Jared Cook

Jared has been a Director-At-Large for for the past two year.

VP Business: Brenan Filippini

Brenan has served on the board for 6 years and has held the offices of VP River Ops and VP Finance.

VP Finance: David Elliott

David is the current VP Finance and has served as President, VP Finance, and Director-At-Large.

Directors-At-Large:

Nancy Douty - Nancy has served on the board for 20 years and has served as President, VP Finance, VP Business, and

Joe Koncikowski - Joe is a current Director-At-Large

Shawn Cadigen - Shawn has been a WRRR member for 9 years.

Scott Kristianson - Scott has been a WRRR member for 2 years.

Mark McGraw - Mark has been a WRRR member for 6 years.

2017 IK/Rower's Progression



The WRRR Progression is a set of river trips to help boaters learn and re-learn skills. Veteran boaters help with setting up your boat, teach safety signals and techniques, and give you the benefit of their experience on local rivers. You will progress from easy to hard over a series of trips.

Below is a tentative list of Progression trips for 2017. These are subject to change based on flows and weather, so make sure you are watching the web site, Facebook group, or WRRR forums for details.

Sunday, Jan 1st Cedar River (New years float) class 2

Sunday, Feb 19, Upper Tilton after Tilton Trek. Class 2

Saturday, Mar 4th. Sauk Clear creek to mill. Class 2+/3-

Saturday, Mar 18th. Nisqually. Class 3-

Saturday, Apr 22nd. Wenatchee. Class 3

Sunday, Apr 23rd. Flip practice at Lake sammamish Class 1

Sunday, May 7th. Green river day after cleanup (Shangri-La to Flaming Geyser class 3/3+)

WRRR membership is not required for the Progression events, but we do encourage you to join WRRR when taking advantage of these trips.

Wild & Scenic Rogue



The first fall trip of the year, and it was a blast! 12 of us launched sept 21st to kick off the fall and another 365 day boating season. 6 more souls (4 peeps and 2 k9s) added to the trip on the 22nd, but boy did they miss out on our first day. What I affectionately call day 0! The big rapids always stick out on the drive down and cause worry! Argo Rifle, Battle Bar Rifle and of course China Gulch!!! (Bill knows what I am talking about here!) Most people worry about Mule Creek or Blossom Bar, but not the pink paddle team!

Most of the group cautiously packed and strapped their boats for the whitewater ahead, prior to launching from Almeda bar. We were almost one of them. Shortly into our trip (2 miles) launching from Almeda bar where we camped, our raft magnetized itself on Argo Rock, in one of the biggest class 2- rapids I have ever seen: Argo Riffle! Thankfully we were running "light" this year otherwise who knows how long we would have been there.

After repeating "golly, shucks" a few times, and some pictures from others in our group, we got to work freeing the poor blue raft. (It probably didn't help that we talked about selling it and getting a newer model about 5 minutes prior!!) I am guessing it took about

1.5 hours to undock from the rock, but we weren't really counting.

Luckily with extensive training and practice, we all knew just what to do. On my first attempt to rig a pull line, I wrapped my throwline around what I thought was the frame and tossed it to shore. Turns out that frames and spare oars feel the same when underwater. The shore haul team pulled the spare oar free breaking a 1.5" strap!!! Wow these guys are strong! Haha, good news is we have 2 spare oars, and they are tethered in so no loss there. With the oar out of the way, I attached our second throwline to the frame and we now had a pull line. We goofed around changing angles and got the boat to move a little, but it was clear we would need more leverage. After several attempts, it was time for the static haul line and z drag. Training kicked in, we pulled the messenger line and I swam it to shore. After some planning with Kim and Shawn, we knew where to hook it up once we had the haul line undone from the messenger line. The rest of the trip team pitched in and we pulled and pulled. Shortly thereafter we had Shawn beat the "bass drum" (He timed his bouncing in syncopation with the shoreline haul team to get weight off the bow of the boat and we peeled the boat upstream and towards river left) for a



proper rhythm and we started making headway. After a few more pics, blisters, and grunts from the shore haul line team, we were free. Thankfully we were able to harmlessly let the raft park in an eddy and reload/strap things down.

After accessing the carnage the raft came out unscathed. It seems just our egos had been beat down once again, as well as some water bottles where sleeves had broken and floated free! It turns out we had lost a beer bag, because one of our cam straps had come undone slipping through the buckle! Luckily Jason had seen the suitcase floating and grabbed it. Whew!

With all this past us we could move on. We had a leisurely float down to Graves Creek, until I had read the guide book and saw how many riffles were coming up the next day. Yikes! We had a manageable number of boats at Rainie falls so that went well. We also got to see one of our own, Jason Cohen run the main falls! It was his first class V Gear boat run and he nailed it!!!

The rest of the trip was grand! Last year, Jason had a great idea to add a day and do an extra layover. Well it turned out to be ingenious. 4 of us hiked up to the fish ladder on the next day groups "day 1" to help them down the fish ladder. We caught rides in their rafts for the mile back to camp.

For the entire trip, We had great meals and tons of fun! All but one day was sunny and warm. In fact, The last 2 days were at least 95 degrees! This was quite a welcome temperature for late September and our last layover day. We camped at Upper whiskey creek, Missouri bar, and Solitude. On our last layover day, the superhero themed crew got to hit tate creek waterslide again. Our last day was a nice sunny row out with all the vehicles eagerly awaiting at the end.

We look forward to next years trip with more details at the Jan general membership meeting!

-Brenan Filippini



Floating the Lower Rogue



So have you ever had that sinking feeling at the end of an extended trip that you are leaving the river and that wonderful flow of the daily routine and the rapids and the wildlife and the...well, you know. Your trip is ending and you are mourning the loss of adventure that lies ahead. I suppose there are some people that are seriously relieved to be done with the anxiety of the rapids or the schlepping of the gear. But I have always wanted my trips to go on. This September I was able to do just that. I was fortunate enough to get my Rogue permit for the Wild and Scenic section for the WRRR trip with a launch date of September 22nd. I have a couple of friends that couldn't make the time commitment for that trip but wanted to get out on the river. So they agreed to meet me at Foster Bar and we would continue down stream.

When I have driven off the Rogue and looked down at the section just below Foster I have always seen Little Wildcat and Twomile rapids and thought they would be fun. How fun to actually get on them. We did a little research using Matt Leidecker's, *The Rogue River - A Comprehensive Guide*. We knew the water level would be low and the proximity to the coast would bring stronger upstream winds so we took it to heart when the book recommended Lobster Creek as the last practical take out for a raft. So our plan was to do an additional two nights on the river. It turns out that one friend arrived

late so we got a later than anticipated start and we then took three nights to do the 22 miles from Foster Bar to Lobster Creek.

I had a raft rolled in the van which was waiting at Foster Bar. I got an early start Monday morning from Upper Solitude camp with the WRRR gang and pushed all through the slack water of Clay Hill Stillwater. There were a pair of bald eagles perched in the trees on river left and I saw a great blue heron very high in the trees on river right. It was a nice morning. We (me and the pooches) arrived at Foster around 10:45 in the morning. My friend Tami was there waiting and filled me in on the news that Deb was going to be late. So we took our time inflating and rigging the second raft and the headed down with both rigs to Lobster Creek. The drive is about 50 minutes. Tami had befriended the Camp Host at Lobster who told her we could park our rig next to his RV. He wasn't there when we arrived but campsite #1 was open and it was right next to his rig. We anticipated the three nights so we just paid the \$10 a night for three nights. We took the dogs down to the river for a swim and when we got back up the hill Deb had called to say she was 20 minutes north of Gold Beach. So we contacted her and she met us at Lobster Creek. Finally with

everyone's gear in one rig we drove back up to Foster. It was a quick final rig and we pushed off around 3:30 in the afternoon. We pulled off on river left at Old Duggins camp, about a mile and a quarter down from Foster. It was perfect. Sand beach for the kitchen, gravelly places for tents and a grassy hillside for dogs to romp. There were plenty of blackberries up there too so we had a discussion about bears and using the bear spray, which I had remembered to grab from my van.

The stars were amazing, as they had been on the upper section. There was a small riffle that lulled us off to sleep. Except my friend Tami who kept going over how to use the bear spray and listened hard to figure out if that was really a bear she was hearing splashing in the water. She finally decided that if it was a bear, she probably would not be having any difficulty hearing it since it wouldn't be sneaking around camp.

We woke to a fine morning. "ZOOM!" After launching we were passed by large passenger jet boats heading upstream. Jerry's are the red boats and Mailboats are the blue ones. They seem like they can hold thirty or more passengers. Like Kimmie had said when we were at Solitude Camp upstream, it's like a whale watching tour, only we, the rafters, are the whales. Of course my boat is a spectacle since I now have three dogs lounging on the cargo piles as well as my friend with beautiful long blond hair. Yep, all cameras turned our way. Every day we saw 2 full boats from Jerry's and 2 full boats from Mailboats. It is pretty fun to watch them negotiate the low water riffles at top speed. But they are noisy and they do throw large wakes which can be annoying. They all did slow down when they saw us camped with rafts tied to shore though which was nice. Other private jet boats zipped by and let their wakes wash up on the beaches with abandon.

We rowed 8 miles on this day through very pretty country. Landmarks of note were the Coon Rock Bridge, Lower Shasta Costa riffle, the town of Agness, the confluence with the Illinois River, and Copper Canyon. The guide book says right to left move at Shasta Costa riffle for good reason and we found ourselves really wanting to be further left near the bottom. There are several fishing lodges in Agness and they all have their own

fleet of little motorized fishing boats. The day was beautiful with some occasional winds that would bluster up and blow amber leaves off the deciduous trees, up into climbing spirals and then end, leaving the leaves to flutter down to the water like confetti. Copper Canyon has some tremendous headwalls with smooth black rocks all covered in moss and ferns.

Deb is recovering from knee surgery and she kept pointing out potential camps at Upper and Lower Smithers that has some sand at the base for a good kitchen spot but the rest of the bar turned to cobbles. I kept telling her to wait because the guide book claimed the best sand beach was ahead at Copper Canyon camp. I crossed my fingers that this was still so. As we came around the rock wall that ends Copper Canyon, I could only see boulders. But there, tucked behind the steep cliff on the right was the most wonderful beach of dark, coarse grained sand. It was perfect. Our own paradise. No cobbles to stub toes on. A perfect "Fish Stick" beach. (A game I learned from Jason Cohen on the earlier trip. You swim and then roll sideways down a sandy hill and coat yourself like a fish stick). The water here was perfectly swimmable with the current pretty slow. We lounged on paco pads and waved at passing boats. The wind came up in the afternoon and we all helped each other set our tents up. The dogs soon discovered the toilet paper and poop at the back of the sandbar. Our groover was set up downstream in a perfect spot hidden from camp by boulders. I can only assume this disgusting impact is from fishermen, since that was the only other traffic we saw on the river. The sunset from here was amazing.

Looking at the guidebook we saw plenty of named riffles ahead. But in reality only about half of them have any gradient. We launched early enough in the morning but winds started hitting us before noon. Little Canyon was a spectacular place with wonderful geology at the river level. Smooth black rocks were shot through with white quartz in swirling roadmap patterns. We had lunch at Racheal's Delight rifle. The wind picked up and it was a decent slog to Quosatana Creek. There was a slack water pool through Skookumhouse Canyon. And making that turn allowed for more wind to get at us. We pushed all the way to Quosatana Creek



camp. There were 4x4 tracks all along the beach there and after unloading our gear an SUV drove by us to park at the end of the bar for about an hour.

Quosatana Creek comes in downstream of the boat ramp and creates a very large cobble bar. There was plenty of room for the dogs to run and we pitched our tents on the high ground - about 6 feet off the water, in sandy patches in the cobble. We had rowed almost eleven miles this day, the last six with upstream winds of varying speeds. We did discuss the possibility of pulling out here and hitch hiking down to Lobsters to get our rigs. But we stayed with our plan, hoping for an early start for the last three miles.

When we arrived at Lobster Creek the following morning, the US Forest Service was working with a private contractor to dredge the in-water portion of the boat ramp. De-rigging was completed with the sound of a large excavator

working twenty feet away. They wanted us off the ramp as soon as possible even though we de-rigged upstream of the concrete ramp. So we powered out the gear work and get out of their way as soon as possible.

We concluded that next time we would probably take out at Quosatana Creek. We thought the trip well worth doing if you can tolerate the jet boats and fishermen. There were good campsites as listed in the guidebook for the upper section. As we got lower the land ownership becomes more private so ideal places are harder to find. But our camp at Copper Canyon was fantastic and one I will not soon forget.

- Rebecca Post





OS SYSTEMS

503-543-3126 WWW.OSSYSTEMS.COM INFO@OSSYSTEMS.COM



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
JAN 1st	HANGOVER FLOAT Cedar River	II	WRRR Board
FEB 18th	TILTON TREK	IV	WRRR Board
APR 23rd	FLIP PRACTICE	II	WRRR Board
MAY 6th	GREEN RIVER CLEANUP	III-IV	WRRR Board
MAY 20th	CLACKAMAS WW FESTIVAL	III-IV	WRRR Board
JUN 1st	BOB JOHNSON MEMORIAL WENATCHEE RENDEZVOUS	III	WRRR Board
JUN 24th	SAUK SUMMER OVERNIGHTER	III	WRRR Board

RIVER BOOTY.com



MADCATR

MADCATR CREATIONS - CUSTOM FABRICATION

CUSTOM FABRICATED STAINLESS STEEL AND ALUMINUM
RAFTING & RIVER EQUIPMENT

DAVID NISSEN

Designer - Fabricator - River Rat

madcatr.com

madcatr@aol.com

Phone: 509.588.4082 |
509.947.1862 (Cell) 509.832.1105 (Truck)
PO Box 5013 Benton City, WA 99320



Rowing Frames

Dryboxes/Kitchen Boxes

Fold Down Oar Towers

Cargo Modules

Specialized Gear



Idyllic summer floating on the Rogue

WASHINGTON RECREATIONAL RIVER RUNNERS
PMB 501
330 SW 43rd ST. Ste K
Renton, WA 98057

