

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.



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New Year's Day Sandy River Float with Team River Runner

Photos by Julie Nathe, Rachel Starr, Scott Harvey

A Last Float with River Friends

Written by Crista Wakefield

When I agreed to write the trip report for the New Year run down the Sandy River I was planning on writing about the spike in river levels, the number of swims, the carnage, etc. but what I'm really going to remember from this run is that it is the last time I saw Dan Alsup and Jane Heineman.

I arrived at the put in, late as usual, and as I walked to the river the first person to greet me was Riverman Dan. He gave me a big hug and asked why I wasn't at the party the night before. I was amazed at his energy and that he made it to the river ready to go even after partying. We talked about his trip to Thailand and how we should go boating when he got back.

That was Dan, Always ready with a hug and a smile. Trips with Dan were always an experience full of good times and stories. He was always encouraging me to learn and grow both on the river and off. Many of my Dan memories take place in his river kitchen, more than once I stumbled in looking for coffee and Dan stuck a knife in my hand and told me to chop onions. It takes a very bold and daring soul to hand me a knife before I've

Continued on page 4

February Club Meeting:

North Clackamas Aquatic Park
 7300 SE Harmony Road
 Milwaukie, OR 97222

**Wednesday,
 February 12, 2020
 from 7:00-9:00 PM**

Pool session to practice knots, flipping boats, throw-bagging and other rescue skills in the water. Please remember to bring your helmet, PFD, and river shoes. No food is provided at this meeting.

Contact Information



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We need your awesome rafting photos!

Did someone capture you hitting that rapid just right? Or did you get a photo of a friend barrelling through a standing wave? Whatever the epic pic - we want to feature it on the back page of the newsletter!

Send us your picture by emailing the image to VicePresident-Newsletter@oregonwhitewater.org. Be sure that the picture is high resolution, that you have permission to have it published. Include the names of those pictured, a short caption (i.e. "Boxcar on the Deschutes") and a photo credit to who took the picture.

We can't wait to see the amazing pictures you send!

Do you have something you would like to submit to the OWA newsletter? The tale of your latest rafting adventure? The recipe of the best dish you've ever cooked on the river?

Contact Kimberly Long
VicePresident-Newsletter@oregonwhitewater.org

To show our appreciation and to encourage future contributions, the Oregon Whitewater Association will have an annual drawing for a \$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.

2020 Will Be Busy for OWA! And Hug Those You Love. by Scott Ogren

These past few months our community has experienced several losses. In November we lost Glen Chapman, then January was a tough month. Two members of the Idaho boating community who I didn't personally know but many reading this did know were lost in an avalanche while they were skiing. In addition, Dan Alsup and Jane Heineman passed away, both of whom I knew well. I want to take a minute to remind everyone to do what many of us (including me) often forget. Tell the people around you that you love them. Reach out to friends you haven't communicated with in a while and see how they're doing. In the end, all we have are each other, so let's do what we can to keep the best parts of our relationships with each other great.

We have a great schedule of safety programs set up for this year. Boater 101 is scheduled for May 2-3. Experienced boaters are needed to help, so please let Matt know if you are available that weekend. Email safety@oregonwhitewater.org. The River Safety Training class is scheduled to be the weekend of April 18 and 19. That is a very popular class so if you haven't taken it, or if it's been a few years since you have taken it, I encourage you to attend. Look for the sign-up on the club website in mid to late February.

If you are looking for people to boat with we have two primary ways to connect with people and set trips up. First is our email list server, send an email to h2oaddicts@oregonwhitewater.org it will be sent to everyone in the club. The second is our Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/oregonwhitewater/. If you are not enrolled in either, please send an email to membership@oregonwhitewater.org.

Have you checked out the club First Aid Kit and AED? We now have two first aid kits and AEDs! Everything is available for OWA members to take on your private trips. Club trips get priority, then it's first come first served after that. If you want to check them out, send an email to firstaid@oregonwhitewater.org and you can make arrangements with Steve Oslund to get a hold of them.

Incentive Prizes

I'd like to remind you about our incentive prizes and how easy it is for you to win one. We will have two \$150 prizes up for grabs for two club members that put in just a little extra effort in support of the club in 2020. The first is our newsletter submission prize. If you submit material to the newsletter and it's included in any issue your name is included in the year end drawing.

The second prize is for anyone providing leads for a meeting speaker. We only have 7 meetings each year with speakers so your odds are great to win this one! So write an article or introduce us to a speaker and get into one or both of the drawings! Good Luck!

February OWA Meeting

The next meeting is our annual safety skills training at the Clackamas Aquatic Center on February 12. We have some great things scheduled this year and we think it will be a great refresher for you and the instructors. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

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New Year's Float



New Year's Float: Continued from page 1

had coffee. That was Dan. Dan had a great passion for what he did and loved sharing that passion with others.

While waiting for the shuttle to be set up I got to visit with Jane while I helped untie some knots in her tag lines. It took two people and a pair of pliers to get those damn knots out. I was treated to some great swim stories for my efforts. Jane is a river legend and was determined to get out and do what she loved no matter what. Dan was instrumental in getting Jane out on the water. I'm certain that Riverman Dan and Jane have already found a river to run and are raising hell on it.

Floating the Sandy on No Sleep, Written by Kimberly Long

I arrived at Dodge park on New Year's morning after only 2-3 hours of sleep. I may have still had glitter in my hair and some stray sequins as part of my river outfit. With the help of the crowd around my boat was unloaded and ready to go. Crista showed up to the put-in a bit late, which was a bonus for me, as I was happy to have a passenger on my boat for the day instead of rowing solo. The water level on New Years Eve was low (under 800cfs if I recall correctly), but expected to rise overnight. It was raining and warm, melting the fresh snow. Rise it did! The Sandy was at 6,870cfs when we launched and 7,320cfs at takeout (water level data from Scott Harvey, who I hear is accurate about these things). What a beautiful and fun river run! I didn't take a count of the number of boats, but it was a smaller crew than expected for this annual run. There were a few rowers in round boats (including mine), paddle boats, catarafts, IKs, and a kayaker. A few drysuits were forgotten and a least 1 wet boater as a result. There was some confusion about exactly

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New Year's Float



New Year's Float: Continued from page 4

how many swimmers there were - at least 5, perhaps 7, including an end-over-end flipped cat, a rower launched from his raft while his passenger remained, and some IK and kayak swims. Crista and I stayed in my boat without incident - whew! We were rained on (pretty hard) early on, but the skies cleared for some sun during the run. When we arrived at Oxbow park, pulled pork, BBQ chicken, and other goodies were waiting for us. The potluck was an opportunity to fill our bellies with good food and our minds and hearts with conversation with good people.

The New Year's Day float is an annual event with Team River Runner, an organization that gets disabled veterans out on river adventures. A huge thank you to Val Shaull and Juli Nathe for organizing and having things ready for us at the takeout. Val told me this event has been going on for 35ish years and he has been organizing it for 15. I know what I'll be doing on New Year's Day in future years - I might need to go easier on the NYE celebrations and get more sleep though. If you are interested in learning more about Team River Runner, go to <https://www.teamriverrunner.org/get-involved/chapters/oregon-portland/>.





North Santiam Fall Colors Float

Submitted by Norma Allensworth

photos by Norma Allensworth and Joe Wright

Wilderness First Aid Class needed to happen the first Saturday of October -- traditionally the weekend for the North Santiam Fall Colors Float. Saturday, October 12, about 15 boats, 25 people, and one dog set out from Packsaddle Park to take in the fall ambiance. Even the drive on 15 was beautiful and colorful as a pink, misty sunrise dawned.

Packsaddle Park was awash with fallen leaves and the weather was clear with some clouds. Many layers (think Christmas Story) kept me warm and comfortable throughout the whole trip. The flow was 1,500 CFS, and this being our first trip down the North Santiam, a few rocks lurking under the surface introduced themselves.

The weather stayed clear -- with a few minor sprinkles in the afternoon. It was so nice to meet other rafters in the association and see old friends we've boated with before.



North Santiam: Continued from page 6

The first big rapid was Spencer's Hole. In an attempt to keep Brenda's dog safe (i.e., not certain if that would work on a cat), I held him in our raft, or rather his collar as he sat patiently and unsuspecting in the bottom. When we hit the hole, one completely undulating wall of water came over the front of the boat, soaking and propelling him rapidly into the upper reaches of my arms. I held onto one strap and one dog through the rest of rapid and he remained safe!

Carnivore, the next rapid, was mellow at that level. Mill City Falls was concerning tipping into it -- I could feel my eyes expanding bigger and bigger -- but once over the edge it wasn't so bad. Matt Saucy was great in telling us what to look for and where to go. We then had lunch a little park right below Mill City Falls. Nice opportunity to visit and get to know our fellow boaters more. The rest of the afternoon was a relaxing and mellow float, with lots of visiting back and forth. Before arrival at the North Santiam State Recreation Area, we had another colorful sighting -- a rainbow colored unicorn -- an amazing find in the wild. Similar to a sighting of Bigfoot!

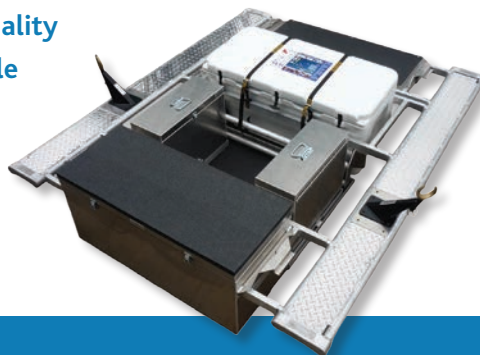
All in all it was a fun day with lots of laughter, good conversation, and excellent floating. Thank you, Matt, for planning, hosting, and sharing with us your beautiful home river.

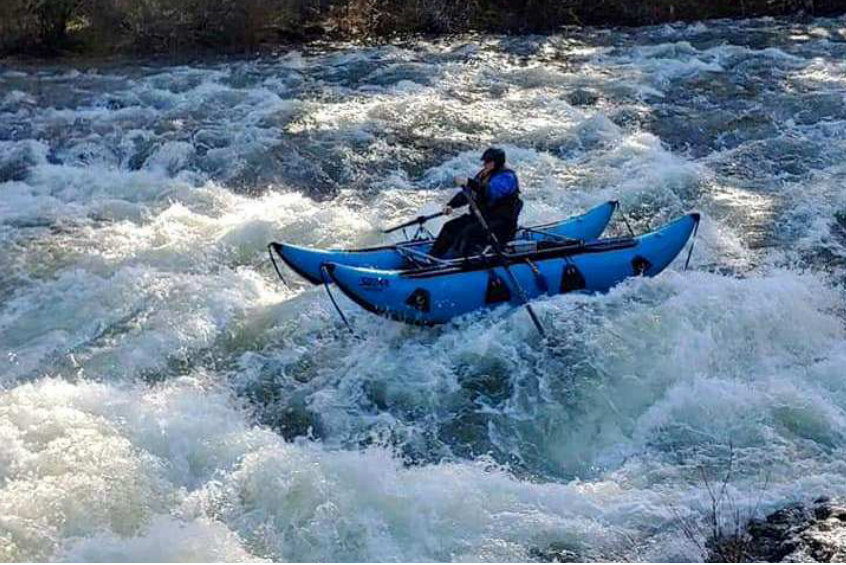


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Molalla River Trip Report

Submitted by Jared Linkhart

Photos by Scott Harvey

1-26-2020

After many messages, scanning river gauges, and phone calls Saturday, a group of hardy boaters looking for some high water fun decided on the Molalla river for a Sunday funday. The river was coming back up and we estimated the flow to be 3500 CFS while we were on it. We met up in Molalla at the Safeway parking lot, finished rigging and consolidated vehicles to head upriver.

We launched just above the Turner Creek bridge just a little bit after 11 am. The water was moving fast and we felt it take us immediately downstream. Matt and Steve took the lead in the puma as we headed into Papa Bear. Three of us followed the puma in my raft, not making it look nearly as easy as Matt and Steve did.

We rounded the right hand corner at the bottom of the rapid in celebration just in time to hear a clear whistle blast just above us. As we turned to look upstream, an upside down cataraft came into view. We started looking for a swimmer and he quickly came into view also. Shannon fired off a throw bag from her cat boat that was a dead eye shot. As soon as Joe grabbed the line, he pulled Shannon back into the current from the micro eddy she stopped in. We started working our way towards Joe and managed to get him in our paddle raft.

In the recovery, the rope ended up loose in the water, so we went after it. We caught up to the rope just a little way above Mama Bear rapid. Behind us every other paddler in our group was working to get the cataraft corralled into a very limited supply of eddies.

Molalla River: Continued from page 8

They got it stopped above us, and Chris Massey jumped out of his kayak, righted the cat, and rowed down to us so Joe could hop back in.

We pushed off right above Mama Bear, and it was big. The left side rock that makes up half of the “goal post” slot you must aim for had water flowing over the top of it, and the chute going through the middle was fast with a good hit at the bottom. Everyone made it through safely and the ride through the tiny canyon was fast. For a little while the river eases up a bit. But at this flow you could never let your guard down and relax. We soon approached the Bear Creek bridge just above Baby Bear. There is currently a log on the island completely blocking the left channel, so we all ran the right side of the island.

We had another small break of not-so-intense whitewater leading up to Goldilocks, the last big set of rapids. We scouted on the way up (thanks to Scott Harvey for having us check) and we found a large doug fir with root wad blocking a good bit of the left (favored) channel leading up to the boulder at the bottom of the rapid. Most of us ran the right side channel and then crossed over to the left of the big boulder. Our one kayaker flipped coming around the boulder and was upside down for an extended amount of time. From our view I thought he had bailed because I couldn’t see a paddle attempting a roll. We started whistling an alert to everyone that we were going to have a swimmer going into Porridge Bowl. Miraculously, Chris fought through and rolled up coming out of Goldilocks.

After Porridge Boal the river eases up for the last few miles, and we had time to relax a little and admire the beauty of the Molalla river canyon. We took out at the Cedars just below the house with the Marlboro pack on the back deck at 2 pm. It was an incredible trip with a fantastic group of boaters including Nate Soukessian, Skip Currier, Shannon Scroggins, Matt Saucy, Scott Harvey, Mark Darula, Jeff Andre, Steve Oslund, Chris Massey, and Joe Wright. Also thanks to Patrick Petree for taking photos and video for us. The log at Baby Bear was moving when we were there, and it will probably move on its own. The log in Goldilocks will probably be there long term, so scout on your way up to determine your route ahead of time. See you on the river!

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Molalla Wood Hazards



Molalla Wood Hazards

Written by Scott Harvey,

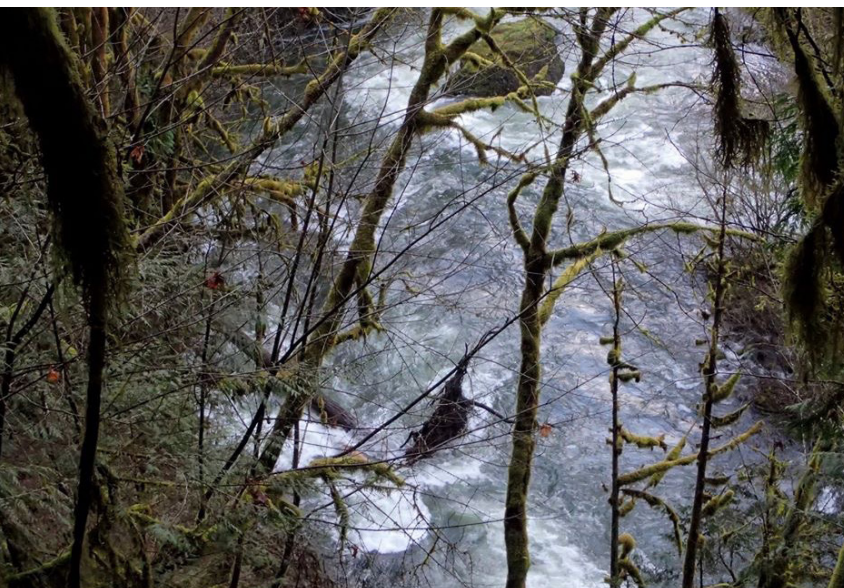
originally posted on OWA Facebook Page 1/31/20

Molalla River (Three Bears) Log Hazards ~ If your plans this Winter or Spring include boating the Molalla river (Three Bears Section), be familiar with two potential log problems.

There's a wedged log at Baby Bear Rapids that is blocking the left approach of the rock island. I'm sure most boaters are aware of this problem by now. This can be seen when road scouting. Run the far right side of the rock island. As of last week the right channel was clear.

The second log problem is located at the tail end of Goldilocks Rapids on a hard right bend and just upstream of the large boulder that splits the river current. At 3,500 cfs you can run the far right side of the island at Goldilocks or run the left side of the island but stay close to the island to maneuver around the wedged tree. Do pull off and park at the Molalla River road sign that's pictured below when driving your shuttle. Cross the road and walk down the lightly used trail to an overview of the Lower Goldilocks Rapids and the wedged tree. At lower flows the route selection will change. So do scout if you're not familiar with the tree hazard.

A 10 minute scout could save you many hours of trying to recover a pinned boat in a not easily accessible canyon!



Honest Assessment

Submitted by Scott Ogren

I get it, you make plans to float a river. You rig your gear; you wake up early and head to the river. You want to go boating! It's what we all do. It's in that moment when we get to the river that each one of us needs to be honest with ourselves and give ourselves a self-assessment.

This is the time of year when we all get excited to run rivers that are only runnable during the high water season. Some people have run these rivers many times and others are just learning to boat and/or float a new river. If you have never boated the section of river you are at the put in for, make it known this is your first time so the more experienced people can coach you and help set you up for success. Or, maybe it's not your day and they suggest you not float that day. Either way, ask for advice and listen.

As I talked with a few people and contemplated this myself, I came up with a list of questions that I seem to always ask myself before every river trip, even if I ask them quietly to myself.

- Do I have the skill for this?
- Is the water level a good level for my boat and my skills?
- How is my boat loaded?
- Who am I with and can they help me if something goes wrong for me?
- Is there someone in this group I should be watching out for?
- Is there someone in this group who I should be learning from?
- Am I listening to everyone around me who has done this before and taking the best advice I can get and figuring out how to best implement it for me?

To answer those questions honestly, I believe we need to let go of our ego and be honest with ourselves and listen to those around us. We need to not be afraid of asking questions that we think might damage another person's ego and ask it anyway.

It's okay to float a section of river you haven't floated before and it's even better to stretch yourself to learn and grow. When you are in that situation, it's also best to make those around you know you are new and learning and want to learn from them. Not telling those around you that you are new to boating and/or a particular section of river can be dangerous.

The river is a great equalizer. The river doesn't care about you, your boat, your skill level, or your ego. The river will always do what the river does, and this is flow downstream. Relentlessly. We all come to the river for her beauty and grace. We also need to hold her power and strength in high regard and give it great respect.

No Longer By Our Side, But Forever In Our Hearts



Dan Alsup

Riverman Dan's After Party will be on Sunday, February 9th, at 2:00 at Goodwater Boat Works in Oregon City. Come and join the community in sending his spirit out into the rapids beyond.



Glen Chapman

*at the mouth of Havasu Creek, Grand Canyon 2013.
Photo by Ben Nieves.*



Jane Heineman

Photo by Dan Alsup.

INGREDIENTS

1 1/2 pounds Brussels Sprouts

2 tablespoons olive oil

Salt and pepper

3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar

Grated Parmesan Cheese for serving if desired



Balsamic Roasted Brussel Sprouts

Submitted by Renee

The Brussels Sprouts should be a little crunchy. If they cook too long, they will be bitter.

You could sprinkle some crumbled bacon over them, or grated parmesan cheese.

Author: Holly Sander published on tasteandsee.com

DIRECTIONS

Gently cut off the very end of each Brussels Sprout, leaving most of it intact (this will keep the sprouts from falling apart while they are being cooked.) Next cut each one in half lengthwise.

Add 1-2 tablespoons of olive oil in a large skillet on medium-high heat. Place the cut Brussels Sprouts flat side down for about 3-5 minutes and let them brown. (Be sure to not overcrowd. If all the Brussels Sprouts don't fit in the pan, sauté a second batch.)

Sprinkle with salt and pepper, then rotate the Brussels Sprouts onto their other side in the pan and sprinkle again with salt and pepper. Sauté for 2-3 more minutes.

Drizzle with balsamic vinegar and cook about 1-2 more minutes in the pan. Slide the Brussels Sprouts onto a serving dish and dig in!



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Knot of the Month -Bowline

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

Overview

- Bowline creates a fixed loop at the end of a rope
- A very strong knot but generally considered weaker than a Figure 8 loop

Use

- Quick knot to make a permanent loop
- Can be tied around an object
- Can be used to join 2 ropes together, to pass a haul line out to a boat etc..



[Click for Step by step directions](#)

[Click for a Video](#)

Steve K 2012

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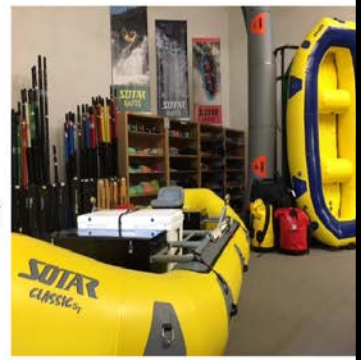


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Upcoming Trips



Submitted by Scott Harvey, Trip Editor

Detailed information for upcoming trips can be found at <http://oregonwhitewater.org/calendar/trip-calendar/>

UPCOMING OWA TRIPS

TRIP	DATES	TRIP LEADER	CONTACT INFO
2020 BoatSmith Fest, Smith River, Gasquet CA, Class III-V	Feb 14-16, 2020	For further details check out the BoatSmith Facebook website: https://www.facebook.com/events/2506328256358229/	
2020 Presidents Day Rogue River Trip, Class III-IV	Feb 15-17, 2020	To sign up go to: http://oregonwhitewater.org/calendar/trip-calendar/2020-presidents-day-rogue-trip/	
2020 Molalla River, Three Bears Section, Class III-IV	March 7, 2020 10 am - 4 pm	Scott Harvey	hadjimann@yahoo.com
2020 Upper Wind Fest, Stabler WA, Class IV-V	March 14, 2020 9:00 am - 7:00 pm	For further details check out the Upper Wind Festival website: https://www.facebook.com/events/734711080386597/	
2020 Hood River Run, Class III+ - IV	March 15, 2020 10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Zach Collier, Scott Harvey	zach@nwrafting.com hadjimann@yahoo.com
2020 Lower Deschutes Spring Break Trip, Class II/III	March 21-23, 2020	Scott Ogren	scott@scottogren.com 503-267-9785
2020 Upper North Santiam, Boulder Creek Section, Class III+ - IV	April 11, 2020 10 am - 4 pm	Scott Harvey	hadjimann@yahoo.com
2020 Deschutes River, Tax Relief Float, Class II-IV	April 25, 2020 9 am - 4 pm	Bill Goss	zanng@msn.com
2020 Green River Clean-up, Kanasket-Palmer State Park, WA Class II-IV	May 2, 2020 9 am - 5:30 pm	For further details check out the Green River Clean-up website: http://www.greenrivercleanup.org	
2020 Grande Ronde River, Class II/III	May 8-10, 2020	Eric & Candace Ball	balle@pocketinet.com , 509-525-6134
2020 Rogue Lodge Trip, Class III/IV	May 15-18, 2020	Van McKay	vanm1@aol.com 360-737-3148

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



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Kyle, Candace, Shawn, Shawn Raquel - Upper Clack on a perfect sunny Saturday morning 1/26/2020 (photo by Natalie Orlik)

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