

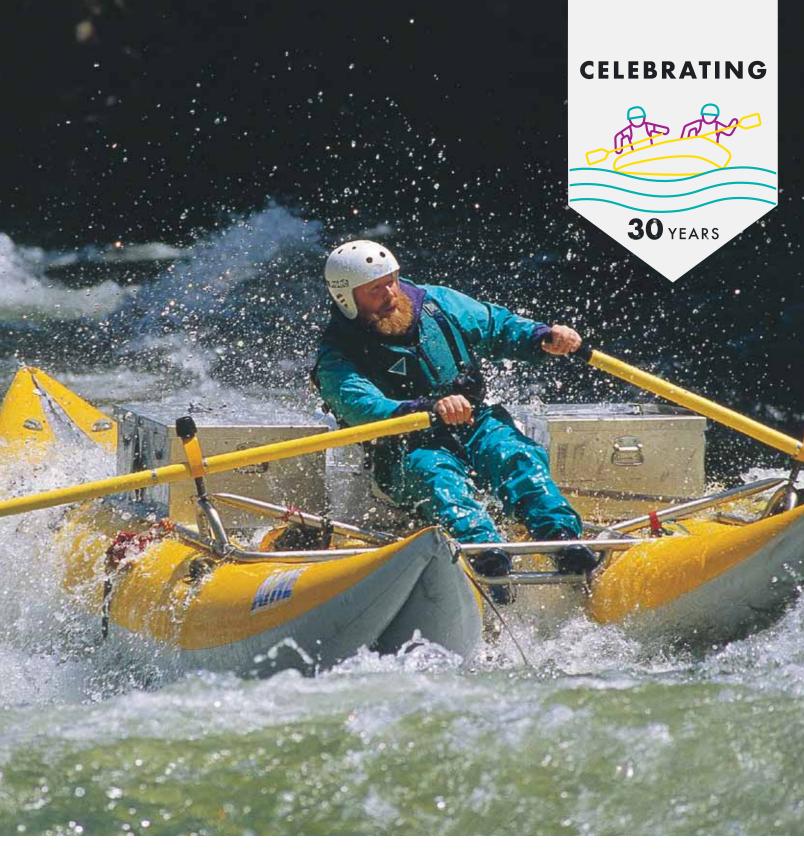
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Conservation • Access • Events • Adventure • Safety

BY BOATERS FOR BOATERS Jul/Aug 2019

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2018**

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# AMERICAN

### A VOLUNTEER PUBLICATION PROMOTING RIVER CONSERVATION, ACCESS AND SAFETY

American Whitewater Journal Jul/Aug 2019 – Volume 59 – Issue 4

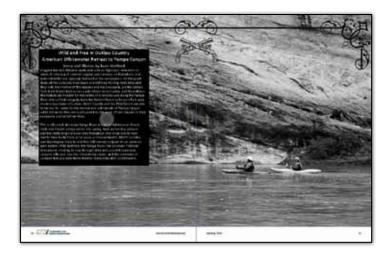
### COLUMNS

The Journey Ahead by Mark Singleton
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 News & Notes: Spring Website Update By Evan Stafford
 STEWARDSHIP
 Wild and Free in Outlaw Country by Evan Stafford
 Protecting Ecuador's Piatua River by Darcy Gaechter
 FEATURE ARTICLES

### SAFETY

50 Sure, I'll hold your beer...by Brad Walker







American Whitewater Board, staff, and friends visited the Yampa River Canyon, and Whirlpool and Splitrock Canyons of the Green River in northwestern Colorado and northeastern Utah earlier this spring. We came together to re-visit our successes and failures, and to look ahead. There's nothing like spending river time with colleagues to stoke the motivational fire and inspire collaboration and fresh approaches. The Yampa River is the last major free-flowing river in the Colorado River Basin and is under threat from potential water projects that would bring Yampa River water across the Continental Divide to the Front Range of Colorado.

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# PURPOSE

### **RIVER STEWARDSHIP:** AN INTEGRATED APPROACH

Our mission: "To conserve and restore America's whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely," is actively pursued through our conservation, access, safety and education efforts under the umbrella of River Stewardship. The only national organization representing the interest of all whitewater paddlers, American Whitewater is the national voice for thousands of individual whitewater enthusiasts, as well as over 100 local paddling club affiliates.

AW's River Stewardship program adheres to the four tenets of our mission statement:

CONSERVATION: AW's professional staff works closely with volunteers and partner organizations to protect the ecological and scenic values of all whitewater rivers. These goals are accomplished through direct participation in public decision-making

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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 toeroightem asley", AmericanWhitewater is amethershiporajnaiztion representing a broad diversity of individual whitewater enthusiasts, river conservationists, and more than 100 local padding 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 locological and science-based data toachieve 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. 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 internationallyrecognized American Whitewater Safety Code.

EDUCATION: AW shares information with the general public and the paddling community regarding

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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, paddling events, educational events, and through direct communication with the press.

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

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



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# **THE IOURNEY AHEAD**

N THIS ISSUE of the American Whitewater Journal you will find our Annual Report for 2018. This report highlights both our mission accomplishments and financial performance from the previous year. It is compiled annually after the organization concludes a comprehensive financial audit done by an independent outside firm. I'm very happy to report that from both a mission and financial perspective, American Whitewater has never been stronger.

Our celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act last year helped drive passage of the John D Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act this spring. As part of the Act. 621 miles of new Wild and Scenic Rivers were established and thousands of acres of land surrounding whitewater rivers were protected. This legislation was accomplished with strong bipartisan support and shows that the stewardship of our public lands and waters is important to both sides of the political aisle. American Whitewater staff played key roles in identifying river segments that were included for protection. It should come as no surprise to our readers that our staff knows rivers, and legislators trust our staff to provide accurate information. With the passage of the Dingell Act, we now have an open lane for additional legislation that protects wild rivers across the country.

With our growing financial resources, American Whitewater has been able to make investments in our team. Our staff is positioned around the country where we have active projects. This regional approach is a core strength of the organization. From a small administrative office in western North Carolina (honestly, most organizations our size have closets larger than our office), our team works collaboratively through digital tools to make our "everywhere all at once" model of regional stewardship work. Our decentralized approach also allows the organization to keep overhead costs low. As you can see from the financial statements in the Annual Report, \$.83 of every dollar spent is invested in our river

stewardship program. Thanks to this lean model, American Whitewater received our ninth straight four-star rating (the highest possible) from Charity Navigator for our financial practices and transparency. Only 2% of the nonprofits that Charity Navigator rates have received at least nine consecutive four-star evaluations. This designation from Charity Navigator differentiates American Whitewater from our peers and demonstrates our commitment to best management practices. It also means that you have assurance that your donation and membership dollars are put to good use and result in tangible gains for river stewardship.

A key part of our success is engaging volunteers; that engagement starts at the top, with a very capable and talented volunteer board of directors. Our board members come from across the country and an important element of board selection is ensuring that all regions have adequate representation. It's part of our board's role to communicate our regional river stewardship project work to local and regional groups so the paddling community understands what is happening in their backyard. Volunteers also assist with special projects and at events. Last year total volunteer hours came to 5,243 hours, roughly the equivalent of adding three fulltime staff members. American Whitewater also receives valuable assistance from probono attorneys who work closely with staff on pressing legal issues impacting rivers. In 2018, American Whitewater received over 400 hours of pro-bono legal services.

Finally, without the support of membership, and through our 100-plus-strong Affiliate Club network, none of this work would be possible. It's your membership in American Whitewater that drives these positive outcomes. Our barebones operating model, low administrative overhead, strong effort for organizational transparency, good governance, and volunteer engagement all lead to positive outcomes for river stewardship and are worthy of membership support. As we look to the future, our staff has a long list of projects that we would like to see movement on: new Wild and Scenic River designations, dams to remove, flows to negotiate on rivers affected by hydropower operations, new models to implement for water allocation, and river celebrations to host. All of us are encouraged by the passing of the Dingell Act and the new Wild and Scenic Rivers, but also that the Act passed with such strong support from both parties and is an indication that public lands and waters create common ground for all Americans to rally around in a time of divided government.

If you are reading this publication and you are not a member, please consider supporting this work. If you are a member, thanks for your support, pass this issue on to a friend and let them know what we are doing. There has never been a better time to support American Whitewater!

Take care of our wild rivers and they will take care of you.

See you on the river,

Monh

Mark Singleton Executive Director, American Whitewater



# ANY'S THE WORLD'S LARGEST PADDLING FESTIVAL BIGBGEST FUNCTIONS

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

# AMERICAN

# Annual Report

and is

Key negotiations took place in 2018 that lead to Wild and Scenic designation for parts of the Green River through Desolation and Labyrinth canyons in Utah. | Photo by Thomas O'Keefe

### Dear Members,

In the last year, American Whitewater led efforts to designate new Wild and Scenic Rivers across the country as part of an effort to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. In Montana. 21 mies of East Rosebud Creek were designated Wild and Scenic last August. This spring, over 620 miles of rivers were designated as Wild and Scenic Rivers when the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act passed through Congress and was signed by the President. This was all made possible by your support, assistance, and comments filed over the past year. This package of public lands and waters protections enjoyed incredibly broad public support, allowing committee members to feel comfortable bringing this to a vote as one of the first actions of a new Congress. Our community's strong showing of public support pushed this bill to the forefront and is a large reason it became law. It's a big win for the American people, who value their public lands and waters, and a huge success for American Whitewater.

With a special thank you to Charlie Walbridge, longtime American Whitewater Board Member, we established our first endowment to support safety education and outreach in 2018. 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. Our safety education and outreach endowment ensures that, over the long-term, additional staff resources can be allocated to manage and maintain our safety program. Additional donations to this endowment are being accepted and it's our aim to build this fund over time.

The board and staff of American Whitewater spent a great deal of time developing a strategic framework for the organization emphasizing a science-based approach to protect what we love, whitewater rivers! When we spend more time on rivers, we become better stewards and better advocates for their protection. Our vision is that our nation's remaining wild and free-flowing rivers stay that way, our developed rivers are restored to function and flourish, that the public has access to rivers for recreation, and that river enthusiasts are active and effective river advocates. To view our strategic framework visit, www.americanwhitewater.org > our organization > about AW > strategic framework.

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 ninth consecutive 4-star rating. Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that American Whitewater adheres to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes our mission in a fiscally responsible way. Only 2% of the nonprofits Charity Navigator rates have received nine 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.

Take care of wild rivers and they will take care of you,

Sm 4. Glutt

Manh Smyboron

Susan Eliott President, Board of Directors

Mark Singleton Executive Director









### **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:** Green River (NC), Weber (UT) **Collaboratively Managed Access:** 21 Rivers, 250.1 Miles Dams Defeated: Mascoma (NH), Skykomish (WA)

### **Access & Enjoyment**



New and Restored River Access: Sullivan Creek (WA), Tuolumne Ward's Ferry Take-out (CA)

**River Protections** 

Lawsuits Won Defending Whitewater Boating Flows & Access: Green River (VT) - Requires scheduled whitewater releases and sets precedent that under the Clean Water Act, whitewater boating is a legitimate existing use to be protected.



### **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.

### **Improving River Policy**

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

Through our outreach efforts, our members sent comments to key decision makers about designating Wild and Scenic Rivers, forest planning, and positive legislation for public lands.



New Wild and Scenic Rivers:



East Rosebud Creek 20 miles (MT) Wild and Scenic Legislation Introduced: Oregon Wildlands 256 miles; Lower Farmington and Salmon Brook 62 miles (CT); Emery County 63 miles (UT)\* **New Wild and Scenic Eligible Rivers:** Flathead National Forest 24 rivers, 284 miles

State Wild and Scenic: Mokelumne 37 miles (CA)

### Whitewater Resources



Website: 8.9 Million Unique Users, 9.4 Milliom Unique Page Views, 3 Million Sessions, River Safety: Upgraded National Whitewater Inventory and Accident Database with new desgin and improved user interface and alert system

### Your Support Is Our Fuel



Volunteers: 5,243 hours - the equivalent of 3 full-time employees Pro-Bono Lawyers: 404 hours - Tarrant, Gillies & Richardson (VT), Ropes and Gray (PA) Members: 5.864 (30.000 + Supporters) Affiliate Clubs: 100

"All introduced legislation became new Wild and Scenic Rivers with passage of John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, Spring 2019.



### **STEWARDSHIP**

### National

American Whitewater's approach to tackling national policy issues continues to become more sophisticated and our community continues to step up to be the voices our rivers need, a successful combination that gives us a say in the way our whitewater rivers are managed and protected. In 2018 we helped to designate new Wild and Scenic Rivers and set the stage for many more, empowered our community to secure more Wild and Scenic protections by participating in Forest Service Planning efforts, fought back against attacks on the Clean Water Act, pushed for legislation that would benefit recreation on public lands, and pushed back against rule changes that would curtail the public's ability to have a say in how their lands and rivers are managed. We went to bat for our important places last year, and working together with our many great partners, we found ways to succeed at a national level. We could not have done it without your engagement and dedication to the rivers we love to float.



American Whitewater implemented and analyzed a study on the Russell Fork River (VA/KY) to make sure paddlers have a voice in potential changes to this river's historic whitewater recreation releases. I Photo by Sarah Bubles

### Mid-Atlantic

When a call went out in 2018 for ideas about improving recreation in National Parks, American Whitewater answered the call and requested improved river access in several parks in the Mid-Atlantic region. We also secured a formal portage trail around Millville Dam on the Shenandoah River (VA) and completed and delivered paddler surveys to river managers on the Youghiogheny (MD) and Russell Fork (VA/KY) rivers to enhance access and flows, respectively. With parking space becoming an increasing issue at

Exploring and then documenting rivers hidden in the Flathead National Forest over a series of years resulted in new Wild and Scenic protections for 22 remarkable streams in 2018. Elk Creek hike and paddle. | Photos by Kevin Colburn







American Whitewater worked to restore flows to the Merrimack River (MA) and a number of other streams affected by hydropower dams in the Northeast region in 2018. We will continue this work as literally hundreds more projects in the region approach their relicensing. | Photo by Jeff Campbell



the Upper Yough take-out, we raised \$5,000 for the Town of Friendsville to expand the hard surface parking area, creating a long-term solution.

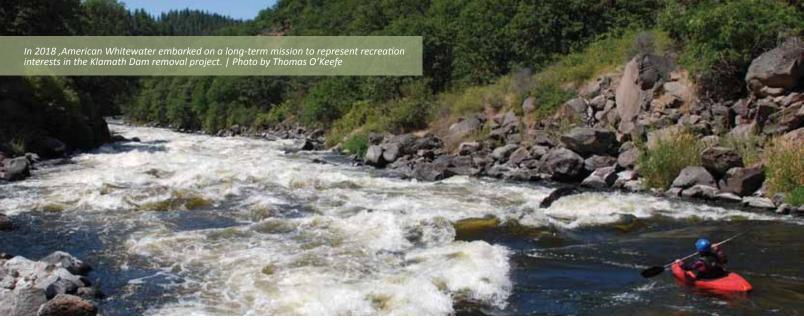
### Northern Rockies

After years of work helping to lead a coalition advocating for protecting East Rosebud Creek, in 2018 we celebrated the first Wild and Scenic River designation in Montana in over 40 years. We also celebrated 284 miles of new Wild and Scenic eligibility protections on the Flathead National Forest, based in large part on our research, documentation, and advocacy. We continued our Forest Planning work across the Northern Rockies, advocating for new wild and scenic eligibility protections for hundreds of miles of streams in the Lochsa, Clearwater, and Salmon River watersheds in Idaho and we also negotiated a new agreement for recreational flow releases on the Weber River in Northern Utah.

### Northeast

In the Northeast in 2018, we protected access and flows across the region, and helped lay the groundwork to secure Wild and Scenic designations for the Lower Farmington and Salmon Brook rivers early in 2019. On the Green River we successfully challenged restrictions by the Vermont state agency that would have largely eliminated whitewater boating opportunities, and established that whitewater recreation is an existing use on the Green River protected under the Clean Water Act during hydropower relicensing. We also protected access to the Contoocook River in Henniker (NH) and continued our advocacy for restored flows on dewatered reaches of the Connecticut River (MA/NH.VT), Merrimack River (MA), West Canada Creek (NY), and Mongaup River (NY).

We played a key role in securing a makeover for the take-out on the Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River (CA) at Ward's Ferry Bridge through the Don Pedro Hydropower project's relicensing. | Photo by Paul Martzen



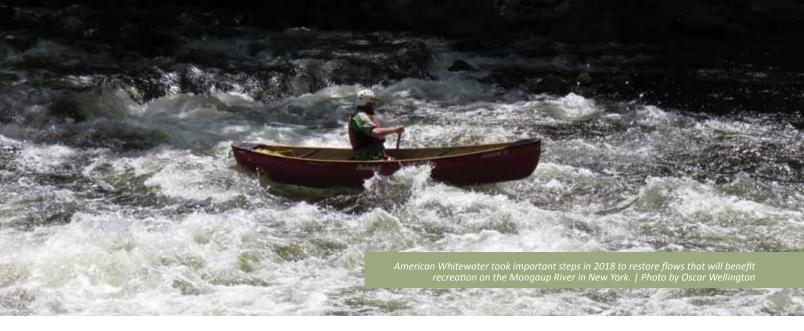
### California

American Whitewater had Wild and Scenic success at the state level in 2018, and in California helped secure permanent California State Wild and Scenic Rivers protection for 37 miles of the Mokelumne River below Salt Springs Dam, advocating for the extraordinary whitewater recreational values found throughout the watershed. We played a key role in securing \$12 million in capital improvements for the Wild & Scenic Tuolumne River take-out at Ward's Ferry Bridge through the Don Pedro Hydropower relicensing process. These improvements will include parking spaces, vault toilets, a vehicle service road, hardened pedestrian access trails on both sides of the river and an elevated hoisting platform for whitewater rafts. In addition to these capital improvements there will be on-site personnel and maintenance for the lifetime of the hydropower license. We partnered with Friends of the River to produce the film "You Can't Dam Your Way to Paradise," promoting the protection of the 7,000-acre San Joaquin River Gorge Recreation Area which is threatened by the Temperance Flat Dam Proposal. After 18 years of American Whitewater advocacy, a new hydropower license order issued December of 2018 provides boatable base flows throughout the year on the North Fork Feather River. The runs on this section consist of the Class V upper run, Poe Dam to Bardees Bar, and the Class IV lower run, Bardees Bar to the Poe Powerhouse.

In 2018, American Whitewater produced the short film, "You Can't Dam Your Way to Paradise," to inspire the movement to stop the proposed Temperance Flat Dam project from flooding the San Joaquin River Gorge Recreation Area. | Film shot and directed by Ben Cowan and Taliesin Black-Brown of Zephyr Visuals

# DAM YOUR WAY TO PARADISE



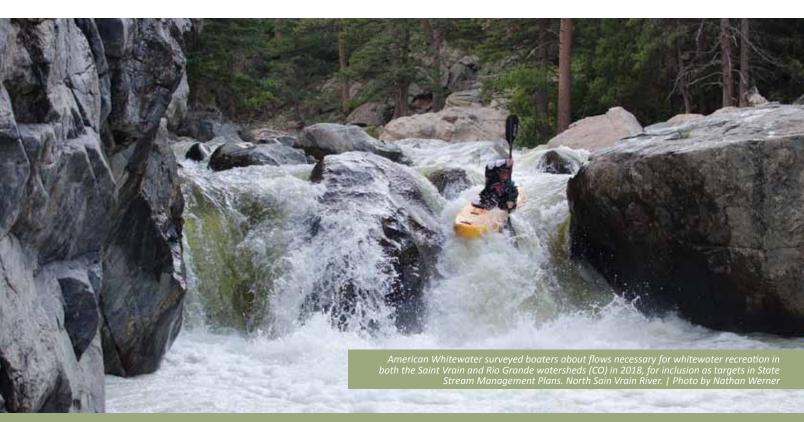


### **Pacific Northwest**

Looking back on 2018, our efforts to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by pushing mature legislative efforts across the finish line benefited the Pacific Northwest in a big way. We continued to protect the beauty and rugged nature of the Rogue Region with 256 new miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers including the Molalla and Elk Rivers, and tributaries critical to the health of the lower Rogue River. We successfully helped cancel two proposed hydropower projects on whitewater rivers in Washington State, the South Fork Skykomish and Similkameen. We partnered in the effort to close 340,079 acres in the Methow River watershed to new mining claims and we launched a process to ensure recreation is considered as a part of the Klamath Dam removal project, one of the largest river restoration projects in recent history.

### Southern Rockies

Across the Southern Rockies American Whitewater continues to play a critical role in adding protections for instream flows in rivers and for the watersheds they flow through. In 2018, we played an integral role in the negotiations that lead to the drafting of the bill that would become part of the John Dingell Act, designating 63 miles of Labyrinth and Desolation Canyons on the Green River (UT) as Wild and Scenic. Also included was a Recreation Area (389,731 acres) and Wilderness (661,445 acres) for Emery County, Utah including land around the San Rafael River and Muddy Creek. We continued our collaborative approaches to managing for recreation on the Dolores (CO/UT) and Upper Colorado (CO) Rivers, protecting and restoring boatable flows, and also launched flow preference surveys and boatable days analysis for Stream Management Plans in the Rio Grande and St. Vrain river basins.



### 2018 Statement of Activities

Revenue	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total 2018	Total 2017
PUBLIC SUPPORT				
Membership dues	\$ 416,365		\$ 416,365	\$ 415,254
Grants		\$ 354,274	\$ 354,274	\$ 399,499
Contributions	\$ 328,172	\$ 274,617	\$ 602,789	\$ 300,431
Sponsorships/Corp Programs	\$ 158,752		\$ 158,752	\$ 129,427
Events	\$ 120,868		\$ 120,868	\$ 119,782
In-Kind Contributions	\$70,350		\$70,350	\$84,015
Products	\$ 23,194		\$ 23,194	\$ 22,977
Advertising	\$ 5,905		\$ 5,905	\$ 20,885
Investment Gains/(losses)	\$ (2,490)	\$ (13,643)	\$ (16,133)	\$ 4,377
Interest & Dividends	\$ 12,593		\$ 12,593	\$ 2,317
Misc. Income	\$ 1,844		\$ 1,844	\$ 628
Net Assets Released from Restriction	\$ 451,584	\$ (451,584)		
Total Support and Revenue	\$ 1,587,137	\$ 163,664	\$ 1,750,801	\$ 1,499,592
EXPENSES				
Program Services:				
Access & Conservation	\$ 643,057		\$ 643,057	\$ 669,392
Public Education	\$ 575,512		\$ 575,512	\$ 500,159
Total Program Services	\$ 1,218,569		\$ 1,218,569	\$ 1,169,551
SUPPORTING SERVICES				
General & Administrative	\$ 174,133		\$ 174,133	\$ 176,522
Fundraising	\$ 77,967		\$ 77,967	\$ 49,582
Total Supporting Services	\$ 252,100		\$ 252,100	\$ 226,104
Total Expenses	\$ 1,470,669		\$ 1,470,669	\$ 1,395,655
Change in Net Assets Before Gains/(Losses)	\$116,468	\$163,664	\$280,132	\$103,937
Total Change in Net Assets	\$116,468	\$163,664	\$ 280,132	\$ 103,937





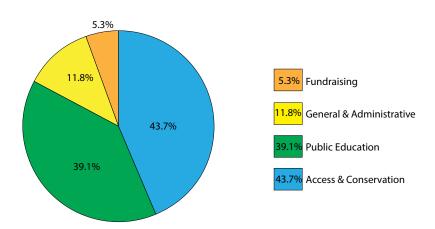


### 2018 Assets and Liability

Assets		2018	2017
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash		\$ 1,094,708	\$ 683,257
Accounts Receivable		\$ 9,075	\$ 8,530
Grants Receivable		\$ 92,376	\$ 105,926
Investments		\$ 532,959	\$ 290,206
Prepaid Expenses		\$ 18,761	\$ 12,955
Direct Deposit Funds Advanced			
Inventory		\$ 7,125	\$ 13,209
	Total Current Assets	\$ 1,755,004	\$ 1,114,083
LONG-TERM ASSETS			
Lands held for protection		\$ 58,317	\$ 58,317
Computer equipment, net		\$ 9,524	\$ 12,702
	Total Long-Term Assets	\$ 67,841	\$ 71,019
	Total Assets	\$ 1,822,845	\$ 1,185,102

Liabilities & Fund Balances		2018	2017
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable		\$ 30,501	\$ 23,838
Other liabilities		\$ -	\$ -
Deferred Revenues		\$ 382,606	\$ 1,500
Payroll Liabilities		\$ 33,187	\$ 63,345
	Total Current Liabilities	\$ 446,294	\$ 88,683
NET ASSETS			
Unrestricted Net Assets		\$ 879,523	\$ 763,055
Restricted Net Assets		\$ 497,028	\$ 333,364
	Total Net Assets	\$ 1,376,551	\$ 1,096,419
	Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 1,822,845	\$ 1,185,102

### 2018 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES



### 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.

> Barry Adams Rich and Stephanie Bowers Bob Brewer and Jonna Hussey Thomas J. Christopher Kent Ford Jennie Goldberg Joseph Greiner Christopher Hest Chris Hipgrave Dennis and Ginny Huntley

Brian and Maria Jacobson Karl and Jo Ann Koenig David Mason Carol Nelson and Douglas Wallower Douglas Pineo Norwood Scott Peter N. Skinner Peter Stekel

For more information about planned giving opportunities visit: www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/aw:planned\_giving\_program

### INDUSTRY PARTNERS

### Class V+ - \$50,000+

**KEEN Footwear Inc.** 

### Class V - \$20,000+

Pacifico REI

### Class IV – \$15,000

Kayak Session

### Class III – \$10,000

Dagger Kokatat NRS

### Class II – \$7,500

National Paddling Film Festival Salesforce Marketing Yakima Products

### Boof - \$5,000

Alpacka Raft Blackfly Canoes California Canoe & Kayak Cronin Inflatables Down River Equipment French Broad River Festival Jackson Kayak Klean Kanteen Liquidlogic Northwest Rafting Company Orion Coolers Pyranha US Watershed Werner Paddles

### Wave - \$2,500

Big Agnes Dagger Canoe Float Apparel Get:Outdoors Paddlesports Immersion Research Jack's Plastic Welding Mountain Buzz Nantahala Outdoor Center Renezvous River Sports Sierra Rescue Sweet Protection

### Eddy – \$1,000

Astral Buoyancy Co. Kayak Academy Mind Body Paddle Next Adventure River Runners Universal Joint Wild and Free Coffee Co.

### IN KIND DONATIONS

### \$20,000+

Tarrant, Gillies & Richardson

### \$10,000+

Ropes & Gray LLP

### \$5,000+

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### **Events and Festivals**

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### STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS

### National Policy

Clean Water Act Federal Recreation Policy Hydropower Policy and Legislation Hydropower Reform Coalition National Forest Planning National Monument Defense Outdoor Alliance Public Lands Package Wild and Scenic River Management

### Southeast

Catawba River (SC/NC) Chattooga River (NC/SC/GA) Cheoah River (NC) Coosa River (AL/GA) Green River (NC) Hiwassee River (TN) Nantahala River (NC) Nantahala Pisgah Forest Planning (NC) Nolichucky River (TN) Ocoee River (TN) Oconee River (GA) Tallulah River (GA) Tuckaseegee River (NC) Watauga (NC) Wilson Creek (NC)

### Mid Atlantic

Brandywine Creek (PA) Johns Creek (VA) New River Dries (WV) Potomac (VA/MD/WV/DC) Russell Fork River (VA/KY) Shenandoah (VA/MD/WV/DC) Susquehanna River (PA) Youghiogheny River (PA/MD)

### Northeast

Connecticut River (MA/NH/VT) Deerfield River (MA) Farmington River (CT) Green River (VT) Mad River (MA) Merrimack River (MA) Missisquoi River Releases (VT) Mongaup River Relicensing (NY) Office of Outdoor Recreation (MA) West Canada Creek (NY)

### Northern Rockies

East Rosebud Creek (MT) Idaho Forest Planning (ID) Lower Snake River (ID) Montana Forest Planning (MT) Owyhee River (ID) South Fork Salmon (ID) Sullivan Creek (WA) Weber River (UT) West Rosebud Creek (MT) Wyoming Forest Planning (WY)

### Southern Rockies

Arkansas River (CO) Colorado River Access (CO) Colorado River Basin Study (CO) Colorado River Water Plan (CO) Dolores River (OR) Eagle River/Gore Creek (CO) Gila River (NM) GMUG (CO) Green River (UT) Gunnison River (CO) Hanging Lake Access (CO) Rio Grande River (CO/NM) Saint Vrain River (CO) Slate River (CO) Temperance River (MN) Upper Colorado River (CO) White River (CO/UT) Yampa Flow Protection (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)



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WHITEWATER EVENTS: **Class V Tobin Race Class IV Lobin Race Class II Slalom Race** 

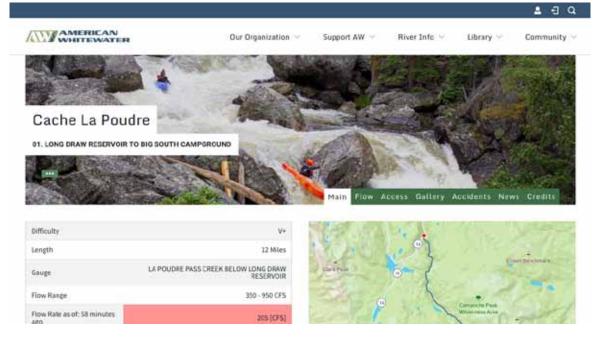


September 27, 28, 29

# **NEWS & NOTES**

### **SPRING WEBSITE UPDATE**

**BY EVAN STAFFORD** 



HANKS TO GENEROUS grants from W the US Coast Guard and significant Ir volunteer efforts American be Whitewater has created a new, modernized so version of our website that works across 30 mobile devices, has significantly updated Every programming systems, and works with our volunteer-created apps for both iOS and • Android. We want to acknowledge that the new version of the site has had numerous bugs, and to share that we have worked to • address them as quickly as possible. This work continues with a lean and dedicated team of volunteer and paid programmers. •

We'd like to thank all those who have • reported issues with the site to us. We discuss, rank, and tackle all the bugs we • are made aware of in order of importance. We still have quite a few known bugs we • are tackling, but feel free to let us know if something isn't working for you. Likewise, W if you have programming skills and would like to join our volunteer team please reach out to us. You can email: evan@ americanwhitewater.org. With this said, we hope paddlers are enjoying the new site, so the vast majority of which is working great.

Want to improve the National Whitewater Inventory pages? Log in with the arrowbox logo in the upper right corner of your screen, go to any river page, click on the 3-dot menu and select Edit This River (or Edit Flows). Then, you can, for example:

- Replace, pan, or zoom the banner photo
- Add alerts regarding wood or other heads-ups.
- Edit river descriptions
- Add photos
- Add/edit rapids
- Submit accident reports

We are working on enhancements and bug fixes related to mapping, depicting custom and multiple gages and flow ranges, treatment of gradient, photo uploads, and report submissions. Users may experience some challenges with these functions until we have them fully fixed. We appreciate your patience.

You might have noticed that we now have new maps, which highlight the river reaches as bold lines in addition to access areas and other points of interest. This is just the first step towards radically improved mapping functionality that we'll be rolling out over the next six months. You'll be able to view rivers by class and whether or not they are running, see gradient profiles, explore other background layers, and much more. Also in the works are enhancements to our apps, tightening up the site design, and a new river safety page.

This project has been a heavy lift by a small team. We are excited by the outcomes so far and by the enhancements in the works, even as we fix bugs and respond to questions about remaining issues with the site. Thanks for your patience, and enjoy the new AW site!

### Wild and Free in Outlaw Country American Whitewater Retreat to Yampa Canyon

Story and Photos by Evan Stafford Imagine the vast Western landscape with no highways, reservoirs or dams. It's the era of covered wagons and cowboys on horseback, and train robberies are regularly featured in the newspapers. All the great rivers of the Colorado River Basin are still free-flowing; they ebbs and flow with the rhythm of the seasons and the snowpack. On the Outlaw Trail, fresh tracks lead across a rain bitten desert valley, and the outlaws themselves are headed for the safety of a remote cave along the Yampa River after a fresh resupply from the Bassett Ranch in Browns Park near modern day Gates of Lodore. Butch Cassidy and the Wild Bunch are able to lay low for weeks in the remote and wild terrain of Yampa Canyon while the authorities are confounded by the maze of slot canyons in that expansive, uncharted territory.

This is still much the same Yampa River American Whitewater Board, staff, and friends visited earlier this spring. Well, minus the outlaws and the really long train and then horseback ride some would have had to have made from as far away as Massachusetts, North Carolina, and Washington State to visit this still-remote outpost of our national park system. Wild and free, the Yampa flows into Dinosaur National Monument, winding its way through deep and wooded sandstone canyons with epic beaches, thundering rapids, and the remnants of cultures that pre-date these frontier outlaws by 400–10,000 years.



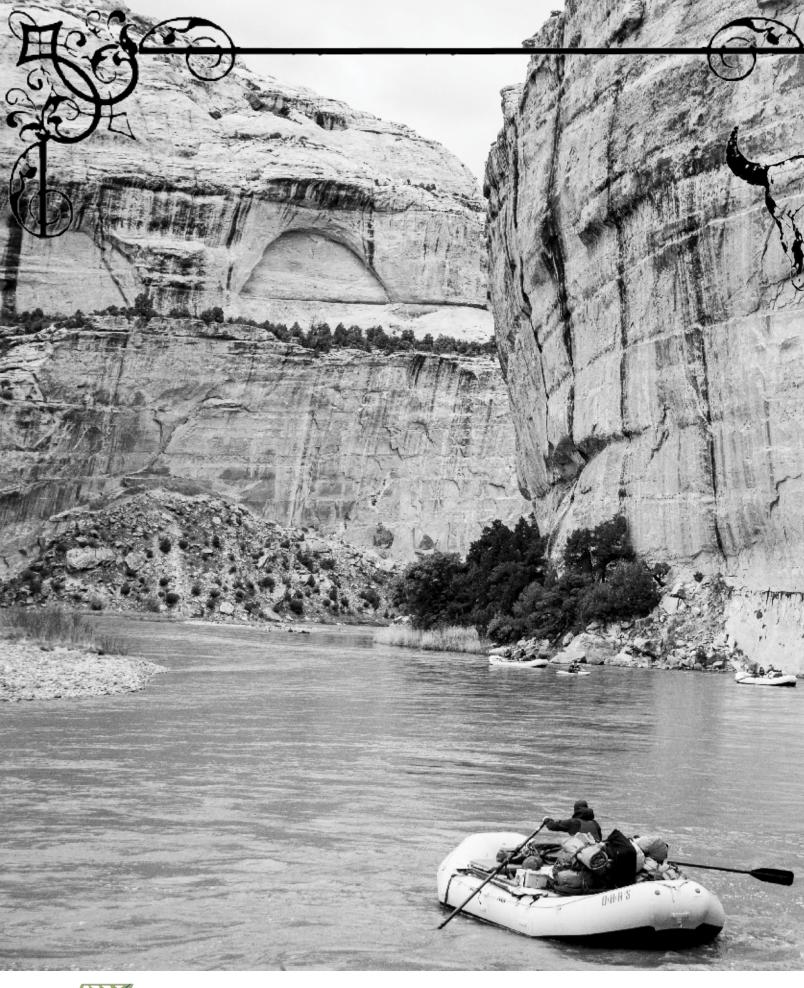


It could have been a very different Yampa Canyon we visited, had the still fledgling conservation movement blinked in the face of the onslaught of dam building in the post-World War II West. As part of the Upper Colorado Basin Storage Project, the Green River's Gates of Lodore and the Yampa River's Yampa Canyon were slated to be subdued with a single dam in Whirlpool Canyon shortly below their confluence at Echo Park. As the conversation over the dams heated up, American Whitewater was forming, and in our first Journal issue in 1955 we featured an article titled, Echo Park Dam Is it Needed Now? by Stephen Bradley. Epic photos by Harold Bradley and Dave Stacey helped bring the canyons to life. In the article, Bradley passionately argued for the preservation of a place that most Americans had not heard of. Even those who had heard of it mostly knew of the area's incredible dinosaur fossils, not the remarkable canyon landscapes the monument also protects.

"It is an area of primitive intimacy; of breathtaking grandeur, of lovely sand beaches, swimming holes, grassy banks, and sheltered groves of box elder and cottonwood trees," Bradley wrote. "Echo Park Dam will destroy these experiences and beauties forever."







Bradley's piece outlined a number of arguments against the dams including that areas designated as National Parks to preserve their natural vistas should not have their landscapes vastly altered by allowing dams to be built on their rivers. The article was part of a broader strategy developed by a coalition of conservation groups that banded together for the common cause of stopping the Echo Park Dam. They made two films that were screened in the halls of Congress, arranged raft trips through the Monument to demonstrate the unbelievable recreation opportunity these rivers provided and that running them was safe, persuaded Pulitzer winner Wallace Stegner to edit a book of essays called This Is Dinosaur, and landed coverage of the dam issue in numerous major national publications.

David Brower, executive director of the Sierra Club at the time, made one of the most notable contributions to the fight by double checking the Bureau of Reclamation's evaporation calculations, a task that demanded a skillset he was not trained in. The Bureau had asserted the narrow walls of the Green's Whirlpool Canyon would minimize evaporation from the reservoir. During a Congressional hearing Brower challenged this idea and the Bureau engineer's math, pointing out they had neglected to subtract a key figure in their calculations. Not long after, the Bureau admitted their error and it spelled a turning point for the removal of the Echo Park Dam from the Colorado Basin Storage Project. A provision stating that no dam or reservoir could be located within any national park or monument was also added, stopping multiple other planned dams in national parks across the West. For our American Whitewater team, visiting the Yampa Canyon was a pilgrimage to one of the birthplaces of the river stewardship movement, and one none of us will soon forget!

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## **INTERNATIONAL STEWARDSHIP**

#### **PROTECTING ECUADOR'S PIATUA RIVER**

**BY DARCY GAECHTER** 



"This will be the test for the future of Ecuador as a paddle sports destination." -Matt Terry, director of the Ecuadorian Rivers Institute

A ECUADORIAN COMPANY has been awarded what many believe is a questionable concession to build a dam on the remote and wild Piatua River. This hydro-project is a trans-basin diversion that would significantly de-water the last 20 kilometers of the river before its confluence with Anzu—the entire paddling section of the Piatua River. This project was not in the country's electric development plan and it bypassed many requirements during the environmental permitting process, including the consideration of recreational uses of the river.

Ecuador was the first country to give constitutional rights to nature. New development projects must prepare an

environmental impact statement, and complete a process of public participation with the affected population before they can be approved. Sadly, we did not see these considerations and requirements met on the Piatua hydro-project. If built, this dam would cut off fishing and water supply for indigenous communities and effectively eliminate recreational uses such as whitewater paddling. It would endanger a species of catfish endemic to the Piatua River as well as nine species of frogs that live in and along the river and are considered critically endangered and at risk of extinction. It would also cut off an important ecological corridor between the Andes Mountains and the lower Amazon River Basin.

Small World Adventures and the Ecuadorian Rivers Institute are embarking on a lastditch effort to stop this project because we believe the future of environmental protection and of whitewater kayaking in Ecuador depends on the outcome of this case. The ERI is fighting the dam in the courts and Small World Adventures is raising money to support this effort through a summer-long fundraiser and gear giveaway—100% of the money raised will be donated to the ERI.

The Piatua River is one of the most emblematic rivers in Ecuador and is a strategic resource for the conservation of biodiversity and ecological connectivity between the Andes and the Amazon.

## **INTERNATIONAL STEWARDSHIP**

The Piatua River begins in the highland paramo and cloud forest of the Llanganates National Park and links many important ecosystems. The Piatua is considered a "living laboratory"; more than 2,000 students from the Research Center of the State University of Puyo carry out studies on Amazonian biodiversity, conservation, sustainable agirculture, tourism, agroecology, and other research on the Llanganates-Sangay corridor.

The Piatua hydroelectric project is a transbasin, run-of-the-river power plant, without any regulatory capacity, which would divert up to 11.62 m3/s (410 cfs) of the Piatua River over to the Anzu River for the generation of up to 30 MW of electricity. This would leave approximately 20 km of the Piatua River, including the entire paddling section, dewatered during normal conditions. The river would be left with a residual flow of 1.17 m3/s, (41 cfs), and a small amount of additional input from side stream tributaries, which might add up to 3-4 m3/s (100-150 cfs) during normal flow conditions. A new access road is being built to the proposed diversion dam site through a national forest area, which was approved by the Ecuadorian environmental ministry.

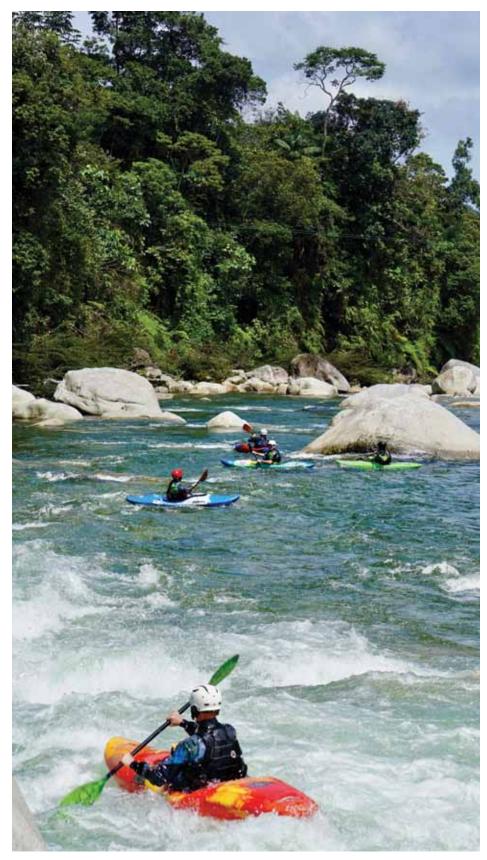
According to the Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources' information, the Piatua project is valued at approximately USD \$57M. They expect to have an annual production of approximately 61.02 GWh of electricity, which is equivalent to an average generation of 7 MWh and a factor of efficiency of 0.23 (23% of its installed capacity). Currently Ecuador has a large surplus of electricity production and only uses 47% of its installed capacity, which leaves many people questioning the need for this project.

An additional concern is that a large debris flow occurred in January 2017, which temporarily dammed the Piatua River just upstream of the proposed dam site, and then blew out in the biggest flood event observed in the last 20 years on the Piatua River. No formal geologic risk assessments were carried out in the project studies. A similar debris flow event would be expected to destroy the proposed river-wide dam structure.

On May 28, 2019, the NAPO RIVER FOUNDATION, together with the KICHWA COMMUNITIES OF SANTA CLARA (PONAKICSC), PACHAMAMA FOUNDATION, CONFEDERATION OF INDIGENOUS NATIONALITIES OF THE

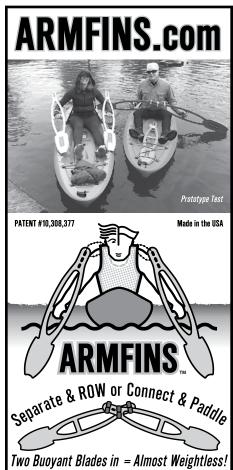






Paddlers are one of the few groups that can speak out in support of a freeflowing Piatua **Photos by Darcy Gaechter** 

ECUADORIAN AMAZON (CONFENIAE), and the DEFENDERS OF THE PIATUA RIVER, in coordination with the CENTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF ECUADOR and the Pastaza office of the PUBLIC DEFENDER OF ECUADOR, presented a constitutional demand to the Provincial Court in Puyo, Ecuador. The legal demand asks for protective measures to preserve the Piatua River intact in its natural state for the benefit of present and future generations. The communities feel that this hydroelectric project has serious deficiencies, errors, and omissions and that





it did not follow government laws allowing
public participation during the permitting process. Additionally, this project has violated the rights of the legendary Piatua
River, and the rights of the people who
use the river and depend upon it for their livelihoods. The case is expected to have begun on June 12th, 2019.

Paddling community, we are asking you to help us in our fight for the Piatua. Here are some things you can do:

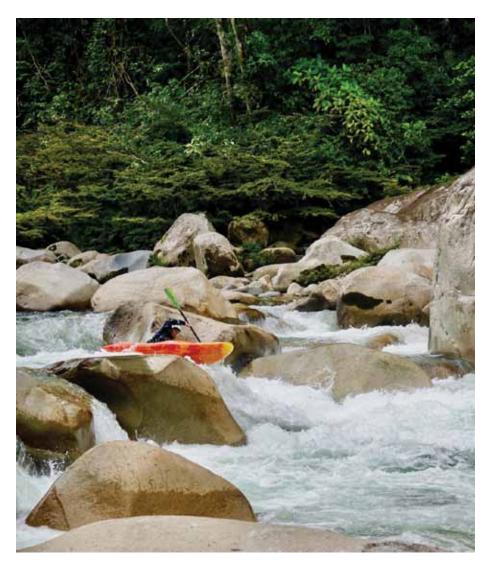
 Donate to our Save the Piatua fundraiser. The money raised in our fundraiser goes directly to support the legal action explained above. https://go.rallyup.com/savethepiatua

- Sign the petition in favor of keeping the Piatua free-flowing. http://chng. it/bCNNFRqtm4
- Share both the fundraiser and the petition on your social media outlets.
   The more we can spread the word the better!
- Come to Ecuador and paddle the Piatua! We want to show local governments that tourism is a viable and sustainable form of development. •

Plus, there's potentially more in it for you
when you help! When you donate to our
Save the Piatua Fundraiser, you'll have the
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Part of Rio Piatua threatened by the proposed dam Photo by Darcy Gaechter

 1-year subscription to Kayak Session Magazine (5 winners will each get a year-long subscription)

The future of the sport of kayaking in Ecuador is at stake here, but deep down, this isn't about whitewater kayaking. This is about stopping environmental destruction for the sake of greed and a few people enriching themselves at the expense of the many. This is about protecting habitat for all the humans and other creatures who call these places home, and about encouraging our leaders to have the wisdom to protect these environments for future generations.

We kayakers are part of a small, niche sport, and we make up less than 1% of the population (for most of us, this is the

only time we'll be considered part of the 1%). However, as people who are deeply immersed in rivers, we are in a unique position to advocate for these rich, natural treasures. We become attached to the rivers we love and we can easily imagine the nightmare of living without them. Because of our special perspective, we have a duty to stand up and fight for these rivers—not just for the sake of kayaking, but for the larger consequences that come from short-sighted development projects.

Thank you for your help!

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Tallulah Race 2016. | Photo: Emrie Canen



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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; as 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

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# SAFETY

#### SURE, I'LL HOLD YOUR BEER... BY BRAD WALKER



HAT ARE OUR moral and legal obligations when we know we are about to witness something that could end in injury or tragedy? Does the answer to this question change when we are known "content creators," even if just within our own small community?

This article will not answer these questions.

As a beginner whitewater paddler in early 2015, a good part of my river time was spent happily photographing more advanced paddlers and publishing these photos to the Internet. It didn't take long for folks to recognize this, and it began my evolution from passive audience to active participant in the days' paddling. My first wake up call to this transition was when a paddler stated a desire to run a waterfall during an autumn reservoir draw down. I knew I would be there shooting paddlers on the regular section, so I posted a note that if this were to be run, I would like to photograph it. Ultimately it was not run, which is good. However, I was later told that my offer to photograph the run was likely an initial factor in the paddler's decision to consider it. Lesson learned. Only mention I'll photograph paddlers AFTER I know they plan to run something.

A person on a rock with a camera inherently changes a rapid! Personal first descents are attempted, because of the promise that they will be documented. Or, to avoid the beater reel, conservative lines are taken. Tricks, to show off, are performed.

Many of these behavioral changes may be subconscious, however, I have been known to shout things such as "boof it" when sitting in a prime-spot with my camera poised. I've got a front row seat and, of course, I want a show!

It is the new normal. We are being watched. We are being broadcast. No T-grip violation, awkward off-side draw, shoulder-wrenching brace, or unintended pirouette shall be left to memories alone. This can be fun and even educational. It can also be a catalyst to increasing risk and decreasing sensibility with each passing year as the lens becomes emblematic of the peer pressure of thousands of socalled followers.



So how about this extreme scenario? When a pool toy shows up at a major rapid, what is the reaction? Whoo Hoo! Go for it! Yeah! There may be a few murmurings of concern, but generally all cameras are focused on that pool toy. The rider knows it, the Internet awaits it. The pool toy must run the drop.

The pool toy deflates and the photographic evidence suggests that the rider could very easily land in serious trouble if this giant rubber bag begins to fold over his head. Instead, the rapid ends, and everyone is happy. The Internet thinks its cool...more pool toys are purchased.

Am I an observer still? Is my publication educational? Does it inspire safety or insanity? What would Charlie Walbridge think if he had to start including an "audience factor" as part of his accident reports? I'm new to the community and am fortunate to have found that safety is a genuine and ongoing concern among the paddlers I have come to call friends. As such, I respectfully request that when you see a camera on a rock (or drone in the sky) that you throw tricks and ham it up, but continue to paddle sensibly.

Please join me in ceasing to photograph pool toys in

serious whitewater. There's nothing wrong with enjoying a spectacle as it plays out naturally, but none of us really want to be around when a non-boating "tuber" tells a buddy, "It'll be fine: I saw this on the Internet. Here, hold my beer...."



Deflated Fun: Presumably a leftover inflatable from 2017 caught in a stainer; obviously a craft not worthy of the Deerfield River (MA). Photo by Brad Walker

## No more renewal notices!



#### Sick of renewal notices in the mail?

Sign up for auto-renewal on your AW membership and you'll never get another. Your membership won't lapse and you'll be helping us save our limited funds and trees!

#### New and renewing members:

americanwhitewater.org/join Current members: 1-866-262-8429



## **AFFILIATE CLUBS**

#### AW'S ORIGINAL PURPOSE BY BETHANY OVERFIELD

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 an as Affiliate Club in the AW Journal and under the Affiliate Club heading of the published Honor Roll. Is your club missing from this list? It might have expired. Contact me at membership@ americanwhitewater.org to square your club membership away!

#### Supporting Affiliate Clubs

**Alaska** Fairbanks Paddlers, Fairbanks

**California** Gold Country Paddlers, Placerville Sierra Club Loma Prieta Paddlers, San Jose

**Colorado** Colorado Whitewater Assn, Denver Dolores River Boating Advocates, Dolores

**Georgia** Georgia Canoeing Association Inc, Winston

Kentucky Bluegrass Wildwater Association, Lexington

**New Jersey** KCCNY, Flanders

**Ohio** Keelhaulers, Cleveland

South Carolina Foothills Paddling Club, Greenville Palmetto Paddlers, Columbia

**Tennessee** Chota Canoe Club, Knoxville Tennessee Valley Canoe Club, Chattanooga

Washington

Paddle Trails Canoe Club, Seattle Washington Kayak Club, Seattle Washington Recreational River Runners, Renton

#### Affiliate Club by State

Alaska

Nova River Runners Inc., Chickaloon

Alabama

Coosa River Paddling Club, Wetumpka Huntsville Canoe Club, Huntsville

Arizona Outdoors Unlimited Flags

Outdoors Unlimited, Flagstaff

**California** Chico Paddleheads, Chico River City Whitewater Club, Sacramento Shasta Paddlers, Redding

Smith River Alliance, Crescent City

#### Colorado

Friends of the Yampa, Steamboat Springs Rocky Mountain Outdoor Center, Buena Vista San Miguel Whitewater Asso, Telluride Team Colorado Whitewater Racing Club, Longmont Upper Colorado Private Boaters Asso, Glenwood Springs Western Colorado University Whitewater Club, Gunnison Connecticut

Housatonic Area Canoe & Kayak Sq, Lakeville

**Delaware** AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, , Oaks (PA) **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 Blue Ridge Voyageurs, Rockville Mason Dixon Canoe Cruisers, Hagerstown

Massachusetts AMC Boston Chapter, Boston Zoar Outdoor, Charlemont

**Minnesota** Rapids Riders, Eagan

#### Missouri

Missouri Whitewater Assn, St. Louis Ozark Wilderness Waterways, Kansas City

#### Montana

Beartooth Paddlers Society, Billings Whitewater Kayak Club at Montana State University, Bozeman

Nevada

Sierra Nevada Whitewater Club, Reno

#### New Hampshire

AMC New Hampshire Paddlers, Raymond Ledyard Canoe Club, Hanover

#### **New Jersey**

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks (PA)

#### New Mexico

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico, Albuquerque

#### New York

ADK Schenectady, Schenectady Outdoor Education/Base Camp, Hamilton Zoar Valley Paddling Club, Machias

#### North Carolina

Carolina Canoe Club, Raleigh Landmark Learning, Cullowhee Mind Body Play, Asheville

#### Ohio

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 Willamette Kayak & amp; Canoe Club, Corvallis

#### Pennsylvania

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks (PA) 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 Keystone Canoe Club, Mertztown Lehigh Valley Canoe Club, Lehigh Valley Mach One Slalom Team, State College Philadelphia Canoe Club, Philadelphia

#### Tennessee

Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts, Limestone 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

#### Utah

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

Vermont Vermont Paddlers Club, Montpelier

#### Virginia

Coastal Canoeists, Richmond Float Fishermen of Virginia, Sandy Hook

#### Washington

BEWET, Bellevue Northwest Whitewater Association, Spokane Spokane Canoe & Kayak Club, Spokane The Mountaineers, Seattle

Washington, DC Canoe Cruisers Association

West Virginia

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

#### Wisconsin

North East Wisconsin Paddlers, Inc., Neenah Rapids Riders, Eagan 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

National Team River Runner

#### DISCOUNTED AW MEMBERSHIP FOR AFFILIATE CLUB MEMBERS

AW offers a discounted Affiliate Club membership of \$25, a \$10 savings. If you are renewing your AW membership or joining as a new member, select the Affiliate Club Discounted Personal Membership online at http://americanwhitewater. org/content/Membership/join-AW/ Or, if you are renewing or joining by mail or telephone just mention the name of the Affiliate Club you belong to and you can take advantage of the \$25 membership.

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

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

#### JOIN AMERICAN WHITEWATER AS A CLUB AFFILIATE! 10 REASONS TO JOIN AW AS AN AFFILIATE CLUB

- 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.
- Your club's members can become AW members for \$25. A \$10 savings!
- 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 bimonthly AW Journal.
- 8. Post Club information on the AW Website to help paddlers find you.
- Gain Club satisfaction from lending support to AW's stewardship efforts.
- 10. Improve your club members river karma.

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

# AMIERICAN

Contribute your text and photos to American Whitewater

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

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

americanwhitewater.org > Library > AW Journal

Photo © Evan Stafford, San Juan River, UT

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