



winter stewardship update | 2022



PLEASE SUPPORT AMERICAN WHITEWATER TODAY!

Big wins for our rivers are possible only through your membership and support. Your gifts directly protect and restore the rivers you love. We are a lean and efficient organization with twelve straight 4-star Charity Navigator ratings, and a strong track record of delivering for the whitewater community. You can give confidently knowing that your gift will be put to good use and continue to result in tangible gains for river stewardship.

We cannot do this work without you. Please join or renew, and give generously with a tax-deductible donation to American Whitewater today by visiting our website americanwhitewater.org, by mail utilizing the enclosed reply envelope, or by phone at 1-866-262-8429.

Taking Part in the Historic Restoration of the Klamath River: After nearly two decades of engagement on the issue, we expect the Klamath River dam removal to get underway in 2023 with all four dams removed by summer 2024. This tribally led effort is the largest dam removal project in history and will help improve water quality and restore fisheries. It will also create new whitewater runs, including through Wards Canyon, a section that has been dewatered for a century (pictured). American Whitewater has led the effort to ensure that hydropower-related river hazards are removed and that public river accesses are constructed as part of the dam removal process.

Straight Up the Best Way to Support the Whitewater Rivers You Love. Give to American Whitewater this Holiday Season!



Explore any personal first descents recently or know a run like the back of your hand? Come away with some great photos and/or a story to tell? Help American Whitewater advocate for rivers and share your fresh beta for future river travelers by adding one or more photos, alerts, opinions regarding flows and lines, and stories of specific descents as a trip report to our online river database at american whitewater org!



American Whitewater has been working on a series of studies to understand instream flow needs and access infrastructure on the Montreal River in northern Wisconsin. We are working with local volunteers to improve public access to the river, provide real-time information on instream flows, and schedule some opportunities for whitewater boating.

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A new take-out for the NF Nooksack, restoration of the road and formal access on the NF Skykomish, and public access to the White Salmon are all projects we will be working on in 2023. We'll be taking advantage of federal investments in recreation infrastructure like these across the country.



2023 is going to be big for flow restoration and river protection in the Southeast! The class III Great Falls of the Catawba will begin scheduled releases in March. Currently, Duke Energy is putting the finishing touches on AW-proposed trails and a unique manmade channel. Further up in the mountains, we'll be pushing for new river protections in North Carolina and Tennessee.



As we confront a drier future in the Southern Rockies, American Whitewater is working hard to protect our free flowing rivers, like the Gila and Crystal, by advocating for wild and scenic designation, while also advocating for preserving and enhancing environmental and recreational values in the Colorado River basin during the process to determine future reservoir operations at Lake Powell and Lake Mead which begins in early 2023.



American Whitewater is working to protect and expand boating opportunities on the Beaver, Black, and Moose rivers in New York where dozens of dams are up for relicensing for the first time in 30 years. These popular Northeast rivers draw thousands of paddlers of all abilities each year.



Our project slate in the Mid-Atlantic is all about access right now. American Whitewater is working to support trail improvements on the Lower Yough (pictured), to open Montgomery County, Maryland parks to paddling, and we continue to work with Harpers Ferry Historical Park to explore river access options on the Shenandoah River.



Our Montana Headwaters Legacy Act, which would designate twenty awesome whitewater rivers as Wild and Scenic, is moving through the congressional process thanks to public support. We'll need your help to keep pushing this landmark bill forward. Influencing National Forest Management plans to benefit rivers in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Utah will also be a focus in 2023.