LONG TIME COMING—SUCCESS ON CALIFORNIA’S YUBA/BEAR

AW’S ANNUAL REPORT

PLUS

A FOOL’S ERRAND ON THE RUSSELL FORK
What beer do we drink when we’re done making beer? The one you’re about to enjoy in Shift. Canning this Nelson Sauvin hopped pale lager means everyone gets to reward their work. Or play. Or, if you’re like us, combine the two and surround yourself with drinking buddies. Clock out and crack open a Shift beer.

You’ve earned it.
**COLUMNS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The Journey Ahead</td>
<td>Mark Singleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>News &amp; Notes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>2011 Annual Report</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STEWARDSHIP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Six Years of Effort Yields 50 Years Of Return on the Yuba</td>
<td>Dave Steindorf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Shaping the Future of Flows Through the Grand Canyon</td>
<td>Megan Hooker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>The Feds’ Last Word on the Nanty and Tuck</td>
<td>Kevin Colburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>FERC Lowers the Bar in the Northeast</td>
<td>Kevin Colburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>New River Dries Relicensing</td>
<td>Kevin Colburn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FEATURE ARTICLES**

**How I Got Started**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mission Unaccomplished</td>
<td>Ron Hunt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Creeking**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>From Dreams to Reality</td>
<td>Ian Howells</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Wilderness Paddling**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Solo boating: Cataract Canyon</td>
<td>Christie Glissmeyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>A Selway Story</td>
<td>Gary Barker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Road Trip**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Adventures on the Little River</td>
<td>Scott Puthoff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Whitewater Instruction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Teaching Without Speaking</td>
<td>Brian Mernoff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RIVER STEWARDSHIP: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH

Our mission: “To conserve and restore America’s whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely,” is actively pursued through our conservation, access, safety and education efforts under the umbrella of River Stewardship. The only national organization representing the interest of all whitewater paddlers, American Whitewater is the national voice for thousands of individual whitewater enthusiasts, as well as over 100 local paddling club affiliates. AW’s River Stewardship program adheres to the four goals are accomplished to protect the ecological and scenic values of all whitewater rivers. These goals are accomplished through direct participation in public decision-making processes, grassroots advocacy, coalition building, empowerment of volunteers, public outreach and education, and, when necessary, legal action.

RIVER ACCESS: To assure public access to whitewater rivers pursuant to the guidelines published in its official Access Policy, AW arranges for river access through private lands by negotiation or purchase, seeks to protect the right of public passage on all rivers and streams navigable by kayak or canoe, encourages equitable and responsible management of whitewater rivers on public lands, and works with government agencies and other river users to achieve these goals.

SAFETY: AW promotes paddling safely, publishes reports on whitewater accidents, maintains a uniform national ranking system for whitewater rivers (the International Scale of Whitewater Difficulty) and publishes and disseminates the internationally-recognized American Whitewater Safety Code.

EDUCATION: AW shares information with the general public and the paddling community regarding whitewater rivers, as well as river recreation, conservation, access, and safety. This is accomplished through our bimonthly AW Journal, a monthly e-news, americanwhitewater.org, paddling events, educational events, and through direct communication with the press.

Together, AW staff, members, volunteers, and affiliate clubs can achieve our goals of conserving, protecting and restoring America’s whitewater resources and enhancing opportunities to safely enjoy these wonderful rivers.

AW was incorporated under Missouri nonprofit corporation laws in 1961 and maintains its principal mailing address at PO Box 1540, Cullowhee, NC 28723; phone 1-866-BOAT-4-AW (1-866-262-8429). AW is tax exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Service.
THE JOURNEY AHEAD

The Staff and Board of American Whitewater are using this issue of the American Whitewater Journal to share our 2011 Annual Report with you. At the heart of American Whitewater is river stewardship and the understanding that conservation and recreation are mutually dependent. Time spent paddling forms the basis for a conservation ethic that values water in rivers. Paddlers understand that you cannot love what you don’t know. It’s our love of whitewater that makes us fierce defenders of rivers and their flows. This intimate connection to flowing water has made American Whitewater a driving force in river advocacy for close to 60 years.

In 2011, we added capacity to our river stewardship program by hiring two Stewardship Assistants to provide additional support for projects in California and Colorado. This year, we are adding a new Northeast Stewardship Director. The Northeast Director will represent American Whitewater in strategically selected regional river conservation and access issues. These issues include hydropower project management, public land and river management, community planning / river access, and policy issues that affect the region. This additional bandwidth helps American Whitewater meet increased demands placed on rivers and flows across the country.

Your membership support allows American Whitewater’s River Stewardship Team to work on important projects in their respective regions. Our River Stewardship Team consists of professional Staff supported by Board members and Volunteers from communities across the country. American Whitewater’s regional approach to stewardship work is focused on our mission, “To conserve and restore America’s whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely.”

Few organizations accomplish the same level of results with American Whitewater’s limited resources. Each membership dollar that AW receives is leveraged to generate $5 in total funding directed at supporting river stewardship. The $1 to $5 ratio is achievable because AW is able to attract support from foundations, private donors, advertising opportunities, events, and partnerships. As a result, your membership dollar goes five times as far in the protection of whitewater rivers. We take the financial management of our resources seriously; AW received a Four Star rating from Charity Navigator for the last two years (consecutive 4-star ratings demonstrate ongoing fiscal excellence). Charity Navigator’s confidence in our work confirms that we are on the right track and providing an important service to the whitewater boating community.

As we look to the future, we continue to appreciate the importance of rivers and their role in supporting the health and well-being of the paddling community. We remain committed to giving back to these special places and have a great story to tell right now. Our stewardship projects are making a real difference to rivers and local communities, while providing flows for recreation and habitat. If you are reading this publication and you are not a member, please consider supporting this work. If you are a member, thanks for your support; pass this issue on to a friend and let them know what we are doing. There has never been a better time to support American Whitewater!

See you on the river,

Mark Singleton
Executive Director, American Whitewater
AFTER SIX YEARS, hundreds of meetings and thousands of hours, American Whitewater has successfully negotiated significant improvements for the rivers of the Yuba watershed through the Yuba/Bear Drum-Spalding FERC relicensing process. These improved flows will be in place for the term of the new license, typically 30 to 50 years. The Yuba/Bear Drum-Spaulding project is one of the largest and most complicated hydroelectric projects in the country. Covering an area that is 30% larger than the state of Rhode Island, this project contains 16 powerhouses, 29 reservoirs, and upwards of 50 river reaches. As you can imagine, it took a significant amount of time and energy just to understand the basic plumbing of this project. We all know that these systems are comprised of much more than powerhouses and reservoirs though. The water in the rivers impacted by these dams is diverted across three watersheds for a myriad of uses.

Daunting as the picture may be, we’ve kept our sights on the fact that the rivers affected by this project go beyond the nuances of the plumbing. They also happen to be some of the best opportunities for whitewater kayaking in the state of California. Classic runs such as Highway 49 to Bridgeport and Edwards to Purdons on the South Fork Yuba, and Fordyce Creek, are all staples that give California some of the best paddling in the world. This hydro system also encompasses the high Sierra runs on the Middle Fork Yuba and the upper reaches of the Bear River. During the relicensing process we also discovered many new runs that we had only limited knowledge about before, such as the Class V+ Yuba Gap Run and Canyon Creek.

Evaluating so many reaches in one hydroelectric relicensing process required a different approach in the way we conducted flow studies as compared to other hydro relicensings across California. Working with Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) and Nevada Irrigation District (NID), we devised a plan that allowed us to take on the task of getting information on 15 different reaches. The plan required boaters to fill out online surveys after they had boated each of these reaches at an array of flows. In order for this study to work, we needed to have access to flow information that had previously been unavailable in the Yuba/Bear watershed. We were able to convince PG&E and NID to provide public flow information on 10 new river reaches for the flow studies. In addition to helping us complete this study, this new flow information has been a huge benefit for the boating community. Typically we don’t see results from relicensing negotiations until after the license has been finalized, but on the Yuba-Bear, we were able to achieve this important goal long before we started the process of negotiating flows.
The Yuba/Bear Drum-Spaulding relicensing has been different in other ways too. From the very outset, American Whitewater took the approach that we would advocate for flows on key river reaches that improve how fast flows drop at the end of the spring spill season, a.k.a. the snowmelt recession. We knew from our experience on the Feather River that flows that decrease rapidly during the spring, while frustrating for boaters, can have devastating effects on the ecology of the river. American Whitewater has become an expert and primary advocate for improving snowmelt recession flows on numerous rivers throughout the state. By working with academics and specialists in the resource agencies, we have been able to precisely quantify how fast flows should recede at the end of the spring snowmelt season in order to be protective of biological resources. Because of the support we have cultivated within the resource agencies, we have been able to develop flow conditions that will extend the ramp down to summer base flows by as much as a month. The Middle Yuba, Canyon Creek, and the South Fork Yuba, will all see the benefits of these improved flows in the new license, which will be finalized in 2013.

Last but not least, Fordyce Creek, one of the premier Class V boating reaches in California, will see predictable flows in the early summer. These flows will range from 300 to 475 cfs and last from three weeks to a month. Flows will occur after there is safe access to Fordyce Reservoir, which will typically be in late June or early July.

The outcome of the Yuba/Bear Drum-Spaulding relicensing negotiations is clearly one of the greatest successes American Whitewater has achieved in California. We’ve already gained improvements in access to flow information; more boating days and a healthier river system will come with the new license. Many thanks go out to those who participated in boating flow studies and other parts of this relicensing.

There is one person whose tireless efforts and years of commitment to this project made it possible to achieve our restoration goals for the Yuba River. In the seven years that he worked on this project, Bob Center attended more meetings than any other individual. Aided by his keen intellect and engineering background, Bob understood this very complicated project as well or better than anyone else in the room. Boaters, anglers, swimmers, frogs and hopefully one day salmon, all owe a debt of gratitude to Bob Center for changing the future of the Yuba River.

Zak Quick on Canyon Creek during 2009 flow study releases.
Photo by Ambrose Tuscano
FOR MANY BOATERS, the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon is the ultimate river experience, not only because of its highly sought after whitewater, but also for its stunning scenery, the wilderness experience it provides, and the Canyon’s culture and history. Close to 24,000 visitors travel from around the world each year to run the river, and most who have made the trip in recent decades likely know that the river is not what it once was. Since 1963, the flows of the muddy Colorado have been tamed by Glen Canyon Dam.

This year, the public will have a chance to shape the future of the flows of the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon for the first time since 1996. Late last year, the Bureau of Reclamation and the National Park Service put out a call for scoping comments for their Long Term Experimental and Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement for the operation of Glen Canyon Dam (LTEMP EIS, for short). This process will influence the flows and environment of the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon for the next 15 to 20 years.

One of the primary impacts that Glen Canyon Dam has on the Colorado is turning the river’s once warm and muddy reddish brown waters into a cool, clear, bluish green ribbon that stands in stark contrast to the surrounding red rock walls. Glen Canyon Dam traps all of the river’s sediment load behind it each year, and predictions for when Lake Powell will fill up and become a mucky mess range anywhere from 100 to 700 years down the line. In the immediate future, the sediment starved waters downstream of the dam have a huge impact on the beaches throughout the canyon, which serve as critical habitat for native species, provide protection for fragile archeological artifacts, and offer a spot for river rats to lay gazing at the panorama of the night sky. Today, with about 90% of the historic sediment levels in the river gone (some still comes in from downstream tributaries like the Little Colorado and Paria), the riparian ecosystem of the Canyon is hurting.

Since 1996, three experimental floods below Glen Canyon Dam have taken place to allow scientists to study the effects of high flows on sediment distribution and beach building in the Canyon. While the floods proved to be beneficial, fluctuating flows in the interim quickly eroded the beaches that had been built. Studies show that flooding is most beneficial when implemented immediately after a large influx of sediment from downstream tributaries. American Whitewater would like to see more beach building flows studied in the future, with recreational safety in mind.

Like most water in the west, the management of the river and the operation of Glen Canyon Dam are wrought with opposing visions of what the future should bring. Scoping comments focused on water...
resources, recreation, sediment, aquatic species, tribal and cultural resources, and more; ideas for alternatives ranged from seeing a “Grand Canyon First!” alternative, to focusing primarily on ways to maximize hydropower production. Some propose that the LTEMP EIS be founded with the principles of the Grand Canyon Protection Act of 1996 as guides, ensuring that Glen Canyon Dam be operated “in such a manner as to protect, mitigate adverse impacts to, and improve the values for which Grand Canyon National Park and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area were established, including, but not limited to natural and cultural resources and visitor use.” Others believe the focus should harken back to the days of 1956 and the Colorado River Storage Protection Act. Most agree, however, that adaptively managing dam operations over the next 15 to 20 years is preferable to getting locked into a single flow regime, and that using sound science to guide management decisions is of the utmost importance.

As the agencies grapple with balancing hydropower, water storage, recreation, environment, and cultural resources, American Whitewater joined with Grand Canyon River Guides, Grand Canyon River Runners Association, Grand Canyon River Outfitters Association, and Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association in providing LTEMP scoping comments earlier this year. We want to see flows relating to water supply and hydropower implemented in a way that supports, protects and, when possible, restores the downstream values of the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon.

Public involvement is key to this process. Whether you’ve been lucky enough to experience the Grand Canyon by way of the Colorado River, hope to one day, or simply care about the health of this iconic national treasure, staying involved is important. Watch for updates from American Whitewater, or better yet, sign yourself up to receive updates directly from the LTEMP team by going to http://ltempes.anl.gov.

B ack in 2003 when we signed the settlement agreements on the relicensing of multiple dams in the Tuckasegee and Nantahala watersheds it seemed like releases and new access areas were just around the corner. We celebrated. Then the removal of Dillsboro Dam got balled up in the courts and agency analyses and delayed the whole settlement package for nearly a decade. This year though the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued the new licenses, resolved challenges with final direction regarding releases, and now the dust has settled. We can now say with near certainty that releases on the Upper Nantahala and Cascades will begin in September of 2012, and releases on the West Fork of the Tuckasegee will begin in the spring of 2013.

These releases, 15 in total, will be dovetailed with other flows AW has negotiated on the Tallulah and Cheoah to provide a sweet series of 43 days of scheduled Class IV+ paddling opportunities. Access on the Cascades is going to be tricky given the narrow road with few pullouts, and the West Fork will have its own learning curve as paddlers explore its seldom-paddled gorge. We ask that paddlers have patience while we all figure out how to best manage and enjoy these exciting new recreation opportunities.

At the same time, the releases on the Class II lower Tuckasegee and the Class II/III lower Nantahala are now enshrined in 30-year FERC licenses for paddlers to enjoy, and roughly a dozen new access areas are being constructed. The Tuck in particular will be a greatly enhanced river ranging from flatwater to Class II/III with permanent public access.

Whether you like to fish from your drift boat or zoom over 20-foot slides, the new licenses have something for you that AW worked hard to negotiate and defend, along side of our partners the Carolina Canoe Club, several outfitters and local paddlers. While it might sound like we are done, AW has a lot of work to do in getting the access areas built, traffic plans approved, management issues resolved, and in the monitoring that will occur the first couple years. Please support these efforts, and we’ll see you on the river.
Typically good ideas resonate, but not always. Lately in the Northeast, state and federal agencies have shown a dearth of vision and support for outdoor recreation.

On Vermont’s West River, FERC recently issued a license for a proposed new hydropower project that misses major opportunities for mutual benefits. The proposed project will lower generators into Ball Mountain Dam to generate power, and construct a downstream fish passage facility for outgoing Atlantic salmon. This is not a bad hydropower project. AW generally supports adding hydro to existing dams if it can be done in a low-impact or beneficial manner. The problem with the project is that opportunities for real benefits were foregone. FERC and other agencies had the opportunity to consider and require a multiple-level fish passage facility that would have allowed fish to pass regardless of the reservoir elevation. This would have fixed a problem with the dam that has caused state and federal agencies to prevent spring whitewater releases from occurring. So, instead of a project that could have benefited salmon in all conditions and allowed whitewater releases in the spring, FERC granted a license for a project that does neither.

UP FOR DAM RELICENSING: THE NEW RIVER DRIES (WV)

Federal licenses for private dams are good for 30 to 50 years, and the license for the Hawksnest Project on West Virginia’s New River is about to run out. The Hawksnest Project diverts most of the New River through a tunnel around the famous section of whitewater known as the New River Dries. The effect is eliminating a Class III/IV whitewater run on virtually every day of the year, and a reduction in world class big-water freestyle days. AW just sent in our first comment letter on the project, kicking off a process that we’ll be a big part of for the next five years or so. The next couple of years will be spent learning about the river and hydropower project through collaboratively conducting and reviewing studies, likely including a whitewater flow study. After that it will be time to sit down with all the stakeholders and hammer out a brighter future for the New River Dries. Excited about the possibilities? So are we.

Jacob Slobodian approaches one of the enormous waves that characterize the New River Dries. AW hopes to see an increase in boatable days on this stretch as a result of an upcoming dam relicensing.

Photo by Tino Specht
It’s hard to believe that I’ve been kayaking for 20 years. After reading this story you may wonder how I survived that long. But in October of 2010 I got to paddle my creek boat on an 18-day trip down the mighty Colorado River through the Grand Canyon, which had always been a dream of mine. When I first became interested in this sport I never would have guessed that I would be boating such big and beautiful rapids one day.

Many people become involved in the high adrenaline sport of whitewater kayaking through strange and foolhardy adventures. My introduction to whitewater was EPIC! Epic in the sense of epic 70s disaster movies. Everything that one could do wrong, I did wrong. No experience...check. High water...check! Cold water...ffrigd! Wrong gear...who needs gear!?! Scouting...huh? You don’t stop the boat! You’ll lose your momentum. Gotta keep that momentum! And most importantly, there’s the river...and the river in my backyard was the Russell Fork.

It was the spring of 1992 and I had just come back from the Army. Desert Storm had been over for a little more than a year and I was all gung ho. I enjoyed hiking and camping in the snow and thought of myself as a tough guy for braving low temps and knee-deep snow with a backpack full of MREs. At the time, the only thing I knew about the nearby Russell Fork was that at some times of the year it was rafted and kayaked. I live near Fishtrap Lake and sometimes for fun I would hike to the lake, inflate my beloved three-man Wal-Mart raft, float down the lake to an old trail that leads back to my house, deflate the raft, camp by the water, and then hike home the next day. Ah, nature and seclusion during the rugged Kentucky winters. Yep, war can make folks odd.

So, how does one go from floating down Fishtrap Lake to rafting blind the steepest of the steep Class V creeks? A 1980s Elkhorn City tourism brochure, that’s how. Inside were pictures of the town itself with its Apple Blossom Festival and Fourth of July celebration. There were photos of the Breaks Interstate Park and descriptions of it and of the deep canyon that one could view from many of its overlooks. And there was a picture of a lone kayaker on the river down inside that canyon, just below El Horrendo—my gosh, El Horrendo.

Opposite: Steven running what turned out to be a dangerous line at Triple Drop. Of course, we didn’t learn that until we met some Russell Fork regulars, much later.

Photo by Ron Hunt

The author learning to boof at El Horrendo on the Russell Fork, well after the events told in this story.

Photo by Steven Anderson
what a name—spray and mist surrounding this daredevil. The hook was set. At that moment I knew that I wanted to be a kayaker.

In hindsight, it was really too bad that the plan came to me so quickly. I asked my dad to take me and my three-man Wal-Mart rubber raft to Haysi and I would use the pay phone near Johnny's Barbershop to call him when I reached Elkhorn City. Easy peasy. I decided to share this grand adventure with a friend of mine. It would just be wrong to do this alone. This trip was going to be Lewis and Clark stuff! Besides, misery loves company! And I had the perfect companion. My four wheeling buddy Steven Anderson had been riding four wheelers with me since the mid-80s. He had grown up since I had been gone to the Army and was now 16. Upon hearing my idea and seeing the pictures, Steven said it was a swell idea and upon completion he'd be the coolest kid in school. He was lucky to have a friend like Ron Hunt.

Due to the fact that we had no waterproof clothing, two pieces of equipment seemed invaluable. First was my HUGE waterproof backpack which would be used to carry three changes of clothes just in case we got cold or wet. Since it was March and the temperature was just a wee bit chilly, just a nip of cold in the air, I decided we may need extra clothes. These consisted of blue jeans and, because this was 1992 and during the age of Nirvana, Pearl Jam and Eddie Vedder, SoundGarden and so on and so forth, flannel. The second piece of gear was my Army poncho. I advised Steven that he should purchase one at our local Army & Navy store as it would not only protect us from any small splashes of water that may hit us but he could use it for camping on future navigations (I foresaw that we would be camping in the Gorge on future overnight trips).

Oh, I did say that we were running the Russell Fork Gorge didn’t I? Not the Lower. Not the Upper. The full meal deal! All the way from Haysi to Elkhorn City. Due to my scant knowledge of this river I, of course, called the Gorge “The Middle” and assumed that most of the big rapids were located within a stone’s throw of Elkhorn City. So, I thought, we would get warmed up from Haysi to well past the Breaks and would have a nice finish to our trip with
a few well-placed rapids near Elkhorn. Easy peasy!

The evening before we were to set out we discovered, to our dismay, that our three-man Wal-mart raft was only big enough to hold one man and his enormous waterproof backpack. Well, the army teaches one to adapt, improvise and to continue on with a mission. NO PROBLEM! All we needed to do was buy a small two-man raft for Steven. That night I could hardly sleep. It was as if I were on the eve of battle. The next morning could not have come soon enough. Steven and I rolled out early to Pikeville to purchase his expeditionary raft. After that was a quick stop in to my girlfriend’s office to brag about our soon-to-be adventure and to strut around. Yep, kayakers! Rafts. Whitewater. The Breaks. Her coworkers were stunned by our daring nature. They pondered our epic adventure. Or perhaps they were imagining a forthcoming article in the News Express… “Local boys missing. Search underway.” If so, I didn’t see it. I saw only grandeur and daring.

I probably said the words ‘gear check’ a dozen times that morning. It just sounded like something kayakers and rafters said.

Gear check. Backpack with three changes of clothes each wrapped in several garbage bags…check. Gourmet vitamin and power packed meal for expedition team members (consisting of two bologna sandwiches, one orange and banana, and one Reese Cup each…mmmm)….check. Pepsi…check. Helmet…check. Life vest….check. Poncho…check. Raft and high tech plastic break down paddles…check. Now, those who have had the pleasure of paddling with me more recently know that within my kayak I carry an uber huge, end of the world type survival kit. I carry fire starting equipment, flashlight, survival blanket, duct tape, electrical tape, screwdrivers, knife, saw, complete first aid kit, boat repair kit, Power Bar, packet of cool aid, pain killers, Benadryl, and lots of other things one hopes never to need on the river. And why, you might ask, do I carry all ten pounds of this “just in case” stuff on the river? Because on the particular trip I’m telling you about I had NONE OF IT!

Just below the town of Haysi we are standing at the river’s edge with rain splattering off our ponchos. I’m manning the bright yellow three-man raft. Steven is in his white and blue two-man raft. In front of me is my huge green waterproof backpack stuffed full of clothes and lunch. Up ahead is a horizon line. Hmm. Straight and steady Steven! RAMMING SPEED! Instead of leaping off of the ledge drop, my raft folds and then slithers down it like some sick water snake. Now my raft is full of water and I’m paddling hundreds of pounds of ice cold water. Steering is out of the question. I’m just making a set of small circles until I can crawl out on the shore. Yep…crawl.

I’ve been sitting on my knees and, along with the cold water that’s up over the top of my thighs, as soon as I jump for the shore I flop down in the river like a hooked fish, soaking the rest of me. I’m sure it looked as if I was wrestling a wet blanket. Steven fared no better. Hypothermia is a funny thing, but only if you are watching it happen to someone else from the safety of a warm enclosure. Cold hurts. It hurts your skin. The tips of fingers particularly scream out in pain then later rather than sooner go numb and make the easiest of movements seem as if they are impossible.

Trying to get out of our wet clothes was like a fat baby trying to thread a needle—it wasn’t gonna happen! No matter how much we struggled, we just couldn’t get out of our clothes. They had become what is pictured in it is the hardest rapid. No problem. The logistics of this expedition are going like clockwork. Now for a math problem. It is March. Time has not changed yet so it gets darks a little after 6 o’clock; 3 o’clock if you are down in a canyon. The temperature is 50 degrees. It is raining. It’s noon and the fog is not lifting. Can we see 50 yards in front of us…negative. Another gear check. Check! Now, let’s sum up this equation: March temps of 50 degrees plus a good misting of spring rain minus sun equals a freeze-your-butt-off day!
AIRE makes your RIVER TIME some of the best TIMES of your life

If you want a relaxing trip or have the skills to go huge, AIRE has the perfect raft to match your desired pace. Whether you purchase a high performance PUMA series raft or an expedition sized round boat, you will experience the ultimate in USA craftsmanship, proven design and outstanding 10 year warranty.

www.aire.com
800-247-3432
straightjackets of ice, and Houdini we were not. Our fingers became heavy and they fumbled for metal buttons that stung from the cold. Steven had not lost the use of his thumbs as much as I had so I shivered over to him and between clenched teeth instructed him to unbutton my pants. Now I don’t know if anyone was watching but what they would have seen was two young boys close together apparently jumping with joy and shaking with ecstasy as they undid one another’s pants. Erotica at its best I’m sure. Once the Levi’s got around our knees the weight of their wetness along with our failing strength caused both of us to roll upon the ground as our clothes stuck to us like cold, thick glue. Ripping into the garbage bags full of dry clothes, I slung clothes here and there. Boy oh boy…dry clothes feel great! Attempting to light our fire starter log proved impossible because the nifty waterproof matches that came in our MREs were soaked and useless. Fumbling to light them with cold and numb fingers just aggravated the problem further. But after a bone chilling eternity the fire was kind of going and we were trying to stay warm and dry. The rain had slackened off to just a misting and we were hunkered around the fire like beggars. Just as we started to get comfortable I realized that we must be on our way. It was now around 2 pm and we are not even at Splash Dam. As we set out again I told Steven that we would have to take care to stay as high and dry as possible lest we lose more time drying off. Easier said than done!

Luckily we take the far right line at Splash Dam and make it thru. Just luck of the draw really. I had no idea which way to go and it’s just a miracle that we did not go down the middle or left side and end up in a nasty low head style hydraulic.

Instead all that happened was an exact repeat of the previous paragraph. Circle to shore. Stumble and fall. Erotic shedding of wet clothes. Wrestling with damp matches. Yes, I planned this trip well and by 3 pm we are off again, and I am sure that we are going to reach Elkhorn by 5 pm.

By this point, we have made a major shift in our paddling. I came up with the idea that Steven and I should both be in the three-man raft, allowing us each to paddle on one side and combine our strength. Attached to our raft via a VERY long piece of rope is the two-man raft. In it is the backpack that is getting heavier as we add wet clothes to it. Now we have this heavy, water laden raft dragging us all over the river. I’m sure it looked quite comical to see us being jerked down backwards thru 20 Stitches totally out of control. Not only do we not know the name the rapid, but we do not know where it began or if it is ever going to end!

Eventually we realize we’ve made it through and are wet and scared to death. But, of course, we’re also riding that crazed high you have after barely surviving your first BIG RAPID. We are cold and hurting but also ecstatic! We repeat the erotic change of clothes, light fire, warm up, and return to the river with swift precision rivaling any Grand Canyon rafting crew! We are off by 4 pm; Elkhorn City here we come!

Twisting thru the rapid Johnny Rock and beyond we end up at Garden Hole, where we see a road going up from the river. Now, this would be where most people—all people, really—would have gotten out and thanked the River Gods for their humiliating mercy and be done with all foolhardy river excursions (at least for the day, maybe ever). I wished later that I had taken this route, but for some reason I find myself saying instead, “MISSION UNACCOMPLISHED! Elkhorn City has to be just down the river a ways!”

We had no idea how much better off we would have been if we had surfed the hydraulic at Splash Dam or flipped at 20 Stitches and walked out from there. We were continuing mission onward down

Howard Jordan
the river. No more dry clothes. No more matches. Just us and the mighty Russell Fork Gorge.

We’ve got our rhythm now and we are paddling strong. We know how to anticipate the heavy tugging and dragging force of the smaller raft tied to ours with all those wet clothes weighing it down. We storm thru Log Flume but are thoroughly soaked. I do not remember being cold. Adrenaline is cool. Kayaking and rafting are cool! We are cool because we are here! Then we hit Let’s Make a Deal. I believe it should be called Let’s Make a Meal because to say we got eaten does not do it justice. The first little drop above the three doors just got us all discombobulated. The raft bent and flexed as we dropped into it. Then our towed raft dropped in on us. Twisting and turning, spinning and shaking I knew we were in a bad way. The smaller but heavy two-man raft yanked us out of the hydraulic, blazing the way toward doors number Two and Three. I kind of want to think that our raft made one complete revolution in a feeble attempt to wrangle in our towed raft and put ourselves back into the lead. I am not sure of anything at this point, though. I see the smaller, towed raft trying to go down Door Number Two as we race on by toward Door Number Three. The rope goes tight as we head over Number Three. Then it’s all like Deliverance: Bodies being flung into the air, tumbling under rocks, bashing into rocks all chaotic like. Ropes entangled our limbs. My face comes up out of the water only to kiss the wet vinyl underside of the vehicles of our demise. Or was that my poncho wrapping its self around me? It was both! The water hurt like stone cold acid burning my skin. I felt flash frozen in that instant. And every hit on every rock felt like a smashing blow of a ball peen hammer. The cold water pierced my eardrums like spikes. Then, with a sudden calmness, I realized all that I was in a pool, the pool above Towers. Another scene from Deliverance. Only instead of Jon Voight yelling, “Drew! DREW!!!” with his hair all messed up, I was yelling, “Steven! STEVEN!!!” I frantically searched for him. Debris is floating all around. A ripped and deflated yellow raft floats to my right. An overturned white one bobs up and down to my left. Steven’s helmet in front of me, ripped off of his head and floating upside down, spins slowly round and round. There’s the rope we had tied to the rafts looking like a giant snake twisting in the water. Wet clothes weighing my arms and legs down along with my poncho wrapping around my body hinder any real movement. Then I see him! He’s floating on his back and just looking up at the sky unmoving. His hands clenched in front of his chest. 

Ron Hunt on the left and Stephen Anderson on the right, just after this story is set. Photos by Steven Anderson and Ron Hunt
Do you remember Han Solo being frozen in carbonite in *The Empire Strikes Back*? That scene flashed into my mind at that moment. Flash frozen! I sluggishly paddle over to him getting no response to my calls. I fear he has bashed his head on the rocks as we both were hurled out of the raft and into the frigid water. I had my answer as I reached over to him and pulled him around to face me. I saw his face contorted in a horrible expression. Probably the same face I was wearing. The water was just so damn cold it had stunned him! Yep. My rafting buddy was flash frozen. “Swim Steven! Swim!” His eyes shift to look at me yet his head remains still as if encased in ice. Hell of a thing to see! I start to tug on him and we both start to lurch through the water toward the shore. It seems as if it takes forever to reach it. At river right the mixture of ice water and clothing along with numb and weak limbs causes both of us to collapse on the wet rocks. For the longest time there is just silence.

I know now what a defeated commander must feel like after a losing battle. I’m not saying this was my first defeat but it was the first time that someone was looking up to me (literally, Steven was just lying on the wet bank shivering) with a look of what I can only describe as disgust. The lifeless bodies of our rafts lay deflated around us. It truly was a battlefield.

After 15 or 20 minutes it’s time for another bad decision. Like a commander out of logical or informed choices I make the order to move out. Steven asks which way and with that same stubbornness that condemned us earlier I sound out, “Downriver! Elkhorn has got to be just downriver!” My journey into madness had only one direction. I let the flowing river pull us on into more disaster.

We drag our gear as high up as we can get it onto the rocks at Towers Pool. We will come back to retrieve it another day. We can hear a menacing sound just down the river and realize there is a big rapid hidden behind huge boulders. As we make our way around rocks and trees we turn and look up river and see through the mist the rapid called Towers! I am pretty certain that if we had not been so fortunate to be slammed by the previous rapid we would have died going over this one. Even if we had survived Towers the monster Fist below is worse with its terrible cave that sucks in almost all the water flowing toward it.

We have such a long way to go and the light is all but gone. We have no flashlights and all I am sure of is that we are cold, tired, and that the river runs through Elkhorn somewhere downstream. Each step is heavy and clumsy and if we rest too long our
thighs and chest touch clothing cooled by the rain and falling temperatures. It seems better to remain still. All we want to do is rest but each time we stop, getting back up is more difficult. We are shivering and numb as we trudge along. Steven has begun to quietly cry and I find myself wondering if we should turn back, hunker down, or try to scale the cliffs that we meet as we try to go up to the Breaks Park. With the sure signs of hypothermia I know we are in trouble! And to compound all of this we soon run out of river bank to walk on. At Maze we slip back into the water in the hope that the riverbank will return, but instead find the way impassable. We backtrack upriver, climb into the hills while praying that we are not boxed out by canyon walls, and return to the river’s edge downstream...all of this in fading light.

At least the little hill climb warms us up a tad! We run in to more towering cliffs blocking any climb upward so we drop back to the river just below Triple Drop. As we rest by the river’s edge once again I assure Steven that with my supreme survival skills I will light a fire and make us torches to illuminate our way. Steven’s reply is not what I had expected. Steven curses at me, saying that he should have made us a fire long ago if I had the ability to do so. I argue that we had to use what daylight we had for walking and if I had made a fire earlier that we would have had to set out in the dark. Our arguing only intensifies as I pull out matches so soaked that their heads crumble into bits of red clay when I try to strike them. Steven’s favorite phrase is rapidly becoming, “Good job, Ron!” I am sensing a mutiny and a feeling that things are cascading out of control. Ha, as if the cascade hasn’t already became a waterfall, torrential downpour, a flash flood by now.

At least the yelling has got Steven’s blood boiling and he seems to be a little more focused. The same goes for me. That is a good thing because with the rapid SIB to our left we have to reenter the water again. We slip and slide over refrigerator size boulders and stumble back into the ice cold water. I lose track of how many times we both fall into the frigid river. I slip and crash into the rocks hurting my ankle. I realize then that a sprained or broken ankle would be deadly. Without being able to walk, hypothermia would overtake one quickly in this setting. I see now how cold temperatures and the narrowed view of the situation skewed my thinking. Scrambling over slick rocks in the darkness through Class IV rapids is a sure sign of that!

No more renewal notices!

Sick of renewal notices in the mail?
Sign up for auto-renewal on your AW membership and you’ll never get another. Your membership won’t lapse and you’ll be helping us save our limited funds and trees!

New and renewing members:
americanwhitewater.org/join

Current members:
1-866-262-8429
We continue on into the darkness toward El Horrendo. We wade through the water near river right, feeling our way downriver. The darkness makes us second guess each step on solid rock and in shallow water. Any step could plummet us into the deep, swift water just inches away. In the distance we can hear the noise coming from what locals call The Falls. But for a short while we have the quietness of the pool above it, and this quietness is broken by Steven’s string of complaints about my questionable leadership. Of course, when we arrive at the ledge on river right that creates El Horrendo, the river is too swallowed up in the darkness to be seen but we are petrified at the noise coming up to greet us. We can feel the wind and mist coming from it. And with the its roar in our ears our hearts sink as we realize just how far we have to go to reach Elkhorn City. We are both exhausted and we know that our families are probably worried to death and fearing the worst. Steven and I leave the river and begin the climb up Grassy Creek. With more slipping in the dark we start to veer away from Grassy Creek and climb straight up the soft dirt and wooded hill not knowing if we will arrive at the road or come to another cliff.

Suddenly, just feet from us was a guardrail. The road—what a feeling! No more slipping and sliding on rocks and mud. The road just felt so clean. We sat down on it and said nothing in the silent darkness, with the clean, hard asphalt to rest our weary bones on. We slumped over and dozed right there on the road.

I don’t know how long we sat there asleep. And I don’t know if it was the low rumble in the distance or the headlights in our eyes but we are suddenly awake. I stagger to my feet and walk out into the middle of the road like a zombie. My cold and numb limbs make me lumber forward like one of the undead. I tell Steven that I am flagging this vehicle down even if I have to get run over to do it. I am cold, tired, wet, and hungry and just want to go home. I can now tell that it is a large pickup coming to our rescue. The truck slows almost to a stop... hmm...the driver kind of looks like my dad. Now the truck is speeding up as MY DAD flips us the finger.

Later I was to find out that the gesture was meant solely for his son, who had kept him and the family up all evening and half the night sick with worry. It was for the son who had a 16-year-old’s family believing they would never see their son again. It was for the son who had caused him to call out the Rescue Squad. Apparently Ron was a bad son. I realize this as I watch my dad drive away, leaving us to walk home.

As I stop chasing after him and slowly kneel down in the road the weight of a thousand bad things that little boys do that cause their parents grief and worry comes slamming down upon me. When he finally stopped the truck my dad said only one thing to me: “Get in the back dumbass!” It was a long ride home.

We returned a few days later and gathered up our abandoned gear...there was no gear check.

Later, I was to find out that my father had kept me up all day and all night worrying about my safe return. And I was the one who had caused my father and the rest of the family to worry sick. It was for the son who had caused him to call out the Rescue Squad. Apparently Ron was a bad son. I realize this as I watch my dad drive away, leaving us to walk home.

We returned a few days later and gathered up our abandoned gear...there was no gear check.

About the Author: Ron Hunt drove an M1A1 Army tank for eight months during Operation Desert Storm. He was 20 years old during the spring of 1992, when the events described here took place. After his first tumble down the Russell Fork’s rushing waters with his buddy Steven, he drove two hours to Bristol, TN to purchased his first kayak, a beautiful multicolored Dagger Freefall, pictured in this story. More madness ensued...but that is another story.
JOIN THE REVOLUTION!

STOMP THE BRITAN

STOMPER

WWW.LIQUIDLOGICKAYAKS.COM
peel out of the eddy following Kevin toward the blind corner. This is it, Starter Fluid. Tradition dictates that first timers run it blind either following a leader or on verbal instructions alone. I come around the corner and see Kevin floating in the pool 10 feet below. I grab hold of the lip and boof, stomping clean in the pool. A huge grin works its way across my face; it'd been a long time coming.

I grew up kayaking in southern Utah where there’s a definite lack of water, especially the boatable kind. I paddled with my dad and brother in lakes, spent the winter learning how to roll in our local pool, and the big trip of the year was to paddle Westwater in my Dancer XT. My senior year of high school we planned a college visit to Colorado where we aimed to get some boating done as well. In preparation we bought Gordon and Banks’ Colorado Rivers and Creeks (CRC II), a bible for boaters. I spent hours perusing the pages of steep creeks and Class V runs I would never paddle. One in particular caught my attention: the Big South Fork of the Poudre. The write up starts, “The Big South is a steep low-volume run of the highest quality.” I read the opening line, glanced at the photos and an infatuation began to develop. Over the next few years, while a student at Colorado State University, every spring I’d flip through CRC II and land again on the Big South page. I’d read over the description until it was almost memorized: I’d stare at the photo of the bad line in Cool World, I’d Google photos of Double Trouble (noticeably absent from the guidebook), and I’d dream of planting a late boof stroke high in the mountains of Colorado.

Ten years from the first time I laid eyes on pictures of the Big South, and after more excuses than I can count, the opportunity finally arrives. We’ve had an incredible year of record runoff, I’ve been paddling well and a solid crew of regulars has developed. The road is opening a month late this year. Rumors of 40-foot snow drifts and beetle kill blanketing the road have kept it closed, but amazingly the Big South is still running.

Ten years from the first time I laid eyes on pictures of the Big South, and after more excuses than I can count, the opportunity finally arrives. We’ve had an incredible year of record runoff, I’ve been paddling well and a solid crew of regulars has developed. The road is opening a month late this year. Rumors of 40-foot snow drifts and beetle kill blanketing the road have kept it closed, but amazingly the Big South is still running.

Rapid after rapid and they all start to blend together. Not continuous, but pool drop, which is unusual for Colorado. We sit in the pool above each drop and my buddy Kevin gives me a couple of verbal instructions, “A little right angle at the bulge on the lip and a left boof stroke, then just hold on for the ride.” He gives the perfect amount of instruction. We make decent time and hit the first scout of the day at Fantasy Flight. Honestly, I’m a little disappointed at the marginal amount of water in the drop. Both the right line and the left go at these flows, and neither looks optimal. I opt for the left line and float in as slowly as possible all the way to the lip. Reaching forward I give a huge left sweep/boof stroke turning the boat 90 degrees in the air to avoid the wall directly ahead, land, then take two strokes and boof over the next hole. It goes smoothly for me. Others don’t quite turn the 90 degrees needed and piton, proceeding to back ender and go over the second boof upside down, counting the fish in the riverbed.

The Big South snow melts at over 12,000 feet on the northern edge of Rocky Mountain National Park. It gently meanders through high mountain meadows and beneath jagged peaks as it makes its way...
northward. Eventually it collects enough water to float a boat, and begins to cascade towards its eventual confluence with Joe Wright Creek and Highway 14, where its mystery recedes with the presence of traffic.

We hop out at an ominous horizon line and peer over the edge. Cool World starts with a bouncy entrance, a swift right-to-left move and a 15-foot boof to the left. I look to the right side and notice the pocket into which half of the river washes. “I wouldn’t really want to end up over there” I think to myself, others echo my thought aloud. It looks like a doable line; tight, but doable. Josh comes through the entry and starts his drive left, directly past me on shore. He grabs strongly at the lip and stomps into the left side of the pool below. “He made it look easy enough,” I say to encourage myself. I grab my boat and ease into the eddy. I take some deep breaths, go over my line in my mind and look downstream behind me at safety on shore, where there are thumbs up all around. I peel out of the last hole and see the lip drawing closer. I only see the left side and drive for it with singular purpose. I grab the current and boof, throwing my knees to the sky. I land far left bouncing against the wall and paddle free of the boil pushing into it, pumping my fist in triumph.

Further downstream we arrive at the sieved out Meltdown and portage. Putting in on the lower half, I try to run a small slot on the right. I time my boof too early, my nose dives, and I come up surfing in the hole. “Huh, didn’t expect that on this drop.” I surf it for a while and dig for the green water.
CREEKING

deep in the backwash and it pulls me out upside down. I roll up with an ice cream headache from the cold water and shake my head. My buddies cast me quizzical looks trying to figure out what I’m doing stuck in something so benign.

We roll through Prime Time Gorge, drop after drop of amazing wilderness boating, gorged in by 50-foot walls. This run really does have it all: “waterfalls; tight twisting Class V gorges; and Class IV+ ‘open’ rapids....” Double Trouble looms in my mind as we paddle through the Gorge, a stacked 15 footer leading into a 20 footer with a strong backwash and carnage that’s legendary. I’ve seen hundreds of pictures of this drop and in my mind I’ve always imagined paddling it, but I’ve never seen it. We climb the hill above the horizon. “Sure is a long ways to that pool below,” I nervously observe to Josh. He just looks back and smiles. I stare down from the cliff at the first drop and it looks good, and then the second drop and it doesn’t look horrible. Then I look for the end of the backwash from the hole in the second drop and my eyes trace 20 feet downstream where the water in the pool starts to head downstream again. I instantly decide to take the right line, dry and on the dirt. I don’t trust my boof enough to go for it. Moreover, I don’t feel like swimming around in that hole for multiple circulations. I pull out my camera and watch a couple people fire it up with minimal difficulties. I try to make it a habit not to let others clean runs convince me I should give things a go. I resist the urge to hike back up and I put into the pool after the portage instead thinking, “I’ve gotta’ leave something for next time.”

The pine covered ridges reach toward a cloudless sky and we continue on to Slideways. After a full day, a seven move rapid ending in a tricky ferry to catch a micro eddy above a sticky ledge hole kinda seems a little like punishment, rather than reward. After a careful scout everyone goes for it despite the tiredness and our only carnage of the day ensues. Two boaters swim out of the bottom hole and another boater ends up off line and on the wrong side of the rapid. He hikes back up to the top and starts over, running it clean. We’re tired, but we’re also done. We crack beers in the dirt lot at the take-out as the sun sinks over the Continental Divide and sets the sky on fire. A couple of beers drain into mouths out of creeking shoes ripe with the stench of an epic season. We light a fire, raise our bottles and toast, not only to the best wilderness run in Colorado, but to a high school kid’s dream finally come true.
SUBSCRIBE TO KAYAK SESSION MAGAZINE, CONTRIBUTE TO AW EFFORTS EVEN FURTHER AND SAVE MONEY!

Here’s how: As an AW member, you save money when subscribing to Kayak Session. If that’s not enough, your purchase awards another 5 bucks back to AW’s effort to change the world. If that doesn’t change the world, it can at least make it a little sweeter…

50% discount on Kayak Session Subscriptions!

30 USD for one year subscriptions
5 dollars back to AW for every subscription purchased

Save, Support, Enjoy

Special offer available only with the use of the present form (photocopy accepted)

Please sign me up for one year (four issues)
Start my subscription with: ☐ current ☐ next issue
Name ..................................................................................................................................................................................
Address ..................................................................................................................................................................................
City ........................................State ..................................... Zip .......................Phone ..........................................................
Email (for customer service only) ............................................................................................................................................
Method of payment: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Check
Credit card number ..........................................................................................................................................................
Exp. date: ☐ ☐ / 20 ☐ ☐
Signature
You may fax this form and/or credit card orders to: 828-586-2840

Detach and mail to: American Whitewater / Kayak Session Subscription - Po Box 1540 - Cullowhee, NC 28723
Call toll free: 1-866-262-8429 - info@americanwhitewater.org or subscribe online @ www.kayaksession.com
I have had a thing for Canyonlands ever since I was a kid. I grew up in Salt Lake City and would take frequent trips to explore the deserts of Southern Utah with my family. I have great memories of backpacking to Druid Arch, 4-wheeling over Elephant Hill in my dad’s Bronco, and hunting for Easter eggs in the Devil’s Kitchen.

I have also always had a thing for the Colorado River. When I was eight years old, my dad got a raft and we began floating many different sections, from West Water to the Grand Canyon. One trip I had never done, but that had been on my mind for a lot of years, was Cataract Canyon. That is where the Colorado flows right through the heart of Canyonlands National Park between the Maze and the Needles District.

This year I started thinking about heading there for a last minute spring break trip. I couldn’t get the idea out of my head even when I couldn’t find anyone to go on such short notice. The weather forecast of 80 degrees and sunny was incredibly tempting, especially after spending another cold, rainy winter in Hood River, Oregon. That is when I started to consider my first solo trip.

I haven’t paddled alone much in the 14 years I’ve been kayaking, but I’ve always been intrigued by the idea after reading stories about solo descents of whitewater legends like Rob Lesser, Doug Ammons, and Walt Blackadar. The Colorado was running around 11,000 cfs, a nice Class IV flow. I decided I could commit to a 5-day, 93 mile solo paddle. I’d just had an especially difficult term of nursing school and I was more than ready to disappear into the desert for a while.

When I ran the idea past my fiance, Drew, he was 100% supportive. Of course, he is a big fan of solo trips himself and every once in a while he’ll plan an overnighter on the Hood River just for a chance to sleep in his bivy sack. I called my parents in Utah to let them know I’d be stopping by for a visit on my way home. Luckily my dad answered the phone. He had been down the run before and gave me some pointers, told me some great stories, and wished me luck.

When my mom got word of my plans I don’t think she was as excited about the good news. “Christina Glissmeyer, I know you are an adult, but I am NOT okay with this,” she exclaimed over the phone. Yup, even at 33-years old my mom had just called me by my full name: I was in trouble. By that

The solitude of canyonlands country looks just as good when you’re floating solo.
time I had already packed my truck and was well on my way to Moab. “Don’t worry, I have my spot tracker,” I assured her. There was no answer, so I also agreed to get some bear spray (for the lizards?). “Okay, but you’d better call me the second you get off that river!” she said. Fair enough. Sorry mom, I hope you didn’t lose any sleep over this one.

I stopped by the National Park Reservation Office first thing the next morning to get a river permit. I half expected to get another lecture, but their only concern was how I was going to fit a fire pan, breakdown paddle, extra PFD, groover, and all my other gear and food for 5 days into one kayak. I took them out to the parking lot and showed them the 11’ 9” Dagger Green Boat on top of my truck. They were impressed and sent me on my way.

I'll admit that I didn’t sleep great the first few nights. With no one else around, all of my senses were heightened. As soon as it got dark the winds would die down and it was uncomfortably quiet. I’d wake up in the middle of the night to hear coyotes howling off in the distance and it would send a chill running down my spine. The stars were amazing though. I don’t think I’ve ever seen so many shooting stars.

On the third day I reached the confluence of the Colorado and Green. There the river doubles in size and the canyon walls were towering high above. I began to feel very, very small as I entered Cataract Canyon. As if that wasn’t enough to make me feel a little uneasy, there were two vultures circling overhead for the first few miles. C’mon, was that really necessary? Then I saw the Doll House off in the distance and I forgot about the vultures. This place was so neat!

The Doll House is a group of cool rock formations in a district of Canyonlands know as the Maze. To get there you hike straight up and out of Cataract Canyon (from Spanish Bottom) to the rim. It’s steep going, but so worth the hike once you get up there and the views are incredible. I spent about 3 hours exploring the caverns and passageways in the sandstone. It was really hard to leave.

Exploring the caverns of the Doll House

by a commercial cataraft full of college guys, also on spring break. They offered me a beer and ride. If it hadn’t been 10 a.m. I might have taken them up on it, but I was on a mission to find some Anasazi ruins. I saw ruins scattered across the map and made a few stops to check them out. It was like a treasure hunt and it seemed like almost every side canyon was harboring granaries or pictographs. They were very well preserved in the dry climate and I could even see fingerprints in the hardened clay of the granary walls. Very cool stuff!

It is a lot of work getting to Cataract Canyon without a motor. There are 52 miles of flat water just to get there and afternoon headwinds don’t help. Then there’s the 30 mile paddle out across Lake Powell. It’s a pretty good workout, even in a longboat. I paddled about 20 miles each day. I was so excited to get to camp the first day that I did cartwheels all the way down the sandbar. The morning of the second day I heard a motor gaining on me and was soon passed...
Then the fun really began. I got back in my boat and headed into almost 10 miles of continuous giant Class I v wave trains. All that flat water finally paid off! I don’t know the names of the rapids, but they were all pretty awesome and there were a ton of amazing surf waves. I made it to camp just before dark and decided that the day was definitely a perfect 10.

The next morning started off with a bang, literally. The top of my struggling water pump blew off and refused to purify any more drinking water. I pulled a bottle of backup iodine tablets out of my emergency kit only to find that it had seen one too many river days. The tablets had dissolved into a crusty powder that was now cemented to the bottom of the bottle. I considered my option of boiling river water, but I was running low on fuel and the sandy Colorado River water full of floaties and nasty grey foam wasn’t too appetizing. I remembered reading about some year-round springs downstream, so I crossed my fingers and decided to try and hold out for a more appealing water source.

The rapids also started off with a bang. First thing in the morning I got to run all three Big Drop rapids. I wish I could start off every day like that! I love waking up and having nothing to do all day but go kayaking through giant crashing waves. It was just what I needed. The fun continued for about seven more miles and then the water slowed into a big pool that I could only assume was Lake Powell. At that point I was facing 10 miles of flatwater between me and camp, it was getting hot, and I was getting very thirsty. Where was the party barge now? I could have really used a ride and a cold beer right about then.

I was just starting to feel a little bummed out when I heard a trickle coming from somewhere near the mouth of a side canyon called Easter Pasture. I paddled over but the wash was as dry as a bone. I followed the noise to a rock pile just upstream and sure enough, there was a freshwater spring gushing out of the rocks right into the river. I didn’t even have to get out of my boat to fill up my Nalgene and Camelbak full of the delicious cold water. Thanks to this little oasis in the desert, I had enough water to last me for the rest of the trip. Wahoo!

The morning of the fifth day was bittersweet. It was time to paddle my last 13 miles across Lake Powell and head back into the real world, but I was also getting just a little homesick for the Columbia River Gorge. First, I headed up Dark Canyon to check out what the map called some “irresistible” swimming holes. The map was right.

Then it was time to put my head down and finish the paddle across the lake. It seemed to take an eternity but by late afternoon I finally reached the Dirty Devil River and was happy to find my truck waiting for me there. It was crazy to think I had hardly seen anyone in five whole days. There was something about solo boating that really allowed me to appreciate the remoteness of the river. I definitely enjoy doing trips with a big group of family and friends, but it was pretty exciting to launch out on my own and I’m so glad I had a chance to experience that. What a great adventure!
Feather River Festival

22nd Annual Chico Paddleheads Benefit for American Whitewater.

Friday, September 21, 2012
National Paddling Film Festival at Indian Jim School, 6pm

Saturday, September 22, 2012
Releases at Rock Creek/Tobin
Class II Slalom/ Tobin Downriver Race
River Party! Bands, Beer, Dinner, Raffle, Silent Auction, 6pm

Sunday, September 23, 2012
Releases at Rock Creek/Tobin

permitted by US Forest Service

North Fork Feather River, CA - HWY 70 - FREE CAMPING AT INDIAN JIM SCHOOL/CAMPGROUND
ONE MILE UPSTREAM OF TOBIN RESORT. MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.CHICOPADDLEHEADS.ORG
North Idaho’s Selway River is on the cusp of the drier southern drainages such as the Salmon, and the wetter climate of the Clearwater to the north. It is the northernmost river to harbor rattlesnakes, and the southernmost to harbor the infamous North Idaho no-see-um. Neither, unfortunately, is on the endangered species list.

That said, the Selway is a wonderful, remote big water run. Bisecting the huge Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, the river rumbles through pine and fir forests with little sign of civilization. An occasional footbridge or log cabin is the only sign of human activity. Naturally occurring, ecologically necessary forest fires leave more apparent evidence of their passing.

The Selway permit system was designed to keep the experience of floating the river pristine. Where other rivers might have multiple launches any given day, the Selway has only one.

This system also makes getting a permit the equivalent of winning the lottery. When Joe Biby called to invite me on his 1996 trip, I was ecstatic. An end of May Selway trip with raft support can be the highlight of any kayaker’s year.

Greg Nelson, an expert oarsman and professional hunting guide would meet me in Kalispell, Montana, where we would depart to meet Joe and fellow kayaker Nathan Wilcoxen in Missoula.

Joe had done an excellent job of sorting through all the trip details, including the intricate shuttle. We met our drivers in Missoula, loaded our gear, and headed south to Darby, then west over the Bitterroot Divide into the Selway. A long drive, but sure to be worth it. North Idaho’s Rivers were running big and pushy.

At the Whitecap Creek launch site, it was raining. Not an afternoon shower or a thunderstorm, but a foggy grey socked in drizzle. Not discouraged at all, we joyfully loaded up the raft and started suiting up.

Joe suddenly slapped both hands to his forehead and groaned, “Oh, !*%#!.” From his tone I could tell this wasn’t the “Oh, !&%#!, the mosquitoes are out,” or the “Oh, !*%#!, the dog crapped in my drysuit!” It was more like “Oh, !*%#!, they have to amputate my foot!” Actually, it turned out to mean, “Oh, !*%#!, I left my bag of kayaking gear on the sidewalk in Missoula!”

We finagled around for a while, trying to devise a makeshift helmet, life jacket, spare paddle, etc. The spray skirt was proving to be problematical.

It finally became apparent that the only solution was to drive four hours back out to Missoula. Or we could leave Joe behind. Joe suggested this himself, but
Nathan and I rode out with the shuttle to run the Selway section above the permit area, an exciting diversion that took up about an hour. That left only seven hours to sit in the rain, enjoying the no-see-ums. Someone once said that infinity was like the number of monkeys with typewriters that it takes before you get one that will finally type up the entire works of Shakespeare. But I didn’t truly understand infinity until I encountered no-see-ums. You can go on grinding them into your skin and scalp forever without affecting their numbers. Because they are invisible, science can only theorize that they are part of the annoying, blood sucking fly family. Another school of thought holds that they are bred down from pterodactyls.

There is a successful remedy, however. DEET. 100% pure DEET. DEET is as close to being nuclear as any chemical known to man, except plutonium. It brings an iridescent glow to the skin. This spooks the no-see-ums. With the use of DEET, and the following simple steps, you too can thwart the no-see-ums.

First, put on your dry-suit and booties. Next, take the industrial size bottle of DEET. Don’t follow the directions on the bottle. Dump it on your head, so that it runs down your neck and face. Smear it on thick, especially in the eye sockets, on the lips, and between the cheeks and gums. Pour it into your ears, then shake like a dog to remove any excess.

Next, put on your helmet. Crawl into your sleeping bag, head first. Duct tape the entry and zipper from the inside. Now smoke a cigarette.

* * * * *

At long last, the shuttle vehicle came rattling down the road. We hastily set off to get some miles behind us before dark.

About 10 miles down, we set up camp among some of the largest Ponderosa Pines I have ever seen. They were large and dense enough that the ground beneath them was actually dry. Greg and Joe cooked up a delicious grilled chicken meal with a cheesecake dessert. Things were looking up.

The next day, after a tasty breakfast, we headed down river. Our intent was to get past the gnarly section below Moose Creek that contains five big back-to-back rapids, the most serious being Ladle.

We scouted Ladle from river right. It looked like a small violent ocean. Greg chose a line down the far right for the raft that involved punching a few small holes, but avoided the monsters in the middle. Joe and Nathan picked a line down the far left that was “Class II, as long as you are on line.” I was to take the hero line down the middle.

Greg had a good run in the raft, and nailed the eddy on the right at the bottom of the rapid. I ran down the center, gracefully dancing and weaving between huge pour-overs like an expert slalom racer painting on a whitewater canvas...upside down.

I rolled up and joined Greg in the eddy to watch Joe and Nathan make their run down river left. They began just a few boat lengths apart, and were just getting going when Joe disappeared. Nathan eddied out at the bottom left to wait for Joe, who had tangled with a huge hole.

Wolf Creek Rapid on Idaho’s Wild and Scenic Selway River.
Joe is a great paddler with a bombproof roll. I had never seen him swim. Push the envelope long enough, though, and some hole will eventually beat the crap out of you, like a fly in the toilet.

Knowing Joe, I’m certain that it took a terrible pounding to get him out of his boat.

Nathan was in perfect rescue position, and had Joe in an instant. Greg and I cheered as they went round and round in the eddy. Round and round and round...something was wrong.

The eddy had vertical walls with no place to deposit a swimmer. Worse, the eddy line was not allowing an exit back into the river.

I saw Joe lose his grip on Nathan’s grab loop, and I jetted across the river to help.

Joe got lucky and washed out of the eddy. He caught my grab loop, and away we went. Over ledges, through holes, down to the next eddy. When I last saw the exhausted Nathan, he was upside down, trying to roll up. Things were getting out of hand.

The next eddy was no better than the first. We helplessly circled the eddy, unable to escape. Joe had a death grip on my rear grab loop, and was becoming a handful. Joe is truly athletic, over six feet, three percent body fat, lean, mean, muscular frame, heavy boned, a virtual boat anchor.

My arms burned. We were in trouble. I had to do something with Joe, and soon. Greg was still watching intently from across the river, so a paddle stab to the face was out of the question.

Greg to the rescue. In an upstream attainment move that would have made his mother proud, Greg joined us in the eddy and scooped Joe into the raft. “YES!!” I thought. Then I remembered Nathan.

“I’m going after Nathan!” I yelled, and blasted off downstream. He couldn’t be more than half a mile or so ahead. I paddled...
as fast as I could, sure that I would spot him around the next bend. There were still some nasty rapids ahead that would be a horrible swim at this level. “Hang on buddy,” I thought.

On and on I pushed, with no sight of anything nylon or plastic. “Where the hell is he?” I worried. I finally pulled over, exhausted and disheartened.

Soon the raft joined me, and we continued on, mile after mile. No paddle, boat, float bag; nothing.

We pulled over at the top of Wolf Creek Rapid to discuss our options. If Nathan had been chasing Joe’s boat, he wouldn’t have gone over the horizon line at Wolf Creek without scouting. That left the other disturbing possibility. He had been swimming and didn’t get out.

We made camp and attempted to come up with a plan of some kind. Nothing made sense. Two boats, two paddles, one swimmer and all that other stuff, all washed down the river without a trace.

We sat in the rain, staring at the river. I had never been on a river trip when a boater was lost, and didn’t like the feeling. Resignation to the situation settled in like the cool, grey drizzle.

* * * * *

I don’t know if Joe saw Nathan first, or visa-versa, but they both yelled at the same time. Nathan was paddling round the bend, and Joe ran out waist deep into the water. They embraced like long lost brothers.

As it turned out, Nathan had rolled in the upper eddy, and gotten Joe’s boat. A rock ledge jutting out above the river has kept him from seeing the rescue below and also had hid him from our view. By the time he climbed the ledge to get a peek, all he saw was myself and the raft charging downstream, presumably after Joe.

He was sure the worst had happened, and was determined to at least get Joe’s boat. Alone on a Class IV river that he didn’t know, Nathan eventually parted company with the extra kayak. He headed down river, afraid of what he would find, but needing to know.

A joyous reunion ensued. We drank far too much Drambuie and rehashed the day’s events over and over.

The next morning, Joe and Nathan hiked upstream to look for the missing kayak, while Greg and I broke camp. They were back in five minutes. Joe’s boat had eddied out just above our camp!

The sun came out, the no-see-ums retired to their dens, and our little world was back together again.

---

At high flows, Selway Falls offers no true sneak route.
Planning always seems to start early for the year’s kayaking trips. I have a two and a half year old daughter, so taking a trip away from home isn’t as easy as making sure my wife isn’t going to kill me and the pets are fed; it requires planning and working around our family’s schedule. My main co-conspirator is Tom. Tom and I work for the same company. In fact, we sit next to each other, so there’s pretty much an unending discussion of paddling happening at work (much to the chagrin of the big boss man). He’s aware of my family requirements and we work together to set a paddling schedule that works for both of us.

This year, I had cleared my schedule for St. Patrick’s Day weekend (March 2012). We had incidentally discussed taking a trip with some paddling friends to the Cheoah and Nantahala. I already had several trips scheduled for the Nanty this year due to my oldest daughter getting in to kayaking, so that plan didn’t really sound appealing. I had a free weekend already lined up, so we looked to go elsewhere.

Tom and I have been kayaking for about 3-4 years now and have been working ourselves up to Class III river-running over the last year. We’d hit up rivers like Rockcastle, Cumberland, the Lower Yough, Upper Russell Fork, Paint River (UP Michigan), and Middle Branch of the Ontonagon (UP Michigan). We’d also been hitting up Cincinnati-area Class II-III creeks like O’Bannon, Stonelick, and White Oak. Along the way, we’d made quite a few paddling contacts and I decided to put one to good use. I sent out the bat call to Mike and Tara who run rivers in the South on a regular basis. Mike answered back that he and Tara were indeed going south that weekend and we could tag along. Plans were set, and down to Townsend, Tennessee we went!

The weekend of our trip had quite a bit of precipitation in the forecast. Thunderstorms had made sure that creeks were running and we pretty much had our choice of paddling whatever we wanted. Mike and Tara had some experience running creeks, so they roughly knew what they were getting themselves into. Tom and myself, on the other hand, had absolutely no experience with creeks. Any creek that we ran in Ohio was simply a small river. When the rains come through, all the drainages fill up and we get 24-48 hours of Class II-III to paddle. Lots of these Ohio “creeks” have ledges, nice wave trains, and holes. The Little River was going to be a whole different animal.

Our group congregated at the “Y” and consisted of all the above-mentioned paddlers, plus another local boater named Kendall, for a grand total of six. Dave decided that the best run would be the Elkmont Section of the Little River. Only the local boaters had ever run this section, with two of us having no experience in southern creeking.

Tom and I had scouted one of the big rapids before hand and were definitely both excited and nervous about the run ahead. Tom’s the eternal optimist and I’m the cautious plodder. We work well together: Tom provides the courage and I provide the reality. I can’t say that I wasn’t nervous about trying a Class II-III(III+) section of
creek for our first experience, but I felt that
we had the skills and was eager to see if
that was true. Tom thinks we can run just
about anything, so he was just excited to
got on the river and tear down that bad boy
at the speed of light.

We dropped shuttle vehicles on the way up
to the put-in. After we arrived at our put-in,
we geared up and headed down to the river.
With skirts on, we hit the cool water and
set off downstream to see what we were
made of. Our group of six actually quickly
fell into two groups of three boaters. Being
that four of us had no experience on this
run, the local boaters each took a couple of
us, which helped lessen the load for each of
them. Dave ran lead the entire time with
Kendall running a pseudo-sweep/lead in
the middle of the pack.

The first thing that we noticed was all of
the rocks—they were everywhere! We
were constantly altering the course of our
boats to pick our way through the non-stop
boulder gardens and small ledges. We
quickly realized this was not a pool drop
river. There were some small eddies and
flat sections, but they were few and far
between. Dave took some more aggressive
lines initially, hitting boofs and the sort. I
don’t know if this was a test of our skills or
just because he had a boofing mentality,
but we happily took advantage of the many
features the river had to offer. Slowly the
river was building in difficulty, ledges were
growing bigger, and rapids were growing
more complex.

About a quarter of the way into the run,
we made another observation: we were
a tourist attraction. The Little River runs
next to Little River Road. Being that the day
was sunny and temperatures were in the
70s, motorists were out in force. Cars were
pulling over pointing, smiling, and waving
at us. The locals could have cared less, but
I felt pretty special running those rapids in
front of all the spectators taking pictures
of us. That was until we turned a corner
and Dave turned around and signaled that
we were at a significant ledge drop. Up on
the road were some onlookers, waiting for
the possibility of carnage—awesome. Dave
had given us a quick run down: run about
eight feet out from the left bank to a little
double drop. With the crowds anticipating
some action, we started paddling toward
the ledge. I hit the lip of the ledge and hit
my best Ohio boof stroke (probably not the
best boof stroke…) and actually heard a
“boof” when my boat hit the aerated water
flat. I turned around with enough time to
see Tom style the drop as well. The rest of
the party made quick work of the ledge,
and down the river we went.

The rapids downstream increased in
complexity and speed. Lots of cross
currents, diagonal waves, boofs, and
even some wood to watch out for. We
had very little rest in between rapids and
kept a pretty constant pace. Tom and
I increasingly noticed the multitude of
little paddle strokes we were doing while
running these rapids. A little backstroke

---

Running some Class II on the Little River, TN
Photo by Scott Puthoff
here, forward stroke there, just a little left rudder, then three hard paddle strokes, lean forward and punch the hole, and then start it all over again. While the flow wasn’t all that much, it was amazing to us that the force was so very concentrated at the holes and waves. I’ve hit bigger waves, but these hits were some of the most powerful I’d ever experienced.

Tara wanted to scout the bridge rapid. It’s a long rapid that starts just upstream of a Little River Road Bridge. Here the river is split into two flows—one is choked by wood and the other pushes you into quite a few rocks on the river right bank. We spent about 10 minutes looking at the rapid. Dave explained the game plan for running the rapid because there was a big rapid just downstream of this one, with very little recovery in between. Lots of scenarios were given—if you do this, then just run this, but stay away from this, and if it all goes to hell, do this. I knew I wasn’t going to remember any of that, so I just tried to maintain my nerves. I’m a doer—get me in the rapid and we’ll make it happen. The anticipation kills me. Tom was his normal self—excited and raring to go.

Tom and I walked back down to our boats and pushed off while the others got ready. We caught an eddy above the rapid that Kendall was already in. Tara, who had been on the fence earlier, decided to run the rapid. Mike was his cool, calm self—just focused on the run at hand with a smile on his face. It was decided that Dave, Tom, and I would run it first to show how it was done, and then Kendall would follow with the rest. We set off and found out that the current was definitely strong through the turn to miss the rocks on river right. This is where moving slow and deliberately really helped. We all made it through the rapid and caught the little eddy on river right.

The Class III boulder garden and ledge fiesta that followed is where it gets interesting. We saw that the rest of our paddling group was making it through the rapid just fine, so we set off to go take on the beast that was downstream. We start downstream and within minutes, Tom has flipped after catching his upstream edge in on-coming water while ripping around a turn. After one miss, he hits his roll and comes up on top of a rock looking upstream. He continues to slide down the rock backwards into a hole and window-shades again. I am coming down the chute of water that his head is in and give his helmet a little loving with the front of my boat. Thankfully, there is some slack water, so he rolls up no problem. I was amazed, and Tom was pretty happy with himself for sticking with it and while
I was giving him the massive props that he deserved, he wasn’t paying attention to the fact that he was about to run another small ledge backwards. He proceeds to window-shade again, I again almost crack him in the head with my boat, and he is in the same predicament all over. I grab an eddy on the right as he tries to roll unsuccessfully. He follows up the final missed roll with his first swim of the year and I get to use my whistle for the first time ever.

Dave turns around and goes after the boat while I chase down Tom. Tom’s okay, aside from some bumps and bruises. He swims to a very convenient eddy on the right, where his paddle has also settled. We weren’t so lucky with his boat. That stayed in the main current and Dave was struggling to move it to safety. He decides a little too late to abandon the equipment rescue and flips about 40 yards downstream of Tom’s current position. I paddle hard and by the time I get there, we’ve got another swimmer. He makes it to a mid-stream rock with his gear, while Tom’s boat luckily gets pinned to a river right bunch of wood and rock two feet off the shore. This leaves me, running the rapid with no one else. Thankfully, I was able to ferry my way across to a river right two-boat eddy and hop out to help with rescue efforts. The rest of the group arrived soon after seeing the aftermath and wondering what had happened.

After 30 minutes of rescue efforts, all paddlers were back in their boats and heading downstream. Dave had explained to Tom and me that there was a two-boat eddy above the big drop ahead. He took off for it to scout and Tom quickly followed. Tara also followed and caught a small eddy right next to them. After 30 seconds of boat scouting, Dave took off and I proceeded downstream to catch the eddy and wait my turn. Much to my surprise, I looked downstream and saw Dave sitting in his boat pinned on a rock next to the shore. After a couple of attempts to get himself unpinned, he threw his paddle on shore and got out of his boat and onto dry land.

After he got his boat unpinned, he relayed hand signals to the three of us on how to run it. I don’t know what the heck he was saying, but I guessed it to mean, down the middle between the massive pillow rock and pour over ledge into a whirlpooly looking crosscurrent hole that was pushing you back into the rock. Okay...sounds fun. Tara and Tom agreed that I would go first, which I wasn’t really surprised by. I fired up the GoPro (because if I’m going to bite it, I want it on film). Tara encouraged me to “Paddle like a *expletive*” and I answered affirmatively: “No *expletive*.“ I decided if I was going to crash and burn I was going to do it hard, so I paddled down the middle hard and fast. I crashed through the bottom hole, threw a well-timed brace, and I was clear! I celebrated as kayakers do, with shouting and fist pumps as I floated down the ensuing wave train.

Tara followed right behind me, rocking the same line with style. Tom decided to show us that an equally good line was to run up and over the pillow rock. I don’t think that was intentional, but it got the job done. Kendall and Mike followed behind and both ran it clean.

The rest of the run was nice Class II+ boulder gardens and ledges. We all relaxed and took in the awesome feeling one has after successfully completing a personally challenging section of whitewater. The day ended beautifully with blue skies and warm temperatures. It’s always nice to get off a cool water run and be instantly warm by the sunshine.

It definitely was a great first true creeking experience running the Little River in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. It was an entirely different type of paddling that Tom and I had never been exposed to. The paddling community: sharing your knowledge with the greater community to help all paddlers become better (and safer).
One of the most challenging aspects of teaching is the wide variety of students a teacher will encounter. Whether that teacher is in a school setting or providing instruction on a whitewater river, every group of students is different and requires diverse methods of explanation in order to learn. As a whitewater kayak instructor, you encounter everyone from the overly timid to the overly aggressive, from those who know to those who think they know (but don’t), and from those who learn quickly to those who need days to process a lesson. In all of these cases, the tool most used for instruction is the voice. The voice is so versatile; it can calm, encourage, and most importantly, transfer information, but what happens when this amazing tool cannot be utilized? While teaching a beginner clinic at Zoar Outdoor, this is exactly what another instructor and I had to figure out for ourselves.

A few days before the clinic began, I received an email from the instruction manager, Janet Cowie. The email stated that I, along with one other instructor, “will have three people who are deaf and do not read lips” in our upcoming clinic. Of course, my mind started racing as soon as I read this. I have had no experience teaching the deaf before, I do not even know basic sign language. How do I get their attention on the river? How do I teach, let alone explain concepts? How do I keep them safe and teach them to be safe on whitewater? After a few minutes, I began to get my thoughts together and was able to begin brainstorming. Luckily, my mother used to be fluent in sign language, and I thought that she would be a great person with whom to start planning. In about a half hour, I learned the entire signed alphabet and some basic signs in American Sign Language (ASL) that I believed would be helpful on the river.

The morning of the clinic, I met with the other instructor, Jenna, who had also crammed her brain with signs the night before. Also, along with the three students who were deaf, we had three students who could hear. We then found out some good news; one of our raft guides is partially fluent in ASL. She would be with us on the first day of the two-day clinic and would be able to at least communicate the safety information, if not some of the instruction too. We did not realize until we began teaching how much we would learn because of this class composition.

When the clinic finally began, we felt a little awkward at first. We had to speak to the hearing while also communicating to the deaf. The ride to the flatwater was eerily quiet, though upon lining up the boats to prepare for the wet exit, I began to feel surprisingly comfortable. Standing in front of the class, I realized I was teaching a physical skill; I could do what I was saying. All six of the students quickly caught on and the morning on the pond continued.

I decided to try out some of the sign language that I had learned while adjusting the students’ technique as they practiced. Debbie had told us that the deaf are generally very sensitive to vibration, therefore, tapping their boats would quickly get their attention. I found that I was able to get most of my points across just by demonstrating correct and incorrect technique and signing good, bad, yes, and no. When one of the students could not go straight, I demonstrated a vertical paddle shaft and pointed forward, and then a horizontal paddle shaft and showed turning. I was surprised that the student completely understood my “signing” and began to control her boat more efficiently.

As the day continued, my worries about river safety quickly subsided. I found that I, accompanied by some of Debbie’s explanations through sign, was able to communicate all of the safety information through demonstration and spelling out specific terms for which we had no signs. I soon found that the teaching of skills such as eddy turns and ferries did not require any special signs at all. Showing that a
paddler needs speed, angle to the current, to be looking towards the destination, and to edge the boat in order to navigate the river. Correction of mistakes also became easy. All that was needed was a quick point to the eyes, or a flick of the hips to show edge. Of course, most of the students swam, but all of the students had understood our directions and could self-rescue with ease. Before we knew it, the day was over.

On the second day of the clinic, our ASL interpreter had to go back to guiding a raft trip. By this point I wasn’t as worried as I had been the day before. I had been able to communicate well enough the previous day and I had learned some new signs the night before. The most important of these being the sign for “how do you sign ______,” which would save me a lot of time later on, not having to spell every word I wanted to say.

The second day of the beginner clinic usually begins with a talk with a white board. We usually use this board to demonstrate river maneuvers, and soon realized that we could write down bullet points of what we were describing so that the entire group of six could understand. Through this method, along with demonstrating the maneuvers with a model foam kayaker, all of the students were able to ask questions that we could thoroughly answer. I now felt that the day was going to go extremely well.

As soon as we reached the flat water for the second morning I found myself not even talking while introducing a new skill. I then noticed something surprising. Not only were the deaf students catching on quickly, but the hearing students were catching on faster and more correctly than those in the majority of our other clinics. Everyone was now watching and copying what we did instead of spacing out as “proper technique” was explained over and over while the students just sat in their boats. One of the students who was deaf even did a near-perfect sculling draw before we had introduced it. He had seen us do one earlier and just copied the motions. We were blown away. Was demonstration all that was needed to teach?

We then headed to the river and I had some time with the students just to talk while Jenna set up the shuttle. During this time, I asked if the students had any questions about the river or what we were about to do. By acting out different maneuvers on the shore, everyone was able ask their questions and understand the answers. As we began get into our boats, I told a joke about the river and figured I would try to tell the same thing to the students who were deaf. To my great surprise, they all understood and laughed. I had successfully learned enough ASL to actually joke and have short conversations!

Once on the river, I again found myself not speaking. I began to rely more and more on river signals to give directions instead of attempting to yell over the sound of the rapids. Our speaking became limited to discussing where we should take the group next and to answering the question “why?” In fact, at the end of the day, this was the only aspect of paddling that I felt I could not effectively communicate without spoken words.

The group’s success on the Class I-II run demonstrated that all of the students had understood and could carry out all of the skills we had taught them. Seeing my students maneuver the river with ease, especially with this rare group makeup, is the kind of thing that makes the job of instructing so rewarding.

After wrapping up the clinic, I began to think about the past two days. This diverse group of students forced me to think quickly about new methods of instruction. As my goal is to become a high school teacher, I will no doubt have groups of students that will need such quick thinking in terms of how to deliver information. Kayak clinics, especially this one, have helped me learn how to think in this manner. In this clinic in particular, I have learned that speaking is not always the best way to communicate. Gestures and demonstration can be just as, if not more, effective than speech. After all, kayaking is a sport you do with your body, not your mouth. This method worked so successfully in fact that we want to continue experimenting in other clinics with more teaching without speaking.

Adjusting the paddle angle for the side draw.
Photo by Zoar Outdoor
There are few places in the country that can boast such a tight-knit and bountiful paddling community as the one that is bursting at the seams in Bend, Oregon. Drive through Bend on a summer evening, and many folks will have a boat of some sort tied to their roof—or hanging from their trailer—waiting for the sun to rise so they can get out on the rivers or lakes of the Cascades.

Thrill seekers will run Meadow Camp (a Class IV whitewater paddle) at least two or three times a week, plunging through the glacial run-off of the Deschutes River as it descends through the Cascade Mountains. Those who are out there for scenery and exercise pride themselves on daily treks up to the Cascade Lakes—an incomparable series of alpine lakes that could keep a flatwater paddler happy for a lifetime.

Both of these communities mix in harmony and revelry during the summer at the monthly Pickin’ & Paddlin’ Music Series and Demo Day, hosted by Tumalo Creek Kayak & Canoe. Located on the banks of the Deschutes River, this store (and Pickin’ & Paddlin’), has become a gathering place for both flatwater and whitewater enthusiasts alike.

Head out for a paddle or float on the Deschutes River through the Old Mill District, and you’ll be in good company on a hot summer afternoon—thousands of tubers and boaters navigate this stretch of river everyday in the height of summer. This is the “Paddlin’” half of Pickin’ & Paddlin’.

After the boats get put away, the kegs get tapped, and micro-brews are poured from some of the best breweries in the United States...that happen to be just across the river from the paddling shop.

So let the Pickin’ begin! As the sun begins to descend behind the Cascade Mountains in the distance, some of Central Oregon’s best bluegrass bands take the stage,

News & Notes

The Pickin’ & Paddlin’ event is a great example of how a cause and a place to celebrate it can create an extremely strong community that shares a passion and is working towards a common goal.

Photo by Laurel Brauns

Hundreds of boaters gather on the banks of the Deschutes River in Bend, Oregon to help raise money for the Colorado Dam improvement project. The dangerous dam sits just downstream from the party.

Photo by Travis Reid
entertaining the jubilant crowd long into the night.

But beneath the music, revelry and partying, there is a dark undercurrent, a solemnness that cuts through the crowd when Tumalo Creek's owner and manager Geoff Frank steps up to the microphone half-way through the night. Frank recounts the story of the time he pulled a 70-year-old woman from out of the rock pilings of the Colorado Dam, a mill-era spillway just yards downstream from the party. Her grandchildren and husband had gone through the spillway, but she was pinned underwater on one of the I-Beams and was unconscious from a head injury when Frank first found her limp arm under the rapids. After what seemed like minutes of struggling to pull her out by her arm, the woman came to, and with the help of a friend, Frank was able to bear hug her out of the water.

While that story and many others have had happy endings (dozens of tubers have swum through the spillway), the very next day after he rescued the 70-year-old woman, Frank's phone rang. The staff at the shop was calling to tell him the news of someone who had not been so lucky. A young Japanese woman was not able to read the signs directing her to exit the river. Her foot became entrapped in the river at the dam site, and she drowned in the strong currents.

Frank then tells the crowd that Pickin’ & Paddlin’ is a fundraiser for the Bend Paddle Trail Alliance, the organization that is working towards creating a whitewater play park in place of the dangerous dam that was built in 1915. The dam was originally built to store logs for the Shevlin-Hixon and Brooks-Scanlon mills; today it is a dangerous hazard that has caused injury and death to a number of unsuspecting floaters on the Deschutes River.

The BPTA is working closely with the Bend Parks and Rec Metro District and the Old Mill District to make the whitewater recreation area a reality—to be enjoyed by tubers, whitewater kayakers, and stand up paddleboarders alike. Successful parks in other communities such as Missoula, Montana and Cascade, Idaho have brought millions of visitor dollars into their economies.

As engineering studies and designers work towards creating a plan for the park, the Pickin’ & Paddlin’ series has provided a tremendous show of community support for the project, something that will help win grants in the future. Just last summer, the organization brought in $10,000 in donations through the event and got hundreds of new paddlers out on the water as part of the boat demo portion of the evening.

The series has become a phenomenon with a life of its own—a party that everyone in town is invited to. For many, it’s one of the highlights of the summer.

Next time you’re in Bend, Oregon, come down to Pickin’ and Paddlin’ the last Wednesday of every month in the summer. After taking out a boat for a test paddle, pick up one of the Bend Paddle Trail Alliance pint glasses, fill ‘er up with a cold one, and kick off your shoes, and have an unforgettable evening supporting a great cause.
TISH TANG FALLS: THE AFTERMATH

BY PAUL GAMACHE

In December of 2010, paddlers Erik Boomer, Keegan Grady, and David Ernst pulled off the third descent of Tish Tang Falls. Christian Figueroa, Wes Schrecongost, John Hyland and I were on hand for safety and cameras. The day was a success and later that week Wes’ photo was printed in the Times Standard. Unfortunately, not everyone was impressed with the picture of the falls descent being in the newspaper. Within hours, Wes was receiving phone calls from tribal members who felt we had desecrated a tribal ceremonial site. At the time we were unaware of the cultural significance of the site but did know that the creek was located within the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation. From what I’ve learned since, some members of the tribe use the falls as a test of manhood. They would either swim behind the main falls or over the third drop. Women in the tribe are not allowed at the site and the area is known as a great fishing spot.

With all these factors you can see why some of the tribal members were upset with the newspaper article. To compound the issue a freelance tribal member who worked for a competing newspaper on the North Coast quickly picked up the story. She called for an interview while I was at work and by the time I called her back a few hours later she said the article was already submitted; frustrating to say the least. The article she wrote emphasized the point that, “Non tribal members found off the Valley floor can legally be cited for trespassing,” a law none of us knew at the time and which I’m guessing hardly anyone inside or outside of Hoopa knew either.

A few days after her original editorial the author wrote a follow-up to the “Dream Result” kayak movie review, which she had coincidently published the same day as the Times Standard article. Strangely, she chose to use the movie review platform as the follow-up for the Tish Tang story. One portion of her follow-up article points out the level to which some tribe members were taking the incident.

“Carpenter feels strongly that the kayakers should be fined at maximum. He added that every tribal member has the right to place violators of Tribal law under citizen’s arrest.”

Definitely not the type of energy you want to be the focus of. I’m sure not everyone in the tribe felt the same way as Mr. Carpenter but his published words set the tone to empower others to seek out retribution for a crime we had unknowingly committed. This made for an intense sense of fear and frustration. If we stop at the local store in Hoopa to try and support the tribe, are our tires going to be slashed or will we get harassed because we have kayaks on the roof?

Over the last year the situation has slowly deteriorated. In January 2012, the tribe closed down the Trinity River access locations while a non-member commercial permit system within the reservation has been established. The restrictions are an attempt to curb “increasingly disrespectful and destructive conduct by users of tribal lands and resources. This includes repeated incidents of illegal dumping, theft of resources, habitat destruction, contamination of lands and waterways,

David Ernst, Keegan Grady, and Paul Gamache getting ready to put on Tish Tang Creek (CA).
Photo by Wes Schrecongost
and other public offenses.”

Ideally, this new permit system will start holding non-members and members alike responsible for all disrespectful and destructive conduct. In our team’s defense we picked up trash in the road and along the creek. We picked up the trash because it was there and as part of our duty as outdoor enthusiasts to leave the areas we visit better than how we found them.

Hopefully in time kayakers will be able to work with the tribe to encourage and promote outdoor recreation on the reservation with both tribal and non-tribal members. Until then the best we can do is not kayak in ceremonial areas or travel around the reservation in search of creeks and falls without permission.

**Author’s Note:** For anyone tempted to paddle Tish Tang Falls, please don’t. The tribe has made it very clear that any future attempts will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. If that’s not reason enough, in the days following the Tish Tang trip I had an allergic reaction to the prednisone I was taking for the poison oak lining the trail. The result was crippling headaches, which essentially paralyzed me for almost a week. Call it coincidence but at the time I thought I was dying. Either way I will not be going back into Tish Tang Creek. I suggest you don’t either.

COME SEE FEATHER RIVER FEST 2012
BY LISA WILLIAMS

The 21st Annual Feather River Festival (CA) will be held during the scheduled releases September 21-23, 2012. The fund-raiser event for American Whitewater is hosted by local paddling club, the Chico Paddleheads. The benefit will be held at “Indian Jim School” campground located two miles upstream from the small town of Tobin and one mile upstream from Tobin Vista. Free camping and ample parking is available.

The Feather Fest will once again include a film festival on Friday night. Films will include winners from the National Paddling Film Festival and the latest films from local paddling film-makers. In the past, we have had the honor of showing films by Rush Sturgess, Ben Stookesberry, Shasta Boys, and others.

Saturday festivities will include a free Class II slalom course appropriate for all skill levels, ages, and craft (kayaks, whitewater canoes, and IKs). The slalom race will be located at the Indian Jim School campground and will take place from noon to 3:00pm. There will also be a downriver race on the Tobin stretch Saturday afternoon beginning at Tobin Vista. For both races, inquire at the campground benefit headquarters for information and signup.

The benefit party with live music, food and beverages will begin at 6:00 pm Saturday night. Raffle prizes, race prizes, and silent auction items will be delivered at the benefit party Saturday night at the Indian Jim School adjacent to the campground.

The Rock Creek/Tobin releases will occur beginning Saturday morning through noon on Sunday. The Rock Creek reach is a Class III run appropriate for rafts, IKs, and kayaks and the Indian Jim campground is the perfect take-out. Below the campground is the Class V Tobin reach followed by the Class IV “Lowbin” reach. There is also flatwater and Class I/II sections available all weekend long.

Bring the whole family to enjoy, celebrate, and support the work American Whitewater has done to ensure regular, recreational whitewater releases on this amazing, classic California river!!

For more information visit www.chicopaddleheads.org
AW’s Biggest Fundraiser

Sept 14-16
Summersville, WV

More info: http://gauleyfest.americanwhitewater.org
Dear Members,

Our River Stewardship Team is positioned to lead, train, and support community-based activism that represents the interests of boaters and the rivers we enjoy. Based on the notion that all politics are local, our regional approach to stewardship pairs professional American Whitewater staff with committed volunteers. Working together we have a long history of tackling complex issues that impact rivers we all enjoy paddling.

In 2011 American Whitewater focused on adding capacity to our highly effective river stewardship program by hiring additional staff for critical areas. To assist with projects on the West Coast we added an Associate Stewardship Director. In Colorado, American Whitewater added a community organizer to assist in the Dolores River project. We have learned that flow study methodologies developed for hydroelectric relicensing work well as a framework to identify water needs in Colorado rivers, where supply planning is underway. With these analytical tools in place American Whitewater found an effective voice in water allocation issues critical to protecting water levels in iconic rivers.

As we move forward, American Whitewater is excited to announce that we are launching a new regional river stewardship position in the Northeast, which is based on the success of our regional model, where staff resides and works in communities with active stewardship projects. We now plan to apply that model in the Northeast, where American Whitewater has a set of historically important river stewardship initiatives and new river restoration projects that need our attention.

On the financial front, American Whitewater has a solid balance sheet and a realistic budget in place to provide stability and growth for the organization. A very positive trend from 2011 was membership growth; our membership revenues grew by over 13% in one year.

As we look to the future, we continue to appreciate the importance of rivers and their role in supporting the health and well being of the paddling community. We remain committed to giving back to these special places and have a great story to tell right now. Our stewardship projects are making a real difference to rivers and local communities, while providing flows for healthy rivers and recreation.

Mark Singleton
Executive Director

Norwood Scott
President, Board of Directors
Protect

American Whitewater is a leader in using the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to protect our Nation’s best rivers from dams, diversions, and other impacts. In 2011 we leveraged the knowledge and passion of the paddling community to advocate for new designations in Washington and other western states, and for new interim protections for rivers that are eligible for designation. These efforts, over the next couple years should result in the protection of hundreds of miles of spectacular streams.

When water-developers propose new dams and diversions on a river that lacks adequate protection, we have to get creative. In the Southern Rockies we are working to protect critical flows in the entire Colorado River basin by documenting overlapping recreational and ecological flow needs. Throughout 2011 we participated in tough, and often successful, negotiations to keep water in iconic rivers like the Yampa and Upper Colorado rivers. In addition to the large water supply projects that threaten the Southern Rockies, we opposed roughly a dozen proposed new dams around the country in 2011.

Green River Flow Study, American Whitewater worked with the Vermont Paddlers Club and a large number of volunteers to pull off a successful flow study on the long-overlooked Green River in Vermont. The study will form the basis for flow negotiations.

Photo by Scott Martin

American Whitewater has worked for several years to develop a river management plan in cooperation with large water agencies across the state, that will protect the Upper Colorado from being de-watered by a series of dams and reservoirs. These efforts have resulted in a series of protections that will ensure streamflows for fish and boating are protected into the future. Photo by Nathan Fey
True wild rivers are rare: the vast majority of our Nation’s rivers exist in some state of development. On these rivers American Whitewater seeks to restore more natural flows and riparian environments. In most cases this involves negotiating new flow regimes below dams: in 2011 we reached major milestones on flow restoration on the Bear (ID), 15 reaches of the Yuba (CA), Green (VT), Dolores (CO), and Tuckasegee (NC) rivers to name a few. Often we are the only stakeholder advocating for ecologically vital dynamic flows, and thus play a unique and critical role in flow restoration projects across the country.

Sometimes though, the impacts of a dam simply outweigh its benefits and removal is the answer. Twenty-eleven marked American Whitewater’s biggest dam removal year ever. We celebrated the dramatic culmination of over 20 years of hard work when Condit Dam on Washington’s White Salmon was breached with explosives in October. Right up to the moment of the blast we were working to ensure the removal actually happened, working to document the removal, and co-hosting a celebration for the river community. We played a similar role on the high-profile removal of two dams on the Elwha River that also began in 2011. Our role does not end with removal – we are now working on various river management issues on these and other dam removal sites including several in the Southeast.
Enjoy

Here at American Whitewater we know the best thing we can do for the enjoyment of rivers is to protect the flows and special places that inspire paddlers. Sometimes though, we have to do more: we have to advocate for responsible recreational management that supports paddling. In 2011 we maintained a strong legal challenge of a Forest Service ban on paddling the upper Chattooga River, and responded to similar mismanagement of rivers in several National Parks. We also reorganized and recharged our efforts to resolve river access disputes in Virginia. But just as important as opposing bad river management, we also celebrated good river management. In December we co-hosted a national partnership summit with our colleagues in the Outdoor Alliance. This summit brought together leaders from the recreation community and federal land management agencies to share stories of successful partnerships that resulted in positive recreational, ecological, and economic outcomes. American Whitewater was an active participant in Outdoor Alliance policy initiatives as well as a contributing member of the River Management Society throughout 2011. Through these venues we proactively advocate for responsible river management that both protects rivers and keeps conservation-oriented Americans in touch with them.

American Whitewater co-hosted a packrafting trip for river managers on Alaska’s Portage Creek as part of the 2011 River Management Society conference. Our participation in River Management Society and Outdoor Alliance activities help to keep paddlers and managers working together on conservation and access issues. Photo by Kevin Colburn

American Whitewater worked with our coalition members in the Outdoor Alliance to co-host the first ever summit focused on successful partnerships between the human-powered outdoor recreation community and the federal land management agencies. At least ten paddlers played presenting roles.
## 2011 Statement of Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Total 2011</th>
<th>Total 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PUBLIC SUPPORT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$278,954</td>
<td>$15,735</td>
<td>$294,689</td>
<td>$264,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OTHER REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership dues</td>
<td>$183,747</td>
<td></td>
<td>$183,747</td>
<td>$162,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>$41,387</td>
<td></td>
<td>$41,387</td>
<td>$54,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td>$200,105</td>
<td>$200,105</td>
<td>$316,888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>$68,400</td>
<td></td>
<td>$68,400</td>
<td>$76,095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorships/Corp Programs</td>
<td>$122,817</td>
<td></td>
<td>$122,817</td>
<td>$55,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Products</td>
<td>$32,637</td>
<td></td>
<td>$32,637</td>
<td>$21,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Fees &amp; Services</td>
<td>$86,600</td>
<td></td>
<td>$86,600</td>
<td>$41,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Kind Contributions</td>
<td>$201,399</td>
<td></td>
<td>$201,399</td>
<td>$248,618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized Gains/Losses</td>
<td>$(6,594)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$(6,594)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest &amp; Dividends</td>
<td>$2,030</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,030</td>
<td>$1,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>$1,775</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,775</td>
<td>$244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets Released from Restriction</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Passage of Time</td>
<td>$21,841</td>
<td>$(21,841)</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Expenditure</td>
<td>$335,982</td>
<td>$(335,982)</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td>$1,370,975</td>
<td>$(141,983)</td>
<td>$1,228,992</td>
<td>$1,243,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Services:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access &amp; Conservation</td>
<td>$657,121</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$657,121</td>
<td>$620,977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Education</td>
<td>$406,892</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$406,892</td>
<td>$334,786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
<td>$1,064,013</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$1,064,013</td>
<td>$955,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; Administrative</td>
<td>$123,664</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$123,664</td>
<td>$117,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$75,220</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$75,220</td>
<td>$74,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td>$198,884</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$198,884</td>
<td>$192,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$1,262,897</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$1,262,897</td>
<td>$1,148,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$108,078</td>
<td>$(33,905)</td>
<td>$74,173</td>
<td>$95,155</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2011 REVENUE SOURCES

- **24% Contributions**
- **15% Membership Dues**
- **3% Advertising**
- **16% Grants**
- **10% Sponsorships/Corp Programs**
- **6% Events**
- **3% Products**
- **7% Management Fees & Services**
- **16% In-Kind Contributions**
- **0% Interest & Dividends**
- **0% Misc. Income**
## 2011 Assets and Liability

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT ASSETS</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$490,241</td>
<td>$524,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>$51,226</td>
<td>$22,961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Receivable</td>
<td>$48,338</td>
<td>$37,338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$223,979</td>
<td>$228,684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>$12,535</td>
<td>$19,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Deposit Funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>$2,394</td>
<td>$6,612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td>$828,713</td>
<td>$839,169</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LONG-TERM ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land held for protection</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer equipment, net</td>
<td>$5,546</td>
<td>$6,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Long-Term Assets</td>
<td>$66,602</td>
<td>$67,177</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Assets** $895,315  $906,346

---

### Liabilities & Fund Balances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT LIABILITIES</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$32,661</td>
<td>$32,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>$83,940</td>
<td>$61,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other liabilities</td>
<td>$2,155</td>
<td>$4,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Liabilities</td>
<td>$19,013</td>
<td>$16,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Liabilities</td>
<td>$137,769</td>
<td>$114,895</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unrestricted Net Assets</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Net Assets</td>
<td>$216,847</td>
<td>$358,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$757,546</td>
<td>$791,451</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** $895,315  $906,346

---

## 2011 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

- 52% Access & Conservation
- 32% Public Education
- 10% General & Administrative
- 6% Fundraising

---

*americanwhitewater.org  2011 ANNUAL REPORT*
## 2011 Honor Roll

### INDUSTRY PARTNERS

**Class V | $20,000+**
- Keen, Inc.
- Fluid Kayaks
- Jackson Kayak
- Priority Worldwide Services
- Wakawai

**Class IV | $15,000**

**Class III | $10,000**
- Dagger
- Kayak Session
- Kokatat
- Wavesport

**Class II | $7,500**
- Chaco
- Clif Bar
- Exact Target
- Immersion Research
- Smith Optics
- Subaru

**Boof | $5,000**
- French Broad River Festival
- Liquidlogic
- Pyranha
- Watershed
- Werner Paddles

**Wave | $2,500**
- AIRE
- AT Paddles
- Diamond Brand
- OARS
- SealLine

**Eddy | $1,000**
- Enriched Learning Center
- Predator Helments
- Southern Explorations

### IN KIND DONATIONS

**$30,000+**
- Nelson Galbreath, LLC

**$10,000+**
- Crowell & Moring, LLP
- Kayak Session
- KEEN, Inc

**$5,000+**
- Clif Bar
- Elite Island Resorts
- Exact Target
- Jackson Kayak
- Kokatat
- Leiter & Cramer, PLLC
- Smith Optics

**$1,000+**
- Alpacka
- Bliss Sticks
- Bob Center
- Cascade Designs
- Confluence Watersports
- Dagger
- Diamond Brand Outdoors
- Fluid Kayaks
- Immersion Research
- Microsoft
- New Belgium Brewing Co.
- Outdoor Retailer Summer Market
- Predator Helments
- Pyranha, US
- The Wachusett Brewery Store
- Wavesport
- Wet Planet Rafting & Kayaking
- Yakima

**$500+**
- Adventure Technology
- CPU Software
- Nathan Fey
- Snake Oil Medicine Show
- Don Kinser

### DONATIONS

**$5,000+**
- Yvon and Melinda Chouinard
- Cloud Mountain Foundation
- Crowell & Moring LLP
- GE Foundation
- Anne Greer
- Kenney Brothers Foundation
- Koons Family Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation
- Murray Foundation
- Porter Foundation
- Western Conservation Foundation

**$2,500+**
- Chili Bar
- Joseph Greiner
- Gerard Kiley
- Northwest Fund for the Environment
- RDM Foundation

**$1,000+**
- Doug Ammons
- Bluegrass Wildwater Asso
- Patty Bolden
- Rich and Stephanie Bowers
- Patrick Brennan
- Alan and Suzanne Bresser
- Charles and Virginia Brewer
- Robert Center
- Arnold Schaeffer and Deborah Chandler
- Chota Canoe Club
- Ed Clark
- Mary Dombey
- Lester E Hurrelbrink
- Kent Ford
- Robert and Andrea Forster
- Joel E. Freedman
- George & Miriam Martin Foundation
- Jennie Goldberg
- Mike Gunter
- Robert W. Harris
- Christopher Hest
- John Jerger
- Kevin St John
2011 Honor Roll

Don and Nanci Kinser
Ben Levy
Douglas and Marie Liu
Jay Marcus
Microsoft
Megi Morishita
Nantahala Outdoor Center
Next Adventure
Nicholas B. Paumgarten
PDXKayaker
Lee Rust
Norwood Scott
Shore Lodge
Brady Sleeper
Roger L. Starring
Peter Stekel
Jason Stingl
Edward Stockman
Sutherland Foundation Inc.
Richard Thistle
Barry and Kitty Tuscano
Viking Canoe Club
Charlie and Sandy Walbridge
Michael Wilens and Carolyn Longacre
Candice Clark Wozniak
Brad Xanthopoulos

George Hodges, Jr.
Ezra Thomas Jones
Peter Katt
KCCNY
Joseph Keck
Keelhauler Canoe Club
Pat Keller and Family
Gerald A. and Caroline B. Keller
Chris Kirkman
Cameron and Kerri Klinger
George Laird
Jude and Fred Lemke
Kevin L. Lewis
Evelyn Locke
Brooks Lutterloh
Elizabeth Madzula
Greg Mallory
Mikenzie Matteson
Memphis Whitewater
Ellen and Jack Moskowitz
Michele and Charles Mueller
Andrew Oberhard
Bill and Donna Holmes Parks
Meghan Pendergast
Lance Petrack-Zunich
Pruzan Foundation
Ken Ransford
Mark Rasmus
Clare Richer
Stephen Robinson
Chanchal Samanta
Lisa Sarneso
Deirdre Segerson
Amy Shipman
Norman Sims
Keirith Snyder
Loren Starcher
Andrew Stuart
Carl W. Suchovsky
Collin Swan
The Hooter Fund II of The Oregon Community Foundation
Newton Tilson
Martha Turner
Josh von Szalatnay
Gordon Warren
Williamette Kayak & Canoe Club
Courtney Wilton
Ethan Winter
John D. Wolken
Dianne Brindisi Woods
Carter Wray

$250+

Jeffrey Abel
Thomas Allen
Jane Alpert
Jay Anderson
Richard Ernie Anderson
John Arthur
David Asbell
David M. Ashley
Astral Bouyancy Co.
Atlanta Whitewater Club
Kemper Begley
Chris Bell
Shane Benedict
Peter Berg
Lori and John Berisford
William J. Bishop
Kevin Black
Mike Botis Sr
Ann and Daniel Brindisi
Anne Brindisi
John Brower
Alex Brown
Melinda and Richard Brown
Robert (Mike) Brown
Dennis and Karen Buccella
Robert Butera
Mark Canada
Vicki Capone
Daniel E. Carlson
John Carter
Charlie Center
Ross and Tara Cherry
Thomas J. Christopher
Chuck Cloninger
Howard Cohen
Gretchen Cornell
Jesse Costello-Good
Jason Darby
Gerald Delong
Phil and Mary DeRiemer
Polk Deters
Jim Dobbins
Driscoll Agency
Chip Duckett
William Duffek
Randy Ebersole
Susan Eckerly
Elkhorn Paddlers
Brandon and Tara Engler
Donna K. Ennis

$500+

Anonymous
Jon Almquist
Mike Aronoff
Bailey Family Foundation
Kim Bates
Lee Belknap
Eric Bessette
Harlan Blynn
Tim Boring
Steve Braddom
Peter Bross
Woody Callaway
Alder Creek Kayak & Canoe
Chico Paddleheads
Dagger Canoe Company Inc.
Sandrine Deglin
Drew Elder
Donnelly and Viselli Family
Nathan Fey
Stuart Fraser
Debbie Frye and James Fore
GE Canada Real Estate Equity
Ron Healy
Pamela K. Hedges
2011 Honor Roll

Evolution Kayaks
Terry Ewanochko
Seth Fitzsimmons
Foothills Paddling Club
George and Leslie Fuller
Sean Gallivan
GE Real Estate
Adelene Tan & Luke Geldermans
Georgia Canoeing Asso
Edward Gertler
Chris Glazner
Brent and Jeannie Glover
George and Clarice Gordon
Lucian Hand
Jeffrey Hatcher
Michael Hodge
Paul Holmes
Rick Hudson
Daniel Jagoe
Emma Johnson
Patrick Kessler
Hank M. Klausman
Christopher Kovaly
Kelly Kraus
Jack Krupnick
Emile J. LeDonne
Debbie Leonard
Anna Levesque
All Star Rafting & Kayaking
Scott Ligare and Katie Scott
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Paddlers
Phil Lutey
Richard and Patricia Maddi
Heather Magliozi
Mimi Margulies
Gary Martinez
Gary and Susan Martinez
Ron Mastalski
Tom McClure
Robert McGunnigle
Kurt McKissick
Lynn McLarty
Elizah B. McLaughlin
Trafford McRae
Victor Kress and Dawn Meekhof
Doug Methvin
Mike Lee Architect
Kevin and Michelle Miller
Steven Miller, MD
Phil Montgomery
Bryan and Patty Morrison
Lisa Moscinski
Julie Munger
John Munnell
Brian Muchter
Alex Nichols
Jane Nielsen
John O'Leary
Paddle Trails Canoe Club
Paathep Pichanusakorn
Jennifer Plyler and Paula Sorensen
Patrick Polan
Joe Pulliam
Tom Quarles
Steven Rapp
Johnson Rice
Melvin Rodriguez
Richard Rollins
Jesse Rosenzweig
Julie Scott Rowland
Barbara Runyon
Magdalena Rusinowski
Janet Russell
Karl Sackinger
San Miguel Whitewater Asso
Steve Schaefer
Joseph Schipani
David Scott
Bill and Mary Sedivy
Jack Shuler
Mark Singleton
Sojourner Communications, Inc.
Mike Stanley
Steve Stohman
John Stormon
Joe Stubbs
Matthew Terry
The Arches Foundation
Scott Thomas
Pam Todd
Robert C. Tyler
Tim Walsh
Andrew Walters
Kirk Weir
Tom and Suzanne Welander
James Westfall and Susan Batiste
Bruce Wheelless
Wilton Hockey Booster Association Inc
Graham Winkelman
Andrew Wise
Pat Younger
Mark Zakutansky
Zoar Outdoor

$100+

Michael Abernethy
Kim Abney
R. W. Adamchak
Scott Adams
Russell Adams
David Adcock
ADK Schenectady
Steve Agnew
Richard Albanese
John Allen
AMC - Connecticut Chapter
AMC Delaware Valley Chapter
John Amtmann
Terrell and Michelle Anderson
Jane and Steven Andraka
Henry C. Annable
Paul Anschel
Mary Arman
Steven Arrowsmith
William S. Atkins
Richard Aurilio
Avid4 Adventure Inc.
Ben Badger
Mark E. Baier
Keith Bailey
Stephen Bailey
Bess and Rod Baird
Kerrie Lee Barloga
James Barrett
Jim Barrett
Jocelyn Barrett
James D. Batten
Martin Bay and Nancy Anderson
Ryan Bayes
Jason Beadnell
Craig Beasley
Frederick W. Beck
Dan Becker
Kevin Belew
Rick Bellows
Roger E. Belson, MD
Harold Bencowitz
Dan Bennis
Suzanne Benson
Tom and Doris Berdeen
Susan and William Beresford
Geoffrey Bergmark
Paul Bergquist
Alison Bermant
Peter R. Bernstein
Andy Berry  
Leonard Berry  
Melissa Bertenthal  
Todd Bewley  
Kevin Billingslea  
Brian Blanton  
Jeff Blanton  
Nancy and Bruce Block  
Ralph Bloemers  
Scott Blum  
Michael Blumenthal  
Clif Bobinski  
Philip Bobrow  
Derek Bocard  
Daniel Boisvert  
Steve Bond  
David Bookstaver  
Nick Borelli  
Scott Bortree  
Phil Boudreau  
Arthur F. Bowie  
Robert Boyce  
Mira Boyd and Greg Navas  
Charles Brabec  
Bradford County Canoe and Kayak Club  
Paul Bradley  
Raymond Bragar and Robin Hertz  
Daniel Bramble  
Robert Braniza  
Mike Brayton  
Bob Brewer and Jonna Hussey  
Andy R. Bridge  
Bridget Brennan  
Scott Bridgham  
Christopher Brobin  
Eric Brooks  
Richard Brooks  
Eddie Broussard  
Charles Brown  
Gordon Brown, Jr  
Michael Brown  
James Bruin  
Ian Brunton  
Tim Buch  
Ian Buckley  
Paul Bunce  
Rick Burchfield  
James Burke  
Matt Burnette  
Steve Burrows  
Tripp Burwell  
Matt Butcher and Liz Pennisi

John Butler  
Matt Buys  
Christopher Caffrey  
Tom Caine  
California Floaters Society  
Bernard Y. Calvert, III  
Doug Cameron  
Bob Card  
Christopher Cardoni  
Sean Caron  
Daniel Carroll  
Ben Carter  
Jim Carver  
Ryan Casey  
Renee Cassagne  
Paul Castille  
Chattanooga Whitewater Outfitters  
Matt Cheadle  
Barb Checchia and Mike Colwell  
Chicago Whitewater Assn  
Brian Chisholm  
Joe Cholka  
Catherine Chung  
Alexandra Clarfield  
Keith Clausen  
Landy Clendenon  
CLSJ Foundation  
Lane Coddington  
Howard Cohen  
Scott Cole  
Columbus Outdoor Pursuits  
Art Colwell  
Robin and Robert Como  
Scott Conley  
Allyson Conner  
Michael Connolly  
Robert Conrad  
Larry Cook  
Tad Cooke  
Ted Cookson  
Bob and Linda Cooley  
Coosa River Paddling Club  
David Cottingham  
Gary Coultas  
Steve Cournoyer  
Juliet Cox and Thomas Mutchler  
Lora Cox  
Crab Apple Whitewater Inc.  
Adam Craig  
Will Craig  
Adam Cramer  
Steve Cramer  
Will Crimmins  
Bill Crockett  
James Cross  
Brendan Curran  
Tim Curry  
Thomas Curtin  
Michael Cyrus  
Laura Daigle  
Rex Dalrymple  
Rebecca Dameron  
Daniel Kanner  
Chad Daugherty  
Sandra K. David  
Linda and David Davidson  
Craik Davis  
Kirsten A. Davis  
Nancy and Steve Davis  
Richard Davis  
Linda Day  
James Deehan  
Jeff DeMaine  
Denali Raft Adventures  
John W. Dennis  
Sarah Dentoni  
Anthony DelRiggi  
Edward Dery  
Jerry Diamondstein  
Chris Dickens  
Christine and Bert Dickinson  
Richard and Tamra Dickinson  
Tom Diegel  
Dante DiOrio  
Jack Ditty  
James Dollar  
Stephen Dorick  
David Dorsch  
Stratford Douglas  
Jack and Barbara Doyle  
Michael Doyle  
Sam Drevo  
Charles Duffy  
Frances Duggan  
Paul Durrence  
Robert A. Duvall  
Dan Dyer  
Charles E Walker DVM  
Rebecca E. Carter  
Steven E. Nelson  
Jared Ebelhar  
Echo Valley Foundation Fund  
Don Edmonds  
Al Eggleston
2011 Honor Roll

Michael Elovitz  
Bernard Engelman  
EPIC Adventures  
Chris Erdahl  
Lee Eudy  
Dave Evans  
Kenny Evans  
Dirk Fabian  
Richard Fernald  
Charles Field  
Kelly Fischer  
Mark Steven Fishburn  
George L.P. Fitz  
Mitchell Fitzgibbon  
Float Fishermen of Virginia  
Flow Paddlers' Club  
Charles P. Flynn  
Greg Forrester  
Charles Forrester  
Elise and Fred Forster  
David Fortenberry  
David Fosdick  
Ross Frank  
Toni and David Frank  
Paul Franke  
Judy Gaffney  
John Gagliardo  
Marie Gaither  
Allen Gaither  
Connie and JD Gallant  
Ryan Galway  
Gerard Ganey  
Derek Ganzenmuller  
Ron Gardner  
William Garrett  
Ken Garrison  
Bob Gedekoh  
Brett Gehrke  
Hans and Gail Geyer  
Janet Gibbons  
Mike Gillam  
Kenneth Glusman  
Renato Gneo  
Lillian Good  
Amy Goode  
Susan Goodman  
Michael and Mae Gordon  
Lance Gorman  
Al Grapel  
Denise and Scott Gravatt  
Mayo Gravatt  
Greater Baltimore Canoe Club

Cecil Greck  
Lee Green  
David Greenwald  
J.D. Grogan  
Debbie Grooman  
William M. Guerry  
John Guetter  
Andrew Gulman and Cathy Howard  
Carl and Anita Gutschick  
Mark Guttadauro  
Alan Guttenberg  
John Hadley  
Jeannine Hagan  
Scott Hagerty  
Mary and David Hall  
Ann Halverson  
Amy & Mark Hamilton  
Creek Hanauer  
Rob Hancharick  
J. Kevin Hannon  
Edward and Ann Hanrahan  
Luke and Kimi Hanson  
James A. Hardee  
Dunbar Hardy  
Cristina Harmon  
Desmond Harrington  
Harvey Harris  
Paul Harrison  
Eric Hartman  
Brian Hartnett  
Bob Harvey  
Don Harwood  
Gary Hasenstab  
Scott Hastie  
Charlotte Hathaway  
Jeffrey Hatling  
A David Hawkins  
Hurricane Haynie  
Carter Hearn  
David Carter Hearn  
James Hedges  
Jason Heiss  
Andy Held  
Henry J. Herrmann  
David A. Herron  
Richard Herstein  
Andy Hertz  
George Hicks  
Jim Hobbs  
Mike J. Hodgman  
Ted Hofmann  
Andrew Holcombe  
Eric Holden  
Holtwood Hooligans  
Diane Holwick  
Marge and Bill Hone  
Charles Hoopes  
Richard L. Hopley  
Greg Hoskins  
Housatonic Area Canoe & Kayak Sq.  
Robert Housley  
Whatts Hudgens  
Michael Hudspeth  
Fred Huey III  
Shannon Hugetz  
Cynthia Cardon Hughes  
Frank W. Hughto-Delzer  
Paul R. Hummel  
Frederick Hund  
Eugene Hundertmark  
Chuck Hunley  
Gwen Hunter  
Huntsville Canoe Club  
Kayla Hutchison  
Ben Huza  
Jaime Iadicicco  
Jeremy Ingram  
Kenneth Jackson  
Michele Jackson  
Robert and Charlotte Jackson  
Charles Jacob  
Avinash Jagwani  
Jenifer Jakub  
John Jamnback  
Herbert Jarvis  
Jerry Jascom  
Jeffrey Redding and Robbie Griffith  
Jimmy Jehle  
Andrew Jillings  
Elizabeth B. Johns  
Eric O. Johnson  
John Johnson  
Josiah Johnson  
Katherine Johnson  
Michael Johnson  
Stacey Johnson  
Kim Johnston  
Thomas Jones  
Michael Jordan  
Peter Juhnke  
Jeffrey Kaes  
Ed and Grace Kane  
Stacy and Dale Karacostas  
Ilona Karow
2011 Honor Roll

Hollis and Stanley Kaskey
Jonathan Katz
Mike Kaufman
Chris Kautz
Jake Kee
Roy Keeler
Jon Keith
Tim J. Kelley
Kelly Family
Willie Kern
Michael Duclos and Julia Khorana
Chris Kiehl
Britan A. Kilbourne
Trip Kinney
Chuck Kirk
W Gregory Klein
Helge and Laurieann Klockow
Doug Knapp
Bill Knowlon
John A. Kobak
Scott and Devan Koehn
Jennifer Koermer and Andrew Douglas
Carolyn Komar
Charles D. Koteen
Nick Kowalski
Tim Krane
Brock Krizan
Erich Krueck
Brian Krueger
Joseph Kubert
David and Angie Kuklinski
David A. Kurtz
Ken Kyster
Mark and Sharon Lacroix
Michael LaFlair
Phil and Carol LaMarche
Chris Lambiotte and Rebecca Brown
Timothy Lane
Michelle Lapin
Thomas Lardieri
Andre Largente
Erik Larsen
Henry Latimer
Brent Laubbaugh and Kelly Miller
Michael Leal
Robert Leayman
Brian LeDoux and Kristyn Econome
Robert Lee
Brent Lehman
Todd Leigh and Linda Savage
Jay Letto
Keith Lewis

David Lipski
Sheldon Litwin
Darren Livingston
Ron Ladders
Tim Lombard
Robert Lord
Eric Lovejoy and Kris Moller
Jim Low
Toby Lowe and Adam Lowe
Barry Lucas
Timothy Luce
Andrew Ludke
David Luinstra
Peter J. Lusardi
Scott Lyden
David G. Lysy
Scott Mabel
Bill MacFarlane
Jim MacIntyre
Brian Madsen
Erica Madsen
Jane A. Majeski
Dionigi Maladorno
Craig Mallery
Jerry Malloy
Mike Malloy
Bill Mandler
Ben Marean
Diane M. Markoff
Peter Mattson
Ben R. Maxwell, Jr.
Jerry McAward
Steve McClelland
John McCalister
Robert McConaghy
James P. McCool
Jay McDonnell
David A. McGovern
Ryan McGrady
Joanne and Dan McGrew
David McIwaine
Scott F. McIntyre
Stephen McKinley
Bill McKnight
Samuel B. McLamb
John McLaughlin

Andrew McLay
Linda and Steve McLuckie
Chuck Meakin
Gerald H. Meral
Gregg and Karen Merchen
William P. Merrick
Merrimack Valley Paddlers
Cynthia Meyer
Jim Michaud
John Michnick
Michael R. Middlemas
Mark Milikowski
Donald S. Millard, Jr.
Gary Miller
Lisa Miller
Anna S. Mills
Steven Mills
Brad Milner
Carla Miner
Erica Mitchell
Kevin Mitchell
Mooney Family
Jeff Moore
Charles E. Morgan
Melissa Morgan
Robert Morton
Mt. Washington Valley Paddlers
Matt Muir
Dylan Mulkey
Frank Murphy
Terese Muschar
Gail Myers
Sharon A. Myers
John Nedzel
Danielle Needle
Carol Nelson
Michael A. Nelson
Nicholas School of the Environment
David Nichols
Michael Nicolini
Corey Nielsen
Mark Andrew Noltimier
Ray Norman
Nova Riverrunners Inc.
Ronald S. Novak
Jerod Nowicki
McKay B. Nutt
Nathan Ober
Rich Ochmanowicz
Eric O’Connell
Cliff O’Connor
Frank Ohrt
2011 Honor Roll

Anne and John Olden
John O’Meara
Tom Omiatek
Jess Ordower
Oregon Whitewater Association
Robert Ostrosky
Lanson Oukrop
Dennis and Molly Overly
Lee A. Owen
Ozark Wilderness Waterways
Tom Pace
Paddling.net, Inc.
Jeffrey Paine
Russell Paine
Thomas Palka
Pam Ashley
Jennifer Parker
Kevin Parker
Zach Parker
Gayle and Richard Parry
Alan Pasnik
Jesse Patterson
Warren Pechan
Kent Perillo
Stuart Perillo
Kurtis Perkins
Lori Ann Perrelle
Elizabeth Perry
John Personias
Kurt Peterson
Eric Petlock
Mike Pfund
Philadelphia Canoe Club
Nonny Phillips
Mary Beth Pichiarello
Dennis J. Pistoll
David Plott
Michael Poisson
Timothy Potter
Jeremy Poulin
Frank Preston
Wes Prince
Bill Prindle
Douglas Proctor
James Proctor
Leonard Prosniitz
Chris Puchner
Scott Puthoff
Paul and Sarah Raffaeli
Doug and Allison Ragan
Jim Rawson
David Redden
Dagmar Rehse and Michael Rausch
Paul Reilly
Harry Rhett
Bret Rhinesmith
Ian Rice
Len Rice
Jeff Richman
Craig A. Richter
Rutledge Riddle
Shaun Riedinger
David Ritchie
Patrick Rivers
Rick Rizzolo
Sheila Roberts
Stan Robinson
Mack L. Roebuck
Lee Roehrdanz
Edward Roseboom
Michael Rosenberg
Dona Ross
Sarah Stewart and Benjamin Ross
Janet Rossi
Katie Routh
Steve Ruhle
Greg Runyon
Ken Ryan
Mike Ryan and Linda Joyce
Dennis Sager
Alan Salomon
Gary and Belinda Sanda
Jeff Sandefur
Paul Sanford
Stephen Santacroce
Jeff Sarsfield and Antonia Chadwick
Nicolene and Stuart Sawabini
Richard Scafidi
Chris Scalisi
Steven Graybill and Helene Scalliet
Bill and Kary Scarborough
Steve Scarborough Family
Scenic River Tours
Greg and Dawn Schackel
Paul Schelp
Susan Scheufele
Tom Schiff
Rolf Schindler
Daniel Schlag
Johanna Schneider
Elizabeth Schneier
Pete Scholl
Eric and Tera Schreiber
Jeff Schultz
Michael Schwartz
Timothy W. Scofield
Seamans Family
Kurt Seckington
Jeff Seebach
Kathleen Sengstock
Don Sessions
Helen Cherniack and Mike Shafer
Richard Shands
Jack Shapiro
Jeff Sharpe
John Sherman
Charles B. Sherwood
Sierra Nevada Whitewater Club
John Sills
Dan Simon
Roger Singer
Anne Singleton
Dick Sisson
Bob Skelly
John Skorpen
David Smalley
Jeff Smith
Joe Smith
Ken Gfroerer and Lisa Smith
Steve Smith, MD
Mowry Smith
Patsy Smith
Peter F. Smith
Todd Smith
Topher Smith
Stephen R. Smyth
Derek D. Snyder
Sean Snyder
Larry S. Sokol
Wesley Soward
Caroline and John Spain
Michael Spanos
Kendall Springer
Robert W. Springman
Dave Stanley
Andrew Steele
Larry Steffensmeier
Paul Steffy
John Steimke
Gordon Steinlauf
David Stenger
Gary Stenger
Craig R. Steury
Tom Stevens
Larry Stewart
Larry and Leslie Stewart
2011 Honor Roll

Charles Still
Daniel Stillman
Blaine Stimac
Edward Pettus and Amy Stout
Sue Strang and Paul Carlile
Deborah and John Strenkowski
Ken and Fran Strickland
Dave Su
Douglas Sughrue
Deborah and Neil Sullivan
Dave and Kendra Summers
Whitney and Kate Sunderland
Kyle McCutchen and Tina Swan
Douglas Swartz
John R. Sweet
Michael Szymanski
William Szymanski
Tracy Tackett
Michael and Caroline Tanksley
Cynthia Taylor and Web Pierce
Alice Taylor
Andrew Taylor
Kate and Bob Taylor
Rick Tegtehoff
Stephen Tegtmeyer
Steve and Patty Telgener
Chris Tellis
Ryan Tharp
Jason Thomas
Karrie and Culley Thomas
Axel and Alex Thomsen
Mac and Molly Thornton
Ann and Cecil Tickamyer
John Tillema
Lee Timmons
David Tomasch
Ellen Tomassi
Peter Towey
Town Tinker Tube Rental
Christopher Tracy
Tom Tremblay
Kerry Trojner
Glen Tsaparas
Carrington Tutwiler
Chloa and Malcolm Ulrich
University Kayak Club
Rex W. Unkefer
VADIM SHUN
Timothy Van Fleet
Ed Veety
Vermont Paddlers Club
Maria Viterisi
Dianne Vosgien
Craig Waddell
Carol Waggy
Jim Wagner
Steve Wallace
Richard Ward
Kevin Waterbury
We Love Clean Rivers Inc
Bucknell Webb
Greg Weeter
Grant Weidenbach
Marshall Weidman
Peter Weingarten
Gary Weldon
Jeffrey Wells
Stanley Wells
Joseph Welter
Chris West
Jeff West
Joey West
Erik White
Keith Whittington
Ed Wicker
Susan and Karl Wigdal
David Wilcox
Steve Wilcox
Douglas Willenborg
Ben Williams
Sarah Zapolsky and David Williams
Jeremy Willis
Ed and Sondra Willoebe
Wilmington Trail Club
Chad Wilson
Darren Wilson
David J. H. Wilson
John R. Wilson
Willy and Michelle Witt
Tom Wittekind
Martin Wittmann
Mike Wodianski
Wolverine Publishing LLC
Jessica Wood
David Wood
Matt Wood
Brad Woodford
Damon Wooten
Jeff Wormald
Jeryl Yantis
David Yawman
Dan York
Jim and Patty Young
Fred Zacherl
Craig Ziegler
Jonathan Ziegler
Michael Zimber
Dave Zinn
Lennard Zinn

Lifetime

Michael and Susan Abernathy
David Ackerman
Milt Aitken
Charlie Albright
Jon Almquist
Doug Ammons
Walt Andry
Mike Arons
Eric Arons
Brian M. Aubin
Brent Austin
Sutton Bacon, Jr
Chris Baggott
Scott P. Barnes
Pope Barrow
Kim Bates
Keith Beck
Chris Bell
Suzanne Benson
Brian C. Berg
Alison Bermant
Peter R. Bernstein
William J. Bishop
Laura Blalock
Scott Blase
Patty Bolden
Rich and Stephanie Bowers
Dave Bowman
Steve Braddon
Larry Brammer
Alan and Suzanne Bressler
Charles and Virginia Brewer
Brian Briant
Peter Bross
Alex Brown
David Brown
Mike Buechler
Curtis and Buffy Burge
Victoria Butler
Margaret R. Caldwell
Stephen Canale
David & Mary Cernicek
Yvon and Melinda Chouinard
Thomas J. Christopher
Ed Clark
2011 Honor Roll

Roman Ryder
Tim Ryle
Lawton Salley
Chanchal Samanta
San Miguel Whitewater Asso
Patricia Schifferle
Tom Schneller
Rick Schoen
Norwood Scott
Mark Scriver
Roberta A. Scull
Pat Sheridan
Ed Sherwood
Jim Sindelar
Tom Sitz
Peter N. Skinner
Brady Sleeper
Edwin Smalley
Ken Gfroerer and Lisa Smith
Mike A. Smith
Stephen L. Smith
Chris Sneed
Keirith Snyder
Matt Solomon
David Spiegel
Eli Spiegel
Joel Spiegel
Aaron Stabel
Kurt Stalnaker
Roger L. Starring
Mary E. Starzinski
Chris Stec
Dave Steindorf
Gordon Steindorf
Peter Stekel
Sarah Stephenson
Bryan and Michelle Stewart
Jason Stingl
Edward Stockman
Andrew Stuart
Mark Sullivan
Jeffrey Taschler
Charles E. Taylor
Tennessee Valley Canoe Club
The Arches Foundation
Richard Thistle
Newton Tilson
Marc Tohir
Eric Tolleson
Barry and Kitty Tuscano
Jim Veltrop
Charlie Vincent
Josh von Szalatnay
Joan and Kurt Wade
Charlie and Sandy Walbridge
Duke Warner
Gordon Warren
Scott Weems
Kate Wempe
Werner Paddles
Collin Whitehead
Natalie Whiteman
Martin Wick
Greg Widroe
Kurt Williams
John R. Wilson
Juliana Wilson
Courtney Wilton
John D. Wolken
Brandon Woods
Candice Clark Wozniak
Brad Xanthopoulos
Art Zemach

In Memory Of

Alan Baldwin
Kevin Bair
Christopher Beauvais
Brent Esmon
Stephen Forster
Ed Gaker
Boyce Greer
Ben Griffith
Kate Howell
Trafford McRae
Porpon (Paul) Pichanusakorn
Allen Satcher
Steve Worcester

In Honor Of

Mike Gilchrist and Jessica Meyer
Timothy Guay
Marcus Mitchell
Jeffery Sharpe
Jesse Wilensky
Ben and Sarah

Foundations

Bailey Family Foundation
Cloud Mountain Foundation
CLSJ Foundation
Echo Valley Foundation Fund
GE Foundation
George & Miriam Martin Foundation
Kenney Brothers Foundation
Koons Family Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation
Murray Foundation
Northwest Fund for the Environment
O’Keefe Family Foundation
Pruzan Foundation
RDH Foundation
Resources Legacy Fund
Sutherland Foundation Inc.
The Hooter Fund II of The Oregon Community Foundation
Walton Family Foundation
Western Conservation Foundation

CFC & Workplace Giving

Nick Abrams
Mark T. Adams
Mehdi Akacem
Brooks R. Aldredge
David L. Anderson
Sarah B. Anderson
Charles Arning
Steve Austin
Jeremy Bailey
David C. Baker
Angela Baldo
David E. Barden
Kirk T. Bailey
Donald Barnett
Randall B. Blades
Jeff Boord
David Brauer
Derek C. Bristol
Brian D. Buckley
George Bullen
Gabriel Burger
James Burtn
Jim and Lisa Burton
Michael M. Carroll
Jim Cavo
Steven Chase
Seth Cooper
Natalie Courseon
John Daffron
Mark D’Agostino
Quincy Dan
Jason Darby
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey J. Dean</td>
<td>Nicholas Jackson</td>
<td>Gaylon Partain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lori Dearth</td>
<td>Richard L. Jackson</td>
<td>Bruce A. Patton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Delaplaine</td>
<td>Kevin St John</td>
<td>William Payne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel J. Deptula</td>
<td>Robert A. Johnson</td>
<td>John R. Peck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Dooley</td>
<td>Thomas Jones</td>
<td>Darrell Penn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Duffy</td>
<td>Eric Jones</td>
<td>Jessica L. Pesqueira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Duncan</td>
<td>Matthew Jones</td>
<td>Alan Pettingill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry and Christine Dunn</td>
<td>Joshua Kaufman</td>
<td>Rebecca Post</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel W. Dutton</td>
<td>Seth Kaufman and Susanne Rublein</td>
<td>Zachary Ramsey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James D. Ellis</td>
<td>Kelly Family</td>
<td>Robert Ratcliffe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Faustini</td>
<td>Chris Kelly and Nanette Laughrey</td>
<td>Jennifer Raymond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Fernald</td>
<td>Burket Kniveton</td>
<td>Hunter Reed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan A. Fialkowski</td>
<td>Brock Krizan</td>
<td>Forrest Rodman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank J. Fico</td>
<td>Chris Laabs</td>
<td>Dale Rogerson and Sarah Stanley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Fine</td>
<td>Lark A. Lambert</td>
<td>Tracey and Eric Roush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Fisher</td>
<td>Glenn Lamson</td>
<td>Daniel R. Sanborn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William O. Fisher</td>
<td>Gavin Light</td>
<td>Michael SanSoucie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claude Frank</td>
<td>Brian and Mari Little</td>
<td>Mack Schmidt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Frederick</td>
<td>Major Mather Little</td>
<td>Eric and Tera Schreiber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian and Carrie Freeman</td>
<td>Bill Logeson</td>
<td>Christopher Schwartz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Garrity</td>
<td>Brad Love</td>
<td>David Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey B. Gartman</td>
<td>Boykin Lucas</td>
<td>Charles Scroggins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward J. George</td>
<td>Logan Madlin</td>
<td>Andrew Senay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Gerdes</td>
<td>Anthony Malana</td>
<td>Doreen Sheikh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claire Gesalman</td>
<td>Josh L. Malecki</td>
<td>Don Simon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ewan Gibson</td>
<td>Jerry Malloy</td>
<td>Billy Simmons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Gibson</td>
<td>Barry Martin</td>
<td>Nichole Simmons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Gillespie</td>
<td>Gary and Susan Martinez</td>
<td>Michael S. Simpson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Godin</td>
<td>Robert J. Mascio</td>
<td>Debby Singleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Goufas</td>
<td>Andy Massey</td>
<td>Ashley Skee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawn Graham</td>
<td>Jeffrey McEnroe</td>
<td>Scott Slayton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawn Griffin</td>
<td>Timothy McGinty</td>
<td>Jesse Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Griffin</td>
<td>Scott McKay</td>
<td>Mary Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barry Grimes</td>
<td>Mark McKinstry</td>
<td>James Sprouffske</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Guadagnini</td>
<td>William M. Metz</td>
<td>Bryan and Michelle Stewart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Hackler</td>
<td>Martin Meyer</td>
<td>Robert Stiles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara K. Hall</td>
<td>Marin Millar</td>
<td>Travis Strickland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronn E. Harding</td>
<td>Henry Miller</td>
<td>Susan M. Strumbel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Harrell</td>
<td>Daniel P. Molnar</td>
<td>Sharon Suhrie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Harris</td>
<td>Aubra L. Moore</td>
<td>Leland Suttee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Hartman</td>
<td>Christian Morath</td>
<td>Christ Svetanoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver Heim</td>
<td>Robert Moses</td>
<td>Tracy Tackett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Heinonen</td>
<td>Andrew Nix</td>
<td>Ramsey Tate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Henderlong</td>
<td>Michael S. Noud</td>
<td>Michael Tehan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Henderson</td>
<td>Jerod Nowicki</td>
<td>Thomas Tempel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neil Hermansdorfer</td>
<td>Andrew Oberhardt</td>
<td>Grace Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Hicks</td>
<td>Jennifer Paisner</td>
<td>Kerry Trojan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Holdsworth</td>
<td>Cynthia Palmer</td>
<td>Linda Tulaba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank W. Hughto-Delzer</td>
<td>Jim Paradiso</td>
<td>Christopher Tulley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene Hundertmark</td>
<td>Irov R. Pardee</td>
<td>Charles A. Turner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Hunt</td>
<td>Jennifer Parker</td>
<td>Laura J. Ulibarri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andris Ikstrums</td>
<td>Justin Parker</td>
<td>Vadim Shun</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Affiliate Clubs

ADK Schenectady
Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico
AMC - Connecticut Chapter
AMC - New Hampshire Paddlers
AMC Boston Chapter Paddlers
AMC Delaware Valley Chapter
Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts
Arkansas Canoe Club
Atlanta Whitewater Club
Avid4 Adventure Inc.
Bardstown Boaters
Base Camp Cullowhee
Benscreek Canoe Club
BEWET - Boeing Employees Whitewater & Touring Club
Birmingham Canoe Club
Blue Ridge River Runners
Bluegrass Wildwater Asso
Bradford County Canoe and Kayak Club
California Floaters Society
Canoe Club Of Greater Harrisburg
Carolina Canoe Club
Chicago Whitewater Assn
Chico Paddleheads
Chota Canoe Club
Coastal Canoeists Inc
Colgate University
Colorado Whitewater Assn
Columbus Outdoor Pursuits
Conewago Canoe Club
Coosa River Paddling Club
Creek Freak Paddlers of Franklin County VA
DbI Z Whitewater Club
Dolores River Action Group
East Tennessee Whitewater Club
Elkhorn Paddlers
EPIC Adventures
Eugene Kayaker
Fairbanks Paddlers
Float Fishermen of Virginia
Flow Paddlers’ Club
Foothills Paddling Club
Friends of the Arkansas River
Georgia Canoeing Asso
Georgia Tech Outdoor Recreation
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Assn
Greater Baltimore Canoe Club
Hamilton College
High Jim and the A.S.K.
Hollins Outdoor Program
Holtwood Hooligans
Housatonic Area Canoe & Kayak Sq.
Huntsville Canoe Club
Idaho Whitewater Association
Iowa Whitewater Coalition
KCCNY
Keelhauler Canoe Club
Ledyard Canoe Club
Lehigh Valley Canoe Club
Lehigh Valley Whitewater Inc.
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Paddlers
Lower Columbia Canoe Club
Lower Dolores Boating Advocates
Mach One Slalom Team
Mason Dixon Canoe Cruisers
Mecklenburg Regional Paddlers
Memphis Whitewater
Merrimack Valley Paddlers
Minnesota Canoe Assn
Missouri Whitewater Assn
Monocacy Canoe Club
Mt. Washington Valley Paddlers
Northwest Rafters Association
Nova Riverrunners Inc.
Ohio Valley Paddlers
Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club
Oregon Whitewater Association
Outdoor Adventure Club
Outdoors Unlimited
Ozark Mountain Paddlers
Ozark Wilderness Waterways
Paddle Trails Canoe Club
Paddlers for Conservation
Gold Country Paddlers
Paddlers4Christ
Palmetto Paddlers
Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society
Philadelphia Canoe Club
Pikes Peak Whitewater Club
Redneck Kayak Club
RTS Sierra Club San Fran Chapter
Sabine Whitewater Club
San Miguel Whitewater Asso
SCSU Outdoor Endeavors
Sequoia Paddlers
Sierra Club/John Muir Chapter
Sierra Nevada Whitewater Club
Spokane Canoe & Kayak Club
St. Lawrence University
Tennessee Eastman Hiking & Canoeing Club
Tennessee Scenic River Association
Tennessee Valley Canoe Club
Thompson Rivers Univ Adventure Studies
Three Rivers Paddling Club
Toledo River Gang
Triad River Runners
University Kayak Club
Utah Whitewater Club
Vancouver Kayak Club
Vermont Paddlers Club
Viking Canoe Club
Washington Kayak Club
Washington Recreational River Runners
West VA Wildwater Assn
Western Carolina Paddlers
Willamette Kayak & Canoe Club
Wilmington Trail Club
WVU Whitewater Club
Zoar Valley Paddling Club

Events and Festivals

American River Festival
Bailey River Festival
Deerfield River Festival
Feather River Festival
French Broad River Festival
Gauley Festival
National Paddling Film Festival
Ohio Pyle Over the Falls Festival
Potomac River Festival
Stonycreek Rendezvous
Wenatchee River Festival
2011 Honor Roll

ACTIVE PROJECTS

National Policy
America’s Great Outdoors Initiative
Clean Energy Legislation
Invasive Aquatic Species Control
National Forest Planning
Wild and Scenic River Management
Federal Agency Partnerships

Southeast
Catawba River (NC, SC)
Chattooga River (NC, SC, GA)
Cheoah River (NC)
Horsepasture and Toxaway Rivers (NC)
Nantahala River (NC)
Tuckasegee River (NC)
Saluda River (SC)
Tallulah River (GA)
Twelvemile Creek (SC)
Watauga River (NC)

Mid Atlantic
Blackwater and Cheat rivers (WV)
Gauley River (WV)
Ohiopyle Falls (PA)
Savage and NB Potomac Rivers (MD)
Susquehanna River (PA)
Upper Yough (MD)
Virginia Access (VA)
Johns Creek (VA)
Northeast
Ausable River (NY)
Black River (NY)
Green River (VT)
Hudson and Indian Rivers (NY)
Moose River (NY)
Saranac River (NY)
West River (VT)
Regional Storm Damaged Rivers

Midwest
Elkhorn Creek (KY)
Fox River (WI)
Red River (WI)
Vermilion River (IL)
Wisconsin River (WI)

Northern Rockies
Bear River (ID)
Boulder Creek (ID)
East Rosebud Creek (MT)
Little Potlatch Creek (ID)
Boundary Creek (ID)
Madison River (MT)
Middle Fork Salmon (ID)
Potential Wild & Scenic Rivers (MT, WY, ID)
Snake River Headwaters (WY)
Sullivan Creek (WA)
West Rosebud Creek (MT)
Lochsa River (ID)
Yellowstone and Grand Teton Rivers (WY)

Southern Rockies
Animas River (CO)
Arkansas River (CO)
Blue River (CO)
Boulder Creek (CO)
Cache la Poudre River (CO)
Colorado River (UT)
Colorado River, Glen Canyon Dam (AZ)
Colorado River Access (CO)
Colorado Water Supply Future (CO)
Colorado Basin Supply Study
Dolores River (CO)
Eagle River (CO)
Fish Creek (CO)
Fraser River (CO)
Green River (WY, UT, CO)
Gunnison River (CO)
San Miguel River (CO)
San Juan (CO/UT)
Taylor River (CO)
Uncompahgre River (CO)
Upper Colorado (CO)
Virgin River (UT)
White River (CO)
Yampa River (CO)
Pacific Northwest
Chehalis River (WA)
Chelan River (WA)
Cispus River (WA)
Cooper River (WA)
Crooked River (OR)
Elwha River (WA)
Green River (WA)
Hood River (OR)
Illabot Creek (WA)
Klamath (OR/CA)
Little Wenatchee (WA)
McKenzie River (OR)
Middle Fork Snoqualmie River (WA)
Molalla River (OR)
Nooksack River (WA)
North Fork Snoqualmie River (WA)
North Santiam (OR)
Owyhee River (OR)
Pilchuck Creek (WA)
Rivers of the Olympic Peninsula (WA)
Rivers of Volcano County (WA)
Rogue River (OR)
Sandy River (WA)
Skagit River (WA)
Skykomish River (WA)
Snake River (WA)
Snoqualmie River (WA)
Sultan River (WA)
White Salmon (WA)

California
Butte Creek (CA)
California Hydropower Reform Coalition (CA)
Feather River / Oroville (CA)
Feather River / Poe (CA)
Feather River / Rock Creek-Cresta (CA)
Feather River / Upper North Fork (CA)
Kern River (CA)
McCloud River (CA)
Merced River (CA)
Middle Fork American / Rubicon (CA)
Mokelumne River (CA)
Pit River (CA)
San Joaquin River (CA)
Tuolumne River (CA)
Yuba/Bear Rivers (CA)
South Fork American River (CA)
Feather River/ South Fork (CA)
# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHRIS BELL, *Vice President*  
Asheville, NC  

RICH BOWERS  
Bellingham, WA  

DAVE CENICEK  
Jackson, WY  

ADAM CRAMER  
Bethesda, MD  

LELAND DAVIS  
Swannanoe, NC  

KENT FORD  
Durango, CO  

JENNIE GOLDBERG, *Secretary*  
Seattle, WA  

CHRISTOPHER HEST  
San Francisco, CA  

DON KINSER, *Treasurer*  
Marietta, GA  

EVELYN LOCKE  
Charlemon, MA  

NORWOOD SCOTT, *President*  
San Francisco, CA  

COURTNEY WILTON  
Portland, OR  

CHARLIE WALBRIDGE (Honorary)  
Bruceton Mills, WV

# STAFF

LAURA BLALOCK, *Finance Manager*  
Cullowhee, NC  

KEVIN COLBURN, *National Stewardship Director*  
Missoula, MT  

NATHAN FEY, *Colorado Stewardship Director*  
Longmont, CO  

MEGAN HOOKER, *Associate Stewardship Director*  
Portland, OR  

JAY LOSCHERT, *Stewardship Assistant*  
Dolores, CO  

CARLA MINER, *Membership Manager*  
West Valley City, UT  

JEFF PAINE, *Outreach Director*  
Asheville, NC  

THOMAS O’KEEFE, *Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director*  
Seattle, WA  

MARK SINGLETON, *Executive Director*  
Cullowhee, NC  

DAVE STEINDORF, *California Stewardship Director*  
Chico, CA
$20,000 - Class V

$15,000 - Class IV

$10,000 - Class III

$7,500 - Class II

$5,000 - Boof

$2,500 - Wave
American Whitewater is supported by members, donors, foundations, and partners in the whitewater and outdoor industries. In each edition of the Journal, we highlight one such partner in this space. American Whitewater urges you not to make purchase decisions blindly. We hope you’ll consider a company’s commitment to river stewardship when making your next purchase.

KEEN Inc., manufacturer of original hybrid footwear, bags and socks was founded in 2003. Headquartered in Portland, Oregon, KEEN offers innovative hybrid products that enable outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy an active lifestyle. Known for its innovation and creativity, KEEN started with the invention of the first sandal that protects the toe, the Newport. Since its inception, the company has applied that same problem-solving design approach to expand its footwear collection and offer bags and socks. KEEN offers products that allow people to go anywhere: from trekking the wilds of the world, exploring a cool city, heading to work, or skipping to a playground down the street. KEEN’s products are sold in specialty footwear, travel and outdoor retailers, premium-sporting goods retailers and major outdoor specialty retail chains worldwide. In 2010 and 2011, KEEN was named one of America’s Best Places to Work by Outside magazine. KEEN strives to demonstrate integrity and leadership while promoting a vibrant, inclusive community. Through its Hybrid.Care giving program, KEEN supports a variety of social and environmental organizations around the globe.

About Hybrid.Care
KEEN is about living the Hybridlife and its passion for outdoor pursuits has propelled the company to give back to a greater community. Through Hybrid.Care, KEEN strives to be a company with a conscience and to make a positive difference by supporting and working with social and environmental organizations around the world. In response to the 2005 Tsunami disaster, Hybrid.Care was established and since then KEEN has contributed monetary donations, products and volunteer hours to non-profit organizations around the globe.

KEEN’s footprint is starting to make a difference. Since 2004, the company has distributed more than $6 million to non-profit organizations. With limited resources and widely different goals, KEEN’s Hybrid.Care partners have paved the way for change through the outdoors, community, education and understanding. What these organizations share is a philosophy of caring, conscience and sustainability. What they have already given back is invaluable. Learn more at www.keenfootwear.com/hybridcare.

Chris Enlow from Keen talks about the partnership this way: “Relationships like the one we have with American Whitewater are very important to KEEN. We feel fortunate to partner with AW, supporting the continued work it does for the environment, for responsible outdoor recreation and in building strong community.”

American Whitewater is proud to be a core Hybrid.Care partner.
Over the years, American Whitewater volunteers have participated in numerous hydropower meetings as well as instream and recreational flow studies; filed comments and assisted with an uncountable number of filings; appeared as expert witnesses; lobbied; worked to fight new dams, remove existing dams, deny licenses, and improve public access to rivers and streams. In nearly every river stewardship issue AW has been involved with, the outcome has been favorable to paddlers. Not only has AW secured favorable decisions for the paddling community, but we are the only national organization representing paddlers as these decisions are being made.

A growing membership base is crucial to our ability to continue with our work. Some studies show that there are currently over 100,000 whitewater paddlers in the U.S. American Whitewater currently has 6,300 active members. When considering the amount of whitewater river miles that AW has had a direct impact on, this membership number is unimpressive. We need all paddlers to join American Whitewater. If you are a member, please be sure that everyone you paddle with understands the work AW does, and how you, as an AW member, value that work.

Membership support is what will determine our ability to continue our river stewardship work in the years to come. Individual Annual Memberships are only $35. If you are a member of your local paddling club and your club is an Affiliate Club member of AW, join as a Club Affiliate Individual for $25. This is less than a tank of gas or an inexpensive night out. This is certainly not too much to pay to have a national organization representing your paddling interests all across the country.

Join on-line today at http://american whitewater.org/content/Membership/join-AW/, call 1-866-BOAT4AW (866-262-8429), or fill out the form on the back of this page and mail it to:

Membership
P.O. Box 1540
Cullowhee, NC 28723
Name ____________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________

City, State, Zip ____________________________________________

Email ____________________________________________

Phone ____________________________________________ Member Number: __________________

Membership Level

☐ $35 Standard

☐ $25 Member of Affiliate Club

Club: ________________________

☐ $25 Student

School: ________________________

☐ $50 Family

☐ $75 Affiliate Club

☐ $100 Ender Club (Shirt Size: ________)

☐ $250 Platinum Paddler

☐ $500 Explorer

☐ $750 Lifetime

☐ $1,000 Legacy

☐ $2,500 Steward

For current member rewards go to: americanwhitewater.org

Donation

☐ Donation of $______________

Additional Subscriptions

☐ $30 Kayak Session Magazine - 4 issues per year (KS donates $5 to AW!)

Journal Options

☐ Do NOT mail me the AW Journal, email it to me <- Saves AW money, and trees! :)

Auto-Renew (No Renewal Notices!)

☐ Auto-renew my membership each year on the credit card below

Payment

☐ Credit Card  ☐ Cash  ☐ Check #___________

Card Number: ____________________________ Exp. Date:___________

Name on card: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________________________
This year’s National Paddling Film Festival (NPFF), which took place the last weekend in February, would certainly be recorded in the paddling history books, if such things existed. Attendance was tremendous, the films were stellar, and the food and beer were more than plentiful (nine kegs were floated this year, which is ultimately one of the ways in which we gauge our success—that and by how much money we get to give away). Steve Fisher proved to be quite an entertaining and charismatic host, wowing attendees with tales of his recent adventures (and of a swim that left him a little squeamish—say what?).

Fisher’s introduction to Kentucky began on the Thursday night prior to the festival and involved a gracious outpouring of bourbon from doting fans at a local bar in Lexington. He was incredibly approachable and had a number of good stories to tell. After a rather late night, we all had stories to tell about Fisher, but those are tales for another time. On Friday, Fisher held the floor at the festival for an hour, talking about his history of expedition kayaking and giving us some teasers for his big presentation the following night.

On Saturday, after Jeff Paine (with AW) roshambo’d with the crowd to give away a boat, Steve took the floor again, this time focusing on his most recent grand adventure in the Congo. Fisher and his team completed the first successful descent of the Inga Rapids on the Congo River—the world’s highest volume rapids that were flowing at roughly 1.5 million cfs at the time—in October. Fisher has since been working feverishly on his new film. He showed snippets of the film and left the crowd desperate for more footage and for a more complete story. Steve’s reflection on his journey wasn’t a simple retelling of events pertaining to whitewater. He talked passionately about making the expedition happen: the barriers that he confronted, the history of the area and the people he encountered. The whitewater almost takes a backseat to the larger scope of the expedition. Until you see the footage. Speaking of great footage, we had hours upon hours of entries this year and some very deserving winners…….

Andy Maser took home the gold this year at the National Paddling Film Festival (NPFF) with his Professional Documentary entry “The Craziest Idea.” The short film, highlighting dam removal on the White Salmon River and on the Elwha River in the Pacific Northwest, was an instant favorite sweeping his category and winning Best of Show. Chris Galloway and Tom Gerencer joined our list of repeat winners, each with a different approach to filmmaking but both with a very enjoyable style as evidenced by their continued success. Gareth Tate took us to the West Coast and wowed us with stunning cinematography, big rapids, and sweet lines. Finally, the amateurs are always a festival favorite and this year’s batch didn’t disappoint. Coming out on top were some local boys—the Turner brothers—with a film shedding a different light on an old favorite, the Russell Fork River, with new angles and some stomping river levels. Speaking of light, McKay filmed his winning entry with 100% solar power and couldn’t have missed a shot based upon the end to end quality content in his final piece. The full list of the winners is below:

**Best Professional General Boating:** “The North Shore: A Guide to Getting Lost,” by Chris Galloway

**Best Professional Safety/Instruction:** “Sea Kayaking with Gordon Brown, Vol. 2 – Rescues,” by Simon Willis

**Best Professional Documentary:** “The Craziest Idea,” by Andy Maser

**Best Accomplished Documentary:** “High Sierra Safety,” by Gareth Tate

**Best Accomplished General Boating:** “Rafting: Outsourced and Sponsors,” by Tom Gerencer
**Best Amateur Documentary:** “Currents: California,” by Mike McKay

**Best Amateur General Boating:** “Koontz Flume,” by Josh & Matt Turner

**Best of Show:** “The Craziest Idea,” by Andy Maser

**Best Still Image:** “Monkey Feast,” by Trey Cambern (see photo on opposite page)

The NPFF is a completely volunteer-run, grassroots event. Our main source of funds comes from ticket sales and the silent auction. A plethora of companies donated items to us and without our donors and sponsors the event wouldn’t have been nearly as successful. We are always blown away by the generosity of these people (to see the list of donors, check out our website). Our largest donors this year were Jackson Kayak (this is Jackson Kayak’s second year as a leading sponsor), River City Canoe and Kayak, and Cumberland Brewery. Both Jackson and RCCK donated kayaks this year and Cumberland Brewery donated eight kegs of beer—a huge thank you goes out to all of our donors.

We had well over 60 volunteers this year, most of which were members of the Bluegrass Wildwater Association. We would like to thank all of the volunteers, sponsors, donors, judges, and submitters for making NPFF possible. Because of their efforts, entries, and time we were able to give donations to American Whitewater, Team River Runner, Friends of Cheat, and West Virginia Rivers Coalition.

Check out www.npff.org for more information and for details on having the NPFF roadshow debut films from our festival for your club event or house-party!

We are looking forward to a ridiculously good NPFF next year, which is scheduled to take place on February 22nd-23rd, 2013. Keep those cameras rolling for the rest of the year; we’ll be jonesing for some new footage in 2013.

---

**It’s Easy to Support AW!**

American Whitewater is proud of the work we have accomplished in our stewardship program but we need your help to sustain our success. Your support through membership and donations enables our staff to be active and engaged in the process of river stewardship. Donations don’t have to be large; each person doing a small part makes a noticeable difference. Many donors fail to take full advantage of federal tax incentives specifically intended to encourage charitable contributions. Such incentives often enable a donor to make a larger gift to AW at little or no additional cost. For more information about maximizing your gift visit the IRS website dedicated to charitable organizations.

American Whitewater is a national non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, EIN# 23-7083760. To learn more about the Giving Options below, contact us at 866-BOAT4AW or visit the “Donate” link under “Support AW” on our website at www.americanwhitewater.org

- **Donate online today!**
- **Monthly Giving:** Contribute a minimum of $10 via credit card or electronic transfer from your bank account.
- **Bequests:** Include AW in your will or living trust. Bequests to AW are generally exempt from federal or state inheritance taxes, and subject to an unlimited deduction.
- **Combined Federal Campaign:** Federal employees including civilian and military personnel and U.S. Postal Workers can donate to AW through the CFC a once a year charitable fund raising program. Look for AW (Agency #11351) in the official CFC listing of eligible donors.
- **Charitable Remainder Trusts:** Convert a highly appreciated asset (such as real estate or stocks) into a lifetime income while minimizing income and estate taxes.
- **Employer Matching:** Many employers will match your donations to non-profit organizations. This includes membership payments, as well as additional contributions. Check to see if your employer has a matching program.
- **MissionFish:** Sell your items through the MissionFish program on eBay and the proceeds come directly to AW.
- **Other Assets:** A gift of real estate to AW qualifies you for a tax deduction based on the property’s fair market value. If it is not a river access point, AW will sell the property and use the proceeds to protect access and restore rivers. Acceptance of property is subject to certain conditions. You may also be eligible to receive tax benefits for gifts of real property. Art and jewelry are examples of personal property items that may be eligible. Interested donors should check with your financial and tax advisors and AW on the feasibility and tax considerations of such gifts.
- **Securities:** Donating appreciated stock to AW benefits both the donor and whitewater rivers. The donor receives two tax-related benefits. First, the gain on the stock is not subject to capital gains taxes. Second, the donor can deduct the value of the stock as a charitable contribution.
- **United Way:** All federal campaigns, and a few of the local campaigns will allow you to donate to AW. AW’s UNITED WAY member # is 2302.
- **Vehicle Donations:** Turn that extra car, truck, or RV into a tax deductible donation benefiting AW.
**AFFILIATE CLUBS**

**AW’S ORIGINAL PURPOSE**

BY CARLA MINER

The Affiliate Club Program lies at the very heart of American Whitewater’s existence. American Whitewater’s original purpose since 1954 has been to distribute information among its Affiliate Clubs. Our relationships with local clubs have provided the backbone for the river conservation and access work we accomplish. We have over 100 current AW Club Affiliates and they are all doing great work on your behalf. If you don’t belong to a club, consider joining one.

Our Affiliate Club Spotlight this issue is on the Mason Dixon Canoe Club an outstanding Affiliate Club and long time supporter of our mission to conserve and restore America’s whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely.

The MDCC is located in Maryland and was founded in 1973 for people who find enjoyment and relaxation in the sports of canoeing and kayaking. The group exchanges information, supports the preservation of our waterways, and promotes SAFE boating. Club members have a wide range of boating interests and abilities, from placid cruising to Class V+ whitewater.

MDCC offers courses every year on the fundamentals of either canoeing or kayaking. There are roll sessions offered every winter, as well as, a river rescue course that promotes safe boating. A quarterly newsletter is sent to members listing trip schedules, trip reports, boating news, gear for sale, and other items of interest. The club’s scheduled trips range from Class I-II family floats to the challenge of Class V boating with paddling trips taking place in Maryland, Southern Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Virginia.

Come and join the Mason Dixon Canoe Club on the river! Membership is an affordable $10 for a household and remember, as a member of the MDCC you receive a $10 discount off your American Whitewater membership dues. Check out their website at http://www.masondixoncanoeclub.org/index.html for more club details.

Thank you Mason Dixon Canoe Club for your continued support of American Whitewater!

The AW Journal Club Affiliates by state:

**Alabama**

Birmingham Canoe Club, Birmingham
Coosa River Paddling Club, Montgomery
Huntsville Canoe Club, Huntsville

**Arizona**

Grand Canyon Private Boaters Assn, Grand Canyon
Outdoors Unlimited, Flagstaff

**Arkansas**

Arkansas Canoe Club, Little Rock

**California**

California Floaters Society, Cameron Park
Chico Paddleheads, Chico
Gold Country Paddlers, Lotus
Guides House, Laytonville
Sequoia Paddlers, Forestville
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Paddlers, San Jose

**Colorado**

Avid Adventure Inc., Boulder
Colorado Whitewater Assn, Englewood
Dolores River Action Group, Mancos
Lower Dolores Boating Advocates, Dolores
Pikes Peak Whitewater Club, Colorado Springs
San Miguel Whitewater Asso, Telluride

**Connecticut**

AMC - Connecticut Chapter, Waterbury

**Delaware**

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks
Wilmington Trail Club, Newark

**Georgia**

Georgia Canoeing Asso, Atlanta
Georgia Tech Outdoor Recreation, Atlanta
Paddlers4Christ, Ellijay

**Idaho**

Idaho Whitewater Association, Boise

**Illinois**

Chicago Whitewater Assn, Chicago

**Indiana**

Ohio Valley Paddlers, Evansville

**Iowa**

Iowa Whitewater Coalition, W. Des Moines

**Kentucky**

Bardstown Boaters, Bardstown,
Bluegrass Wildwater Asso, Lexington
Elkhorn Paddlers, Lexington
Viking Canoe Club, Louisville

**Louisiana**

Sabine Whitewater Club, Lake Charles

**Maine**

Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society, Troy

**Maryland**

Blue Ridge Voyageurs, Silver Spring
Greater Baltimore Canoe Club, Cockeysville
Mason Dixon Canoe Cruisers, Boonsboro
Monocacy Canoe Club, Frederick

**Massachusetts**

AMC Boston Chapter Paddlers, Boston

**Minnesota**

Minnesota Canoe Assn, Minneapolis
SCSU Outdoor Endeavors, Saint Cloud

**Missouri**

Missouri Whitewater Assn, St Louis
Ozark Mountain Paddlers, Springfield
Ozark Wilderness Waterways, Kansas City

**Montana**

Butte-Anaconda River Runners, Butte

**Nevada**

Sierra Nevada Whitewater Club, Reno

**New Hampshire**

AMC New Hampshire Paddlers, Raymond
Ledyard Canoe Club, Hanover
Merrimack Valley Paddlers, Nashua
Mt. Washington Valley Paddlers, Intervale

**New Jersey**

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks
KCCNY, Flanders

**New York**

ADK Schenectady, Schenectady
AMC NY/NJ Chapter, New York
Colgate University, Hamilton
FLOW Paddlers’ Club, Rochester
Hamilton College, Clinton
Housatonic Area Canoe & Kayak Sq., Ossining
St Lawrence University, Canton
Zoar Valley Paddling Club, Buffalo

**North Carolina**

Base Camp Cullowhee, Cullowhee
Carolina Canoe Club, Raleigh
Triad River Runners, Winston-Salem
Western Carolina Paddlers, Asheville

**Ohio**

Columbus Outdoor Pursuits, Columbus
Keel Haulers Canoe Club, Westlake
Outdoor Adventure Club, Dayton
Toledo River Gang, Haskins

**Oregon**

Lower Columbia Canoe Club, Portland
Northwest Rafters Asso, Roseburg
Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club, Portland
Oregon Whitewater Association, Beaverton
Willamette Kayak & Canoe Club, Corvallis

**Pennsylvania**

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks
Benscreek Canoe Club, Johnstown
Bradford County Canoe and Kayak Club, Sayre
Canoe Club of Greater Harrisburg, Harrisburg
Conewago Canoe Club, York
Holtwood Hooligans, Paradise
Lehigh Valley Canoe Club, Lehigh Valley
Lehigh Valley Whitewater Inc., Lehigh Valley
Mach One Slalom Team, State College
DISCOUNTED AW MEMBERSHIP FOR AFFILIATE CLUB MEMBERS

By Carla Miner, Membership Manager

AW offers a discounted Affiliate Club membership of $25, a $10 savings. If you are renewing your AW membership or joining as a new member, select the Affiliate Club Discounted Personal Membership online at http://americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-AW/

Or, if you are renewing or joining by mail or telephone just mention the name of the Affiliate Club you belong to and you can take advantage of the $25 membership.

A list of AW Affiliate Clubs can be found on our website at http://americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-AW/. If you do not see your Club listed here please encourage them to renew their Club membership or to join AW as a new Affiliate Club. Your Club’s membership and your personal membership enable our staff to be active and engaged in the process of river stewardship. When you join or renew your membership your support is helping to meet the many challenges whitewater rivers face.

If you have any questions about the Affiliate Club membership, please contact me. I can be reached at 866_BOAT-4AW or membership@americanwhitewater.org.

JOIN AMERICAN WHITEWATER AS A CLUB AFFILIATE!

10 REASONS TO JOIN AW AS AN AFFILIATE CLUB

1. Receive the American Whitewater Journal, the oldest continually published whitewater magazine.

2. Join the list of Affiliate Clubs noted in each bi-monthly AW Journal.


4. Your Club’s members can become AW members for $25. A $10 savings!

5. Have technical expertise for your Club conservation and access committees ‘on tap.’

6. Have access to technical and onsite assistance for your Club’s event planning.

7. Enjoy VIP benefits for “Joint Members” at AW events.

8. Participate in exclusive AW Affiliate Club promotions.

9. Post Club information on the AW Website to help paddlers find you.

10. Gain Club satisfaction from lending support to AW’s stewardship efforts.

For more information, contact Carla Miner at membership@americanwhitewater.org or sign-up on-line at: www.americanwhitewater.org/membership

Philadelphia Canoe Club, Philadelphia
Three Rivers Paddling Club, Pittsburgh

S. Carolina
Foothills Paddling Club, Greenville
Palmetto Paddlers, Columbia

Tennessee
Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts, Limestone
Chota Canoe Club, Knoxville
East Tennessee Whitewater Club
Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club, Kingsport
Tennessee Scenic River Asso, Nashville
Tennessee Valley Canoe Club, Chattanooga

Utah
High Jim and the A.S.K., Salt Lake City
Utah Whitewater Club, Salt Lake City

Vermont
Vermont Paddlers Club, Montpelier

Virginia
Blue Ridge River Runners
Coastal Canoeists Inc, Richmond
Float Fishermen of Virginia, Roanoke
Hollins Outdoor Program, Roanoke
Paddlers for Conservation, Vienna

Washington
BEWET, Bellevue
EPIC Adventures, Cheney
Paddle Trails Canoe Club, Seattle
Spokane Canoe & Kayak Club, Spokane
University Kayak Club, Seattle
Washington Kayak Club, Seattle
Washington Recreational River Runners, Renton

West Virginia
Db1 Z Whitewater Club, Fayetteville
Redneck Kayak Club, Beckley
WVU Whitewater Club, Morgantown
West VA Wildwater Assn, S. Charleston

Wisconsin
Sierra Club/John Muir Chapter, Madison

British Columbia
Thompson Rivers Univ Adventure Studies, Kamloops
Vancouver Kayak Club, Burnaby
Contribute your text and photos to American Whitewater

American Whitewater is moving from a theme-based magazine to a more diverse model. Starting in 2012 we will be producing issues that are not concentrated on a single topic, but rather offer something for everyone.

We’re always accepting submissions and we hope you’ll consider contributing. For complete submission details, story topics, deadlines, and guidelines, go to:

americanwhitewater.org > Library > AW Journal

Photo © Darin McQuoid, Illinois River, OR
We make FUN! [We also make Heroes, Rockers, and Stars.]

jacksonkayak.com
RECESS IS BACK

ORIGINA L HYBRID
FOOTWEAR, BAGS AND SOX

KEEN

KEENFOOTWEAR.COM