

2012
WILD AND SCENIC
SNAKE RIVER
ANNUAL VISITOR USE REPORT



HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
USDA FOREST SERVICE



Introduction

This report contains float and powerboat recreational use data for the Wild and Scenic Snake River, which is located within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. This 71.5 mile segment of the Snake River is managed by the U.S. Forest Service. Both commercial and private recreational use data is included. This data is intended to provide information, which reflects general trends in overall use patterns rather than an exact count of yearly users of the Snake River. Private and commercial floaters that launch from Hells Canyon Creek Recreation Site during the managed use season and all private and commercial power boaters must meet special requirements for access. As a result, use figures shown for these recreational user groups represent the most accurate figures for determining overall use trends on the Snake River.

Private float and powerboat use data is collected from permits issued during the primary season, the Friday preceding Memorial Day through September 10th and self-issue permits during the remainder of the year. River permits are available at the following HCNRA portals: Cache Creek on the northern boundary, Dug Bar, Pittsburg Landing and Hells Canyon Creek Recreation Site. The data gathered from these permits is used to compile the total number of private visitors and service days spent on the river during the primary season.

All commercial powerboaters and floatboaters must have a valid Forest Service Special Use Permit to charge fees on the Wild and Scenic Snake River. They are required to report the total number of guests transported and total number of service days spent on the river. Information obtained from manifests and actual use reports is used to compile the commercial use data.

Definitions

Private - A non-commercial trip is a trip for which there is no payment, collection, receipt, or request for consideration. Non-profit status of any group or organization does not in itself determine whether a trip or trips arranged by such group or organization is non-commercial.

Commercial – Commercial outfitting and guiding is defined as all activities where someone makes a profit, receives a reimbursement or salary, receives rental for the use of animals or equipment, or supports, in any part, other programs or activities from amounts received from customers of the permitted activities.

Service-Day – One day spent by one person on the river; a person spending two days on the river would equal two service-days.

Primary Season – The period when private users are required to obtain a reservation and river permit prior to floating or boating the river – from the Friday preceding Memorial Day through September 10.

Floatboat – To travel by floatboat is to move primarily downstream with the river current. Craft used include rafts, kayaks, canoes, and dories. They may be propelled by paddles, oars, motors (no longer allowed in the wild river) or other devices, but are not generally capable of upstream travel.

Powerboat – To travel by powerboat on the river is to use motorized craft capable of upstream travel through major rapids.

2012 Primary Season ~ May 25th through September 10th

COMMERCIAL POWERBOAT USE - JANUARY ~ DECEMBER 2012

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
BENTZ, Rusty – Bentz River Explorations	207	371
BONSON, Bill and CASSELL, Gabe - Snake Dancer Excursions	1,676	1696
FRIEND, Richard - River Adventures, LTD.	407	407
GUIER, Gabe - Fish Unlimited	46	46
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv., LLC	1426	1426
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv.,LLC II	226	226
KING, Bruce – Kingfisher river trips, INC	106	158
KOCH, Jim and Jill dba Heller Bar Excursions, Idaho Rivers Navigation, Rivers Navigation	3,417	3,536
LAMM, Alan - Mainstream Outdoor Adventures, Inc.	20	20
LUTHER, Mike - Snake River Adventures	2,870	2,973
ODEGAARD, Butch and Debi - River Quest Excursions	2,789	2,794
SCHULTZ, Jason - Hells Canyon Sport Fishing	418	634
TAYLOR, Reed - Two River Tours, Inc.	8	8
VOGEL, Don - Vogel Outdoor Adventures	122	134
YATES, Mark - Hells Canyon Adv. III, LLC	3819	3,820
SMITH, Mike - Z & S Outfitters, Inc	50	133
2012	17,740	18,432
2011	17,199	18,796
2010	21,385	22,790
2009	19,964	22,322
2008	30,147	34,213
2007	38,235	40,632





COMMERCIAL POWERBOAT USE - PRIMARY SEASON 2012

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
BENTZ, Rusty – Salmon River Explorations	26	33
BONSON, Bill and CASSELL, Gabe - Snake Dancer Excursions	1366	1,366
FRIEND, Richard - River Adventures, LTD.	309	309
GUIER, Gabe – Fish Unlimited	15	15
KING, Bruce – Kingfisher River Trips, INC.	0	0
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adventures, LLC	985	985
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adventures, LLC II	226	226
KOCH, Jim and Jill dba Heller Bar Excursions, Idaho Navigation, Rivers Navigation	2,411	2,530
LAMM, Alan - Mainstream Outdoor Adventures, Inc.	20	20
LUTHER, Mike - Snake River Adventures	2,036	2,077
ODEGAARD, Butch and Debi - River Quest Excursions	1,892	1,892
SCHULTZ, Jason - Hells Canyon Sport Fishing	12	12
TAYLOR, Reed - Two River Tours, Inc.	8	8
VOGEL, Don - Vogel Outdoor Adventures	58	58
YATES, Mark - Hells Canyon Adventures III, LLC	3056	3,057
SMITH, Mike - Z & S Outfitters, Inc	27	27
Total 2012	12,452	12,630
2011	11,941	12,535
2010	15,081	15,506
2009	15,097	15,384
2008	20,535	21,267
2007	23,528	24,246

Commercial Power boat Trips 2012

Allocated with permit*

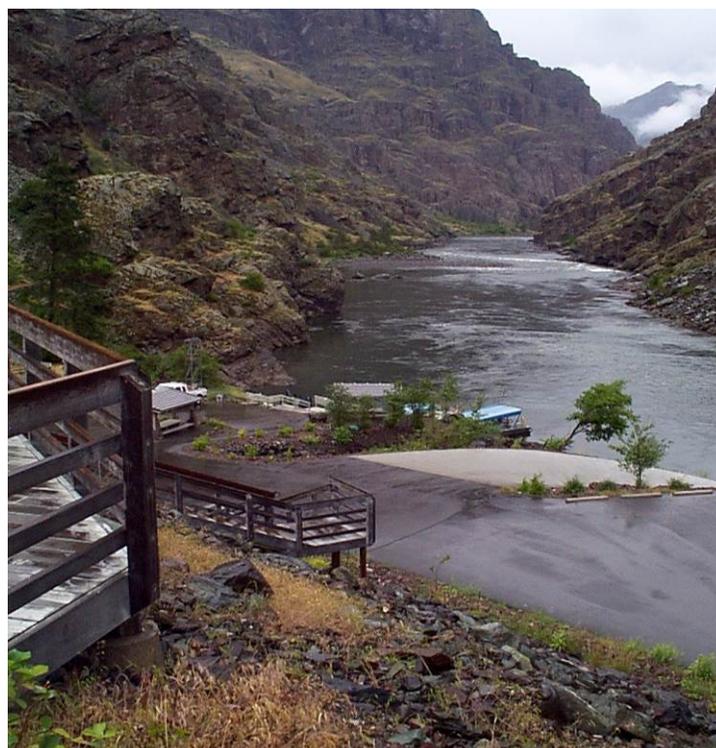
	Primary Season	January- December
BENTZ, Rusty – Salmon River Explorations *11	6	29
BONSON, Bill & CASSELL, Gabe - Snake Dancer Excursions *85	85	136
FRIEND, Richard - River Adventures, LTD.*40 (+Riggins pool)	32	45
GUIER, Gabe – Fish Unlimited *4	4	8
KING, Bruce and Pam *6	0	17
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv., LLC *31 (+Riggins pool))	56	114
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv.,LLC II *9 (+ Riggins pool)	29	29
KOCH, Jim and Jill * 224,118,85 = 427 dba Heller Bar Excursions, Idaho Rivers Navigation, Rivers Navigation	105	156
LAMM, Alan - Mainstream Outdoor Adventures *55	5	5
LUTHER, Mike - Snake River Adventures *182	121	157
ODEGAARD, Butch and Debi - River Quest Excursions *85	74	124
SCHULTZ, Jason - Hells Canyon Sport Fishing *6	2	78
TAYLOR, Reed - Two River Tours, Inc.*85	2	2
VOGEL, Don - Vogel Outdoor Adventures *7	10	20
YATES, Mark - Hells Canyon Adv. III, LLC *397	312	377
SMITH, Mike - Z & S Outfitters, Inc *6	5	10
2012	848	1,307
2011	769	1,125
2010	960	1,369
2009	865	1,308



(2007 trips = 1304, service days = 2,128)

COMMERCIAL FLOAT USE - JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER 2012

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	TRIPS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
ARENTSEN, Paul - Winding Waters Rafting	10	132	558
ARMACOST, Kurt - Hells Canyon Raft, Inc.	28	261	1084
BAUGH, JESS –Mountain River Outfitters, LLC.	13	159	587
BOYD, Chuck – Salmon River Experience	2	14	51
COLBERT, Dave – Idaho Afloat	1	6	18
GRUBB, Peter - River Odysseys West (ROW)	10	90	431
HAUPTMAN, George - Canyon Outfitters, Inc.	18	120	507
HUGHES, Jerry - Hughes River Expeditions, Inc.	24	233	913
NACHMAN, Andy - Northwest Voyageurs	3	21	72
WARREN, Jacob - North Star River Expeditions, Inc.	11	119	433
WENDT, George (Curt Chang) - OARS-DORIES, Inc.	14	175	781
ZOLLER, Mark ~ Zollers Outdoor Odysseys, Inc.	7	66	305
Total 2012	141	1,396	5,730
2011	138	1,294	5,355
2010	147	1,453	5,951
2009	167	1,524	5,191
2008	201	2,081	6,654





COMMERCIAL FLOAT USE - PRIMARY SEASON 2012

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	TRIPS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
ARENTSEN, Paul - Winding Waters Rafting	9	123	503
ARMACOST, Kurt - Hells Canyon Raft, Inc.	26	251	1037
BAUGH, Jess – Mountain River Outfitters, LLC.	13	159	587
BOYD, Chuck – Salmon River Experience	2	14	51
COLBERT, Dave – Idaho Afloat	1	6	18
GRUBB, Peter - River Odysseys West (ROW)	10	90	431
HAUPTMAN, George - Canyon Outfitters, Inc.	11	88	364
HUGHES, Jerry - Hughes River Expeditions, Inc.	23	225	881
NACHMAN, Andy - Northwest Voyageurs	3	21	72
WARREN, Jacob - North Star River Expeditions, Inc.	10	113	415
WENDT, George (Curt Chang) – Oars and Dories, Inc.	13	159	701
ZOLLER, Mark - Zoller's Outdoor Odyssey's Inc.	7	66	305
TOTAL 2012	128	1,315	5,365
2011	128	1,236	5,131
2010	127	1,295	5,352
2009	158	1,494	5,079
2008	183	1,912	6,133

POWER BOAT RESERVATIONS 2012

TOTAL RESERVATIONS

WILD: 407

SCENIC: 606

SALMON: 112

TOTAL POWER RESERVATIONS: 1,125
TOTAL POWER CANCELATIONS: 315
TOTAL RESERVATIONS THROUGH WAITING LIST: 87
TOTAL NO-SHOWS: 5



PRIVATE POWERBOAT USE - PRIMARY SEASON 2012

LAUNCH LOCATION	TRIPS	PEOPLE	SERVICE DAYS
CACHE CREEK	993	4,885	7,296
DUG BAR	7	19	57
PITTSBURG LANDING	277	1,352	1,559
HELLS CANYON CREEK	41	159	350
2012	1,321	6,425	9,262
2011	1,235	5,352	12,338
2010	1,435	6,194	19,650
2009	1,606	7,166	15,164
2008	1,282	5,884	16,478
2007	1,471	6,395	12,208

PRIVATE POWERBOAT USE - SECONDARY SEASON 2012

LAUNCH LOCATION	TRIPS	PEOPLE	SERVICE DAYS
CACHE CREEK	837	3,280	3,400
DUG BAR	2	3	25
PITTSBURG LANDING	279	1,085	4,215
HELLS CANYON CREEK	223	810	1,943
2012	1,342	5,183	9,588
2011	1,592	6,040	11,213
2010	2,052	8,189	21,953
2009	2,254	8,312	14,974
2008	1,850	7,048	14,205
2007	2,052	7,394	12,286

TOTAL PRIVATE POWERBOAT 2012 TRIPS (all year) = 2,663

TOTAL POWERBOAT 2012 PASSENGERS (all year) = 11,608

TOTAL POWERBOAT 2012 SERVICE DAYS(all year) = 18,850

PERCENT BY DESTINATION --- COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE FLOAT --- PRIMARY SEASON 2012

(BY PERCENTAGE)

PITTSBURG LANDING	49%
JETBOAT BACK TO DAM	2%
HELLER BAR	29%
OTHER	20%

PERCENT BY DESTINATION -- COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE FLOAT -- SECONDARY SEASON 2012

(BY PERCENTAGE)

PITTSBURG LANDING	75%
JETBOAT BACK TO DAM	5%
HELLER BAR	13%
OTHER	1%



PRIVATE FLOAT USE - PRIMARY SEASON 2012

LAUNCH LOCATION	TRIPS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
HELLS CANYON CREEK	218	1,943	8,535
PITTSBURG	10	38	81
TOTAL	228	1,981	8,616

PRIVATE FLOAT USE - SECONDARY SEASON 2012

LAUNCH LOCATION	TRIPS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
HELLS CANYON CREEK	114	764	2,865
PITTSBURG	10	47	141
TOTAL	124	811	3,006

TOTAL PRIVATE FLOAT TRIPS = 352

TOTAL FLOAT PASSENGERS = 2,792

TOTAL SERVICE DAYS = 11,622



FLOAT RESERVATION SYSTEM - PRIMARY SEASON 2012

	COMMERCIAL	PRIVATE
AVAILABLE LAUNCHES	226	339
TRIPS PRIMARY SEASON	128	228
TOTAL TRIPS FOR COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE	356	

FLOAT CRAFT FROM HELLS CANYON CREEK PRIMARY SEASON 2012

	COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE TOTAL
RAFT	1172
KAYAK	111
DORY / DRIFT	22
INFLATABLE KAYAK	318
CANOE	5
TOTAL CRAFT	1,628



**RIVER USE BY USER GROUP - PRIMARY
SEASON 2012**

USER GROUP	PEOPLE	SERVICE DAYS
Commercial Powerboat Passengers	12,452	12,630
Private Powerboaters	6,425	9,262
Sub-Total	18,877	21,892
Commercial Float Passengers	1,315	5,365
Private Floaters	1,964	8,616
Sub-Total	3,279	13,981
TOTAL PEOPLE	22,159	SERVICE DAYS 35,873

Primary Season 2011 ~ People = 20,514 ~ Service Days = 39,460



RIVER USE BY USER GROUP
January -December - 2012

USER GROUP	PEOPLE	SERVICE DAYS
Commercial Powerboat (2007)	17,740 38,235	18,432 40,632
Private Powerboaters	11,608	19,944
Commercial Float	1,396	5,730
Private Floaters	2,690	11,622
TOTAL RIVER USE <i>(Total river use 2011)</i>	33,407 32,812	55,728 78,082



*Visitors(including private jet boats and passengers) stopping at
CACHE CREEK ADMINISTRATIVE SITE 2012*

JANUARY	47
FEBRUARY	62
MARCH	184
APRIL	268
MAY	394
JUNE	2176
JULY	3249
AUGUST	1986
SEPTEMBER	1921
OCTOBER	915
NOVEMBER	349
DECEMBER	151
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>11,702</i>





<i>VISITORS TO KIRKWOOD 2012</i>

JANUARY	62
FEBRUARY	116
MARCH	540
APRIL	819
MAY	1,412
JUNE	2,272
JULY	4,138
AUGUST	1,562
SEPTEMBER	1,882
OCTOBER	538
NOVEMBER	72
DECEMBER	55
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>13,468</i>

**VISITORS TO HELLS CANYON CREEK RECREATION SITE -
PRIMARY SEASON 2012**

COMMERCIAL POWERBOAT PASSENGERS AND GUIDES	3,100
COMMERCIAL FLOAT PASSENGERS AND GUIDES	1,802
PRIVATE POWERBOAT PASSENGERS	163
PRIVATE FLOAT PASSENGERS	1,943
DRIVE IN VISITORS	6,765
FISHING	359
OTHER ** HIKERS, BUS VISITORS, ETC.	461
<u>DOWNRIVER PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL JETBOAT VISITORS</u>	<u>1,639</u>
	16,232





(Getta Creek in Hells Canyon 1937)

HELLS CANYON
NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
PO Box 699
Clarkston, WA 99403
General information line:
509.758.0616

Powerboat Reservation
Float Reservations
www.recreation.gov
or
877-444-6777