

oregon WHITEWATER association

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Trip Report: Tax Relief Float 2010

Lower Deschutes, April 10, 2010 • Submitted by Tom Hanson

The annual Tax Relief Float was held on Saturday, April 10th at our usual venue, the float between Harpham Flat and Sandy Beach on the Deschutes. This is a great stretch of water with three Class IV rapids and a number of roller coasters. April is also a good month for this float since the summer crowds are absent. This year we had six boats and eight participants. They included Pat Berry, Allan Staley, John Brown, Mark and Bee Tyree, Becky Storey, Kevin Murk and myself. Vance Cordell also joined us but was unable to float due to an injury. We stopped at Grey Eagle (below Maupin) for some lunch and relaxation.

The flow was at 6100 cfs. This is a little above the annual norm for this dam-controlled river, but about normal for the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

RIVER TIP

Submitted by Tom Hanson

For flatbed trailers with a roll-bar on the end, consider packing your raft or cat at home. When you get to the river, all you have to do is mount the oars and drop it into the water. Packing your gear in the comfort of a heated garage eliminates all of the hassle and stress at the put-in.

Oregon Whitewater Association is dedicated to preserving, protecting and promoting Oregon's rivers for the safe enjoyment of both public and private non-motorized boating, now and in the future. We advocate fairness in accessibility to river resources and provide a voice for responding to river issues and management concerns.

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The advertisement features a collage of river gear including a blue and yellow raft, a tan cowboy hat, a wooden gear box, a yellow and black life vest, and a wooden rack. Below the gear is a photograph of a river with a white tarp shelter and a tent on the bank.

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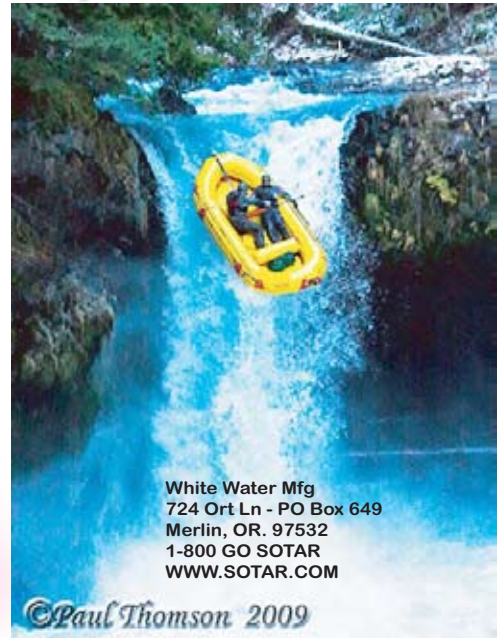
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OWA 2010 TRIP CALENDAR

Submitted by Josephine Denison

5.1-5.2 Sat-Sun	Clackamas Raft Camp	III/IV	Dan Alsup	rivermandan2698@yahoo.com	503.888.0569
5.7-5.9 Fri-Sun	Grande Ronde River	II/III	Eric and Candace Ball	balle@pocketinet.com	509.525.6134
ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION					
Put in at Minam and take out at Heller Bar, 90 miles in three days. We cover a lot of ground, so be prepared to row. Rewards include great scenery, good company, and an opportunity for a burger and shake for lunch on day 2. Not bad for a Wild and Scenic River. This section is Class II with one Class III.					
5.21-5.24 Fri-Mon	Rogue River	III/IV	Van McKay	vanm1@aol.com	360.737.3148
ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION					
You are invited to join us for our annual (30 yrs.+) friends and family trip. We are experience rafters that float the wild and scenic section from Graves Creek to Foster Bar and stay in the lodges. The cost is \$435 per person and includes permit, food and lodging after put-in.					
5.29-5.30 Sat-Sun	Lochsa River	IV/V	Steve Herring	stevenh@Tektronix.com	www.europa.com/~layport/lochsa/index.html
6.5-6.6 Sat-Sun	North Umpqua River	II-III	Brenda Bunce	brenda.bunce@gmail.com	360.931.4224
ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION					
Boulder Flat to Gravel Bin. This is a joint club trip with the Roseberg chapter of NWRA. Trip leaders will be Brenda Bunce and Walt Bammann. This is a day trip. Car/tent camping will be at Horseshoe bend with Potluck Saturday night. Camping is also available on June 4.					
June 17-20 Thu-Sun	John Day River	II	Scott Ogren	scott@scottogren.com	503.267.9785
ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION					
Float will be from Service Creek to Clarno; plan for four days and three nights.					
6.12-6.13 Sat	Klickitat	III+	Doug Smith	doug@davidsmithmapping.com	503.232.5285
ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION					
We have a cabin with plenty of camping available about 10 miles from the put-in. Meet there at 10 am Sat. to do shuttle, etc. We'll have a potluck dinner Saturday night. The run is from the gauging station raft put-in to Leidl Bridge, 19 miles. The first 10 miles are continuous Class III/III+, but should be considered IV because of the continuous nature and tree hazards. The Klickitat is a cold river deep in a canyon and wet suits are advised even on nice, sunny days. If enough interest, will do a float on Sunday as well.					
6.18-6.20 Fri-Sun	Deschutes River	III	Carol Beatty	caroldon1@comcast.net	503.816.6172
ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION					
The annual OWA Women's trip is back for 2010! Put in at Buck Hollow and run to Heritage Landing; 42 river miles.					
7.3-7.5 Sat-Mon	Lower Salmon River	III/IV	Eric and Candace Ball	balle@pocketinet.com	509.525.6134

OWA CONTEST!

- OWA is looking for a new logo and slogan to identify our club.
- Win a \$100.00 gift certificate to your choice of one our sponsored advertisers.
- ENTER TODAY!

DEADLINE
June 1

OWA 2010 TRIP CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

Run from Hammer Creek to Heller Bar in 3 days slower flow; 73 river miles. A perennial favorite. High flows flush us down the river in 3 days. A nice mix of fun rapids, nice beach camping, and a little history. This trip cancels if the flow rate is predicted to be above 20,000 cfs on Slide Rapid day.

7.23-7.24 Sat-Sun	McKenzie River	II-III	Rick Carman	frederickcarman@comcast.net	503.642.9347
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ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

Join us for an OWA Board-sponsored weekend of rafting on the McKenzie River. (OWA will pay for the camping Friday and Saturday nights) We're going to be camping at the Belknap Hot Springs Resort located at the McKenzie Bridge. We have group campsite reservations, which is equipped with toilets and showers. Staying at Belknap will give us full use of the hot springs pool at the resort. The McKenzie River is a beautiful Class III river. We have a choice of separate runs rated 2+ to 3 between Ollalie Campground and Ben and Kay Dorris State Park. There are hot springs located in the area as well as hiking trails. This is an excellent family float. Our plan is to arrive Friday evening, and we will raft Saturday and/or Sunday. A group potluck is planned for Saturday evening so bring your favorite river dish to share with everyone!

8.7 Sat	Annual OWA Picnic	NA	Brenda Bunce	brenda.bunce@gmail.com	360.931.4224
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ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

Annual club picnic at Hagg Lake from 11-5 p.m. Bring your boats and throw bags for flip practice. More information to follow on the website and in the newsletter.

8.21-8.22 Sat-Sun	Yakima River	II	Vance Cordell	pyloris58@yahoo.com	360.253.3013
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ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

We will run from the Ringer Loop Road Ramp to the Big Pines Campground on Hwy 821. This is a family float with absolutely beautiful scenery. Vance will try to secure several camp sites at Big Pines for Friday and Saturday nights with a weenie roast scheduled for Saturday night. Try to get there Friday night so we can get started on our float at 10:00 AM Saturday as it is a 14-mile float.

9.11-9.13 Sat-Mon	Hell's Canyon	II/IV	Mike Moses	mtymo_@hotmail.com	509.529.8603
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9.17- 9.19 Fri-Sun	Tieton River	III	Brent Davis	bdavis599@yahoo.com	503.239.0948
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10.16 Sat	North Santiam River	II/III	Josie Denison	josephinedenison@hotmail.com	503.851.9326
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ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

Run from Packsaddle Park to Fisherman's Bend Park.

11.6-11.7 Sat-Sun	Great Wolf Lodge Family Trip	NA	Angie Evans	rvrrunners@gmail.com	503.851.9326
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11.13-11.15 Sat-Mon	Rogue River	III/IV	Scott Ogren	scott@scottogren.com	503.267.9785
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ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

Graves Creek to Foster Bar. Staying at Galice Lodge on Friday, November 12.

Trip Report: NWRA/OWA on the Umpqua River

April 16-18, 2010 • Submitted by Walt Bammann

Sunburns, bloated stomachs and 25 boats on the river say it all – the first lower-North Umpqua OWA/NWRA outing was a huge success! Last fall while looking for a family-friendly outing, Brenda Bunce suggested a joint trip on the lower North Umpqua River with the Umpqua Chapter of the NWRA. The 25-mile, mostly Class II section from Glide to Winchester fit the bill. With Brenda coordinating the OWA side of things and this writer working the NWRA side, the trip came together smoothly. Beginning Friday afternoon on April 16, boaters started rolling into Whistler's Bend County Park (about 12 miles east of Roseburg) and the parade kept going into Sunday morning. The challenge on Friday was to find a camp site in the park. While we knew in advance there was a frisbee (disc) golf tournament at the park the same weekend, we hoped they would all be camping in the group areas they had reserved. Wrong! Now we know that disc golf is at least as popular as rafting and we had to compete with their overflow for the limited number of first



Garry Steffy cooking in the Dutch oven cook off

come-first serve camps. As boaters rolled in at all hours, we did our best to confuse the elderly camp-host as we shuffled people around to fit RV's and tents into the limited number of openings.

Based on our Friday afternoon scout of the potential launch sites in the Glide area, we felt we could split the ever-increasing number of boats between the three options. On Saturday morning with everyone pitching in with vehicles, trailers and muscles, we soon had the many rafts, catarafts and kayaks moved and stacked to minimize the number of vehicles going upriver. The heaviest boats headed

for the user-friendly concrete ramp at Colliding Rivers, lighter cats and some kayaks used a very tight access "road" a mile upstream, and a variety of boats used the drift boat ramp at Lone Rock another three miles upriver. Being able to spread out over the three spots was a huge advantage in getting the many boats to the river, not to mention parking all the vehicles.

The three launch sites provided an eight- to 12-mile float down to Whistler's Bend. Hoping to join all the groups at least by lunch, we pushed off under partly cloudy skies. The river is mostly read and run Class II but there are a couple spots approaching Class III. Boaters enjoyed the leisurely float through a mix of farmland and riverside homes. Several drift boats were passed along the way and the fishermen reported good luck on steelhead with several in the 10-pound range. The four-mile spread between the groups was finally closed at lunch which was at the half-way point. This was our first opportunity to take a boat count. What a sight – 25 boats of all colors lined-up on a gravel bar (see the picture). Wow!

As the clouds parted and the



temperature climbed, heavier clothing items were quickly shed unless you happened to be a kayaker dealing with the cold water. With a perfect flow of about 4800 cfs, the river moved right along even through the flat stretches. Whistler's Bend saw the first boats landing just after 2:00 PM. One of the coordination-perks of this trip was that the Sunday boaters could just tie up to the bank near their campsite. We did have to retrieve some of the vehicles at the launch sites, but there was still plenty of time to cleanup and relax before preparing for the potluck that evening.

This isn't just any potluck. The NWRA Umpqua Chapter has been doing a similar trip (on the upper North Umpqua in early June) for seven years and the Saturday

Sunday we awoke to clear skies and the anticipation of a great day on the water.

night potluck at this event has a well-deserved reputation for some amazing food. The secret was starting a dutch oven competition with some prizes on the second year of the event. Dutch oven cooks came out of the woods so to speak with meals ranging from chili to exotic cakes to coconut-catfish. We decided to carry this tradition over to this event and once again we were rewarded with some gourmet cooking. The trip report wouldn't be complete without mentioning the efforts of Garry Steffy and Mary Hubler (OWA/NWRA members from Albany). Garry goes way, way beyond the call of duty at these events. He and Mary drove down mostly for the dutch oven cooking as Garry is awaiting shoulder

surgery and can't boat. Garry's raft trailer has become a dutch oven trailer as he brought six or seven dutch ovens, fire pans to hold them and all the accessories to cook. While we were boating, Garry was cooking. He and Mary eventually prepared four entries. They even brought two extra recipes and dutch ovens so that anyone interested could prepare a meal with his coaching. Thank you Garry and Mary for all your hard work and the wonderful food!

With everyone contributing, there were many salads, a stove-top venison stew and other treats in addition to the entries in the dutch oven competition. The two clubs donated some nice prizes for first and second place in main, side and dessert categories. First place in the main dish category went to Lenise Kaup for her chicken potato casserole. Second place went to Garry for his bacon-wrapped/herbed pork tenderloin. The only side dish entry was Garry and Mary's huge and delicious scalloped potato and ham casserole which won that category. The dessert category was won by Shane and Tonya Daugherty with their strawberry/pecan cake with cream cheese frosting. Garry's apple/currant pie won second place. There was so much food we even had leftovers on Sunday. Thanks to everyone for bringing good food and big appetites.

Sunday we awoke to clear skies and the anticipation of a great day on the water. Everyone got an early start and drivers were ready to roll by 8:00 AM for the 40-minute drive to the takeout above Winchester Dam. Umpqua members drove all the drivers back to Whistler's Bend. Hard to believe, but by 10:00 AM all 20 boats were launched and heading down the 10-mile section. This section is mostly Class I-II with the exception of Dixon Falls at the four-mile mark. The "falls"

has a reputation of being squirrely at lower flows so we weren't sure what to expect. But at 4300 cfs, it was a fun straightforward Class III chute. No problem for anyone in this skilled group! We enjoyed the scenic countryside with only a few areas having riverside homes. Lunch was a 30-minute layover on a nice beach to stretch our legs and let the dogs play. With temperatures moving up into the high 70's, swim suits and white legs started appearing. By 2:00 PM we could tell the trip was about over when we hit the slow water of the lake backed up behind Winchester Dam.



The takeout was not particularly raft-friendly – a muddy bank with a two-foot drop off. But with lots of helping hands, the boats were quickly pulled onto the landing and hauled to waiting trailers.

It was impossible to get an exact headcount as people came and went throughout the weekend, but we're sure there were well over 50 in attendance. Brenda and I want to say "thank you" to everyone for being so helpful and efficient. Based on all the comments and smiling faces, we are already looking forward to the second annual lower North Umpqua outing next April.

As a footnote, there is another similar joint trip scheduled for the weekend of June 4, 5, 6. The biggest difference is that we are moving upstream to the Class III-IV section of the North Umpqua above Steamboat. See the OWA calendar on page 5 for details.

Two Day Swift Water Rescue Workshop

Submitted by Daniel Alsup

Over the weekend of April 10-11, I joined 10 other members of the OWA at the Confluence of the Sandy and Bull Run Rivers to take part in a Two-Day Swift Water Rescue Workshop presented by Sam Drevo of Northwest River Guides LLC.

There, on the banks and in the water of these two rivers, we were taught how to wade as a group and to rig lines to stabilize and then pull an entrapped person free. We practiced using throw lines on dry land and in the water with live bodies. One light moment came as Sam was floating in the river flailing about pretending to be in distress and a rope was tossed to him and miraculously landed in his open hand. (I'm glad I didn't bean him in the head). We also had some practice flipping and re-flipping rafts.

Good time was spent thinking about and using mechanical advantages to rescue people and boats from pinnings and entrapment. For practical exercise we rigged z-drags, pig rigs and zip lines, practiced moving lines across the river and



Mary Cooper

setting anchors. We set two zip lines that used the current to pull people (us) across the river. The zip line was a good learning tool that was also a lot of fun.

One of the most important aspects of the class was learning the aspects of properly assessing a critical situation, and taking into account everything from who should be in charge of the rescue to assigning the various tasks associated with this rescue like up and down stream lookout safety, gophers and rescuers. As simple as the mechanics are on paper, there are several important

factors to be aware of: Knowing how to set up properly, assessing the situation, and organizing the available people resources, can easily make the difference in effecting a successful rescue.

I am a professional river guide and have been involved in many incidents over the years. Going into this class I thought that it would just be a good review. I am not a kayaker and wasn't really convinced that I would gain much. I was wrong! There was and still is much to learn. New skills and techniques are always coming along and we tend to shelve things we do not use much including knowledge and skills.

I came away from this class a whale of a lot more prepared to deal with different rescue scenarios using different mechanical advantage systems. I am also better prepared to organize and lead a rescue. This is real knowledge that can be used to make sure a friend or family member is able to come home from his/her adventure.

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27th Annual Upper Clackamas Whitewater Festival

MAY 15-16, 2010

Oregon's largest whitewater festival offers something for everyone. From the recreational boater enjoying the river with family and friends to professional paddlers, this year's festival is sure to be fun for the whole family.

The festival competitions invite all whitewater enthusiasts at any skill level. A few fun events on tap include the High School cup, the Armed Forces race, Inflatable and Hard Shell Kayak races, Oar Boat slalom, Cat Boat Volleyball, the Guides cup slalom, Drift Boat and Cataract slaloms. Plus, for the first time in our history, we are excited to offer the USRA National cup race where pro and recreational teams race head-to-head in bracket elimination;

participate in all three national races for only \$15-boats provided. This year we've also added an Olympic style classic kayak slalom race.

Whether you're getting wet competing in an event or a spectator on the riverbank, the festival is a great place to learn about river and boating safety as well as protecting our rivers and watersheds. For a nominal fee, you can take a guided trip down the river with a professional rafting company-helmets and personal floatation devices provided. Vendor Village is the perfect place to pick-up some new gear and check out product demonstrations. Join us on Saturday night for a BBQ, Dutch-oven cook-off, local whitewater films, and great live

music. Parking at the event site is often a problem so this year we've teamed up with the city of Estacada to offer a free shuttle from Estacada to the festival site. It's a great way no-hassle way for friends and spectators to get to the festival.

Help continue the success of the festival by volunteering. Get involved and spend a few hours during the festival helping out. All volunteers get a staff T-shirt and our gratitude for helping to making this the most successful whitewater event in the northwest. Contact Bob Mosier at rmosier@msn.com or Kate at ktallen@gmail.com to get involved.

For more information visit upperclackamasfestival.org

Women's Rafting Trip on the Lower Deschutes

JUNE 18-20, 2010 • SUBMITTED BY CAROL BEATTY

The Women's Trip on the Lower Deschutes River is open to women of all all rafting abilities.

This is an opportunity for both beginning rowers to practice their boating skills in a supporting and relaxing atmosphere as well as an opportunity for more skilled boaters to share their skills with beginning rowers.

The Lower Deschutes is a forgiving river, providing manageable challenges for the novice rower and yet still

providing interesting enough water for the experienced rower

It is a weekend to meet river women, learn new boating skills, learn ecological camping and cooking skills and to have fun.

There will be time to hike and explore the Lower Deschutes as well as to sit around camp sharing stories, skills, ideas and jokes.

The size is limited to 16. Once the trip is full, cooking teams and responsibilities will be established. The put-in is at Buck Hollow on Friday, the 18th at 10:00 and take-out is at Heritage Park on Sunday, June 20 around 2:00.



If you are new to boating, but don't have a boat, rent or borrow one and join us on the Deschutes. Contact Carol for ideas on how to get enough gear for a trip

Contact Carol Beatty at (503) 816-6172 or caroldon1@comcast.net.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BRENDA BUNCE

Hello fellow club members,

Our next general meeting, Scott Ogren and Bruce Ripley will demonstrate new functions of our website. One such new feature will be learning how to add information to our river Wiki. This is a knowledge base of river information updated by club members to provide the latest and most accurate information of our rivers, shuttles, river access, hazards and everything you may want to know or can provide to others about your river trips and experience.

They will also show us how we can share and upload our club trip photos in the new photo gallery. And for all you trip leaders or want-to-be trip leaders, come learn how to utilize a google document spread sheet for easy organization and ways to communicate with all trip participants in a fast and efficient way.

As always, the pizza and drinks are free and the friends are lots of fun. So please join us.

Mark your calendars for the August 7 Hagg Lake picnic. This event will not only be fun, delicious and offer the opportunity to come practice flipping your boats in the lake, but we will also be having a GEAR SWAP. Yes, bring all your old or new river gear that you don't use anymore and get it out of the garage and into the hands of others who would delight in taking it off your hands.

Consider volunteering for the 27th Upper Clackamas White Water Festival on May 15 and 16. Get involved and spend a few hours during the festival helping out. All volunteers get a staff T-shirt and our gratitude for helping to making this the most successful whitewater event in the northwest. Contact Bob Mosier at rmmosier@msn.com or Kate at ktallen@gmail.com to get involved. For more information visit the website at: upperclackamasfestival.org.

SAVE THE DATE

OWA Club Picnic



“You don't drown
by falling into
water. You drown
by staying there.”

~Robert Allen



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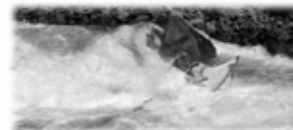
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Tax Relief Float

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spring runoff. The extra water made Wapanitia and Oak Springs considerably more interesting. At Oak Springs I saw Becky take the right channel (hug the small island in the center to avoid the hole on the right); while I took my favorite left channel. I think most everyone followed me down the left slot but I was too busy dodging rocks to look back.

The weather was sunny with an

afternoon temperature of around 55°F; not real warm, but good enough. We started out at a brisk 33°F. Our only problem was a headwind. It was quite challenging at a steady 20+ mph, but there was enough flow to keep us going.

Thanks to everyone for making this another great OWA trip. Our club was founded on July 1, 2000, so this was the 10th annual Tax Relief Float.



Rescue Workshop

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Taking classes like these regularly, is just as important as renewing your First Aid/CPR certifications regularly. Reinforcement, Review and Practice all play an important role in insuring you have the skills to perform with a level of skill that can save a life or even just get your groups moving down the river again.

I strongly urge everyone to take this Swiftwater Rescue course. Once you have taken this course, practice tying knots you seldom use and rigging z-drags and pig-rigs with your river buddies. Refresh your knowledge with periodic check-ups. (Sam offers discounts for repeat students). I know I will be getting check-ups regularly from now on.

Kudos to Sam Drevo for providing this training for us and at such an affordable price.

President's Corner

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

We are looking for a new club logo and slogan that will help represent and identify our club. Enter the contest for either the logo design for our T-shirts and/or share your idea for a river slogan and get the chance to win a \$100.00 gift certificate to your choice of one our sponsored advertisers. We will have a prize winner for each competition. Don't be shy and enter the competition today. Deadline to enter is June 1.

Don't forget, May is our last general meeting at Round Table until we resume again in September. I hope to see you all there.

Happy and Safe boating,
 Brenda

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Oregon Whitewater Association

Membership Application Form

Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Check for a hard copy newsletter via US mail.

A household membership is \$24.00 for one year, from July 1 to June 30.
Dues after January 1 are prorated at \$12.00, otherwise annual dues are \$24.00.

I hereby state that I wish to participate in courses and/or activities offered by Oregon Whitewater Association (OWA) a non-profit corporation. I recognize that any outdoor or aquatic activity may involve certain dangers including, but not limited to, the hazards of traveling by boat on rivers or other bodies of water, accidents, or illnesses in remote places or occurring during portages, forces of nature, and the actions of participants and other persons. I further understand and agree that without some program providing protection of its assets and its leaders, officers, and members, OWA would not be able to offer its courses and activities.

In consideration of and as part of my payment for the right to participate in the activities offered by OWA, I hereby release OWA and its leaders, officers, and members from any and all liability, claims and causes of action arising out of or in any way connected with my participation in any activities offered by OWA. I personally assume all risks in connection with these activities, and further agree to indemnify OWA and its leaders, officers, and members from all liability, claims, and courses of action which I may have arising from my participation in activities including, but not limited to those involving death, drowning, personal injury, and property damage. The terms of this agreement shall serve as a release and indemnity agreement for my heirs, assigns, personal representatives, and for all members of my family including any minors. [Parent or legal guardian must sign for all persons under eighteen (18) years of age.] This agreement is effective as of the date signed, and has no termination date. I have fully informed myself of the contents of this release and indemnity agreement by reading it before I have signed it.

All participating adult members of the household (age 18+) must sign. Guardians must sign for minors.

Participant	Printed name	Signature
Member #1		
Member #2		
Member #3		
Member #4		

Participant	Email address	Preferred phone(s)
Member #1		
Member #2		
Member #3		
Member #4		

Make your check payable to the Oregon Whitewater Association and mail to:

Oregon Whitewater Association
P. O. Box 2137
Beaverton, Oregon 97075-2137