



**AW** AMERICAN  
WHITewater

# SUMMER APPEAL <sup>20</sup>/<sub>13</sub>



(Top, left to right)  
No Boating Sign on the Taylor, CO | Photo: Nathan Fey  
Upper Chattooga River (NC, SC, GA) | Photo: Kevin Colburn  
Upper Chattooga River (NC, SC, GA) | Photo: Brian Jacobson  
Yosemite Falls, CA | Photo: Paul Martzen  
(Large photo) Lower Crooked River, OR | Photo: Greg Burke

**We know you love rivers.** And we know you understand how important it is to protect them. American Whitewater is the only national non-profit organization working exclusively to conserve and restore whitewater rivers. Each day, we work to protect free flowing rivers, restore flows to rivers impacted by hydroelectric and water storage projects, and secure access on rivers throughout the country.

Your membership dollars and donations are critical for ensuring that we can continue to protect and expand your ability to access rivers across the country. So far, 2013 has been a much bigger year for our access projects than in the past. This means that your contribution this summer is all the more important for keeping American Whitewater going strong.

What's made 2013 so big? After 15 years of hard work, American Whitewater and our partners successfully restored paddling on the Upper Chattooga River (NC, SC, GA). Paddling is now allowed from December through April when flows exceed 350 cfs on a 15 mile stretch. This decision restores legal paddling on the Upper Chattooga after almost 40 years, and paddlers had great experiences on the river last winter. While a court failed to grant our request for additional access this spring, American Whitewater continues to work to bring responsible and nationally consistent river management to the Upper Chattooga.

American Whitewater is also working with the National Park Service to lift the bans and heavy restrictions on boating on the Wild and Scenic Tuolumne and Merced Rivers in Yosemite National Park. In Oregon, we're working to bring a critical access point into public ownership on the Wild and Scenic Crooked River. In the mid-Atlantic, we're taking advantage of opportunities to improve stream-access laws. And as access issues heat up in Colorado, American Whitewater is representing paddler's interests so that the public's safe access to rivers is protected.

With just eleven staff, American Whitewater is a small organization that leaves a huge footprint in the world of river conservation. We provide excellent value for your contribution, with \$0.85 of every dollar going directly to Stewardship efforts. And, with our third straight 4-Star Rating (the highest possible) from Charity Navigator for our financial practices and transparency, you can be assured that your donation will be put to good use.

Your donation will not only solidify our ability to stay engaged, but also ensure that we will be able to continue to respond to new access challenges that come our way. And, as you'll see inside, we have so much more happening in 2013.

P.O. Box 1540 | Cullowhee, NC 28723 | 1.866.262.8429 | [americanwhitewater.org](http://americanwhitewater.org)



Horseshoe Bend Run on the San Joaquin River, CA | Photo: Paul Martzen



South Fork Sol Duc on the Olympic Peninsula, WA | Photo: Thomas O'Keefe



Ernie's Gorge, WA | Photo: Tom Marley

## AMERICAN WHITEWATER'S BRAND OF STEWARDSHIP

*Our regional approach to river stewardship teams up professional American Whitewater staff with committed volunteers. Together, we work to tackle challenging issues on rivers we all enjoy paddling. Your support of American Whitewater supports the following projects, and many more!*

### NATIONAL

American Whitewater staff take strategic trips to Washington D.C. several times each year to highlight the conservation and river management issues that are most important to paddlers. With your support, we'll continue to talk with lawmakers and agency leaders about protecting the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act from attempts to weaken it, about the importance of including recreationists in the new National Forest planning process, and about a suite of locally-driven conservation proposals like the Rocky Mountain Front Heritage Act (MT), Alpine Lakes Wilderness and Middle Fork Snoqualmie and Pratt Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WA), and the Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WA).

### PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Hydropower developers continue to put pressure on a number of rivers in the Pacific Northwest, threatening special places like Ernie's Gorge on the Snoqualmie and Sunset Falls on the Skykomish. With your donation, we'll keep working to ensure that these and other free-flowing rivers stay that way. We'll also continue to seek federal protections for the treasured Molalla, Rogue, Chetco and John Day Rivers in Oregon, and the stunning rivers of the Olympic Peninsula.

## CALIFORNIA

California's rivers will be flowing throughout the summer of 2013, with a whitewater release scheduled somewhere in the state for every weekend through October! Our work in negotiating hydroelectric licenses has finally paid off with new releases on the Pit and San Joaquin, and ongoing releases on the Mokelumne and North Fork and South Fork Feather Rivers. Our work isn't done yet, and with your support we'll continue to negotiate for flows on additional California rivers throughout 2013.

## INTERMOUNTAIN WEST

American Whitewater has been busy getting a new program up and running in order to define and protect recreational flows in the Gunnison River Basin. On the Dolores River, a new management plan is in place to help enhance streamflows for rafting, and this year we'll be seeking to establish firm enforceable commitments that will provide reliable flows for boating. With your additional support, American Whitewater will quantify stream flows and develop access solutions that enhance the boating experience in the face of unprecedented pressures on water resources in the intermountain west.

## NORTHEAST

American Whitewater's Northeast Program is gaining momentum, where we've already secured recreation releases on Vermont's Missisquoi River for the first time in decades, and dam operators have agreed to study the feasibility of providing whitewater releases and access at Turner's and Bellows Falls on the Connecticut River. This summer and fall, we'll continue to engage in the dam relicensing process to secure releases and improve access throughout the region, including Vermont's Green River and New Hampshire's Contoocook River.



Black Canyon, CO | Photo: Chris Menges



Missisquoi River, VT | Photo: Scott Gilbert

## SOUTHEAST

It's a big year as we celebrate and manage the first releases on the West Fork Tuckasegee and the first full season of releases on the Upper Nantahala. Also on tap are new access areas along the Class I-III main Tuckasegee. Whether you prefer Class II or Class V, 2013 will be a total game changer in the Southeast thanks to your support.

## MID ATLANTIC

Scheduled releases on West Virginia's New River Dries? Great idea! American Whitewater played a key role in successfully requesting flow studies on the Dries, and we'll be working closely with the power company as they implement them this summer and fall. The results will form the basis for the next 2-3 years of negotiations. With your support, we're optimistic that in a few years the New River Dries will no longer be dry!



New River Dries, WV | Photo: Kevin Colburn



West Fork Tuckasegee, NC | Photo: Mark Singleton

# WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please support American Whitewater by making a financial contribution today. Our stewardship projects provide flows for healthy rivers and recreation, and your **tax-deductible** donation will keep our river stewardship program running strong.

If you've received this appeal by mail, everything you need to donate is included.

**Thanks for your support!**



### Online

[americanwhitewater.org/donate](http://americanwhitewater.org/donate)



### Mail

Just fill out the enclosed reply form and return it in the envelope provided.



### Phone

Call us at 1.866.262.8429.