



# AMERICAN WHITEWATER

Conservation • Access • Events • Adventure • Safety

BY BOATERS FOR BOATERS  
Jul/Aug 2018

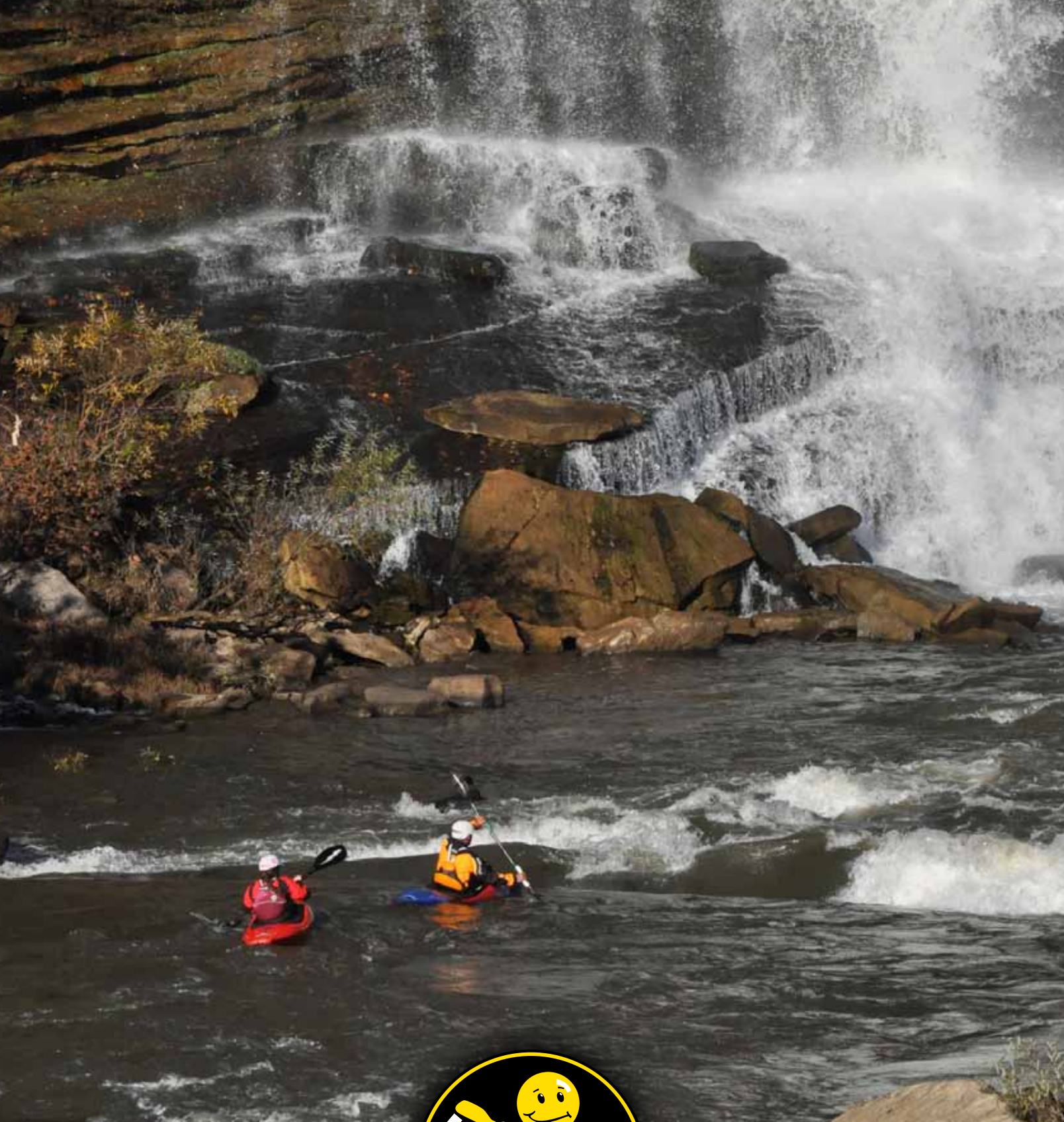
## THE 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

### BEFORE WILD AND SCENIC WAS LAW

### SHARING OUR SECRET PLACES







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Publication Title: American Whitewater  
Issue Date: Jul/Aug 2018 Statement of Frequency:  
Published Bimonthly  
Authorized Organization's Name and Address:  
American Whitewater  
P.O. Box 1540  
Cullowhee, NC 28723



# 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 bi-monthly AW Journal, a monthly e-news, [americanwhitewater.org](http://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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Founded in 1954, American Whitewater is a national non-profit organization (Non-profit # 23-7083760) with a mission "to conserve and restore America's whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely." American Whitewater is a membership organization representing a broad diversity of individual whitewater enthusiasts, river conservationists, and more than 100 local paddling club affiliates across America. The organization is the primary advocate for the preservation and protection of whitewater rivers throughout the United States, and connects the interests of human-powered recreational river users with ecological and science-based data to achieve the goals within its mission. All rights to information contained in this publication are reserved.

### EDITORIAL DISCLAIMER

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

I'M PLEASED TO announce that Charlie Walbridge, long time AW board member and river safety educator, has made a generous donation to serve as the seed for American Whitewater's River Safety Endowment. The income will be used for *"promoting whitewater safety, responsible on-river behavior, safety education, and outreach, and maintenance of the American Whitewater Safety Code and Whitewater Accident Database."* His generous support of safety education and outreach ensures that, over the long-term, additional staff resources can be allocated to manage and maintain our program.

At American Whitewater, we feel that the best form of safety education is good information about rivers and their difficulty. Safe paddling depends on good judgment, and this depends, in turn, on solid information. Providing accurate information on river conditions is an important component of our website. As an example, our river level pages took a 40% jump in traffic this past month when parts of the southeast got 20 inches of rain in two weeks. Our Safety Code sets widely-recognized guidelines for group management, river signals, and communication on the river. The International River Rating system is the recognized standard for communicating river difficulty. Our Accident Database, by listing most whitewater boating incidents nationwide, is a good place to learn about the actual risks of river running. This is what safety education looks like at American Whitewater: a suite of practical resources, widely shared. Yes, paddlers should take swiftwater rescue and first aid classes, and many fine organizations offer this type of instruction. But, when you need practical information on rivers, flows, and incidents, we are the most comprehensive source.

It is my hope that over the coming years we'll be successful in growing this endowment with additional donations to support AW's safety education and outreach. You can expect to hear more about these programs in coming issues of

the *AW Journal* and other communication tools. Of course, anyone wishing to add to the fund can simply make a donation to American Whitewater and include "safety education" in the memo or comment field of the donation. Every little bit helps!

In other news, this issue of the *Journal* contains our 2017 Annual Report. For some, reading financial statements contained in reports can be as much fun as eating sand. Yet, these reports do tell a story. Our story, told through 2017 financial statements, goes like this: we are a strong organization with one million plus dollars in liquid assets. Our balance of unrestricted and restricted funds is solid and our revenue stream is diverse (no one source contributes more than 27%). An important metric for members and donors is that we are an extremely lean organization administratively with 84 cents on each dollar going to support our stewardship program.

This good news financially means staff can focus on the stewardship work of protecting and restoring rivers by removing dams, expanding boating opportunities at hydro projects, advocating for new Wild and Scenic River designations, defending flows, implementing smart management plans for public lands, sharing accurate information on rivers and flows, and safeguarding access. Be sure to check out the Annual Report for updates on your region.

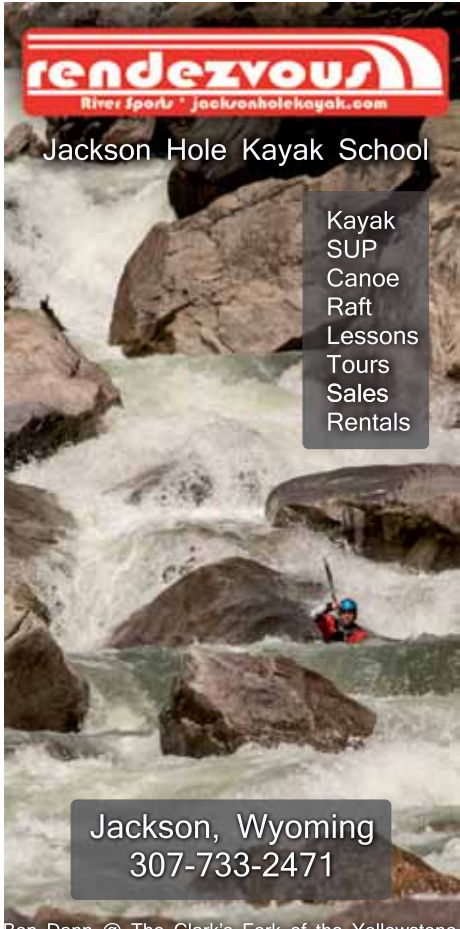
Your support allows American Whitewater's River Stewardship Team to work on important projects in their respective regions. Our regional approach allows professional staff to work authentically on local projects supported by board members and volunteers from communities across the country. Last year, volunteer hours totaled 5,316 (the equivalent of three additional full-time staff).

In all this good news, let's not forget what got us here. There has been a lot of hard work, duct tape, and baling wire holding

things together. We are boaters and know what it takes to make things happen. The commitment to do what it takes to get it done is a core cultural component of our organization and can be seen in our lean administrative model and regional approach. When times have been tough, it's been our membership that pulled us through. Your ongoing support is what makes this whole thing tick. Thank you for believing in American Whitewater and for all the support from our community to make a lasting, positive impact on the rivers we all love.



Executive Director, American Whitewater



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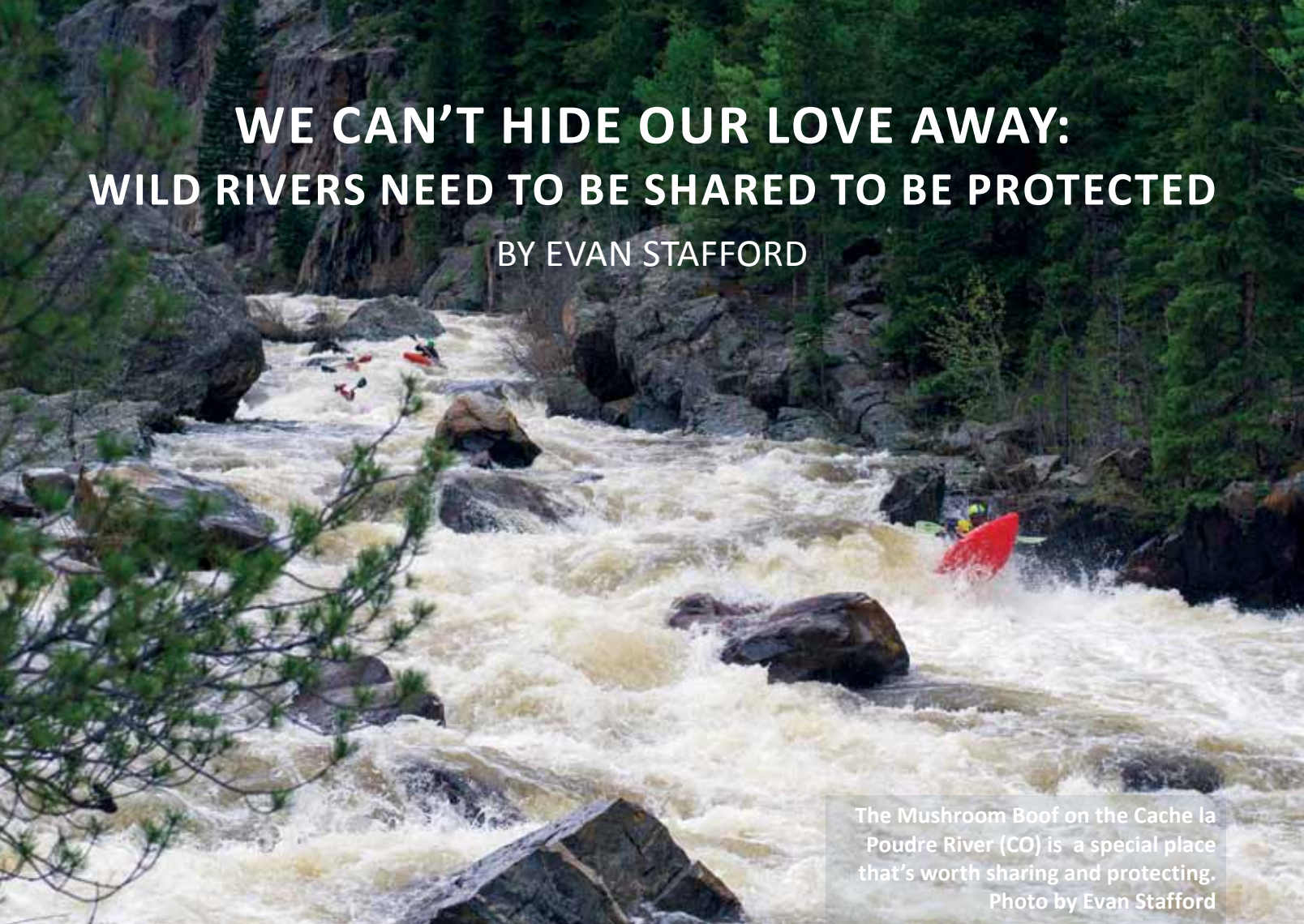
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Ben Dann @ The Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone



# WE CAN'T HIDE OUR LOVE AWAY: WILD RIVERS NEED TO BE SHARED TO BE PROTECTED

BY EVAN STAFFORD



The Mushroom Boof on the Cache la Poudre River (CO) is a special place that's worth sharing and protecting.  
Photo by Evan Stafford

**H**AVE YOU EVER had a secret spot? An important place tucked away behind a secret waterfall on a little-known creek, or maybe just a nook under the willow tree on the banks of the river through town where the current splits around an island. Perhaps it was the first place you ever camped with your now husband/wife, or your favorite place to have lunch. What we seek at these “secret spots” is solitude in nature, and it’s an incredibly important quality that wilderness rivers—and often any river—can provide. This concept is even built into the definition of wilderness on public lands in the United States: “An area of wilderness is further defined to mean (Federal lands which have)... (2) outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.” – Wilderness Act 1964

Crowding in outdoor recreation has been researched extensively and is defined

as a negative and subjective evaluation of use levels—basically the opposite of solitude. When our “secret spots” become crowded they lose value and the quality of experience we have there is lessened. Crowding is a real threat, and in places like Yosemite National Park in the middle of summer, crowding can not only diminish the quality of our experiences, it can make going there feel not worth it.

However, overcrowding in a universally recognized National Park is not the same as sharing an individual’s favorite spot on a wild river, and it’s possible that at one time or another American Whitewater has highlighted, or will highlight, one of your secret places. Occasionally we receive comments, especially on social media, asking us nicely, and sometimes not so nicely, to take down pictures of a place, or to not post the names and location of places. People really like their secret places

and occasionally they say crazy things like, “We still hang backcountry bloggers.”

Usually, though, the comments though are similar in nature to this:

“The primary threat to this place is tourist overcrowding, driven by things like ad campaigns and Instagram photos. Please don’t name these places on the Internet. You’re undermining the very outcome you seek.”

As much as we don’t want to “out” your secret place, if we’re highlighting it, in our opinion, there’s a very good reason. More importantly, it’s likely that crowding is not the primary threat to it—or even a significant threat. Doug Ammons, whitewater author and pioneer of many of the continent’s hardest and most remote rivers, puts it best in the introduction to *Idaho the Whitewater State: A Guidebook*



# STEWARDSHIP

by Grant Amaral, “To me, advertising my favorite spots without being able to personally screen perspective paddlers seemed ridiculous. But, like most of our other paddling buddies, we’ve found within the last few years that some of these places have been threatened and some nearly ruined, and we had no effective way to protect them. We’ve found that our smug secretiveness had begun to backfire on us. Without people from outside knowing what is here, many of the outstanding runs on lesser known rivers have had very few allies.”

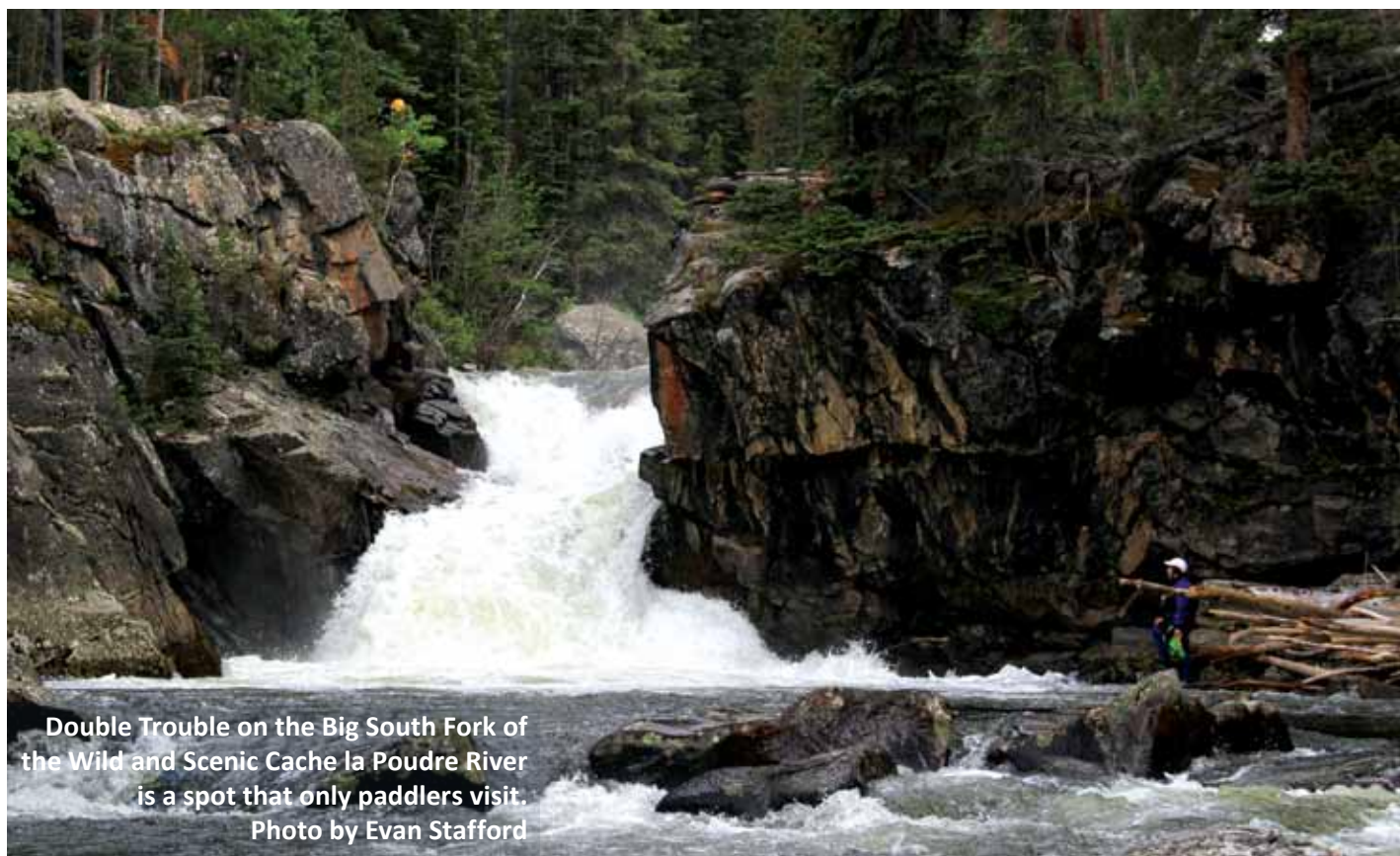
Crowding and overuse are issues that American Whitewater has, and can continue to work on, but finding solitude sometimes just requires getting up earlier in the morning, going farther, or discovering additional secret places. Some river sections, such as the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, are so popular that management actions like permits and use limits need

to be enacted. With these solutions, the resource can be protected from overuse, and solitude can still be found; but for a place like the Grand Canyon, it just might require a winter trip or a dawn patrol start. The upside is that when there’s a scheme to dam the Colorado River further or to say, build a tramway from the rim to the Little Colorado confluence, there’s a chorus of voices powerful and invested enough to influence decision makers.

Miners, hydropower and other developers don’t pretend our secret places don’t exist, so neither can we. Where they see the perfect gradient and steep-walled canyon for a dam, we find our adventure, escape, and solitude. Where they see a strip mine, we see crystal clear, clean whitewater flowing through an untrammelled landscape. Our society places a higher value on a resource when it is used, and whitewater recreation continues to become more recognized as a valid use of our rivers and as a valuable

source of economic stimulus. The more people who view a place the same way as paddlers, the stronger our voice to resist the marring of the landscapes we hold dear.

At American Whitewater, every single member of our staff seeks out solitude and finds recreation in wild places renewing and rewarding. We understand your pain at seeing your place in the spotlight, but let’s face it, whitewater recreation has some of the lowest participation numbers of any outdoor sport, and our special places rarely see the kind of overcrowding that really detracts from an experience. People may rally to protect a place just to know that it exists and to keep the door open for them to experience it, even if they’re unlikely to ever make it there. It all adds up to the fact that we can’t protect the places we don’t know and when it comes time to protect your special place let’s hope enough people care about it to make a ruckus and share its true value.




Double Trouble on the Big South Fork of the Wild and Scenic Cache la Poudre River is a spot that only paddlers visit.  
Photo by Evan Stafford



# DAM ON NORTH CAROLINA'S GREEN RIVER TO BE SOLD

BY KEVIN COLBURN



We're working to ensure that Sunshine boofs, and the all of the great paddling opportunities on the Green River (NC), continue when the dam that controls the flows in the Upper, Narrows, and Lower Green is sold.  
Photo by Kevin Colburn

**T**HIS PAST MAY, Duke Energy announced the pending sale of five hydropower dams in western North Carolina and South Carolina to Northbrook Energy. The pending sale includes the Tuxedo Hydropower Project, which regulates flows in the popular Green River below Lake Summit. Water releases from the project are vital for paddling on the Class III/IV Upper Green, the Class V Narrows section, and the Class II Lower Green. Duke Energy plans to finalize the sale in early 2019.

Over the past several months Duke Energy has been reaching out to stakeholders to gather information on the effects the Tuxedo Project has on regional interests, including recreation-related visitors and businesses. American Whitewater shared the incredible value that the current flow releases and online flow information have had for paddlers of all ability levels, and requested that these benefits continue under new ownership. Indeed, the river

attracts tens of thousands of visitors to the area each year from around the region and the world, supports summer camps and outfitters, and has attracted several outdoor recreation related businesses to the region.

The Tuxedo Hydroelectric Project is highly unusual in that flow releases and reservoir levels are not currently dictated by state or federal permits. Duke Energy has voluntarily evolved its operation over nearly a century to strike an effective balance of uses for the limited water supply to meet the needs of electric customers, lake neighbors, and reservoir and river recreationists. To ensure flow releases in the Green River will continue to serve the public interest following the sale of the project, a robust recreational flow schedule very similar to the 2018 schedule, an online three-day flow forecast (i.e., same day plus two days ahead), and an annual stakeholder meeting will be required of the new owner through a lease agreement with the Lake

Summit Property Owners Association. The lease will take effect and the details will be made public upon the sale of the project, and will run for five years, with two five-year renewals available to the property owners. This arrangement will thus serve as a bridge to future non-regulatory or regulatory management.

American Whitewater would like to thank Duke Energy for listening to concerns expressed by American Whitewater and other paddling leaders, and for respecting the interests of the paddling community. We look forward to working with Northbrook Energy, the Lake Summit Property Owners Association, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, and other stakeholders, including the Green River paddling and fishing communities, to ensure this non-regulatory approach is implemented in a way that works for the Green River and all its enthusiasts.



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## 2017 Annual Report



*Excavators bring down Mill Pond Dam on Sullivan Creek, and Will Long enjoys the canyon downstream. | Photos by Brian Jamieson and Kevin Colburn*



## Dear Members,

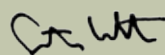
By all counts, 2017 was a very strong year for American Whitewater. While we faced stiff national policy headwinds against wild rivers and public lands and waters, we pulled together to contribute smart and informed data-driven science to the conversation. Our board of directors and staff know those who love rivers are fierce advocates for their protection. This intimate connection to flowing water has made paddlers an important force in river conservation throughout our more than 60-year history.

In the last year, American Whitewater led efforts to remove Sullivan Creek Dam (WA). We restored flows to two rivers, the New River Dries (WV) and North Yuba (CA). We directly participated in management decisions that improved flows and river access associated with dams on at least 32 rivers across the country for a total of 728 river miles. Access is key to enjoying rivers, and we secured new and/or improved access areas on four rivers in West Virginia, California and Oregon, and collaboratively managed access on eight rivers.

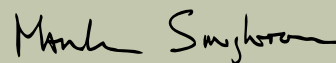
Another highlight of 2017, American Whitewater launched a mobile phone app for Android utilized by more than 1,000 people. (Don't worry, iPhone users. An iOS version is coming!) We also negotiated the installation of a new stream gauge that is available on our website and offered educational volunteer opportunities that resulted in members racking up 5,316 volunteer hours for our organization.

Today, American Whitewater is stronger than ever with 83 cents on every dollar going to support program-related activities. Thanks to an organization-wide effort to provide transparency and operate efficiently, Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator, awarded American Whitewater with our eighth 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 allow us to consistently execute our mission in a fiscally responsible way. Only 2% of the nonprofits Charity Navigator rates have received eight consecutive 4-star evaluations.

The key to our success is the strong backing of our members. It is only through your support that we can continue to take the long view on river stewardship. As we look to the future, we 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 through our river stewardship program and appreciate your support of this important work.



Courtney Wilton  
President, Board of Directors



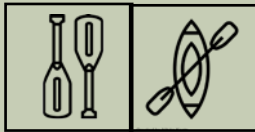
Mark Singleton  
Executive Director



Mosquito Road Bridge on the South Fork American River below Slab Creek.  
| Photo courtesy of Trevor Croft - Rafting Magazine

# Our Work Together in 2017

## Restoring Flows and Creating Opportunities to Paddle



Across the country we negotiated and advocated for more whitewater releases, more water in rivers, removal of dams, better beta and secure access for generations to come.

## Flow Restoration



### Agreements Reached:

New (WV), North Yuba (CA)

### Collaboratively Managed:

32 Rivers  
728.1 Miles

**Dams Removed:** Sullivan Creek (WA)

## Access & Enjoyment



### New and Restored River Access:

Susquehanna (WV), South Fork American Slab Creek (CA), North Fork Feather (CA), Clackamas River (OR)

**New Stream Gages:** New (WV)

### Collaboratively Managed Access:

Upper Yough (MD), Lower Yough (PA), Watauga (NC), Elkhorn (KY), Gauley (WV), Shenandoah (WV/MD/VA), Potomac (WV/MD/VA), Johns Creek (VA)

## Protecting Public Lands and Rivers



On public land across the country, we worked to protect rivers and the landscapes they inhabit. We helped introduce Wild and Scenic and other conservation designations, worked to protect pristine watersheds from mining, and fought back against bad policy that would negatively affect our watersheds.

## Improving River Policy



### Delivered 2500+ Comments to Agencies and Representatives:

Through our outreach efforts, our members sent comments to key decision makers about Clean Water protections, bad hydropower legislation, Forest Planning, and reductions in National Monuments. They also successfully supported protecting rivers in SW Oregon from new mining claims.

## River Protections



### Wild and Scenic Legislation

**Introduced:** East Rosebud Creek 20 miles (MT); Oregon Wildlands 278.8 miles (Includes: Rogue, Molalla and Chetco); Wild Olympics 464 miles (WA); Lower Farmington and Salmon Brook 62 miles (CT)

### Outstanding Resource Waters:

North Fork Smith Watershed (OR)

## Whitewater Resources



**Website:** 937,331 Unique Users, 6,756,690 Unique Page Views

**River Safety:** Accident Database upgraded, developed mobile app for better access to river info and conditions

**Publications We Contributed To:** Economic Impact Of Paddling in the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests; The Oroville Dam 2017 Spillway Incident: Lessons from the Feather River Basin; A Legal Guide to the Public's Rights to Access and Use California Navigable Waters; NPS River Access Planning Framework



## Your Support Is Our Fuel



**Volunteers:** 5,316 hours - the equivalent of 3 full-time employees

**Pro-Bono Lawyers:** 543 hours - Catawba River (SC); Bears Ears (UT); Dolores River (CO); River Navigability (NC)

**Members:** 5,719

**Affiliate Clubs:** 113



# STEWARDSHIP

## Northeast

In 2017 American Whitewater worked to restore rivers, remove dams and expand boating opportunities at hydro projects throughout the Northeast. We appealed state restrictions that would have eliminated paddling on the Green River (VT) and expect a ruling later this year. Last year, we worked with the utility, resource agencies, and stakeholder groups involved with the relicensing on the Connecticut River projects (MA/NH/VT) to restore currently dewatered river reaches and provide new whitewater recreation opportunities and economic revitalization to local communities. We also worked to expand and improve on existing boating opportunities on the Deerfield River (MA) and Mongaup River (NY) through FERC relicensing of rivers where we have previously secured boating releases.

## Mid-Atlantic

In late 2017, American Whitewater secured new pulse and base flow releases, public access, and flow information on the New River Dries in West Virginia through a new 48-year federal dam license. Leading up to the license, we appealed a state decision that would have limited flows and we tripled the number of scheduled releases through negotiations. Flow restoration will begin in 2019. We also secured a new portage route around Millville Dam on the Shenandoah River (WV) and continued to support river access on Johns Creek (VA), Youghiogheny River (MD), Elkhorn (KY) and other regional streams.



*Flow restoration that was secured in 2017 on the New River Dries (WV) will begin in 2019. | Photo by Jeff Macklin*



*American Whitewater worked to successfully appeal restrictions that would have eliminated boating opportunities on the Green River (VT). | Photo by Justin Worth*





*American Whitewater is working to double the number of protected streams in the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests under the revision of their management plan. | Photo by Joe Keck*

## Southeast

The Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests comprise 1.1 million acres of the wildest land left in the eastern United States, and their management plan is under revision. American Whitewater has been working with regional interest groups for several years to inspire new river conservation and recreation improvements in the plan. In 2017 the U.S. Forest Service offered initial support for protecting 10 outstanding streams through new Wild and Scenic “eligible” status, doubling the number of protected streams. We requested protection for these streams and continue to promote them and others. Along with protection of free-flowing streams, we actively worked to protect and improve flows on the Cheoah (NC), Tallulah (GA), Catawba (SC), Ocoee (TN) and other rivers.

## Southern Rockies

For the first time in more than a decade, paddlers enjoyed more than 60 days of releases from McPhee Dam on the Dolores River in Southwest Colorado. American Whitewater worked with the Dolores Water Conservancy District, Bureau of Reclamation and conservation agencies to release water from the dam in a way that benefits paddlers and boosts fish habitat, vegetation and channel connectivity.

American Whitewater secured late-season paddling opportunities on the Upper Colorado River through a series of efforts guided by the Wild and Scenic Alternative Management Plan (AMP). Now entering the 10th year of AMP negotiations, we continue to improve river management by working with agencies, utilities, reservoir operators and other partners to send water down the Colorado River, from Gore Canyon through Glenwood Springs, at levels enjoyed by paddlers of all skills and crafts. In 2017 we coordinated efforts with the Bureau of Reclamation to improve flows for the Gore Canyon Festival in August, while boosting critical habitat for native fish recovery. Plan implementation will continue to protect paddling opportunities and river health while new dams and pipelines are proposed in the Colorado River.

American Whitewater also celebrated the official opening of the new boat passage through the Green River Diversion (Tusher Dam) near Green River, Utah. Completion of the boat passage has freed the Green River from its last in-stream obstruction between the Flaming Gorge Dam in Wyoming and its confluence with the Colorado River in Utah. The result is more than 400 floatable river miles that flow through iconic canyons and historic landmarks. The official opening of the boat passage is a tribute to the efforts of our members and all those involved.



*The new boat passage through Tusher Dam (UT) makes the Green River free from in-river obstructions between the Flaming Gorge Dam (WY) and its confluence with the Colorado River (UT). | Photo by Paul Martzen*



American Whitewater is working through the National Forest planning process to advance likely protections for hundreds of miles of streams in Idaho and Montana. | Photo by Chris Ennis



Elsewhere, American Whitewater started the hydropower relicensing process on the Southern California Edison project located on the Kaweah River. Guided by paddler Darin McQuoid, American Whitewater took a tour of the Kaweah to gather on-the-ground information and pictures of the key access points. We shared this information with Southern California Edison to highlight access issues that we hope can be addressed in the future relicensing.

Closing out 2017, American Whitewater advocacy for the California State Lands Commission Strategic Plan paid off with the release of A Legal Guide to the Public's Rights to Access and Use California's Navigable Waters. Authored by the Commission, this guide is a powerful tool for the public to help in determining public access and use rights citing California law. American Whitewater will continue to work with the Commission in 2018 to distribute this guide and its companion brochure to the public and to state and local agencies.



American Whitewater helps save key access to Slab Creek at Mosquito Road Bridge. | Photo by Trevor Craft - Rafting Magazine



## Nothern Rockies

American Whitewater's coalition work in Montana brought the bipartisan East Rosebud Wild and Scenic River Act to the precipice of passage in 2017. Our hopes are high for passage in 2018. We also worked through the National Forest planning process to advance likely protections for hundreds of miles of streams in Idaho and Montana. When the Flathead National Forest initially determined Upper Twin Creek was not eligible for Wild and Scenic designation we gathered photos and video evidence of the stream and they decided to protect it. A classic example of conservation through adventure, something our members know and do well.

## California

Access to California rivers remained a key focus for American Whitewater in 2017. On the South Fork American River below Slab Creek, a coalition of conservation and recreation groups led by American Whitewater reached an agreement with the County of El Dorado to preserve key access at Mosquito Road Bridge. Initial county plans for a new bridge at this site slated the original bridge for demolition, blocked vehicle access to the river, and gated pedestrian access ½ mile up a steep switchback. As outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding, the county will now preserve Mosquito Road Bridge and allow year-round, unencumbered vehicle and pedestrian access to the South Fork American River from dawn to dusk. The agreement also states the county will facilitate informal parking along the road for four to six vehicles.



## Pacific Northwest

In the fall of 2017, excavators brought down the 50-foot-high Mill Pond Dam on Sullivan Creek, the culmination of more than a decade of work by American Whitewater and our partners. With the creek flowing free, native fish will now have access to miles of clear cold river upstream of the dam site.

In the final days of the Obama Administration, American Whitewater secured a 20-year withdrawal from new mining claims and the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service announced a 20-year halt to any new mining activities in the watersheds of the North Fork Smith, Illinois, Pistol River and Hunter Creek. These wild rivers all flow freely from their headwaters to the ocean and are known for their exceptional water quality, rich botanical diversity, wild salmon and steelhead strongholds, and world-class recreation opportunities.

The State of Oregon followed up with protections in July 2017 when the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission unanimously voted to designate the waters of the North Fork Smith River in southwest Oregon as the first Outstanding Resource Water in the Pacific Northwest. Throughout the past several years working with our partners to secure these protections, local communities and paddlers from across the region and country showed overwhelming support for protecting the pristine rivers of the region from the threats of future mining proposals.

On the Clackamas River in Oregon, American Whitewater completed projects with Portland General Electric and the U.S. Forest Service to formalize public access to this Wild and Scenic River. We negotiated these improvements as part of the hydropower license for the Clackamas River through a settlement we signed 11 years ago.



*The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission unanimously voted to designate the waters of the North Fork Smith River in southwest Oregon as an Outstanding Resource Water. | Photo by Thomas O'Keefe*



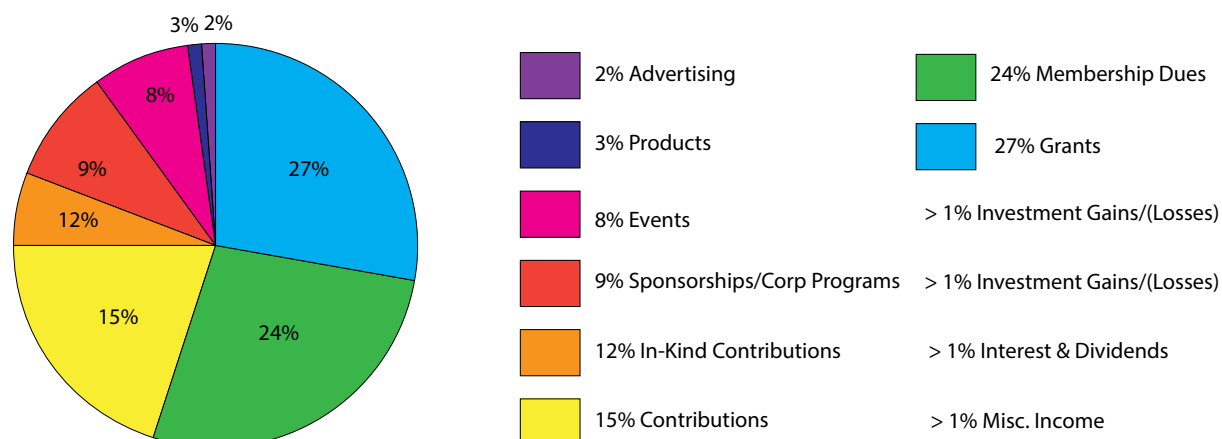
*American Whitewater helped to formalize public access to the Wild and Scenic Clackamas River (OR). | Photo by Thomas O'Keefe*



# 2017 Statement of Activities

Revenue	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total 2017	Total 2016
PUBLIC SUPPORT				
Membership dues	\$415,254		\$415,254	\$380,316
Grants		\$399,499	\$399,499	\$427,247
Contributions	\$281,486	\$18,945	\$300,431	\$237,476
Sponsorships/Corp Programs	\$129,427		\$129,427	\$136,390
Events	\$119,782		\$119,782	\$123,820
In-Kind Contributions	\$84,015		\$84,015	\$189,594
Products	\$22,977		\$22,977	\$40,569
Advertising	\$20,855		\$20,885	\$36,440
Investment Gains/(losses)	\$4,377		\$4,377	\$2,222
Interest & Dividends	\$2,317		\$2,317	\$1,591
Misc. Income	\$628		\$628	\$855
Net Assets Released from Restriction	\$371,672	\$(371,672)		
Total Support and Revenue	\$1,452,820	\$46,772	\$1,499,592	\$1,576,520
EXPENSES				
Program Services:				
Access & Conservation	\$669,392		\$669,392	\$704,733
Public Education	\$500,159		\$500,159	\$423,225
Total Program Services	\$1,169,551		\$1,169,551	\$1,127,958
SUPPORTING SERVICES				
General & Administrative	\$176,522		\$176,522	\$165,506
Fundraising	\$49,582		\$49,582	\$114,277
Total Supporting Services	\$226,104		\$226,104	\$279,783
Total Expenses	\$1,395,655		\$1,395,655	\$1,407,741
Change in Net Assets Before Gains/(Losses)	\$57,165	\$46,772	\$103,937	\$168,779
Website Write-down				\$(20,724)
Total Change in Net Assets			\$103,937	\$148,055

## 2017 REVENUE SOURCES

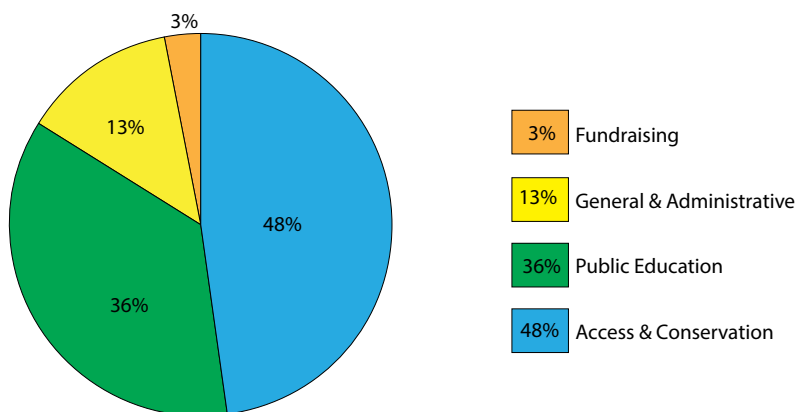


# 2017 Assets and Liability

Assets	2017	2016
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$683,257	\$596,693
Accounts Receivable	\$8,530	\$13,478
Grants Receivable	\$105,926	\$60,650
Investments	\$290,206	\$238,055
Prepaid Expenses	\$12,955	\$29,340
Direct Deposit Funds Advanced		
Inventory	\$13,209	\$17,609
Total Current Assets	\$1,114,083	\$955,825
LONG-TERM ASSETS		
Lands held for protection	\$58,317	\$58,317
Computer equipment, net	\$12,702	\$11,285
Total Long-Term Assets	\$71,019	\$69,602
Total Assets	\$1,185,102	\$1,025,427

Liabilities & Fund Balances	2017	2016
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$23,327	\$27,017
Other liabilities	\$511	\$867
Deferred Revenues	\$1,500	\$1,500
Payroll Liabilities	\$63,345	\$3,561
Total Current Liabilities	\$88,683	\$32,945
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$763,055	\$705,890
Restricted Net Assets	\$333,364	\$286,592
Total Net Assets	\$1,096,419	\$992,482
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$1,185,102	\$1,025,427

## 2017 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES





# 2017 Honor Roll



**American Whitewater Enduring Rivers Circle**

Leave a lasting legacy to the rivers that made a difference in your life. American Whitewater would like to thank the following individuals for making legacy gift commitments.

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Jennie Goldberg	Douglas Pineo
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For more information about planned giving opportunities visit:  
[www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/aw:planned\\_giving\\_program](http://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/aw:planned_giving_program)

## INDUSTRY PARTNERS

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REI

### Class IV – \$15,000

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### Class III – \$10,000

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*\*Giving levels are recorded at dollar levels, Honor Roll includes members, special donations, and organizational giving.*



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David A. Herron  
Eddy Hicks  
Lance Hightower  
Steve Hill  
Mike Hillis  
Sollie Hirsch  
Kevin Hisel  
Ted Hofmann  
Eric Holden  
Rhett Holmes  
David Holzer  
Raymond Horz  
Greg Hoskins  
Walt House  
Kelly Howard  
Peter Hubbard and Allison McCrory  
Ron Huffmeier  
Frank W. Hughto-Delzer  
Chuck Hunley  
Colin and Amy Hunt  
James F. Hunt  
Quay Hunter  
Dennis and Ginny Huntley  
Huntsville Canoe Club  
Doug Hurst  
I.R.I.E. Rafting Company Inc  
Kenneth Jackson  
Taylor Jacovich  
Paul Janda and Dana King  
Chris and Steve Janney  
Thomas Janzen  
William V. Joerger  
Elizabeth B. Johns  
Gary Johnson  
John Johnson  
Johnson, Mirmiran and Thompson Inc  
Richard D. Johnson  
John Edward Jones  
Bill and Mary Ann Jordens  
Tyler Jose  
Victoria Judson  
Jeffrey Kahn  
Richard Kark  
Joe Karman

Jane Katz  
Mike Kaufman  
Carl Keaney  
Carrie and Jerry Keller  
Pat Keller  
Tim J. Kelley  
Stephanie Kidd  
Mark Kieran  
Kieve-Wavus Education Inc  
Paul Killian  
Kai Kinder  
Matthew Kirsch  
Hank M. Klausman  
Karl Kleiner  
Doug Knapp  
Bill Knowlton  
Robin and David Knupp  
Michael Koch  
Scott and Devan Koehn  
Karl and Jo Ann Koenig  
Cindy Koerber  
Jennifer Koermer and Andrew Douglas  
Clinton Koontz  
Kyle Kovalik  
Christopher Kovaly  
Nick Kowalski  
Andrew Krammen  
Kelly Kraus  
Jack Krupnick  
John Kulka and Betsy Hobkirk  
Logan Kurkimilis  
Kelly Kurtas  
Kyle Johan  
Ken Kyser  
Mark and Sharon Lacroix  
Phil and Carol LaMarche  
Lark A. Lambert  
Perry Landers  
Michelle Lapin  
Erik Larsen  
Brent Laubaugh and Kelly Miller  
Ryan Lawless  
Robert Leayman  
Kendall Lee  
Sean Lee  
Marcus Lees  
Zak Leiby  
Trevyn Leighton  
David Lew  
Olivia Linney  
Shiah Lints  
David and Nancy Lipski

*\*Giving levels are recorded at dollar levels, Honor Roll includes members, special donations, and organizational giving.*



# 2017 Honor Roll

Jon Loehrke  
Tim Lombard  
Robert Lord  
Mike Lorentz  
Jim Low  
Scott B. Lowry  
David Luinstra  
Scott Lyden  
Scott Mabel  
Bill MacFarlane  
Bryan and Brenda Mahoney  
Jane A. Majeski  
Bill Mandler  
Bob Margulis  
Alan Markert  
Thomas Marley  
Steven Marriott  
John Marshall  
Tom Marshall  
Gregg Martin  
Mike Martini  
Michael Marusich  
David Mason  
Janice L. Matthew  
John Mattox  
Robert Mayo  
Mike McCarty  
John McClenny  
John McClester  
Daniel McCormick  
Daniel McDonald  
David A. McGovern  
Joanne McGrew  
Jeffrey McIntosh  
Eric McKeehan  
Mark McKenzie  
Steve McWilliams  
Chuck Meakin  
Gregg and Karen Merchen  
William P. Merrick  
Alex Mickel  
Cay Mierisch  
Zachary Mildon  
Travis Miller  
David Millrod  
Mark Mills-Thysen  
Brad Milner  
Brad Milner  
Carla Miner  
Missouri Whitewater Assn  
Joseph Miller  
Joe Mollica

Tom Monnig  
Richard Montgomery  
Richard Montgomery  
Jeff Moore  
Suzanna Morris  
Marybeth Moscoso  
Ellen and Jack Moskowitz  
Matt Muir  
Richard F. Murphy III  
Ed Murphy  
Marie-Louise and Miles Murphy  
Brian Mutchler  
Evan Narburgh  
Mike and Irene Nash  
Ross Nayduch  
Robert Neily  
David Nelson  
Maru Newby  
Cuong T. Nguyen  
Ninkasi Brewery  
Burgess Norrgard  
North Creek Rafting Company  
Erik Nugteren  
Nathan Ober  
Brian Oblander  
Jason Ogdahl  
Dennis and Molly Overly  
Paddlers Supply  
Thomas Palka  
Cynthia Palmer  
Alan Pasnik  
Jesse Patterson  
Chris Paulo  
Tim and Annie Payne  
Devon Pearse  
Warren Pechan  
Kurtis Perkins  
John Personius  
John Personius  
Ann Petersen  
Kurt Peterson  
Katherine Petrick  
Alan Pettingill  
Edward Pettus and Amy Stout  
Harriet Phillips  
Tim Ploss  
Leonard Prosnitz  
Chris Puchner  
Richard Pushkin  
Scott Puthoff  
Tom Quarles  
Andrew Quinn

Paul and Sarah Raffaeli  
Joseph Rand  
Judith Ranelli  
Rapids Riders  
Kurt Reidinger  
Suzanne Remien  
Eli and Liana Ren  
Samuel Reynolds  
Johnson Rice  
Sean Richards  
Craig A. Richter  
Mark and Carol Jean Rickman  
Shaun Riedinger  
Kalon Riehle  
Kevin Riley  
Patrick Rivers  
Rick Rizzolo  
Ryan Roberts  
Matthew Robertson  
Gilberto Robles  
Steve Rock  
Rocky Mountain Region Safety, Fire and Aviation  
Mack L. Roebuck  
Richard Rogers  
Robert Rooks  
Trey Rouss  
Steve Ruhle  
Mike Ryan and Linda Joyce  
Jonathan Ryan  
Richard Ryley  
Karl Sackinger  
Blair Samuelson  
Jeff Sarsfield and Antonia Chadwick  
John Saunders  
Carrie Sawtell  
Steve Schaefer  
Susan Scheufele and Greg Smith  
Tom Schiff  
Pete Scholl  
Ken Schubert  
Aaron Schwartz  
Timothy W. Scofield  
David Scott  
Jennifer Seabury  
Jeff Seebach  
Darius Semmens  
Tom and Beth Semptimphelter  
Scott Shahverdian  
Taft Sibley  
Don Simmon  
Greg Simmons

# 2017 Honor Roll

Anne and John Singleton  
John Skorpen  
Jim Small  
David Smalley  
Brent Smith  
Gayle Smith  
Julia Smith  
Randy Smith  
Todd Smith  
Stephen R. Smyth  
Jason Snead  
Derek D. Snyder  
Southern Arizona Paddlers Club  
Marv Sowers and Amy Pearsall  
Vinny Spencer  
Corey Spoores  
Spencer Sprecker  
Kendall Springer  
Christine Stadter  
Matthew Staker  
Stangler Family Foundation  
Paul Steffy  
David Steichen  
John Steimke  
Steven T. Steinberg  
Gary Stenger  
Steve Scarborough Family  
Charles Still  
Jason Stingl  
Jennifer Stockwell  
Jessie Stone  
JA Stralowe  
Sue Strang and Paul Carlile  
Ken and Fran Strickland  
James Studiale  
Joe Stumpf  
Douglas Sughrue  
Whitney and Kate Sunderland  
Douglas Swartz  
Jeff Swett  
Charles Szasz  
Michael Szymanski  
Susan L. Taft  
Mark Taratoot  
Kate and Bob Taylor  
Matthew Taylor  
Steve L. Taylor  
Rick Tegethoff  
Stephen Tegtmeyer  
Obe Tejada  
Matthew Terry  
Ryan Tharp

The Gunnison Bank  
Cory Thomas  
Brandon Thompson  
John Tillema  
David and Maureen Timm  
Gregory Timm  
Brian Timmons  
Lee Timmons  
Helen Todd  
Patrick D. Tooley  
Town Tinker Tube Rental  
Tributary Whitewater Tours LLC  
Kerry Trojnar  
Glen Tsaparas  
Vicky Tsaparas  
Kay Tufts  
Carrington Tutwiler  
University Kayak Club  
Brandi Van de Houten  
William Van Haren  
Vermont Paddlers Club  
David Vican  
Butch Vision  
Josh von Szalatnay  
Michael Walenta  
Tom Wallace  
Brian Walsh  
Cody Walsh  
Andrew Walters  
Charles V. Ware  
James Warren  
John Watson  
Greg Weeter  
Coy Wehunt  
Jeff Weiss  
Dale Welch  
Samuel Wells  
Joel Wenblad  
Kathleen Wesner  
West VA Wildwater Assn  
Tim West  
Nik and Allison White  
Susan and Karl Wigdal  
Kent Wigington  
Clayton Wiley  
Jenny Wiley  
Douglas Willenborg  
David Williams  
Gayne and Ann Marie Williams  
Mefford Williams  
Louis Winkler  
John Wiser

Ryan Womble  
David Wood  
Candice Clark Wozniak  
Clay Wright  
Gage Yager  
Yampa River Festival  
Andrew Young  
Marguerite Young  
Pat Younger  
YourCause  
Adam Zakarian  
Aaron Zettler-Mann  
Michael Zimmer  
Peter Zurflieh  
Anonymous

## Lifetime Members

---

Michael and Susan Abernathy  
Russell Abney  
David Ackerman  
Milt Aitken  
Charlie Albright  
Dick (Jon) Almquist  
Jon Almquist  
Holly and Chase Ambler  
Doug Ammons  
Jay Anderson  
Walt Andry  
Mike Aronoff  
Eric Arons  
Brian M. Aubin  
Brent Austin  
Stephen Bachelor  
Sutton Bacon, Jr  
Chris Baggott  
Colton Baker  
Scott P. Barnes  
Pope Barrow  
Allison Barth  
Kim Bates  
Keith Beck and Heidi Chung  
Steve Becker  
Craig Bedard  
Kemper Begley  
Chris Bell  
Roger E. Belson, MD  
Davis Benfield  
Suzanne Benson  
Brian C. Berg  
Julie Berg  
William Bergstrasser  
Alison Bermant

*\*Giving levels are recorded at dollar levels, Honor Roll includes members, special donations, and organizational giving.*



# 2017 Honor Roll

Peter R. Bernstein  
Eric Bessette  
Ted Bilek  
William J. Bishop  
Alan Blado  
Preston Blake  
Scott Blase  
Tom Blue  
Patty Bolden  
Rich and Stephanie Bowers  
Dave Bowman  
Sandra Boynton  
Steve Braddom  
Larry Brammer  
David Brauer  
Jeffrey Brennan  
Alan and Suzanne Bressler  
Charles Brewer  
Brian Briant  
Peter Bross  
David Brown  
Raymond Brugger  
Elizabeth Buck  
Ian Buckley and Debra Kadner  
Matthew Buckley  
Mike Buechler  
Paul and Laurie Bunce  
Curtis and Buffy Burge  
Victoria Butler  
Margaret R. Caldwell  
Stewart Caldwell  
Alp Can  
Stephen Canale  
Jason Carey  
Carolina Canoe Club  
Bryan Carrington  
Les Case  
David and Mary Cernicek  
Arnold Schaeffer and Deborah Chandler  
Yvon and Malinda Chouinard  
Thomas J. Christopher  
Ed Clark  
Emerson J. Clauss, III  
Jeff Clewell  
Chuck Cloninger  
Cloud Mountain Foundation  
Cal Coetzee  
Peter Coha  
Christy Coleman  
Trey Coleman  
David Collins  
Kim Collins

Morgan Colonel  
Jordan Combs  
Hope Concannon  
Gretchen Cornell  
Jesse Costello-Good  
Lora Cox  
Kevin B. Coyne  
Jon Crain  
Adam Cramer and Jen McCadney  
Thomas Cromartie  
Joshua Crossman  
Robin and Triel Culver  
Randy Cummings  
Magdalena Dale  
Rebecca Dameron  
Daniel Kanner  
Mike Daniel  
Stephen H. Daniel  
Lyle Danielson  
Brent and Dawn Davis  
Christopher Dawson  
Paul and Downing Denison  
Jack Ditty  
Mary Dombey  
Bryon Dorr  
Patrick Dougherty  
Stratford Douglas  
Jack and Barbara Doyle  
Peter Dragon  
Chip Duckett  
Phil Duff  
Scott Duffens  
Kenneth H. Duncan  
Christine Eckel  
Susan Eckerly and Terry O'Donnell  
Robert Eckhardt  
Ben Edson and Emily Mahowald  
Anthony Edwards  
Clint Edwards  
Mike Eiseman  
David Elliott  
Benjamin H. Ellis  
Michael Elovitz  
Ted Engelhardt  
Donna K. Ennis  
Vann and Laura Evans  
Stephen Fabrey  
David Fallside  
George M. Feinberg  
Nathan Fey  
Frank J. Fico  
Bill Finger

Graham Fitter  
Charles Fiveash  
Jacob Fleisher  
Ian Foley  
David Ford  
Kent Ford  
Robert and Andrea Forster  
David Fosdick  
Gary Franks  
Stuart Fraser  
Ken Frederick  
Joel E. Freedman  
Allen Freeman  
Michael French  
Friends of the Yampa  
Debbie Frye and James Fore  
Mort Fuller and Sue Langfitt Fuller  
Nathan Galbreath  
John Gangemi  
Holley and Brian Gardel  
Ken Garrison  
Bruce M. Genereaux  
Bill Gentry  
Ross George  
Keith Gershon  
Ken Gersten  
Claire Gesalman  
Steven J Getz  
Ken Gfroerer  
Nancy Gilbert  
Brian Ginsberg  
Paul Glasscock  
Saul Gleser  
David Glickerman  
Jennie Goldberg  
Jacob Goodkin  
John C. Goodwin  
George and Clarice Gordon  
Karl and JoAnn Gordon  
Shawn Graham  
Green River Adventures  
Lee Green  
Anne Greer  
Joseph Greiner  
Keith Grieser  
Shawn Griffin  
Robbie Griffith and Jeff Redding  
Andy Grizzell  
Mike Gunter  
Tamara Hamel  
H. H. Hancock  
Greg Hanlon

# 2017 Honor Roll

Robby G. Hansen  
Alex Hanzlik-Green  
James A. Hardee  
Marc Harkness  
Charles L. Harris  
John B Harris  
John Harvey  
Ron Healy  
David Carter Hearn  
Francheska Hebden  
Robert Heineman  
Alex and Charlene Hellman  
Eric Henrickson  
John Hereford  
Hermann Family  
Alex Herr  
Martha Herzog  
Christopher Hest  
Jason Hightower  
David Hillman  
George Hodges, Jr.  
Todd Hoffman  
Dan Hoheim  
Andrew Holcombe  
Paul Holmes  
Ann Hopkinson  
Jason Huber  
Werner Rod Huck  
Watts Hudgens  
Rick Hudson  
Ben Huneycutt  
Dennis and Ginny Huntley  
Lester E. Hurrelbrink  
Jon Irlbeck  
Kristine and Eric Jackson  
Nick and Kate Jacob  
John Jamnback  
John Jerger  
Kevin St John  
Jeff and Susan Johnson  
Charlotte T. Jones  
Stacy and Dale Karacostas  
Eric Kaufmann  
KCCNY  
Joseph Keck  
Jeff Keim  
Charles Keller  
Chris Kelly and Nanette Laughrey  
Stephen Kelly  
Jay P.K. Kenney  
Dave Kersey  
Patrick Kessler

Don Kiely  
Jim Kilkenny  
Leah Kindree  
Earl King  
Trip Kinney  
Don and Nanci Kinser  
Keith Kishiyama  
Mike Klaiber  
Hank M. Klausman  
Nathaniel Klema  
Cameron and Kerri Klinger  
Scott and Devan Koehn  
Karl and Jo Ann Koenig  
Chris and Caron Koll  
Wendy Krause  
Victor Kress and Dawn Meekhof  
Bill Krissoff  
Austin Kriz  
Jack Krupnick  
Bradley Kulbaba  
Ken Kyser  
Andy and Wendy Laakmann  
Landmark Learning  
Jeanne Langan  
Troy Langley  
John Lawson  
Enriched Learning Center / ELC  
Outdoors  
Matt and Nicole Leblanc  
Brent Lehman  
Jeffrey R. Leighton  
Debbie and Todd Leonard  
Anna Levesque  
Ben Levy  
Kevin L. Lewis  
Stephen Lex  
Charles Ligocki  
Kevin W. Lindberg  
Douglas and Marie Liu  
Ron Lodders  
Frank Lorch  
Tony Lunt  
Brooks Lutterloh  
Mike and Michelle Mahaffey  
Greg Mallory  
Mimi Margulies  
Nicholas Martin  
Robert and Debora Martz  
David Mason  
Ron Mastalski  
Bill and Anne Masters  
Ryan Masterson

Nick Matisse  
Graham Matthews  
David May  
Bob McConachie  
Michael McDonald  
Mike McKay  
Scott McKay  
Mark McKinstry  
Janet McLaughlin and Kurt Konolige  
Susan McReynolds  
Scott and Patty Mengel  
Bob Metzger  
Don and Audrey Millard  
Steven Miller, MD  
Robert Mingus  
Daniel Mongno  
Phil Montgomery  
Joshua C. Moore  
Pete Morey  
Megi Morishita  
Alex J. Morris  
Arianne Morrison  
R Scott Murray  
Timothy Narron  
Chris Neuenschwander  
Doug Nicholson  
Eric Nies  
George Noe  
Roger Nott  
Nova River Runners Inc.  
Laura Nugent and Ian Bailey  
Frank Ohrt  
Thomas O'Keefe and Rie Yamazaki  
Keith T. Oldham  
Eing Ong  
Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club  
Philip O'Rourke  
George Orr  
Tim Overland  
James Oxford  
Steven Pack  
Eric Panebaker  
Janet and Dave Panebaker  
Aida M. Parkinson  
Bill and Donna Holmes Parks  
Thomas Pasquarello  
Nicholas B. Paumgarten  
Tim and Annie Payne  
Lee G. Van Pelt  
Melissa Pennscott  
James Pepin  
Jeff Perizzolo

*\*Giving levels are recorded at dollar levels, Honor Roll includes members, special donations, and organizational giving.*



# 2017 Honor Roll

Stephen Perkins  
Roderick Peterson  
Lance Petrack-Zunich  
Don Piper  
Patrick Polan  
Rebecca Post  
Chris Prangley  
Andrea Price  
Nick Pritchard  
Aaron and Tamsen Pruzan  
Joe Pulliam  
Peter Quayle  
Justin Rae  
Pete Rainey  
Chris Ramko  
Morgan Randell  
Ken and Emily Ransford  
Mark Rasmus  
Harrison Rea  
Paul Reavley  
Brett Redfearn  
Brian Reeder  
Will Reeves  
Robert Reiterman  
Deborah Reyes  
Timothy Reynolds  
Eric Richardson  
Robert Harris and Jody Schaeffer  
Dave Robey  
Barry Robinson  
Corey Robinson  
Stephen Robinson  
Karl Rogers  
Richard Rollins  
Fred Ruddock  
Eric Ruhl  
Brett Russell  
Lee Rust  
Roman Ryder  
Tim Ryle  
Lawton Salley  
Chanchal Samanta  
San Miguel Whitewater Asso  
Mark Scantlebury and Audrey Bergsma  
Jody Schaeffer  
Patricia Schifferle and Bob Gilliom  
Johanna Schneider  
Tom Schneller  
Rick Schoen  
Norwood Scott  
Mark Scriver  
Roberta A. Scull  
Leaf Seabrook

David Seay  
Chuck Seidler  
Pat Sheridan  
Ed Sherwood  
Amy Shipman  
Jim Silavent  
Jim Sindelar  
Tom Sitz  
Peter N. Skinner  
Brady Sleeper  
Edwin Smalley  
Aulton Smith  
Mike A. Smith  
Stephen L. Smith  
Thomas Smith  
Chris Sneed  
James Sneeringer  
Keirith Snyder  
Sean Snyder  
Matt Solomon  
Marv Sowers and Amy Pearsall  
Susan Spaniol  
David Spiegel  
Eli Spiegel  
Joel Spiegel  
Aaron Stabel  
Kurt Stalnaker  
Robert Stanley  
Roger L. Starring  
Mary E. Starzinski  
Chris Stec  
Dave Steindorf  
Gordon Steindorf  
Peter Stekel  
John Stelianou  
Sarah Stephenson  
Michelle and Bryan Stewart  
David Aries and Margot Stiles  
Jason Stingl  
Edward Stockman  
John Stow  
Andrew Stuart  
Dave Su  
Alicia Sullivan  
Mark Sullivan  
Collin Swan  
Thomas Bauerschmidt Sweeney  
Michael Symonanis  
John Tarpey  
Jeffrey Taschler  
Charles E. Taylor  
Team Colorado Whitewater Racing Club  
Tennessee Valley Canoe Club

The Arches Foundation  
Richard Thistle  
Brandon Thompson  
Rick Thompson  
Howard (Bud) and Joan Thullbery  
Newton Tilson  
Marc Tohir  
Eric Tollefson  
Tracy Luther  
Nick and Emily Troutman  
Glen Tsaparas  
Christopher Tulley  
Barry and Kitty Tuscano  
Universal Joint  
Kenny Unser  
Upper Colorado Private Boaters Association  
Craig L. VanDeList  
William VanderKooy  
Jim Veltrop  
Charlie Vincent  
Stephen D. Vitale  
Josh von Szalatnay  
Joan and Kurt Wade  
Charlie and Sandy Walbridge  
Trinity Wall  
David Wallace and Betsy Frick  
Chip Wallingford  
Duke Warner  
Gordon Warren  
Glenn Watt  
Scott Weems  
Sebastian Weiche  
Kate Wempe  
Werner Paddles  
Sally Wetzler  
Michelle White  
Greg and Maria Whiteaker  
Collin Whitehead  
Natalie Whiteman  
Martin Wick  
Greg Widroe  
Dock Williams  
Kurt Williams  
Lisa Williams  
Cheyenne Wills  
John R. Wilson  
Julianna Wilson  
Laura Wilson  
Susan E. Wilson  
Courtney Wilton  
Brandon Woerth  
John D. Wolken

# 2017 Honor Roll

Brandon Woods  
Candice Clark Wozniak  
Carter and Wendy Wray  
Brad Xanthopoulos  
Mark Zakutansky  
Art Zemach  
Craig Ziegler  
Andy Zimmerman

## In Memory Of

**\*contributions in memory of friends  
during this Honor Roll year**

Matt Brown  
John Clark  
John Huisjen  
Ian Johnson  
Mac Kelsall  
Nathan Labrecque  
Brandon Owens  
Jason Powell  
Gary Rempe  
Mark Schechter  
Anita Dunne Schelp  
Nicholas Brian Simpson

## In Honor Of

Kristin Allgood  
Blandt-Ennis family  
Jennifer E. Davis  
Dolores River release  
Lisa Farin  
Vanora Jane  
Jeff and Ramona  
Abby Kohlman and Troy Zieman  
Jen Lee  
Dan and Sophie MacGuire  
Nikki and Phil Malatin  
Remy Mansfield  
Nute Mullings and Sonja Harris  
Jason Powell  
Jacq Willis and Tuan Truong

## Foundations

American Express Foundation  
American Endowment  
America's Charities  
Arches Foundation  
Auto Desk Foundation  
Bank of America Charitable Foundation  
The Cinnabar Foundation  
Cloud Mountain Foundation  
Community First Foundaiton (Colorado

Gives Day)  
Community Foundation of the  
Gunnison Valley  
Community Foundation of Western  
North Carolina  
Conservaton Alliance  
Echo Valley Foundaton Fund  
Fidelity Charitable  
Firedoll Foundation  
Foundaton for the Carolinas  
Freedom Charitable Foundation  
GE Foundation  
George & Miriam Martin Foundation  
Hewlett Foundation  
Hooter Fund II of the Oregon  
Community Foundation  
Ironman Foundation Inc  
John Deere Foundation Inc  
Johnson & Louise H. Clark Charitable  
Foundation  
Kula Foundation  
MacDonald-Peterson Foundation  
McConnell Foundation  
Morgan Family Foundation  
Murray Foundation  
National Philanthropic Trust  
Network for Good  
North Carolina Community Foundation  
Inc.  
Northwest Connecticut Community  
Foundation Inc.  
Outdoor Alliance  
PG&E Foundation  
Pruzan Foundation  
Ralph and Genevieve B. Horween  
Foundation  
RDH Foundation  
Renaissance Charitable Foundation Inc.  
Rick and Diane Rupp Family Fund of the  
Oregon Community Foundation  
Salesforce.org Foundation  
Schwab Charitable  
Scott Electric Foundation Inc  
Seattle Foundation (GiveBIG Day)  
Stangler Family Foundation  
Tucker Community Foundation  
Vanguard Charitable  
Walbridge Family Foundation, Inc.  
Walton Family Foundation  
Winston-Salem Foundation

## CFC and Workplace

## Giving Campaigns

Mehdi Akacem  
Nicholas Abrams  
David Alvarado  
Lief and Natalie Anderson  
Ed Bourguignon  
Gordon Brown, Jr  
Joshua Bryson  
Elizabeth Buck  
Chris Campbell  
James Cavo  
David Cernicek  
Ryan Clark  
Terry Conning  
Jesse Costello-Good  
Jason Darby  
Daniel Davis  
Dom Deavers  
Jim Degen  
Bruce Delaplaine  
Sandra Elverud  
Ray Fink and Jill Veber  
Caleb Fujimori  
Joshua Gaffney  
Denise and Scott Gravatt  
David Greenwald  
Michael Harke  
Craig Harms  
Jeffrey Hightower  
Lance Hill  
Rick Hudson  
Tania Ivanova  
Debra Kadner  
Victor Lee  
Colm Leneghan  
Brandon Liddell  
Jerry Malloy  
Jeffrey Margolis  
Mikenzie Matteson  
John McClenney  
Martin Meyer  
Jason Mikulec  
Timothy Narron  
Mark Neienbach  
Jerod Nowicki  
Jason Ogdahl  
Jeffrey Paine  
Stanley Perino  
Daniel Philbrick  
Edward Roseboom and Donna Weber  
David Scott  
Debby Singleton  
Jeff Smith

*\*Giving levels are recorded at dollar levels, Honor Roll includes members, special donations, and organizational giving.*



# 2017 Honor Roll

Roger Starring  
Tracy Tackett  
Roger Venezia  
Michael von Schneidemesser  
James Warren  
Douglas Willenborg

## Corporate

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Amazon Smile  
American Express Philanthropy  
Employee Giving Program  
AT&T  
Avago Technologies  
Bank of America  
Benevity Causes  
Boeing Company Individual Giving  
Program  
Briston-Myers Squibb  
Broadcom Inc.  
City of Seattle  
CoBank  
Filbert Fund  
FLOAT Apparel  
GE Foundation Matching Gifts Program  
Genero.us  
Glaxo-Smith Kline  
Google Inc.  
Headwater Capital Inc.  
Hewlett Packard Matching Gifts  
Program  
IBM Charitable Contribution Campaign  
Independent Charities of America  
Intel Corporation  
JK Group  
J.M. Huber Corporation  
John Deere  
Johnson, Mirmiran & Thomson Inc.  
JP Morgan Chase & Co  
Macy's East  
Medtronic  
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program  
Network for Good  
NRG Energy  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Parsec Financial Management Inc.  
Pfizer Inc.  
PG&E Corporation  
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc.  
Salesforce Corporation  
Synopsis  
Tech Soft 3D Inc.  
The Standard

Thomson Reuters  
Truist  
United Parcel Service  
United Way of California Capital Region  
United Way of Tri-County  
Wells Fargo  
YourCause, LLC

## Affiliate Clubs

---

### Supporting Affiliate Club - \$400+

Bluegrass Whildwater Asso  
Chota Canoe Club  
Dolores River Boating Advocates  
Fairbanks Paddlers  
Foothills Paddling Club  
Girls at Play  
Gold Country Paddlers  
KCCNY  
Keelhaulers Canoe Club  
Paddle Trails Canoe Club  
Palmetto Paddlers  
Tennessee Valley Canoe Club  
Washington Kayak Club

### Affiliate Club - \$100+

ADK Schenectady  
AMC Boston Chapter Paddlers  
AMC Delaware Valley Chapter  
AMC New Hampshire Paddlers  
American Packrafting Association  
Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts  
Arkansas Canoe Club  
Atlanta Whitewater Club  
Auburn River Festival Club  
Baltimore Canoe & Kayak Club  
Beartooth Paddlers Society  
Benscreek Canoe Club  
BEWET - Boeing Employees  
Whitewater  
Blue Ridge River Runners  
Blue Ridge Voyageurs  
Blue River Watershed Group  
Bradford County Canoe and Kayak Club  
Canoe Club of Centre County  
Canoe Club of Greater Harrisburg  
Canoe Cruisers Associaton  
Carolina Canoe Clue  
Chicago Whitewater Assn  
Chico Paddleheads  
Chota Canoe Club  
Clean Water Expected in East TN  
Coastal Canoeists Inc

Colorado Whitewater Assn  
Columbus Outdoor Pursuits  
Conewago Canoe Club  
Coosa River Paddling Club  
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East Tennessee Whitewater Club  
Eastman Recreation Club  
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Friends of the Yampa  
Georgia Canoing Asso  
Gold Country Paddlers  
Guelph Kayak Club  
High Country River Rafters  
High Jim and the A.S.K.  
Hoosier Canoe Club  
Housatonic Area Canoe & Kayak Sq  
Houston Canoe Club  
Huntsville Canoe Club  
Idaho Whitewater Association  
Iowa Whitewater Coalition  
Kawartha Whitewater Paddlers  
Keelhauler Canoe Club  
Landmark Learning  
Ledyard Canoe Club  
Lehigh Valley Canoe Club  
Lower Columbia Canoe Club  
Mach One Slalom Team  
Mason Dixon Canoe Cruisers  
Merrimack Valley Paddlers  
Missouri Whitewater Assn  
Monocacy Canoe Club  
Montreal Kayak Club  
Next Adventure  
North East Wisconsin Paddlers, Inc.  
Northwest Rafters Association  
Nova River Runners Inc  
Ocoee River Council  
Ohio Valley Paddlers  
Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club  
Oregon Whitewater Association  
Outdoor Adventure Club  
Outdoors Unlimited  
Ozark Mountain Paddlers  
Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club  
Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society  
Philadelphia Canoe Club  
Providence Day School Paddling Club  
Rapids Riders  
Redneck Kayak Club

# 2017 Honor Roll

River City Whitewater Club  
Rocky Mountain Outdoor Center  
San Miguel Whitewater Asso  
Shasta Paddlers  
Sierra Club/John Muir Chapter  
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Paddlers  
Sierra Nevada Whitewater Club  
Southern Arizona Paddlers Club  
Spokane Canoe & Kayak Club  
Team Colorado  
Team River Runner  
Tennessee Scenic River Association  
The Mountaineers  
Three Rivers Paddling Club  
Thunderbeard Outdoor Restoration Organization  
University Kayak Club  
Upper Colorado Private Boaters Asso  
Venture 8 / Troop 8  
Vermont Paddlers Club  
Viking Canoe Club  
Washington Recreational River Runners  
West VA Wildwater Assn  
Wilderness Voyageurs Outfitters Inc  
Willamette Kayak & Canoe Club  
Wilmington Trail Club  
Zoar Outdoor  
Zoar Valley Paddling Club

## Events and Festivals

CKS Paddlefest  
Deerfield Festival  
Feather Festival  
FIBArk  
French Broad River Festival  
Gauley Festival  
Gore Canyon Festival  
Gunnison River Festival  
Lyons Outdoor Games  
National Paddling Film Festival  
Opening Day South Fork American  
Ridgway River Festival  
Yampa River Festival

## STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS

### National Policy

Clean Water Act  
Federal Agency Partnerships  
Hydropower Policy and Legislation  
Hydropower Reform Coalition

Invasive Species Prevention  
National Forest Planning  
Outdoor Alliance  
Wild and Scenic River Management

### Southeast

Cain Creek (TN)  
Catawba River (SC/NC)  
Chattooga River (NC, SC, GA)  
Cheoah River (NC)  
Green River (NC)  
Hiwassee River (TN)  
Nantahala River (NC)  
Ocoee (TN)  
Potential Tennessee Scenic Rivers (TN)  
Potential Wild and Scenic Rivers (NC)  
Tallulah River (GA)  
Tuckasegee River (NC)  
Watauga River (NC)  
West Fork Tuckasegee (NC)

### Mid Atlantic

Gauley River (WV)  
Johns Creek (VA)  
New River Dries (WV)  
Savage and NB Potomac Rivers (MD)  
Shenandoah and Potomac Access (WV/MD/VA)  
Susquehanna River (PA)  
Upper Yough (MD)  
Virginia Access (VA)  
West Brandywine Creek (PA)

### Northeast

Connecticut River Relicensing (MA/NH/VT)  
Contoocook River Access (NH)  
Deerfield River Relicensing (MA)  
Farmington River W&S (CT)  
Green River Appeal (VT)  
Hoosic River Access (NY)  
Little Androscoggin Relicensing (ME)  
Missisquoi River Releases (VT)  
Monguap River Relicensing (NY)  
Presumpscot River Dam Removal (ME)  
Schoharie Creek (NY)  
Winnepesaukee River Access (NH)

### Northern Rockies

Bear River (ID)  
East Rosebud Creek (MT)

Potential Wild & Scenic Rivers (ID & MT))  
South Fork Salmon (ID)  
Sullivan Creek (WA)  
Weber River (UT)  
Wild and Scenic Rivers Campaign (MT)

### Southern Rockies

Arkansas River (CO)  
Blue River (CO)  
Clear Creek (CO)  
Colorado River (CO)  
Dam Removal & Rehabilitation (UT/CO)  
Dolores River (CO)  
Dolores River (UT)  
Flood Recovery (CO)  
Fossil Creek (AZ)  
Gila River (NM)  
Green River (UT)  
Recreational In-Channel Diversions (CO)  
Rio Grande River (CO/NM)  
River Access in Colorado  
San Francisco Creek (NM)  
San Juan River (UT)  
San Miguel River (CO)  
St. Vrain River (CO)  
Verde River (AZ)  
White River (CO/UT)  
Yampa River (CO)

### Pacific Northwest

Chehalis River (WA)  
Chelan River (WA)  
Cispus River (WA)  
Clackamas River (WA)  
Crooked River (OR)  
Elwha River (WA)  
Green River (WA)  
Hood River (OR)  
Klamath River (OR)  
Methow River (WA)  
Molalla River (OR)  
Nisqually River (WA)  
Nooksack River (WA)  
North Cascades Wild and Scenic (WA)  
Olympic Peninsula Wild and Scenic (WA)  
Owyhee River (OR)  
Puyallup River (WA)  
Rogue River (OR)  
Similkameen River (WA)  
Kalmiopsis Wildlands (OR)

*\*Giving levels are recorded at dollar levels, Honor Roll includes members, special donations, and organizational giving.*



# 2017 Honor Roll

Skagit River (WA)  
Skykomish River (WA)  
Snake River (WA)  
Snoqualmie River (WA)  
Spokane River (WA)  
Sullivan Creek (WA)  
Sultan River (WA)  
White Salmon River (WA)

## California

Butte Creek (CA)  
California Hydropower Reform Coalition  
(CA)  
Eel River (CA)  
Feather River / Oroville (CA)  
Feather River / Rock Creek-Cresta (CA)  
Feather River/ South Fork (CA)  
Feather River / Upper North Fork (CA)  
Kaweah River (CA)  
McCloud River (CA)  
Merced River (CA)  
Mokelumne River (CA)  
National Forest Planning  
North Fork Smith River (CA)  
Piru Creek (CA)  
Pit River (CA)  
Potential Wild and Scenic Rivers (CA)  
San Joaquin River (CA)  
Smith River (CA)  
South Fork American River (CA)  
Stanislaus River (CA)  
Tuolumne River (CA)  
Yuba/Bear Rivers (CA)

# American Whitewater

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# REMEMBRANCE

## THE GOOD LIFE OF THE GARY REMPE FAMILY

BY DANIEL HICKS



*Gary's last paddle through Zoom Flume in Browns Canyon on the Arkansas River, Colorado.  
By Whitewater Photography, 2017*

He led us through the highest mountains, the lowest rivers. A giver of great adventure.  
--Clara Rempe

**T**HE END OF the great life of Gary Rempe (July 22, 1964 to September 24, 2017) will be felt by the

kayak community here in southwestern Colorado and northern New Mexico. Gary deeply enjoyed paddling whitewater and constantly taught his family and friends on the river. He had a good balance of safety and fun, playing every possible spot. I can still picture the Rempe family on the Brown's Canyon stretch of the Arkansas at

high water, Gary in the lead with his strong wife Susan and a gaggle of kids following. They practiced rolls and peel outs in the eddies along the way.

Gary told me once while we were backcountry skiing that he was always a beginner. A good attitude to have,





*Gary and Susan off-season on Sandia Mountain in Albuquerque, New Mexico.*  
**Photo by Unknown Passerby, 2015**

indicating an open learning mind. He learned kayaking skills as an early member of the Columbia Kayak Club, where he wore wool sweaters, jeans, and running shoes on river trips. There at college he gave Susan a card he drew on their first Valentine's Day that showed both paddling and said, "Susan and Gary being a little merry." He learned more advanced paddling skills from Doug Ammons in Northern Montana, where Susan grew up. Paddling big whitewater up there gave Gary a lot of confidence and precise skills.

Susan and Gary were drawn to the gorgeous Pacific Northwest, mainly for her graduate studies at the University of Washington. They started their family there, yet somehow Gary found time to paddle the numerous rivers and creeks in the Cascades. Gary wisely brought the family to Riverside where the kids played on the beach. Gary taught Susan there on a nice rapid to begin her paddling career.

I first met this fun young couple after they moved to New Mexico, when we paddled together on the big, beautiful Westwater Canyon of the Colorado. These warm September Westwater campouts became

the late summer focus of our gang. Twenty of us would paddle or row for a few days on the warm river through the spectacular canyon. We played hard in the hot, fun-filled rapid section, especially Gary, the surf machine in his short kayak. The big but forgiving Colorado River was a great classroom for the kids. They learned about river running, first in small rafts and duckies, then kayaks. Right alongside the technical skills, they also learned to work together and care for their environment. The Rempe family even had a marriage proposal—by the oldest son Phillip—on a river trip several years ago. The wedding was this summer and it was awesome—with cowbells.

When the four Rempe children were little, and too young to paddle, Susan's mother insisted the kids stay in northern Montana for the summer for many years. This enabled the paddling pair to come up to the Arkansas River frequently in the summers. They enjoyed the Numbers, Browns, and the Royal Gorge on three-day thrilling weekends. Although they lived in Albuquerque, New Mexico, they paddled the Arkansas more than us Colorado locals. This drew them closer as they traveled the

awesome Rockies in their Honda van, a honeymoon B&B. They were in love and having fun.

The kids grew up and enjoyed the world-class adventures on the mountains and rivers of the southern Rockies. I have seen six or more family members pop out of that van more than a few times. They were happy and cozy together, travelling to their kayak or ski trip. A family that plays together stays together.

Unfortunately, Gary was recently diagnosed with cancer. He was a trooper through his nine-month battle with the disease. He kept a game face and played after chemo treatments almost to the end. I never saw Gary get angry or swim out of his kayak in 20 years or knowing him. Miss you buddy!

**WEEK OF RIVERS**  
**ONTARIO/QUEBEC**  
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**BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
 July 23-27  
**SLALOM WEEK**  
 August 6-10  
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## WILD RIVERS

BY BILL PRIME

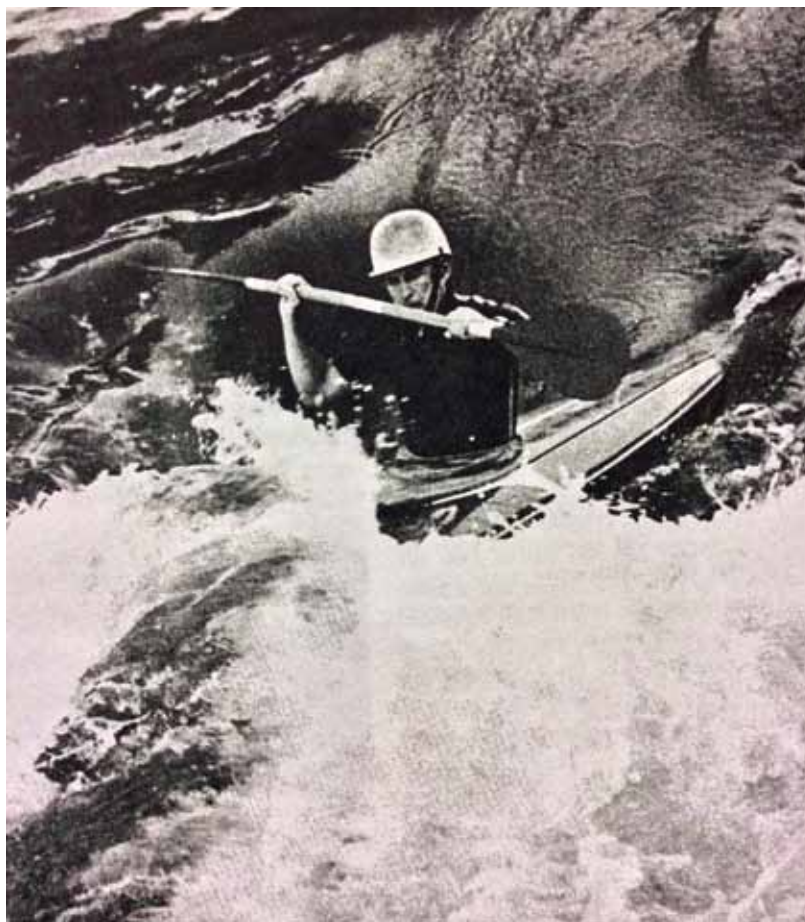


Photo of the author, Bill Prime, reprinted from the spring 1967 issue.  
By Bart Hawthaway

**Editor's Note:** The following is reprinted from the spring 1967 issue of this magazine. The occasion is the 50th anniversary, this fall, of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act being signed into law. In researching this topic in our archives, it was hard not to be impressed by both the reason and passion of those American Whitewater members writing 50 years ago. They understood the value and urgency of what they tended to call the "Wild Rivers Bill," and reading their writing on the topic today reveals many interesting historical and present-day lessons. While most paddlers know something about the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, few probably know or remember that it did not make a trouble-free journey to the president's desk, nor that a single congressman from

Colorado had so much to do with the bill's failure to pass its first time through the House. This article also references the importance of rivers protected at the state level, and makes some prescient predictions about the future value of wild rivers. We will return to our vaults for the final issue of 2018 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of this landmark legislation. We hope you enjoy this journey down wild rivers memory lane.

"ALL THE RIVERS run into the sea, yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again." Thus the Bible describes the hydrological cycle, which says that the total supply of

water has always been and always will be constant. We are told that a soaring population, growing industrialization, and greater irrigation threaten a water shortage, but it ain't so. Even the dirtiest water can be made clean, at a cost, and as soon as the many (the taxpayers of the 50 states) stop subsidizing the water usage of the few (predominantly the Southwest), this problem will disappear forever. Per capita consumption in the Colorado River basin is close to one hundred times as great as in the Delaware River basin due to irrigation, and the irrigators think nothing of using \$10 worth of water to grow \$5 worth of cotton because the water may only cost them \$0.50.



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SHORE OF THE BEAUTIFUL DEERFIELD RIVER!

You may ask what has this got to do with the wild rivers bill? Plenty! The only real opposition to the bill comes from the cattle, ranching, and farming interests of the West and Southwest. I quote from The New York Times Magazine of January 22, 1967: "A definitive instance of a committee chairman's arbitrary use of his prerogatives occurred in the legislative history of the 'Wild Rivers' bill. The Senate passed it early in 1966. On reaching the House, the measure was referred to the Committee on the Interior and Insular Affairs, in conformity with the prevailing procedure. Whereupon Representative Wayne Aspinall of Colorado, the Chairman, announced he would hold no hearings, or consider the legislation at all in the 89th Congress. The bill died in the committee's pigeonhole, and that was that." Aspinall, who sees the growing independence of the House adding to his own importance, accuses Secretary of the Interior Udall of "Hiding behind Lady Bird's skirts."

One of the great problems as I see it is the idea that conservation was invented by westerners for westerners and that there is nothing left in the East worth saving. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Kayak and Canoe Club of New York paddles some 50 wild rivers within 100 miles of New York City, and many other areas of the country are similarly endowed. A sense of urgency pervades eastern conservationists and their calls for help are widely listened to by politicians. Conservation wins votes in the East. In the West, on the other hand, the conservationists are opposed to the power groups who have the politicians' ears and votes. Representative John Saylor of Pennsylvania will surely fight for the Wild Rivers bill, but what of Representative Aspinall of Colorado, a state second to none in terms of mighty rivers and enthusiastic paddlers and conservationists?

Recreation, like conservation, means many things to many people. The theory of the greatest good for the greatest number emphasizes mass-recreation values to the detriment of individual recreation.

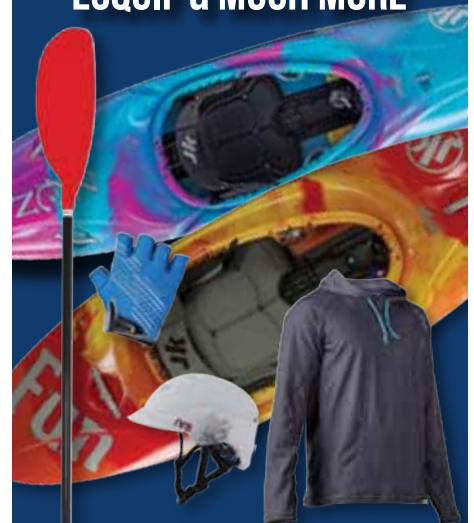
Personally, I do not think that the Army Engineers are well suited to studying the recreational value of a reservoir versus a river. Most of the rivers discussed for possible inclusion in this bill are truly wild rivers and, as such, they are relatively far removed from the main centers of population. However, I don't think that we should confuse the quality of a river with its size, wilderness, or remoteness. Earlier in this article I mentioned 50 wild rivers within 100 miles of New York City, and I mean it. There are at least this number with unspoiled stretches of 15 or more miles which might be suitable for preservation as a local recreation area. I hope that the Wild Rivers Act is just the beginning, and that some day we will have many local, state, and federal scenic waterways, just as we now have numerous local, state, and national parks. I believe that bills to preserve the St. Croix River in Wisconsin and the Buffalo River in Arkansas are perhaps the first step in this direction. Finally, my training as a security analyst won't let me stop without making a forecast. I predict that the designation of a river as a "wild river" will raise local land values, increase the attraction of the surrounding area for new industry, and improve the life of all Americans. The cost to benefit ratio is infinite since it costs nothing to leave a river alone, and the benefits accrue forever. It looks as if conservationists are finally winning the battle to preserve the Grand Canyon, now let's help President Johnson ease his budget problems by cutting back on the dam building funds of the Army Engineers.

The Wild Rivers bill will surely be passed by the Senate this spring as easily as it was last year. Its prospects in the House are not so certain and depend predominantly on one man, Wayne Aspinall of Colorado. I urge conservation groups elsewhere to communicate with Representative Aspinall at the House Office Building in Washington, D.C.



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## THE PRE-FLIGHT CHECK LIST

BY GARY BARKER



*Photo of Stonechess rapid on the Yaak River (MT).  
By David Friedman*

SOME BITS OF advice that we pass along to others is learned the hard way. My story is directed to seasoned paddlers. Every day on the river is a new day, full of new joy and fulfillment. But do take time, every time, to make sure details are attended to regarding safety and equipment.

It was mid-November and a heavy rain had given us an unusual gift: high water in the fall on Montana's Yaak River.

As we loaded our boats in the back of my pickup, I heard a cracking sound. "Oh, no," I thought. One of the canopy windows must have been broken. On further inspection, I could find no damage, so we shrugged our shoulders and drove to the put-in.

In retrospect, that kind of a cracking noise should have been investigated further.

Sometimes it takes several errors to add up to trouble, and this was one of those times. I had done a questionable job of gluing together two paddle halves in order to change the feather of the blades. Had I tested the blade before paddling away that day, it would have broken in half with little effort. Apparently, one of the boats had landed on the weak part of the joint.

As it was, it held together for about two miles of easy Class III. We were just above the crux rapid, Stonechess. A ledge drop just before the scouting eddy required a couple of strong strokes and a hard brace. I lined up and made the move.

That's when I heard that cracking noise again. This time, the paddle broke in half and I rolled under. I immediately dropped the left half and tried several rolls with the other half. (Next time you have a chance, I

suggest that you practice rolling with one half of a breakdown paddle. It's easy, just a little different.)

I didn't want to drift upside down past the scouting eddy, so I threw away the paddle half and reached for the grab loop to bail out. I don't often swim on any kind of water, but I didn't want to swim the big rapid below just because I bailed too late.

That is when another failure to attend to the details reared its ugly head. I could not find that damned grab loop. I ran my fingers back and forth along the spray skirt rim to no avail. I was beginning to run out of air.

It has to be there, I thought, and tried again to locate it with my eyes open in the muddy water. No luck.





*A sprayskirt grab loop is such a small thing, but its positioning can be huge.*  
**Photos by Gary Barker**

I grabbed a handful of the skirt in front of me and gave a hard pull. It didn't work. I then grabbed it with both hands but still could not get it free from the cockpit rim. While it was a great testament to the

airtight quality of the skirt, praise was not what came to my mind at that moment. I was getting desperate for air.

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Tallulah Race 2016. | Photo: Emrie Canen





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# SAFETY

I then attempted to pull out of the boat, so as to leave the skirt attached to the cockpit rim. That attempt was not successful, either. The skirt was too tight on my waist. I was beginning to see little stars, and my lungs were screaming for air. But all I could do was hang upside down, staring at the light above.

Would this be my last kayak adventure? Was my life insurance adequate for my family to go on without me? I thought of my wife getting the news that I had drowned... how much my dog would miss me...all because I had let the grab loop drop into the boat at the launch.

I didn't know it, but above the surface, my paddling buds were right there with me, probably getting ready to do that "hand of God" maneuver.

I believe I passed out about then, but whatever happened next, I do not remember to this day.

The next thing I recall, I was out of the boat and swimming to the surface. My friend Dave pulled me into the eddy where I did a lot of heavy breathing. It was a humiliating experience, but I was happy to be alive.

My boat ran Stonechess by itself, taking a bit of damage in the process. After a small hike down to the boat, I got the breakdown paddle out of it, and the rest of the run was again full of joy and fulfillment.

My lesson here was that the devil is in the details. Stay in the moment and pay attention. There is a good reason that pilots go through a pre-flight checklist. We paddlers need to do that, too. Every time.

---

*Above: A recipe for a bad swim (top) vs. an easy swim (middle).*

**Photos by Gary Barker**

*Below: The author at Stonechess.*

**Photo by David Friedman**





## BOIL LINE BY MICHAEL MEYERS



*Author (still dry) and Snake (mentor).  
By Rick Miller*

Sunlight stream giggle  
sings. Breathe deeply  
snowmelt spiced air.  
Now release from shore,

blue duckie afloat,  
air mattress with pointy ends,  
almost unsinkable

sit-on-top kayak.  
Stroke double bladed paddle,  
feel current's caress.

Watch out for strainers,  
toppled once-glorious oaks,  
half-drowned skeletons.

Frozen waterfalls  
sing on snow muted gorge walls,  
cradled trees asleep.

Ice highlights soft shales,  
cracked when continents collide.  
Exposed cliffs crumble.

Pinball erratics,  
glacial aliens swirled in  
birth pain pink feldspar,

boulders to bounce off.  
Joy paddle forgiving waves,  
savor splashes, smile.

Feels good to be back.  
Surf ledges, stress relief joints  
blessed with playful waves.

Eddy hop. Pop drops.  
Soak in self-satisfied sun.  
Flirt with risky holes.

Look, last year's cattails,  
adamantine icicles,  
flash startle surprise?

Boat shudders, dream-caught,  
stuck. Lean out cocky, tip, tilt  
gulp! Swim with Elvis!

Caught in a keeper,  
bedrock notch concentrates flow,  
backwash forced upstream.

Maytagged! Brown maelstrom  
cold water no air now what?  
Become buoyant, breathe,

recirculate down,  
cycle up, clutch a thrown rope,  
stagger to the boat.

Don't you realize where  
you are? Edge of paradise.  
Stare back at that hole.

Fast water falls in,  
smooth supercritical flow  
dives, jumps, explodes, wave

curls, crunches upstream,  
submerges swimmers again,  
repeats endlessly.



Where's the escape route?  
Ball up, bottom current, crawl  
downstream past mayhem.

Or, stay in the boat,  
ride momentum through the wave  
across the boil line,

where flow breaks downstream.  
Placid waters await  
beyond the boil line.

Thanks for the rope, Mar'.

Slide off sneaky rock.  
Lost your glasses? Read the light.  
Listen. Watch shadows.

Beneath soft water,  
battle scarred monsters may lurk.  
Look for downstream Vees.

Subtle arrows light  
the way. Ride the tongue between.  
Stay centered, balanced.

Horizon line looms,  
hides healthy tributary,  
squirrely eddy lines,

engulfed in queer mist.  
Three pound snowflakes splat your face,  
Where did the sun go?

Catch an eddy, breathe.  
Slow your heart, settle quiet,  
simply sit. Wait.

Squall subsides. Sunlight clears mist,  
illuminates stream.

Crystal paths appear.  
Waves weave bright webs everywhere,  
so dance along, Fool!

River, rocks and rhythms,  
boogie down the gusto line!  
If you swim, we laugh.

Flash over a ledge,  
wave after wave washes clean.  
Sense the confluence.

Float a quiet pool.  
Brilliant sunlight still feels warm  
within a cold wind.

Whisper, "Thank you, Lord,  
thank you so much, oh, baby..."  
Scoop up empty cans.

Peel into current,  
giddy with adrenaline  
intoxication.

Where'd the big dogs go?  
Narrow notch, double curlers?  
Piece of cake, Snake. Watch...

Jeez, pushy surges,  
oops, oh shoot, now what? Paddle!  
Please God, get me through.

Duckie disappears.  
Nasty wave slaps you back  
and takes your hat.

Flatten, flounder, fly  
out somehow flop back in your  
boat, paddle in hand.

Hear cheers and laughter.  
"Good show, Moe. Keep practicing."  
Cough out water, laugh.

Float a quiet pool,  
snort out ice cream sinuses.  
Sunlight soothes ego.

What should I have done?  
Why did I freak out? How did-  
Stop. It's no big deal.

Nobody died. Breathe.  
Keep your eyes open, that's all,  
and don't miss the line.

Whisper, "Thank you, Lord,  
thank you so much, oh, baby..."  
Scoop up soggy hat.

Shivery whispers  
chilly shimmy up your spine,  
time to replenish.

Eddy out. Stretch. Drink.  
Enter hemlock cathedral,  
choir tranquility.

Lunchtime, oranges,  
simple, delicious, quenches.  
Focus in each stroke.

Shotgun sleet stings eyes,  
accumulated ice drags,  
eddy line snags you,

teeter toward root balls,  
entangled, damned choked channel.  
Breathe, relax, let go.

Rivers simply flow,  
carry their own loads, or not,  
follow hidden laws.

If tomorrow's storm  
flushes the system, so what?  
What do you do now?

Knock off paddle ice.  
Jagged needles flash wan light,  
flicker, disappear.

What good is anger?  
Systematically detach.  
Float into current.

Comfortable fog,  
sluggish subcritical flow,  
ordinary, slow.

Ahead, river splits,  
a blurry island, which way?  
Familiar? No, new.

Will weird waves eat me?  
Should I paddle? Walk around?  
Or maybe...float by?

That drop was nothing.  
Simply overreacted,  
didn't have to fight.

Floods create islands,  
carve channels, subside. Paddlers  
seek today's true line.

## \$20,000 - Class V



## \$15,000 - Class IV



## \$10,000 - Class III



## \$7,500 - Class II



## \$5,000 - Boof



## \$2,500 - Wave



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Become a member of the American Whitewater Enduring Rivers Circle,  
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American Whitewater in their estate plans.

*For more information about making a bequest to American Whitewater*  
CONTACT Carla Miner: 1.866.262.8429 or [carla@americanwhitewater.org](mailto:carla@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

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**Payment**☐ Credit Card ☐ Cash ☐ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

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# POETRY

Breathe snowmelt spiced air.  
Lungs fill, eyes tear, enlivened  
breeze arouses trees.

Red-lined young dogwoods  
whisper, shed clear ice tinkles  
on tomorrow's grass.

Gunmetal waves wink  
opalescent dollop eyes  
while light fairies flit.

Suddenly sunlight  
pulsates across frequencies,  
radiating waves

overlappingly  
harmonically symphonic,  
applauded by geese.

Diamond-kissed ripples  
dance in unfocussed focus  
wind water light stones

so many strange rhythms  
perfectly, purely attuned.  
Sweet sunshine still warms.

Now sing, "Thank you, Lord,  
thank you so much, oh, baby..."  
and wipe away tears.

Pristine solitude,  
drift away in reverie,  
look how far you've come.

Momentary lapse,  
missed signs for safe passage. Oops,  
unbalanced maelstrom!

Where's your lost center?  
Discordant frequencies seethe,  
too much energy!

Worst in memory,  
forgotten injuries scream,  
exploit fatigue. Help!

Atop frothy peaks,  
down the deepest deep, deep holes  
see Her sweet, sweet smile.

Humiliated,  
raw eyes released, surrender.  
She whispers "Paddle.

Listen, learn, let go."  
Current carries you skyward.  
Now bury those blades.

Brown walls fade away.  
Chuck strong headwinds, mind sharp  
chop,  
breathe, focus, paddle.

Climb up a wave train,  
critical flow, unity,  
roller coaster bliss.

Limitless power  
spirits your tiny boat up  
then down again up

while the canyon roars,  
uncaring roils bubble cold.  
Breathe. Focus. Paddle.

Multiple wave trains  
converge compete compound now

drums pound within you

thrum up through your seat.  
Primal rhythms awaken  
your own spiral beat.

Ferocious waves lash,  
flushes splash through your duckie's  
holey buoyant floor.

Hear the bad Cat laugh.  
River's end awaits. Who cares?  
Enjoy sweet sunshine.

So when will it end?  
There's a whole lot of water  
between now and then.

Delusive shadows  
disrupt sparkly displays, real  
threat or imagined?

Just purple faced clouds.  
Rhythms remain strong beneath  
puffy nothingness.

Hear a deeper roar?  
Few pass through Grand Finale,  
been known to break bones.

You've failed here before,  
spectacularly, often,  
still carry scars. Scout.

Start at the bottom,  
work back up to here. Got it?  
Line threads through white waves,

spiked wall river left,  
rocky garden river right.  
Head straight through the Hole.

Now release from shore,  
wear your boat, a second skin,  
feel current's caress.

Approach. Straighten. Float.  
Breathe. Focus. Line opens, go!  
Supercritical

flow pulls you inside,  
indigo beckons beyond.  
Paddle! Penetrate

shimmering sweet spot,  
become Her Song Ecstatic,  
dance through meaty joy

across the boil line!  
Now quiet, peace the norm. Soft  
waters rock your soul.

Mentors re-appear,  
happy to see you listened.  
Welcome home, brother.



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# AFFILIATE CLUBS

## AW'S ORIGINAL PURPOSE

BY CARLA MINER

American Whitewater's original purpose since 1954 has included distribution of information among its Affiliate Clubs. 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.

American Whitewater has two levels of Affiliate Clubs - a Supporting Affiliate Club or an Affiliate Club. Affiliate Clubs that choose AW's \$100 annual level are recognized in the AW Journal, on our website club page, and in our annually published Honor Roll. In order to be recognized at this level, a Club needs to maintain an annual \$100 contribution.

Affiliate Clubs that choose AW's \$400 Supporting Affiliate Club annual level are recognized in the AW Journal, on our website club page, and in our annually published Honor Roll as well as being listed as sponsors of an AW stewardship presentation each year. In order to be recognized at this level, a Club needs to maintain an annual \$400 contribution. A Supporting Affiliate Club can revert to the \$100 Affiliate Club annual level at any time.

An Affiliate Club that is already being recognized as an AW Lifetime member is recognized in the annual Honor Roll as a Lifetime member. They do need to contribute either at the \$100 or the \$400 level annually to be recognized as an Affiliate Club in the AW Journal and under the Affiliate Club heading of the published Honor Roll.

## Supporting Affiliate Clubs

### Alaska

Fairbanks Paddlers, Fairbanks

### Colorado

Dolores River Boating Advocates, Dolores

### Kentucky

Bluegrass Wildwater Asso, Lexington

### New Jersey

KCCNY, Flanders

### North Carolina

Mind Body Play, Asheville

### Ohio

Keelhaulers, Cleveland

### South Carolina

Foothills Paddling Club, Greenville  
Palmetto Paddlers, Columbia

### Tennessee

Tennessee Valley Canoe Club, Chattanooga

### Washington

Paddle Trails Canoe Club, Seattle  
Washington Kayak Club, Seattle

## Affiliate Club by State

### Alaska

Nova River Runners Inc., Chickaloon

### Alabama

Coosa River Paddling Club, Wetumpka  
Huntsville Canoe Club, Huntsville

### Arizona

Southern Arizona Paddlers Club, Tucson  
Thunderbird Outdoor Restoration  
Organization, Glendale

### Arkansas

Arkansas Canoe Club, Little Rock

### California

Auburn River Festival Club, Auburn  
Chico Paddleheads, Chico  
River City Whitewater Club, Sacramento  
Shasta Paddlers, Redding  
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Paddlers, San Jose

### Colorado

Colorado Whitewater Assn, Denver  
Friends of the Yampa, Steamboat Springs  
High Country River Rafters, Wheatridge  
Rocky Mountain Outdoor Center, Buena Vista  
San Miguel Whitewater Asso, Telluride  
Team Colorado Whitewater Racing Club, Longmont  
Upper Colorado Private Boaters Asso, Glenwood Springs

### Connecticut

Housatonic Area Canoe & Kayak Sq, Lakeville

### Delaware

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oak  
Wilmington Trail Club, Newark

### Georgia

Georgia Canoeing Asso, Atlanta

### Idaho

Idaho Whitewater Association, Boise

### Indiana

Hoosier Canoe Club, Brownsburg  
Ohio Valley Paddlers, Evansville

### Iowa

Iowa Whitewater Coalition, W. Des Moines

### Kentucky

Elkhorn Paddlers, Lexington  
Viking Canoe Club, Louisville

### Maine

Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society, Freeport

### Maryland

Baltimore Canoe & Kayak Club, Baltimore  
Mason Dixon Canoe Cruisers, Hagerstown  
Monocacy Canoe Club, Frederick

### Massachusetts

AMC Boston Chapter, Boston  
Zoar Outdoor, Charlemont

### Minnesota

Rapids Riders, Eagan

### 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

### New Jersey

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks

### New York

ADK Schenectady, Schenectady  
Flow Paddlers' Club, Rochester  
Outdoor Education/Base Camp, Hamilton  
Zoar Valley Paddling Club, Machias

### North Carolina

Carolina Canoe Club, Raleigh  
Landmark Learning, Cullowhee  
Providence Day School Paddling Club  
Tuckasegee Paddlers, Cullowhee

### Ohio

Columbus Outdoor Pursuits, Columbus  
Friends of the Crooked River, Akron

### Oregon

Lower Columbia Canoe Club, Portland  
Hells Canyon Shuttle, Halfway  
Northwest Rafters Association, Roseburg  
Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club, Portland  
Oregon Whitewater Association, Portland  
Willamette Kayak & Canoe Club, Corvallis

## **Pennsylvania**

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oak  
Benscreek Canoe Club, Johnstown  
Bradford County Canoe and Kayak Club, Sayre  
Canoe Club of Centre County, Lemont  
Canoe Club of Greater Harrisburg, Harrisburg  
Conewago Canoe Club, York  
Lehigh Valley Canoe Club, Lehigh Valley  
Mach One Slalom Team, State College  
Philadelphia Canoe Club, Philadelphia  
Wilderness Voyageurs Outfitters, Ohiopyle

## **Tennessee**

Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts, Limestone  
Chota Canoe Club, Knoxville  
Clean Water Expected in East Tennessee,  
Sevierville  
East Tennessee Whitewater Club, Oak Ridge  
Eastman Recreation Club, Kingsport  
Tennessee Scenic River Association, Nashville

## **Texas**

Houston Canoe Club, Houston  
Team River Runner, San Antonio

## **Utah**

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

## **Vermont**

Vermont Paddlers Club, Montpelier

## **Virginia**

Float Fishermen of Virginia, Sandy Hook

## **Washington**

BEWET, Bellevue  
Spokane Canoe & Kayak Club, Spokane  
The Mountaineers, Seattle  
Washington Recreational River Runners, Renton

## **West Virginia**

Dbl Z! Whitewater Club, Martinsville  
WV Wildwater Assn, S. Charleston

## **Wisconsin**

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

## **Wyoming**

American Packrafting Association, Wilson  
Jackson Hole Kayak Club, Jackson

## **Ontario**

Guelph Kayak Club, Elora  
Kawartha Whitewater Paddlers, The Kawarthas

## **Quebec**

Montreal Kayak Club, Montreal

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:membership@americanwhitewater.org) or sign-up online at [www.americanwhitewater.org/membership](http://www.americanwhitewater.org/membership).



# **AW** AMERICAN WHITEWATER

## Contribute your text and photos to *American Whitewater*

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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](http://americanwhitewater.org) > Library > AW Journal**







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This year is the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and I am calling to request your leadership in advancing legislation to establish new Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Expanding our system of Wild and Scenic Rivers is increasingly important as many of our most iconic fish and wildlife species are dependent on rivers, and opportunities to enjoy healthy rivers directly support the \$887 billion outdoor recreation economy.

Please support the protection of our nation's most treasured free-flowing rivers.

Thank you!"



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