

The Oregon Whitewater Association brings private boaters together for the enjoyment of whitewater boating. Our vision is to promote whitewater safety and training for all of our membership in an effort to provide safety awareness and confidence when executing river rescue skills. OWA is the community of choice where fun and river adventures thrive and where people and rivers connect.

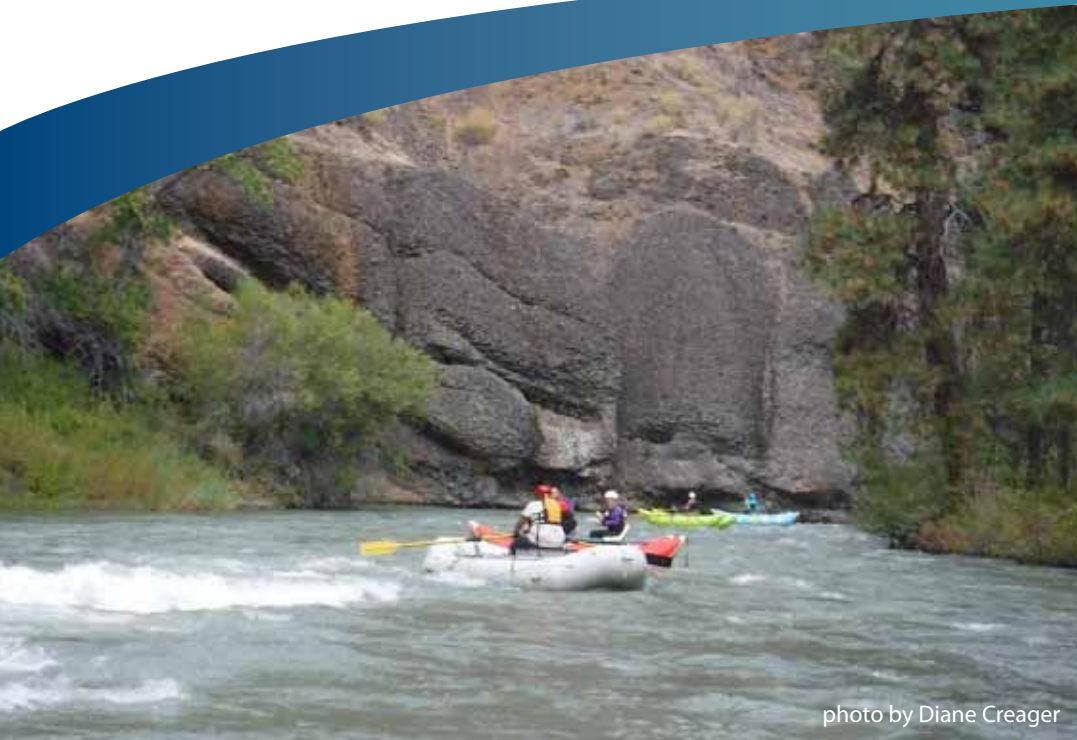


photo by Diane Creager

## The Tieton River Submitted by David Elliott

The Tieton River. It's dusty. It's crowded. It's inconvenient. Yet, in the middle of September boaters flock to the Tieton. It's not uncommon to see a thousand people on the Tieton in mid-September when the flows peak.

There are 3 times each year that the Tieton runs. In May, the reservoir fills up and spills over. For a few weeks, depending on weather and snowpack, people run the Tieton while the flowers are in bloom and the trees are bright green. Around the 4th of July, there is a special dam release that lasts a few days, and locals often take advantage of this. But September is the time most people run the Tieton. Most of the summer, the Lower Yakima Valley gets water from the reservoirs near Snoqualmie Pass - Keechelus, Kachess, Easton, and Cle Elum all contribute water to grow fruits and vegetables. But in the winter, these do not run, and if fish lay their eggs in September, they would be stranded in the dry parts of the river bed. In order to prevent this, the Upper Yakima reservoirs are turned off, and the water for the Lower Yakima Valley comes from Rimrock Reservoir down the Tieton River.

*Continued on page 4*

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### October Club Meeting:

*Flying Pie Pizza*  
7804 SE Stark Street  
Portland, OR 97215

*Speaker: Tony Deis*  
(see page 13 for bio)

Wednesday,  
October 12, 2016  
from 6:00-9:00 PM

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## River Tip

I recently had a GREAT experience with TentPole Technologies in getting a replacement pole and one repaired. They specialize in repair and replacement of Aluminum, Carbon Fiber and Fiberglass tent poles. They also do custom tent pole fabrication, conversion to lightweight aluminum, carbon fiber and refurbishment of older / hard-to-find poles too. TentPole Technologies replace poles for all major manufacturers' tents using only the highest quality shock cord, aluminum and fiberglass materials.

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[www.tentpoletechnologies.com](http://www.tentpoletechnologies.com) or call 360.260.9527 for more information including prices. They will help identify the specific poles needed and quote a replacement. They have over 30 years of experience and are REI's official tent-pole resource.

- Cary Solberg

**Do you have something you would like to submit to the OWA Newsletter?**

Contact Michele Gila at

[VicePresidentNewsletter@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:VicePresidentNewsletter@oregonwhitewater.org)

To show our appreciation and to encourage future contributions, the Oregon Whitewater Association will have an annual drawing for \$150 gift certificate to one of the OWA sponsors. Every member who submits written material that gets published in the newsletter will automatically be entered into the drawing.

## The Value of OWA

by Bruce Ripley

One of the interesting things is the questions you get from potential members as well as existing members. Some of those are about equally distributed like "How do we pay for all the meetings and food" or "How do we pay for the safety program". Those generally have simple answers and are asked by new and existing members alike. Most of those questions are answered at the meetings, on our website, or by email.

There is one question that's a bit more interesting in how it's asked "What's the value of joining OWA". We get that one from potential members quite a lot but we almost never get it from an existing member. There are several reasons for that but one of them is that once you are a member it becomes clear what OWA is all about and you either stay on as a long-time member or you quickly move on to some other endeavor. We have a page on the website that talks about the values to you from joining OWA (<http://oregon-whitewater.org/about/join>) and it talks about some of the obvious reasons but I think there's more to it.

One of those things was set very clear in my mind this week and I thought it was a really positive story to share. A member of boating community was on a forum for Northern California Boaters and noticed a posting about a lost camera found on Rogue river over Labor Day weekend. That boater sent me a personal email and I sent out a broader announcement to H2OAddicts. One of things that's associated with your membership is being able to use the H2OAddicts email list server and it can be pretty powerful at times. In this case, I received a response less than 5 minutes later that one of our boaters had been on a trip that weekend on the Rogue and that one of their party had lost the camera. I hooked up the camera's owner, a young guy on his first overnight rafting trip, with the boater who found the camera and the two are well on the way to being re-united! So what's the value of being a member? Well for one it gives us all a great feeling of accomplishment when we are able to end stories like this on such a positive note, but it also allows you to stay in contact with other boaters even when you don't know them. Great story! Happy Ending! Safe Boating!

## OWA Meetings

Have you been to a meeting recently? If not you should consider coming down. It seems like everyone has been especially busy this summer and fall but there is nothing like getting together with some of your friends to eat FREE (well sort of free) pizza and tell stories that start something like "No... this really happened..."

I've had several new or potential members talk to me recently about meetings and I've told them the same things as I'm putting here "the best way to learn about boating or to get invited on a trip is to come to a meeting and introduce yourself to some like-minded folks that enjoy boating themselves." If you are new or have not been to a meeting in a while then come on down

## OCTOBER MEETING

*The next meeting will be at Flying Pie Pizza in Portland. Please plan to come out and join us for our monthly meeting and speaker. We are looking forward to seeing you there!*

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[www.oregonwhitewater.org/dues.html](http://www.oregonwhitewater.org/dues.html)

# Tieton River Trip Report



photo by Diane Creager

## *Tieton River Trip Report: Continued from page 1*

Typically, the Tieton releases start in late August. Flows ramp up into September, usually peak on September 15, and then ramp down, becoming too low to boat by the second weekend in October. I've run the Tieton as early as August 24 and as late as October 6. There have even been years when the flows went down and then came up again late in September because of water needs.

The main section of the Tieton starts in the area just above Tieton Reservoir Road and ends at Windy Point. This is about 11 miles and consists of fairly consistent class II water with several harder rapids: Hause Creek, Wild Rose, Willows, The Dam, High Noon, and Waffle Wall. There are other named rapids that nobody remembers (like the ones named for video games), and lots of other small rapids. Because of the crowded takeout and the Discover Pass requirement, many people take out downstream. The most popular alternative takeout is The Beaver Pond, about 4 miles downstream. This takeout has lots of parking, but the takeout is small and you might have to contend with commercial boats taking out there.

*Continued on page 5*

## *Tieton River Trip Report: Continued from page 4*

The lower section runs from Windy Point to Tim's Ponds, which is about 11 miles, as well. This section is not run as frequently, as the river is calmer and only has one major rapid. However, the scenery is very nice and it's definitely worth doing this section at least once. One of the things you can see as you float the lower section is the Tieton ditch, which takes the water diverted from the river at the dam down the canyon to Tim's Ponds, where a pipeline takes it East to the town of Tieton, high atop the canyon.

The upper section can be extended by a little over a mile, which adds 5 fast class III rapids. There are put-ins on either side of the river upstream. Most people avoid the river right put-in after they hear about the 20-minute drive on the terrible road that requires a 4 wheel drive vehicle. While I'm glad to have the put-in mostly to myself, it's actually less than 10 minutes (we timed it) and I've driven up there in a 2003 VW GTI and had no problems. In recent years, people have even started to run this section at the end of the day, since it packs in more whitewater than half of the run downstream.

Does anyone ever run the Tieton into the Naches? People rarely do, and in most cases it's by accident. I ran it twice one weekend many years ago, and I don't think it's worth the trouble. It has very few rapids, most of which are blind weirs, and a mandatory portage. There are no good takeouts, and not many adequate ones.

The Tieton Rally, an event shared by OWA and WRRR, is held the weekend closest to September 15 to get the best flows. For 2016, this was September 17 and 18. This was a special trip for me, as my wife Toria and I were married on September 16 and brought our family out to the Tieton for our wedding float.

The flow was around 2000 cfs, which is a great flow for rafts. We ran from the upper put-in down to The Beaver Pond. This was my first time rowing a raft with 4 paddlers (and only the second time in my new raft), so it was a learning experience right off the bat. There were a few close calls, a minor bruise (which I am not expecting to live down), and a destroyed flip line, but we made it fine and everyone had a great time.

The camp was very crowded. This was partly due to Hause Creek Campground being closed for sewer line problems. Another factor is the RVs and camper trailers. Ten years ago, these were a rare sight at the Tieton, but recently a lot of people have been bringing them in. Another factor is the party put on by Alpine Adventures rafting company. This huge party attracts lots of people, but it can be noisy late into Sunday morning, so a lot of people look for camping spots away from the put-in. We made it easy on ourselves and stayed at a nice bed and breakfast in Naches.

We have also taken advantage of the long Tieton season and the fact that it's only a couple of hours from home. We've run it every weekend in September, and are hoping to get in a last run in early October. Then it's back to local boating until next summer!

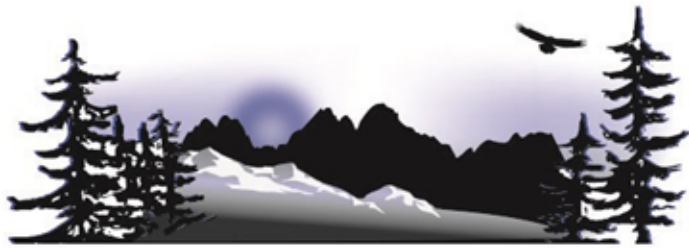
# SOLVE Molalla River Cleanup & Enhancement



Molalla River Watch is pleased to invite you to join us for our 24th Annual Fall Cleanup! Volunteers will meet at Feyrer Park for registration, then disperse to the beautiful Molalla River Recreation Corridor and other public river access sites near Molalla. Activities will include trash cleanup along the Molalla River, possibly planting native trees & shrubs, removing invasive weeds, or trailwork on the Molalla River Corridor shared-use non-motorized trail system. There will be a barbecue back at Feyrer Park for all volunteers. Activities include: Invasive Plant Removal, Litter Cleanup, Native Planting, Maintenance & Monitoring, trail work.

REGISTER HERE: <http://solveoregon.org/get-involved/event-registration/27921>

- **When** Saturday, 10/08/2016 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
- **Where** Feyrer Park 16185 S. Feyrer Park Road. Molalla
- **Directions** From Hwy 211 on the east side of Molalla, head SE following signs and S. Feyrer Park Road to Feyrer Park.
- **Meeting Spot** Plenty of parking available and parking passes will be provided to volunteers. Feyrer Park covered area, Area 2
- **Safety issues** Traffic, Steep Slopes, Water Body on Site, Hazardous Materials/Needles, Active Camp Site, Poison Oak, Mechanized Equipment Use, Heavy Lifting, Uneven or Slippery Ground
- **Minimum age** No minimum age
- **Coordinator** Asako Yamamuro [MRW@molalla.net](mailto:MRW@molalla.net) 503-559-0885
- **Registration Questions** Kaleen Boyle 503-844-9571 x332 or 800-333-7658 x332 [kaleen@solveoregon.org](mailto:kaleen@solveoregon.org)



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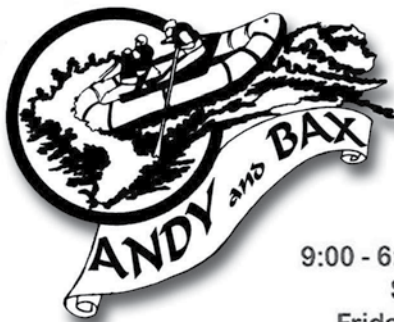
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# BUNGEE jumping



## Passengers - 2 legged or 4 legged

*Submitted by Dan Hudson*

We all occasionally have passengers on our rafts. Often we forget they may not have any experience, training, or knowledge of the dangers associated with moving water. Certainly, the 4 legged varieties are just our good trusting friends who possess a limited amount of ability to communicate – but they love and trust us implicitly and love to tag along with our adventurous hobbies. Our responsibilities to kids, adults, and our pet passengers is infinite, and often we forget to make them aware of what to expect, and what we expect them to do in case of an unplanned ejection from our comfortable raft.

I speak from experience when I say don't forget to brief your crew on your rafting safety expectations, and what to do in case of an unplanned swim. I experienced a very unplanned flip at high water on the Wenatchee River, and had not briefed one of my passengers on what happens in such an incident. Fortunately, Shanna was along for the swim and took charge of our friend and facilitated a team rescue for our passenger. Once we spoke after the flip I was flabbergasted I did not think to brief a trusting passenger on my raft.

The basic #1 rule for recreating on moving water is always rig to flip and dress to swim. That said, always conduct a group safety meeting before embarking on your journey, followed by a personal briefing with anyone who is going to ride in your chariot. Re-emphasize with your passenger about the safe swimming position (On your back, with your feet on the surface and oriented downstream). Discuss swimming to safety, meaning swim aggressively to the closest safe place – the raft or the shore. Discuss what makes the raft or the shore a safer choice. Discuss how they can self rescue back onto your raft, as well as orienting their body position relative to the raft – always keeping the raft on the downstream side of their body. Emphasize PFD safety and ensuring your passenger's PFD is correctly worn at all times on the river. Double check the PFD tightness every day and after every stop.

Rafting with children creates a whole other topic I will discuss in a later newsletter. The basics involve making sure children follow the above described safety tactics. It is imperative kids are exposed to swimming in current prior to debarking on a rafting trip. Take the time to teach kids safe swimming practices in moving water. Build up their experiences and capitalize on making them swim in the safe swimming position. Teach them to roll in the current and to keep their legs elevated and near the surface of the current. Appropriate PFD sizing is imperative, as well as PFD typing. Make sure the PFD is US Coast Guard Approved and a minimum Type III construction. A passenger's placement in a raft can improve or reduce safety. Bow riding or riding on the stern creates exaggerated tube movement which can cause unexpected ejections from the raft. Riding mid-raft or immediately behind a midframe oar operator is the safest place when entering drops or pushing through a hole. A final recommendation – if a child is ejected from the raft, a swimming rescue may be the only way to retrieve them. Before heading down the river, assign a responsible person as safety for each child on your raft. This person would be responsible to perform a swimming rescue of a child, or be prepared to leave your raft and perform the rescue yourself if needed.

*Continued on page 9*



## *River Safety: Continued from page 8*

Passengers of the 4 legged variety are a joy to have on the river. We frequently bring our 100 pound Aire-dale named Virgil on our trips. He is very trusting and does not want to be left behind. A PFD is a must for our pets, just like our human passengers. Care must be taken to appropriately fit the dog with a proper PFD. Select a PFD with sufficient flotation for the weight of your dog. Pre-trip test the PFD on your dog to make sure the PFD will float them in current. Do your research so you know what you are getting. Some of the dog PFDs on the market do not have enough flotation to keep your best pal afloat if they were to stop swimming or if they end up in a water hydraulic with heavily aerated water. Make sure the PFD has a handle to enable lifting the dog back onto the raft. Ensure the PFD is the appropriate size for our buddy so it allows for freedom for swimming legs and securely attaches around your dog.

Our Virgil has been ejected off the raft on 3 occasions in various levels of rapids (Class 1 where he fell asleep and rolled off, a class III rapid on the Middle Fork of the Salmon, and recently on a class IV rapid on the Deschutes). As we experienced with Virgil, a dog's first inclination when ejected off the raft is to swim to shore. Shore is not necessarily the best place for them to go, so you have to train a dog to swim back to the raft. Virgil has had 'swimming lessons' on rivers, and has been taught to recall to the raft. Having the handle on the PFD enables you to grab and hoist your dog back on board. Be leery about swimming alongside your pet as their legs and claws are continuously moving. Your best retrieval method is to hoist them back on board, or row to shore and remount with the assistance of land.

Be safe on the water!

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Oregon Whitewater Board Report

Membership Status

Members	Paid Behind	Year					Current Total
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2099	
Total	62	207	47	15	2	7	278

Club Financial Status

Opening Balance	Current Balance	Budget Projection		
		Income	Expense	Balance
\$18,000	\$22,000	\$21,000	(\$22,000)	\$17,000

\* All values rounded to the nearest \$1,000

Current Financial Status (2013)

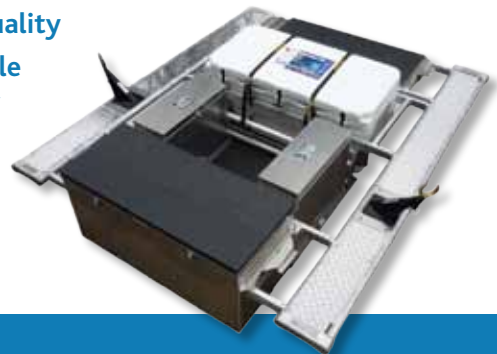
Amount	SubCategory	FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015		FY 2016	
		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Member Dues		\$6,810	\$5,768	\$8,400	\$7,028	\$6,891	\$7,028	\$3,694	\$6,664
Advertising		\$1,600	\$1,800	\$1,600	\$1,700	\$1,760	\$1,600	\$1,800	\$1,800
River Trip		\$378	\$1,300	\$1,112	\$480	\$821	\$736	\$459	\$810
eCommerce		\$680		(\$273)		\$917		\$98	
Adjustment		(\$135)		(\$6)		(\$6)		\$0	
Charity		(\$150)	(\$500)	(\$150)	(\$500)		(\$500)		(\$400)
Fees		(\$140)	(\$219)	(\$971)	(\$1,055)	(\$1,120)	(\$1,055)	(\$1,090)	(\$1,055)
Safety Training		(\$1,484)	(\$1,965)	(\$367)	(\$2,190)	(\$395)	(\$2,522)	\$2,649	(\$808)
Miscellaneous		(\$267)	(\$800)	(\$578)	(\$1,100)	(\$1,737)	(\$1,100)	(\$564)	(\$2,950)
Newsletter		(\$1,664)	(\$1,600)	(\$1,993)	(\$1,600)	(\$1,500)	(\$1,600)	(\$1,751)	(\$1,600)
Meeting		(\$2,601)	(\$2,550)	(\$2,846)	(\$2,650)	(\$3,159)	(\$2,975)	(\$1,590)	(\$3,475)
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$3,027</b>	<b>\$1,234</b>	<b>\$3,928</b>	<b>\$113</b>	<b>\$2,474</b>	<b>(\$388)</b>	<b>\$3,705</b>	<b>(\$1,014)</b>



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## INGREDIENTS

- 2 large ears fresh corn, grilled with olive oil
- 4 large heirloom tomatoes any colors but the more the merrier, chopped (see below)
- 8 fresh figs cut in half, then quartered
- 1/2 cup red onion, minced
- 1 cup cilantro, chopped
- 2 green onions, minced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 jalapeño pepper, minced (use less if necessary. Pepper lovers, experiment as you choose. Serrano would be a tasty alternative. I used a red jalapeño.)
- 1 tsp sea salt or to taste
- juice of 1-2 limes (just depends on how limey you like it)
- fresh ground black pepper to taste



## Roasted Corn & Fig Salsa

*Submitted by Michele Gila*

## DIRECTIONS

Grill your corn with a little olive oil brushed on the corn so it doesn't stick. Once cool, cut kernels from cob and toss into large bowl. If you really enjoy corn, you could double the quantity and then use 2 limes.

For your tomatoes, you're going to cut them in half through the middle, as opposed to through the stem. Then over the sink, gently squeeze each half so the seeds spill out. This ensures your salsa doesn't get too watery. Some seeds are a-ok. I used a colorful mix of green zebras, sun golds, & cherokee purples. Then dice into bite sized bits.

Prepare all of the other ingredients with the goal being to get the bits into bite sized pieces when combined on a chip. So stick with minced and diced with your knife cuts. Add all to bowl with the corn, and mix well to distribute the flavor. Let sit at least one hour before serving. Lasts in the cooler for 1 week if you put it in an air tight container.

Makes about 4 cups. Great served over black beans & rice, or with tortilla chips. Tequila is optional.

## Tony Deis

*Position: Founder*

*Guild: Rangers*

*Started with Trackers: 2004*

Tony Deis is the founder of Trackers. He dropped out of high school and trained in the arts of awareness, forest-craft skills, primitive skills, and tracking. Since then, he has learned to run a business in order to make a profound impact on the educational world.

Tony believes that kids are far more capable than the modern world allows. He fosters the opportunity for them to be given greater freedom and greater responsibility so that they can create a better and more wild world.

Tony runs Trackers as though it were an extension of his large Italian family. Every member is responsible for creating a better world for the other members to live and bring new members into.

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# Knot of the Month

## Knot of the Month – Water Knot

Each month we will showcase essential knots you should know for river situations

### Overview

- Used to join 2 ends of webbing together to make a loop
- Start by tying a basic overhand knot
- Finish by retracing the not in the opposite direction
- Ends must be on opposite side of the knot to be correct
- Be sure to leave a long tail on each side of the knot in case it slips, or tie it off with overhand knots on each side



Normally tied with 1 piece of webbing, 2 were used here for illustration purposes

[Click for Step by step directions](#)

[Click for a Video](#)

Steve K 2012

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## Boating 101 Trip Report

*by Carson Ogren*

The trip on the North Santiam was about teaching people how to boat properly. We practiced getting in and out of eddys and how to enter a rapid. We kept taking an eddy up river and then going back into the current and then back into the eddy.

The kayakers practiced self-rescuing and what to do if they flip out of the boat in a rapid. Our trips are also mainly about having fun but if someone gets hurt or trapped we need to know what to do.

We didn't practice how to set up a pin kit if someone gets pinned on this trip but we do on others. We always carry a first aid kit and a SPOT or a sat phone in case of emergency.



# Upcoming Trips

Submitted by Cheryl Ford,  
Trip Editor



## UPCOMING OWA TRIPS

TRIP	DATES	TRIP LEADER	CONTACT INFO
2016 Veteran's Day, Rogue, Class III/IV	November 11-13, 2016	Kevin Buck	buckriverman@gmail.com, 360-890-6776
2017 Lower North Umpqua Trip	April 28, 2017	Bill Goss	zanng@msn.com, 503-757-4659
2017 McKenzie River, Class II/III	June 22-25, 2017	Brenda Bunce	brenda.bunce@gmail.com, 360-931-4224
2017 Upper N Umpqua	June 22, 2016	Walt Bammann	wbamman@wizzards.net, 541-817-7904

For additional details on upcoming trips or to view past OWA trips go to <http://oregonwhitewater.org/calendar/trip-calendar>

## PAST RECENT OWA TRIPS

2016 Hell's Canyon, Class III/IV	September 16-18, 2016	Mike Moses	mtymo_@hotmail.com, 509-240-4220
2016 -Tieton River, Class II/III	September 17-18, 2016	David Elliott	dce@dcell.com
2016 Boating 101, North Santiam, Class II/III	September 24-25, 2016	Matt Saucy	sawdusty9@yahoo.com, 971-241-5396
2016 Fall Colors, North Santiam, Class II/III	October 1, 2016	Matt Saucy	sawdusty9@yahoo.com, 971-241-5396





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