

The Oregon Whitewater Association brings private boaters together for the enjoyment of whitewater boating. Our vision is to promote whitewater safety and training for all of our membership in an effort to provide safety awareness and confidence when executing river rescue skills. OWA is the community of choice where fun and river adventures thrive and where people and rivers connect.



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## Chetco River Expedition 2013

By Zach Collier

We are proud to be home from the first commercial trip down the Chetco River in over a decade. Before the Biscuit Fire in 2002 Allen Wilson ran trips down the Chetco, and this spring NWRC was issued a permit to follow in his footsteps.

Our trip started at the Babyfoot Lake Trailhead on the eastern edge of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. We were all thankful that the Siskiyou Mountain Club had spent the past few years clearing this section of downed trees that had fallen after the Biscuit Fire.

The hike went well and we were all in awe of the contrast of the burnt trees, lush foliage, and spectacular diversity of wildflowers. There was a slight drizzle and cloudy skies, which made hiking pleasant, although we missed some of the big views of the South Kalmiopsis.

*Continued on page 4*

### October Club Meeting

**Flying Pie Pizza**  
 7804 SE Stark Street  
 Portland, OR 97215

**Wednesday,  
 October 9, 2013  
 from 6:00-8:30 PM**

### Guest Speaker Dan Hudson:

*Rafter, Rescue III Swiftwater instructor, FEMA Deputy Plans Chief, and Pierce County Sheriff's Deputy.*

# Contact Information



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<http://www.OregonWhitewater.org>

## RIVER TIP

### Boat Ladders

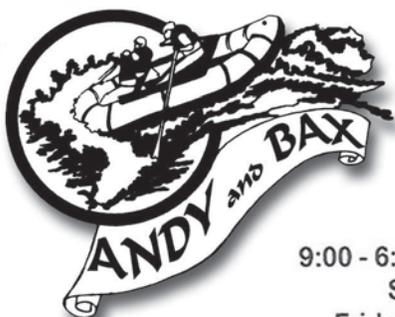
Submitted by Tom Hanson

When you put your foot on the bottom rung of a raft ladder, the ladder curls under the tube making it impossible to climb the remaining rungs. The trick is to stand vertical after you put your foot on the bottom rung. This pushes the ladder straight down or slightly to the rear. You can then climb in. And yes, this takes practice.

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## Looks like rafting season is here!

by *Bruce Ripley*

Club Members,

If you've looked outside over the last month you might have noticed that Mother Nature seems to think its November. If the predictions hold true the Portland area will have eclipsed the 1986 rainfall record of 4.3 inches by the time you see this. That points to being able to run some of the local rivers earlier than in most years. Just remember after the first couple storms of the season things tend to move around. Things of course can be defined as rocks, trees, hillsides, etc... so stay alert just in case you run into a new hazard.

The OWA Wilderness First Aid course was held the last weekend of September and by all accounts was a great success. It was a little wetter than everyone expected, but it didn't seem to stop people from learning new, valuable skills. One comment I heard from many participants is how different this class is from a regular first aid class. The main difference being the perspective that no one else is coming to help you out, you need to figure out what to do on your own.

That's the thing about first aid and safety training, the majority of what you learn is how to help out fellow boaters much more than yourself. I just want to say thanks for taking the time to be there to all those that instructed, assisted, or the 40 or so that participated. In case you missed it and don't want to wait until next September REI offers the same course for \$250, so if you wonder what the benefits are to belonging to the club I don't think you need to look much further.

Sometime in October we will be sending out a short survey to members to gauge how the club is doing and where we should focus our resources moving forward. Look for that in your email, and please take a few minutes to fill it out. We'll take that info and use it to develop a plan for next year's activities, so if you think we're doing a great job, have a new idea, or want us to change some things please tell us! It's YOUR CLUB!

### *Thinking Safely*

One of the more interesting things about taking a safety or training class is learning about new advancements.

Each time you refresh your skills you not only get a little more familiar with what to do in an emergency but you also get to learn about changes to recommended treatments, or approaches to a situation.

One example from the recent WFA course had to do with repositioning a patient. Newer recommendations suggest that once you've made an initial assessment that you move them to a stable position for a more complete assessment.

### **OWA October Meeting**

Our next meeting is at Flying Pie pizza on Wednesday October 9th. Our speaker will be Dan Hudson who is rafter, Rescue III Swiftwater instructor, FEMA Deputy Plans Chief, and Pierce County Sheriff's Deputy.

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# Chetco River Expedition



## ***Chetco River Expedition Continued from page 1***

We stopped for lunch at the section of green trees about 3 miles in. Then we took a break at the beginning of the big downhill just after the Bailey Cabin site.

We camped our first night at the confluence with Carter Creek, where we put in the next morning. The water was low, so it took most of the day to get from Carter Creek to Slide Creek having to drag our boats over some of the rapids. We stopped for an awesome hike up a side creek on river left that I'm going to call Magic Creek. That night we camped at the Slide Creek camp.

The next day was long. We started with the two-mile upper gorge between Slide Creek and Granite Creek. The first rapid had a rock in the middle and most everyone wrapped their boats, which was a foreboding sign. The next rapid was intimidating since it had a long entrance and a big drop at the bottom, but we all had great lines. In this upper gorge we probably ran half the rapids and either lined or portaged the other half. Teamwork was critical, and we got into a great rhythm and worked well together. Even though we didn't run all of the rapids, everyone had a great attitude and we had a great time.

We had lunch at Granite Creek and celebrated a beautiful morning in the wilderness before paddling to Taggarts Bar. Below there, the gradient eased up and we made good time downstream. We stopped for about an hour at Box Canyon Creek while a few of us took a nap and a few of us had a great hike up the creek.

A mile or so after Box Canyon Creek, we arrived at a nice camp on the left just above Chetco Bar around 5-ish. We lost sunlight soon after because the canyon walls were so steep. There was a creek 100 feet downstream that we're calling Spencer Creek, since Adam Spencer explored it and found a cool 20 foot waterfall. We also watched a bear come down the creek and head downstream away from us.

The third day on the water was probably everyone's favorite. The geology changed to be more like the Rogue, Illinois, and Smith River with cool metamorphic rocks and distinct rapids that we were able to run because the river flow was higher. We got into a great rhythm as we made our way downriver. We stopped for lunch at Tin Cup Creek where J.R., Ryan, and Spencer hiked up a ways and reported it being awesome.



All photos by Northwest Rafting Co.



The 2 miles below Tin Cup Creek had some great rapids and some beautiful geology. It was getting late so we were a little rushed but this was my favorite part of the river.

On our last night we camped at Boulder Creek which is probably the best camp on the river. It had a big beach, great views of the river, and great hiking options. I took a nice hike up Boulder Creek, which I hope to come back and kayak someday.

The next morning we woke up to a little rain and had a lazy morning. We put in around 11 AM and had a few great rapids to negotiate in the final few miles before our take out at Tollman Ranch. It was great to introduce a few new people to this amazing place and share another great experience on the Chetco!

# Colorado Flood Response



## Colorado River Flood Response September 13, 2013 By Dan Hudson

I suppose when the phone rang just after midnight on Friday the 13th, it could only be a work call. I had been monitoring the Colorado flood incident with my FEMA friends. There was a bit of chatter going on over the rain and flooding, but we all thought we were not going to get “the call”. When disasters happen around the country – we usually text or call our overhead management team partners – it’s what we do. We are always packed and ready to go at a moment’s notice and we are always scanning the news reports in anticipation of something big. You know the “Type A” people out in the world; well -we are really the Type A++ crowd – adrenaline seeking rescue junkies at their best.



My normal ‘chatter’ buddies are Giovanni – a deputy fire marshal from Miami Fire, Keith - a Fire Battalion Chief from Salt Lake City, and Dave aka “Slide Rule” a structural engineer from Columbia Missouri. Our team (27 from across the USA) is called the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue White Incident Support Team. There are three such management teams for the FEMA US&R program (Red, White, and Blue). We are similar to a Type II Incident Management Team – for those in the know about incident management, and we rotate on-call every month for response to disasters around the country. Our team is set up to assist and support local government and incident management teams with the use and application of Federal Urban Search and Rescue Task forces.



This call was of course for a response to Denver Colorado for the Floods – initially identified in FEMA circles as “Lyons Colorado Flood Incident.” By 6:00 a.m. I was airborne with 2 of my Washington team mates from the White IST and headed to Denver. We arrived at 9:20 a.m. and hit the ground assembling our crews and responding to the impact region. We eventually set up at the Boulder Municipal Airport and went to work with the Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team. What followed was 7 days of helicopter deployments and rescues by local and federal crews from the canyons of the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains.

We had great support from the IMT, and also worked heavily with the Colorado Army National Guard and regular Army helicopter crews. One of the most memorable people I worked with was Lt. Colonel Mitch Utterbeck of the Colorado Army National Guard. His daily comments were what legends are made from. One day he said “we all brief our crews to go out and be safe”. He said he knows we do tasks that were really not safe, so his advice to the rescue crews: “So go out and do dangerous shit, but come home safe.” Of course, this piece of daily advice was repeated many times over with glee.

Our tasking by Boulder County Sheriff Joe Pelle was to help evacuate those needing evacuation, to clear all roads we could, to document all damaged structures, to locate all missing, to clear all drainages of trapped persons, and to check and clear all debris piles of human remains or hazardous materials. Daunting tasks, but between all the volunteer SAR resources, fire hotshot crews, Army and Colorado Army National Guard resources, and FEMA US&R teams from Colorado, Nevada, Utah, Missouri, and Nebraska (numbering 70 strong each), we got the tasks done. It was a pleasure to debrief and turn over the incident management with 100% marks in each task by the morning of Saturday September 21st. We also had a contingent in Larimer County with mirror mission requirements, and we finished the missions in Larimer County by the morning of September 22nd.

There were many memorable moments during the evacuations. We evacuated people as well as their pets. The common thread was for each person evacuated – they had at least 2 dogs. One 9 year old boy evacuated with two pet monkeys. A Boulder County Sheriff’s Deputy named Marci went up to engage him in conversation, albeit to see the monkeys. When she asked him where he came from, he replied (with hand on hip and the other pointing over to the runway) “Duh – the helicopter!” Priceless.

I have to close by saying it is a great honor to respond and help nationally on such disasters or incidents. There are a million or more firefighters or police officers who would and could do the job I get to do, I am just the lucky guy who was at the right place at the right time to sign up for the job. This event was the equivalent to a 1000 year flood. The people who were in harm’s way did nothing wrong, it was just something that happened. There were many spontaneous rescues by local resources and untrained folks just lending a hand. Fortunately, the number of deaths was very low, especially in regards to the last similar event in the region when 110 people were killed. The recovery effort is now underway, and local infrastructure will take months if not years to restore to the impacted areas.

Oh, and yes, my bags are repacked ready for the next event. See you at the October Monthly meeting; I get to be the guest speaker!



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## INGREDIENTS

- 1 12 pack small whole wheat tortillas
- 1 batch spiced peanut butter
- 12 bananas
- 6 avocado
- 3/4 cup coconut flakes
- 3/4 cup chocolate morsels



## Peanut Butter Roll Ups

*by Michele Gila*

*These are a great breakfast on the run and kids seems to love them too. They also make a great late time snack for those long nights on the river under the stars.*

## DIRECTIONS

Spiced Peanut Butter:

In advance, make your spiced peanut butter and pack into plastic container. In a bowl mix 1 cup peanut butter with 1/2 cup hot water, 2 Tbs maple syrup, 1 tsp ground cinnamon.

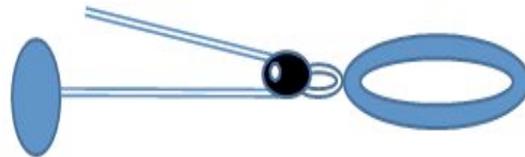
Riverside, mash or chop 1 banana with 1/2 avocado per roll. So if you have 2 people for breakfast, that is 2 bananas and 1 avocado per roll. If you are making all 12 at once, it is roughly 1/2 cup banana mash per roll, depending on the size of your bananas & avocado.

Lay tortilla flat and spread 1 heaping Tablespoonful of spiced peanut butter across tortilla. Spread the banana mash over that (a fork works well). Sprinkle with 1 Tbs coconut flakes and 1 Tbs chocolate. Roll up and eat your breakfast.

Alternative is to serve this late night as a snack. Heat skillet over medium flame lightly coated with veggie oil. Once hot, lay tortilla flat and spread peanut butter, then banana mash, add coconut and chocolate and let heat for about 3 minutes. Remove from pan with spatula and roll up on cutting board. Slice each roll into 4 pieces. Make a bunch for your river companions and you'll surely be invited on the next trip!

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# Knot of the Month

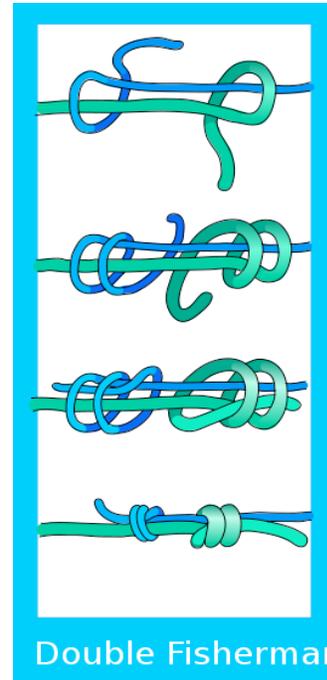
## Knot of the Month - Double Fishermans

### Overview

- Used to form high strength loops from cords
- Tied correctly you will see a double XX on one side and a smooth barrel on the other

### Hints

- Tie the first half on your left side, then flip the knot over and tied the second half exactly the same way. In this way you can easily tie the knot correctly always complete the wraps in the same direction. The tails will come out on opposite sides.



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## October OWA Meeting Speaker *Dan Hudson*

### Topic

Dan Hudson will be talking about rafting safety and how the recreational public, including OWA boaters need to be self reliant, and capable of both self rescue and rescuing others, and the form that takes on the river. In addition Dan will discuss some of his experiences as a FEMA unit coordinator during the most recent disaster in Colorado. He will give us a view into interagency cooperation, how the mission unfolded, the supporting roles each faction of government takes and how delegation of authority works.

### Bio

Dan has been a Law Enforcement Officer from the state of Washington for over 30 years. For collateral assignments, Dan is a Search and Rescue Coordinator for his agency, and a technical team leader. He teaches Search Management, Swiftwater Rescue, Rope Rescue, and Specialized Vehicle Responses. He is a member of the Washington State Urban Search and Rescue Task Force, and also a Deputy Plans Chief on the FEMA Urban Search & Rescue White Incident Support Team. He has responded to national disasters as a manager and rescue technician, including the Northridge Earthquake in 1994, the bombing of the Murray Federal Building in Oklahoma City in 1995, the World Trade Center attacks in 2001, the Shuttle Columbia Recovery Effort in East Texas in 2003, Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne in 2004, Hurricane Katrina New Orleans in 2005, Hurricane Irene in 2011, Hurricanes Sandy and Isaac in 2012 and the recent flooding in Colorado. Dan has been an Instructor for Rescue 3 International since 2004

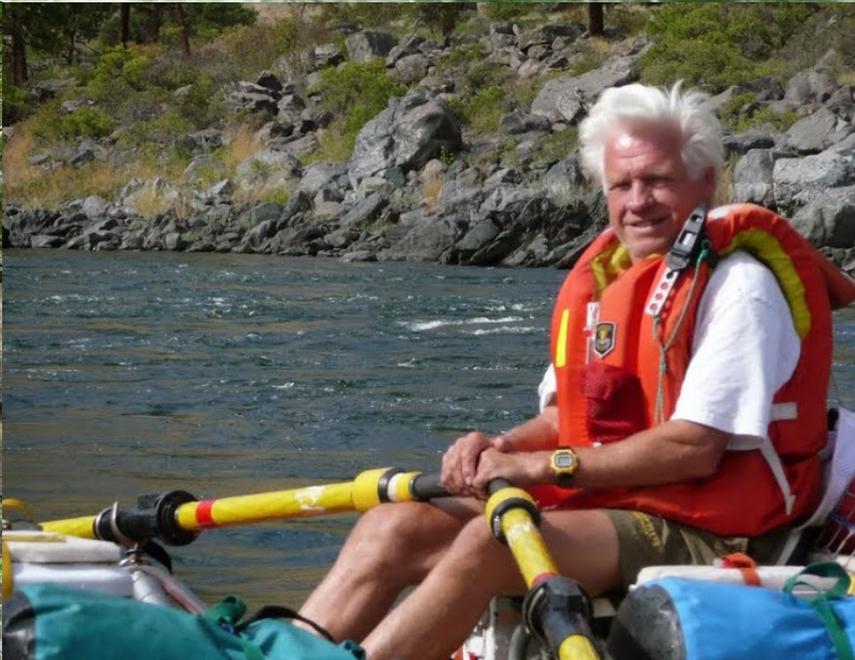
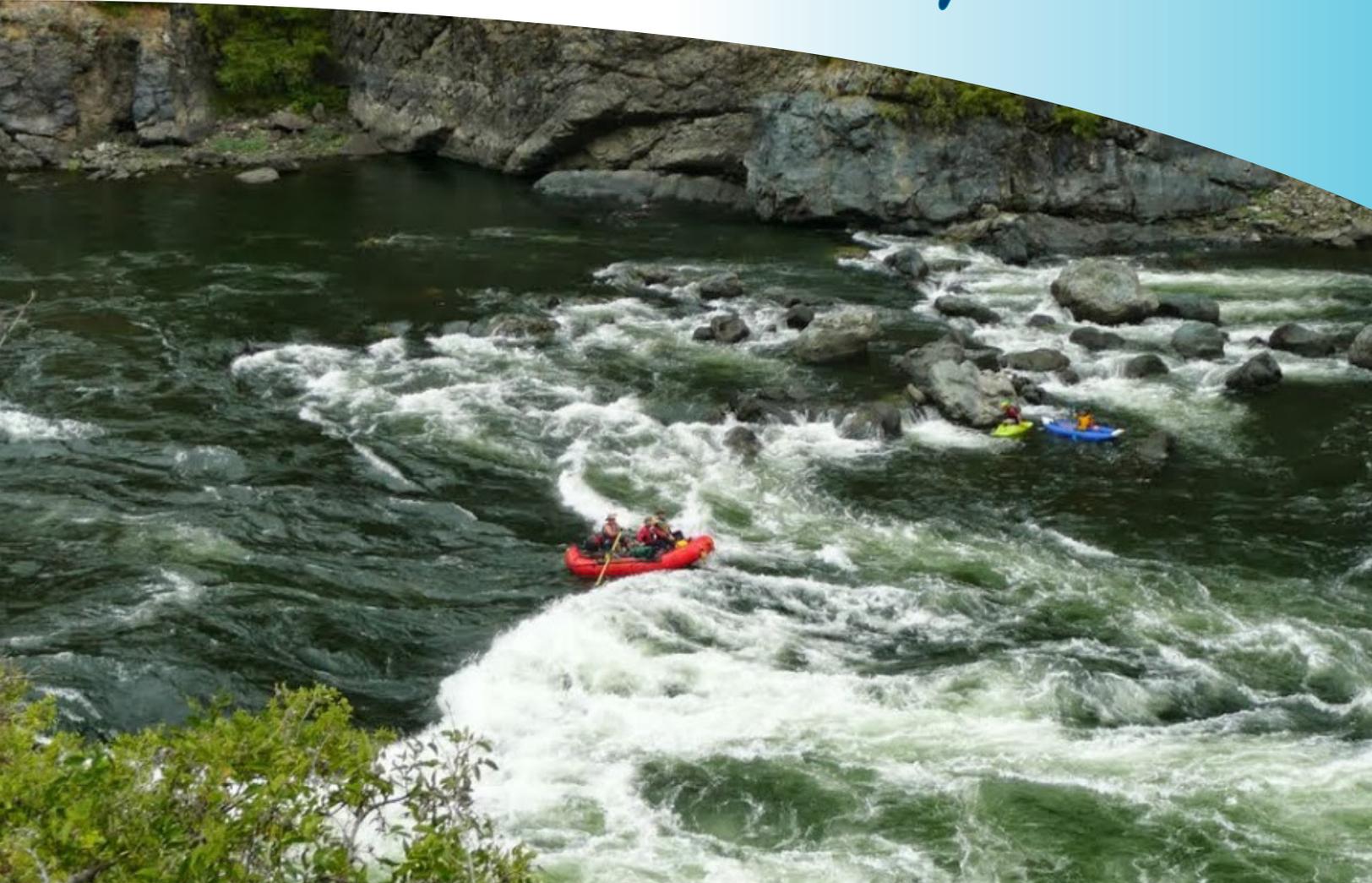
# Hells Canyon Trip



## Hells Canyon Trip September 14, 2013 By Eric Ball

With a mild flow of about 12,000 cfs the annual 3-day OWA Hells Canyon trip from Hells Canyon dam to Pittsburg Landing launched on September 14th and by all accounts was a complete success. The group was organized onto two permits with the first group launching a night early and camped just downstream of the launch and the second group caught up the next day.

In total there were about 12 boats, with participants from Oregon, Washington, and Canada. The trip was not without incident as there was one flip in Upper Bernard Creek rapid (class IV), one swimmer in Wild Sheep (class V), and a thunderstorm at camp with some wind, rain, and lightning. The highlight was a really cool meteor at Kirkwood Ranch camp on the second night. 3 people hiked to Suicide Point, but fortunately no one jumped! The meals were highlighted by a great filet of bass feed at the Kirkwood Ranch camp, hosted by trip leader Mike Moses, who helped catch and cook the fish!





# 2nd Annual Willamette Falls Festival

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October 5-6, 2013



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We Love Clean Rivers  
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For Event Details  
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- Bike Rodeo
- Heritage Parade
- Jetboat Rides
- Industry Tours
- Heritage Trail Tours
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for regularly updated festival information and links to our Partner Events

**Willamette Falls Lock Fest — Oregon City BizFair and HarvestFest**

# Upcoming Trips

Submitted by Pat Barry,  
Trip Editor



Please go to the OWA website for additional details on each trip, [CLICK HERE](#)  
Or go to <http://oregonwhitewater.org/calendar/trip-calendar>

11.9-11 Sat-Mon	<a href="#">Rogue River</a>	III/IV	Scott Ogren	<a href="mailto:scott@scottogren.com">scott@scottogren.com</a>	503-267-9785
1.1 Wed	<a href="#">Sandy River</a>	II/III	Val Shaul	<a href="mailto:val.shaul@frontier.com">val.shaul@frontier.com</a>	503-805-8991

## PAST OWA RAFTING TRIPS

5.25-26 Sat-Sun	<a href="#">Lochsa River</a>	IV/V	Steve Herring	<a href="mailto:steve@raftalot.com">steve@raftalot.com</a>	
5.31-6.1 Fri-Mon	<a href="#">Upper North Umpqua</a>	III/IV	Bill Goss	<a href="mailto:zang@msn.com">zang@msn.com</a>	503-757-465
6.8 Sat	<a href="#">Klickitat River</a>	III/III+	Doug Smith	<a href="mailto:Doug@davidsmithmapping.com">Doug@davidsmithmapping.com</a>	503-232-5285
6.14-16 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Lower Deschutes Annual Women's Trip</a>	II/III	Carol Beatty	<a href="mailto:caroldon1@comcast.net">caroldon1@comcast.net</a>	503-816-6172
6.27-30 Thu-Sun	<a href="#">McKenzie River</a>	III	Brenda Bunce	<a href="mailto:Brenda.bunce@gmail.com">Brenda.bunce@gmail.com</a>	360-931-4224
7.4-6 Thu-Sun	<a href="#">Lower Salmon River</a>	III/IV	Eric and	<a href="mailto:balle@pocketinet.com">balle@pocketinet.com</a>	509-525-6134
9.13-15 Thu-Sun	<a href="#">Tieton River</a>	III+	Brenda Bunce	<a href="mailto:Brenda.bunce@gmail.com">Brenda.bunce@gmail.com</a>	360-931-4224
9.14-16 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Hell's Canyon (Snake River)</a>	III/IV	Mike Moses	<a href="mailto:mtymo_@hotmail.com">mtymo_@hotmail.com</a>	509-240-4220
9.28 Sat	<a href="#">N. Santiam</a>	III	Matt Saucy	<a href="mailto:sawdusty9@yahoo.com">sawdusty9@yahoo.com</a>	971-241-5396

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