



AMERICAN WHITEWATER

Conservation • Access • Events • Adventure • Safety

BY BOATERS FOR BOATERS
Jul/Aug 2013

WEST FORK TUCKASEEGEE FLOWS AGAIN!

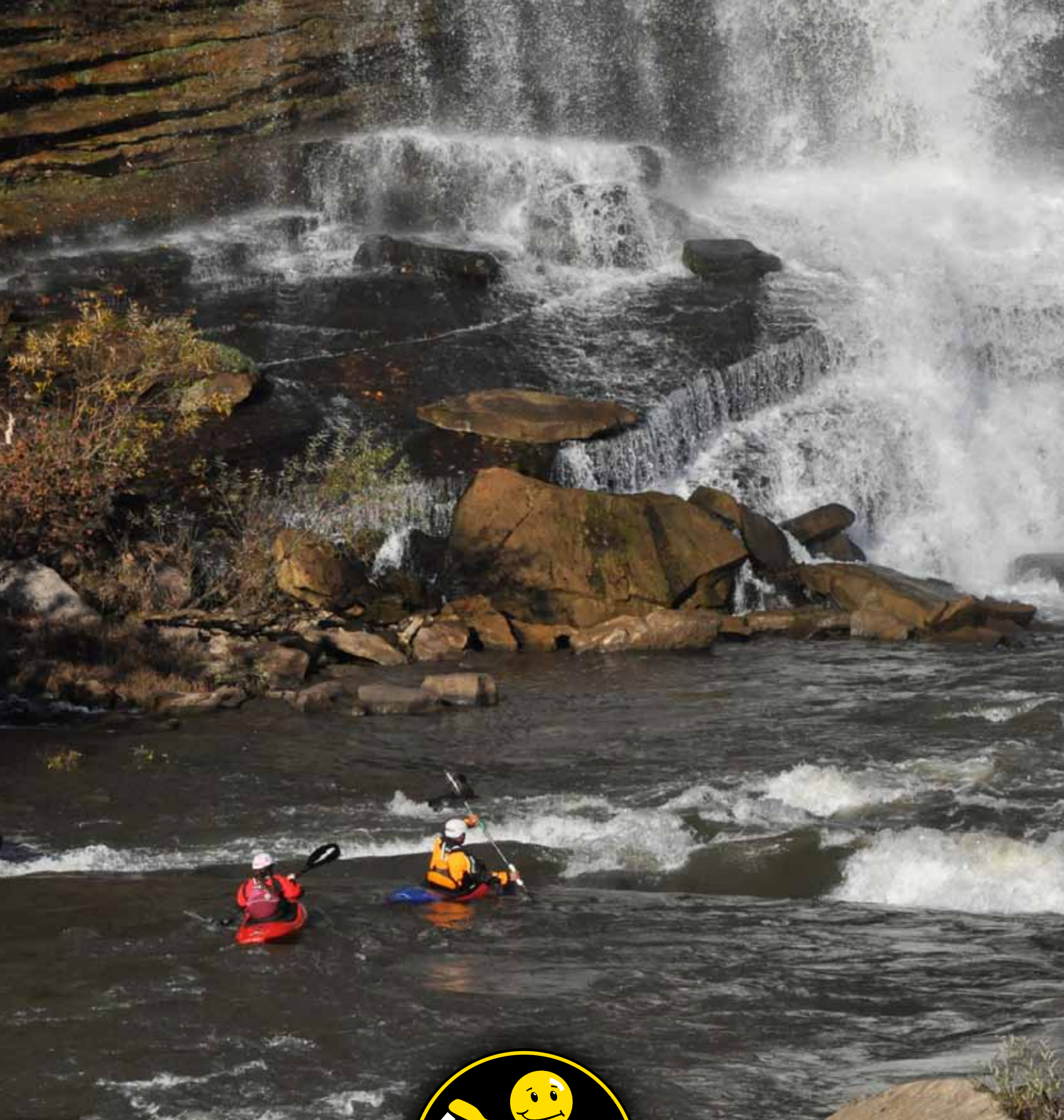
AW'S ANNUAL REPORT

PLUS

GRAND CANYONS

- GEM OF UPPER AMAZON THREATENED BY DAMS!
- ONE MAN'S WAIT FOR *THE* ICONIC U.S. RIVER TRIP





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AMERICAN WHITEWATER

A VOLUNTEER PUBLICATION PROMOTING RIVER CONSERVATION, ACCESS AND SAFETY

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A kayaker boofing Rough Run Falls on the West Fork Tuckasegee (NC) in June 2013. Releases on the WF Tuck have been a long time coming; American Whitewater has been integrally involved in securing releases on this stretch for the past 12 years. Given the quality of this river, it's been worth the wait!

Photo by Clinton Koontz

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PURPOSE

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 tenets of our mission statement:

CONSERVATION: AW's professional staff works closely with volunteers and partner organizations 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.



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The opinions expressed in the features and editorials of American Whitewater are those of the individual authors. They do not necessarily represent those of the Directors of American Whitewater or the editors of this publication. On occasion, American Whitewater publishes official organizational policy statements drafted and approved by the Board of Directors. These policy statements will be clearly identified.

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THE JOURNEY AHEAD



THE STAFF AND board of American Whitewater are using this issue of the *American Whitewater Journal* to share our 2012 Annual Report with you. I hope you choose to read the complete report starting on page 35 but in the meantime I want to highlight a couple points from it. First, American Whitewater is very fortunate to have a highly diversified revenue stream. What this means for a nonprofit is that if one stream were to dry up, other sources of revenue could carry the organization. This is critical for long-term organizational sustainability. Second, our lean administrative model means that .85 cents on every dollar passes through directly to support river stewardship efforts. This ratio—15% of expenses spent on administration and fundraising—is a low overhead percentage in the nonprofit world and a demonstration of our commitment to protecting, restoring and enjoying whitewater rivers.

Thanks to an organization wide effort to provide transparency and operate efficiently, Charity Navigator awarded American Whitewater with its third consecutive 4-star rating. Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that American Whitewater adheres to good governance and other best practices that

minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way. Only 9% of the nonprofits Charity Navigator rates have received three consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that American Whitewater outperforms most other charities in America. This “exceptional” designation from Charity Navigator differentiates American Whitewater from its peers and demonstrates to the public that it is worthy of their trust and support.

At the heart of our river stewardship program is 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 between our members and flowing water has made American Whitewater a force in river stewardship for close to 60 years. A strong year, like the one we had in 2012, means that American Whitewater will be around for a very long time to represent the interests of the whitewater paddling community.

Your membership support allows American Whitewater’s river stewardship staff to work on important projects in their respective regions. Our 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.”

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. At American Whitewater, we remain committed to giving back to these special places.

Again, please take some time to read our 2012 Annual Report on page 35. We have a great story to tell right now. Our stewardship projects are making a real difference to rivers and local communities across the country, 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; please 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



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STEWARDSHIP

MISSISQUOI RELEASES RETURN

BY BOB NASDOR

THIS PAST MAY marks the first scheduled releases in more than a decade on the Missisquoi River in Sheldon Springs, Vermont. This section of the river has been paddled by few paddlers and is normally available in early spring and following significant rainfalls when flows are between 4,500-10,000 cfs. Boating opportunities on the Missisquoi are limited due to the Sheldon Springs Dam, a 25 MWh hydroelectric project that diverts the first 3,500 cfs from the river for power generation, with the remaining flows going into a mile-long bypass reach. Those who have paddled the Missisquoi describe it as an unusually big water Class IV(IV+) run in northern Vermont.

History

Under a 1984 agreement between dam owner and operator Missisquoi Associates and the State of Vermont, Missisquoi Associates was required to restore sufficient flows to the bypass reach to permit whitewater boating on six designated weekend release days each year. The agreement, which was filed with FERC and incorporated as a condition of its FERC license, required Missisquoi Associates to work with paddling groups to schedule release days, hours and flows. Unfortunately, neither Missisquoi Associates, nor Enel North America, which acquired Missisquoi Associates in 2005, complied with this license condition. Paddlers have been unable take advantage of these required scheduled release days, likely for the past decade or longer.

Restoration of Releases

After paddling this unique river stretch and discovering that the dam operator was not following their written agreement and license requirement to provide boaters with scheduled releases, American Whitewater began working cooperatively with Enel Green Power to restore these long



Making the trek along the South Fork of the Piney River, VA.
Photo by Justin Harris

overdue releases into the bypass reach on the Missisquoi.

This year, Missisquoi/Enel has agreed to resume scheduled releases from the Sheldon Springs Dam during the first six weekend days in which river flows are above 2,000 cfs. Under the terms of its FERC license, Enel will flow at least 1,000 cfs, plus any flows between 2,000-3,500 cfs and above 6,000 cfs, into the bypass reach, providing significantly more water for paddling this section than would otherwise be available. American Whitewater will be surveying the paddling community to identify river flows that provide paddlers with optimal boating opportunities, and will work with Enel Green Power to schedule future releases.

This unexpected and long overdue restoration of scheduled releases into the Sheldon Springs Dam bypass reach is a welcome addition to the paddling opportunities in the northeast.

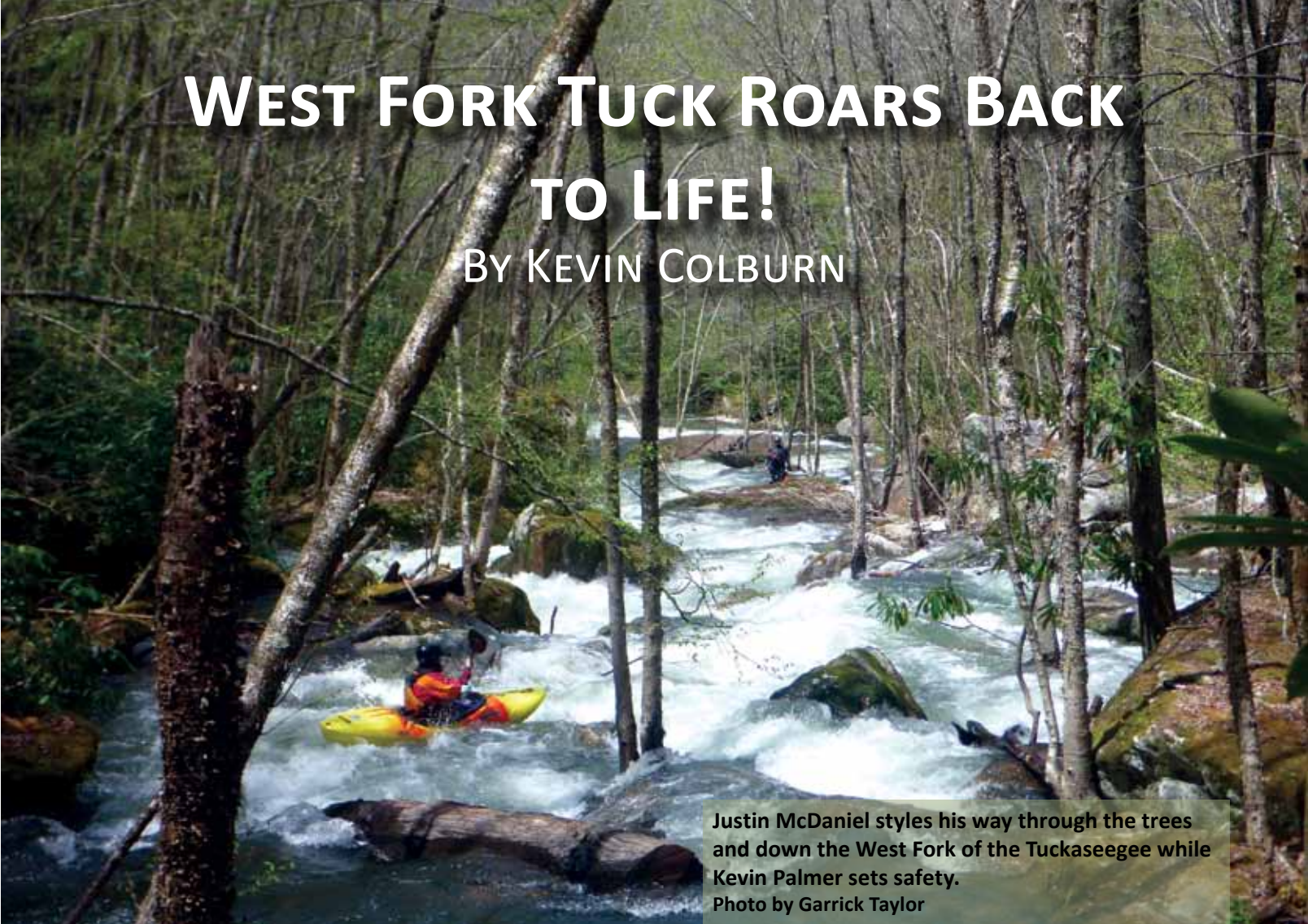
VIRGINIA STREAM ACCESS REFORM CONTINUES

BY KEVIN COLBURN

EARLIER THIS YEAR a broad coalition of paddling groups advanced state legislation that would have clarified and improved the right to paddle streams in Virginia. As part of this coalition, American Whitewater played a role in drafting the legislation, encouraging public support for it, and in directly communicating the benefits to legislators. In the end, the legislation failed to pass the Virginia Senate by an 18 to 21 vote. Rather than defeat, we actually view this result as a significant step forward. It's evidence that the idea of stream access reform has political legs in the state. Currently, we are working with an expanding group of stakeholders to re-focus and revise the legislation based on feedback we received over the last year. Our goal is to introduce a new bill in the next legislative session. We thank all of the regional paddlers who reached out to their legislators, signed petitions, and supported this work. Stay tuned, because we are going to keep the momentum going as we build this initiative.

WEST FORK TUCK ROARS BACK TO LIFE!

BY KEVIN COLBURN



Justin McDaniel styles his way through the trees and down the West Fork of the Tuckaseegee while Kevin Palmer sets safety.
Photo by Garrick Taylor

THE TASK OF restoring flows to the West Fork of the Tuckaseegee in North Carolina was one of my very first projects as a new American Whitewater hire in 2001. I worked closely with Bunny Johns, a consultant for Duke Energy and a paddling icon, to design and pull off the whitewater boating flow study during my first few days on the job. Making a river flow was a profound experience at the age of 25, and with each boof during that flow study I became more determined to restore regular releases in the West Fork Tuck. I never would have guessed it would be 12 years before I would again paddle the creek that kicked off my career with AW.

Following the flow study there were nearly three years of meetings aimed at negotiating a new plan for how all of the dams on the Nantahala and Tuck would be operated under new Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licenses.

We met for at least a couple of long days each month and often significantly more. Many of the same people also attended negotiations for the Cheoah during the same timeframe. We became like a big sometimes-dysfunctional extended family of river advocates, power advocates, homeowner advocates, fish advocates, etc. I have to assume in retrospect that many participants gracefully tolerated my youth, my flip-flops, and my idealism. Eventually I would call many of them my friends, and treasure my time spent learning from them. Some folks, however, never got too friendly.

The West Fork was largely my issue to push in the meetings, and a few participants vehemently wanted the river to remain dry. My efforts to negotiate releases were called by one public speaker that visited our group “an irresponsible on-the-job training exercise for a neophyte employee.”

Participants squared off against West Fork releases for a dizzying array of reasons. It was a waste of money. It would drain the lake. It would flood houses. Unaware kids would try to paddle it and perish. It would disturb ghosts. It would disturb black panthers sighted in the gorge, which surely were endangered. There was no legal access at the put-in.

While most of these strategies were fairly easy to counter, the access situation was a serious problem. Downstream landowners were not interested in selling access easements, which meant our only option was to hike in on Duke lands between the dam and High Falls. At first it looked like property lines and cliff bands would prevent access, and therefore releases. Finally, after countless hikes, hours spent researching property boundaries, numerous cuts and bruises, 11 yellow jacket stings, and a property survey, Bunny Johns and I proved

STEWARDSHIP



The High Falls Trail before it gets steep.
Photo by Kevin Colburn

that it was physically possible to reach a put-in below High Falls without leaving Duke Energy property. I proposed a trail through rugged terrain, and the concept was accepted by Duke Energy and endorsed by the group.

All the while, through our negotiations we were methodically addressing reservoir levels, flows on the main stem of the Tuck (which come from the East and West Fork power houses), a string of access areas, land conservation, base flows, fisheries issues, water quality, and of course power generation. At every meeting Maurice and Motty Blackburn provided a thoughtful and intelligent voice for the Carolina Canoe Club. They joined me, Shane Williams and other commercial boating reps, and Bob Wiggins of Western Carolina Paddlers in representing paddlers. Together with all the participants, we developed a vision for the future of the Tuck that would continue to offer profitable power generation while greatly enhancing the recreational

and ecological benefits of the river. A centerpiece of the plan, and as it turned out the lynch pin, was removing Dillsboro Dam.

Dillsboro generated little power but blocked a biologically rich section of the mainstem of the Tuck. Dams on the Nantahala and West Fork Tuck generated a lot of power and dewatered river reaches with less potential biological diversity. This situation offered a hallmark of collaboration: a win-win solution. Initially, some in the group had called on Duke Energy to provide constant minimum instream flows, which would have required them to install expensive release mechanisms in the Nantahala and Glenville Dams. After much debate, the group agreed to Duke Energy's proposal to remove Dillsboro Dam instead. The result kept power generation up, while significantly improving the biological values of the watershed.

The group reached agreement to remove the dam in the fall of 2003, and we geared up for releases to start in 2006. In the meantime, Duke started releases on the lower Tuck and lower Nantahala voluntarily as a good faith measure. The elegance of the agreement was lost on some though, and the removal of Dillsboro Dam became a protracted regulatory and legal battle for nearly a decade. Throughout this time, Duke Energy never wavered from their commitment to seeing the agreement become reality. AW's Mark Singleton became a local and vocal leader in support of dam removal. In the midst of the legal mess Duke took advantage of a window of opportunity and removed the dam in early 2010. Now that the smoke has cleared, the Dillsboro Dam site looks great and the dam's removal is widely viewed as a positive outcome.

With the dam out the regulatory wheels once again lurched into their slow grind and in 2011 FERC finally issued new licenses

Kevin Palmer looks on as Nathan Zumwalt enjoys the West Fork of the Tuckaseegee.
Photo by Garrick Taylor

for the Nantahala and Tuckasegee hydro projects. Duke quickly convened the stakeholder group and got to work. Access areas were bought, ground broken, signs printed, and construction on the West Fork Trail began. We always knew that the trail we laid out in 2003 would be epic to build, but we had no idea just how epic.

This spring I hiked in and witnessed an outstanding crew of workers building the trail out of local wood and rock. I could barely fathom how they would manage the final 200-300-foot steep pitch to the river. When I returned a month later I found them putting the final touches on a trail that resembles nothing more than a dry creek bed twisting and turning down the mountainside right next to the imposing High Falls.

I was thrilled to see the new trail finished that day, but my excitement quickly waned when I got to the end and gazed upon a wood-strewn riverbed. After 12 years of hard work, I found the West Fork to be borderline unrunnable just days before its inaugural release. The West Fork was woody in 2001 but not too bad. Now we had to put in father upstream where water had seldom flowed and wood had piled up. Downstream, the winds had not



been kind either, and spindly birches that had encroached into an alien low-water streambed had toppled in large numbers.

Wood is ecologically valuable and a natural part of a healthy stream ecosystem. In this case though, wood was littering a streambed that will most often be dry or nearly dry, and the amount of wood was a direct result of the lack of natural high flows. With the help of local volunteers, and with approval by the resource agencies, we set to work managing the few pieces of wood that caused portages or severe hazards among the thousands of less problematic wood pieces. Duke provided us with a low water release so we could assess the wood problem and manage some of the wood by boat on Thursday, followed by a flushing flow and more work on Friday.

As we hiked in on Friday some excited hikers told us that another group had just seen a big wild animal – either a bear or a cat. My mind raced back 10 years to a comical debate about black panthers stalking the gorge. Nah, it couldn't be.

By Friday night, we had decreased portages from 15-20 to perhaps 8-10, but the river was still too wood choked for most paddlers to enjoy. With the official release scheduled to begin Saturday morning, we got the word out on our website about what to expect, and wondered how many people would show up to run the gauntlet of wood for a taste of something new.

Saturday was the perfect day: 70 degrees and sunny. Almost every river in the region was running. Police officers were parked all along the West Fork shuttle route to help with crowd control. The local rescue squad was onsite ready to assist with rescues. Duke Energy reps were there to welcome paddlers. The birds were singing. Local folks came out to see the show. I was

AW's own Jeff Paine slides his way down a small drop on the West Fork during a low water release.

Photo by Kevin Colburn

nervous. And then it happened, or rather didn't happen. The take-out parking lot was empty. Mark Singleton and I talked with the officials milling about, explaining the wood situation, and the need for the paddling community to learn the river slowly and safely. We were thankful that so many paddlers passed on the West Fork to help ensure a safe start to the next 30 years of releases.

We drove up to the put-in and found the new parking lot nearly full – but only one car had a boat on it. Hikers had heard about the new trail to the falls and the crazy paddlers, and showed up to see the spectacle firsthand. Before long a few groups of highly skilled boaters showed up and hiked in to take their turn on the river. Mark and I decided it was time to do the same.

When I finally shouldered my boat it was like pressing play on a dream 12 years in the making. We wound down through the woods and descended the twisting rock staircase. The falls thundered next to us, glistening white, with a rainbow. At the put in their wind and spray offered respite from the heat, and a dramatic launch. Soon it was quiet and the river floated us toward

the 25-30-foot signature drop on the run. Coming over the horizon line I rocketed down the natural playground slide and skittered across the pool. From there it was a fun rhythm of boof, kingfisher, slide, portage, boof, strainer, wildflowers, slide, and so on down through the woods to the take-out.

The only thing missing from my dream were lots of smiling paddlers. This part of the dream will take a bit more time. The community of West Fork paddlers will organically grow as the wood situation improves. We'll have 7 releases each year on the West Fork for the next 30 years to enjoy. Before long every thrilling rapid and serene pool will become engrained in the paddling community's collective mind and will be an enduring source of fun and inspiration.

AW's role is far from over on the West Fork Tuck as we dial in the perfect flows, address trespassing concerns, and keep paddlers in the loop on the wood situation. For me it has been a remarkable experience to play a role in bringing the West Fork back to life, and I am thankful for all of AW's members and partners that made it possible.



INTERNATIONAL WHITEWATER

THE GRAND CANYON OF THE AMAZON: RIO MARAÑÓN

STORY AND PHOTOS BY ROCKY CONTOS



Peru's Río Marañón, with the Grand Canyon of the Amazon emphasized in bold.

WHAT DO YOU do when you've discovered one of the best river runs in the world—something comparable to the Grand Canyon of the Colorado—and then learn that there are plans to destroy the entire thing with a series of hydroelectric dams? *You'd probably do everything you could to generate awareness and stop the damming of the river!*

The river I'm talking about is not any run-of-the-mill river—it happens to be the largest in the world. By the time the Amazon reaches the Atlantic Ocean, it is eight times as voluminous the next largest river (the Congo). In fact, the Amazon carries an estimated 15-20% of all river volume on Earth!!

Last year I spent six months paddling down the four main headwaters of the Amazon: Ríos Marañón, Mantaro, Apurímac, and Urubamba, and then finished the descent of the Amazon to the Atlantic. But I'm not writing to brag. I'm writing to inform you of my most important discovery: that the Upper Amazon passes through a bona fide "Grand Canyon," 343 miles in length, that

should be a premier destination for any river runner in the world.

Allow me to elaborate. About 120 miles into this "Grand Canyon" section of the Amazon, the river averages the same flow as the Colorado through Grand Canyon (~17,000 cfs). In the lowest water months, it still averages about 5,000 cfs, since it arises from glaciers on the highest tropical mountains in the world (20,000-22,000 ft). This makes the river boatable all year long, and with its approximately 80 Class III rapids, 20 Class IV, and two Class V rapids (and NO PORTAGES!), it is a challenge that most intermediate and advanced boaters can handle.

The canyon averages about 8,000 feet in depth on both sides for hundreds of miles, reaching about 10,000 feet in depth several times. In places, huge limestone walls tower straight from the river, and in others, granite gorges create intimidating rapids. Side canyons invite exploration, some with waterfalls, others with towering narrows, and still others with travertine-depositing water. For the entire length, the river is in an arid canyon with sparse vegetation; cacti abound. During the six-month dry season there is almost no rain at all, while in the rainy season there might be some short downpours from time to time. Daytime temperatures average in the 80s and 90s throughout the year, with lows from the 50s to the low 70s.

Huge beach camps are common in the Grand Canyon of the Amazon, as is driftwood for fires. This river is also clean, something hard to find in developing countries with populations that live high in the mountains, and clear, clean side streams and springs provide ample drinking water. Food is not an issue, as you can supplement your diet with fresh fruits such as mangos and papayas found along the river, and also resupply provisions at several villages

Mike Doktor and Amie Begg enjoy a 95-degree hot spring on day 6 (mile 82) of a Grand Canyon Amazon trip.





Red dirt walls near the start of the Amazon's Grand Canyon change to limestone and granite downstream.

"tributary". By definition, a "tributary" is a smaller stream joining the main stream, and gets a different name.

I need to emphasize this fact because it has been all but forgotten in the past decades. *The Andean headwaters river that deserves the title "Amazon" is Río Marañon.* All other rivers entering the Marañon/Amazon have lower average discharge, therefore making them "tributaries" by definition. Padre Samuel Fritz realized this fact in the late 1600s and labeled on his famous map the interchangeability of the labels "Marañon" and "Amazonas."

There was misunderstanding in the past because a lot of folks noticed that Río

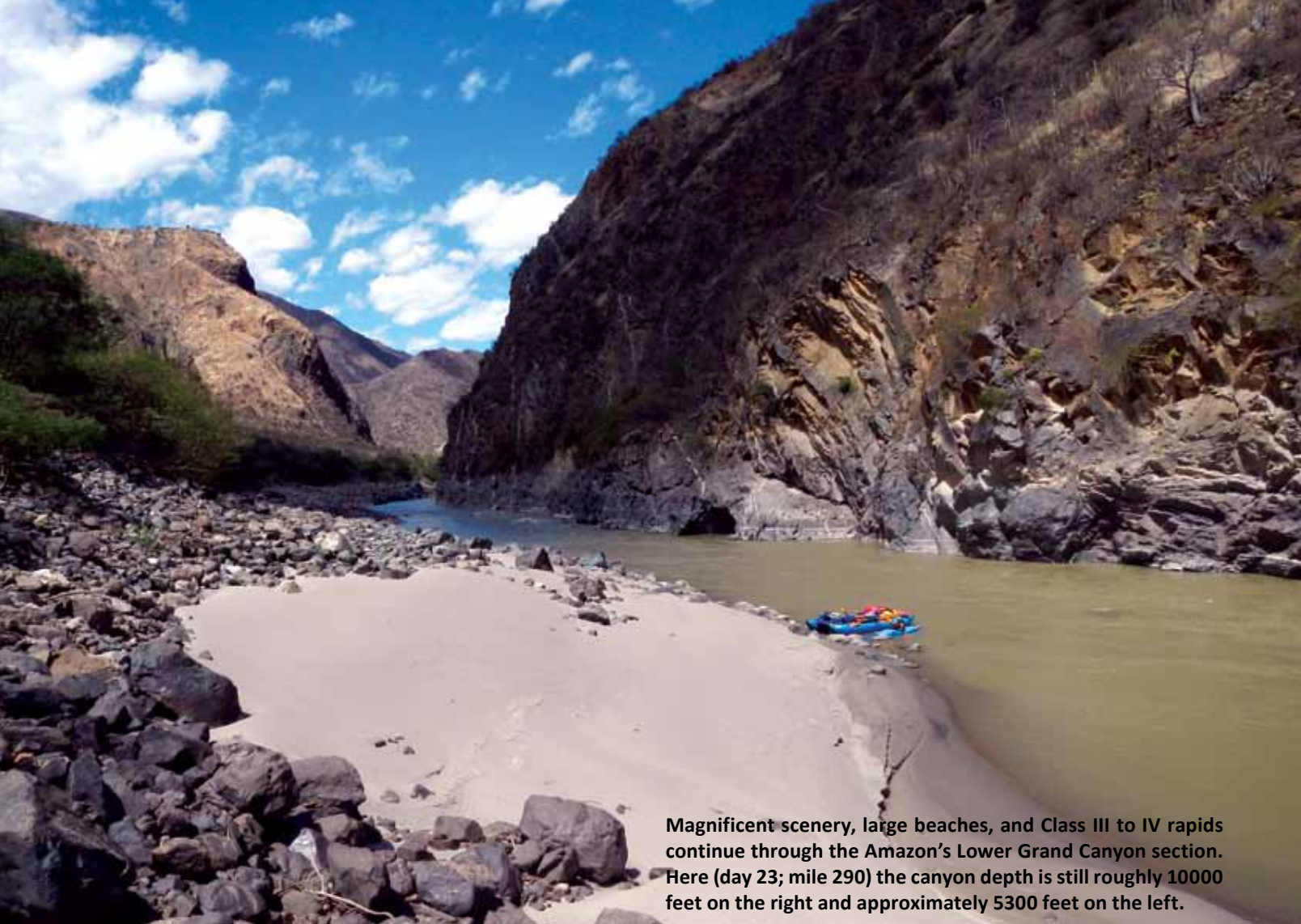
along the way. Incan and pre-Incan ruins are found in various places along the river, some unknown to the archaeological community. Can you imagine a finer river for an expedition?

At this point you might be thinking, "Well, I read that book *Running the Amazon* back in the 1990s, and I recall the Apurimac being a heinous section of river going through an *Abyss* with tons of portages and Class V rapids. And that Polish boater, Piotr Chmielinski, has my respect for helping get everyone through the *Abyss* and then completing the entire source-to-sea paddle descent." You would be right. But that brings up another of my major discoveries last year. Although the Apurimac is one of the headwaters of the Amazon, *it is not* the Upper Amazon. The whole basis for calling the Apurimac the "Upper Amazon" in the past was the belief that it was the longest extension upstream in the Amazon Basin. What I discovered upon careful analysis of cartographic maps, then satellite imagery, and then direct GPS measurement, is

that another of the headwater streams actually extends much farther upstream than the Apurimac. I obtained funding from National Geographic for some of my studies. I told my discovery to Piotr Chmielinski (a big supporter of my findings), who even accompanied me on some of the reconnaissance expedition. My scientific results have already been peer-reviewed and accepted for publication, so are due to be published soon (perhaps about the same time as this article).

But there's more to the story. While being the "most distant" source stream of the Amazon (and possibly the longest river on Earth) is a notable distinction, it does not necessarily imply that stream merits the same appellation as the main Amazon River. That's because the headwater stream that deserves to carry the name of the river downstream is the "principal", "main", or "mainstem" river—in other words, the branch upstream that has highest average discharge. It is simply a distinction between a "main river" and a





Magnificent scenery, large beaches, and Class III to IV rapids continue through the Amazon's Lower Grand Canyon section. Here (day 23; mile 290) the canyon depth is still roughly 10000 feet on the right and approximately 5300 feet on the left.

Ucayali (the drainage which contains Ríos Apurímac, Mantaro, and Urubamba) is longer than the Marañon by the time they meet, and also appears to be a river of

about the same size. This led to various proposals that the Ucayali (and upstream extensions on the Urubamba or Apurimac Rivers) should be considered the "Upper

Amazon" or "Source of the Amazon." But in fact, the Ucayali has roughly 30% less discharge than the Marañon, and carries less water (on average) every day of the year, making it clearly just a "tributary" of the Marañon. So the appellation of "Amazon" justifiably goes to the Marañon, just as the appellation "Mississippi" goes to the great North American river extending into Minnesota, as opposed to the Missouri River (a smaller but longer river that joins the Mississippi at St. Louis).

The take-home message from all this discussion is this: Río Marañon is the Upper Amazon. It is the Marañon that passes through the scenic and amazing "Grand

Amie Begg kayaks down the Class III-IV Carrizal rapid (day 9, mile 117) on the Amazon's Upper Grand Canyon. Even in the heart of the dry season, the river here was still flowing approximately 4000 cfs.



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INTERNATIONAL WHITEWATER



Our team enjoys the incredibly scenic and easy Glen Canyon-like Chagual section in the middle of the Amazon's Grand Canyon (day 12; mile 150).

Canyon of the Amazon" that is raftable all year long with only two Class V drops and no portages. The Marañon is the river that should be on everyone's bucket list—and not only its arid 343-mile Grand Canyon section. Downstream of Rentema there are another 198 miles of jungle Marañon with Class III and IV rapids. Why wait for a permit to paddle through the Grand Canyon of the Colorado? Hop on a flight to Peru and run the Grand Canyon of the Amazon. You'll be glad you did.

SierraRios has rafts, kayaks and gear in Peru ready to outfit and run typical Grand Canyon-style trips on the Marañon. Periodic trips will be organized that anyone can join and row or kayak. You might also consider renting gear or utilizing outfitting services to arrange your own trip. Details at www.SierraRios.org

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COMPARING GRAND CANYONS

Metric	Grand Canyon of the Amazon	Grand Canyon of the Colorado
Avg. flow (start)	6000 cfs (P. Copuma)	17200 cfs (Lees Ferry)
Avg. flow (mid-way)	17000 cfs (Balsas)	17800 cfs (Phantom Ranch)
Avg. flow (end)	21000 cfs (Corral Quemado)	18200 cfs (Pierce Ferry)
Length	343 miles	280 miles
Elevation (start)	6900 ft (P. Copuma)	3210 ft (Lees Ferry)
Elevation (middle)	2830 ft (Balsas)	2460 ft (Phantom Ranch)
Elevation (end)	1350 ft (Corral Quemado)	1100 ft (Pierce Ferry)
Avg. high/low (°F, Jan)	90/72 (Balsas)	60/35 (Phantom Ranch)
Avg high/low (°F, Jul)	90/70 (Balsas)	106/75 (Phantom Ranch)
Avg. precip. (start)	16 inches (P. Copuma)	8 inches (Lees Ferry)
Avg. precip. (mid-way)	11 inches (Balsas)	10 inches (Phantom Ranch)
Avg. precip. (end)	13 inches (Corral Quemado)	6 inches (Pierce Ferry)
# portages	0	0
# class V rapids	2	0-1 (Lava Falls?)
# class IV rapids	23	11
# class III rapids	83	50
# class II rapids	>150	>50
Canyon Depth (avg)	8000 ft	4000 ft
Canyon Depth (max)	~10000 ft (avg of both sides)	~5500 ft (avg of both sides)

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INTERNATIONAL WHITEWATER

INCAN RUINS IN THE GRAND CANYON OF THE AMAZON TO BE DROWNED

STORY AND PHOTOS BY ROCKY CONTOS

AFTER PADDLING THROUGH more Class III rapids on the Upper Amazon, we stopped to explore a place called Playa El Cura where there were rumored to be Incan ruins. It was day 18 of our planned 28-day, 400-mile raft support journey. We'd already come through dozens of Class III and IV rapids—and even a little Class V. The day was clear, hot, and dry, not at all surprising for this area, which is known as the “infierno” of Peru. I felt a sweat break as I strolled up the arroyo trying to figure out where the Incan structures might be. After a while, my wife, Barbara Conboy, decided to turn back, as did our friend, Amie Begg, who was accompanying us on the journey. I stopped to take some photos of a strange green-barked mesquite-type tree growing on the side of the wash. It was one of only a few bits of flora sparsely distributed around the area. More common were the cacti that are variously like pitayas or saguaros.



Wilson and Ernie Guevarra show us around Incan ruins and artifacts found on their ranch. The ruins will be drowned if the Chadin 2 dam is constructed (day 18; mile 232).

One usually doesn't think of the Upper Amazon as flowing through a desert, but that was exactly what we were surrounded by—and had been for 230 miles since our launch point.

As we were walking back toward the river, I thought to myself, “Maybe the ruins are up out of the wash on that little path I see?” I shouted my idea to Barb and Amie, then led the way as we all climbed up to find an adobe casa, seemingly inhabited. Barb warned me to be careful, maybe the residents weren't friendly. I approached with a “Hola” shout and soon saw the owner. Wilson Guevarra was about 45 years old, in somewhat ragged clothes with a number 10 soccer shirt, and chewing coca leaves. He seemed friendly. We started conversing. I told him that we had heard there were Incan ruins around here and asked, “Es la verdad?” He said, “Si, hay muchas ruinas aquí”, and motioned for the three of us to sit down by his adobe structure. He and his wife offered us a sweet fruit drink and some bananas. I was thrilled at getting some more fresh local fruit like bananas, something not as feasible to harvest ourselves as they needed to be cut green and allowed to ripen for nearly a week before eating.

Wilson Guevarra shows Barbara Conboy the pool holding springwater used to irrigate papayas and other fruits on their ranch.





Interesting flora and fauna are found throughout the Grand Canyon of the Amazon such as this furry cactus found near Playa El Cura.

Wilson, along with his brother and son, then led us through the area, walking into half-collapsed stone buildings, pointing out pottery shards, and looking down into what were presumably tombs. He took us up to a spring—the source of water for his bananas, papayas, mangos and cacao farm—where he had constructed a pool to hold the water. Barb and Amie took a swim, cooling off and racing across to the other side, as Wilson pointed out to me the uses of the fuzzy down covering one type of cactus, and how another type of cactus holds water they drink when on treks away from home. He asked “Quieren ver un esqueleto?”—something his son found last year. They led us on a little climb up the side of the canyon to a small cave area, where a full human skeleton was present. Was it from the Incan times? We couldn’t be sure.

Back at the casa, I asked Wilson if he was aware of the plans to dam the river. He said “Sí” and came back with an Environmental Impact Statement completed only two months earlier. At 580 feet high and about 60 km downstream, the planned Chadin 2 Dam [Chadin Dos] would flood Wilson’s property and most of the Incan ruins around it. He would have to relocate and lose most of what he’d invested here. He said the folks in the Mendán village downstream were due to lose everything too and warned that they may not be friendly to us in rafts, since the only rafters the folks had seen on the river in the past



The previous year Wilson’s son explored a hillside cave and discovered a skeleton - possibly of an Incan resident that lived in the area hundreds of years ago.

couple of years had all been dam survey crews. Although I was a bit worried, I figured we’d be able to convince the folks at Mendán that we were on their side and want to stop the dam too.

Wilson saw us off with several delicious papayas. I gave him a tip for showing us around and said I planned to be back the following year with others to help the residents along the river stop the dams from being constructed. His son and brother Ernie were intrigued by the idea of rafting the river, so they hopped on the cataraft for a mile-ride downstream. One of them donned a helmet we had on board. As we approached another crashing wave, I decide to plow right into it for some added fun. They screamed with excitement as the water splashed them and cooled them off. They’d love to go a lot further with us. Maybe next time.

As I rowed onward, I thought about how the developing country of Peru was still just learning to appreciate natural resources such as free-flowing rivers. What they needed was equipment and people to show them what amazing experiences can be had by river touring. I looked forward to helping in that regard in the future, and hope our efforts will galvanize the campaigns to keep these beautiful rivers free-flowing.

A full description of the journey down the Marañon is due out in the book, “Last



Beautiful round Incan tombs at Playa El Inca were the sites of mass suicides precipitated by the Spanish Conquest in the 16th century (day 22; mile 268).

Descent of the Amazon.” At the time of publication a one-hour video of the river might already be available, along with “guidebook” maps to the river. Check www.SierraRios.org.

INTERNATIONAL STEWARDSHIP

HELP STOP 15+ DAMS PLANNED FOR THE UPPER AMAZON STORY AND PHOTOS BY ROCKY CONTOS



Currently Rio Marañón and the Grand Canyon of the Amazon have no dams at all. But if the plans of foreign companies and the Peruvian government are realized, there will be at least 16 hydroelectric dams along the Marañón, destroying one of the most beautiful rivers in the world. The Chadin 2 and Veracruz dams are in late planning stages.

RÍO MARAÑÓN is the mainstem source of the Amazon and therefore deserves the title of “Upper Amazon.” It is also one of the most beautiful rivers in the world, passing through a bona fide Grand Canyon of the Andes. Just as importantly, it is currently free flowing, without a single dam. On a reconnaissance raft/kayak trip last year, I learned directly from residents along the river that there are a number of hydroelectric dams currently being planned for the Marañón. The dams are being promoted by the Peruvian government, but are to be financed and constructed by foreign investors/companies, particularly from Brazil, where most of the electricity generated is due to be exported. Although some residents along the river, such as many Aguaruna, are as yet unaware of the dam plans, others upriver are trying to stop the dams from being constructed. They are getting some support by uniting with activists for another cause—the opposition movement to the Conga gold mine near Celendín, which promises to contaminate the water supply of tens of thousands of people (also for the enrichment of foreign investors).

Won't you please help us oppose these dams, at least by signing an online petition?

(see below for details and other ways to help).

I found out more details of the planned dams after we finished our Grand Canyon Amazon trip last year. In 2010 Peru's then-president Alan García signed a pact with Brazil to provide thousands of MW of hydropower for export. After that, various studies were undertaken (and are still being done) to forward plans for 15-20 hydroelectric dams on the river, including several mega projects (>1000 MW) in the jungle. A recent article by Matt Finner and Clinton Jenkins published in the scientific journal PLOS1 describes all the plans for dams in the Andean Amazon watershed. In it, they acutely describe how the Marañón and its tributaries are the primary targets of dam builders:

More than half (81) of all planned dams are located on the Marañón River and its sprawling tributaries (including the Huallaga, Pastaza, and Zamora Rivers) across Ecuador and Peru (Table 1; Figure S6). Much of the existing hydropower for Ecuador comes from four large dams on two northern tributaries of the Marañón, but the rest of the river complex is free-flowing. However, there are plans for over 60 new dams on these free-flowing stretches. In

April 2011, the outgoing administration of President Alan Garcia issued a decree declaring that the construction of 20 of these dams, all located on the main-stem (Marañón), were in the national interest. All 20 of these prioritized Marañón dams would exceed 100 MW, including three new mega dams (Escurebrebraga, Rentema, and Manseriche). Also noteworthy is a cluster of large and mega dams slated for the Zamora River and the first large dams for the Huallaga.

Basically, one hydro dam after another is planned for the entire length of the Marañón in the Andes, leaving little or no free-flowing river. This will disrupt the major hydrological source of the Amazon, alter normal silt deposition into the main lower river, destroy habitat and migration patterns for fish and other aquatic life, displace thousands of residents along the river, and destroy a national treasure at least as impressive as the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. Furthermore, if there's any river that should be considered sacred in the world, it is the Amazon.

Of the many planned dams, two in the “Lower Grand Canyon” section downstream of Balsas are in advanced stages. These are called Chadin 2 and Veracruz/Cumba 4. The

Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) for both of these approximately 580 feet high dams have been completed, and can be viewed at www.SierraRios.org. As director of the non-profit SierraRios, I'm looking to garner as much opposition to the dams as possible. Although it might be overly optimistic to hope that we can prevent the construction of all 15+ dams, if we can save at least a section like the 221-mile Upper Grand Canyon, it would be well worth the effort. Please take a few minutes to voice your opinion!

YOU CAN HELP!!

(1) Sign a petition opposing the dams – basically to the letter below (to be delivered in Spanish form) found at The Petition Site (find link and more info at www.SierraRios.org).

(2) Write your own letter to President Humala. Send it to him via Facebook or other media forms.

(3) Paddle the Marañon to see for yourself how special the river is. Joining a trip can be easy though SierraRios, which will be organizing periodic raft/kayak trips down the river. Outfitting services and rentals are available for those who want to organize their own Grand Canyon Amazon expedition. (details at www.SierraRios.org).

(4) Make the issue known to as many people as possible. Share by email, click on "Like" at the petition and "Save the Upper Amazon" webpages, show the free film at paddler gatherings, and discuss the issue with others.

(5) Make a donation to SierraRios. Your contribution will be used to spread the word further among Peruvian and world citizens, inform the Aguaruna of the planned dams

Barbara Conboy talks to Leonardo, a professor from Quiches, who had come down to the river to document some of the historic and natural sites that will be drowned by the planned San Paul and/or Rupac dams (day 5; mile 83).

in their homeland, coordinate opposition with environmental groups in Peru, and/or help river residents travel to Lima to stage a protest and garner more opposition to the dams.

PETITION LETTER OPPOSING DAMS ON RIO MARAÑON

Honorable President Ollanta Humala,

I and these petition signers would like to call your attention to the dams planned for Río Marañon, which are NOT in Peru's best interest to construct. Río Marañon is a particularly special river because it is the mainstem source of the Amazon River, and therefore is the Upper Amazon. Río Marañon flows freely through one of few majestic Grand Canyons of the world and is particularly accessible by raft. Like the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River in the United States, the Grand Canyon of Amazon deserves to be protected and enjoyed by the Peruvian people rather than destroyed by foreign companies seeking to make profits by exporting the energy to Brazil. The river's residents including the Aguaruna also depend on the river for their livelihoods and traditional ways of life. Please halt all

plans to dam Río Marañon. Peru need not be an energy exporter to other nations and there are other sustainable ways to meet the energy needs of Peru.

Consider what will happen if the plans for the hydroelectric dams are actually implemented on Río Marañon:

(1) Catastrophic environmental impacts.

Currently, the Marañon provides a huge amount of silt to the jungle areas and the Amazon River. Dams will disrupt this normal flow pattern and lead to beach erosion and altered habitat for multitudinous species. Fish migration up and down the river will be blocked by the dams, altering the normal ecological balance. Similar dams in the United States's Pacific Northwest wreaked havoc on salmon populations, reducing runs of the fish from millions to just a few thousand per year.

(2) Devastating social impacts.

Thousands of people living along the river will be displaced by the reservoirs created behind the dams, leading to resentment of you and the Peruvian government for choosing the interests of foreign investors



INTERNATIONAL STEWARDSHIP



Residents just upstream of the Veracruz dam site tell us how dam construction companies and the government have been preventing organized opposition to the dam projects. (day 25; mile 313).

and companies over the rights and welfare of Peruvian citizens.

(3) Negative historical/cultural impacts.

Archeological sites of the Incan and Chachapoyan cultures that have yet to be excavated and studied are dotted along the river where reservoirs are due to extend. The drowning of these cultural artifacts is uncalled for, especially before proper assessment of the sites is completed by archaeologists. Furthermore, are you to allow a complete destruction of the cultural heritage signified by *Ciro Alegria's* best-selling novel *"La Serpiente de Oro,"* which took place along the banks of Río Marañón in its Grand Canyon? This is part of Peru's pride and heritage. Will nobody be able to visit the villages and relate to the characters and landscapes in the book anymore?

(4) Recreational treasure loss. The Grand Canyon of the United States is the most sought-after river trip in the world, with 22,000 people floating through the canyon each year, prompting wait lists of over 20

years for the permits to experience it. The Grand Canyon of the Amazon would similarly blossom as one of the most desirable ecotourism destinations as long as it remains free flowing. Dams within the Grand Canyon would spoil the experience of floating the river for recreational purposes.

I personally descended the entire 1750 km length of Río Marañón last year in kayak, raft, and passenger boat over the course of about two months. I discovered the most distant source of the Amazon River last year (Río Mantaro), and as part of my exploratory expeditions, in part sponsored by National Geographic, I paddled all of the headwaters of the Amazon (Ríos Marañón, Mantaro, Apurímac, and Urubamba). One of the most important conclusions of all my studies is that Río Marañón is by far *the most precious of all these rivers*: it is beautiful, unpolluted, raftable, holds monumental stature as the hydrological

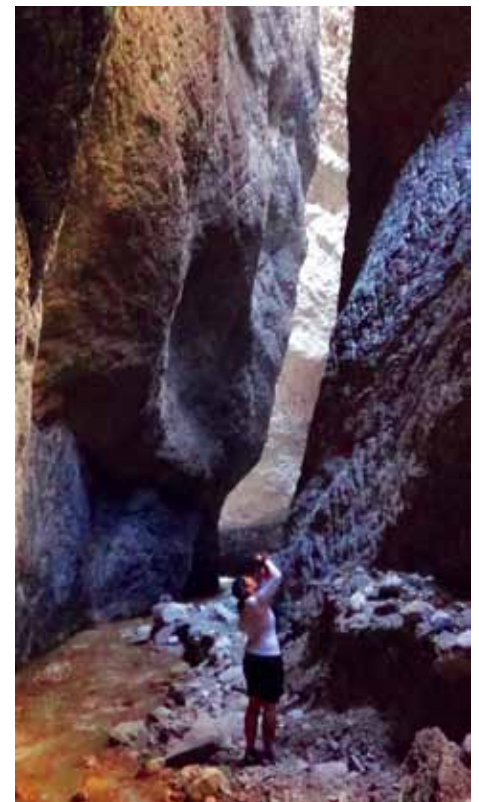
Río Marañón features beautiful side hikes such as into this slot side canyon at Quebrada Llanten (day 14; mile 193).

source of the Amazon, and is an extreme joy to experience.

Please don't let greedy foreign corporations destroy this natural treasure in Peru. Instead, recognize Río Marañón as the upper Amazon and protect it for future generations to appreciate and enjoy, as President Teddy Roosevelt did for the Grand Canyon of Arizona. I assure you, if you do, you will be admired and respected for generations to come, and this section of river will develop into one of the most sought after destinations in the world! I personally invite you or your family members to come see for yourself how amazing and special the river is on a SierraRios raft expedition (gratis).

Sincerely,
James ("Rocky") Contos, Ph.D,
Director, SierraRios
www.SierraRios.org

For more information, see www.SierraRios.org or email Rocky (jjacontos@gmail.com)



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ICONIC RIVER TRIPS

TIME ON WAITLIST HELPS GUY DO BUCKET LIST TRIPS WITH PARENTS

BY ERIC MILLER

PATIENCE AND WAITING blend like GORP. One who waits expects something to happen. One who's patient actively chooses a state of mind. You need both when pouring ketchup, registering with the DMV, or waiting for a Grand Canyon river permit.

One of those examples took nearly 18 years and I'm not talking about ketchup or smog-testing a car.

I was a passenger on commercial Grand Canyon raft trips in the early 1980s, around the time Heinz ketchup first capitalized on the "Good things come to those who wait" slogan. My Mom arranged those trips and earned credit for hooking me on river sports. I started kayaking in 1984 and have suffered clogged sinuses ever since.

"You really want to clog your nose," my boater friends bragged, "Then paddle Lava Falls."

Running the Grand Canyon in my own boat became a life goal.

I had my first opportunity in 1993 when a rafting friend scored a permit. I was 30, single, and had no possessions other than two kayaks, a lumpy couch, and a microwave. I considered my friend's invitation for nine seconds. "I'll be a back-up oarsman," I said, "but let me paddle Lava."

Our group launched on a steaming hot day. The river ran clear and cold. Flows ranged from 13,000 to 18,000 cfs. We passed our first major test, Hance Rapid, on Day 6. Confidence grew as we oared to Granite and Hermit rapids, two gargantuan washing machines stuck in perpetual rinse and soak cycles.



Eric with his dad during their 2009 Galapagos Islands bucket list trip.
Photo by Eric Miller

We ran Crystal Rapid at Mile 98 far right to skirt a school-bus size hole. I didn't drop into it but still paddled the rapid twice to rescue swimmers. Our soggy group recharged for the night at Emerald Camp, Mile 104. We had traveled nearly half-way without incident.

I awoke Day 7 and swaggered to breakfast before gearing up. The group chatted over cowboy coffee and anticipated exploring Elves Chasm downstream. It was not supposed to be a big day for rapids. But Ruby Rapid, at Mile 105, soon rearranged my attitude. Compared to the rapids upstream Ruby was a yawner. I paddled the glassy tongue but was blind-sided by a lateral. I flipped in the trough and set up to roll. A crashing wave jerked the paddle and ripped out my shoulder. The screaming voice I heard underwater was mine.

My buddies rescued me but couldn't reset the shoulder. They started emergency measures and hailed other raft parties. A commercial rig stopped and an orthopedic physician hopped off. He reset my shoulder in less than five minutes. It was dislocated for over two hours.

I finished the trip riding on a raft, my good arm leveraging me through Lava Falls. I still enjoyed the Canyon but my mood sank. I wanted to run the river in my own boat.

A year later, I registered with the National Park Service (NPS) and was assigned permit waitlist #4,338. I anticipated an eight to ten year wait, perhaps shorter if I claimed a cancellation.

Five, ten, and then thirteen years raced by when the NPS awarded me a launch date of June 2011 (see sidebar details). It was 2007. I had four more years to wait.

I was now married with two kids, had a mortgage, and was concerned about aging parents. Life was interfering with my wait. My dad, age 71, capitalized on the extended delay.

Dad and Mom have been married for over 50 years. They often drive each other crazy. The man needed a break. Mom did too. He planted the bucket list seed during one visit.

The house was full of estrogen – his wife, my wife, and my daughters. Dad and I were outnumbered and watched the banter like a tennis match.

“Too much commotion here,” Dad whispered, “Let’s go.”

“Where,” I asked, “to a bar?”

“To the Galapagos Islands and the Amazon River. They’re on my bucket list.”

We snuck away that afternoon, met a travel agent, and booked flights to Quito, Ecuador, our base between jaunts to the Upper Amazon and the Galapagos. We confessed our plot that evening. “What are you two thinking? What about the cost? And your daughter’s birthday?” “Hold tight,” Dad advised, “Say nothing.”

Silence worked. The next morning we had the green light. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity,” acknowledged the women-folk.

So, in 2009 we traveled in Ecuador. We caught piranhas and dodged army ants in the Amazon jungle, and sat next to blue-footed boobies at the Galapagos Islands.



Matkatamiba lounging.
Photo by Stew Oakley

Dad reveled like a boy scout without a den leader. No rules, total freedom.

Now skip to early 2011. My Grand Canyon launch date was within sight. I was allowed to take fifteen people on a 16-day river trip. I was 48 and by now had two shoulder dislocations, one knee surgery, and was taking pills to combat a prostate the size of a condor egg. Otherwise I felt great.

The group’s size ebbed as plans materialized. Several friends cancelled. They couldn’t afford the time. Then Mom called.

“I’ll go if you have space,” she said, almost apologetically. Mom’s previous Grand Canyon experience included commercially guided motorized trips nearly 30 years prior. For this trip she’d be on my raft and I’d row. And she’d sleep on the ground.

“You and Dad went to Ecuador,” she lobbied, “I want to do a bucket list trip with you too.”

Eric with his Mom at Shinumu Creek, Grand Canyon, AZ.
Photo by Stew Oakley

“Mom, you’re nearly 70. Once we launch the only way out is down river. Cell phones don’t work in the Canyon and we’ll be off the grid. Our toilet is a gigantic ammo-can. What about Dad?” I tried to be gracious.

“Your brother and sister can watch him,” she persisted.

My siblings agreed, urging her to go for it. Then I called Dad.

“Mom wants to raft through the Grand Canyon with me. You’d be alone for three weeks. Can you get along?” I asked.

“Take her, take her... put her in front!” (Dad later left a message to bring her back in one piece.)

So Mom joined my trip, the group’s token grandma. She labored and laughed in camp and didn’t complain about the toilet. She earned bragging rights at her Pilates class afterward.

Had I foreseen an 18-year gap between Grand Canyon trips I would have bailed. I had good reason to complain about the

ICONIC RIVER TRIPS



Celebrating post-Lava with videographer, John, and Stew, chief groover-man.

Photo by Stew Oakley

permitting delays but decided to focus on what I could control. In this case the bureaucratic headaches were blessings in disguise. Time marched on and the list of

things I could control eventually became longer than my complaint list.

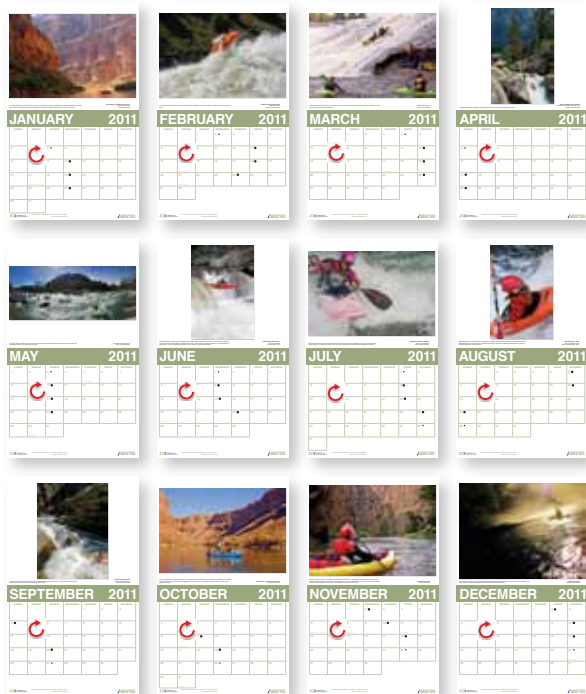
Had I gone sooner, I may have missed these opportunities with my parents. They are

in their twilight years. I thought they were fizzling out. But they threw curve balls, like wanting to go to South America or raft the Colorado River. After spending time with them I now know why I am who I am.

I wouldn't trade going on my parents' bucket list trips for anything. It makes me think that I better do more bucket list trips... with my girls.

Eric Miller has kayaked and rafted rivers in Alaska, California, Colorado, Oregon, and Utah. Watch his Grand Canyon rafting video at www.etcguy.com or contact him at eric@etcguy.com.

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Timeline: Great River Trip Came to Guy Who Waited

1993 – First private (non-commercial) Grand Canyon trip. Dislocated shoulder.

1994 - Register with the National Park Service (NPS). Assigned permit waitlist #4,338. Get married.

1996 – Waitlist #3,291. Raft the Tatsenshini River (Alaska) to break in wife.

1997 – Waitlist #2,776. First daughter born. Buy raft. Advanced 515 slots!

1998 – Waitlist #2,314. Dislocate shoulder...again... kayaking. NPS estimates 4 to 7 more years.

1999 – Waitlist #2,057. Buy a house.

2000 – Waitlist #1,736. Birth of second daughter. Buy a new Toyota that holds two car seats.

2001 – Waitlist #1,481. Christmas newsletter alerts friends to reserve 2005 for the big trip. Wife contemplates separation anxiety for when we send the kids to grandma's...

2003 – Waitlist #1,023. Over 8,200 people now on waitlist. NPS suspends new additions as part of the Colorado River Management Plan (CRMP) update.

2004 – Waitlist #791. NPS works on Draft Environmental Impact Statement to revise the CRMP. Christmas newsletter warns of potential change in launch date...maybe 2006?

2005 – Waitlist #583. Eleven years on the list. One kid is 8. The other is 5. So is my Toyota.

2006 – Waitlist #350. NPS releases Record of Decision for a revised CRMP. I'm now in a lottery. I resubmit proposed launch dates for 2007 and 2008.

March 2007 – No launch date assigned, 13 years elapsed. NPS policy allows me 13 additional chances to resubmit proposed launch dates. I can improve my odds if I band with another person on the waitlist. I band with a friend who's been on the waitlist six years. We combine for 19 extra lottery chances.

April 2007 – NPS awards me a launch date for June 2011.

2009 – Family business awarded multi-year contract.

May 2010 – Invitation letter mailed to friends. Older friends declined, "We've aged out." Wife reconsiders trip and declines, "What about the business?" Get bids to rent gear.

March 2011 – Application, fees and draft roster mailed to NPS. Receive Special Use Permit.

April 2011 – Finalize roster. My 69-year-old mom takes the last slot.

June 2011 – Drive Toyota, now with 120,000 miles, to Flagstaff. Wife stays home to run the business and watch kids.

June 12, 2011 – Launch from Lees Ferry. Flows are steady at about 25,000 cfs.

June 27, 2011 – Take-out at Diamond.

Results

No flipped rafts, no injuries, ran Lava Falls sunny-side-up. No damaged equipment except for a coffee pot lid. Still married. Daughters and wife go next time. I'll put their names in the lottery...

THE GRAND CANYON: THE REAL WORK BEGINS ONCE PERMIT IS IN HAND

BY ERIC MILLER



Lunch at Redwall Cavern
Photo by Eric Miller

Like religion, politics, and family planning, cereal is not a topic to be brought up in public. It's too controversial.

— Erma Bombeck

CONGRATULATIONS, TRIP LEADER, on your non-commercial permit to raft the Grand Canyon. Before shoving off from Lees Ferry get ready to work. Planning multi-day Canyon trips is stressful unless you're a wedding coordinator who thrives on chaos. Start early. You're not only planning a wedding of sorts, but also a honeymoon—for 16. I spent more time preparing for my 16-day trip than my wife spent being pregnant. And she has two kids. Be clear, direct, and transparent with your team and you'll succeed. Leading Grand Canyon trips requires effort but with careful preparation, common sense, and luck, you'll have the time of your life. With apologies to Erma Bombeck, I made the issues of religion, politics, family planning, and cereal, public.

Execute your power but be careful. You are inviting friends who are just as passionate about the Canyon as you. Your task is to prepare, take charge, and balance group input. You'll learn soon whether your diplomacy skills are up to the challenge. Politics happens when three or more gather, so unless you're running solo, expect it.

You are in charge of logistics, budget, menu, recruiting, delegation, emergency coordination, equipment, supplies, group dynamics, conflicts, motivating your team, and toilet paper. You are also the complaint department. A Grand Canyon trip is like a *Survivor* episode without Jeff Probst and the torches.

Trip planning requires research, listening, directing, and making awkward decisions. Embrace the role and request help. Very rarely do you get a shot at organizing such an event. I had an 18-year gap between Grand Canyon trips... long enough to

produce a voting American. I may have fretted too much with details, but the devil *is* in the details. On my first Canyon trip we broke the adaptor for the propane canisters and cooked meals using a back-up fuel stove. Glad we brought enough white gas.

Here's friendly advice about unpopular topics...

Money – Budget, Deposits, Refunds

Few people enjoy talking about money. The problem is that money usually stays in people's pockets. Use your friends' money with caution and stay on budget. Two ways to tarnish friendships are to lose or inefficiently spend their money. They may "unfriend" you on Facebook, or worse.

I informed my friends that costs could reach \$1,300 per head but aimed to stay under \$1,000. On prior expeditions (14-day Grand Canyon, 11-day Tatsenshini), the costs were

ICONIC RIVER TRIPS

half that. Private Canyon trips can run as low as \$350 per person. But these trips may rely on personal gear (kitchens, blasters, coolers, groovers, rafts) and perhaps menus of Top Ramen and canned stew. I own kayaks, two rafts, and a mish-mash of kitchen gear. My equipment works for three day jaunts down the Rogue or San Juan but is inadequate to outfit a 16-day Canyon trip. I was transparent about costs which facilitated ideas and buy-in. This was their trip too.

I researched three outfitters for rafts, kitchen gear, and food packing. All had excellent reputations. I selected an outfitter that had the widest variety of choices and easiest implementation. On my prior Canyon trip several rafts lost D-rings and began disintegrating by Day 12. I decided to ride "comfy" and rented five 18-foot rafts with plenty of room to store gear. Money was important but I didn't want to trim the amount of food, propane, or...toilet paper. Imagine arguing about toilet paper conservation at Lees Ferry. What a buzz kill.

I requested non-refundable initial deposits of \$300 from each participant figuring it was more painful for someone to walk away from that amount. Many friends said they'd go but cash on the barrel guaranteed a ticket. I kept accounting records in case of an audit (which never happened). I collected two other \$500 deposits prior to launch, including \$100 to replace damaged gear.

Funds were spent on outfitter payments, buying food, and covering light administrative costs. You'll need cash flow to initiate trip planning. My trip's cost amounted to \$18,000, or roughly \$1,100 per head, and I was able to refund extra budget reserves including the full damage deposit. We only wrecked a coffee pot lid.

The trip budget did not include portal-to-portal transportation. Participants paid

The Little Colorado River.
Photo by Stew Oakley

their own travel expenses to Arizona. My Alaska friends made a substantial financial commitment. My personal "ah-hah" moment occurred when I signed the outfitter's liability release form at Lees Ferry. Gear worth about \$60,000 was in my name. Gulp. I never told my wife, until now that is.

Trip Length

My permit dictated that I pass Phantom Ranch by Day 6 and reach Diamond Creek by Day 16. I desired that invitees commit to the entire trip (no hikers in/out Phantom Ranch). On a 1993 trip, the leader allowed hikers to meet the raft party at Phantom Ranch. One person was allowed to fly out via chartered helicopter below Lava Falls. That meant we had to be somewhere...and missed hikes at Nankoweap and Unkar as a result. For my trip it was all or nothing. What's 16 days in a lifetime? A vapor.

Emergencies

I got injured on that 1993 Canyon trip, a freak accident. Fortunately we met a physician on a commercial trip who provided first aid. Otherwise I may have incurred costs for a helicopter evacuation. That said, I required everyone have insurance to pay for an emergency evacuation. I upgraded

my AAA insurance for this coverage and photocopied everyone's emergency card. It was one less issue to worry about (#&%! happens).

Satellite (Sat) phone

We rented a Sat phone which cost \$3 per minute when used. Several persons asked if they could call home. No, sorry. I wanted to conserve the battery for emergency use only. We never used the Sat phone. Several group members used the Phantom Ranch pay phone instead.

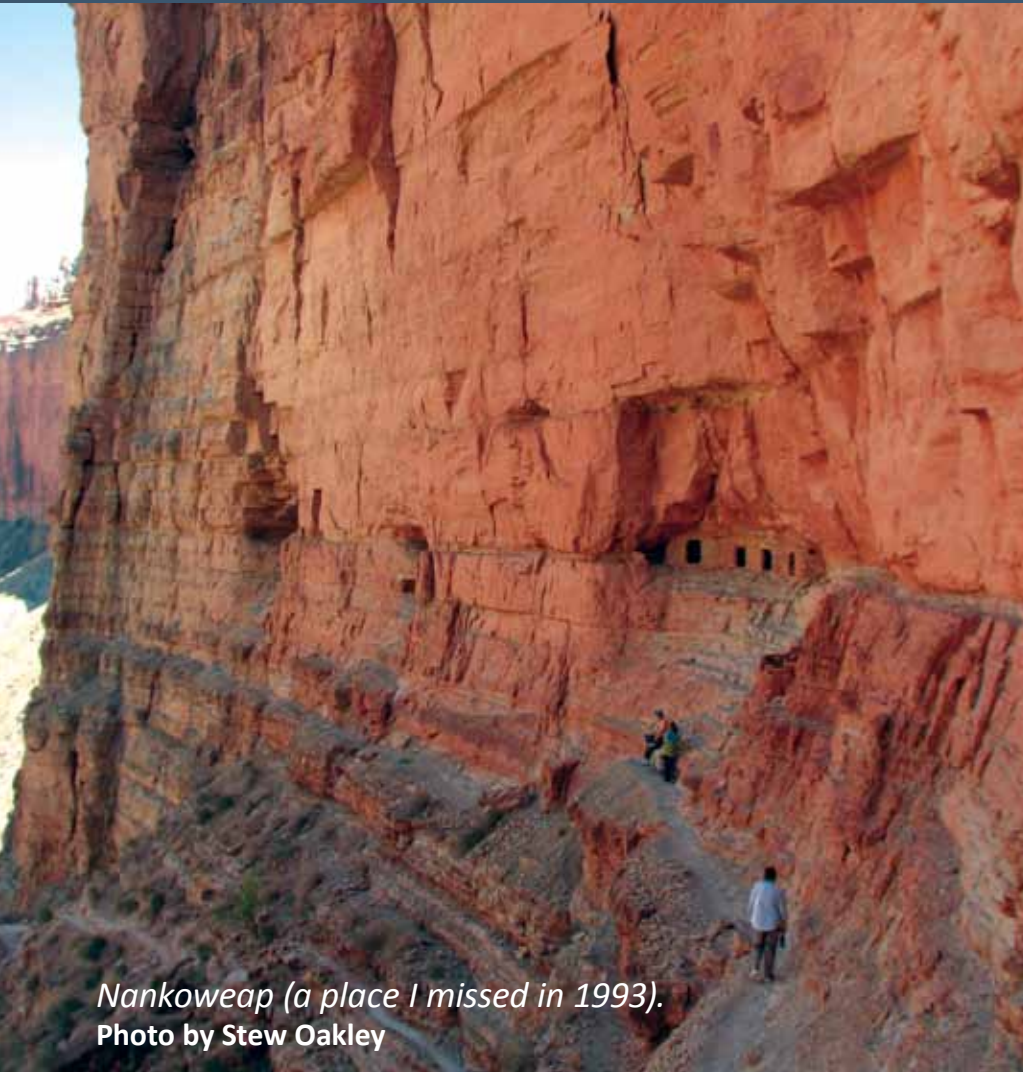
Group Dynamics

My primary recruits were old friends and fellow river rats. Among them I desired a core of five experienced oarsmen and at least three capable back-ups. If you were a kayaker and unwilling to oar you slipped down my invitation list.

I also considered personalities. My group included a mix of Christians, agnostics, Republicans, Democrats, beer drinkers, and nudists, but not necessarily in that order. I knew most everyone and informed the group of its diversity prior to launch. All were omnivores which eased menu planning. I like meat and would not bring a second kitchen to prepare vegan meals.



ICONIC RIVER TRIPS



Nankoweap (a place I missed in 1993).
Photo by Stew Oakley

And yes, we discussed cereal. Nudity at camp was inappropriate. My group ranged in age from 12 to 69 and included my mom. I really didn't want to see her birthday suit. I noticed, however, that one couple ran low on sunscreen by Day 15.

Teams were assigned for camp and kitchen tasks. The groover team, comprised of our worst cooks, was not allowed to prepare meals or wash dishes. Everyone helped set and break camp. I had no tolerance for drug use or excessive drinking. Boating while impaired is stupid and dangerous. If you need drugs to enjoy the Grand Canyon watch a video.

Safety

Safety on the river, on hikes, and at camp was a huge concern. We discussed the need

to hydrate and to wear sun protection. At camp we laid out clear walking paths to circumvent the stoves and blaster, which has the thrust of a jet engine. We diligently washed and disinfected dishes, removed litter, and practiced good hygiene after using the groover. I've encountered other trips where the entire party ached from a nasty gastrointestinal bug.

Unfortunately I disappointed several friends who didn't make the final roster. I carefully considered their strong personalities. Sixteen days of "Bob" would create a mutiny. On one river trip a particular individual was very difficult to like. Our common ground was NFL trivia. We discussed a lot of football for over a week.

To those I couldn't take, all I can say is, sorry. I had limited space, a long wait, and had to meet priorities. You still have opportunities to get your own permit or go on an outfitter-supported trip.

I grew as a boatman and trip leader but was surprised by its mental toll. I was a nervous wreck until Day 7. I worried about flipping and didn't want to disappoint my team. After Granite I gained confidence with my rafting skills. In comparison, rolling a kayak is a cinch. Maybe you lose some personal gear if you swim. But flipping a one-ton raft with food, supplies, and passengers (my mom!) terrified me. After successfully running Lava (at 25,000 cfs) I knew I hit a home run. We were all safe, happy, and invigorated. On Day 16 we were all sad to reach Diamond. Everyone craved a little bit more.

Post-trip blues

I returned home and sank into a temporary funk. I had just experienced an incredible adventure only Grand Canyon vets can understand. Our basic needs were met: food, water, and companionship. Nothing else really mattered. I was happy to see my family but sorting piles of bills and doing household chores was a bummer. My funk intensified at work. The Grand Canyon is immense and the Colorado River is all powerful. The river doesn't care if you're a CEO or homeless. The Canyon humbles one's ego.

Two years have passed and I still remember the groover team's morning shout for last call. Or getting caught in never-ending eddies which amused my friends. We shot video but I sometimes wonder if I'm really in the images.

I aim to run it again, maybe during a different season, with a smaller party, or perhaps even with a group of nudists. I hope it won't be an 18-year wait. I'd be 68... and too wrinkly to wear my birthday suit.

Feather River Festival

23rd Annual

Hosted by ChicoPaddleheads



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Friday, September 27, 2013

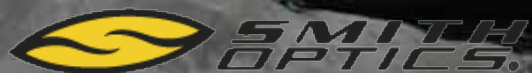
National Paddling Film Festival at Indian Jim School

Saturday, September 28, 2013

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

Sunday, September 29, 2013

Releases at Rock Creek /Tobin

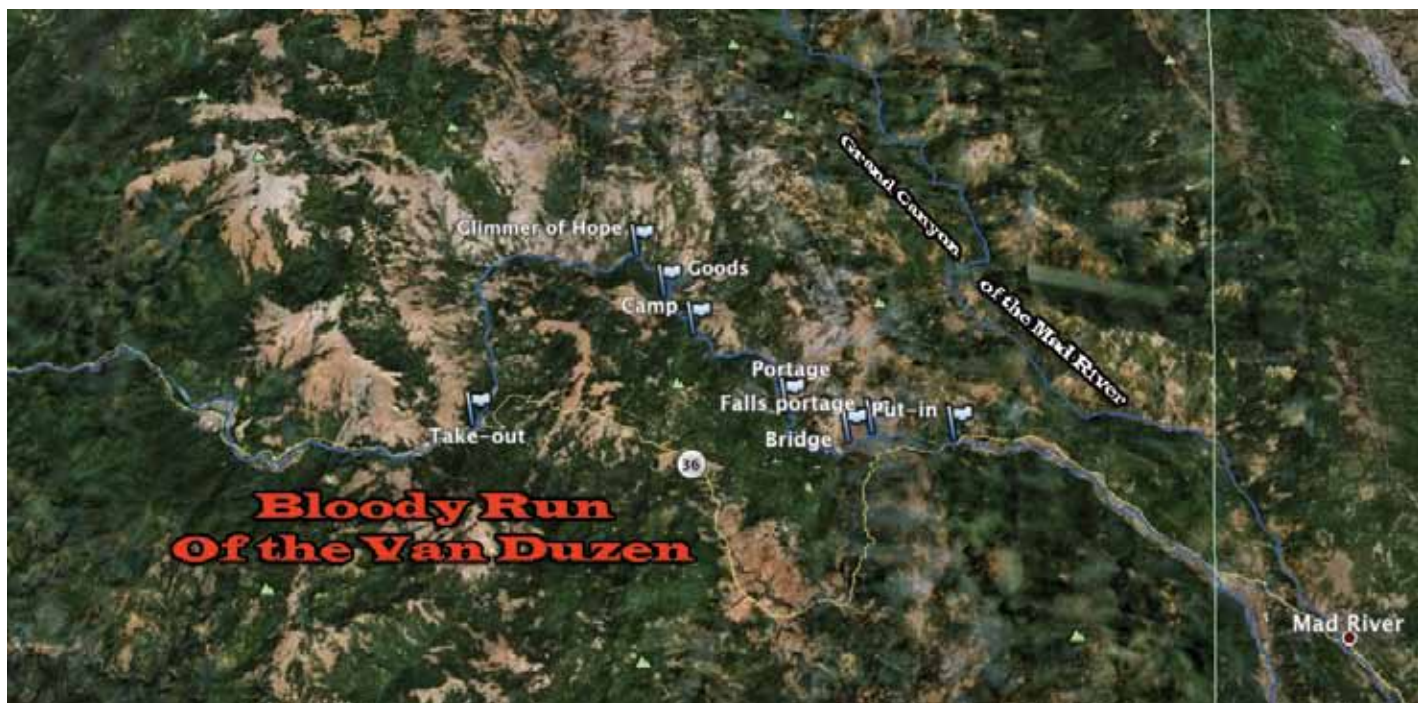


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WILDERNESS WHITEWATER

STORIES FROM EXPLORE SIX RIVERS: THE BLOODY RUN OF THE VAN DUZEN (CA)

BY PAUL GAMACHE



“It’s ON!” I could hear the excitement in Dan’s voice. Hanging up the phone I stared at the Van Duzen gauge on Dreamflows. After two years of planning, tomorrow was set to be the first day of Explore Six Rivers. Known as the “Bloody Run,” this section of river did not have a positive reputation. From massacres of the local population to failed kayak descents resulting in hiking out through poison oak, history suggested that this was going to be a difficult expedition at best.

By 9 the next morning we were on the water passing underneath Highway 36 in Dinsmore, California. We had lucked out. Not only was it a beautiful February day, we also somehow managed to all have extremely understanding girlfriends. As we pushed off from shore we laughingly wished each other a Happy Valentine’s Day. The truck faded from view and the laughter went with it.

I sighed as another obvious portage came into sight. Pulling my skirt I stepped out of the boat and into the water. An unsettling feeling immediately came over me. Quickly shuffling out of the water I looked down at my drysuit.

“Did that really just happen?” I asked myself in complete disarray. It took me a few seconds to gather myself but then I reached down and closed the relief zipper I had left open at put-in. Paddlers always joke about the person who forgets to close their zipper but the reality of what had just happened was startling. Loading my boat onto my shoulder I could feel water gathering in my socks. The drysuit booties that had done such an amazing job of keeping me dry earlier were now doing an equally good job of pooling all the water inside the suit. Climbing to the top of the hill I knew I had to deal with this. It would be near freezing temperatures tonight; I couldn’t be soaking wet all day. Taking off

the drysuit, union suit, and socks I began to quickly ring out the soaking wet layers. Thankfully, the union suit gave up most of its water and within a few minutes I was warm, semi-dry, and once again ready to go.

As we made our way around our first big portage it was difficult to see the whitewater we were carrying around. It was obvious there was a large (40-60-foot) falls surrounded by boulders. Below the main falls there was a roughly 15-foot falls. We scampered around on river left and after some time found our way back down to the water. It would have been nice to spend time and scout out a possible line but the short winter days and the unknown difficulties ahead pushed us downriver. It would not be surprising if most of what we were portaging did in fact have a line.

Opposite: Wes at an early portage.
Photo by Paul Gamache

Turning a corner, a bridge just upstream of the confluence with the Little Van Duzen came into view. Dan told us the story of how he had paddled this tributary a few years back and used the bridge as a take-out option. Part of me wanted to hike out and call it a day. Pushing aside the usual apprehension of heading into the unknown, Wes, Dan, and I continued on knowing things were only going to get more difficult from this point on.

For the next four hours we paddled and portaged our way down river. Some portages were quick and easy, others involved having to hike high up along ridges and then back down to the river. At other times we were helping each other seal launch in between undercut cliffs to boof retentive holes surrounded by sieves.

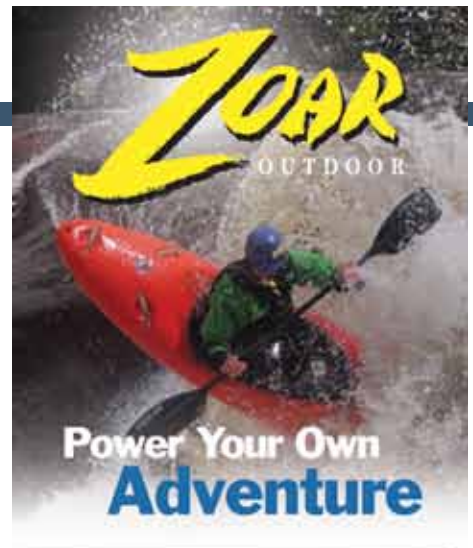
By late afternoon we were all exhausted. A quick pin from Wes made it clear that we would have to stop and camp soon. The problem is always the same, "what if the perfect campsite is just downstream?" The pull of "what if" dragged us farther downstream. More bad lines, more near

miss pins and we all agreed that sleeping on rocks was better than dealing with an avoidable emergency this close to dark. We decided to call it a day, and once again we lucked out.

Just up the hill from where we pulled our kayaks onto shore there was a perfectly flat grassy area with plenty of firewood. We unloaded the essentials from our boats and made our way up the hill. It would be the first of many fires we would build together during our time with Explore Six Rivers.

In the morning we took our time. It had slightly rained the night before and then turned cold. As a result none of us was really in a hurry to face the pre-sunlight river. We took our time having breakfast and by 9:30 we were off.

Fun boulder gardens mixed with difficult portages started the day. It seemed as though the water had a life of its own. The strange pull of current trying to suck you into a sieve; a benign-looking rock wall causing you to paddle for your life when you realized all of the current was going



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WILDERNESS WHITEWATER

deep under the wall. Somewhere in the mix though there were a few clean ledge drops, the kind of drops that make the whole run worth doing when you nail a boof stroke that sails you out and you hit the water with a thud.

Within a few hours we started hoping we were past the crux of the run. It seemed to just keep going. At one point we stopped and enjoyed the sun shining down on us. We joked that “Glimmer of Hope” was a good name for the beach looking down on the mellow gradient section below. As we got back in our boats and carried on we realized that we still had a ways to go.

After taking another fall, I laid down on the ground, not wanting to get up. I was bonking. The portaging, paddling, and lack of a lunch break were taking their toll. We had gone 1.5 miles in the two hours since our last break. Personally, I needed to stop and eat something. We finished the portage and found a nice spot downstream to let everyone refuel for whatever may come next.

Thankfully, within the 1.5 miles the river had mellowed out. We made our way the remaining 3.5 miles to just before



From above it looked like many of the rapids we portage had challenging Class V-V+ lines that would be worth scouting on future descents.

Photo by Wes Schrecongost

Bridgeville and got out along a rocky beach where Highway 36 began to once again parallel the river.

We had done it. We had survived the Bloody Run of the Van Duzen and in doing

so checked off our first run of Explore Six Rivers. We high-fived, cheered, and with one last blast of serendipitous luck Wes walked up to the road, stuck his thumb out, and in less than five seconds had a ride back up to his truck at the put-in.



About Explore Six Rivers:

Six Rivers National Forest in Northern California is named after the Smith, Klamath, Trinity, Eel, Van Duzen, and Mad Rivers. In February of 2012, the team consisting of Will Parham, Wes Schrecongost, Dan Menten and Paul Gamache began their goal of paddling all six rivers from source to sea in a single season. The purpose of the expedition was to explore and promote paddling in and around the North Coast. This is one story, from one section of one river. For more information and an online video of this section please visit: ExploreSixRivers.com. Paul Gamache is currently in Cameroon on a Sperry Top-Sider supported expedition. For more on this go to ChutesDuCameroun.com



Sunlight on our campsite.
Photo by Wes Schrecongost



Deerfield Fest: July 13



Charlemont, MA

More info: americanwhitewater.org > Our Organization > Events

ENDURING RIVERS CIRCLE

LAST YEAR, AMERICAN Whitewater launched the Enduring Rivers Circle, a planned giving program for those who wish to embrace American Whitewater river stewardship efforts for the long-term by including AW as a provision in their will (bequest). The Enduring Rivers Circle was created exclusively to honor and recognize people who have helped to continue our river stewardship efforts through a gift to American Whitewater in their estate plans.

As an Enduring Rivers Circle member, donors receive special recognition to serve as a reminder of their ongoing commitment to river stewardship. Enduring Rivers Circle members join a ring of individuals who are making it possible for our children and future generations to experience for themselves the rivers that have coursed through our lives and made them so much richer. AW's Enduring Rivers Circle supporters are recognized publicly in the American Whitewater Annual Report Honor Roll on page 42 of this *Journal*.

Estate Plans - what is a bequest? A bequest is a provision in your will or living trust that enables you to include a future gift to American Whitewater. Bequests may be general or designated for a specific project or purpose. If you would like to make a gift to American Whitewater while retaining control of and access to your assets during

your lifetime, a bequest can help you achieve these goals.

What are the benefits of a bequest? A bequest is one of the simplest and most flexible ways to make a planned gift to American Whitewater. For example: You can leave a permanent legacy but defer payment of the gift until you no longer need the asset. There is no minimum amount. Bequests of all sizes are an important legacy to American Whitewater. You may choose how and when you want your bequest to be made from your estate. Your bequest may be made contingent upon whether other heirs and beneficiaries survive you. It's easy to alter an existing will or living trust to include a bequest to American Whitewater. A bequest qualifies for an estate charitable deduction if your estate is taxable.

What are some of the options for planning a bequest? It's easy to shape a bequest that matches your goals. Here's how:

- Specify a fixed amount: Designate a specific dollar amount to be given to American Whitewater.
- Use a percentage: Naming a percentage of your estate to go to American Whitewater keeps the size of your gift in proportion to the size of your estate.

- Identify specific assets: You can give securities, real estate, and other property through your estate.

- Make an unrestricted bequest: An unrestricted bequest provides American Whitewater with the greatest flexibility. You make your gift available for general purposes, allowing us to use it wherever the need is greatest.

- Make a restricted bequest: You provide a gift designated for a purpose that is most important to you.

What is the next step? If you have already arranged for a bequest or other planned gift, we would like to honor your support. Please notify American Whitewater Executive Director, Mark Singleton mark@americanwhitewater.org and become a member of the Enduring Rivers Circle. If you are still considering such a gift, let us know so we can help you and your advisors complete your gift in a way that benefits your estate and makes clear your intention to support American Whitewater's river stewardship.

When you join the American Whitewater Enduring Rivers Circle, you demonstrate your commitment to rivers and help ensure the long-term strength of American Whitewater.

Photo by Rok Sribar





2012 Annual Report



Bryan Ownen and Keith Kirchner enjoy a fall paddle in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison River. AW's work to quantify recreational flow needs throughout the Gunnison River Basin will help us protect boatable flows, even as water in the Southern Rockies becomes increasingly scarce. Photo: Chris Menges



Kayakers fire it up on Steelhead Falls at approximately 2' on the Husum gage, White Salmon River, Washington. Photo by Thomas O'Keefe

Dear Members,

Our community knows firsthand that you can't love what you don't know. It's our common love of whitewater that makes us such passionate defenders of rivers. The American Whitewater River Stewardship Team is positioned to lead, train, and support community-based activism that represents the interests of boaters and the rivers we enjoy. The framework below provides an illustration of how we function and the impacts of our stewardship efforts.

Protect American Whitewater has been a key player in protecting our treasured free-flowing rivers through growing the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Restore American Whitewater has restored flows to dry rivers below dams across the country, and is a pioneer in bringing political and scientific legitimacy to restoring flows in a way that both improves riparian habitat and connects people to rivers.

Enjoy American Whitewater knows that those who have a personal connection to rivers are the most powerful and effective river conservation advocates. We connect the public with rivers through promoting whitewater safety and improving public access to waterways. We also maintain the National Whitewater Inventory — a comprehensive database of over 7,000 whitewater runs, representing the nation's most extensive atlas of whitewater rivers.

This compelling mix of river stewardship allows American Whitewater to foster strong corporate and foundation support. In 2012, we were able to solicit three additional dollars for every membership dollar we received. That three to one match allows us to stretch your membership investment. Where else can you make a one-dollar investment and immediately stretch it to four dollars in support of river conservation? This match, combined with a lean organizational model, allows American Whitewater to leave a footprint much larger than our actual shoe size.

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. American Whitewater river 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



Omar Jepperson enjoys the South Fork Sol Duc Gorge, a river proposed for Wild and Scenic designation through Wild Olympics. Photo by Thomas O'Keefe

We measure success in cubic feet per second — the amount of water flowing freely down a river. If paddlers are floating on that water, celebrating the river and its environment, then we are doubly successful. This was the case when paddlers first floated through the Condit Dam site, and paddled the first scheduled releases on the Upper Nantahala and Bear rivers in 2012. It is also the case in Colorado, Washington, Montana, and across the country where we worked towards permanent protection for hundreds of miles of our nation's wildest rivers. These projects exemplify our work: because of our involvement you can go to a river and see a river — not a reservoir, not a dry riverbed, but a vibrant flowing river. The photos in this report give you a glimpse into some of our major milestones from 2012. We hope they are as inspiring to you as they are to us.



Rafters enjoy the Our House Dam run on California's Yuba River. Photo by Dave Steindorf

California

YOSEMITE: Through American Whitewater's involvement in the Wild and Scenic planning process and ongoing collaborative efforts, Yosemite National Park is now considering opening up paddling opportunities on the Merced and Tuolumne Rivers.

YUBA: Flow studies in 2012 allowed rafters to enjoy the Our House Dam run on the Middle Fork Yuba River. American Whitewater will use the results to negotiate new flow releases for the river, which will benefit aquatic species and whitewater boaters.

Pacific Northwest

WHITE SALMON: After more than two decades of effort, American Whitewater celebrated the restoration of the White Salmon River following the complete removal of Condit Dam, a project that took place over the spring and summer of 2012. By the fall of 2012, paddlers were introduced to a new section of whitewater that had been buried underneath the waters of Northwestern Reservoir for the past century.

WILD OLYMPICS: In 2012 Congressman Norm Dicks and Senator Patty Murray introduced the Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 2012. This legislation would protect some of the Pacific Northwest's most treasured backcountry paddling destinations that emerge from the majestic old-growth forests of the Olympic Peninsula.

THUNDER CREEK WILDERNESS: While we have not seen much action for land and river conservation in Congress since 2009, Secretary Salazar administratively designated 3500 acres along Thunder Creek in North Cascades National Park as wilderness in September of 2012. This backcountry paddling destination in the Skagit River drainage was at one time considered for hydropower development but is now protected.

Northern Rockies

From big waves to big bears, the rivers of Montana and Idaho are some of the wildest in the United States. American Whitewater has worked to protect the Northern Rockies' wildest rivers from dams and other impacts through pursuing Wild and Scenic River protections.



Chris Ennis explores one of Montana's outstanding candidates for Wild and Scenic designation. Photo by Kevin Colburn

Tanya Faux in the Fish Creek Race 2011, Colorado.
Photo by Nathan Fey



The Yampa River, Colorado. Photo by Kent Vertrees

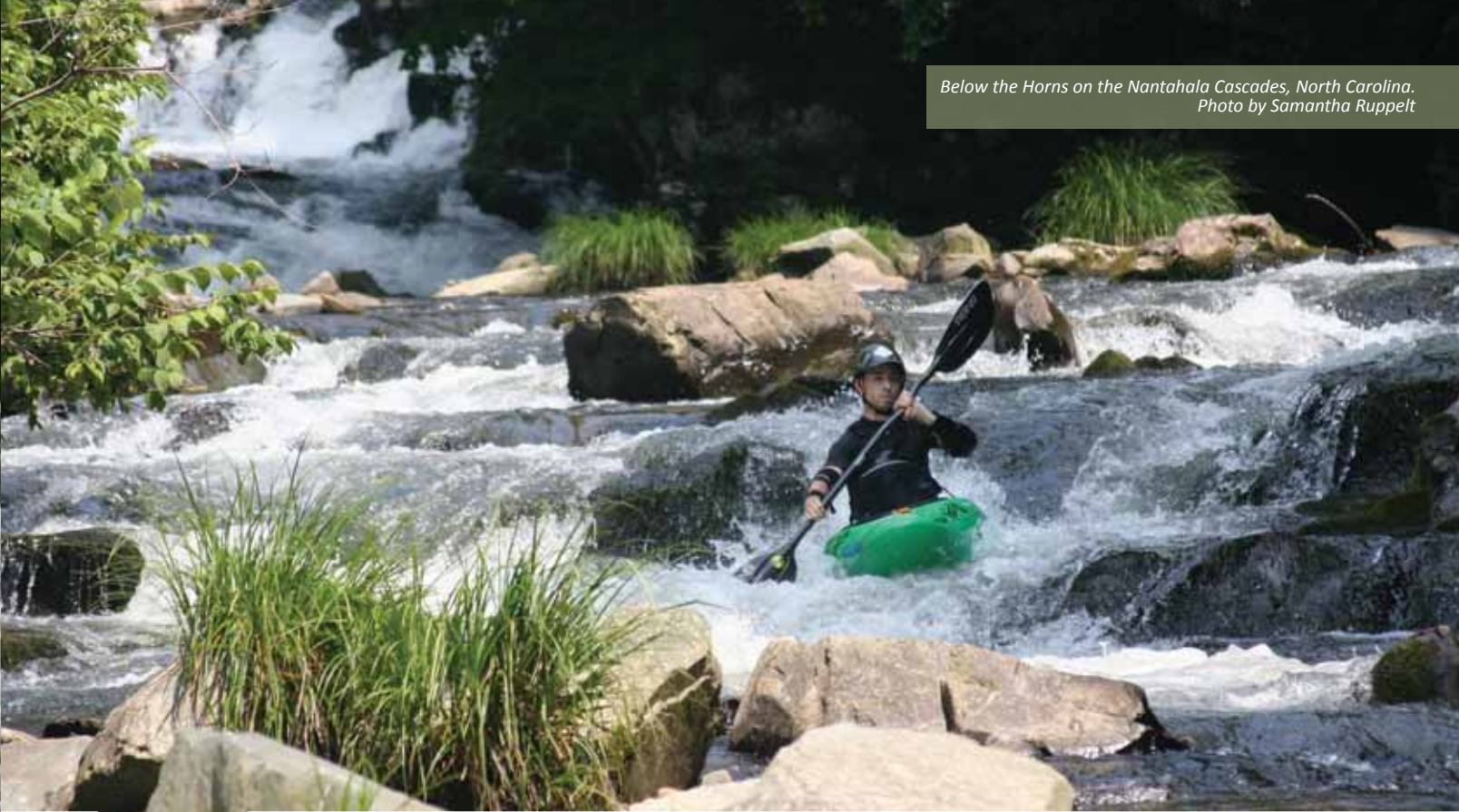
Southern Rockies

Paddlers have helped AW define recreational flows for nearly every major watershed in Colorado and the Southern Rockies — from high-mountain tributaries, to rolling desert rivers. This year with the information collected from hundreds of rafters, kayakers, and canoeists, AW worked with the US Bureau of Reclamation and Interior Department on the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study to ensure that western water policies preserve boatable flows into the future.

From alpine steep creeks like Oh-Be-Joyful to desert floats like Escalante and Dominguez Canyons, Colorado's Gunnison River Basin provides a wide range of outstanding paddling opportunities that appeal to paddlers of all abilities. In 2012, we developed a strategy to define recreational flow needs throughout the Basin, and added staff capacity to coordinate the new Gunnison River Basin Program. These efforts promise to help us protect recreational flows in 2013 and beyond.

In the dry southwestern corner of Colorado, the Dolores River continues to suffer from persistent low-flow conditions, where boatable days have declined by 50% since McPhee Reservoir was constructed in the late 1980s. This year American Whitewater, the State of Colorado, and the US Bureau of Reclamation developed new Management Guidelines for releases of water from McPhee Dam into the Lower Dolores River that sustain native fish, public safety and improve rafting flows. These guidelines have been published in the draft Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation Plan for the Lower Dolores River.

*Below the Horns on the Nantahala Cascades, North Carolina.
Photo by Samantha Ruppelt*



Southeast

Paddlers sampled the first of 30 years of flow releases on North Carolina's Upper Nantahala in the fall of 2012. American Whitewater worked with our regional partners to negotiate these flows over the past decade, and we are now working with the Forest Service and Duke Energy on improving public access to the river.

Northeast

We launched a new regional stewardship program in the Northeast in 2012 and quickly dove into a wide range of great projects. From negotiating releases on Vermont's Class V Green River, to working to protect river access to the Class II/III Deerfield, our list of projects has something for everyone. We even kicked off successful negotiations for releases on Vermont's big water Missisquoi River.

Mid Atlantic

American Whitewater worked with a diverse coalition of paddlers and sportsmen throughout 2012 to seek clarity and improvements to stream access laws in Virginia. Legislation was introduced to that end, and while it failed to pass, we believe the idea of keeping people connected to rivers will gain favor in the next legislative session.



*Paddler runs the hero line on Big Schott, with Tetanus in the background.
Missisquoi Sheldon Spring Rapids, Vermont. Photo by Scott Gilbert*

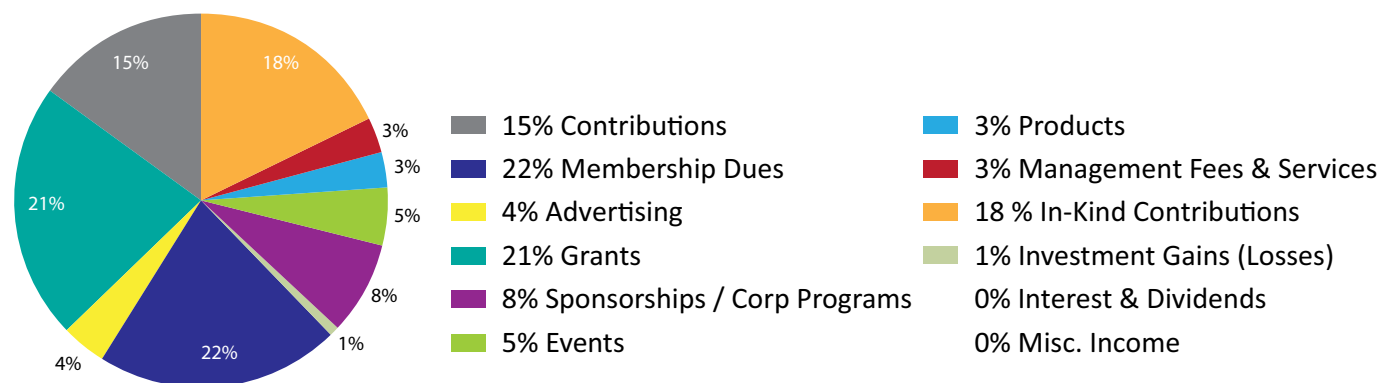


*Colliers Creek, Virginia
Photo by Kurt Sisson*

2011 Statement of Activities

Revenue	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total 2012	Total 2011
PUBLIC SUPPORT				
Contributions	\$104,034	\$114,300	\$218,334	\$167,254
OTHER REVENUE				
Membership dues	\$327,021		\$327,021	\$311,182
Advertising	\$55,716		\$55,716	\$41,387
Grants		\$298,141	\$298,141	\$200,105
Events	\$77,481		\$77,481	\$68,400
Sponsorships/Corp Programs	\$121,317		\$121,317	\$122,817
Products	\$39,339		\$39,339	\$32,637
Investment Gains/(losses)	\$16,415		\$16,415	\$(6,594)
Management Fees & Services	\$42,865		\$42,865	\$86,600
In-Kind Contributions	\$254,550		\$254,550	\$201,399
Interest & Dividends	\$1,851		\$1,851	\$1,775
Misc. Income	\$564		\$564	\$244
Net Assets Released from Restriction	\$291,983	\$(291,983)		
Total Support and Revenue	\$1,333,136	\$120,458	\$1,453,594	\$1,228,992
EXPENSES				
Program Services:				
Access & Conservation	\$745,210	\$-	\$745,210	\$657,121
Public Education	\$403,276	\$-	\$403,276	\$406,892
Total Program Services	\$1,148,486	\$-	\$1,148,486	\$1,064,013
SUPPORTING SERVICES				
General & Administrative	\$117,385	\$-	\$117,385	\$123,664
Fundraising	\$84,962	\$-	\$84,962	\$75,220
Total Supporting Services	\$202,347	\$-	\$202,347	\$198,884
Total Expenses	\$1,350,833	\$-	\$1,350,833	\$1,262,897
Change in Net Assets	\$(17,697)	\$120,458	\$102,761	\$(33,905)

2012 REVENUE SOURCES

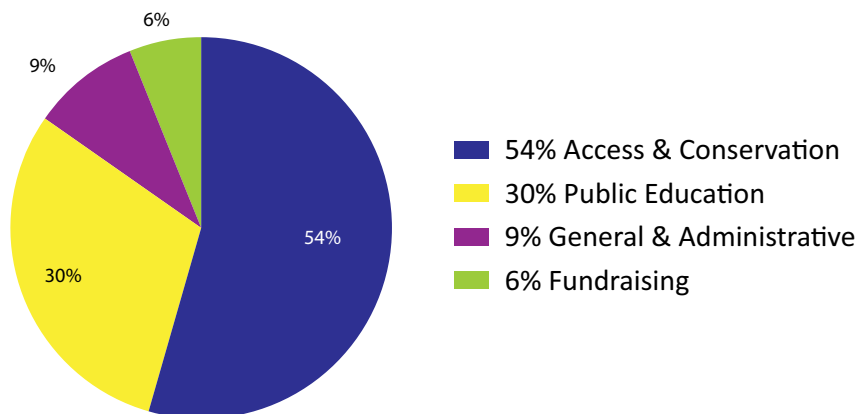


2012 Assets and Liability

Assets	2012	2011
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$473,973	\$490,241
Accounts Receivable	\$20,183	\$51,226
Grants Receivable	\$37,924	\$48,338
Investments	\$336,595	\$223,979
Prepaid Expenses	\$16,891	\$12,535
Direct Deposit Funds Advanced		
Inventory	\$10,160	\$2,394
	Total Current Assets	\$895,726
LONG-TERM ASSETS		
Lands held for protection	\$61,056	\$61,056
Computer equipment, net	\$12,971	\$5,546
	Total Long-Term Assets	\$74,027
	Total Assets	\$969,753

Liabilities & Fund Balances	2012	2011
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$23,970	\$32,661
Other liabilities	\$1,638	\$2,155
Deferred Revenues	\$63,449	\$83,940
Payroll Liabilities	\$20,389	\$19,013
	Total Current Liabilities	\$109,446
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$523,002	\$540,699
Restricted Net Assets	\$337,305	\$216,847
	Total Net Assets	\$860,307
	Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$969,753

2012 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES



2012 Honor Roll

ENDURING RIVERS CIRCLE

A new program established in 2012 to recognize people who have helped to continue our river stewardship efforts through their estate plans.

Barry Adams
Thomas J. Christopher
Jennie Goldberg
Joseph Greiner
Christopher Hest
Chris Hipgrave
Karl and Jo Ann Koenig
David Mason
Peter Stekel

INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Class V – \$20,000+

Fluid Kayaks
KEEN
Priority Worldwide Services

Class IV – \$15,000

Class III – \$10,000

Dagger
Jackson Kayak
Kayak Session
Kokatat
Smith Optics
Wave Sport
Whitewater Rescue Institute

Class II – \$7,500

Clif Bar
Exact Target
Subaru

Boof – \$5,000

Chaco
Down River Equipment
French Broad River Fest
Immersion Research
Pyranha US Inc.
Watershed
Werner Paddles
Yakima

Wave – \$2,500

Cascade Designs
Columbia Sportswear
Diamond Brand
Mountain Buzz
Paddling Life

Eddy – \$1,000

AT Paddles

Launch – \$500

Osprey

IN KIND DONATIONS

\$30,000+

Patton Boggs LLP

\$10,000+

Gentry, Locke, Rakes & Moore, LLP
Kayak Session
KEEN
Kostov Productions
Nelson Galbreath, LLC

\$5,000+

Andy Maser
Exact Target
Jackson Kayak
Kokatat
Leiter & Cramer, PLLC
Smith Optics

\$1,000+

Advanced Composites / Cataract Oars
AIRE
Cascade Designs
CPU Software & Consulting
Dagger
Fluid Kayaks
Immersion Research
Jesse Kodadek
Matt Kiedaisch
Pyranha, US
River Network
Watershed, LLC
Wavesport

\$500+

Sean T. Malone – Attorney at Law

DONATIONS

\$5,000+

Brookfield Renewable Energy Group LLC
Charles and Margaret Clark Family
Charitable Fund
Yvon and Melinda Chouinard
Patagonia
Mort Fuller and Sue Langfitt Fuller
Gentry, Locke, Rakes & Moore, LLP
Kenney Brothers Foundation
National Paddling Film Festival
O’Keefe Family Foundation
Sutherland Foundation Inc.

\$2,500+

Robert and Andrea Forster
Katherin and James Hardy
Christopher Hest
John Jerger
Scott Kazmar
Jesse Kodadek
Megi Morishita
RDH Foundation
Rebecca and Stanley Simonson
Nick and Emily Troutman

\$1,000+

Ace Adventure Gear
Laura Blalock
Rich and Stephanie Bowers
Alan and Suzanne Bressler
Arnold Schaeffer and Deborah Chandler
Ed Clark
Colorado Environmental Coalition
Magdalena Dale
Lester E Hurrelbrink
Oscar Espinoza
The FIFO’s
Joel E. Freedman
Friends of the Yampa
Joshua Gaffney
Joseph Greiner
Ironman Foundation Inc
Keelhauler Canoe Club
Matt Kiedaisch
Chris Kirkman
Stephen Lex

2012 Honor Roll

Stephen Lex
Douglas and Marie Liu
National Parks Conservation Ass'n
Nicholas B. Paumgarten
PDXKayaker and Next Adventure
Rocky Mountain Kayak
Lee Rust
Norwood Scott
Brady Sleeper
Roger L. Starring
Edward Stockman
Stride Stand Up Paddleboards
Barry and Kitty Tuscano
Universal Joint
Charlie and Sandy Walbridge

\$500+

Jay Anderson
Astral Bouyancy Co.
BBB Paddling LLC
Lee Belknap
Eric Bessette
Harlan Blynn
Bob Brody
Peter Bross
Ian Buckley
John Buggenhagen
Paul Bunce
Stephen Canale
Carolina Canoe Club
Joe Cashman
Chota Canoe Club
Chuck Cloninger
Morgan Colonel
Gretchen Cornell
Crowley Flect PLLC
Jeff DeMaine
Seth Fitzsimmons
Foothills Paddling Club
Kent Ford
Steven J Getz
Matt Gillum
Brian Ginsberg
Dean Halfacre
Ed and Alice Hardy
Robert W. Harris
Ron Healy
Andy Held
Eric Henrickson
Todd Hoffman
Brian and Maria Jacobson
Kevin St John

KCCNY
Jennifer Koermer and Andrew Douglas
Bradley Kulbaba
Emile J. LeDonne
Evelyn Locke
Brooks Lutterloh
Mike and Michelle Mahaffey
Nick Matisse
Mikenzie Matteson
Kevin and Michelle Miller
Brian Mutchler
Ann Nathan
Andrew Nitschke
Andrew Oberhardt
Bill and Donna Holmes Parks /
Northwest River Supplies
Lee G. Van Pelt
Meghan Pendergast
Jennifer Plyler and Paula Sorensen
Pruzan Foundation
Joe Pulliam
Enriched Learning Center / ELC Rafting
Red Demons Org
Richard Rollins
Brandon Roy
David Scott
Amy Shipman
Norman Sims
Mark Singleton
Kevin Sisson
Loren Starcher
Steve Stohlman
The Arches Foundation
The Community Foundation
for Greater Atlanta
The Hooter Fund II of The Oregon
Community Foundation
Francheska and Rick Thompson
Marc Tohir
Craig L. VanDeList
Sebastian Weiche
Willamette Kayak & Canoe Club
Courtney Wilton
John D. Wolken
Mark Zakutansky

\$250+

4 Corners Riversports
Jeffrey Abel
Kim Abney
R. W. Adamchak
William R. Allen, DDS

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AMC NY-NJ Chapter
Richard Ernie Anderson
Terrell and Michelle Anderson
Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts
John Arthur
David M. Ashley
Chris Barchet
Kemper Begley
Chris Bell
Shane Benedict
Peter R. Bernstein
Boaters of the Roanoke
Valley and Beyond
Tyler Boeing
Patrick Brennan
Bob Brewer and Jonna Hussey
Anne Brindle
John Brower
Robert (Mike) Brown
Dennis and Karen Buccella
Robert Butera
Ed Callahan
Mark Canada
Daniel E. Carlson
John Carter
David and Mary Cernicek
Ross and Tara Cherry
Chico Paddleheads
Jesse Costello-Good
Lora Cox
Adam Cramer
Sandra and Tom Dale
David Dalthorp
Daniel Kanner
Jason Darby
Meera Lynn Datta
Chad Daugherty
David Douglas Family
Jeffrey J. Dean
Polk Deters
Mark Divittorio
Jim Dobbins
Ken Donahue
Jared Ebelhar
Randy Ebersole
Susan Eckerly
Endless River Adventures
Donna K. Ennis
Terry Ewanochko
Jeremy Floberg
George and Leslie Fuller

2012 Honor Roll

Grant Gardner
Louis Geltman
Edward Gertler
Griff Gilbert
Chris Glazner
Brent and Jeannie Glover
George and Clarice Gordon
David Greenwald
Creek Hanauer
Lucian Hand
Jeffrey Hatcher
George Hedrick
Michael Hedrick
Michael Hodge
Paul Holmes
Hooked Productions -
 Live the Life you Love
West Howland
Chris Kelly and Nanette Laughrey
Hank M. Klausman
Christopher Kovaly
Debbie Leonard
Anna Levesque
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Paddlers
Frank Lorch
Eric Lovejoy and Kristell Moller
Lower Columbia Canoe Club
Carol Mack
Robbie Mangone
Mimi Margulies
Patrick Maroney
Jack Marshall
Mike Martini
Macy Burnham & Amanda Marusich
Tom McCloud
Joanne and Dan McGrew
Kurt McKissick
Lynn McLarty
CE Merlino
Cay Mierisch
Mike Lee Architect
Steven Mills
Phil Montgomery
Aubra L. Moore
Bryan and Patty Morrison
Jerod Nowicki
John O'Leary
Paddle Trails Canoe Club
Paul Padyk
Lance Petrack-Zunich
Nonny Phillips
Patrick Polan

Jeremy Poulin
Frank Preston
Tom Quarles
Rangely District Hospital
Bret Rhinesmith
Johnson Rice
Jesse Ricord
Stan Robinson
Janet Russell
Mike Ryan and Linda Joyce
Mike Rzesutock
Mike Scarborough
Bill and Maryl Sedivy
Charles B. Sherwood
Paul Eisner and Mary Jo Shine
Jim Silavent
Derek D. Snyder
Kelly and Juliet Starrett
Thomas Stineman
George Strickland
Joe Stubbs
Tracy Tackett
Michael and Caroline Tanksley
Scott Thomas
Robert C. Tyler
Charlie Vincent
Josh von Szalatnay
Andrew Walters
Kirk Weir
Tom and Suzanne Welander
Collin Whitehead
Wilderness Voyageurs Outfitters Inc
Graham Winkelman
Ethan Winter
Andrew Wise
Matt Wood
John Woolard
Peter Zurflieh

\$100+

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Jim Addington
Steve Agnew
Keith Aldridge
Robert Allegrucci
John Allen
Jonathan and Renata Altman
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Scott and Katy Anderson
Jane and Steven Andraka
John Andrechak
Henry C. Annable

Paul Ansel
Mary Arman
Steven Arrowsmith
William S. Atkins
Brent Austin
Christopher Austin
Avid4 Adventure Inc.
Michael J. Babcock
Backwoods Mountain Sports
Ben Badger
Keith Bailey
Todd Bailey
Bess and Rod Baird
Steven Baker
Gordon Bare
Erin and Art Barket
Kerrie Lee Barloga
Ashley Barnes
James Barrett
Jim Barrett
Jocelyn Barrett
Allison Barth
Kim and Mike Battle
Jason Beadnell
Jim Beall
Craig Beasley
Frederick W. Beck
Dan Becker
Steve Becker
Thomas Beisel
Kevin Belew
Meeghan Bell
Wayne Bell
Rick Bellows
Roger E. Belson, MD
Harold Bencowitz
Dan Bennis
Suzanne Benson
Tom and Doris Berdeen
Tom Beres
Susan and William Beresford
David J. Berg
Margaret Berglund
Paul Bergquist
Alison Bermant
Stephanie Bertram
Todd Bewley
Lisa Birkovich
William J. Bishop
Sandra and Douglas Bisset
Wade Blackwood
Ali Blair

2012 Honor Roll

Rett Blake
Brian Blanton
Jeff Blanton
Blue Ridge Voyageurs
Alex Blum
Scott Blum
Clif Bobinski
Daniel Boisvert
David Bonn
Bryan Bonner
David Bookstaver
Ted Booth
Nick Borelli
David Bortnick
Scott Bortree
Jim Boulger
Arthur F. Bowie
Charles Brabec
Chuck Bradley
Paul and Laurie Brager
Don Brandner Jr
Michael Brayton
Jonah Breuchaud
Brian White
Scott Bridgham
David Brightbill
David Brisell
Christopher Brobin
Jon Brommeland
Eric Brooks
Richard Brooks
Barbara S. Brown
Charles Brown
Connelly Brown
James Brown
Ian Brunton
Brad and Katie Buddenberg
Mark Bulriss
James Burke
Annie Burkhart
Kayla Burlew
Steve Burrows
Jack Burton
Jason Burton
Tripp Burwell
Matt Butcher and Liz Pennisi
John Butler
Christopher Caffrey
Tom Caine
John Callender
Bernard Y. Calvert, III
Eliot and Chelsea Cannon

Raymond Capone
Bob Card
Greg Carder
Christopher Cardoni
Sean Caron
Claire Carren
Ben Carter
Jim Carver
Paul Castille
Ethan Caughey
John Chandler
Bud and Mary Jo Chavez
Brian Chisholm
Joe Cholka
Matthew Chrestman
Thomas J. Christopher
James Ciprotti
Michael K. St Clair
Keith Clausen
Landy Clendenon
Cloud Mountain Foundation
CLSJ Foundation
Coastal Canoeists Inc
Lane Coddington
David Collins
Guy Colombini
Columbus Outdoor Pursuits
Scott Conley
Ted Cookson
Bob and Linda Cooley
Heath Corley
David Cottingham
Duane Cottle
Duncan Cottrell
Gary Coultas
Steve Cournoyer
Butler Cox
Michael Cox
Kevin B. Coyne
Atom Crawford
Brad Creel
Bill Crockett
Robin and Triel Culver
Joseph Cunningham
Brendan Curran
Michael Currie
Tim Curry
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Rebecca Dameron
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Jim Dandro
George Danko

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Jerry Davis
Kirsten A. Davis
John and Carolyn Day
Horst de Lorenzi
James Deehan
Sandrine Deglin
Denali Raft Adventures
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Edward Dery
Jerry Diamondstein
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Tom Diegel
Dante DiOrio
Eric Disque
Stephen Dorick
Samuel Dorsi
Stratford Douglas
Jack and Barbara Doyle
Michael Doyle
Allan J. Darling Dr
Melissa Dragan
Mickey Droney
James Duesenberry
Charles Duffy
Frances Duggan
Liz Dunham
Susan Dunlap
Craig Dunn
Timothy Dunning
Paul Durrence
Robert A. Duvall
Rebecca E. Carter
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East Tennessee Ridges of Recovery
East Tennessee Whitewater Club
Echo Valley Foundation Fund
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Amanda Elliott
Mary Elliott
Gunnar Ellsmore
Michael Elovitz
Rodney and Maud Engberg
Bernard Engelman
Brandon and Tara Engler

2012 Honor Roll

EPIC Adventures
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Jared Espley
Chuck and Lola Estes
Lee Eudy
Dave Evans
Elijah Evans
Jamison Evans
Kenny Evans
Dirk Fabian
Chris Fairchild
Donnelly and Viselli Family
Michael Fashoway
Tom Fedorczyk
Charles Ferguson
Kenneth J. Ferguson
Richard Fernald
Charles Field
Jack Findling
Jordan Finke
Kelly Fischer
George L.P. Fitz
Cole Flannery
William Fleagle
Flow Paddlers' Club
Amy and Jeff Fluet
Scott Fogarty
Kevin B. Foley
Footsloggers
Cindy and Stacey Fornstrom
Charles Foschini
David Fosdick
Ross Frank
Toni and David Frank
Kevin Frankosky
Jim Franks
Henry J. Frechen
Adam Frey
David and Jennifer Frierson
Front Range Rescue Dogs
David Fulford
David Fusilli
Mark A. Gabel
JD Gaffney
Nathan Gagliano
Marie Gaither
Allen Gaither
Kim Gallagher
Connie and JD Gallant
Ryan Galway

Derek Ganzenmuller
John Garcia
Eric Gardner
Ron Gardner
Ken Garrison
Bob Gedekoh
Georgia Canoeing Asso
Drew G. Getty
Hans and Gail Geyer
Christian Gigault
Susan and Robert Glanville
Renato Gneo
Jennie Goldberg
Susan Goodman
Lance Gorman
Adam Goshorn
Jason Gould
Vern Graham
Denise and Scott Gravatt
Mayo Gravatt
Sandra and Matthew Graves
Greater Baltimore Canoe Club
Lee Green
Robbie Griffith and Jeff Redding
Dale Griffiths
J.D. Grogan
Debbie Grooman
William M. Guerry
John Guetter
Andrew Guldman and Cathy Howard
Jason Gustafson
Carl and Anita Gutschick
Mark and Lara Guttadauro
John Haddock
Osama I. Hafez
Jeannine Hagan
Richard and Julie Haick
Tom Halladay
Ann Halverson
Hansel Halverson
Amy & Mark Hamilton
Kit Hamley
Dave Hammond
Paul Hanafin
J. Kevin Hannon
Edward and Ann Hanrahan
Benjie Hanson
Luke and Kimi Hanson
James A. Hardee
Ben Harder
Timothy Hardin
Dunbar Hardy

Luke Hardy
Cristina Harmon
Emlen Harmon
Jeffrey Harpt
Desmond Harrington
Harvey Harris
Bradley Harrison
Paul Harrison
Brian Hart
Shawn Hartje and Mary Sackett
Eric Hartman
Alex Harvey
Bob Harvey
John Harvey
Don Harwood
Jeffrey Hatling
A David Hawkins
Oscar Hawksley
Carter Hearn
David Carter Hearn
Keith Heasley
Oliver Heim
Phillip Henderson
Henry J. Herrmann
David A. Herron
Adam Herzog
George Hicks
Joshua Hill
Steve Hill
Mike Hillis
Kevin Hisel
Andrew Hobson
George Hodges, Jr.
Mike J. Hodgman
Ted Hofmann
Andrew Holcombe
Eric Holden
Chris Holladay
Charles Holland
Diane Holwick
Marge and Bill Hone
Marilyn Hoon
Richard L. Hopley
Chris Horn
Greg Hoskins
Housatonic Area Canoe & Kayak Sq.
Kelly Howard
Mark Hoyle
John Hubbard
Whatts Hudgens
Fred Huey III
Harlan Hughes

2012 Honor Roll

Frederick Hund
Chuck Hunley
James F. Hunt
Huntsville Canoe Club
Ben Huza
Terry Markoff and Sabine Iben
Jeremy Ingram
Daniel Ives
Chris Jackson
Kenneth Jackson
Michele Jackson
Robert and Charlotte Jackson
Jenifer Jakub
Karla James
Walter James
Melody and Scott Jamieson
John Jamnback
Tom Janney
Jimmy Jehle
Andrew Jillings
Elizabeth B. Johns
Eric O. Johnson
Erin Johnson
John Johnson
Josiah Johnson
Michael Johnson
Brian E. Joly
Peter and Adriane Jons
Coby Jordan
Mark Jordan
Tyler Jose
Peter Juhnke
Mark Kacmarcik
Jeffrey Kaes
Ed and Grace Kane
Zach Kane
Magnus Karlsson
Ilona Karow
Hollis and Stanley Kaskey
Jeremy Kassouf
Mike Kaufman
Kayak Academy
Roy Keeler
Lynne Kelly
Willie Kern
Patrick Kessler
Michael Duclos and Julia Khorana
Chris Kiehl
Britan A. Kilbourne
Jeremy Kingsbury
Wade and Sejal Kinker
Trip Kinney

Chuck Kirk
Keith Kishiyama
Annie Kitchin
Helge and Laurieann Klockow
Mathew Klucina
Rufus Knapp
Bill Knowlton
Scott and Devan Koehn
Carolyn Komar
Jay Koontz
Zofia S. Kosim
Charles D. Koteen
Nick Kowalski
Tim Krane
Bill Krissoff
Brian Krueger
Joseph Kubert
Ken Kyser
Mark and Sharon Lacroix
Michael LaFlair
George Laird
Joanie Lambert
Chris Lambiotte and Rebecca Brown
Russ Langley
Michelle Lapin
Andre Largent
Erik Larsen
Todd Lasher
Henry Latimer
Brent Laubaugh and Kelly Miller
Michael Leal
Robert Leayman
Brian LeDoux and Kristyn Econome
Kendall Lee
Legend Management Group
Lehigh Valley Whitewater Inc.
Todd Leigh and Linda Savage
Joe Leonhard
Judy and Kirk Leoni
Jay Letto
Jim Leutenegger
Devon Lewis
Keith Lewis
All Star Rafting & Kayaking
Cynthia Lindsay
Laura Lindzey
Nick Lipkowski
David Lipski
Liquid Adventures Kayak School
Bruce Litton
Ron Ladders
Jon Loehrke

Beth Lofquist
Tim Lombard
Stephen Longley
Robert Lord
Mike Lorentz
Jim Low
Nathan Lowien
Daniel Lozier
George Lozovoy
Barry Lucas
Timothy Luce
Andrew Ludke
Scott Lyden
Scott Mabel
Bill MacFarlane
Jeff Macklin
Brian Madsen
Erica Madsen
Peggy and David Mainer
Jane A. Majeski
Dionigi Maladorno
Craig Mallery
Jerry Malloy
Bill Mandler
Doug Marbarger
Tom Marjerison
Kai Marquis
John Marshall
Leslie Marshall
Tom Marshall
Christian L. Martin
Kimball Martin
Michael Marusich
Mark Mastalski
James Mathews
Rebecca Matlack
Thomas Matlack
Janice L. Matthew
Peter Mattson
Andrea Matzke
Ben R. Maxwell, Jr.
Oscar Mayer
Michael Mayfield
Robert Mayo
Pablo McCandless
Frank McCann
Mike McCarty
Steve McClelland
John McClester
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Robert McConaghy
James P. McCool

2012 Honor Roll

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David McIlwaine
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Bill McKnight
Samuel B. McLamb
John McLaughlin
Donald and Gay McMullen
Chuck Meakin
Tony and Karen Mebane
DJ Medeiros
Victor Kress and Dawn Meekhof
Laura and Tom Megeath
Jonathan Mehler
Robert J Menard
Gerald H. Meral
Gregg and Karen Merchen
William P. Merrick
Andrew Meyer
Lowell Meyer
Jon Meyerson
Carol and Mike Meyhoefer
Jeff Michael
Jim Michaud
John Michnick
Mark Milikowski
Don Millard
Billy Miller
Gary Miller
Steven Miller, MD
Zachary Miller
Peter Mills
Brad Milner
Nicholas Milo
Carla Miner
Kevin Mitchell
Steve Mitchell
Joe Mollica
Robert & Elizabeth Molyneaux
Rowan Monington, Jr.
Monocacy Canoe Club
Nora Jane Montgomery
Richard Montgomery
Mooney Family
Jeff Moore
Charles E. Morgan
Josh Morris
Suzanna Morris
Marc Morrow
Robert Morton

Robert Moskal
Matt Muir
Sara Mullett
Julie Munger
John Munnell
Ed Murphy
Jaime Murphy
Sharon A. Myers
Nagy Precision Mfg Inc
Ross Nayduch
Robert Neily
Karl M. Nelson
Michael A. Nelson
Dan Newman
Alex Nichols
David Nichols
Matt Nichols
Michael Nicolini
Mark Andrew Noltmier
Northwest Rafting Company
Nova Riverrunners Inc.
McKay B. Nutt
NV Retail
Cliff O'Connor
Brian O'Neill
Nathan Ober
Ryan O'Connor
Anne and John Olden
Tom Omiatek
Jess Ordower
Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club
Oregon Whitewater Association
Rob and Susan Osborne
Jim Otto
Lanson Oukrop
Outdoor Pursuits
Tim Overland
Lee A. Owen
William Owens
Ozark Wilderness Waterways
Neval Ozturk
Tom Pace
Paddling.net, Inc.
Josh Padgett
Jeffrey Paine
Russell Paine
Thomas Palka
Jennifer Parker
Lisa and Eric Parker
Gayle and Richard Parry
Alan Pasnik
Jesse Patterson

Laurie Patterson
Tim and Annie Payne
Warren Pechan
Roger Peka
Nate Pelton
Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society
Joseph R. Perella
Kurtis Perkins
Paul Perret
John Personius
Joseph Pesch
Ann Petersen
Jeff Petersen
Kurt Peterson
Becky Petrashek
Joseph Petrilli
Harriet Phillips
Dennis J. Pistoll
Tim Ploss
David Plott
Stephen Podratsky
Daniel Pond
Christopher Poston
David Price
Natalie and John Price
Wes Prince
Douglas Proctor
James Proctor
Leonard Prosnitz
Chris Puchner
Scott Puthoff
Andrew Quinn
Jennifer Raber
Paul and Sarah Raffaeli
Peter Ravikovitch
Cynthia Elaine Reed
Dagmar Rehse and Michael Rausch
Paul Reilly
Suzanne Remien
Adam Reymann
Harry Rhett
Ian Rice
Len Rice
Jeff Richman
Craig A. Richter
Mark and Carol Jean Rickman
Shaun Riedinger
Brett Ritchie
River Runner Apparel
Patrick Rivers
Rick Rizzolo
Matthew Robertson

2012 Honor Roll

R. Andrew Robertson
Tas Robin
Tim and Lora Robinson
Steve Rock
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Lee Roehrdanz
Ron Rogers
Robert G. Rohwer
Mark Rollins
Edward Roseboom
Jesse Rosenzweig
Dona Ross
Jordan Ross
Sarah Stewart and Benjamin Ross
Janet Rossi
John Rouches
Steve Ruhle
Phillip Rutledge
Ken Ryan
Sabine Whitewater Club
Karl Sackinger
Dennis Sager
Gary and Belinda Sanda
Jeff Sarsfield and Antonia Chadwick
Mathew Saul
Richard Scafidi
Chris Scalisi
Mark Scantlebury and Audrey Bergsma
Bill and Kary Scarborough
Steve Scarborough Family
Scenic River Tours
Greg and Dawn Schackel
Steve Schaefer
Drew Schaumber
Paul Schelp
Tom Schiff
Daniel Schlager
Pete Scholl
Eric and Tera Schreiber
Kurt Schroeder
Greg and Rita Schwer
Mary and Leonard Scott
William Scott
Ben Scoville
Geoff Sears
Kurt Seckington
Jeff Seebach
Chuck Seidler
Don Sessions
Helen Cherniack and Mike Shafer
Shaggy Designs
Jeff Sharpe

Doug Shelton
John Sherman
Yael Shimoni
Gilbert Siegel and Teresa O'Malley
John Sills
Don Simmon
Roger Singer
Anne Singleton
Dick Sisson
Mike Sklavos
John Skorpen
Brandon Slate
Luke Slottow
Ken Gfroerer and Lisa Smith
Mary Smith
Matt Smith
Mowry Smith
Patsy Smith
Peter F. Smith
Ralph and Kathy Smith
Todd Smith
Topher Smith
Stephen R. Smyth
Snap Dragon Design Inc.
Sojourner Communications, Inc.
Larry S. Sokol
David Sontum
Eric Southerington
Marv Sowers
Holly Spackman
Robert Spohn
Kendall Springer
Robert W. Springman
St. Cloud State University
St. Lawrence University
Evan Stafford
Mathew Stafford
Jerry Stanley
Paul Steffy
John Steimke
David Stenger
Gary Stenger
Tom Stevens
John Stevenson
Larry Stewart
Larry and Leslie Stewart
Charles Still
Blaine Stimac
Jessie Stone
John Stormon
Edward Pettus and Amy Stout
Marc Strabic

Sue Strang and Paul Carlile
Ken and Fran Strickland
James Studiale
Douglas Sughrue
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Whitney and Kate Sunderland
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The Mountaineers Foundation
The Walbridge Family Foundation
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Bank of America Matching
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Cambia Employee Giving Campaign
City of Seattle Employee
Giving Program
Community Shares of Minnesota
Follett Matching Gifts Program
Franklin Templeton Investments
Employee Giving Program
GE Foundation Matching Gifts Program

Google Matching Gift Program
Hewlett Packard Matching Gifts
Program
IBM Charitable Contribution Campaign
Intel Volunteer Grant Program
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
Nestle Employee Giving Program
PG & E Corporation Campaign
for the Community
REI Charitable Action Campaign
Truist - United Way
United Way California Capital Region
United Way of Central and
Northeastern Connecticut
United Way of Deschutes County
United Way of the Columbia-
Willamette
Wells Fargo Community Support
Yahoo! Employee Funds

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
AMC NY-NJ 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
Blue Ridge Voyageurs
Bluegrass Wildwater Asso
Bradford County Canoe and Kayak Club
Butte-Anaconda River Runners
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
Dbl Z! Whitewater Club
Dolores River Boating Advocates
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
Gold Country Paddlers
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Assn
Greater Baltimore Canoe Club
Guides House
Hamilton College
High Jim and the A.S.K.
Hollins Outdoor Program
Holtwood Hooligans
Hoosier Canoe Club
Housatonic Area Canoe & Kayak Sq.
Huntsville Canoe Club
Idaho Whitewater Association
Iowa Whitewater Coalition
KCCNY
Keelhauler Canoe Club
Landmark Learning
Ledyard Canoe Club
Lehigh Valley Canoe Club
Lehigh Valley Whitewater Inc.
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Paddlers
Lower Columbia Canoe Club
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
North East Wisconsin Paddlers, Inc.
Northwest Rafters Association
Nova Riverrunners Inc.
Ohio Valley Paddlers

2012 Honor Roll

Oregon Whitewater Association
Outdoor Adventure Club
Outdoor Pursuits
Outdoors Unlimited
Ozark Mountain Paddlers
Ozark Wilderness Waterways
Paddle Trails Canoe Club
Paddlers for Conservation
Paddlers4Christ
Palmetto Paddlers
PDXKayaker
Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society
Philadelphia Canoe Club
Pikes Peak Whitewater Club
Redneck Kayak Club
Rockin 'R' River Rides
RTS Sierra Club San Fran Chapter
Sabine Whitewater Club
SCSU Outdoor Endeavors
Sequoia Paddlers
Shasta 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
Thompson Rivers Univ Adventure
Studies
Three Rivers Paddling Club
Toledo River Gang
Triad River Runners
UMass Outing Club - Whitewater
Kayaking
University Kayak Club
University of Vermont
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
Deerfield Festival
Feather River Festival
French Broad River Festival
Gauley Festival
National Paddling Film Festival
Ohiopyle Over the Falls Festival
Wenatchee Festival

2012 Honor Roll

Active Projects

National Policy
Hydropower Policy and Legislation
Federal Agency Partnerships
Hydropower Reform Coalition
Invasive Aquatic Species Control
Land and Water Conservation Fund
National Forest Planning
Outdoor Alliance
River Management Society
Wild and Scenic River Management

SOUTHEAST

Catawba River (NC, SC)
Chattooga river (NC, SC, GA)
Cheoah River (NC)
Nantahala River (NC)
Saluda River (SC)
Tallulah River (GA)
Tuckasegee River (NC)
Watauga River (NC)
West Fork Tuckasegee (NC)

MID ATLANTIC

Blackwater and Cheat Rivers (WV)
Gauley River (WV)
Johns Creek (VA)
New River Dries (WV)
Ohiopyle Falls (PA)
Savage and NB Potomac Rivers (MD)
Susquehanna River (PA)
Upper Yough (MD)
Virginia Access (VA)

NORTHEAST

Ausable River (NY)
Connecticut River (MA, VT, NH)
Deerfield River (MA)
Farmington River (CT)
Green River (VT)
Missisquoi River (VT)
Mongaup River (NY)
Saranac River (NY)
West Canada Creek (NY)
West River (VT)

MIDWEST

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

NORTHERN ROCKIES

Bear River (ID)
Boulder Creek (ID)
Boundary Creek (ID)
East Rosebud Creek (MT)
Little Potlatch Creek (ID)
Lochsa River (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)

SOUTHERN ROCKIES

Animas River (CO)
Arkansas River (CO)
Big Thompson 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)

2012 Honor Roll

East Creek (CO)
Fish Creek (CO)
Fraser River (CO)
Green River (WY,UT,CO)
Gunnison River (CO)
Hermose Creek (CO)
Mad Creek (CO)
Oh Be Joyful Creek (CO)
Piedra River (CO)
San Miguel River (CO)
San Juan (CO/UT)
Slate River (CO)
Snake River (CO)
Solomon Creek (CO)
St. Vrain River (CO)
Taylor River (CO)
Uncompahgre River (CO)
Upper Colorado (CO)
Virgin River (UT)
West Creek (CO)
White River (CO)
Yampa River (CO)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Chehalis River (WA)
Chelan River (WA)
Chetco River (OR)
Cispus River (WA)
Clackamas River (OR)
Cooper River (WA)
Crooked River (OR)
Elwha River (WA)
Green River (WA)
Hood River (OR)
Illabot Creek (WA)
Illinois River (OR)
Klamath River (OR/CA)
Little Wenatchee River (WA)
McKenzie River (OR)
Middle Fork Snoqualmie River (WA)
Molalla River (OR)
Nooksack River (WA)
North Fork Snoqualmie River (WA)
North Santiam River (OR)
Owyhee River (OR)
Pilchuck Creek (WA)
Rivers of the Olympic Peninsula (WA)
Rivers of Volcano County (WA)
Rogue River (OR)
Sandy River (WA)
Similkameen River (WA)
Skagit River (WA)
Skykomish River (WA)
Snake River (WA)
Snoqualmie River (WA)
Sultan River (WA)
White Salmon River (WA)
White Water Creek (OR)

CALIFORNIA

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

American Whitewater

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\$10,000 - Class III



\$7,500 - Class II



ExactTarget®



\$5,000 - Boof



\$2,500 - Wave





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More info: <http://gauleyfest.americanwhitewater.org>

Join



AMERICAN WHITEWATER Today!

American Whitewater has been extraordinarily fortunate in our ability to leverage a strong grassroots base—members and other volunteers—to assist our limited staff with many whitewater river conservation and restoration efforts.

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://americanwhitewater.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

*Note: AW will never share your information with others

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Member Number: _____

↑ _____ if you have one and know it

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

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Credit Card Cash Check # _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

REMEMBRANCE

REMEMBERING JIM MCCOMB

BY TYLER WILLIAMS

FIRST MET JIM McComb standing ankle-deep in mud. It was February 20th, 1993, a record high water day for Arizona rivers, and McComb, trailed by three others, was marching through the slop to get a look at the high water. We stood on the rim of the Agua Fria River gorge, transfixed by a brown frothing 15,000 cubic feet per second of floodwater. I wanted no part of the angry river. Some of the others feigned interest. Jim steered the democratic debate back to sanity, and we drove to the lower river, where the high water still provided plenty of action.

Our relationship followed a predictable pattern over the next twenty years, lying dormant for months, even years, before springing back to life with the sudden bursts of Arizona's capricious paddling seasons. We convened for the remote Blue a few years back, each of us driving for several hours to camp in the rain and paddle a scratchy fence-riddled stream that neither of us had done before. The Blue held more flatwater than Jim normally preferred, but it ran through purely wild country—we saw eagles and bears—and we both loved floating through Arizona's wild country.

As we arranged logistics for the trip, Jim queried, in his abrupt way, "How many have you got?"

"Just me," I replied.



Jim McComb in his element: in the wilderness and on the river.

Photo by Cody Howard

"All right I guess it's just the two of us," he snorted with some disgust, incredulous that nobody else found it so keenly appealing as we did, to drive through the night and camp in the rain. Normally, Jim arrived at put-ins with an entourage, not so much because he was the guy who knew the shuttle roads and pinpointed the optimal water levels, which of course he was, but because he was genuinely excited to turn others onto something that infinitely fired his own wonderment.

We stopped at an end-of-the-road ranch along the Blue where a McComb family acquaintance resided. Dr. McComb, the esteemed physician, had to introduce himself from behind his trademark blue kayak helmet with a placekicker's single bar facemask. The rancher asked if this kayaking stuff was fun. Jim responded in a rare hushed voice, heightening his reply. "More fun than you can imagine." I remember thinking, "Wow, this guy is even more passionate about paddling than I am!" Jim was hardly one-dimensional, however. On the Blue, he spoke of his family and his

Jim loved being on the river, especially in his home state of Arizona.

Photo by Cody Howard

medical practice and snowboarding trips to Telluride. He was thrilled to learn that I had started hunting elk, and promptly offered his best tips.

Still, McComb was a kayaking devotee. After Arizona's brief spring season, he regularly traveled to California, Colorado, and Idaho to milk the remainder of the paddling year. His intense interest combined with his thorough knowledge of Arizona's backcountry made him a force of whitewater exploration. Whenever I discussed a potential new run with McComb, there was never any explanation required. He always had it investigated ahead of me.

His crowning achievement in Arizona's paddling history was the first descent of Tonto Creek's Hellsgate Canyon. Jim and his chief partner for many years, Rob Reiterman, completed that puzzle in 1997, picking their way through a myriad of committing hard-rock gorges to finish the 26-mile run in three and a half days. Those few days only hint at the effort required

Opposite: Jim leading the way down one of the many creeks he paddled and loved.

Photo by Cody Howard

to explore the classic reach, however. Before paddling Hellsgate, McComb led five scouting trips into Tonto's gorges, once hobbling out on a broken ankle, duct-taped together in pure McComb style.

At age 64, Jim was no longer probing Class V firsts, but he was still charging. He used to say that our bodies go through different physical stages in life: rubber, cardboard, and china. Jim certainly saw china on the horizon. Limping on a cane from sciatic pain several years ago, he graciously attended a slide show of mine. I can recall him grumbling that night, "It's a hell of a way to live, ain't it?" Jim needed to live at full-throttle. He recovered from that injury, and was back in his element, in his kayak, when he took his last stroke. McComb never stopped kayaking. For his last day of this life, Jim was on the East Verde River, precisely in the heart of central Arizona wilderness, deep in wild country, perfectly at home.



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 federal civilians, 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 Chicago Whitewater Association 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.

CWA is an organization of paddlers who love the fun and excitement of fast running rivers and they are dedicated to the upkeep and preservation of America's beautiful river system. At CWA you can find new friends to paddle local and distant whitewater rivers with as well as learning to paddle safely and responsibly at their Fall and Winter pool classes offered at locations in and around the Chicago area. Join in with them after class for a game of kayak polo, or use the time to fine-tune new moves. Skill levels of CWA members range from those who are most happy paddling on the farm pond to those who paddle at the outer edge of sanity. The Club publishes a monthly newsletter that keeps members informed and up to date with news, trip reports, as well as learning and paddling opportunities.

Membership starts at an affordable \$15 per year. Check out the Club's website at <http://www.chicagowhitewater.org/cwa/> to learn more or check out one of their general meetings that are usually held on the first Wednesday of every month. The meeting location switches each month so check their calendar for the current location.

Thank you Chicago Whitewater Association for your continued support of American Whitewater!

The AW Journal Club Affiliates by state:

Alaska

Fairbanks Paddlers, Fairbanks
Nova Riverrunners Inc., Chickaloon

Alabama

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

Arizona

Outdoors Unlimited, Flagstaff

Arkansas

Arkansas Canoe Club, Little Rock

California

Chico Paddleheads, Chico
Gold Country Paddlers, Lotus
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Paddlers, San Jose
Sequoia Paddlers, Forestville
Shasta Paddlers, Redding

Colorado

Avid4 Adventure Inc., Boulder
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Assn,
Colorado Springs
Dolores River Boating Advocates, Dolores
Outdoor Pursuits, Durango
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

Atlanta Whitewater Club, Atlanta
Georgia Canoeing Asso, Atlanta
Paddlers4Christ, Ellijay

Idaho

Idaho Whitewater Association, Boise

Illinois

Chicago Whitewater Assn, Chicago

Indiana

Hoosier Canoe Club, Indianapolis
Ohio Valley Paddlers, Evansville

Iowa

Iowa Whitewater Coalition, W. Des
Moines

Kentucky

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

Maine

Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society, Troy

Maryland

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

Massachusetts

AMC Boston Chapter Paddlers, Boston
UMass Outing Club - Whitewater
Kayaking, Amherst

Minnesota

Minnesota Canoe Asso, Minneapolis
SCSU Outdoor Endeavors, Saint Cloud
Rapids Riders, Minneapolis

Missouri

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

Montana

Beartooth Paddlers Society, Billings

Nevada

Sierra Nevada Whitewater Club, Reno

New Hampshire

AMC New Hampshire Paddlers, Raymond
Merrimack Valley Paddlers, Nashua

New Jersey

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks
KCCNY, Flanders

New Mexico

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico,
Albuquerque

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
Zoar Valley Paddling Club, Buffalo

North Carolina

Base Camp Cullowhee, Cullowhee
Carolina Canoe Club, Raleigh
Landmark Learning, Cullowhee
Mecklenburg Regional Paddlers, Charlotte
Triad River Runners, Winston-Salem
Western Carolina Paddlers, Asheville

Ohio

Columbus Outdoor Pursuits, Columbus
Keelhauler Canoe Club, Cleveland

Oregon

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

Pennsylvania

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks
Bradford County Canoe and Kayak Club, Sayre
Canoe Club of Greater Harrisburg,
Harrisburg
Conewago Canoe Club, York
Holtwood Hooligans, Paradise
Lehigh Valley Whitewater Inc., Lehigh Valley
Mach One Slalom Team, State College
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, Oak
Ridge
Plateau Eco-Sports, Cookeville
Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing
Club, Kingsport
Tennessee Valley Canoe Club, Chattanooga

Texas

Rockin 'R' River Rides, New Braunfels

Utah

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

Vermont

University of Vermont, Burlington
Vermont Paddlers Club, Montpelier

Washington

BEWET- Boeing Employees Whitewater &
Touring Club, Bellevue
EPIC Adventures, Cheney
Float Fishermen of Virginia, Roanoke
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

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

Wisconsin

North East Wisconsin Paddlers, Inc.,
Neenah
Rapids Riders, Minneapolis
Sierra Club/John Muir Chapter, Madison

Ontario

Guelph Kayak Club, Elora
Kawartha Whitewater Paddlers, The
Kawarthas

British Columbia

Thompson Rivers Univ Adventure Studies,
Kamloops

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. Support river access and restoration through the AW River Stewardship Team.
2. Be part of a national voice for the protection of the whitewater rivers your club values.
3. Tap into the professional expertise of AW staff for river issues that come up in your backyard.
4. Your club's members can become AW members for \$25. A \$10 savings!
5. Receive the American Whitewater Journal, the oldest continually published whitewater magazine.
6. Your club is recognized in the list of Affiliate Clubs posted to the AW website.
7. Recognize your club in the list of Affiliate Clubs noted in each bi-monthly AW Journal.
8. Post Club information on the AW Website to help paddlers find you.
9. Gain Club satisfaction from lending support to AW's stewardship efforts.
10. Improve your club members river karma.

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



AMERICAN WHITEWATER

Saving Rivers Since 1954

Rok Sribar and friends, East Fork Kaweah, CA. © Darin McQuoid

\$35 Cheaper than anything in your gear bag, twice as important.
americanwhitewater.org/join

The logo features the letters 'AW' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, set against a green and blue background that resembles a stylized river or wave. To the right of the logo, the words 'AMERICAN WHITewater' are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, with 'AMERICAN' on the top line and 'WHITewater' on the bottom line. The background of the entire page is a photograph of two people in a blue raft navigating white-water rapids.

AMERICAN WHITewater

Contribute your text and photos to *American Whitewater*

American Whitewater is a member-driven publication. If you enjoy reading it, please consider letting its pages tell your story. We are looking for articles about whitewater rivers of any variety, so let your imagination flow free!

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

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