

# **OUTSTANDING RESOURCE WATERS**

**2000 - 2001**

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## **REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

**TO THE**

**FIFTY-SIXTH IDAHO LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**



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**Idaho Department of Environmental Quality**

**Outstanding Resource Water Report to the Idaho Legislature  
and  
Proposed Outstanding Resource Water Best Management Practices  
for the  
Middle Fork of the Salmon and Selway Rivers**

*Prepared by*  
**Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
And  
Northwest Natural Resource Group-LLC  
For  
Idaho Board of Environmental Quality**

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# **Middle Fork of the Salmon and Selway Rivers Outstanding Resource Water Designations**

## **Introduction**

Outstanding Resource Waters are one component of the state's antidegradation policy, which is required by the Clean Water Act. Outstanding Resource Waters are defined as "high quality water, such as water of national or state parks and wildlife refuges and water of exceptional recreational or ecological significance, which has been designated by the Legislature. It constitutes an outstanding national or state resource that requires protection from point sources and nonpoint source activities that may lower water quality." (Idaho Code section 39-3602(16)).

The Idaho legislature has given the Board of Environmental Quality the responsibility to receive and review requests and make recommendations to the legislature to designate water bodies as Outstanding Resource Waters (Idaho Code Section 39-3617). The Board has established procedures to implement this statutory authorization (IDAPA 58.01.02.055). Pursuant to the rules and the Idaho Code provisions, the Board receives and reviews requests for the designation of Outstanding Resource Waters, takes public comments and makes recommendations to the legislature regarding the water bodies that should be designated as Outstanding Resource Waters (Idaho Code Section 39-3617).

Idaho Code also requires the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) to protect the existing level of water quality on all designated Outstanding Resource Waters. In order to ensure new or substantially modified activities will not lower water quality, the Board of Environmental Quality and designated agencies are required by law to develop Best Management Practices for existing and reasonably foreseeable new activities affecting Outstanding Resource Waters. A full copy of the statutes and rules are included in Appendix 1. This report contains the IDEQ recommendations for Outstanding Resource Waters from the nominations received in 2000 and the proposed Best Management Practices to protect water quality on these segments. If the Idaho legislature approves the nominated segments, the Best Management Practices will be adopted by rule by the IDEQ.

## **The Board's Proposed Outstanding Resource Waters**

On October 18, 2000, the Board of Environmental Quality recommended the following streams and stream reaches for Outstanding Resource Waters designation: those portions of the Selway and the tributary streams of White Cap Creek, Bear Creek and the North, East and Middle Forks of Moose Creeks within the Wilderness boundaries; and the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, together with the tributary streams of Sulphur Creek, Loon Creek, Marble Creek and Wilson Creek within the Wilderness boundaries. These streams lie wholly within the Nez Perce, Bitterroot and Salmon-Challis National Forests (with the exception of some private inholdings) and flow through two designated Wilderness areas: the Selway-Bitterroot and the Frank Church River of No Return.

The Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness areas are separated by the "Magruder Corridor," a rough, but open and drivable road from Elk City, Idaho to Darby, Montana. This road parallels then crosses the Selway River, with at least 18 miles of that stream

lying within the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness area to the south of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness area. About 15 miles of the Selway River, flowing north of where it parallels the Magruder Corridor, is actually outside designated Wilderness, since Congress did not designate the land along the Magruder Corridor and the road to the north to Paradise Campground as Wilderness to accommodate those existing roads. The land excluded from Wilderness designation includes both banks of the Selway River from where it parallels and ultimately crosses the Magruder Corridor and along the road downstream to the Paradise Campground.

The result of this mapping and legal distinction is that approximately 15 miles of the middle of the Selway River do lie outside the designated Wilderness boundaries, even though the stretches on either end of this part of the stream lie within Wilderness. The intent of the Board is for the portion of the Selway within the Wilderness boundaries be designated as an Outstanding Resource Water. This includes the reach downstream from Paradise Campground to the Wilderness boundary just upstream from Selway Falls. The lands upstream from Paradise Campground to the Magruder Corridor are outside designated Wilderness and not part of the Board's Outstanding Resource Water proposal.

All the lands adjacent to the Middle Fork of the Salmon River and within its watershed are within designated Wilderness. However, approximately four miles of the headwaters of Sulphur Creek (which has been recommended for Outstanding Resource Water designation as a tributary to the Middle Fork) appear to lie outside the western boundary of the Wilderness area. Similarly, a portion of Loon Creek parallels a road that accesses a number of old mining camps, and this area has been excluded from designated Wilderness.

Both the Middle Fork and Selway Rivers are designated as Wild and Scenic Rivers and are clearly recreational assets of state and national significance. The rivers are also of very high ecological significance and represent important fisheries; between them they support production of chinook salmon, steelhead trout, cutthroat trout and bull trout. Without a doubt, both rivers flow through some of the most spectacular and unspoiled lands in the lower 48 states and both are clearly treasured by the public, including residents of Idaho and the many nonresident visitors.

The existing water quality of these segments has been described in a separate report entitled *Monitoring Plan for Outstanding Resource Waters* by Leska Fore and Michael McIntyre.

### **The Nature of an Outstanding Resource Water Designation**

Without question, the discussion over Outstanding Resource Water status for the Selway and Middle Fork rivers is a product of their current high quality —and, by extension, of the effective management of the limited activities allowed within these watersheds that has protected them. As such, one, perhaps important, function of an Outstanding Resource Water designation is that of a “merit badge;” a public recognition of the quality of a water body, and its outstanding recreational or fisheries values. This high quality is consistent with the statutory definition of “outstanding resource water”.

Beyond the “merit badge” aspect of Outstanding Resource Water designation is an enhanced level of water quality protection for new activities within an Outstanding Resource Water

watershed. This protection is defined in Idaho Code Section 39-3600, which states that Outstanding Resource Waters are to be protected from activities that “may lower water quality.” Paragraph (11) of this same section defines “lower water quality” as “a measurable adverse change in a chemical, physical, or biological parameter of water relevant to a designated beneficial use, and which can be expressed numerically.” These two definitions together establish the threshold used to determine whether a new or substantially modified existing activity will impact existing water quality.

Other provisions of Idaho Code define how the Outstanding Resource Water designation will impact both new and existing activities. Specifically, Idaho Code Section 39-3619 deals with the continuation of existing activities. For existing activities the code states:

Existing activities may continue and shall be conducted in a manner that maintains and protects the current water quality of the Outstanding Resource Water. The provisions of this section shall not affect short-term or temporary activities that do not alter the essential character or special uses of a segment, allocation of water rights, or operations of water diversions or impoundments, provided that such activities shall be conducted in conformance with applicable laws and regulations.

If an activity is deemed to be new, or a substantial modification of an existing activity, then applicable Best Management Practices must be used in accordance with Idaho Code Section 39-3620. This section of the code states that “No person may conduct a new non-point source activity on or affecting an outstanding resource water, except for a short-term or temporary activity as set forth in section 39-3602, Idaho Code, prior to approval by the designated agency as provided in this section.” The language describes a process that is very similar to the existing non-point source program for developing Best Management Practices and a creating feedback loop process if the Best Management Practices are later found to be inadequate. Two major differences should be noted. Unlike the existing non-point program, for Outstanding Resource Waters, Best Management Practices are mandatory for new or substantially modified activities and there is a safe harbor provided for activities that are conducted in compliance with the approved practices as follows:

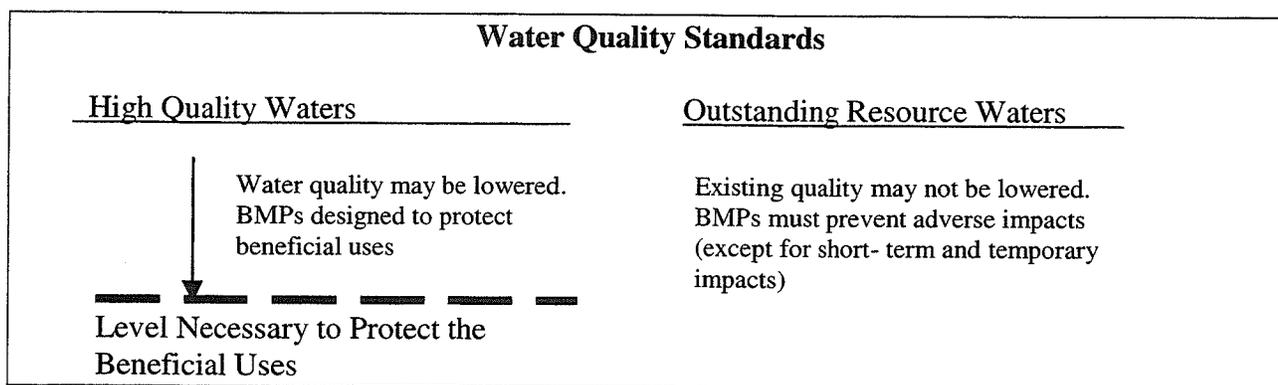
When the applicable outstanding resource water best management practices are applied, the landowner, land manager, or operator applying those practices will be in compliance with the provisions of this act. In the event water quality is lowered, the outstanding resource water best management practices will be revised within a time frame established by the designated agency to ensure water quality is restored. (Idaho Code Section 39-3620(6))

In contrast, high quality waters that are not Outstanding Resource Waters are protected by the existing water quality standards that require the full support of beneficial uses. This is determined by meeting numeric or narrative criteria contained in the water quality standards and not by protecting the existing level of water quality. In cases where the existing level of water quality exceeds the standards, some lowering of the existing level of water quality may be allowed in compliance with the states antidegradation policy. The state’s antidegradation policy and general water quality standards allow some lowering of high quality waters in order to accommodate economic activities. However, the quality cannot be lowered below the point where existing beneficial uses are no longer fully supported (Idaho Code Section 39-3603). Like

the Outstanding Resource Water program, general water quality standards require the use of a “feedback loop” to protect beneficial uses by modifying permit requirements or nonpoint source Best Management Practices when water quality monitoring shows that the applicable level of protection is not being achieved. In waters that are degraded, no additional lower of water quality it allowed.

Graphically, the distinction between the general standard that allows some lowering of water quality, but is still protective of beneficial uses, and the “no lowering of existing water quality” standard imposed through the Outstanding Resource Water program is represented in Figure 1.

**Figure 1. Standards for “High Quality” Streams vs. Outstanding Resource Waters**

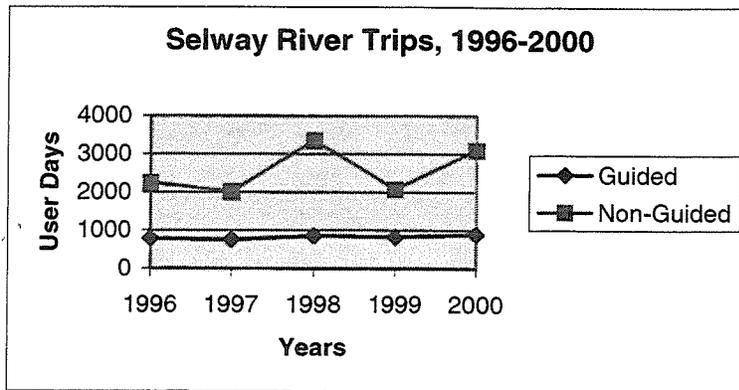


**Current Activities within the Proposed Outstanding Resource Waters Watersheds**

**Recreation**

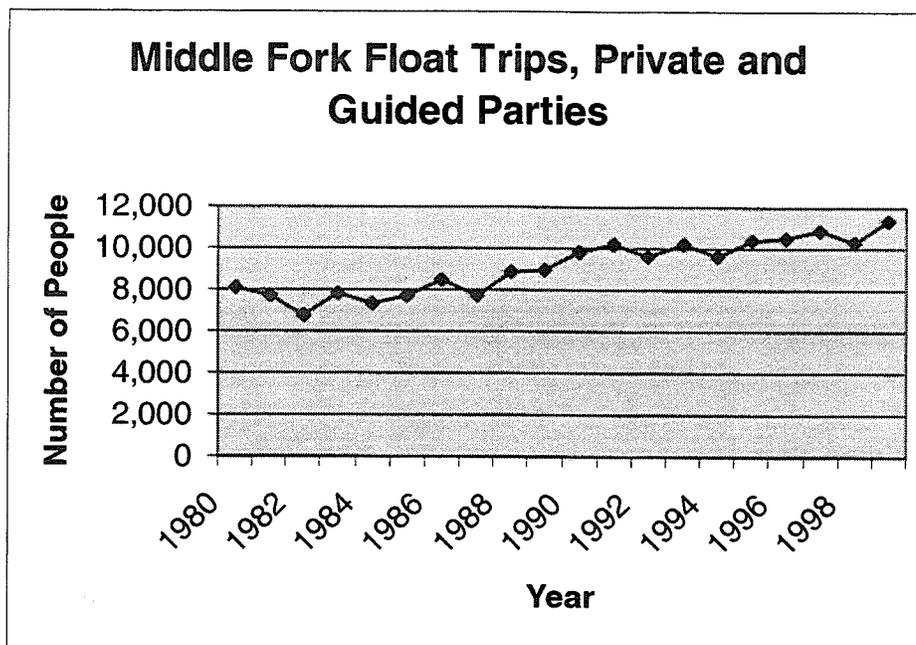
Wilderness designations for the lands within the Middle Fork and Selway watersheds mean that most of the activities within them are oriented toward recreation, since the Wilderness Act precludes roads, logging or any motorized vehicles. It is the recreational values of these rivers and surrounding lands that led Congress to designate them as “Wilderness” and that now generates support for the Outstanding Resource Water designation. The two basic types of recreational use: (1) land-based hunting and backcountry camping, and, (2) river-based rafting and fishing, undoubtedly account for the majority of the recreational use of the areas.

It is important to note that only a minority of this recreational use is facilitated through the services of outfitters and guides. On the Selway River, 75 percent of the rafting launches are reserved for private parties, where no outfitter is involved. With less than 1,000 people per year floating the Selway, those who do so with a licensed outfitter account for only about 250. However, it is noteworthy that use of the Selway could be higher. With 77 days in the rafting season, and a maximum party size of 16, then the theoretical maximum use is 1,232 people.



(Source: Nez Perce National Forest)

On the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, private parties account for 60 percent of the total river-based use. Over the past twenty years, there has generally been a slight upward trend in the number of people who have floated the Middle Fork.



### Administrative and Land Management

In addition to recreation, there are administrative and management functions ongoing within both watersheds. There are airstrips (also heavily used for recreational purposes), an entire ranger station, backcountry guard stations and lookouts within the areas. Some of these house a number of people and livestock during the summer. Most are fairly primitive with pit toilets and limited use, but the Moose Creek Ranger Station includes residences and bunkhouses, along with developed water and sewage systems.

### **Private Land Use**

Finally, there are at least a dozen privately-owned lodges and cabins within the two watersheds, most of them located very close to the main streams. These are on private inholdings—old homesteads and patented mining claims. Some are associated with private airstrips and many are commercial ventures, hosting guests each year. Some of the lodges maintain trucks, tractors and other vehicles for use on their properties. These uses and activities were in place at the time these lands were designated as Wilderness and the law allows them to continue.

There is potential for some of these private ownerships to be subdivided or have additional structures built on them. Apparently, the potential for this to happen is a function of the individual easement for each ownership. Wild and Scenic River regulations provide additional restrictions where other easement provisions are lacking.

### **Use and Maintenance of the Magruder Corridor-Paradise Campground Road**

The road from Red River Ranger Station to Darby, Montana is described as a low standard, single track road with turnouts. While most of it is located along ridgelines, approximately 18 miles of it parallel the Selway River, including the part that proceeds north to Paradise Campground. While this segment of the river is not designated for Outstanding Resource Water status, the Outstanding Resource Water segment does begin directly below the end of this road and so it is worthy of mention. This road would be an “existing use” under the Idaho Code and is protected as such; however the U.S. Forest Service recently completed a National Environmental Policy Act analysis of various options to improve this portion of the road. While the alternative of widening it was rejected because of the potential impacts to water quality, the Forest Service did decide to gravel the surface of the road where it parallels the Selway. The contract for this work includes hauling in crushed aggregate to which a binding agent has been added to “harden” it. Such treatments are very effective in reducing rutting and surface erosion providing an additional level of water quality protection, particularly when the native material is granitic.

The surfacing work will be completed in the summer of 2001. In addition, the Forest Service blades the road surface two or three times each year. If financial resources allowed more frequent surface treatments, erosion potential would be reduced even more. Beyond the completion of the gravel surfacing and routine maintenance, the Forest Service does not anticipate any major maintenance or reconstruction measures for the road.

All these existing activities either impact, or hold the potential to impact, the streams proposed for Outstanding Resource Water status; however, the law clearly allows for their continuance. All of these activities are also monitored and many are regulated in various ways to minimize their impact to water quality. Table 1 summarizes current activities and typical best management practices designed to maintain water quality.

**Table 1. Current Activities and Best Management Practices**

| Activity  | Potential Impacts   | Who is Responsible   | Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality   |
|---|---|--|--|
| River-based recreation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camping</li> <li>• Cooking and meal cleanup</li> <li>• Trash disposal</li> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Human waste</li> </ul>  | Chemical and nutrient leaching from soaps and waste, litter, possible small fuel spills   | The Forest Service for individuals; the Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board for outfitters   | Dump wastewater in a sump hole or cast it into the brush above high water line.<br>Carry out nonburnable trash .<br>Use fire pans for fires.<br>Bury or carry outhuman waste , if there are no pit toilets.  |
| Land-based recreation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camping</li> <li>• Cooking and meal cleanup</li> <li>• Trash disposal</li> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Human waste</li> <li>• Livestock</li> </ul>  | Chemical and nutrient leaching from soaps and waste, litter, possible fuel spills, manure, trampling and erosion impacts from livestock   | The Forest Service for individuals; the Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board for outfitters   | Dump wastewater in a sump hole or cast it into the brush above high water line.<br>Carry out nonburnable trash .<br>Use fire pans for fires.<br>Bury or carry out human waste, if there are no pit toilets.<br>Tether and water livestock away from streams and wet areas.   |
| Cabins, lodges and administrative sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste management</li> <li>• Fuel management</li> <li>• Care of buildings and grounds</li> <li>• Livestock</li> <li>• Farming operation</li> <li>• Trail Maintenance</li> </ul> | Chemical and nutrient leaching from septic systems; fuel spills and leaks; fertilizer, chemical and herbicide runoff; sediment from soil moving actions; concentrated livestock impacts | DEQ for sanitation; the Forest Service for grazing permits. Wild and Scenic River rules and individual easements guide future development. | IDAPA 58.01.03 Rules for the installation or repair of individual subsurface sewage disposal units????<br><br>IDAPA 58.01.02.800 Rules for storage of hazardous materials.<br><br>IDAPA 02.03.03 Rules governing the use of fertilizers and pesticides.<br><br>Wilderness Act or Wild and Scenic River rules and existing easements with private property owners guide future development. |
| Road and Airstrip Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surface improvements</li> <li>• Drainage improvements</li> </ul>   | Sedimentation from soil disturbance; potential for chemical use for dust abatement, weed control  | Idaho Department of Lands for roads; Forest Service for engineering specs.   | IDAPA 20.02.01.040 Road Construction and Maintenance. This provides guidance on building new roads and repairing and maintaining existing ones. In addition, Forest Service contract specifications and engineering plans address site-specific requirements.  |

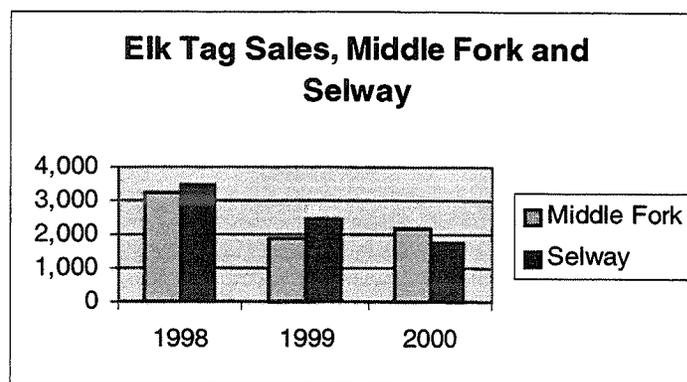
### Reasonably Foreseeable Growth of Activities

The foregoing summary of activities and how they are managed to protect water quality focuses on the more tangible aspects of regulation—the use of portable toilets to keep human waste from entering the river during high water or the use of picket lines to keep pack stock away from small tributary streams, for example. There is also a quantity component to the regulatory mechanism that is at least as important for these river segments.

Two agencies effectively regulate the amount or intensity of recreational use within the Selway and the Middle Fork watersheds—the Forest Service and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. The Forest Service determines the maximum number of raft launches per day and the maximum size of each rafting party for guided or private parties. This caps river use during the prime rafting months of the “control” season (May 15-July 31 on the Selway and June 1-Labor Day on the Middle Fork). On the Selway, the limit of one launch per day with a maximum of 16 in each party has not been raised for approximately 30 years (Appendix 2). On the Middle Fork, use outside the controlled season is generally not governed by launch limitation policies, but is effectively controlled by water levels. In most years, spring flows are too high and fall flows too low to accommodate many additional rafting parties.

As noted previously, most of the recreational use in these watersheds is not through the services of outfitters. Private parties participate in lotteries to draw their permits. Once so chosen, each party receives information from the Forest Service on how to conduct their camping and waste disposal. Forest Service personnel provide this information by mail and again in person as they check in each party and orient them for their trip.

For land-based recreation, particularly hunting, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game has the potential to limit the number of hunters by limiting the number of big game tags available for the units within the Selway and Middle Fork watersheds. While this is largely a biologically driven decision, and one related to big game management rather than watershed protection, the effect is a cap on the amount of hunting or fishing that might occur and; therefore, human-induced impacts to water quality.



(Source: Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game)

For those fortunate enough to either secure space on a rafting trip or draw a big game tag to hunt in the Wilderness areas, their camping practices will be affected by administrative actions. Primary among these are special use permits and the operating plans, which each outfitter must have, and which guide how they and their guests conduct themselves in the backcountry.

Appendix 3 includes a copy of an operating plan and a Forest Service special use permit. Within each are references to not only the operational aspects of the trip to keep guests safe and happy, but also to manage the human waste, wastewater, campfires and trash that each person produces so that the quality of the streams is protected. Adherence to the operating plan is a condition of each outfitter's special use permit allowing them to offer their guiding services. It is also a condition of the license to operate, since the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board can refuse to renew an outfitter's license if their performance isn't adequate.

### **Designated Agencies and Best Management Practice Implementation**

Based on the type of activities that occur on or near the river and tributaries nominated in the Board's recommendation, there are very few activities for which Idaho Code identifies a designated agency. Idaho Code Section 39-3620 sets forth a process by which IDEQ and the "designated agencies" develop the Best Management Practices necessary to meet Outstanding Resource Water standards. For forest roads, logging and mining, the designated agency is the Idaho Department of Lands. In the case of activities for which there is no designated agency IDEQ develops and adopts the Best Management Practices.

For recreational activities, there is no designated agency, per se. However, Appendix 4 includes a list of Best Management Practices that are applicable for both river- and land-based recreation. These Best Management Practices are implemented in different manners for outfitter-based recreation and private party recreation in the areas being discussed and would be the basis for IDEQ's review of plans and activities.

### **General Recreational Activity Review**

Because the areas included in the nomination are nearly all on federal lands, the first level of planning and review occurs in the development of the federal land management plans for each river. These are developed through a National Environmental Policy Act process and determine the general conditions to land and river use. IDEQ reviews these plans to assure that they meet water quality standards. This planning effort may speak to the use of fire pans, requirements for packing out waste or tethering pack animals away from streams. These general rules can be made more specific through orders issued by individual forest supervisors and included in the Code of Federal Regulations. Such orders can be temporary (a ban on open fires, for example) or relatively permanent, such as the limitation on the number of individuals in each party, or limitations to their stay on the river.

There are tangible enforcement measures to assure these plans are implemented. First, the rivers are well-patrolled by Forest Service wilderness rangers, Fish and Game agents and, if needed, by the enforcement personnel of the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board. All have the capability to either cite or report various types of violations. Designating these rivers as Outstanding Resources Waters will not change any agencies existing authorities, but as one outfitter noted, "there are many eyes on the river," and abuses of accepted river behavior tend to be very quickly reported and investigated by the appropriate agency.

While management plans and orders provide a basis for resource protection within the Middle Fork and Selway, it is the actual conduct of the outfitters and guides or private parties who use the rivers that are perhaps most significant. For both outfitters and private users of the river, the

Forest Service has developed methods to help them understand their obligations for maintaining water quality.

### **Best Management Practices for Private Party Recreation**

For private parties using the river, the Forest Service has developed a process where each permit-holder is mailed information on river procedures well in advance of the trip and then is met at the launch and the Best Management Practices are again reviewed. This information can be modified to highlight practices necessary to protect water quality. The Forest Service is responsible for adherence to the regulations by private, non-guided parties. Appendix 5 includes information given to these private parties. IDEQ has determined that the mandatory Best Management Practice for this situation is the processes used by the Forest Service to educate and inform the public of the necessary activities to protect the water quality.

### **Best Management Practice Implementation for Outfitter and Guide-Based Recreation**

The Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board regulates the outfitting and guiding industry. This agency maintains cooperative agreements with the Forest Service that are designed, along with other objectives, to assure that outfitting operations foster resource protection. This relationship puts the licensing board in an excellent position to help develop recreational Best Management Practices and assure their adoption for the outfitter and guide operations on the nominated rivers.

As noted earlier, each outfitter must develop an operating plan detailing how his trips will be conducted. This includes provisions for sanitation, cooking and cleanup and fire management. As shown in Appendix 3, the operating plan for Northwest River Company spells out these procedures (Page 14 of Appendix 3), with pictures illustrating the practices at the end of the plan.

There are two important aspects to the provisions of the operating plan. First, all the provisions addressing water quality protection are short (less than one page). They can be summarized as packing everything out that cannot be burned or buried. Realistically, from a water quality standpoint, we did not identify any other necessary requirements.

Second, all the provisions of the operating plan are enforceable. The plan is created and modified through discussions with the Forest Service and then is incorporated as part of the agency's special use permit, which gives the outfitter the legal authority to run his or her business on National Forest lands. The permit and the operating plan incorporated in it are contractual agreements. Each year the contract between the operator and the Forest Service is reviewed and the outfitter rated according to her performance of its provisions. Needed improvements in performance are noted and continual failure to meet the terms of the permit is grounds for its cancellation.

One Forest Service official noted that this approach focuses on a desired future condition for the river and associated resources, rather than imposing very specific regulations on the outfitter. This is also a new approach—special use permits of some years ago apparently were far more specific. Finally, this approach leaves some leeway for innovation and “going a step beyond.” For example, Northwest River Company's plan notes that while the Selway River Management Plan allows fires to be built on the ground and ashes to be thrown in the river, “at Northwest River Company, all camp fires will be built in the metal fire pan,” with the ashes packed out.

### **Best Management Practices for Septic and Sewage Disposal**

Another activity within the Selway and the Middle Fork watersheds that has the potential to impact water quality is the operation of septic systems at private lodges and cabins within these watersheds. IDEQs rules for individual subsurface sewage disposal guide the installation of new or modified systems, but not the operation of existing systems. These rules are found in IDAPA 58.01.03 and are attached as Appendix 7. Compliance with these practices is mandatory if the existing system needs to be replaced.

### **Best Management Practices for Roads**

The Idaho Department of Lands is the designated agency for road management and the Best Management Practices are spelled out in the department's rules at IDAPA 20.02.01.040 "Road Construction and Maintenance." These are attached as Appendix 8. Compliance with these practices is mandatory.

### **Conclusions of the Board Regarding Future Activities in These Outstanding Resource Watersheds**

1. The Board finds that the existing activities are compatible with protecting the existing level of water quality.
2. The Board finds that the Best Management Practices identified in Appendix 7, Road Construction and Maintenance; Appendix 6, Subsurface Sewage Disposal; and Appendix 4, Recreation Best Management Practices are adequate to protect water quality from reasonably foreseeable new non-point source activities or significantly expanded existing activities within the Middle Fork or Selway watersheds. The Board recognizes that these activities will be greatly limited by Wilderness or Wild and Scenic River designations for the surrounding lands. These limitations, themselves, will serve to protect the existing quality of these streams and their tributaries. Thus, efforts to increase recreational use, build new structures on the private lands within these watersheds or expand administrative sites will be few and appropriately restricted by the pertinent land use regulations.
3. The Board finds that if a measurable water quality change does occur, IDEQ along with other appropriate agencies, can use a feedback loop process to make adjustments to the management practices.
4. The Board finds that based on findings one through three above there is no soci-economic impacts to designation of these waterbodies as Outstanding Resource Waters.
5. The Board finds that designation of these waterbodies as Outstanding Resource Waters will provide a small amount of additional protection for the fish and wildlife values.



**Appendix 1. Idaho's Outstanding Resource Water Code Sections and Regulations**



Subsection 054.01, water bodies not fully supporting designated or existing beneficial uses and not meeting applicable water quality standards despite the application of required pollution controls shall be identified by the Department as water quality limited water bodies, and shall require the development of TMDLs or other equivalent processes, as described under Section 303(d)(1) of the Clean Water Act. A list of water quality limited water bodies shall be published periodically by the Department in accordance with Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and be subject to public review prior to submission to EPA for approval. Informational TMDLs may be developed for water bodies fully supporting beneficial uses as described under Section 303(d)(3) of the Clean Water Act, however, they will not be subject to the provisions of this Section. (3-20-97)

**03. Priority Of TMDL Development.** The priority of TMDL development for water quality limited water bodies identified in Subsection 054.02 shall be determined by the Director in consultation with the Basin Advisory Groups as described in Sections 39-3601, et seq., Idaho Code, depending upon the severity of pollution and the uses of the water body, including those of unique ecological significance. Water bodies identified as a high priority through this process will be the first to be targeted for development of a TMDL or equivalent process. (3-20-97)

**04. High Priority Provisions.** Until a TMDL or equivalent process is completed for a high priority water quality limited water body, new or increased discharge of pollutants which have caused the water quality limited listing may be allowed if interim changes, such as pollutant trading, or some other approach for the pollutant(s) of concern are implemented and the total load remains constant or decreases within the watershed. Interim changes shall maximize the use of cost effective measures to cap or decrease controllable human-caused discharges from point and nonpoint sources. Once the TMDL or equivalent process is completed, any new or increased discharge of causative pollutants will be allowed only if consistent with the approved TMDL. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as requiring best management practices for agricultural operations which are not adopted on a voluntary basis. (3-20-97)

**05. Medium And Low Priority Provisions.** Until TMDLs or equivalent processes are developed for water quality limited water bodies identified as medium or low priority, the Department shall require interim changes in permitted discharges from point sources and best management practices for nonpoint sources deemed necessary to prohibit further impairment of the designated or existing beneficial uses. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as requiring best management practices for agricultural operations which are not adopted on a voluntary basis. (3-20-97)

a. In determining the necessity for interim changes to existing activities and limitations upon proposed activities, the Department, in consultation with basin and watershed advisory groups, shall evaluate the water quality impacts caused by past regulated and unregulated activities in the affected watershed. (3-20-97)

b. Consideration of interim changes shall maximize the use of cost-effective and timely measures to ensure no further impairment of designated or existing uses. (3-20-97)

**06. Pollutant Trading.** Development of TMDLs or equivalent processes or interim changes under these rules may include pollutant trading with the goal of restoring water quality limited water bodies to compliance with water quality standards. (3-20-97)

**07. Idaho Agriculture Pollution Abatement Plan.** Use of best management practices by agricultural activities is strongly encouraged in high, medium and low priority watersheds. The Idaho Agriculture Pollution Abatement Plan is the source for best management practices for the control of nonpoint sources of pollution for agriculture. (3-20-97)

**055. OUTSTANDING RESOURCE WATERS (ORW).**

**01. Nominations For Outstanding Resource Water Designation.** Any person may request, in writing to the Board, that a stream segment be considered for designation as an outstanding resource water. To be considered for ORW designation, nominations must be received by the Board by April 1 or ten (10) days after the adjournment sine die of that year's regular session of the legislature, whichever is later, for consideration during the next regular session of the legislature. All nominations shall be addressed to:

Idaho Board of Environmental Quality  
Department of Environmental Quality  
Outstanding Resource Water Nomination  
1410 N. Hilton  
Boise, Idaho 83706-1255

The nomination shall include the following information: (3-23-98)

- a. The name, description and location of the stream segment; (7-1-93)
- b. The boundaries upstream and downstream of the stream segment; (7-1-93)
- c. An explanation of what makes the segment a candidate for the designation; (7-1-93)
- d. A description of the existing water quality and any technical data upon which the description is based as can be found in the most current basin status reports; (7-1-93)
- e. A discussion of the types of nonpoint source activities currently being conducted that may lower water quality, together with those activities that are anticipated during the next two (2) years, as described in the most current basin status reports; and (7-1-93)
- f. Any additional evidence to substantiate such a designation. (7-1-93)

**02. Public Notice And Public Comment.** The Board will give public notice that one (1) or more stream segments are being considered for recommendation to the legislature as outstanding resource waters. Public notice will also be given if a public hearing is being held. Public comments regarding possible designation will be accepted by the Board for a period of at least forty-five (45) days. Public comments may include, but are not limited to, discussion of socio-economic considerations; fish, wildlife or recreational values; and other beneficial uses. (7-1-93)

**03. Public Hearing.** A public hearing(s) may be held at the Board's discretion on any stream segment nominated for ORW designation. Public notice will be given if a hearing is held. The decision to hold a hearing may be based on the following criteria: (7-1-93)

- a. One (1) or more requests contain supporting documentation and valid reasons for designation; (7-1-93)
- b. A stream segment is generally recognized as constituting an outstanding national resource, such as waters of national and state parks, and wildlife refuges; (7-1-93)
- c. A stream segment is generally recognized as waters of exceptional recreational or ecological significance; (7-1-93)
- d. The Board shall give special consideration to holding a hearing and to recommending for designation by the legislature, waters which meet criteria found in Subsection 055.03.b. and 055.03.c.; (3-20-97)
- e. Requests for a hearing will be given due consideration by the Board. Public hearings may be held at the Board's discretion. (7-1-93)

**04. Board Review.** The Board shall review the stream segments nominated for ORW designation and based on the hearing or other written record, determine the segments to recommend as ORWs to the legislature. The Board shall submit a report for each stream segment it recommends for ORW designation. The report shall contain the information specified in Subsection 055.01 and information from the hearing record or other written record concerning the impacts the designation would have on socio-economic conditions; fish, wildlife and recreational values; and other beneficial uses. The Department shall then prepare legislation for each segment that will be recommended to the legislature as an ORW. The legislation shall provide for the listing of designated segments in these regulations without the need for formal rule-making procedures, pursuant to Sections 67-5200, et seq., Idaho

Code. (3-20-97)

**05. Designated Waters.** Those stream segments designated by the legislature as ORWs are listed in Sections 110 through 160. (7-1-93)

**06. Restriction Of Nonpoint Source Activities On Outstanding Resource Waters.** Nonpoint source activities on ORWs shall be restricted as specified in Subsection 350.04. (7-1-93)

**056. SPECIAL RESOURCE WATERS.**

**01. Designations.** Waters of the state may be designated as special resource waters. Designation as a special resource water recognizes at least one (1) of the following characteristics: (7-1-93)

a. The water is of outstanding high quality, exceeding both criteria for primary contact recreation and cold water aquatic life; (4-5-00)

b. The water is of unique ecological significance; (7-1-93)

c. The water possesses outstanding recreational or aesthetic qualities; (7-1-93)

d. Intensive protection of the quality of the water is in paramount interest of the people of Idaho; (7-1-93)

e. The water is a part of the National Wild and Scenic River System, is within a State or National Park or wildlife refuge and is of prime or major importance to that park or refuge; or (4-5-00)

f. Intensive protection of the quality of the water is necessary to maintain an existing, but jeopardized beneficial use. (4-5-00)

**02. Designated Waters.** Those waters of the state determined to be special resource waters are listed in Sections 110 through 160. (4-5-00)

**03. Restrictions Of Point Source Discharges To Special Resource Waters And Their Tributaries.** Point source discharges to special resource waters and their tributaries shall be restricted as specified in Subsection 400.01.b. (7-1-93)

**057. -- 059. (RESERVED).**

**060. MIXING ZONE POLICY.**

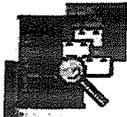
**01. Mixing Zones For Point Source Wastewater Discharges.** After a biological, chemical, and physical appraisal of the receiving water and the proposed discharge and after consultation with the person(s) responsible for the wastewater discharge, the Department will determine the applicability of a mixing zone and, if applicable, its size, configuration, and location. In defining a mixing zone, the Department will consider the following principles: (7-1-93)

a. The mixing zone may receive wastewater through a submerged pipe, conduit or diffuser. (7-1-93)

b. The mixing zone is to be located so it does not cause unreasonable interference with or danger to existing beneficial uses. (7-1-93)

c. When two (2) or more individual mixing zones are needed for a single activity, the sum of the areas and volumes of the several mixing zones is not to exceed the area and volume which would be allowed for a single zone; (7-1-93)

d. Multiple mixing zones can be established for a single discharge, each being specific for one (1) or more pollutants contained within the discharged wastewater; (7-1-93)



# Idaho Statutes

TITLE 39  
HEALTH AND SAFETY  
CHAPTER 36  
WATER QUALITY

39-3602. DEFINITIONS. Whenever used or referred to in this act, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context, the following terms shall have the following meanings

- (1) "Applicable water quality standard" means those water quality standards identified in the rules of the department.
- (2) "Best management practice" means practices, techniques or measures developed, or identified, by the designated agency and identified in the state water quality management plan which are determined to be a cost-effective and practicable means of preventing or reducing pollutants generated from nonpoint sources to a level compatible with water quality goals.
- (3) "Board" means the board of health and welfare.
- (4) "Department" means the department of health and welfare.
- (5) "Designated agency" means the department of lands for timber harvest activities, for oil and gas exploration and development and for mining activities; the soil conservation commission for grazing activities and for agricultural activities; the transportation department for public road construction; the department of agriculture for aquaculture; and the department of health and welfare's division of environmental quality for all other activities.
- (6) "Designated use or designated beneficial use" means those uses assigned to waters as identified in the rules of the department whether or not the uses are being attained. The department may adopt subcategories of a use.
- (7) "Director" means the director of the department of health and welfare, or his or her designee.
- (8) "Discharge" means any spilling, leaking, emitting, escaping, leaching, or disposing of a pollutant into the waters of the state. For the purposes of this chapter, discharge shall not include surface water runoff from nonpoint sources or natural soil disturbing events.
- (9) "Existing use" means those surface water uses actually attained on or after November 28, 1975, whether or not they are designated uses. Existing uses may form the basis for subcategories of designated uses.
- (10) "Full protection, full support, or full maintenance of designated beneficial uses of water" means compliance with those levels of water quality criteria listed in the appropriate rules of the department, or where there is no applicable numerical criteria, compliance with the reference streams or conditions approved by the director in consultation with the appropriate basin advisory group.
- (11) "Lower water quality" means a measurable adverse change in a chemical, physical, or biological parameter of water relevant to a designated beneficial use, and which can be expressed numerically. Measurable adverse change is determined by a statistically significant difference between sample means using standard methods for analysis and statistical interpretation appropriate to the parameter. Statistical significance is defined as the ninety-five percent (95%) confidence limit when significance is not otherwise defined for the parameter in standard methods or practices.
- (12) "National pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES)" means the point source permitting program established pursuant to section 402 of the federal clean water act.
- (13) "New nonpoint source activity" means a new nonpoint source activity or a substantially modified existing nonpoint source activity on or adversely affecting an outstanding resource water which includes, but is not limited to, new silvicultural activities, new mining activities and substantial modifications to an existing mining permit or approved plan, new recreational activities and substantial modifications to existing

recreational activities, new residential or commercial development that includes soil disturbing activities, new grazing activities and substantial modifications to existing grazing activities, except that reissuance of existing grazing permits, or grazing activities and practices authorized under an existing permit, is not considered a new activity. It does not include naturally occurring events such as floods, landslides, and wildfire including prescribed natural fire.

(14) "Nonpoint source activities" includes grazing, crop production, silviculture, log storage or rafting, construction, mining, recreation, septic systems, runoff from storms and other weather related events and other activities not subject to regulation under the federal national pollutant discharge elimination system. Nonpoint source activities on waters designated as outstanding resource waters do not include issuance of water rights permits or licenses, allocation of water rights, operation of diversions, or impoundments.

(15) "Nonpoint source runoff" means water which may carry pollutants from nonpoint source activities into the waters of the state.

(16) "Outstanding resource water" means a high quality water, such as water of national and state parks and wildlife refuges and water of exceptional recreational or ecological significance, which has been so designated by the legislature. It constitutes an outstanding national or state resource that requires protection from point source and nonpoint source activities that may lower water quality.

(17) "Person" means any individual, association, partnership, firm, joint stock company, joint venture, trust, estate, political subdivision, public or private corporation, state or federal governmental department, agency or instrumentality, or any legal entity, which is recognized by law as the subject of rights and duties.

(18) "Point source" means any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance including, but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are, or may be, discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture, discharges from dams and hydroelectric generating facilities or any source or activity considered a nonpoint source by definition.

(19) "Pollutant" means dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical waste, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, silt, cellar dirt; and industrial, municipal and agricultural waste, gases entrained in water; or other materials which, when discharged or released to water in excessive quantities cause or contribute to water pollution. Provided however, biological materials shall not include live or occasional dead fish that may accidentally escape into the waters of the state from aquaculture facilities.

(20) "Reference stream or condition" means one (1) of the following

(a) The minimum biological, physical and chemical conditions necessary to fully support the designated beneficial uses; or

(b) A water body representing natural conditions with few impacts from human activities and which are representative of the highest level of support attainable in the basin; or

(c) A water body representing minimum conditions necessary to fully support the designated beneficial uses.

In highly mineralized areas or in the absence of such reference streams or water bodies, the director, in consultation with the basin advisory group and the technical advisers to it, may define appropriate hypothetical reference conditions or may use monitoring data specific to the site in question to determine conditions in which the beneficial uses are fully supported.

(21) "Short-term or temporary activity" means an activity which is limited in scope and is expected to have only minimal impact on water quality as determined by the director. Short-term or temporary activities include, but are not limited to, maintenance of existing structures, limited road and trail reconstruction, soil stabilization measures, and habitat enhancement structures.

(22) "Silviculture" means those activities associated with the regeneration, growing and harvesting of trees and timber including, but not limited to, disposal of logging slash, preparing sites for new stands of trees to be either planted or allowed to regenerate through natural means, road construction and road maintenance, drainage of surface water which inhibits tree growth or logging operations, fertilization, application of herbicides or pesticides, all logging operations, and all forest management techniques employed to enhance the growth of stands of trees or timber.

(23) "Soil conservation commission" means an agency of state government as created in section 22-2718, Idaho Code.

(24) "Soil conservation district" means an entity of state government as defined in section 22-2717, Idaho Code.

(25) "State" means the state of Idaho.

(26) "State water quality management plan" means the state management plan developed and updated by the department in accordance with sections 205, 208, and 303 of the federal clean water act.

(27) "Total maximum daily load (TMDL)" means a plan for a water body not fully supporting designated beneficial uses and includes the sum of the individual wasteload allocations for point sources, load allocations for nonpoint sources, and natural background levels of the pollutant impacting the water body. Pollutant allocations established through TMDLs shall be at a level necessary to implement the applicable water quality standards for the identified pollutants with seasonal variations and a margin of safety to account for uncertainty concerning the relationship between the pollutant loading and water quality standards.

(28) "Waters or water body" means all the accumulations of surface water, natural and artificial, public and private, or parts thereof which are wholly or partially within, flow through or border upon this state. For the purposes of this chapter, water bodies shall not include municipal or industrial wastewater treatment or storage structures or private reservoirs, the operation of which has no effect on waters of the state.

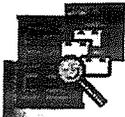
(29) "Water pollution" is such alteration of the thermal, chemical, biological or radioactive properties of any waters of the state, or such discharge or release of any contaminant into the waters of the state as will or is likely to create a nuisance or render such waters harmful or detrimental or injurious to public health, safety or welfare or to domestic, commercial, industrial, recreational, aesthetic or other legitimate uses or to livestock, wild animals, birds, fish or other aquatic life.

(30) "Watersheds" means the land area from which water flows into a stream or other body of water which drains the area. For the purposes of this chapter, the area of watersheds shall be recommended by the basin advisory group described in section 39-3613, Idaho Code.

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# Idaho Statutes

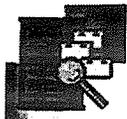
TITLE 39  
HEALTH AND SAFETY  
CHAPTER 36  
WATER QUALITY

39-3617. DESIGNATION OF OUTSTANDING RESOURCE WATERS. Any person may request, in writing to the board of health and welfare, that a stream segment may be considered for designation as an outstanding resource water. The board shall recommend to the legislature those stream segments the board proposes for designation as outstanding resource waters. The legislature shall determine by law which such stream segments to designate as outstanding resource waters. Stream segments so designated shall be included in a list of outstanding resource waters to be compiled and updated by the department of health and welfare in its rules governing water quality standards. Interim status or special protection shall not be provided to streams recommended by the board prior to legislative designation as an outstanding resource water. No state agency shall delay actions, or deny or delay the processing or approval of any permit for a nonpoint source activity based on nomination of a segment for designation as an outstanding resource water, or while the legislature is considering such designation.

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# Idaho Statutes

TITLE 39  
HEALTH AND SAFETY  
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39-3618. RESTRICTION PROVISIONS FOR NEW NONPOINT SOURCE ACTIVITIES ON OUTSTANDING RESOURCE WATERS. No person shall conduct a new or substantially modify an existing nonpoint source activity that can reasonably be expected to lower the water quality of an outstanding resource water, except for short-term or temporary nonpoint source activities which do not alter the essential character or special uses of a segment, issuance of water rights permits or licenses, allocation of water rights, or operation of water diversions or impoundments.

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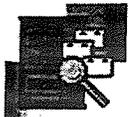
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HEALTH AND SAFETY  
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WATER QUALITY

39-3619. CONTINUATION PROVISIONS FOR EXISTING ACTIVITIES ON OUTSTANDING RESOURCE WATERS. Existing activities may continue and shall be conducted in a manner that maintains and protects the current water quality of an outstanding resource water. The provisions of this section shall not affect short-term or temporary activities that do not alter the essential character or special uses of a segment, allocation of water rights, or operations of water diversions or impoundments, provided that such activities shall be conducted in conformance with applicable laws and regulations.

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# Idaho Statutes

TITLE 39  
HEALTH AND SAFETY  
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WATER QUALITY

39-3620. APPROVAL PROVISIONS FOR BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR NEW NONPOINT SOURCE ACTIVITIES ON OR AFFECTING OUTSTANDING RESOURCE WATERS. No person may conduct a new nonpoint source activity on or affecting an outstanding resource water, except for a short-term or temporary activity as set forth in section 39-3602, Idaho Code, prior to approval by the designated agency as provided in this section.

(1) Within six (6) months of designation of an outstanding resource water by the legislature, the designated agency shall develop best management practices for reasonably foreseeable new nonpoint source activities. In developing best management practices the designated agencies shall

(a) Solicit technical advice from state and federal agencies, research institutions, and universities and consult with affected landowners, land managers, operators, and the public; and

(b) Shall assure that all public participation processes required by law have been completed, but if no public participation process is required by law, will require public notification and the opportunity to comment;

(c) Recommend proposed best management practices to the board of health and welfare.

(2) The board of health and welfare and designated agencies shall adopt the proposed best management practices that are in compliance with the rules and regulations governing water quality standards, and based on the recommendations of the designated agency and the comments received during the public participation process;

(3) After adoption, these best management practices will be known as the outstanding resource water best management practices and will be published by the designated agency. Outstanding resource water approved best management practices will be reviewed and revised where needed by the designated agency every four (4) years in consultation with the department, landowners, federal managers, operators and the public to determine conformance with objectives of this act;

(4) Following adoption of best management practices, the designated agency shall require implementation of applicable outstanding resource water best management practices which will assure that water quality of an outstanding resource water is not lowered;

(5) Where outstanding resource water best management practices have not been adopted as set forth in subsections (1) through (4) of this section, the designated agency shall

(a) Assure that all public participation processes required by law have been completed, but if no public participation process is required by law, the designated agency shall provide for public notification of the new activity and the opportunity to comment;

(b) Determine that the site-specific best management practices selected for a new nonpoint source activity are designed to ensure that water quality of the outstanding resource water is not lowered; and

(c) Provide for review by the department that the activity is in compliance with rules and regulations governing water quality standards.

(6) When the applicable outstanding resource water best management practices are applied, the landowner, land manager, or operator applying those practices will be in compliance with the provisions of this act. In the event water quality is lowered, the outstanding resource water best management practices will be revised within a time frame established by the designated agency to ensure water quality is restored.



# Idaho Statutes

TITLE 39  
HEALTH AND SAFETY  
CHAPTER 36  
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39-3621. MONITORING PROVISIONS. The designated agencies, in cooperation with the appropriate land management agency and the department shall ensure best management practices are monitored for their effect on water quality. The monitoring results shall be presented to the department on a schedule agreed to between the designated agency and the department.

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# Idaho Statutes

TITLE 39  
HEALTH AND SAFETY  
CHAPTER 36  
WATER QUALITY

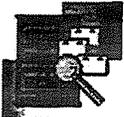
39-3622. ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS. (1) The designated agency shall ensure that the approved outstanding resource water best management practices are implemented for new nonpoint source activities. If a person fails to obtain approval from a designated agency for a new nonpoint source activity as set forth in section 39-3620, Idaho Code, or if a person fails to implement approved best management practices and water quality is lowered, the designated agency may institute a civil action for an immediate injunction to halt the activity or pursue other remedies provided by law.

(2) Nothing in this act shall restrict the enforcement authority of the department or designated agencies as provided by law.

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# Idaho Statutes

TITLE 39  
HEALTH AND SAFETY  
CHAPTER 36  
WATER QUALITY

39-3623. EFFECT OF RULES. Every rule promulgated within the authority conferred in sections 39-3617 through 39-3622, Idaho Code, shall be of temporary effect and shall become permanent only by enactment of statute at the first regular session following adoption of the rule. Rules not approved in the above manner shall be rejected, null, void and of no force and effect on July 1, following submission of the rules to the legislature. The rules promulgated within the authority conferred in this act and adopted by the board of health and welfare on January 31, 1990, and contained in IDAPA 16.01.2003,31 and 16.01.2003,32 and 16.01.2053,01 through 16.01.2053,07, are hereby approved by the legislature.

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**Appendix 2. Forest Service River Management Guidance**



*Selway River  
Whitewater Management  
Plan*

BITTERROOT and NEZPERCE NATIONAL FORESTS



Revised May 1982

U.S.D.A.

FOREST SERVICE



NORTHERN REGION

SELWAY RIVER  
WHITewater MANAGEMENT PLAN

Bitterroot and Nezperce National Forests  
Northern Region - Forest Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Revised May 1982

APPROVED BY:

*Paul A. Meyer*  
Forest Supervisor - Bitterroot N.F.

Date 5/24/82

*Don Biddison*  
Forest Supervisor - Nezperce N.F.

Date 5/27/82

SELWAY RIVER  
WHITEWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

- I. INTRODUCTION: This plan provides management direction for whitewater float boating on the 47-mile section of the Selway River between Paradise Guard Station and Selway Falls.

This portion of the Selway is unique because it is the only river in the United States that received instant inclusion to both the Wilderness Preservation System and the Wild and Scenic River System as a "wild river." The natural beauty of the canyon combined with the challenge of the rapids and the outstanding opportunity for solitude make the Selway one of the highest quality whitewater float-boating rivers in the nation.

The objectives of this plan are to:

- A. Manage the Selway River float program so that the ecosystem and its components are not adversely modified by man's activities, maintaining the quality of the river for future use.
- B. Provide for optimum use of the resource without destroying the values for which the area was established and is being managed.
- C. Assure the opportunity for quality river experience.

During the past few years the sport of whitewater floating has greatly increased in popularity. The demand for float trips on the Selway River has dramatically increased during the past ten years. This plan provides direction to prevent overcrowding and insure a "primitive and unconfined type of recreation" with an "outstanding opportunity for solitude" as provided for in the Wilderness Act.

- II. SITUATION STATEMENT: The whitewater river management section lies within the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness boundaries. It is 47 miles long and extends from the confluence of White Cap Creek to Selway Falls. The majority of the Selway River managed under this plan is considered to be the "Upper Selway." This portion of the river has a relatively narrow channel which is downcutting in an equilibrium process. Landslide activity has left large rock deposits in the stream. The combination of downcutting, partial obstruction by landslide deposition and average elevation gradient of 28 feet per mile has created a considerable number of rapids and high-velocity flow (refer to Appendix - Rapid Inventory and Class). The number of slow water recovery pools below rapids are limited. This combination of characteristics establishes this portion of the Selway as a very challenging and potentially dangerous river, especially during the peak flow period from the middle of May to around June 15. The Idaho Outfitters and Guides Board has designated the Selway River as "Classified" on the basis of the velocity of stream flow and the number of rapids.

The topography of the river canyon is rugged and steep. Summer temperatures are characteristically hot (85-100 degrees). The cool moist spring usually is preceded by a long cold winter, but slopes with south and southwest aspects are often devoid of snow. Vegetative composition has been influenced by the large fires in the early part of the century. These fires have created a mosaic comprised of large brush fields interspersed with tree stands of various age groups. Habitat types along the canyon are predominantly grand-fir/clintonia, Thuja/clintonia, and Douglas-fir/ninebark. Ponderosa pine/Idaho fescue and ponderosa pine/blue bunch wheat grass habitat types are found on the xeric sites. Forage is very limited due to the steepness of the canyon and lack of natural meadows.

Wildlife is represented by a variety of species ranging from small species such as chipmunks, squirrels, etc., to elk, moose, deer and bear. Bird species are equally abundant. One species (osprey) nests along the river.

Two species of anadromous fish, steelhead trout and chinook salmon, migrate up the Selway River. Westslope cutthroat trout is a native species, as is eastern brook trout, Dolly Varden trout and rainbow trout.

The combination of wildlife, fish, scenic views, and whitewater challenge has drawn a considerable influx of recreationists to the river. Recreation activities include whitewater boating, hunting, fishing, photography, hiking, swimming, and nature study. Recreation analysis shows that the number of wilderness users has increased annually and the whitewater enthusiasts have shown the greatest increase.

The launch site for the Selway River is located on the Bitterroot National Forest, West Fork Ranger District,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from the Paradise Campground. The launch site is approximately 67 miles by road, southwest of Darby, Montana. The primary route of travel is south from Darby, 4 miles on U.S. Highway 93, south 14 miles on State Highway #473, and then west and north 49 miles on National Forest Roads #468 and #6223. The road distance from the Paradise Launch Site to the Race Creek takeout is 245 miles.

The Selway River is paralleled by Trail #4 from the Paradise portal to the takeout site at Race Creek, above Selway Falls. This trail is the main route of the Moose Creek trail system. Most of the river campsites are accessible from Trail #4 and consequently, the overuse of riverbank campsites by the combined activities of floaters, hikers, and horsemen is of concern to managers. Trail access to the river campsites also intensifies sociological conflicts between floaters, hikers and horsemen.

In 1974, river campsites were reinventoried and classified. Classification criteria were based on the maximum number of individuals a site could accommodate with major consideration given to crowding and physical damage to the site. The classification rating was established on the maximum campsite capacity with three divisions: 1. (small) maximum party size is eight people; 2. (medium) maximum party size of fifteen people; 3. (maximum) party size of twenty people. There are 36 areas along the 47-mile length of the river that are suitable for camping. Eleven campsites were suitable for groups containing up to 20 individuals. However, six of these Class 3 sites are located within a 10-mile stretch of the river. This irregular dispersion of the large campsites is common to the

other-sized campsites as well. The inventory also reveals that water level is a determining factor of campsite availability. Only during the low-water period can all 36 campsites be used. During the medium-water level period approximately 20 sites are available and the high-water period limits campers to 16 areas. The combination of the irregular distribution of suitable camping areas and the influence of water levels has led to overuse of campsites in favored locations.

Administrative facilities consist of guard stations located at Paradise, Shearer, and Selway Falls and the Ranger Station at Moose Creek. Communications facilities include the Forest Service radio system, back-country radio systems and a phone line used by the North Star Ranch, Selway Lodge and Running Creek Ranch. A radio-telephone is utilized at Moose Creek.

Visitor information services for floaters have been provided by a Forest Service portal employee located at Paradise Guard Station, Moose Creek and West Fork Ranger Station employees, and a two-person float patrol. Regulations and information concerning whitewater boating have been posted on a signboard located at Paradise portal.

- III. BASIS FOR PLAN: This plan is based on the provisions of the Wilderness Act (PL 88-577, September 2, 1964) and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (PL 90-542, October 2, 1968).

The Wilderness Act provides, among other things, that Wilderness areas ...

- A. "Shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such a manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as Wilderness, and so as to provide for the protection of these areas, the preservation of their Wilderness character..."
- B. are "hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man..." and "has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation..."

The act further states that "each agency administering any area designated as Wilderness shall be responsible for preserving the Wilderness character of the area and shall so administer such area for such other purposes for which it may have been established as also to preserve its Wilderness character."

- C. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act provides that "...certain selected rivers of the nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstanding remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations."

IV. MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

A. Floating Requirements and Conditions

1. All parties floating the Selway National Wild River will be required to comply with the following conditions of use under the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture (36 CFR 251.25 and 36 CFR 261.11 m). Violators of these conditions of use are subject to punishment by fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment of not more than six months or both (16 USC 551). Refer to Law Enforcement Plan on file at the West Fork Ranger District.
  - a. Make a reservation and obtain a trip permit for trips between May 15 and July 31 inclusively.
  - b. Maximum size per launch will be 16 persons.
  - c. Party members may take only one trip per season with the exception of commercial guides.
  - d. Pack out all unburnable garbage and discarded material including damaged or broken equipment.
  - e. Carry a shovel and bucket for camp sanitation and fire fighting purposes.
  - f. Build fires only in safe places. Tend fire continually and put dead out before leaving.
  - g. Leave artifacts, natural features, and green vegetation intact.
  - h. Use no soap, detergents, or other pollutants within the high water line of the Selway River and its tributary streams.
  - i. Bury all fecal material at least 100 feet back from the high water mark of of the Selway River or any other water source.
  - j. Bury, burn or pack out all toilet paper.
2. Launch dates for noncommercial permits will be allocated on the basis of a drawing to be held at the West Fork Ranger Station on the first week of February. Applications considered in the drawing must be received no earlier than December 1 and no later than January 31 prior to the float season.

Any launch dates not requested in the drawing will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Launch dates are assigned to the four commercial outfitters prior to the drawing (Refer to Appendix A - Reservation System).
3. During the floating period, May 15 through July 31, only one launch per day will be permitted.
4. All parties will be allowed to launch only on scheduled days.

5. When a commercial operator decides not to launch on a scheduled day, the launch will be assigned to a private party.
6. Commercial outfitters will be allowed a maximum of two training trips per season to maintain the number of qualified guides as required under the standards of the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Board. Training trips will be allocated on an individual request basis. Requests must specify the trainee's name(s), experience, and training needs to qualify as a guide or lead guide.
7. There will be a maximum of four commercial outfitters on the Selway River each year. When considering annual applications, priority will be given to the outfitters who held permits the previous season, for the same amount of use, provided they are fully qualified. A maximum of 16 launch dates will be permitted for commercial trips each year. The maximum party size for commercial trips will be 16 people including guides.
8. Those who buy or otherwise acquire outfitting businesses which presently hold permits to operate on the Selway River will be not guaranteed the permit. The new permittee will be chosen from all interested applicants, according to existing regulations and policy, and upon the basis of compatibility with river management objectives. The experience, past performance, references, equipment, and all facets of the applicant's operation will be considered in choosing the new permittee.
9. Educational groups will not receive special allotments. Such groups will obtain a float permit through the drawing system. Commercial educational groups do not qualify for noncommercial permits.
10. A trip is commercial if any of the participants makes a profit, receives a reimbursement or salary in the form of cash, goods, or service, receives rental for use of rafts or equipment, increases the value of equipment, or supports in any part other programs or activities from amounts received from other party members.

A non-commercial river trip must be participatory in nature. Trip preparation (including logistics, food purchase, equipment assembly, transportation and vehicle shuttle) and conduct of the trip (including food preparation and sanitation) must be shared by all members of the group. Collecting a set fee (monetary compensation), payable to an individual, group or organization, for conducting, leading, guiding or outfitting a non-commercial trip is not allowed. The trip leader should delegate responsibility (financial and otherwise) for various aspects of trip preparation and conduct. The purpose of the trip must be for its recreational, scientific, educational and/or associated values. The trip will not be conducted for the purpose of monetary gain (either as a direct or indirect result of the trip) or acquisition of new equipment to the advantage of an individual, group or organization or for the purpose of amortizing equipment. Paid advertising is not permissible.

11. Equipment may be inspected at the launch site. Safe equipment and practices will be stressed; however, the final decision of floating or not floating will be the responsibility of the launching party, not the Forest Service.
12. Search and rescue operations will be the responsibility of the party involved.

| <u>B. Administrative Requirements and Objectives</u>  | <u>Accomplishment<br/>Date</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Administer the whitewater river program in such a manner as to perpetuate the wild river and Wilderness Resource for the purposes of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Wilderness Act.  | Annually                       |
| 2. Administer the reservation system. The manning priorities for administration will be fulfilled in the following order:<br>Priority 1 - launch site<br>Priority 2 - Patrol boat<br>Priority 3 - Selway Falls<br>Details of who will finance and fill these positions will be determined in an operational plan developed jointly by the West Fork and Moose Creek District Rangers. | Annually                       |
| 3. Conduct river-use inventory.   | Annually                       |
| 4. Continue to refine carrying capacity - knowledge based on ecological and sociological data.  | Annually                       |
| 5. Where possible, minimize the number of manmade structures visible from the river on Trail #4.  | Annually                       |
| 6. Acquire the private lands along the river on a willing-seller, willing-buyer basis.  | As Feasible                    |
| 7. Utilize the scenic easement as an alternative action to forestall subdivision of private lands.  | As Feasible                    |
| 8. Utilize a computer to facilitate management in the following areas:<br>a. Reservation Scheduling<br>b. Trip Manifests  | As Feasible                    |

V. APPENDIX

A. Reservation System

1. Reservation Request Form and Procedure
2. Reservation Confirmation Letter
3. Sample of Trip Permit

- B. River Map - Not included this copy.
- C. Selway River Hydrograph at Paradise Launch Site
- D. Rapid Inventory - Location and Class
- E. Selway River Campsite Inventory
- F. Consulation with Others - Not included this copy.

1982 SELWAY RIVER FLOAT TRIP RESERVATION REQUEST  
(See Reverse for specific instructions)

TO: District Ranger  
Attn: Selway River Permits  
West Fork Ranger Station  
Darby, MT 59829

FROM: Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone during office hours  
(include area code) \_\_\_\_\_

REQUEST LAUNCH DATES\* (Maximum of 4 choices)

1st Choice Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Choice Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Choice Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_  
4th Choice Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

\*NOTE: You are entitled to ONLY four choices. You must specify month and day for each launch choice (e.g., June 2, July 23, etc.) Your choice/choices will be rejected if this form is not properly prepared. WHEN CONSIDERING YOUR 1982 CHOICES, PLEASE TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THAT THIS WINTER MAY BE A HIGH SNOWPACK YEAR WHICH MAY HAVE IMPACT ON ACCESSIBILITY INTO THE LAUNCH SITE IN MAY. DUE TO FUNDING PRIORITIES, THE FOREST SERVICE DOES NOT ANTICIPATE PLOWING THE INZPERCE ROAD. Launch dates are assigned to the four commercial outfitters prior to the drawing. If any of your choices are allocated to commercial outfitters, that choice will automatically be placed on a waiting list. Commercial use permitted on the Selway River for 1982:

AMERICAN RIVER TOURING ASSOCIATION, 1307 Harrison St., Oakland, CA 94612  
June 22 and 30, July 8 & 15

DON HATCH RIVER EXPEDITIONS, P.O. Box C, Vernal, UT 84078, July 3, 9, 16 & 24

TEVE CURREY EXPEDITIONS, INC., P.O. Box 1574, Provo, UT 84603-1574,  
June 2, 8, 14 and 21

WHITEWATER ADVENTURES, P.O. Box 184, Twin Falls, ID 83301; June 28, July 5, 12 & 1

(TRAINING TRIPS for commercial guides to meet Idaho licensing requirements:  
May 17 and 18, 1982)

EXPECTED NUMBER OF DAYS ON THE RIVER: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN PARTY (not to exceed 16 persons): \_\_\_\_\_

BOATS TO BE USED: # \_\_\_\_\_ Type \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION FROM WHICH YOU WILL LAUNCH:

\_\_\_\_\_ Paradise  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant

The following Selway River reservation procedure is outlined below:

Noncommercial permits will be required during the period May 15 through July 31 inclusive each year. Special Use Permits are required for any use of National Forest land at any time when such use is for commercial purposes.

2. A trip is commercial if any of the participants makes a profit, receives a reimbursement or salary in the form of cash, goods, or service, receives rental for use of rafts or equipment, increases the value of equipment; or supports in any part other programs or activities from amounts received from other party members. A trip is noncommercial if there is a bona fide sharing of costs where no part of the fees are collected in excess of actual costs of the activity, for salary or financial gain in any manner for any of the group, its leaders or sponsors or for capital increase or amortization of the major equipment. Noncommercial trips include the genuine "do-it-yourselfers" who get together to participate in river trips. Group leaders may not be paid in any manner. They must participate equally in sharing costs with other members of the group. Paid advertising is not permitted for noncommercial trips.

3. Applications considered in the drawing must be RECEIVED at the West Fork Ranger Station no earlier than December 1 and no later than January 31 prior to the float season. There will be NO exceptions; applications received other than those dates will be rejected and returned to the applicant. Launch dates will be allocated on the basis of a computerized drawing during the first week in February.

Each party leader is permitted to apply for a maximum of only four launch dates. If a party does not use calendar dates, (e.g., June 12, July 12, July 23, etc.) and/or limit their request to four launch dates, the choice/choices will be rejected.

The West Fork District will notify all applicants of the results of the drawing within two weeks of the drawing. A Confirmation of Acceptance and Boater Registration form will be mailed to all successful applicants. Unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a waiting list on the basis of a randomized sequential list of names from the computerized program.

5. All applications must be submitted in writing. Phone applications will not be accepted.

#### NOTICE

The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law No. 93-579) provides that you be furnished the following information in connection with information required by this application for a Special Recreation Permit.

AUTHORITY: 36 CFR 251.1 and 251.2; 5 USC 552a

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: The information is to be used to process your application and for re-assigning cancelled dates.

ROUTINE USES: (1) The adjudication of the applicant's request for a Special Recreation Permit. (2) Documentation for public information (3 and 4) Information from the record and/or the record will be transferred to appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agencies, when relevant to civil, criminal or regulatory investigations or prosecutions.

EFFECT OF NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION: Disclosure of the information is voluntary. If all the information is not provided, the application may be rejected.



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

West Fork Ranger Station, Darby, MT 59829

Reply to: 2370 Other Areas

Date:

Subject: 1982 Selway River Float Permits

To:

CERTIFIED - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

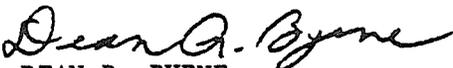
Your application was randomly chosen as the result of a computerized drawing and you were assigned one of your choices to float the Selway River. This letter confirms our approval for you to launch a party on the Selway River. Your party is tentatively assigned a launch date of

Please complete the enclosed Confirmation of Acceptance and Boater Registration form and return it to our office no later than March 12, 1982. This is necessary only if you are planning an actual launch on the date assigned to you. If we do not hear from you by March 12, we will assume that you cannot launch or have joined another group. Your launch date will then be assigned to the next applicant on the waiting list.

Early notification of non-acceptance will greatly help other prospective floaters on the waiting list. The Boater Registration will be recognized as tentative and may be revised prior to issuance of the trip permit.

If you decide to accept this launch date, we will be contacting you soon about current snow pack conditions and making arrangements to issue the Trip Permit.

If you need any further information or have additional questions, please contact our office.

  
DEAN R. BYRNE  
District Ranger

Enclosures: Confirmation of Acceptance/Boater Registration Form  
Selway River Non-commercial Use Statement



USDA  
Forest Service

# WILD AND SCENIC SELWAY RIVER FLOAT TRIP PERMIT

0254

PERMIT DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PARTY LEADER \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**CAMP AREAS USED**  
(Complete during trip and deposit first copy at Selway Falls)  
Date and Location:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_

EXPECTED DAYS ON THE RIVER: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF RAFTS: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF KAYAKS: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF OTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
(specify type) \_\_\_\_\_

WATER LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_

HAZARD WARNING: \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_

Issued at: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Issued by: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to abide by all laws, rules and regulations which apply to this area. The visitor must have this permit in possession during the river visit. One permit per party.

Party Leader's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

2370-62

## **TRIP PERMIT**

### **Techniques and Conditions of Use**

#### **THE RIVER AND WILDERNESS**

The Selway Wild and Scenic River within the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness is being managed to preserve its pristine character and provide for continued public use. Party size, trips, and launches are restricted to allow people the rare opportunity and enjoyment of a wilderness float trip with outstanding solitude. Techniques have been developed to meet management objectives that allow the Selway to flow pure and clean through wild and pristine corridors. The challenge is to pass through the wilderness and leave no trace that you were there, leaving artifacts, natural features, and green vegetation intact.

#### **PURITY OF THE WATERS**

The water will remain pure only if human wastes and waste water are buried at least 100 feet from the river's highwater mark. The serious problem of human waste is avoided by digging a shallow hole in the top 6-8 inches of soil. Nature's biological decomposition system will do the rest when the sod is replaced. Collect all toilet paper until you reach an overnight campsite and burn or bury the toilet paper before departure. Even "biodegradable" soaps and food scraps will pollute rivers and streams. You can protect the delicate balance of water systems by washing yourself, your clothes, and dishes by using a waste water hole also at least 100 feet from the highwater mark. We suggest you use established water purification methods before drinking stream water.

#### **YOUR CAMPSITE**

Respect the vegetation at your campsite. Camping crushes delicate vegetation on the soft, moist soils of meadows and river banks on the Selway. Erase your traces by naturalizing the area when you break camp. Scatter needles and twigs over any beat out areas. Concentrations of firewood should be scattered. When you push away from shore, the only sign of man left on the beach should be footprints.

#### **GARBAGE**

Please pack out what you pack in. Avoid placing foil, pull tabs, plastics, glass, cans, and other unburnable trash into the fire. Waste food should also be removed. Carry out to suitable garbage containers that exist at the end of the trip. Taking your garbage with you will leave the wilderness uncluttered for others.

#### **FIRE**

Dead, dying, and gnarled trees are esthetic components of the wilderness. Please keep fires small, burning only down dead wood. Fire pans should be used to maintain a more efficient fire and contain charcoal; even better, use a portable stove and don't build a fire at all. The required serviceable shovel and bucket will be an asset in extinguishing your fire and moving cold charcoal into the river system, into your waste water hole located above the highwater line, or scattering 200 feet or more from the campsite. If you introduce charcoal into the river system, be sure to avoid back eddies by using swift current to carry the charcoal away. Check for any foil or other unburnables that you may have accidentally introduced into your fire. The preferred method is to carry out all charcoal with you.

Now, after months of careful planning and preparation, you are about to launch upon a thrilling adventure only the wilderness can offer you. Treat it with respect so that future generations may have the same opportunity as you have had.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the District Rangers at:

West Fork Ranger Station  
Darby, MT 59829

Moose Creek Ranger Station  
Grangeville, ID 83530

# PARADISE LAUNCH SITE HYDROGRAPH

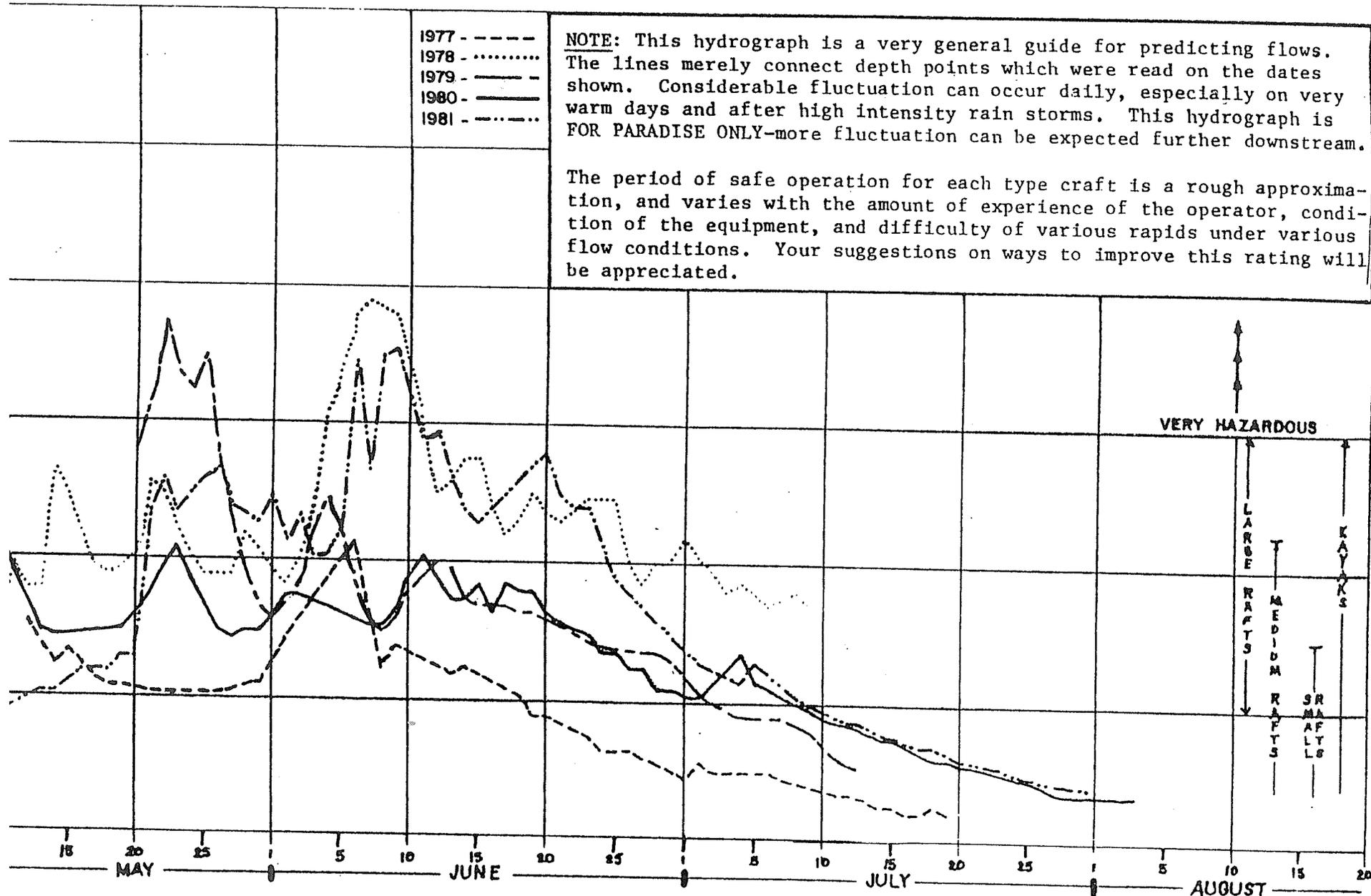
SELWAY RIVER  
BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

FT  
FEET

1977 - ----  
1978 - .....  
1979 - ---  
1980 - ——  
1981 - -.-.-

NOTE: This hydrograph is a very general guide for predicting flows. The lines merely connect depth points which were read on the dates shown. Considerable fluctuation can occur daily, especially on very warm days and after high intensity rain storms. This hydrograph is FOR PARADISE ONLY—more fluctuation can be expected further downstream.

The period of safe operation for each type craft is a rough approximation, and varies with the amount of experience of the operator, condition of the equipment, and difficulty of various rapids under various flow conditions. Your suggestions on ways to improve this rating will be appreciated.



SELWAY RIVER RAPID INVENTORY - CLASS

The confluence with White Cap Creek is river mile 164.3

| <u>Rapid Name</u>     | <u>River Mile</u> | <u>Class</u> | (European rating system: all ratings are for medium-high water levels) |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|--|
| 1. Slalom Slide       | 160.7             | III          |  |
| 2. Galloping Gertie   | 159.9             | II           |  |
| 3. Washer Woman       | 159.7             | II           |  |
| 4. Cougar Bluff       | 159.5             | II           |  |
| 5. Holy Smokes        |                   | II           |  |
| 6. The Shallows       |                   | II           |  |
| 7. Ping Pong Alley    | 154.9             | II           |  |
| 8. Goat Creek         | 152.6             | III          |  |
| 9. Bear Creek         |                   | III          |  |
| 10. Island            |                   | II           |  |
| 11. Rodeo             | 146.2             | II           |  |
| 12. Pettibone         |                   | II           |  |
| 13. Ham               | 141.0             | IV           |  |
| 14. Tony Point        | 137.9             | II           |  |
| 15. Double Drop       | 136.9             | IV           |  |
| 16. Wa-Poots          | 136.2             | III          |  |
| 17. Ladle             | 136.0             | IV           |  |
| 18. Puzzle Creek      |                   | III          |  |
| 19. Little Niagra     | 135.3             | IV           |  |
| 20. No Slouch         | 135.2             | III          |  |
| 21. Miranda Jane      |                   | III          |  |
| 22. Osprey            | 132.8             | III          |  |
| 23. Three Links Creek | 129.2             | III          |  |
| 24. Pinchot           |                   | II           |  |
| 25. Wolf Creek        | 126.5             | IV           |  |
| 26. Tee Kem Falls     | 124.0             | IV           |  |
| 27. Cupboard          | 123.5             | III          |  |
| 28. Renshaw           | 121.4             | III          |  |

The confluence with Meadow Creek is river mile 116.9.

SELWAY RIVER CAMPSITE INVENTORY

| <u>Camp Name</u>           | <u>Campsite Rating</u> | <u>Bank</u> | <u>River Miles</u> | <u>Maximum Usable Water Level</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Bad Luck Bar            | II                     | left        | 162.4              | high                              |
| 2. Waldo Bar               | II                     | right       | 159.6              | high                              |
| 3. Driftwood Bar           | III                    | left        | 159.2              | high                              |
| 4. Hungry Bear             | II                     | left        | 159.0              | low                               |
| 5. Running Cr. Bridge Camp | II                     | left        | 157.6              | medium                            |
| 6. Running Creek Flat      | III                    | right       | 157.4              | high                              |
| 7. Archer                  | III                    | left        | 155.4              | high                              |
| 8. Goat Creek              | I                      | left        | 153.4              | medium                            |
| 9. Little Goat Creek       | III                    | left        | 152.4              | medium                            |
| 10. Cougar Flats           | III                    | right       | 149.7              | high                              |
| 11. Bear Creek             | I                      | right       | 148.6              | high                              |
| 12. Whitetail Flats        | III                    | right       | 148.5              | high                              |
| 13. Unnamed camp           | III                    | left        | 148.3              | high                              |
| 14. Unnamed camp           | III                    | left        | 147.5              | high                              |
| 15. Big Cedar              | II                     | right       | 147.2              | low                               |
| 16. Black Sand             | III                    | left        | 146.4              | medium                            |
| 17. Dead Elk               | II                     | right       | 145.6              | low                               |
| 18. Rattlesnake Bar        | II                     | right       | 143.2              | high                              |
| 19. Unnamed                | I                      | left        | 140.3              | medium                            |
| 20. Tony Point Bridge      | II                     | right       | 137.8              | high                              |
| 21. Unnamed                | II                     | left        | 137.7              | medium                            |
| 22. Unnamed                | II                     | left        | 137.5              | low                               |
| 23. Divide Creek           | II                     | left        | 137.4              | low                               |
| 24. Tony Point             | II                     | left        | 137.7              | high                              |
| 25. Upper Cedar Flats      | II                     | right       | 134.6              | low                               |
| 26. Lower Cedar Flats      | II                     | right       | 134.2              | medium                            |
| 27. Meeker Creek           | II                     | right       | 132.6              | low                               |

\*The Campsite Rating is based on the maximum size party each site will accomodate based on sociological and ecological considerations:

- I = 8 people
- II = 15 people
- III = 20 people

|     |                |     |       |       |        |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------|-------|--------|
| 28. | Tango Bar      | III | left  | 131.3 | medium |
| 29. | Trapper Camp   | II  | left  | 130.9 | low    |
| 30. | Boulder Bar    | II  | right | 128.3 | medium |
| 31. | Dry Bar        | II  | right | 128.0 | medium |
| 32. | Upper Pinchot  | II  | right | 126.7 | medium |
| 33. | Lower Pinchot  | III | right | 126.2 | high   |
| 34. | Ballinger      | II  | right | 125.0 | high   |
| 35. | Tee Kem Falls  | II  | left  | 123.9 | high   |
| 36. | Cupboard Creek | II  | right | 123.4 | medium |

The remaining 7.5 miles of river to the confluence of the Selway River and Meadow Creek has frequent beaches and bars suitable for camping in mid to low water levels. Most of these camps are limited in size even in low water and are suitable for parties of class II size.

Management Area 7c  
508,217 acres

K. Management Area 7c

1. Description

The 1,340,000 acre Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness is managed by four National Forests. The Bitterroot Forest manages about 508,000 acres, or 38 percent of the area. Included within is a portion of the Selway Wild River segment of the Middle Fork Clearwater Wild and Scenic River. The river corridor is about 10 miles long (remaining 39 miles on Nez Perce National Forest), one-half mile in width and encompasses about 2,600 acres. It is a premier, white water river for floaters. The wilderness is adjacent to and separated from the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness by the Nez Perce Trail road corridor.

2. Goals

Manage in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964 and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, to ensure an enduring system of high quality wilderness. The most restrictive provisions of either Act apply to the Selway River corridor. Provide for primitive recreation experiences.

3. Standards

Standards were jointly prepared by the Bitterroot, Lolo and Nez Perce National Forests for common integrated administration of the wilderness. The Forest-wide standards in Chapter II of this plan apply to this management area. Detailed action-orientated management direction is listed in Appendix K and is available upon request. Direction contained therein is in compliance with standards contained in this section.

a. Recreation

- (1) Maintain existing primitive and semiprimitive nonmotorized settings (USDA, nd). Manage the area essentially free from evidence of human restrictions and controls. Mechanized use is not permitted, except as provided in the Wilderness Act.
- (2) The primary means of visitor management will be education. Education will be oriented toward wildland ethics. Emphasis will be on contacting users prior to entering wilderness and at portals. An education action program will be developed annually.
- (3) White Water Floating
  - (a) All parties floating the Selway National Wild River will be required to comply with specific conditions of use under the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture (36 CFR 251.25 and 36 CFR 261.11 m).

- (b) Launch dates for noncommercial permits will be allocated on the basis of a computerized lottery.
- (c) During the floating period of May 15 through July 31, only one launch per day will be permitted.
- (d) All parties will be allowed to launch only on scheduled days.
- (e) There will be a maximum of four commercial outfitters on the Selway River each year.
- (f) Educational groups will not receive special allotments.
- (g) Search and Rescue operations will be the responsibility of the party involved.

b. Visual Quality

- (1) The visual quality objective is preservation (USDA, 1977).

c. Wilderness

- (1) Representatives from each Forest with management responsibility for the wilderness will recommend indicators, standards and processes for limiting change to acceptable levels using the "limits of acceptable change" process. Forest Supervisors will implement the "limits of acceptable change" by 1990. Until standards are established the following restrictions apply.
  - (a) Party size will be limited to 20 persons and 20 head of stock, except that float parties are limited to 16 persons.
  - (b) No campsite will be occupied by a party for more than 14 days unless authorized.
  - (c) Visitor education, maps, and brochures will be used to inform the public of use problems, minimum impact camping techniques, conditions of occupancy and use, and wilderness philosophy.
- (2) Locate and post wilderness boundaries at access portals and other key points.

SPECIAL RESTRICTION  
SELWAY NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVER  
BITTERROOT and NEZPERCE NATIONAL FORESTS  
REGION ONE

Pursuant to Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 251.50, the following acts are prohibited on the Bitterroot and Nez Perce National Forests' portion of the Selway River that is designated as part of the National Wild and Scenic River System. These restrictions are in addition to those enumerated in Title 36 Code of Federal Regulation 261, subpart A, become effective immediately, and will remain in effect until rescinded.

The following restrictions are being placed on the Selway National Wild River to protect the resource and provide quality whitewater boating within a wilderness setting. [Title 36 CFR 261.53(f)].

1. Entering or being on the Selway National Wild and Scenic River for the purpose of boating or floating from May 15 through July 31, of each calendar year. [Title 36 CFR 261.58(z)].

2. Boating and/or floating parties are restricted to a group size of sixteen (16) persons or less. More than sixteen (16) persons per group is prohibited from May 15 through July 31 of each calendar year.  
[Title 36 CFR 261.58(f)]

The above restriction applies to that portion of the Selway National Wild and Scenic River from the confluence of White Cap Creek on the Bitterroot National Forest and the Selway River downstream to Selway Falls on the Nez Perce National Forest.

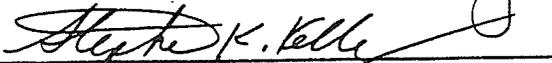
Legal Description:

Beginning at Sec.08, T29N, R14E to Ending Sec. 02, T31N, R09E.

Pursuant to Title 36 C.F.R. 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this restriction:

1. Any person with a permit, contract or administrative authorization specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act.
2. Any Federal, State or local law enforcement officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in performance of official duty.

Done this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 1996.

  
STEPHEN K. KELLY, Forest Supervisor  
Bitterroot National Forest

  
COY G. JEMMETT, Forest Supervisor  
Nez Perce National Forest

Violations of these regulations or the conditions of any permit issued thereunder is punishable by a fine of \$5,000.00 or six months imprisonment, or both. [16 U.S.C. 551 and 18 U.S.C. 3571 (b)(6)].

A copy of this order shall be posted in the Forest Supervisor's Office and each District Ranger's Office and other appropriate locations as prescribed under Title 36 C.F.R. 261.51.

Forest Order #Nez-SO=2-96

**OUTFITTER-GUIDE PERMIT**

Permit Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**LAND USE  
SPECIAL PROVISIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**

21. The permittee, in his/her advertisements, signs, circulars, brochures, letterheads, and like materials, as well as orally, shall not misrepresent in any way, either the accommodations provided, the status of his/her permit, or the area covered by it or tributary thereto. The fact that the permitted area is located on the Bitterroot and Nezperce National Forests shall be made apparent in all of the permittee's brochures and advertising regarding use and management of the area and facilities under the permit.
22. The permittee shall not interfere with free public use of roads and trails in the area.
23. Avalanches, rising waters, high winds, falling limbs, or trees and other hazards are natural phenomena in the forest that present risks which the permittee assumes. The permittee has the responsibility of inspecting his/her site, lot, right-of-way, and immediate adjoining area for dangerous trees, hanging limbs and other evidence of hazardous conditions, and after securing permission from the Forest Service, of removing such hazards.
24. The permittee shall take reasonable precautions to prevent pollution of or deterioration of lands or waters which may result from the exercise of the privileges extended by this permit.
25. The permittee shall dispose of refuse resulting from this use, including waste materials, garbage and rubbish of all kinds, in the following manner, and shall guard the purity of streams and living water:
- a. The permittee may dispose of, by burning, any refuse which can be completely consumed by burning.
  - b. Any refuse not completely consumed by burning shall be packed out by the permittee at the time he/she conducts the permitted use.
  - c. Human waste shall be disposed of by burying at least 100 feet above the high water line when carryout toilet facilities are not provided by the permittee.
26. No waste or byproducts shall be discharged if it contains any substance in concentrations which will result in substantial harm to fish and wildlife, or to human water supplies.
- Storage facilities for materials capable of causing water pollution, if accidentally discharged, shall be located so as to prevent any spillage into waters, or channels leading into water, that would result in substantial harm to fish and wildlife or to human water supplies.
27. The permittee shall assure that his/her employees and patrons operate boats in a safe and reasonable manner without endangering the peace and safety of other persons.
28. A life preserver approved by the United States Coast Guard shall be provided by the permittee for each passenger in the boat.

**Appendix 3. Examples of Outfitter Operating Plans and Special Use Permits**

R1- FS - 2700-4f (3/98)

|   |                        |            |              |
|---|------------------------|------------|--------------|
| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE<br>Forest Service<br>Outfitting and Guiding<br>SPECIAL USE PERMIT<br><br>Authority: Land and Water Conservation Act of<br>September 3, 1964, (U.S.C. 4601)<br>This authorization is revocable and non transferable and is a<br>license for the use of federally owned land. It does not grant any<br>interest in real property | Holder No.             | Issue Date | Expir. Date  |
|   | Type Site(s)           | Authority  | Auth. Type   |
|   | Region/Forest/District |            | State/County |
|   | Cong. Dist.            | Latitude   | Longitude    |

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name Address

**[USER NOTE: Insert name and address, [City, State, and zip code.]]**  
 hereinafter called the Holder, is hereby authorized to use or occupy National Forest System lands, subject to the terms and conditions of this permit, to provide outfitting and guiding services within the **[District or Area]** of the **[Name of Forest]** National Forest, described as (e.g. NW ¼ NW¼, Section 26, T24N, R16E, W.M.; Tract 419-A; MS 309 ID; etc.), and as shown on the Location Map, Exhibit A. The above described or defined area shall be referred to as the "permit area".

This permit is issued for the purpose of authorizing and assigning Number of (priority) (temporary) , Number of launches, Number of assigned site, Amount of grazing, and/or Number of trips. **[USER NOTE: Delete options not used]** which will be utilized as described in the 5 Year Operating Plan, Exhibit B and/or current approved Annual Itinerary and Operating Plan, Exhibit C.  
**[USER NOTE: If both priority use and temporary use days are authorized, authorize the temporary use days in the annual itinerary and operating plan, exhibit C. If only temporary use days are authorized state as temporary use days on the front page of the permit and delete the priority use days reference.]**

The following are attached hereto and made a part of this permit:

**[USER NOTE: Insert or delete exhibits into list as necessary. Rearrange exhibits to fit and change exhibit references in the clauses to match. This example assumes priority use. Various clauses in Sections II, III, VI, and VII address the 5 year operating plan, the annual itinerary and operating plan and other exhibits. Adjust the list of exhibits to reflect the plan or plans being used and label the exhibits accordingly.]**

- EXHIBIT A - Location map
- EXHIBIT B - 5 Year Operating Plan, dated \*\*\*\*
- EXHIBIT C - Annual Itinerary and Operating Plan revised and approved annually
- EXHIBIT D - Estimated Fee Determination Sheet, approved annually
- EXHIBIT E - Sample Outfitter Guide Performance Evaluation Form
- EXHIBIT F - Sample Actual Use Report

This permit is accepted subject to the following terms and conditions.

|       |                      |       |                                       |
|-------|----------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
|       | <b>HOLDER</b>        |       | <b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b> |
|       |                      |       | <b>Forest Service</b>                 |
| By:   | (Signature)<br>_____ | By:   | (Signature)<br>_____                  |
|       | (Name)               |       | (Name)                                |
| Title | _____                | Title | _____                                 |
| Date: | _____                | Date: | _____                                 |

**[USER NOTE: Use this signature page for all corporate entities]**

This permit is accepted subject to the following terms and conditions.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Corporate Name

**(CORPORATE SEAL)**

By \_\_\_\_\_

**(Vice) President**

The following certificate shall be executed by the Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Corporation

I, \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I am the Secretary of the Corporation that executed the above permit; that \_\_\_\_\_, who signed said permit on behalf of said Corporation was then \_\_\_\_\_ of said Corporation; that I know his/her signature, and that his/her signature on said permit is genuine; and that said permit was duly signed, sealed, and attested to for and on behalf of said Corporation by authority of its governing body.

**(CORPORATE SEAL)**

By \_\_\_\_\_

**(Assistant) Secretary**

## II. TENURE AND ISSUANCE OF A NEW PERMIT

[USER NOTE - Various clauses in Sections II, III, VI, and VII address the 5 year operating plan, the annual Itinerary and operating plan and other exhibits. Adjust the list of exhibits to reflect the plan or plans being used and label the exhibits accordingly.]

- A. **Period of Operations.** Operations authorized by this permit will commence and terminate on the schedule approved in the Five Year Operating Plan and/or Annual Itinerary and Operating Plan, Exhibits B and C.
- B. **Expiration at the End of the Authorized Period.** This permit will expire at midnight on \_\_\_\_\_. Expiration shall occur by operation of law and shall not require notice, any decision document, or any environmental analysis or other documentation.
- C. **Notification to Authorized Officer.** If the holder desires issuance of a new permit after expiration, the holder shall notify the authorized officer in writing not less than six (6) months prior to the expiration date of this permit.
- D. **Conditions for Issuance of a New Permit.** At the expiration or termination of an existing permit, a new permit may be issued to the holder of the previous permit or to a new holder subject to the following conditions:
1. The authorized use is compatible with the land use allocation in the Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.
  2. The permit area is being used for the purposes previously authorized.
  3. The permit area is being operated and maintained in accordance with the provisions of the permit.
  4. The holder has shown previous good faith compliance with the terms and conditions of all prior or other existing permits, and has not engaged in any activity or transaction contrary to Federal contracts, permits, laws, or regulation.
- E. **Discretion of Forest Service.** Notwithstanding any provisions of any prior or other permit, the authorized officer may prescribe new terms, conditions, and stipulations when a new permit is issued. The decision whether to issue a new permit to a holder or successor in interest is at the absolute discretion of the Forest Service.

## III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOLDER

- A. **Compliance with Laws, Regulations, and other Legal Requirements.** The holder shall comply with all applicable Federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and standards, including but not limited to, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6901 *et seq.*, and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Control, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*, and other relevant environmental laws, as well as public health and safety laws and other laws relating to the siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of any facility, improvement, or equipment on the property.
- B. **Plans.** Plans for development, layout, construction, reconstruction, or alteration of improvements on the permit area, as well as revisions of such plans, must be prepared by a qualified individual acceptable to the authorized officer and shall be approved in writing prior to commencement of work. The holder may be required to furnish as-built plans, maps, or surveys, or other similar information, upon completion of construction.

[User Note - Use Clause "C" if construction or reconstruction of improvements is involved. Delete if not applicable and re-alphabetize clauses.]

- C. **Construction.** Any construction authorized by this permit may commence by \_\_\_\_\_ and shall be completed by \_\_\_\_\_. If construction is not completed within the prescribed time, this permit may be revoked or suspended.

- E. Annual Itinerary and Operating Plan.** When currently approved by the authorized officer, the Annual Itinerary and Operating Plan, Exhibit C, will become a part of this permit. The approved plan constitutes the authorization to resume outfitting operations for the period covered herein. The holder will submit annually by **[USER NOTE: Insert Month and Day]** an application (itinerary) for the coming season. The approved Annual Itinerary and Operating Plan, Exhibit C, shall include but not be limited to: Service day allocation by National Forest, resource area, and service category; trip name, camp locations, trip routes, period of use, number of guests and employees in party, number of livestock, and amount of supplemental feed to be provided on the National Forest authorized by this permit; and estimated fees due in advance for service days, the use of assigned National Forest System sites, and all transportation livestock grazing use.
- F. Maintenance.** The holder shall maintain the improvements and permit area to standards of repair, orderliness, neatness, sanitation, and safety acceptable to the authorized officer, and consistent with other provisions of this authorization. The holder shall comply with inspection requirements deemed appropriate by the authorized officer.
- G. Risks and Hazards.** Avalanches, rising waters, high winds, falling limbs or trees, and other hazards are natural phenomena in the Forest that present risks which the holder assumes. The holder has responsibility of inspecting the site, lot, right-of-way, and immediate adjoining area for dangerous trees, hanging limbs, and other evidence of hazardous conditions and, after securing permission from the Forest Service, remedying or removing such hazards.
- H. Change of Address.** The holder shall immediately notify the authorized officer of a change in address.
- I. Transfer of Title to the Holders Assets.**
- 1. Notification of Transfer.** The holder shall notify the authorized officer when a transfer of title to the assets is contemplated.
  - 2. Transfer of Title.** Any transfer of title to the assets covered by this permit shall result in termination of the permit. The party who acquires title to the assets must submit an application for a permit. Issuance of a new permit to the party who acquires title to the assets shall be at the sole discretion of the authorized officer. The authorized officer shall determine that the applicant meets requirements under Federal regulations.
- J. Change in Control of the Business Entity.**
- 1. Notification of Change in Control.** The holder shall notify the authorized officer when a change in control of the business entity that holds this permit is contemplated. If the holder is a corporation, change of control means the sale or transfer of a controlling interest of the corporate stock. If the holder is a partnership, change of control means the sale or transfer of a controlling interest or greater in the assets. If the holder is an individual, change of control means the sale or transfer of the business to another party. Change in control also means a change in the business entity from individual to a partnership or corporation, etc.
  - 2. Change in Control.** Any change in control of the business entity as defined in Clause III. J. shall result in termination of this permit. The party acquiring control of the business entity must submit an application for a special use permit. Issuance of a new permit shall be at the discretion of the authorized officer. The authorized officer shall determine whether the applicant meets the requirements established by Federal regulations.
- K. Nondiscrimination (Employment and Services).** During the performance of this permit, the holder agrees:
- 1.** In connection with the performance of work under this authorization, including construction, maintenance, and operation of the facility, the holder shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap. (Re: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended).
  - 2.** The holder and employees shall not discriminate by segregation or otherwise against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap, by curtailing or refusing to furnish

accommodation, facilities, services, or use privileges offered to the public generally. (Re: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments, and the Age Discrimination Act.)

3. The holder shall include and require compliance with the above nondiscrimination provisions in any sub-contract made with respect to the operations under this authorization.

4. Signs setting forth this policy of nondiscrimination to be furnished by the Forest Service will be conspicuously displayed at the public entrance(s) to the premises, and at other exterior or interior locations as directed by the Forest Service.

5. That the Forest Service shall have the right to enforce the foregoing nondiscrimination provisions by suit for specific performance or by any other available remedy under the laws of the United States or the State in which the breach or violation occurs.

- L. **Protection from Damage.** The holder has an affirmative duty to protect from damage the land, property, and interests of the United States.
- M. **Roads and Trails.** The holder shall be liable for damages to all roads and trails of the United States open to public use caused by the holder's use except that liability shall not include reasonable and ordinary wear and tear.
- N. **Inspection.** The Forest Service has no duty to inspect the permit area or to warn of hazards and, if the Forest Service does inspect the permit area, it shall incur no additional duty or liability for identified or non-identified hazards.

#### IV. LIABILITY

For purposes of this section, "holder" includes the holder's heirs, assigns, agents, and employees.

- A. **Risk of Loss.** The holder assumes all risk of loss to the authorized improvements.
- B. **Indemnification.** The holder shall indemnify, defend, and hold the United States harmless for any violations incurred under any laws and regulations or for judgments, claims, or demands assessed against the United States in connection with the holder's use or occupancy of the property. The holder's indemnification of the United States shall include any loss by personal injury, loss of life or damage to property in connection with the occupancy or use of the property during the term of this permit. Indemnification shall include, but is not limited to, the value of resources damaged or destroyed; the costs of restoration, cleanup, or other mitigation; fire suppression or other types of abatement costs; third party claims and judgments; and all administrative, interest, and other legal costs. This paragraph shall survive the termination or revocation of this authorization, regardless of cause.
- C. **Insurance Clause.** The holder shall have in force public liability insurance with a combined single limit in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. The minimum amount and terms are subject to change at the sole discretion of the authorized officer when it is determined that the activities or situations warrant the change. The coverage shall extend to property damage, bodily injury, or death rising out of the holder's activities under this authorization including, but not limited to, the occupancy or use of the land and the construction, maintenance, and operation of the structures, facilities, or equipment permitted by this authorization. Such insurance shall also name the United States as additionally insured. The holder shall send an authenticated copy of its insurance policy to the Forest Service immediately upon issuance of the policy.

The policy shall also contain a specific provision or rider to the effect that the policy will not be cancelled or its provisions changed or deleted before thirty (30) days' written notice to the authorized officer at: \_\_\_\_\_  
**[USER NOTE Insert authorized officer's address.]**

#### V. TERMINATION, REVOCATION, AND SUSPENSION

- A. **General.** For purposes of this permit, "termination", "revocation", and "suspension" refer to the cessation of uses and privileges under the permit.

1. "Termination" refers to the cessation of the permit under its own terms without the necessity for any decision or action by the authorized officer. Termination occurs automatically when, by the terms of the permit, a fixed or agreed upon condition, event, or time occurs. For example, the permit terminates at expiration, for nonpayment of fees and for nonuse. Terminations are not appealable.
2. "Revocation" refers to an action by the authorized officer to end the permit because of noncompliance with any of the prescribed terms, or for reasons in the public interest. Revocations are appealable.
3. "Suspension" refers to a revocation which is temporary and the privileges may be restored upon the occurrence of prescribed actions or conditions. Suspensions are appealable.

**B. Revocation or Suspension.** The Forest Service may suspend or revoke this permit in whole or part for:

1. Noncompliance with Federal, State, or local laws and regulations.
2. Noncompliance with the terms and conditions of this permit.
3. Reasons in the public interest.
4. Abandonment or other failure of the holder to otherwise exercise the privileges granted.
5. Excessive unauthorized use. [User Note: Explain what excessive use is within the performance elements and/in operating plan]
6. One "Unacceptable" performance rating or two consecutive "Probationary" performance ratings .

**C. Opportunity to Take Corrective Action.** Prior to revocation or suspension for cause pursuant to Section V. B., the authorized officer shall give the holder written notice of the grounds for such action and a reasonable time, not to exceed 90 days, to complete any corrective action prescribed by the authorized officer.

**D. Breach of Conditions.** In the event of any breach of the conditions of this authorization by the holder, the Authorized Officer may, on reasonable notice, cure the breach at the expense of the holder. If the Forest Service at any time pays any sum of money or does any act which will require payment of money, or incurs any expense, including reasonable attorney's fees, in instituting, prosecuting, and/or defending any action or proceeding to enforce the United States rights hereunder, the sum or sums so paid by the United States, with all interests, costs and damages shall, at the election of the Forest Service, be deemed to be additional fees hereunder and shall be due from the holder to the Forest Service on the first day of the month following such election.

**E. Removal of Improvements.** Upon abandonment, revocation, termination, or expiration of this authorization, the holder shall remove within a reasonable time prescribed by the authorized officer all structures and improvements, except those owned by the United States, and shall restore the site. If the holder fails to remove all structures or improvements within the prescribed period, they shall become the property of the United States and may be sold, destroyed or otherwise disposed of without any liability to the United States. However, the holder shall remain liable for all costs associated with their removal, including costs of sale and impoundment, cleanup, and restoration of the site.

**F. Bonding.** The authorized officer may require the holder to furnish a bond or other security to secure all or any of the obligations imposed by the terms of the authorization or any applicable law, regulation, or order. The authorized officer may periodically evaluate the adequacy of the bond and increase or decrease the amount as appropriate. A site restoration bond may be required when improvements are to be removed and the area restored. The holder shall deliver and maintain a surety bond for that work in an amount set by the Forest Service. The amount of the bond shall not exceed the estimated loss the Government would suffer upon default in performance of this work.

**VI. FEES**

**A. Termination for Nonpayment.** This permit shall automatically terminate without the necessity of prior notice when land use fees are 90 calendar days from the due date in arrears.

**B. Outfitter and Guide Fees.** Estimated annual fees will be paid in advance of authorized use by the holder. Estimates of service days, number of assigned sites and grazing use are determined from either/or both the 5 Year Operating Plan, Exhibit B and the current Approved Annual Itinerary and Operating Plan, Exhibit C. Estimated fees are calculated on the Estimated Fee Determination Sheet, Exhibit D. Fees will include, as applicable, charges for:

1. **Commercial Use Fee.** This charge will be determined in accordance with the (fee schedule - Option A) or (3 percent revenue Option B) or (flat user day fee option) or (bid and prospectus option) of fee calculation for the duration of this permit. [USER NOTE - Delete options not used].

The flat user day fee by activity category shall be adjusted annually using the Gross Domestic Product - Implicit Price Deflator Index (GDP - IDP) - [User Note - Only include this sentence if the flat user day fee option is selected]

2. **Assigned Site Fee.** A charge for the occupancy of National Forest System sites assigned to the holder.

3. **Grazing Fee.** A charge for grazing transportation livestock used in conjunction with exercise of the privileges granted in the permit.

4. **Minimum Fee.** The least amount that must be charged.

Within 30 days from completion of the holder's approved operating season, the holder will submit to the authorized officer a Actual Use Report, Exhibit F. [USER NOTE: See the outfitter-Guide administration guidebook, dated 2/97, chapter IV concerning operating plans and fees and chapter VI concerning fees, for more specific information pertaining to fees and fee calculations.] The difference between the advance payments received for the estimated fee and the final fee will be either credited to the next year's fee or billed immediately with payment due within 30 days. Credits will not be made for unused assigned sites or unused grazing.

**C. Payment Due Date.** The payment due date will be indicated on the Bill for Collection for the use(s) authorized.

**D. Late Payment Interest.** Pursuant to 31 USC 3717, and regulations at 7 CFR Part 3, Subpart B, and 4 CFR Part 102, an interest charge shall be assessed on any payment or financial statement not received by the due date. Interest shall be assessed using the most current rate prescribed by the United States Department of Treasury's Fiscal Requirements Manual (TFRM-6-8020). Interest shall accrue from the date the payment or financial statement was due. In the event that billings are required for delinquent accounts, administrative costs to cover processing and handling of the delinquent debt will be assessed.

**E. Additional Penalties.** In the event of permit termination pursuant to provisions VI (A), and prior to the issuance of a new permit, a penalty of 6 percent per year shall be assessed on any fee amount overdue in excess of 90 days from the payment due date. This penalty shall accrue from the due date of the first billing or the date the fee calculation financial statement was due. The penalty is in addition to interest and any other charges specified in the above paragraph.

**F. Disputed Fees.** Disputed fees are due and payable by the due date. No appeal of fees will be considered by the Forest Service without full payment of the disputed amount. Adjustments, if necessary, will be made in accordance with settlement terms or appeal decision.

**G. Delinquent Fees.**

1. Delinquent fees and other charges shall be subject to all rights and remedies afforded the United States pursuant to Federal law and implementing regulations (31 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.).

2. The authorized officer shall require payment of fees owed the United States under any Forest Service authorization before issuance of a new permit.

**H. Accounting Records.** The holder shall follow generally accepted accounting principles in recording his financial transactions and in reporting results to the Forest Service. When requested by the Forest Service,

# 5 YEAR OUTFITTER OPERATING PLAN



Northwest River Company  
P. O. Box 403  
Boise, Idaho 83701

West Fork Ranger District  
Bitterroot National Forest

Prepared by: Doug Tims - Designated Agent, Outfitter & Guide

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Ranger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Outfitter

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Northwest River Company Operating Plan Contents

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NW River Company  
 Operating Plan  
 Selway River  
 Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness  
 October 23, 2000

## OUR ROLE IN THE WILDERNESS

**Mission Statement** - It is the mission of Northwest River Company to facilitate the public's use and enjoyment of the Selway River and the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness area in a manner that will leave the river and wilderness unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness. It is our mission to provide a safe, high quality wilderness experience for the public with an emphasis on solitude, enhancing the public's understanding of the wilderness resource, protecting wilderness resources and meeting the purposes of recreational, scenic, conservation, education and historic use.

**Area of Operation** - Selway River. Trips will be launched at Paradise and concluded at Race Creek in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness.

**Launch Schedule and Trip Lengths -**

| DATE               | Length | Public | Guides | User<br>Days |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|
| June 23 to June 28 | 6 days | 12     | 4      | 72           |
| July 1 to July 6   | 6 days | 12     | 4      | 72           |
| July 9 to July 14  | 6 days | 12     | 4      | 72           |
| July 17 to July 22 | 6 days | 12     | 4      | 72           |
|                    |        |        |        | ----         |
|                    |        |        |        | 288          |

Except in emergency or rare, unusual circumstances, dates and lengths of trips are expected to remain the same. Any changes or additions to trip schedules or lengths will be preceded by notification and approval of the Forest Service. In the event of emergency or rare unusual circumstances preventing prior notice, notice will be given as soon as possible after conclusion of the adjustment in schedule or length of trip.

**Capacities** - Each trip will consist of a maximum of 12 guests and 4 guides.

**Boat Tags and Identification** - Under Idaho law and regulations, Northwest River Company boats are required to be identified by lettering with the company name (NW) not less than 3" in height. Northwest wishes the Forest Service to accept this identification and this operating plan as acceptable to meet the need to know that NW river users are operating legally under proper permit and not require the traditional "boat tags", saving the money, time and material needed to issue "boat tags" for each NW trip. Permit will be picked up for each trip at the West Fork Ranger Station.

**Legal Requirements under Idaho Law** - Outfitters and Guides in Idaho are regulated under Idaho Code, Title 36, Chapter 21 and Idaho Code, Title 6, Chapter 12. These laws, and regulations promulgated by the state licensing board under them, make activities of outfitters and guides different and more challenging than those of the "self-guided" wilderness user. Section 36-2101 of Idaho Code states, "The intent of this legislation is to promote and encourage residents and nonresidents alike to participate in the enjoyment and use of the deserts, mountains, rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs and other natural resources of Idaho, and the fish and game therein, and to that end to regulate and license those persons who undertake for compensation to provide equipment and personal services to such persons, for the explicit purpose of safeguarding the health, safety, welfare and freedom from injury or danger of such persons." (emphasis added)

**Guide Qualifications & Training** - Northwest River Company guides will meet or exceed the minimum requirements for licensed guides in the State of Idaho as set forth in Idaho Code, Title 36, Chapter 21 and Idaho Code, Title 6, Chapter 12 and the rules of the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board. The minimum requirements for Idaho guide licensing includes -

- Valid First Aid/CPR Training (renewable every three years);
- Have a minimum of three complete trips on the river under the direct supervision of a boatman licensed for the river;
- If already licensed as a lead boatman on other Idaho classified rivers, the guide may qualify on the Selway with one complete trip on the river under the supervision of a boatman licensed for the river;
- Lead boatmen must have a minimum of six complete trips on the river and be recommended in writing for that designation by a licensed outfitter;
- Be recommended to the Licensing Board for guide licensing by a licensed outfitter who certifies that he/she is:
  - Qualified to perform the type of guiding for which he/she applies;
  - Has extensive first hand knowledge of the area and waters where he/she will be guiding;
  - Is able to read and understand a map and compass;
  - Is clean and well mannered with a desire to please those whom he is called upon to serve.

**Partnership With the Forest Service** - It is the policy of Northwest River Company to pursue a partnership relationship with the Forest Service and its employees. The mission and purpose of Northwest is identical in spirit to the "Caring for the Land and Serving People" mission of the Forest Service.

It is our desire to have Forest Service personnel visit the camps and area we use and interact with the public that we serve. Our experience is that our guests are keenly interested in the job the Forest Service is doing in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness area. We view our Forest Service partners as a source of knowledge of the area, coworkers in our role of meeting the purposes of the Wilderness Act and often as friends with a mutual love and appreciation for the Selway.

We also recognize and respect the authority of the Forest Service in their administrative role in the SBW and expect a professional evaluation of our operations. We expect that authority to be exercised in an atmosphere of positive interaction among professionals working towards a common goal. We expect respect from the Forest

Service personnel we deal with, as well as their recognition of -

Northwest and its personnel's experience on the Selway River,  
Northwest and its personnel's knowledge of the Selway River and SBW;  
Northwest and its personnel's commitment to the protection of the SBW resource;  
Northwest and its personnel's commitment to quality service to the public.

It is the desire of Northwest River Company that any concerns the Forest Service has with our operations or procedures on the Selway be communicated by professionals at the District Ranger's or resource manager's level directly to Northwest's owner, Doug Tims, not through our respective field staffs. Immediate concerns involving resource conditions or other matters may be discussed at the wilderness ranger / guide level. Northwest River Company owners expect written follow-up from the wilderness ranger through the resource manager or District Ranger of any suggested changes relative to Northwest operations or procedures.

We do not wish to work in an atmosphere where we nit-pick the efforts of each other, looking for the opportunity to "bust the other's chops". We commit that our guests will end their wilderness experience on the Selway with a positive view of the role of the Forest Service. We expect the same of Forest Service personnel in their interactions with agency personnel and the self-guided public regarding our role on the Selway.

It is our expectation that we will be given the benefit of the doubt that any negative resource or service conditions found on the Selway most likely did not come from us, and certainly are not due to any intentional act on our part. We are human, and will make mistakes, but our commitment to our Forest Service partners is that the balance sheet of our presence and role on the Selway River will be one reflecting an overwhelmingly positive professional contribution to the values of wilderness and the goals of the area's legal and management mandates.

**Non-Compensated Wilderness Services** - Part of the role of a professional outfitter and guide in wilderness is to make the extra effort in protecting the resource and demonstrating responsible, shared use of the area. We believe our presence on the Selway is a "leveraging" of the resources that the government and the Forest Service are spending and committing to protect and manage this area. We often encounter situations where less caring wilderness visitors have left litter or damaged the resource. This is particularly true on the early trips and in camps frequented by walk-in fishermen and self-guided stock users. It is the policy of Northwest River Company to utilize the human, time and equipment resources of the company to engage in practices including, but not limited to -

Clean up trash left by other users and pack it out using NW equipment;  
Restore fire pits and rings to a naturalized condition;  
Remove wrecked or damaged equipment left in the wilderness;  
Educate other users who request information on the wilderness resource;  
Provide safety related assistance in emergency situations.

**Interaction With Other Wilderness Users** - It is our goal that every encounter we have with other wilderness users, including agency personnel, ends with the other party having a view of Northwest River Company personnel as professional, courteous and knowledgeable. We will go out of our way to assist self-guided floaters if it appears they are open to interaction or in need of assistance. We will always offer assistance in accident situations.

We will be cautious, but open when offering information on the river and conditions. Information about water levels, rapids and potential hazards will likely be used by self-guided boaters to make decisions in a risky and hazardous environment. The result of a decision to run a rapid is primarily dependent upon the skill level of the individual, which we have no way of judging for sure. Ultimate decisions to accept challenge and risk is the responsibility of the self-guided boater. We will always state the option of portaging ("We've done it"). We will not accept responsibility to lead anyone down river except Northwest River Company guests.

If it appears the desire of other boaters or wilderness users we encounter is solitude, we will respect their desire and not intervene in their wilderness experience.

When encountering stock on the trail, we will communicate with the lead packer, requesting proper positioning as the stock passes. Travel by horse and mule is a historical use of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, representing a cultural value of the area, and we will present it to guests in a positive light.

**Interpretive Services** - It is of primary importance to Northwest River Company that our Selway River guests have the opportunity for a broad based wilderness experience, including knowledge of the area, its history, flora, fauna and management. We do not do "classroom" style talks. Our goal is to weave multiple opportunities to learn about and understand the natural world within the fabric of our guests' experience. Some of the tools we use include -

**Staff:** In selection of guides, we choose naturally inquisitive persons who demonstrate a knowledge and appreciation for the natural world and a never-ending thirst for more knowledge. We choose "people" persons who enjoy sharing the wilderness and our knowledge of it with our guests.

**Hikes:** Our trips are five days in order to allow extra time for our guests to experience solitude and interpretive side hikes. Individual guides will accompany the guests to share their knowledge of the wilderness with the guests. Most trips will include a "layover day" where we stay in the same camp for two nights. The day is devoted to relaxation, reading, hiking, fishing, education, interpretation and a premium opportunity for guests to spend some solitude time.

**Pre-Trip information:** Beginning with our newsletter, we set our guests' expectations to learn about wilderness. More information is given in the "Northwest Question and Answer" form. We send all guests a pre-trip reading list and list of vertebrates compiled on the river by a group of biologists we took from Bucknell University;

**Library:** Every trip is accompanied by a Library which includes a waterproof copy of the 1964 Wilderness Act, maps, books on Lewis & Clark, Nez Perce Indians, plant identification guides and more.

**Drive to the River:** Our drive to the river includes stops at "Travelers Rest" site, the West

Fork District Office and Nez Perce Pass, where we discuss Lewis and Clark, river management, wilderness management and fire ecology;  
Paleontology: Fossils from the large find near Choteau, MT are carried on each trip with a waterproof National Geographic Society map of the North American continent 75 million years ago as an aid in our geology and dinosaur campfire discussions.

Doug Tims, Northwest River Company's owner, has developed an Interpretive and Educational Guide to the Selway River for the use of our staff. This guide, compiled in a loose-leaf binder, is required reading for our staff and is included in the Northwest river library, carried on each trip. The contents of the guide include –

Lewis & Clark Country

Environmental Description

Geology

Rock Types

Geomorphology

Climate

Vegetation

Archeological and Ethnographical Background

Forest Reserves to Wilderness - History of the Forests

Sites

Bear Creek Ranger Station

Three Forks - Moose Creek

Moose Creek

Homesteading History

George Shissler

Phil Shearer

Henry Pettibone

Alvin Renshaw

Emil and Penny Keck

Fire History

Indian fire practices

1910 Fire

1914 Fire

1917 & 1918 Fires

1919

Innovations of the 1920's and 1930's

Selway Burn of 1934

Role of Selway in Smokejumping History

Fires and Wilderness Act of 1964

Role of White Cap Creek in Natural Burn Policy

Wildlife in the Selway

Trackers Dictionary

River Map

The Lolo Trail by Ralph Space

Field Guide to Common Cone Bearing Trees

Selway Wildlife Checklist

Vertebrate sightings on the July 16, 1989 NW River Selway Trip  
Fish Identification  
Place Names

Selway River Management Plan

Plan Objectives

Basis for Plan

Management Direction

Floating Requirements and Conditions

Administrative Requirements and Objectives

1977 - 1981 Paradise hydrograph

Rapid Inventory

Campsite Inventory

A copy of the guide has been provided to the West Fork Ranger Station for their files.

The Northwest River Company library contains, from time to time -

Let Me Be Free: The Nez Perce Tragedy, David Lavender

The Big Burn: The Northwest's Great Forest Fire of 1910, Don Miller & Stan Cohen

The Way to the Western Sea: Lewis and Clark Across the Continent, David Lavender

This Bloody Deed: The Magruder Incident, Ladd Hamilton

Rafting: Whitewater Rafting Techniques and Equipment, Jeff Bennett

Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee: An INdian History of the American West, Dee Brown

The Wilderness Act of 1964

Digging Dinosaurs, John Horner

Dinosaur map - National Geographic

Dinosaur Fossils - The Peebles' Ranch near Choteau, Montana

Birds of North America, John & Edith Bull

Selway Bitterroot Wilderness Primer, Jim Bradley - USFS

Wildflowers of the West, Edith Kinucan and Penney Brons

List: Vertebrate sightings on the July 16, 1989 NW River Selway Trip

Selway River Guage Readings

Harlequin Duck article - The Idaho Statesman

Harlequin Duck photo and map of habitat and migration routes

River Use Ethics, BLM publication

Low Impact River Use, IOGA and USFS

**Archeological Sites** - If, during our wilderness travels, or through the process of digging a sump hole, we should encounter any artifacts or evidence of use of the area by primitive man, we will engage our guests in an interpretive process through which we involve them in making note of the nature and location of the find, restoring the site to its natural condition, and notify the Forest Service of the find.

# LOGISTICS INVOLVING GUIDED PUBLIC

**Pre & Post Trip Lodging** - The public will be met in Missoula at the Doubletree Riverside at 6:00 PM on the evening prior to their launch date. They will be encouraged to use the Doubletree prior to and after the trip, however some public may make their own arrangements. Information on lodging is supplied with the information packet (Exhibit "A"). Lodging confirmations at the Doubletree will be made by Northwest River Company personnel.

**Pre-Trip Orientation** - Pre-trip information begins with the packet sent to potential clients who call or write for information about the Selway (Exhibit "A"). Client receives an orientation talk which shall consist of a slide show and the following information:

**1) Introduction** - Leader introduces himself and his position with Northwest River Company. Ask each guest to tell their name, where they are from, what is their occupation, what brought them to the Selway, what are their expectations of the trip.

**2) Setting** - Welcome to Lewis & Clark Country, the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, and the Selway River. We are on the Lewis and Clark Trail and we will be stopping at interpretive sites. The Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness received instant inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System in 1964. The Selway River received instant inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System in 1968. Northwest River Company's goal with this trip is to provide our guests a safe, high quality wilderness experience with an emphasis on solitude and enhancing their understanding of the wilderness resource.

**3) River Gear** - Each guest is given a dry bag, ammo can and NW duffel bag - explaining their use and purpose. Dry bag - If you take proper care of it, taking time to close it and not poke holes in it by dragging or abuse, it will take care of your gear. Ammo Can - for day use items such as camera, sun lotion, glasses, etc.. NW Duffel Bag - For your own personal items and to take with you at the end of the trip (some years a T-shirt is given instead).

**4) Slide Show** - Present the slide show and narrative - Explains all logistics, camp procedures and minimum impact talk.

**Transportation to the River and Back** - The NW 15 passenger van will be used to transport all guests. The day prior to the trip the van will be cleaned and filled with fuel. Oil, tires and lights will be checked. Departure from the hotel is at 8AM on the launch date. First stop is at Bob Ward Sporting Goods in Hamilton for fishing licenses and supplies. While guests are shopping, the van will be driven across the street to top off gas tanks.

On the day prior to the launch date, the NW River Company truck will be cleaned and serviced. Oil, tires, lights, trailer connections and safety chains will be checked. Stop on the way out of Missoula, prior to Lolo and on the Selway River Road after the take out to check the load to see that it is riding properly, all tie downs are secure and no equipment is rubbing or chafing against surfaces that will damage it. The truck will be filled with gas in Hamilton on the way to the river.

cautious about slipping on rocks. Explain that each individual boatmen will tie down the ammo cans and show them where to sit. Discuss highsiding and if the raft does flip, how to come up with their hands over their heads in case they come up under the raft ... then use their hands to work their way to the outside of the raft. They should move to the upstream end of the overturned raft using the hand line or frame. Don't be caught between the raft and a rock!

Caution people not to brace a leg under a thwart and to be careful not to extend a leg sideways. More injuries occur when guests collide in a raft than from people falling into the river. Focus on how each guest in each position should brace in. Show the various maneuvering strokes. Talk about what happens if a passenger falls out: hold on to the hand line if possible, if not onto the paddle that can be extended by someone in the raft. Show how to pull someone back in the raft using the lapels of the life jacket, bracing your legs against the tubes and leaning backwards. Talk about the flip potential -- same drill as oar rigs. With paddle rafts it might be more efficient to do a mid-river recovery flip than swim everyone to shore or to the oar boats.

A very careful talk should be given about an unplanned swim. **Emphasis that if a person is thrown into the water it is a SELF-RESCUE situation- be aggressive to save yourself, it is your life!** They should lie on their back and float feet first downstream while backstroking towards the nearest raft or shore. They need to angle their body upstream in the direction they want to go. They should never attempt to stand in moving water! If they are in deep or slow water, they should do a crawl stroke towards the nearest shore. Show a throw bag and demonstrate its use, explaining what to do if a rope is thrown to them (grab the rope, not the bag and roll onto your back when being pulled toward the thrower).

Off river safety should be discussed as well. The most common accident is slipping or tripping getting in and out of the raft, or in camp or on the trail. Be cautious of wet rocks around the river, and sand on your shoes that can cause slipping on dry rocks. Snakes, including rattlesnakes, are native to the Selway area. No rock climbing or diving and jumping off rocks into the river. Filtered water is available in camp. It is the responsibility of all guests under Idaho law to inform the guides prior to leaving camp.

**Secondary Safety Talk** - In higher water conditions, an extra safety talk will be given at the camp immediately above the Moose Juice section. The same areas will be covered as in the Introductory Safety Talk, with greater emphasis on the increased speed and power of the river in this area and a higher risk of raft upset or passengers taking an unplanned swim. Guest will be moved into rafts depending on the guides' observation of their skills over the past two days.

# RIVER & CAMP LOGISTICS

**Launch Site Preparations** - Guides arrive at the Paradise launch site the evening prior to the launch day. Camping is available next to White Cap Creek one mile up the creek. It is preferable that rafts be rigged at the camp site on White Cap Creek if water level permits, then floated to the Paradise site. If this alternative is not possible, rigging may occur at the Paradise launch ramp.

During the rigging process, do not block the Selway river trail in the event a pack string exits the trail and needs to traverse the parking area. If another party is at the launch site, be courteous, sharing and helpful.

**Water Levels Decisions** - Northwest River Company deals with varying water levels by making the decision to launch or not, by adjusting the type and size of rafts used and by adjusting running procedures. Water levels are difficult to predict because natural forces control them and the reports by federal agencies on gauge readings are intermittent and taken by people with varying levels of knowledge of the river.

Decisions on launch and equipment will be made based on the best information available to Northwest River Company the day prior to launch (see Pre-Trip Information Sheet - Exhibit "A").

**Launch Decision** - At levels below 1.2 feet on the Paradise gauge, the guests and some gear will be flown into Shearer landing strip. Guides will leave Paradise at first light on the launch day with empty rafts, deadheading to meet the guests at Shearer. If the group for the day prior to our scheduled launch has canceled due to low water, or we have had the opportunity to ask and received their permission, the guides will launch that afternoon and go part way to Shearer. At levels below .9 feet, all equipment, guides and guests will be flown to Shearer to start the trip. The numbers of flights necessary to accomplish a low water situation launch from Shearer will be determined by the air taxi service with the safety of Northwest River Company guests and personnel as the primary factor.

At levels above 1.2 feet on the gauge, the launch, if it occurs, will be staged at Paradise.

At levels between 1.2 feet and 4.5 feet on the gauge, a mix of 14', 15.5' and/or 17' rafts may be used.

At levels less than 4.5 feet, a paddle raft may be used depending upon 1) Water temperature, 2) Weather, 3) Guests Experience, 4) Guest requests.

At levels between 4.5 feet and 5.5 feet, a mix of 15.5' and 17' rafts may be used.

At levels between 5.5 feet and 6.5 feet, a mix of 15.5' and 17' rafts and/or a safety kayak may be used.

The critical high water launch decision occurs between 6' and 6.5' on the Paradise gauge. The general rule (supplemented by decision process laid out in pre-trip information sheet - Exhibit "A") is there will be no launch if the gauge reads 6' or more and is rising.

The general rule (supplemented by decision process laid out in pre-trip information sheet - Exhibit "A") is there will be a launch if the gauge is 6.5' or less and is dropping. Factors included in the launch decision include weather forecast from the National Weather Service, NWS river forecasting models, snow measurements, gauge readings at Lowell and charts showing relations between Paradise and Lowell readings

can occur between 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM, depending on weather, water conditions and the trip leader's goal for the next night's camp. Lunch can be prepared at a lunch stop during the day, after arrival in camp on a day when the start was early, or prior to leaving camp on a late departure day.

**Food Handling and Preparation** - A clean kitchen is of the utmost importance. All guides will wash their hands prior to food preparation and wear neat, clean clothes while cooking. Dish washing will be done using three buckets using hot soapy water, hot rinse, and chlorine rinse. Cooking will be done on a propane stove, in dutch ovens and on a grill over the fire pan.

**Garbage** - All garbage that is not burned will be stored in plastic bags, removed from the river, and deposited at a dumpster in Missoula.

**Human Waste** - Although the Selway River management plan allows the burying of human waste, Northwest River Company has a policy of removing solid human waste. We use a "Johnny Partner" system that contains the material until disposal at a dump station in Missoula.

**Waste Water** - Waste water from hand wash operations may be cast into the bushes well above the high water line. Waste water used in washing dishes that may contain food particles will be strained to remove food particles, then poured into a sump hole dug away from camp for the purpose of disposing of waste water.

**Fire Pan and Firewood** - Although the Selway River management plan allows fires to be built on the ground and ashes thrown in the river, at Northwest River Company, all camp fires will be built in the metal fire pan supplied by the company and carried on every trip. Ashes will be collected from the fire pan prior to leaving camp and stored in the large ammo cans provided for this purpose. Any coals or ashes that have fallen from the fire pan will be collected by shovel and by hand and placed in the large ammo can for removal from the river. Ashes will be dumped at a dumpster in Missoula at the end of the trip.

#### **EMERGENCY FIRES -**

In cases where NW guests are caught in unusual climatic conditions involving cold and damp conditions that may lead to hypothermia, a fire may need to be built outside of a normal camp setting. If readily available (not buried in the duffel pile to the extent it will delay meeting the guests' health needs) the fire pan and ash box will be used. If not readily available, at the discretion of the trip leader, a fire may be built on the ground for temporary warming use. If this occurs, it is the joint responsibility of the guide building the fire and the lead guide to assure that the fire is 1) properly contained, 2) fully extinguished at the end of the period of use, 3) fire site is cleaned and naturalized prior to leaving the area. Coals may be dispersed by throwing them into mid stream, as outlined in the river management plan.

**FIREWOOD** - Only dead, downed wood will be used. Driftwood is preferable. Prior to leaving camp firewood will be either stacked to simulate natural conditions or dispersed along the high water mark simulating natural conditions.

**Fishing Practices and Regulations** - Everyone who fishes is required to have a valid, current fishing license issued by the State of Idaho. Fishing regulations vary on the Selway depending on time of year and location (main stream, tributary or distance up tributary). It is the policy of Northwest River Company to inform all guests that all fishing on the Selway and its tributaries is catch and release with artificial lures only and single barbless hooks. This is to be done as part of the NW Newsletter, Q&A literature sent to prospective clients, pre-trip orientation talk in Missoula, river side pre-launch talk and in any one on one questioning by fishing guests.

**Take-Out Procedures** - Like the launch area, we need to be respectful of others at the take-out site. Keep all our gear together and leave room in case another party shows up to share the site. Our first priority is feeding the guests and getting them comfortably on the bus for the return trip, then complete the packing of gear for the trip back to Missoula.

## **SAFETY**

**Risk Management** - Through the procedures outlined in this plan and the experience of our staff, Northwest River Company seeks to manage the risk of a wilderness trip on the Selway River. Northwest River Company cannot eliminate the inherent risk of travel by boat in a wilderness setting with numerous naturally occurring hazards. Recognizing the inherent risk of wilderness and that it is to be managed as a natural environment, untrammled by man, it is not consistent to alter the wilderness environment to minimize risk, or to hold the outfitter permit holder responsible for abatement of naturally occurring wilderness risks. These risks are part of the natural environment that may not be abated, nor shall the outfitter permit holder be held liable or responsible for such risks or abatement, notwithstanding any clause of the special use permit of which this operating plan is made a part.

**Accident Procedures** - All guides are expected to be familiar with the following items located in a waterproof bag on the lid of the safety gear box -

- "Guidelines For Handling An Accident" provided by the Northwest River Company insurance carrier (Albany Insurance);
- Accident Report Forms;
- Witness Statements;
- Emergency Phone List;
- Trip Log Forms;
- Landing Zone Guide for Life Flight evacuations.

**Evacuation Sites And Radios** - Private inholdings and administrative sites are manned intermittently. Backcountry radio access is not guaranteed at any site. In an emergency requiring communication or evacuation, these sites will be considered -

- Running Creek Ranch
- North Star Ranch
- Shearer Landing Strip and Guard Station

**IN 2000 WE WILL BE STARTING OUR TRIPS FROM THE MISSOULA Doubletree  
Riverside AND OUR ORIENTATION MEETING WILL BE AT 6:00 PM THE EVENING  
PRIOR TO YOUR LAUNCH DATE !!!**

If you are flying commercially or driving you should arrive in Missoula, Montana the day before your trip begins. You will be met at the Village Red Lion at 6:00 PM on the evening prior to your trip. If your travel arrangements do not allow for your arrival by 6:00 PM, please let us know and we will make special arrangements. If you are driving you may leave your vehicle in the motel parking lot for the duration of your trip. We depart the Village Red Lion at 8:00 AM on the morning of your launch date. Our van will take you to the river put-in at Paradise Guard Station, a 3-4 hour drive on good roads, or to the Missoula airport for the flight in. We will make a stop for fishing licenses, tackle and liquor if you desire. At approximately 2:00 PM on the fourth or fifth day (depending on trip length), we will take you via van back to the Missoula Red Lion, arriving at approximately 6:00 PM.

**AIR SERVICE TO MISSOULA**

Commercial air service to Missoula is provided by Continental, Northwest, Delta, United Express and Horizon Airlines.

**LODGING IN MISSOULA**

We suggest that you make advance reservations for the Village Red Lion through us. There is a discounted \$58 rate for Northwest River Company for single or double rooms.

**RENTAL UNITS AVAILABLE**

Our suggested gear list is designed to meet a variety of weather conditions. We have found that when our guests fall short of gear, it is usually in the area of a good rain suit. We have available a limited supply of our rental unit that consists of:

**WET SUIT BOOTIES**

**A PILE SUIT**

**A GOOD RAIN SUIT.**

This unit has been proven on the river as an excellent unit when the weather is cool or when you are being exposed to periodic splashing of cold water, both of which can occur on the Selway. We recommend that the booties be worn with wool socks underneath. The pile suit is a synthetic that provides loft and insulation under the rain suit. The rain suit has a top with neoprene cuffs and collar.

The unit rents for **\$40.00** per trip. Please call or write with sizes so that we might reserve a unit if you desire one.

**PLEASE PACK LIGHT!**

**WE PROVIDE TENTS, EATING AND COOKING EQUIPMENT  
SEE THE SUGGESTED GEAR LIST FOR WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING**

**EXHIBIT "B"**

**SELWAY RIVER  
GAUGE READING = CUBIC FEET PER SECOND**

| Paradise<br>Feet | Paradise<br>CFS | Lowell<br>CFS | Paradise<br>Feet | Paradise<br>CFS | Lowell<br>CFS |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 0.00             | 465             |               | 4.70             | 3101            | 15,370        |
| 0.10             | 504             |               | 4.80             | 3215            | 15,680        |
| 0.20             | 563             |               | 4.90             | 3306            | 15,900        |
| 0.30             | 568             |               | 5.00             | 3411            | 16,300        |
| 0.40             | 586             |               | 5.10             | 3519            | 16,700        |
| 0.50             | 600             |               | 5.20             | 3628            | 17,100        |
| 0.60             | 648             |               | 5.30             | 3738            | 17,500        |
| 0.70             | 702             |               | 5.40             | 3850            | 17,900        |
| 0.80             | 755             |               | 5.50             | 3964            | 18,300        |
| 0.90             | 814             |               | 5.60             | 4080            | 18,700        |
| 1.00             | 857             | 1,000         | 5.70             | 4212            | 19,100        |
| 1.10             | 858             | 1,400         | 5.80             | 4332            | 19,500        |
| 1.20             | 859             | 1,800         | 5.90             | 4453            | 19,900        |
| 1.30             | 861             | 2,200         | 6.00             | 4562            | 20,300        |
| 1.40             | 923             | 2,600         | 6.10             | 4672            |               |
| 1.50             | 987             | 3,000         | 6.20             | 4770            |               |
| 1.60             | 1049            | 3,400         | 6.30             | 4899            |               |
| 1.70             | 1112            | 3,800         | 6.40             | 5028            |               |
| 1.80             | 1120            | 4,200         | 6.50             | 5144            |               |
| 1.90             | 1128            | 4,600         | 6.60             | 5277            |               |
| 2.00             | 1140            | 5,000         | 6.70             | 5414            |               |
| 2.10             | 1202            | 5,375         | 6.80             | 5554            |               |
| 2.20             | 1253            | 5,750         | 6.90             | 5697            |               |
| 2.30             | 1326            | 6,125         | 7.00             | 5844            | 24,250        |
| 2.40             | 1400            | 6,500         | 7.10             | 5996            |               |
| 2.50             | 1468            | 6,875         | 7.20             | 6151            |               |
| 2.60             | 1473            | 7,250         | 7.30             | 6312            |               |
| 2.70             | 1478            | 7,625         | 7.40             | 6478            |               |
| 2.80             | 1484            | 8,000         | 7.50             | 6669            |               |
| 2.90             | 1538            | 8,375         | 7.60             | 6846            |               |
| 3.00             | 1608            | 8,750         | 7.70             | 7050            |               |
| 3.10             | 1672            | 9,150         | 7.80             | 7242            |               |
| 3.20             | 1754            | 9,550         | 7.90             | 4754            |               |
| 3.30             | 1837            | 9,950         | 8.00             | 7683            | 28,000        |
| 3.40             | 1914            | 10,350        | 8.10             | 7921            |               |
| 3.50             | 2001            | 10,750        | 8.20             | 8169            |               |
| 3.60             | 2081            | 11,100        | 8.30             | 8449            |               |
| 3.70             | 2163            | 11,450        | 8.40             | 8740            |               |
| 3.80             | 2256            | 11,800        | 8.50             | 9044            |               |
| 3.90             | 2342            | 12,150        | 8.60             | 9360            |               |
| 4.00             | 2429            | 12,500        | 8.70             | 9690            |               |
| 4.10             | 2518            | 13,010        | 8.80             | 10033           |               |
| 4.20             | 2610            | 13,520        | 8.90             | 10417           |               |
| 4.30             | 2713            | 14,030        | 9.00             | 10788           |               |
| 4.40             | 2807            | 14,540        | 9.10             | 11244           |               |
| 4.50             | 2904            | 14,750        | 9.20             | 11675           |               |
| 4.60             | 3002            | 15,060        | 9.30             | 12125           |               |

## **EXHIBIT "C"**

### **Equipment List** -

Rafts  
Safety Rope, pulley's, etc.  
Stove  
Regulator  
Propane (Check and make sure to fill)  
Big Top Tarp  
Shovel  
Ax  
Tents  
Ash Can  
Boat Pump  
Wash Buckets  
Fire Pan  
Dutch Ovens  
Throw Ropes  
First Aid  
Paddles  
Oars  
Oar Locks  
Spare Tent Parts Bag (light green bag)  
Chairs  
Frames  
Straps  
Life Jackets  
Throw Ropes  
Porta Potty and supply can  
Potty Tent

### **REPAIR KIT**

Glue  
MEK  
Material  
Tools  
Spare Oar Lock  
Sand Paper  
Copper Wire



Packing out  
wrecked raft left by  
other users



Straining waste  
kitchen water in a  
sump hole



Dispersing left over  
fire wood along the  
high water mark



Naturally occurring  
driftwood pile on  
the Selway



**Packing out Ashes  
from the Fire Pan**



**Toilet Tent**



**Human Waste  
Container –  
Johnny Partner**



**Propane Stove  
Cooling System**



**Appendix 4. Recreation Best Management Practices**



**Best Management Practices (BMPs) Outline for Outfitter Operations in the Frank Church and Selway Bitterroot Wildernesses**

The Idaho DEQ board meets October 18, 2000 in Boise to discuss and probably finalize their recommendation to the legislature regarding Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW) designation. The Middle Fork and the Selway along with selected tributaries within the wilderness areas are likely to be the DEQ board's recommendation.

IOGA expects any enacting legislation to designate the IOGLB as the lead agency for the outfitting industry which means that the IOGLB would oversee the implementation of BMP's for both water and land based outfitter operations. BMP's will be built around existing permit conditions. Doug Tims and Grant Simonds recently brainstormed an outline for the development of BMP's. We are interested in feedback, questions, thoughts....

**1. Garbage****River Operations**

All non-burnable trash will be stored in plastic bags and packed out in rafts and disposed of at an approved county trash collection site.

**Land Based Operations**

All non-burnable trash will be stored in plastic bags and packed out using livestock or airplanes and disposed of at an approved county trash collection site.

**2. Human Waste****River and Land Based Operations**

Human waste will be handled according to practices designated for the land management area where the operation is occurring. In some cases, this will be use of toilet facilities established by the land management agency. In some cases this will be through digging and covering of field latrines. In some cases this will be through collection of solid waste in metal or plastic containers that are sealed and tied to the raft for transportation for disposal at approved agency of county facilities.

**3. Waste Water****River and Land Based Operations**

Wastewater from hand wash operations may be cast into the bushes well above the high water line and away from live streams and creeks. Wastewater used in washing dishes that may contain food particles will be strained to remove food particles, then poured into a sump hole dug away from camp for the purpose of disposing of waste water.

**4. Fire Pan & Firewood****River Operations**

In river corridors, all campfires will be built in a metal fire pan supplied by the company and carried on every trip. Ashes will be collected from the fire pan prior to leaving camp and stored in sealed metal containers. Any coals or ashes that have fallen from the fire pan will be collected by shovel and by hand and placed in the metal container for removal from the river. Ashes will be dumped at an approved county trash collection site.

**Land Based Operations**

Fires will be built using a fire ring and built in a location and manner consistent with practices agreed upon by the local federal land management agency.

**5. Storage and Transportation of propane, fire starter and lantern or heater fuel****River Operations**

Propane will be stored and transported in cylinders, bottles or tanks that have been certified and meet Federal Department of Transportation standards.

Fire Starter and Lantern Fuel will be stored in metal boat boxes that are latched and secured in the raft.

**Land Based Operations**

Propane will be stored and transported in cylinders, bottles or tanks that have been certified and meet Federal Department of Transportation standards.

Fire Starter and Lantern Fuel will be stored in metal or wood boat boxes that are latched and secured on livestock or in aircraft for transportation.

**6. Grazing and Watering of Livestock**

Grazing and watering of livestock will be conducted in the manner prescribed by local federal land management guidelines for the area of operation



**Appendix 5. Resource Protection Information Provided to Private Rafting Parties**



LEAVE NO TRACE  
OUTDOOR SKILLS & ETHICS

*Western River Corridors*



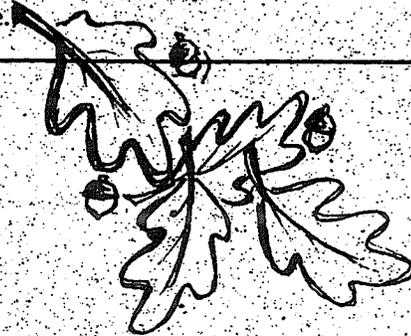
## Wildland Ethics

*A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise.*

*Aldo Leopold,  
A Sand County Almanac (1949)*

Forester and philosopher Aldo Leopold expressed this sentiment in the 1940s. Today increasing numbers of backcountry visitors are coming to the same realization as they witness their favorite wilderness haunts being loved to death by recreationists seeking adventure and solitude. This booklet is part of a national educational program called Leave No Trace, whose mission is to educate wildland user groups, federal agencies and the public about minimum-impact camping. However, the principles and practices discussed here are meaningless as a set of rules and regulations. They must be based on an abiding respect for and appreciation of wild places and their inhabitants. Only then can these principles be tempered with the judgment necessary to apply them in the myriad circumstances in which we find ourselves every time we venture beyond the trailhead.

Simple living, adventure and solitude can still be part of our backcountry travels, but in order to assure their continued existence we must take the responsibility to educate ourselves and to become equipped with skills and habits that enable us to Leave No Trace.



# LEAVE NO TRACE OUTDOOR SKILLS & ETHICS

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*developed by the National Outdoor Leadership School*

## Western River Corridors

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>Plan Ahead and Prepare</b>  | <b>3</b>  |
| Expectations • Repackage food • Equipment<br>• Know the area   |           |
| <b>Camp and Travel on Durable Surfaces</b>   | <b>4</b>  |
| Use established sites and beaches when available • Spread<br>use and impact in pristine areas • Avoid places where<br>impact is just beginning |           |
| <b>Pack It In, Pack It Out</b>   | <b>8</b>  |
| Reduce litter at the source • Trash • Garbage<br>• Use a kitchen floor   |           |
| <b>Properly Dispose of What You Can't<br/>Pack Out</b>   | <b>9</b>  |
| Carry a portable toilet system • Day use toilets • Urination<br>• Waste water  |           |
| <b>Leave What You Find</b>   | <b>11</b> |
| Minimize site alterations • Avoid damaging live trees and<br>plants • Leave natural objects and cultural artifacts • Respect<br>wildlife       |           |
| <b>Use Fire Responsibly</b>  | <b>12</b> |
| Consider not building fires • Use a fire pan • Bring your own<br>wood • Carry out all ash and charcoal   |           |
| <b>Be Considerate of Others</b>  | <b>14</b> |
| River courtesy • Camping courtesy  |           |

**S**ince 1965, the National Outdoor Leadership School has pioneered the teaching and development of practical conservation techniques designed to minimize impact. These conservation practices are now incorporated into the national Leave No Trace education program as the following Leave No Trace Principles:

### **Principles of Leave No Trace**

- **Plan Ahead and Prepare**
- **Camp and Travel on Durable Surfaces**
- **Pack It In, Pack It Out**
- **Properly Dispose of What You Can't Pack Out**
- **Leave What You Find**
- **Minimize Use and Impact of Fire**

*And for river runners, this adds up to a seventh principle:*

- **Be Considerate of Others**

These principles are recommended as a guide to minimizing the impact of your visits to river corridors. This pamphlet discusses factors to consider under each principle when making judgments about how to minimize impact, and the rationale behind recommended practices. Before traveling into the backcountry, we recommend that you check with local officials of the Forest Service, Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management or other managing agency for advice and regulations specific to the area. These materials are intended to support and complement agency guidelines.

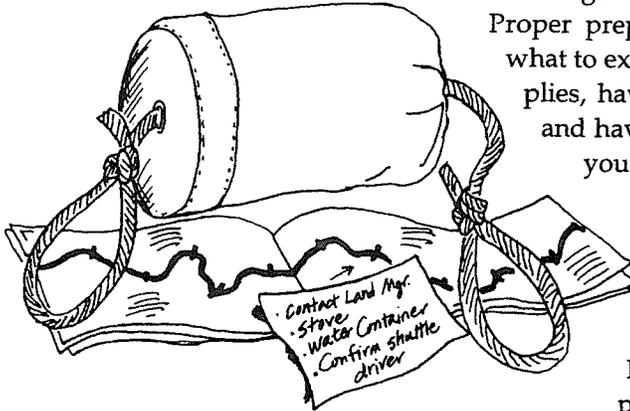
Leaving no trace depends more on attitude and awareness than on rules and regulations. Low-impact camping practices must be flexible and tempered by judgment and experience. Consider the variables of each place—soil, vegetation, wildlife, moisture level, the amount and type of use the area receives and the overall effect of prior use—then use these observations to determine which recommended practices to apply. Minimize your impact on the land and on other visitors, but be sure to enjoy your visit as well.

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## Plan Ahead and Prepare

Unnecessary impact in river corridors can be avoided by carefully preparing for your trip. For example, if river runners fail to bring proper clothing to stay warm and dry, they may be forced to build large and highly impacting fires.

Proper preparation includes knowing what to expect, repackaging food supplies, having the proper equipment and having knowledge of the river you plan to visit.



**Expectations.** Taking time to think about what you expect from your trip will help you prepare for it. If you are going to a very popular river or are going

during the high-use season you should expect to camp in established sites and see many other groups of people, in both motorized and non-motorized boats. Conversely, if you are going to a remote and little used river, be prepared to look for durable sites and practice stringent Leave No Trace techniques. Check with river managers for information and regulations that pertain to the river you are visiting.

**Repackage food.** Plan your meals carefully to reduce waste and leftovers. Repackage food into reusable containers or plastic bags to reduce the amount of potential trash or litter you bring on the river.

**Equipment.** Taking the proper equipment can help you Leave No Trace. Plan on using a camp stove to cook your meals. Bring all the necessary equipment for washing dishes, straining dishwater, and carrying out trash and human waste. Take everything you need to be safe on the river.

**Know the Area.** Be familiar with weather and water conditions you might encounter. Find out the river level and what kind of fluctuations you might expect. A river map is extremely helpful in

determining where to camp. Don't overshoot your planned campsite and be forced to camp in a less than optimum site.

Take time to scout the rapids. Wrapped rafts and pinned canoes certainly add to river trash!

Learn about local regulations before you head to the put-in. This will add to your safety, enjoyment, and ability to Leave No Trace.



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## Camp and Travel on Durable Surfaces

River corridors are narrow strips of land and water where there is little room to disperse human impacts. Each season thousands of people travel the same magnificent but fragile river corridors. Many popular rivers are strictly managed and campsites are often designated, but even on unregulated rivers it is a good idea to camp on resistant and/or established sites.

### **Use established sites and beaches when available.**

**Selecting a campsite.** Selecting an appropriate campsite is an important aspect of minimum-impact river use. Generally it is best to camp on beaches, sandbars or non-vegetated sites below the high waterline. These areas are the most resistant to impact, and when the river floods, signs of your stay will be washed away. Be aware that some dam-controlled rivers flood to their high water line daily, and that heavy rainstorms or snowmelt can cause water levels to rise rapidly and unexpectedly. Watch the river!

When it's not possible to camp on beaches or sandbars due to high or changing water levels, camp on sites that are well-established above the high water line. These areas are common on most rivers, and are obvious because they have already lost their vegetation cover. Further careful use of these areas will cause very little additional impact.

Place individual tent on areas that are already hardened by use. Never pull out vegetation or break off tree limbs for a more comfortable sleeping spot: this changes the natural look of an area. If you have to move rocks or downed logs, put them back where you found them.

**Selecting a kitchen site.** Just like in your home, the kitchen is the spot where people tend to congregate. On river trips this area receives the most impact. Try to put your kitchen in the most resistant location possible. A large sandy beach is best—it is highly resistant to impact and close to the boats so you won't create trails hauling gear through the brush. When leaving camp make sure it is clean. Pick up all litter and food scraps so the site is attractive to the next visitors. Kitchen floor tarps make clean-up easy. They are described in the "Pack it in, Pack it out" section.

**Avoid making new trails.** In any camp site, especially with large groups, traffic between the kitchen, individual tent sites, and the toilet can quickly cause trails to form. Stay on already-established trails, even if it means going a bit out of your way. It only takes a few people traveling a new route through vegetation to create a noticeable path. The objective is to confine impact to places that already show use and avoid enlarging areas of disturbance.

### **Spread use and impact in pristine areas.**

There may be situations when you are forced to select a site above the high water line where no one has camped before: a "pristine" site.

**Use durable ground for camp and kitchen sites.** This is the most important consideration in determining where to set up tents and the kitchen on pristine sites. Non-vegetated areas such as slickrock, rock outcrops, gravel bars and sand beaches are the best.

Forest duff is reasonably resistant for one night's use, but avoid crushing plants or seedlings, as forest floor vegetation is fragile. Grassy areas and dry meadows can also make good pristine campsites. They are quite resistant and capable of recovering rapidly from the effects of one night of minimum-impact use. When deciding whether to camp in a meadow, consider your potential impact on wildlife.

**Minimize the number of times any part of your site is used.** Spread out tents, avoid repetitive traffic routes and move camp every night. Wear soft-soled shoes around camp, and watch where you walk to avoid crushing vegetation. Take alternate paths to the river and between tent sites.



**Protect riparian areas.** The riparian zone is the fragile, green area along the banks of the river or any side streams. Wildlife depend on the riparian zone for food, water, cover and shelter. The riparian area is also a natural travel route for migratory birds and animals. If you can't camp on a sand beach or in an established site, a good rule of thumb is to camp at least 100 feet from the river, and 200 feet (approximately 70 adult steps) from side streams and springs. This will help protect the fragile riverside ecosystem.

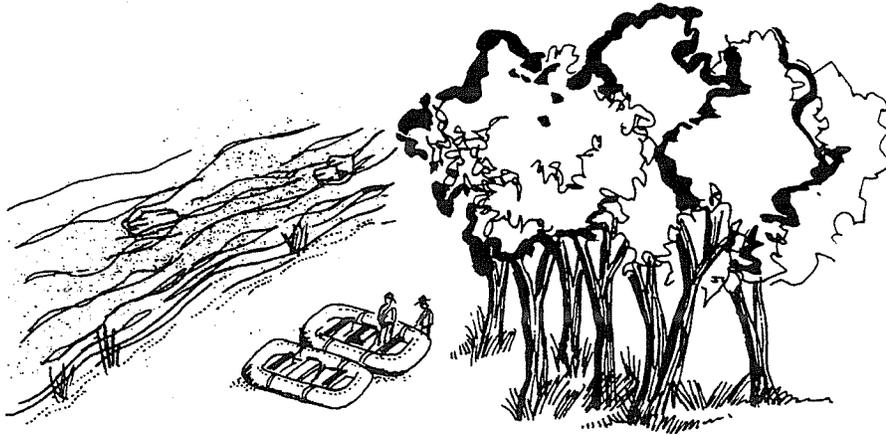
**Naturalize your site when breaking camp.** Covering scuffed up areas with native materials, such as pine needles, brushing out footprints, and raking matted grassy areas with a stick will help the site recover. This extra effort also helps hide any indication that you camped there, and makes it less likely that other river travelers will camp in the same spot. When leaving camp, make sure it is clean. Pick up all litter and food scraps—leave only footprints.

### **Avoid places where impact is just beginning**

Most campsites located above the high water line can withstand some use and still recover. However, a threshold is eventually reached where vegetation cannot grow fast enough to keep pace with the trampling that occurs, and areas of bare ground are created. Once this occurs, the site will expand rapidly and deteriorate with continued use. The turning point for a particular site is affected by many variables including climate, soil type, vegetation, elevation and aspect. For some desert rivers, this level of use may be as little as one or two nights a season.

**Avoid sites that show slight signs of use.** Campsites that show slight use are best left alone. With time and rest, these campsites may revert back to their natural appearance. Unfortunately, the effects of continued trampling on these sites often encourages growth of non-native and noxious weeds that provide poor forage for wildlife. It often takes active revegetation efforts to regrow native plants, a time-consuming and expensive process.

By camping only on durable surfaces in remote areas and staying in well-established campsites in popular areas, it is possible to minimize changes to the landscape and prevent the proliferation of unnecessary campsites.



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## Pack It In, Pack It Out

Pick up and pack out all of your litter. Trash and litter have no place on river corridors. Set a good example—pick up litter left by others.



**Reduce litter at the source.** When preparing for your trip, repackage food into reusable containers or remove any excess packaging. This simple practice lessens the likelihood that you will inadvertently leave litter behind.

**Trash.** Trash is inorganic waste brought onto the river, usually from over-packaged products. You should carry out all of your trash in

extra garbage bags or ammo boxes. Bail buckets lined with garbage bags make convenient trash cans around camp. If you smoke, put butts in your pocket until you can dispose of them with the trash. Some paper items can be burned in a campfire, but much of the paper packaging used today is lined with non-burnable foil or plastic, so it is best to get in the habit of carrying everything out. Other items such as tin and aluminum cans, plastic, tin foil and glass are not burnable and must be packed out. Recycle these if possible.

**Garbage.** Garbage is organic waste left over from meals. This type of waste can be easily reduced by careful planning and preparation. Food scraps should be picked up from around the kitchen area and packed out. This helps keep the ants, flies and mice to a minimum at high-use campsites. Waste water should also be strained before disposing to remove any food particles. Any leftovers should be either saved and eaten later, or put in a plastic bag or other container and carried out. Burning and burying these types of waste are ineffective and inappropriate methods of disposal. It requires a very hot fire to burn garbage thoroughly, and animals will dig it up if buried. Keeping food waste away from animals is important so they do not become habituated to people as a food source and their normal activities are not disrupted. Consider separating your organic waste from the trash so it can be taken home and composted.

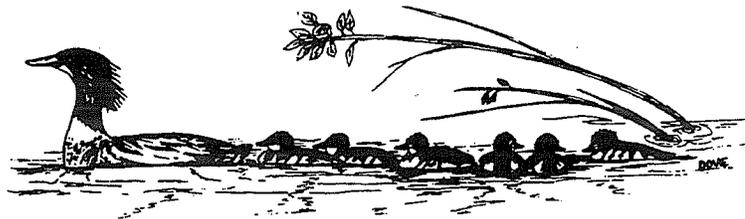
**Use a kitchen floor.** The most effective way to Leave No Trace in your kitchen area is to carry and use a portable "kitchen floor." Bring a large tarp or open-weave "scrim" cloth (available through some horsepacking suppliers) that is big enough to cover the entire area of your kitchen. Set up your tables and stove on this floor. Any food scraps, pull tabs, twist ties or other small trash will fall onto the tarp or scrim instead of disappearing into the sand. When you break down camp, either pick out the litter or simply pour everything that fell onto your "floor" into a trash bag. The same material can also be used under your lunch site. This is a simple and effective way to collect even the smallest of food particles that would otherwise attract insects.

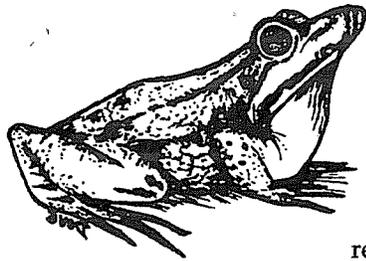
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## Properly Dispose of Human Waste and Waste Water

Human waste disposal presents a unique problem on river corridors. Because of the high concentration of use on a narrow strip of land it is simply not acceptable to leave solid bodily waste within the river corridor. Carry out all human waste. This is especially critical in arid regions where rivers have cut deep narrow canyons, organic soils are minimal and campsites are few. Urine and waste water also require special consideration.

**Carry a portable toilet system.** All boating parties should carry a portable, reusable system that can be flushed out at a proper waste facility, such as an RV dump station. Most boaters have traditionally used a system in which feces are deposited into garbage bags and taken to a landfill. In October of 1993 EPA regulations began prohibiting the dumping of solid human waste





into landfills. Reusable storage tanks and toilet systems have become the standard method of disposal. There are currently a number of models on the market for sale and rent.

Use a chemical additive or holding tank deodorant to reduce bacterial growth and retard methane gas production. Many such

additives are available commercially and include quicklime, chlorine bleach and Aqua Chem. The amount of chemical used each day depends on the type used and the number of people on the trip. Place toilet paper and tampons directly into the toilet. Sanitary napkins and diapers should go in the trash.

For hygienic reasons also include near the toilet system a hand washing set-up with a water dispenser and soap. The water dispenser can be a tin can or plastic bottle with holes punched in the bottom. This "faucet" should be elevated on a stand above a bucket so that flowing water can rinse soap off hands, and the soapy water can collect in the bucket. On silty, high volume rivers dispose of the soapy water in the main river. On clear, mountain rivers scatter the water onto the land. See the section on Waste Water for a more thorough discussion of waste water disposal methods.

Remember that the toilet will receive a great deal of traffic, so place it in a durable spot where no new trails will be created to reach it.

**Day use toilets.** If the main toilet is available during the day you won't need a separate day use system, but often the main toilet is packed away and inaccessible. Store toilet paper, small paper bags, a 1 lb. coffee can, and a small container of toilet chemical in a small ammo can that stays accessible during the day. Deposit human waste and toilet paper in the paper bag with a small amount of dry chemical deodorant. Place the full paper bag in a sealed coffee can until the bag can be put in the regular camp toilet in the evening. The paper bag will break down in the waste container.

**Urination.** On large volume, silty rivers in the arid west, urinate directly into flowing water in the river, not in calm water, on wet sand or on soil. People can urinate into a bucket and later dump the

bucket into the water if they prefer not to get their feet wet. Urinate into the toilet if your system can handle the extra volume.

These high volume, high turbidity desert rivers can more easily assimilate urine than the adjacent land. Urine deposited onto the land can create a strong odor and attract insects. The lack of consistent rainfall means the urine does not quickly get washed away.

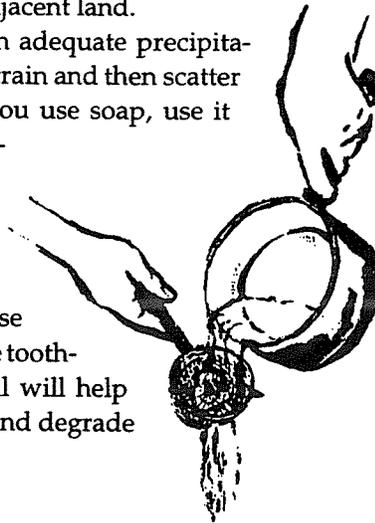
On clear, mountain rivers with spring floods, urinate on the land below the high water line. The lower volume and clear water of mountain rivers is more easily affected by urine than the adjacent flood plain, which can filter the urine before it reaches the stream.

If in doubt on a highly-used river, urinate into the water. The dilution factor is so great that the impact on water quality is negligible.

**Waste water.** Waste water includes soapy and dirty water from bathing, dish washing, and tooth brushing, as well as unwanted liquids from canned foods and old beverages.

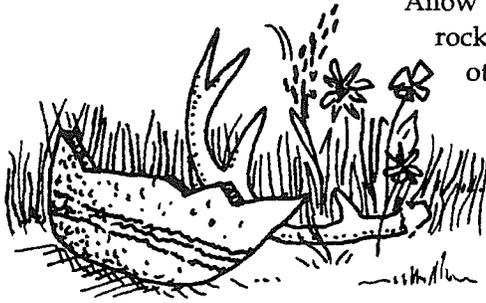
On silty rivers in arid regions, throw waste water directly into the main river current. Disposal is easy if you collect used and unwanted liquids in a bucket. Strain all waste water through a screen or sieve to remove food particles before dumping waste water. If you must bathe with soap, do so in the main river current. As with urine, higher volume desert rivers can more easily assimilate waste water than the adjacent land.

On clear mountain rivers with adequate precipitation, the common practice is to strain and then scatter waste water onto the land. If you use soap, use it sparingly: even biodegradable varieties take a long time to break down. Scatter waste water over a wide area, away from camp, and at least 200 feet from side streams or springs to keep these small water sources clean. Dilute toothpaste before dispersing. Rainfall will help waste water residues percolate and degrade over time in the soil.



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## Leave What You Find



Allow others a sense of discovery by leaving rocks, plants, archaeological artifacts and other objects of interest as you find them.

Respect wildlife's need for plenty of space and undisturbed habitat for breeding, raising young, and feeding.

**Minimize site alterations.** On all sites, leave the area as you found it.

Do not dig trenches for tents or construct lean-tos, tables, chairs or other rudimentary improvements. If you clear the area of surface rocks, twigs or pine cones, replace these items before leaving. On high-impact sites, it is appropriate to clean up the site and dismantle inappropriate user-built facilities, such as fire rings and constructed seats or tables. Consider the idea that good campsites are found and not made.

**Avoid damaging live trees and plants.** Avoid hammering nails into trees for hanging things, hacking at them with hatchets and saws, or tying tent guy lines to trunks and thus girdling the tree.

Picking a few flowers does not seem like it would have any great impact. If only a few flowers were picked it wouldn't, but if every visitor thought "I'll just take a few," a much more significant impact might result. Take a picture instead of picking it. Enjoy an occasional edible plant, but be careful not to deplete the surrounding vegetation or to disturb plants that are either rare or do not reproduce in abundance. A good rule-of-thumb is to harvest only 10% of the available crop.

**Leave natural objects and cultural artifacts.** Natural objects of beauty or interest, such as antlers or petrified wood, are appealing when you find them on the river and should be left for others so that they can also experience that sense of discovery. In national parks and some other areas it is illegal to remove natural objects.

The same ethic applies to the discovery and removal of cultural artifacts found on public land. Cultural artifacts are protected by

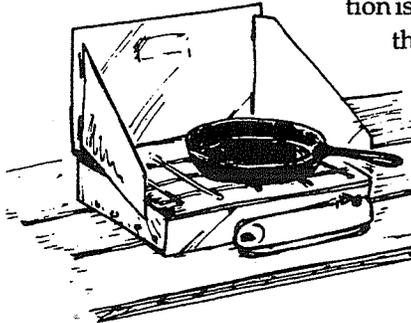
the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, and it is illegal to remove or disturb these remnants of the past from *any* public lands. This act protects all artifacts ranging from seemingly insignificant potsherds and arrowheads to ornate pots. Please notify rangers or other federal land management authorities if you discover any illegal activities.

**Respect wildlife.** River runners have the potential to greatly impact wildlife through direct contact and through habitat destruction. When approaching raptors, herons, breeding waterfowl and mammals on the river always remain quiet, stay in boats, move to the other side of the river, and keep moving. Never feed animals or leave food scraps where they might be eaten. Camp away from all nests and burrows, preferably on the beach, out of riparian areas. Before your trip, educate yourself about any sensitive species you may encounter.

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## Use Fire Responsibly

Campfires were once a necessary part of camping: now their use is steeped in history and tradition. The tradition is so entrenched in our minds that for some the thought of going on a camping or river trip and not having a fire is almost unthinkable. However, a new attitude is developing toward campfires. This attitude is a direct result of past misuse of campfires which have caused unsightly, blackened fire rings, ash-lined beaches and damage to trees.



**Consider not building fires.** The only foolproof way to avoid impact from fires is to not build them. Always carry a gas or propane stove to cook your meals. Stoves are easier to clean up, and don't result in blackened rocks, partially burned firewood and charcoal-covered beaches.

**Use a fire pan.** If you still decide to use a campfire, keep it small and always contain it in a fire pan. A fire pan is a metal tray with



rigid sides at least three inches high. Oil drain pans, small barrels cut in half, and backyard barbecue grills make effective and inexpensive fire pans. Elevate the pan so that the heat from the fire does not scorch the ground. Rocks work well for this. Locate the fire pan close to the river and away from vegetation, boulders and overhanging cliffs.

**Bring your own wood.** The best bet for firewood is to bring your own or use charcoal. Never cut branches from live trees. Even gathering dead native wood deprives many animals of shelter from high summer and low winter temperature extremes. Some rivers that are undammed and subject to flooding and have reasonable supplies of driftwood. This wood is usually acceptable for use as firewood, but check local regulations. Always gather driftwood from piles along the river before you arrive at camp. Never strip one area of its entire supply.

**Carry out all ash and charcoal.** Burn your fire down to white ash, let it cool completely, and pack out all of the ash. It's as simple as that!

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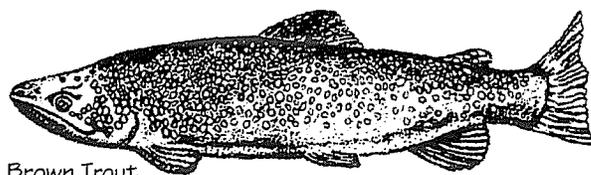
## Be Considerate of Others

Many people go on river trips to enjoy the peace and solitude that a wilderness setting can provide. With increasing numbers of boaters using a limited number of wilderness rivers, this solitude can be difficult to find. Being considerate of others and practicing good river etiquette will ensure that everyone enjoys their stay on the river.

**River courtesy.** Motorized boats are allowed on many rivers and there are some basic principles to remember when two types of craft meet. Slower boats should keep to the right, if possible, and allow faster boats to pass. Float boats should maintain tight groups and avoid spreading across the width of the river. Groups should try to enter rapids in a safe but close succession. Powerboats especially should allow themselves some space before entering rapids since they cannot back up once they are committed. Powerboats should also be careful to slow down and not “buzz” other boats when passing.

All boaters should respect anglers on the river. Do not boat over their lines or disrupt their fishing holes. Powerboats should slow when passing anglers, both as a courtesy and as a safety precaution.

**Camping courtesy.** Sound travels easily in river corridors so keep noise in camp to a minimum. Also be aware of your noise level while you float by other groups’ camps. Lewd conduct and obscene language are out of place on the river. Friendly hellos are always appropriate. If you must bring your pets on the river (check the local regulations first) keep them under control at all times. No one appreciates roaming dogs running through their campsite. Camp only on public lands and respect private property. Always get permission to use private lands. It makes sense for small parties to use small camps and leave the larger camps for the larger groups. Occasionally it may be necessary for two groups to share the same site. Some groups are amenable to this and others are not. Be generous and courteous if this situation arises. Realize that there are often alternate sites if you’re creative and open to suggestion, but remember the Leave No Trace principles when selecting a camp.



Brown Trout

## References:

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**LEAVE NO TRACE**

**Information & Materials**

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National Outdoor Leadership School

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307-332-8800 e-mail: [lnt@nols.edu](mailto:lnt@nols.edu)

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LNT Skills & Ethics Series

Western River Corridors

Vol. 4.2

© NOLS August, 1996



File Code: 2370

Date: March 29, 2000

**RECEIVED**

APR 03 2000

FENN RS

*See Attached List*

Dear River Permittee:

Selway River trip permits will be issued at the West Fork Ranger District Office Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Trip leader must personally pick up the permit during those hours. Contact us to make other arrangements if you are unable to pick up your permit on weekdays. The following requirements must be met before the permit will be issued:

1. **Reconfirm your launch date** by contacting this office **two weeks before launching**. Failure to contact this office at least 7 days in advance will result in cancellation of your permit and the launch will be reassigned. Failure to contact this office will also be considered a "no show" and you will be ineligible to apply for a launch on the Selway River for a one year period.

2. The permit holder must personally present the same numbered photo id shown on the application. You must certify your party is sharing expenses. Be prepared to have full names and entire addresses of all party members.

3. All float trip members and their watercraft must launch on the specific assigned launch date from the same location and camp together during the float trip.

Pre-numbered boat tags will be issued to each type of watercraft and they must remain affixed during the entire float.

Early season floaters (May 15 to early June) should be aware that the road to the Paradise Launch Site may be closed because of snow over Nez Perce Pass. Contact our office for current road conditions and water levels. When traveling from your home to the launch site, please drive with your headlights on while on all highways and forest roads.

The Selway River Trail is one of the most heavily used trails in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. All users need to have respect for each other to prevent conflicts and to enhance each other's Wilderness experience. For safety of users, be sure and keep the trail clear at all times. Arrange your camp away from the trail, never tie rafts across the trail and keep all packs and equipment to the side of the trail.

Maps available through this office are Bitterroot National Forest, Nez Perce National Forest, and a waterproof "Floating the Wild Selway" for \$4.00 each and a 2-map set of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness for \$6.00 each. You may send your request, along with payment made out to USDA-Forest Service, to the West Fork Ranger District, 6735 West Fork Road, Darby, Montana 59829.



If you have a change in plans and don't intend on floating the Selway River, please notify us as early as possible so we will have adequate time to assign the launch date to another party.

Please read and share with your group the enclosed information. If you have further questions, call Linda King at 406/821-3269.

Sincerely,



for DAVID M. CAMPBELL  
District Ranger

Enclosures

GENERAL INFORMATION  
SELWAY RIVER  
WEST FORK RANGER DISTRICT

**FISHING:**

The Selway River from Meadow Creek Bridge upstream is CATCH-AND-RELEASE. You must have a valid Idaho State fishing license to fish. For more information contact the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Headquarters, 600 S. Walnut, PO Box 25, Boise, Idaho, 83707; telephone, 208/334-3700. Idaho non-resident licenses can be obtained in Hamilton, Montana, at Bob Ward's Sporting Goods, 1118 N 1st Street; at any Idaho Department of Fish and Game office and many sporting goods and convenience stores located in Idaho.

**GAS AND GROCERIES:**

Traveling north on Highway 93, Salmon, Idaho, has the largest grocery stores and gas. North Fork, Idaho; Sula, Conner, and West Fork Lodge, Montana, all have gas and convenience items.

Traveling south on Highway 93 from Missoula, Montana, Hamilton and Darby, Montana, have large grocery stores and gas. West Fork Lodge and Conner Store, Montana, also have gas and convenience items.

Once you get past the West Fork Ranger Station, NO food, gas or telephone is available.

**ROAD CONDITIONS:**

From the West Fork Ranger District Office to the Paradise Launch Site is 50 miles of paved, gravel, and dirt road. The last 25 miles is over a very narrow stretch of dirt road with very few turnouts or passing areas. Travel time from the West Fork Office to Paradise is approximately 2 1/2 hours. Nez Perce Pass is quite often closed by snow until the first part of June. This road can be traveled to Elk City, Idaho, but isn't generally open until mid-July. Please call this office to find out road conditions, 406/821-3269.

**AIR FIELDS:**

Public airfields are located at Shearer and Moose Creek. Both are located in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in very mountainous terrain. When conditions are very wet the runways may be closed to air traffic. Please contact Fenn Ranger Station, 208/926-4258, or this office, 406/821-3269, for further information. If you need to fly in or out please contact the Hamilton Airport, Hamilton, Montana, 406/363-3833 or the Grangeville Airport, Grangeville, Idaho, 208/983-0490. Private airfields are located at Running Creek Ranch, North Star Ranch and the Selway Lodge. These airfields are for emergency use only.

## EMERGENCIES:

Emergency radio help may be available at Paradise, Shearer (15-mile marker), and Moose Creek (27-mile marker). All are Forest Service installations. Moose Creek may be the only one staffed continuously during the float season. Emergency help may be obtained at three private ranches located along the Selway River; Running Creek, North Star and Selway Lodge. Help is slow in coming because of the remoteness, so be prepared.

## CAMPING:

Prior to launching, camping is available at the Sam Billings Memorial Campground located one mile north of the West Fork Ranger Station. Beyond the West Fork Ranger Station on the road into Paradise, there are six small campgrounds. None has water or garbage pickup.

## DRINKING WATER:

The closest drinking water available is at the West Fork Ranger Station. It is NOT recommended to drink creek or river water unless treated for *Giardia lamblia* by boiling or filtering.

## PARKING AND SHUTTLES:

Limited parking is available at the Paradise Launch Site for UNLOADING ONLY. Please park your vehicle out of the way as much as possible for the other traffic (pack strings, backpackers, etc.) using the area. Overnight parking is at the Paradise Guard Station area about 1/4 mile from the launch site. Shuttle services are available. Please contact this office for further information, 406/821-3269.

## OTHER INFORMATION:

River readings at the launch site can be obtained by calling this office, 406/821-3269. Weather information can be obtained by calling 208/334-9860. Weather and river flow (mouth of the Selway River) information can be obtained on the internet at [www.visitid.org/outdoor/rivers/index.html](http://www.visitid.org/outdoor/rivers/index.html).

Elevation at West Fork Ranger Station - 4,380  
Nez Perce Pass - 6,598  
Paradise Launch Site - 3,067  
Race Creek Take-out - 1,760

Mileage to Nez Perce Pass - 18 miles  
Magruder Crossing - 38 miles  
Paradise Launch Site - 50 miles  
Race Creek Take-out - 250 miles  
Elk City - 115 miles

## SAFETY, It's Your Life

It is your life and your responsibility to be thoroughly prepared and skilled to safely boat the Selway River. The river's course takes you through 47 miles of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. Once you start this float you are committed to a trip with limited chance of assistance. Help is slow to arrive even when requested. Wilderness access is limited to foot, livestock, boat, and several remote airstrips. Planning to be anything other than totally self-sufficient is a big mistake.

The river drops an average of 28 feet per mile, creating a very technical whitewater course. Numerous Class IV rapids require a high level of whitewater skills, experience, and good equipment. Early to mid-June is when the river is highest and flow volumes fluctuate widely, changing the character and difficulty of the rapids dramatically. Water temperatures as low as 38 degrees can be expected and life threatening hypothermia may occur with any dunking in the river. The Selway is a very difficult and demanding river. Know what you are getting yourself into and be prepared.

In the past, some boaters have not been adequately prepared or skilled. Boating accidents resulted in loss of life once prior to 1988, again in 1988, 1989, and 1990, and another death again in 1996. These deaths were a result of ill-prepared parties with poor equipment, limited boating experience or skill, or poor judgement.

As a prepared and skilled boater, will you:

- a. Scout each major rapid and be willing to portage if you don't feel competent to run the rapid?
- b. Have a first aid kit designed for wilderness survival, including care for snake bites?
- c. Be able to do river rescues of people, gear, and boats?
- d. If needed, know how to swim a rapid in the safest manner possible?
- e. Have safety gear such as helmets, life jackets, throw ropes, extra oars or paddles, patching equipment, warm clothes such as wet suits and neoprene booties, etc.?
- f. Have your gear in first rate condition and be able to repair equipment damage on the trip?
- g. Know how to rig your boats to prevent overloading and gear loss if the boat flips?
- h. Be physically fit to handle strenuous activity?
- i. Water proof your gear and food while floating?
- j. Be willing to hold over if the river rises to a dangerous level from spring run off? You may have an unplanned extended trip, due to high water conditions. In 1996, one group had to stay at Moose Creek for 14 days, with other groups spending several unplanned days. When the gauge at Paradise is running above five feet, the river is at a dangerous life-threatening level.

RIVER SAFETY IS A MUST. BE SAFE WITH YOUR LIFE. ARE YOU SKILLED AND PREPARED?

| <u>Camp Name</u>               | <u>Campsite Rating</u> | <u>Bank</u> | <u>River Mile</u> | <u>Maximum* Usuable Water Level</u> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 27. Tango Creek                | II                     | Right       | 131.4             | High                                |
| 28. Tango Bar                  | III                    | Left        | 131.3             | Medium                              |
| 29. Trapper Camp               | II                     | Left        | 130.9             | Low                                 |
| 30. Boulder Bar                | II                     | Right       | 128.3             | Medium                              |
| 31. Dry Bar                    | II                     | Right       | 128.0             | Medium                              |
| 32. Upper Pinchot              | II                     | Right       | 126.8             | Medium                              |
| 33. Lower Pinchot              | III                    | Right       | 126.6             | High                                |
| 34. Ballinger                  | II                     | Right       | 125.0             | High                                |
| 35. Tee Kem Falls (Jims Creek) | II                     | Left        | 123.9             | Medium                              |
| 36. Cupboard Creek             | II                     | Right       | 123.4             | Medium                              |

\*The campsite rating is a recommendation of the maximum size party each site will accomodate based on sociological and ecological consideration.

I = 8 people  
 II = 15 people  
 III = 15+ people

The remaining 7.5 miles of river to the confluence of the Selway River and Meadow Creek has frequent beaches and bars suitable for camping in mid to low water levels. Most of these camps are limited in size even in low water and are suitable for parties of class II size.

SELWAY RIVER CAMPSITE INVENTORY

|     | <u>Camp Name</u>          | <u>Campsite Rating</u> | <u>Bank</u> | <u>River Mile</u> | <u>Maximum* Usuable Water Level</u> |
|-----|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1.  | Bad Luck Bar              | III                    | Left        | 162.1             | High                                |
| 2.  | Waldo Bar                 | III                    | Right       | 159.6             | High                                |
| 3.  | Driftwood Bar             | II                     | Left        | 159.2             | Medium                              |
| 4.  | Hungry Bear               | I                      | Left        | 159.0             | Low                                 |
| 5.  | Running Creek Bridge Camp | III                    | Left        | 157.6             | Medium                              |
| 6.  | Running Creek Flat        | III                    | Right       | 157.4             | High                                |
| 7.  | Archer                    | III                    | Left        | 155.4             | High                                |
| 8.  | Goat Creek                | I                      | Left        | 153.4             | High                                |
| 9.  | Little Goat Creek         | III                    | Left        | 152.4             | Medium                              |
| 10. | Cougar Flats              | III                    | Right       | 149.7             | High                                |
| 11. | White Tail Flats          | III                    | Right       | 148.6             | High                                |
| 12. | Mills Camp                | III                    | Left        | 148.5             | High                                |
| 13. | Bear Creek                | I                      | Right       | 148.2             | Low                                 |
| 14. | Unnamed Camp              | III                    | Left        | 147.5             | High                                |
| 15. | Big Cedar                 | II                     | Right       | 147.2             | Low                                 |
| 16. | Black Sands               | III                    | Left        | 146.4             | Medium                              |
| 17. | Dead Elk                  | II                     | Right       | 145.6             | Low                                 |
| 18. | Rattlesnake Bar           | II                     | Right       | 143.4             | High                                |
| 19. | Roots                     | I                      | Left        | 140.3             | Medium                              |
| 20. | Tony Point Bridge         | II                     | Right       | 138.3             | High                                |
| 21. | Unnamed Camp              | II                     | Left        | 138.2             | Medium                              |
| 22. | Tony Point Camp           | II                     | Left        | 138.1             | High                                |
| 23. | Divide Creek              | II                     | Left        | 137.4             | Medium                              |
| 24. | Upper Cedar Flats         | I                      | Right       | 134.6             | Low                                 |
| 25. | Lower Cedar Flats         | II                     | Right       | 134.2             | Medium                              |
| 26. | Meeker Creek              | I                      | Right       | 132.6             | Medium                              |

## GREETINGS TO 2000 SELWAY RIVER FLOATERS

What a rush!...the opportunity to float the "wild" Selway River is envied by many!

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL

A sewage disposal facility (RV dump) is available at the Three Rivers Resort. Three Rivers is approximately 21 miles from the Race Track take-out and is open 7 days a week, 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. The disposal facility has a 4' receptacle designed to accept only sewage and liquids (**no plastic bags or cans**). The disposal fee is \$3.00 per group. Other alternative locations are The Wilderness Gateway Campground located 26 miles east of Lowell on Highway 12. There are various disposal facilities located in Kamiah, which is located 35 miles west of Lowell on Highway 12 and Grangeville, located 54 miles southwest on Highway 13. **Please do not use the toilets along the river as the repository for collected sewage.**

### GARBAGE DISPOSAL

Garbage containers (dumpsters) are available for public use approximately 17 miles down river from the take-out on the Selway River Road #223. As wilderness users, you, more than most, appreciate a litter-free environment. Please attempt to leave the outdoors cleaner than you found them and use appropriate garbage collection containers.

### TAKE-OUT

The take-out site is located just above Race Track flat which is immediately across from the mouth of Meadow Creek. It is located 16 miles up river from Fenn Ranger Station on the Selway River Road #223.

### CAMPING FACILITIES

There is camping available all along the Selway River Road #223. See opposite side for locations and facilities available at each site.

### PERMIT

Please leave your permit at the Fenn Ranger Station (16 miles below take-out). This Station is staffed by Forest Service personnel during permit season from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Saturday. A receptacle box is available to leave your permit after hours.

### EMERGENCIES

Emergencies can be reported to Forest Service personnel at the Selway Falls Guard Station or Fenn Ranger Station at 208-926-4258. The nearest public phone is at the Three Rivers Resort. Lowell Quick Response Unit is also available by calling 911.

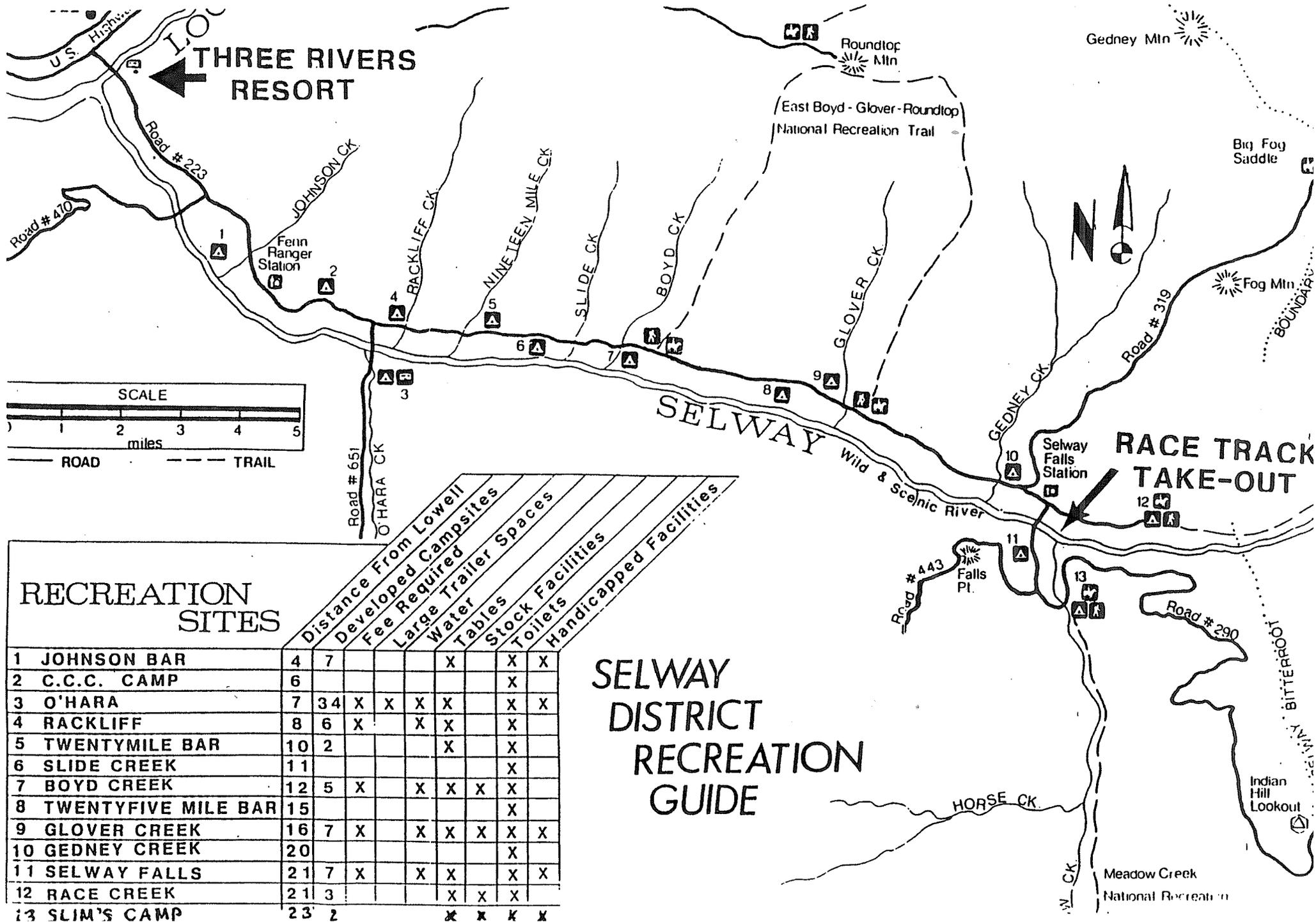
### DRIVING SAFETY

The Selway River Road is the heaviest used road on the Nez Perce National Forest. The first 12 miles down river from the take-out is a narrow, one-lane road with intermittent pull-outs. Although you may be a cautious driver, other drivers using this road may not! On forest roads, it is always a good practice to **drive slow with your headlights on** (so on-coming traffic can better see you). The road is often dusty with pot holes or wash board surface, so please drive accordingly. I encourage everyone to drive as if another vehicle is approaching around every bend. Please stay on your side of the road.

I hope your trip is well planned and fun. Most of all, I hope that your trip is safe.

CHEERS!

JOE HUDSON



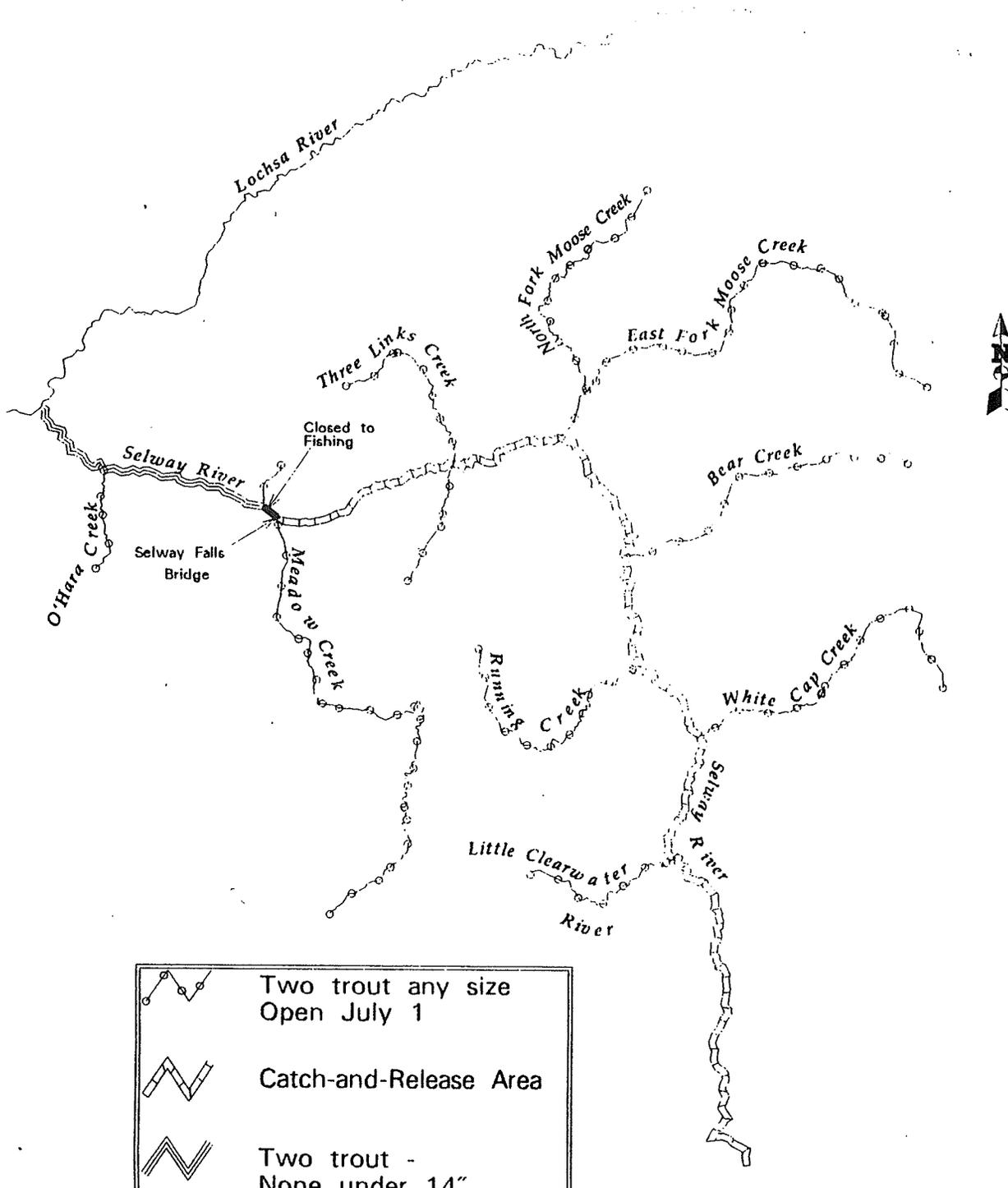
### RECREATION SITES

|                       | Distance From Lowell | Developed Campsites | Fee Required | Large Trailer Spaces | Water | Tables | Stock Facilities | Toilets | Handicapped Facilities |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------|--------|------------------|---------|------------------------|
| 1 JOHNSON BAR         | 4                    | 7                   |              |                      | X     | X      | X                |         |                        |
| 2 C.C.C. CAMP         | 6                    |                     |              |                      |       |        | X                |         |                        |
| 3 O'HARA              | 7                    | 34                  | X            | X                    | X     | X      | X                | X       | X                      |
| 4 RACKLIFF            | 8                    | 6                   | X            |                      | X     | X      | X                |         |                        |
| 5 TWENTYMILE BAR      | 10                   | 2                   |              |                      | X     |        | X                |         |                        |
| 6 SLIDE CREEK         | 11                   |                     |              |                      |       |        | X                |         |                        |
| 7 BOYD CREEK          | 12                   | 5                   | X            |                      | X     | X      | X                | X       |                        |
| 8 TWENTYFIVE MILE BAR | 15                   |                     |              |                      |       |        | X                |         |                        |
| 9 GLOVER CREEK        | 16                   | 7                   | X            |                      | X     | X      | X                | X       | X                      |
| 10 GEDNEY CREEK       | 20                   |                     |              |                      |       |        | X                |         |                        |
| 11 SELWAY FALLS       | 21                   | 7                   | X            |                      | X     | X      | X                | X       | X                      |
| 12 RACE CREEK         | 21                   | 3                   |              |                      | X     | X      | X                |         |                        |
| 13 SLIM'S CAMP        | 23                   | 2                   |              |                      | X     | X      | X                | X       |                        |

## SELWAY DISTRICT RECREATION GUIDE

# SELWAY RIVER

## Fishing Information 2000



### TROUT:

General Season - From May 27, 2000 to November 30, 2000, except tributaries which open July 1.

**BULL TROUT HARVEST IS PROHIBITED.**

### GEAR AND HARVEST RESTRICTIONS

From mouth upstream to cable car at Selway Falls

- Artificial flies and lures only
- 2 trout, none under 14", daily bag limit
- Use of bait prohibited
- One barbless hook only per fly or lure

From cable car at Selway Falls to Selway Falls Bridge

- **CLOSED TO FISHING**

From Selway Falls Bridge upstream

- Catch-and-release trout
- One barbless hook only per fly or lure
- Artificial flies and lures only
- Use of bait prohibited

### All tributaries

- Open for fishing July 1, 2000
- 2 trout daily bag limit
- No tackle restriction

It is **UNLAWFUL** to fish in catch-and-release area with trout in possession, even with trout legally harvested from the tributaries or lower river section.

Check 2000-01 General Fishing Regulations for specific information and mountain whitefish regulations.



# FISH SPECIES PRESENT

## ANADROMOUS —



Chinook salmon, Steelhead trout and Pacific lamprey are the three anadromous (ocean going) fish species found in the Selway River drainage. Adult Chinook salmon are in the drainage during the later summer months. Spawning occurs in the tributaries in late August and early September. Adult Steelhead trout ascend into the river in late spring and spawn May and June. Juveniles of both of these species rear from 1-3 years prior to departing for the ocean where they may reside an additional 1-3 years. The rare Pacific lamprey spawn in the spring months. Juvenile lamprey reside in the freshwater 5-6 years before their migration to the ocean.

Although juveniles of Steelhead trout (distinguishable from cutthroat trout by the absence of a red slash under the jaw) can be harvested in the tributaries, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game recommends these fish be returned to their native waters. Wild Chinook salmon and Steelhead trout are in a perilous status because of man's development in their migration corridors down the Snake and Columbia rivers. Any juvenile Chinook or Steelhead returned to the stream will help these species to rebuild their numbers.

## RESIDENT —



Cutthroat trout is the most popular game fish species found in the Selway River drainage and is recognized by the red slash under the jaw. Cutthroat trout grow to over 15" in their 7-10 years of life. These fish spawn in small tributaries in late spring and early summer, moving back into mainstem streams after spawning. Cutthroat trout are aggressive fish that can be readily caught and overharvested without proper management. This species is the driving force for catch-and-release management on the mainstem Selway River above the Selway Falls Bridge. Catch-and-release Cutthroat trout fishing associated with the use of artificial flies and lures allows for mature fish to spawn more than once and, more importantly, allows for angling enjoyment for more than one fisherman.

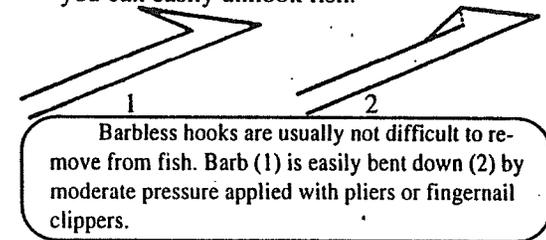
Mountain whitefish is the most common game fish species found in the Selway River drainage. These fish may reach lengths of 20" and attain 15 years of age. Unlike the trout species, whitefish spawning occurs in the late fall months. Although angling for this species is restricted as to gear type as with the trout, anglers can keep 50 of these fish daily. Whitefish inhabit bottoms of the streams and should be fished for accordingly.

Bull trout are secretive fish rarely seen or caught in the drainage. This trout (actually a char) spawns in tributaries from September to early November. Bull trout frequent the deeper holes. Harvest of bull trout is prohibited. All must be returned to stream.

# RELEASING FISH

All bull trout caught in the Selway River and tributaries, and all trout caught in the catch and release section, must be released immediately, unharmed to the water. By practicing the following steps when releasing fish, anglers can ensure the fish have the best chance for survival.

1. Do not squeeze the fish.
2. Do not touch the gills or hold fish by the gill covers.
3. Leave the fish in the water while removing the hook; needle nose pliers or forceps are helpful. Never handle the fish with dry hands.
4. If the hook cannot be easily removed, cut the leader. The hook will rust out rapidly.
5. If the fish is exhausted, hold it in a swimming position in the water and move it back and forth gently until it is able to swim away.
6. If you fish while floating, do not play fish through rapids and avoid laying fish on hot, dry raft tubes. It is helpful to keep a bail bucket full of fresh water in which you can easily unhook fish.



Costs associated with this publication are in accordance with section 60-202, Idaho Code: 60-202-1001, 1002, 1003.

**Appendix 6. Department of Environmental Quality Regulations for  
Subsurface Sewage Disposal**



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# **TECHNICAL GUIDANCE**

## **MANUAL**

**FOR**

**INDIVIDUAL AND SUBSURFACE**

**SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS**

Division of Environmental Quality  
Department of Health and Welfare  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-1410



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**Appendix 7. Idaho Forest Practice Act Rules for Road Construction and Maintenance**



032. -- 039. (RESERVED).

040. ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.

01. Purpose. Provide standards and guidelines for road construction and maintenance that will maintain forest productivity, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat. (10-14-75)

02. Road Specifications and Plans. Road specifications and plans shall be consistent with good safety practices. Plan each road to the minimum use standards adapted to the terrain and soil materials to minimize disturbances and damage to forest productivity, water quality, and wildlife habitat. (8-13-85)

a. Plan transportation networks to minimize road construction within stream protection zones. Design to leave or reestablish areas of vegetation between roads and streams. (8-13-85)

b. Roads shall be planned no wider than necessary to safely accommodate the anticipated use. Minimize cut and fill volumes by designing the road alignment to fit the natural terrain features as closely as possible. Use as much of the excavated material as practical in fill sections. Plan minimum cuts and fills particularly near stream channels. (8-13-85)

c. Design embankments and waste so that excavated material may be disposed of on geologically stable sites. (8-13-85)

d. Plan roads to drain naturally by out-sloping or in-sloping with cross-drainage and by grade changes where possible. Plan dips, water bars, or cross-drainage on roads when necessary. (7-1-96)

e. Relief culverts and roadside ditches shall be planned whenever reliance upon natural drainage would not protect the running surface, excavation or embankment. Design culvert installations to prevent erosion of the fill. Plan drainage structures to achieve minimum direct discharge of sediment into streams. (8-13-85)

f. The following rule applies to installations of new culverts and re-installations during road reconstructions or reinstallations caused by flood or other catastrophic events. Culverts used for temporary crossings are exempt from this rule, but they must be removed immediately after they are no longer needed and before the spring run-off period. (4-21-92)

i. Design culverts for stream crossings to carry the fifty (50) year peak flow using engineering methods acceptable to the department or determine culvert size by using the culvert sizing tables below. The minimum size culvert required for stream crossings shall not be less than eighteen (18) inches in diameter, with the exception of that area of the Snake River drainage upstream from the mouth of the Malad River, including the Bear River basin, where the minimum size shall be fifteen (15) inches. (7-1-96)

**CULVERT SIZING TABLE - I  
USE FOR NORTH IDAHO AND THE SALMON RIVER DRAINAGE**

This culvert sizing table will be used for the area of the state north of the Salmon River and within the South Fork Salmon River drainage. It was developed to carry the fifty (50) year peak flow at a headwater-to-diameter ratio of one (1).

| Watershed Area<br>(acres) | Required Culvert Diameter<br>(inches) | Culvert Capacity<br>(in cubic feet/sec) |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| less than 32              | 18                                    | 6                                       |
| 33 - 74                   | 24                                    | 12                                      |
| 75 - 141                  | 30                                    | 20                                      |

| Watershed Area<br>(acres) | Required Culvert Diameter<br>(inches) | Culvert Capacity<br>(in cubic feet/sec) |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 142 - 240                 | 36                                    | 32                                      |
| 241 - 366                 | 42                                    | 46                                      |
| 367 - 546                 | 48                                    | 65                                      |
| 547 - 787                 | 54                                    | 89                                      |
| 788 - 1027                | 60                                    | 112                                     |

Strongly consider having culverts larger than sixty (60) inches designed, or consider alternative structures, such as bridges, mitered culverts, arches, etc.

| Watershed Area<br>(acres) | Required Culvert Diameter<br>(inches) | Culvert Capacity<br>(in cubic feet/sec) |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1028 - 1354               | 66                                    | 142                                     |
| 1355 - 1736               | 72                                    | 176                                     |
| 1737 - 2731               | 84                                    | 260                                     |
| 2732 - 4111               | 96                                    | 370                                     |
| 4112 - 5830               | 108                                   | 500                                     |
| 5831 - 8256               | 120                                   | 675                                     |

Culverts larger than one hundred twenty (120) inches must be designed; consider alternative structures. (4-21-92)

**CULVERT SIZING TABLE - II  
USE FOR SOUTH IDAHO**

This culvert sizing table will be used for the area of the state south of the Salmon River and outside the South Fork Salmon River drainage. It was developed to carry the fifty (50) year peak flow at a headwater-to-diameter ratio of 1.

| Watershed Area<br>(acres) | Required Culvert Diameter<br>(inches) | Culvert Capacity<br>(in cubic feet/sec) |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| less than 72              | 18#                                   | 6                                       |
| 73 - 150                  | 24                                    | 12                                      |
| 151 - 270                 | 30                                    | 20                                      |
| 271 - 460                 | 36                                    | 32                                      |
| 461 - 720                 | 42                                    | 46                                      |
| 721 - 1025                | 48                                    | 65                                      |
| 1026 - 1450               | 54                                    | 89                                      |

| Watershed Area<br>(acres) | Required Culvert Diameter<br>(inches) | Culvert Capacity<br>(in cubic feet/sec) |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1451 - 1870               | 60                                    | 112                                     |

Strongly consider having culverts larger than sixty (60) inches designed, or consider alternative structures, such as bridges, mitered culverts, arches, etc.

| Watershed Area<br>(acres) | Required Culvert Diameter<br>(inches) | Culvert Capacity<br>(in cubic feet/sec) |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1871 - 2415               | 66                                    | 142                                     |
| 2416 - 3355               | 72                                    | 176                                     |
| 3356 - 5335               | 84                                    | 260                                     |
| 5336 - 7410               | 96                                    | 370                                     |
| 7411 - 9565               | 108                                   | 500                                     |
| 9566 - 11780              | 120                                   | 675                                     |

Culverts larger than one hundred twenty (120) inches must be designed; consider alternative structures.

# See exception for southeast Idaho in Subsection 040.02.i. of this rule. (4-21-92)

ii. Relief culverts, and those used for seeps, springs, wet areas, and draws shall not be less than twelve (12) inches in diameter for permanent installations. (7-1-96)

g. Plan stream crossings to be minimum in number and in compliance with the minimum standards for stream channel alterations under the provisions of Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code. Plan all culvert installation on Class I streams to provide for fish passage. (8-13-85)

h. If reuse of existing roads would violate other rules, the operator shall obtain a variance according to Subsection 020.01. Consider reuse of existing roads when reuse or reconstruction would result in the least long-run impact on site productivity, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat. (7-1-96)

03. Road Construction. Place debris, overburden, and other materials associated with road construction in such a manner as to prevent entry into streams. Deposit excess material and slash on stable locations outside the Stream Protection Zones. (8-13-85)

a. Roads shall be constructed in compliance with the planning guidelines of Subsection 040.02. (7-1-96)

b. Clear drainage ways of all debris generated during construction or maintenance which potentially interferes with drainage or water quality. (7-1-96)

c. Where exposed material (excavation, embankment, borrow pits, waste piles, etc.) is potentially erodible, and where sediments would enter streams, stabilize prior to fall or spring runoff by seeding, compacting, riprapping, benching, mulching or other suitable means. (11-7-86)

d. In the construction of road fills near streams, compact the material to reduce the entry of water, minimize erosion, and settling of fill material. Minimize the amount of snow, ice, or frozen soil buried in

embankments. No significant amount of woody material shall be incorporated into fills. Slash and debris may be windrowed along the toe of the fill, but must meet the requirements of Subsection 040.04.c. (7-1-96)

e. Construct stream crossings in compliance with minimum standards for stream channel alterations under the provisions of Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code. Roads shall not be constructed in stream channels. Roads that constrict upon a stream channel shall be constructed in compliance with minimum standards for stream channel alterations under provisions of Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code. (8-13-85)

f. During and following operations on out-sloped roads, retain out-slope drainage and remove berms on the outside edge except those intentionally constructed for protection of road grade fills. (8-13-85)

g. Provide for drainage of quarries to prevent sediment from entering streams. (8-13-85)

h. Construct cross drains and relief culverts to minimize erosion of embankments. Minimize the time between construction and installation of erosion control devices. Use riprap, vegetative matter, downspouts and similar devices to minimize erosion of the fill. Install drainage structures or cross drain incompleated roads which are subject to erosion prior to fall or spring runoff. Install relief culverts with a minimum grade of one percent (1%). (7-1-96)

i. Earthwork shall be postponed during wet periods if, as a result, erodible material would enter streams. (8-13-85)

j. In rippable materials, roads shall be constructed with no overhanging banks and any trees that present a potential hazard to traffic shall be felled concurrently with the construction operation. (8-13-85)

04. Road Maintenance. Conduct regular preventive maintenance operations to avoid deterioration of the roadway surface and minimize disturbance and damage to forest productivity, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat. (8-13-85)

a. Sidecast all debris or slide material associated with road maintenance in a manner to prevent their entry into streams. (8-13-85)

b. Repair and stabilize slumps, slides, and other erosion features causing stream sedimentation. (8-13-85)

c. Active roads. An active road is a forest road being used for hauling forest products, rock and other road building materials. The following maintenance shall be conducted on such roads. (8-13-85)

i. Culverts and ditches shall be kept functional. (8-13-85)

ii. During and upon completion of seasonal operations, the road surface shall be crowned, out-sloped, in-sloped or water barred, and berms removed from the outside edge except those intentionally constructed for protection of fills. (8-13-85)

iii. The road surface shall be maintained as necessary to minimize erosion of the subgrade and to provide proper drainage. (8-13-85)

iv. If road oil or other surface stabilizing materials are used, apply them in such a manner as to prevent their entry into streams. (8-13-85)

d. Inactive roads. An inactive road is a forest road no longer used for commercial hauling but maintained for access (e.g., for fire control, forest management activities, recreational use, and occasional or incidental use for minor forest products harvesting). The following maintenance shall be conducted on inactive roads. (8-13-85)

i. Following termination of active use, ditches and culverts shall be cleared and the road surface shall be crowned, out-sloped or in-sloped, water barred or otherwise left in a condition to minimize erosion. Drainage

structures shall be maintained thereafter as needed. (7-1-96)

ii. The roads may be permanently or seasonally blocked to vehicular traffic. (8-13-85)

e. Abandoned roads. An abandoned road is not intended to be used again. No subsequent maintenance of an abandoned road is required after the following procedures are completed: (8-13-85)

i. The road is left in a condition suitable to control erosion by out-sloping, water barring, seeding, or other suitable methods. (8-13-85)

ii. Ditches are cleaned. (8-13-85)

iii. The road is blocked to vehicular traffic. (8-13-85)

iv. The department may require the removal of bridges and culverts except where the owner elects to maintain the drainage structures as needed. (8-13-85)

05. Winter Operations. Due to risk of erosion and damage from roads and constructed skid trails inherent in winter logging, at minimum the following shall apply: (4-21-92)

a. Roads to be used for winter operations must have adequate surface and cross drainage installed prior to winter operations. Drain winter roads by installing rolling dips, driveable cross ditches, open top culverts, outsloping, or by other suitable means. (4-21-92)

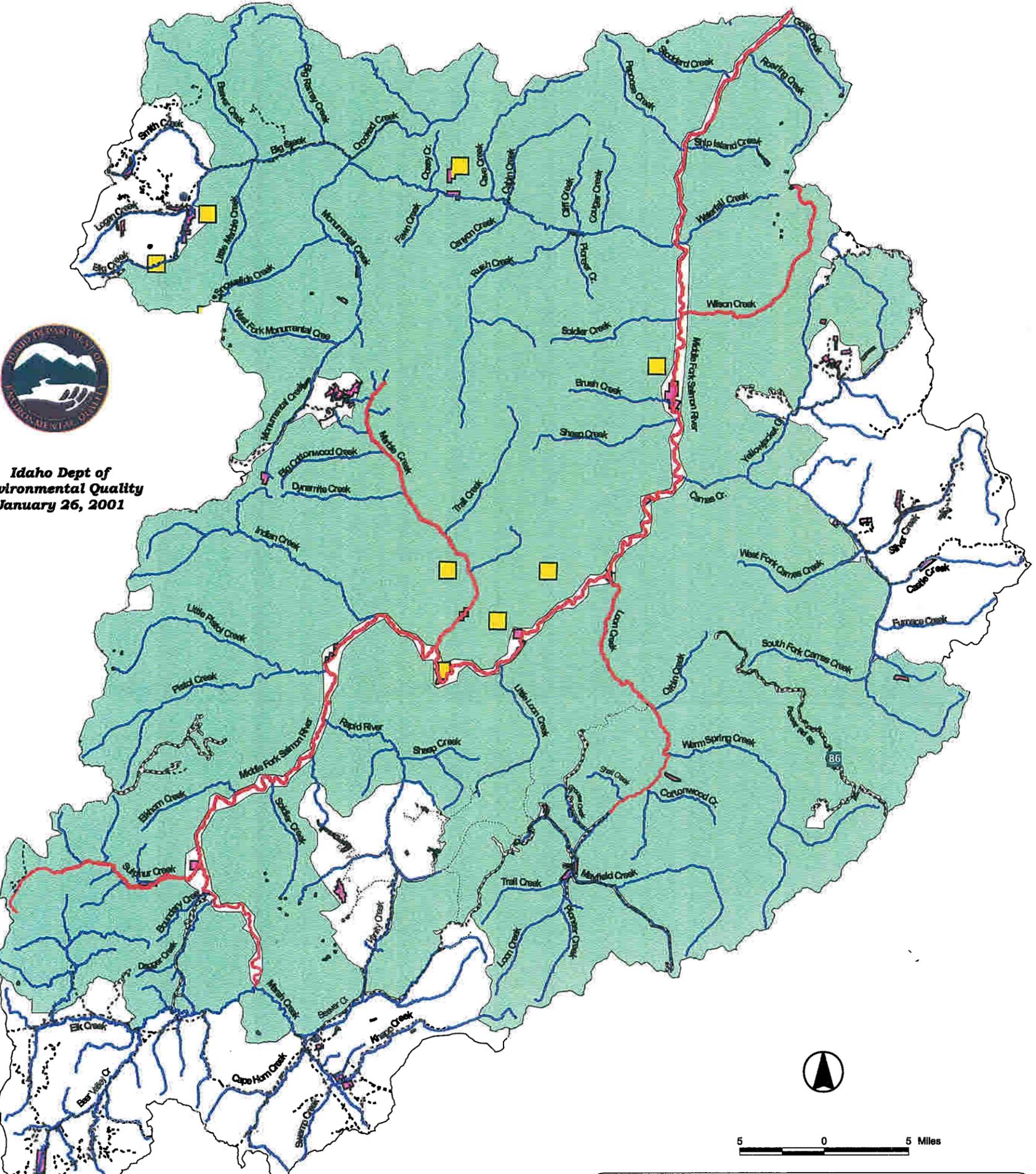
b. During winter operations, roads will be maintained as needed to keep the road surface drained during thaws or break up. This may include active maintenance of existing drainage structures, opening of drainage holes in snow berms and installation of additional cross drainage on road surfaces by ripping, placement of native material or other suitable means. (4-21-92)

**MINIMUM STOCKING - ACCEPTABLE TREES**

| Average Size Class<br>DBH (1) - Inches | Average Number<br>Trees Per Acre | Average Spacing<br>In Feet |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2.9 and smaller                        | 170                              | 16 x 16                    |
| 3.0 and greater                        | 110                              | 20 x 20                    |
| 5.0 and greater                        | 60                               | 27 x 27                    |
| 8.0 and greater                        | 35                               | 35 x 35                    |
| 11.0 and greater                       | 20                               | 47 x 47                    |

- (7-1-96)
- 05. Reforestation Exemptions. (7-1-96)
  - a. Reforestation is not required for: (7-1-96)
    - i. Noncommercial forest land, (7-1-96)
    - ii. Land converted to another use. This may include land converted to roads used in a forest practice. (7-1-96)
    - iii. A forest practice which will result in ten (10) acres or less below minimum stocking levels. (7-1-96)

# Middle Fork Salmon River with Outstanding Resource Water Nominees



Idaho Dept of Environmental Quality  
January 26, 2001



Location View

**Middle Fork Salmon River**

- Streams Nominated for Outstanding Resource Water Status
- Streams

**Roads/Trails/4WD**

- ..... Roads
- ..... Trails
- Wilderness Area

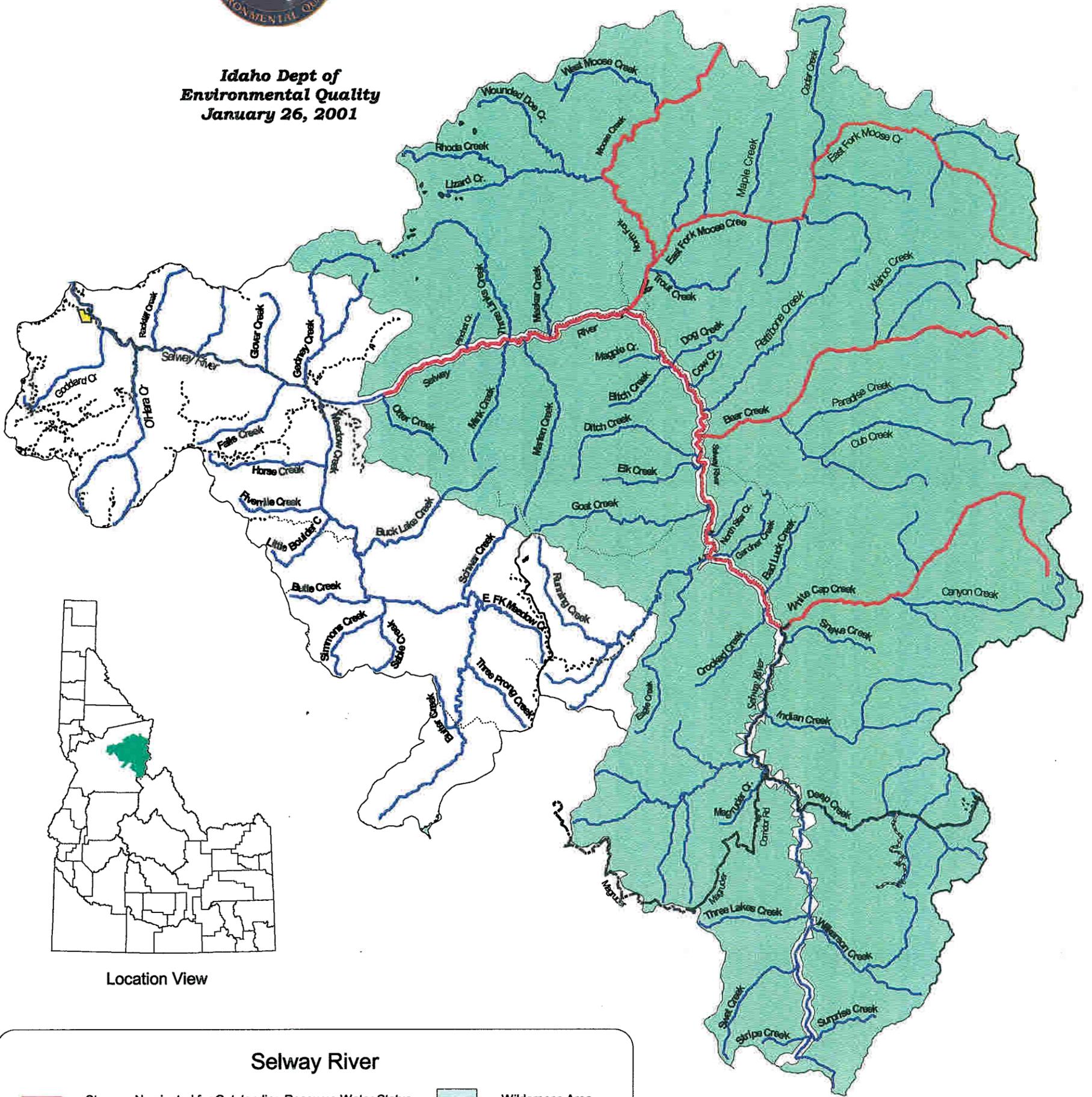
**Land Ownership**

- Open water
- Private
- State of Idaho
- U.S. Forest Service

# Selway River with Outstanding Resource Water Nominees



Idaho Dept of Environmental Quality  
January 26, 2001



Location View

| Selway River            |   |
|-------------------------|---|
|                         | Streams Nominated for Outstanding Resource Water Status |
|                         | Streams   |
|                         | Magruder Corridor Rd                                    |
| <b>Roads/Trails/4WD</b> |   |
|                         | Roads   |
|                         | Trails  |
|                         | Wilderness Area   |
| <b>Land Ownership</b>   |   |
|                         | Open water  |
|                         | Private   |
|                         | State of Idaho  |
|                         | U.S. Forest Service                                     |

