

2013
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.

2013 Primary Season ~ May 24th through September 10th

COMMERCIAL POWERBOAT USE - JANUARY ~ DECEMBER 2013

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
BENTZ, Rusty – Bentz River Explorations	207	380
BONSON, Bill and CASSELL, Gabe - Snake Dancer Excursions	1,676	1,097
DAYTON, Brett – Dayton Adventures	14	14
FRIEND, Richard - River Adventures, LTD.	284	308
GUIER, Gabe - Fish Unlimited	0	0
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv., LLC	1,583	1,597
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv.,LLC II	262	262
KING, Bruce – Kingfisher river trips, INC	49	88
KOCH, Jim and Jill dba Heller Bar Excursions, Idaho Rivers Navigation, Rivers Navigation	3,831	3,835
LAMM, Alan - Mainstream Outdoor Adventures, Inc.	3	6
LUTHER, Mike - Snake River Adventures	2,870	3,865
ODEGAARD, Butch and Debi - River Quest Excursions	2,587	2,894
SCHULTZ, Jason - Hells Canyon Sport Fishing	415	707
TAYLOR, Reed - Two River Tours, Inc.	0	8
VOGEL, Don - Vogel Outdoor Adventures	113	218
YATES, Mark - Hells Canyon Adv. III, LLC	3406	3,465
SMITH, Mike - Z & S Outfitters, Inc	222	527
2013	17,693	19,263
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 2013

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
BENTZ, Rusty – Salmon River Explorations	79	93
BONSON, Bill and CASSELL, Gabe - Snake Dancer Excursions	831	843
FRIEND, Richard - River Adventures, LTD.	201	225
DAYTON, Brett – Dayton Adventures	10	10
KING, Bruce – Kingfisher River Trips, INC.	1	0
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adventures, LLC	1,112	1126
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adventures, LLC II	262	262
KOCH, Jim and Jill dba Heller Bar Excursions, Idaho Navigation, Rivers Navigation	2,762	2,764
LAMM, Alan - Mainstream Outdoor Adventures, Inc.	3	6
LUTHER, Mike - Snake River Adventures	2,036	2,515
ODEGAARD, Butch and Debi - River Quest Excursions	1,734	1,743
SCHULTZ, Jason - Hells Canyon Sport Fishing	42	55
TAYLOR, Reed - Two River Tours, Inc.	8	8
VOGEL, Don - Vogel Outdoor Adventures	63	109
YATES, Mark - Hells Canyon Adventures III, LLC	2,623	2,650
SMITH, Mike - Z & S Outfitters, Inc	50	72
2013	12,134	12,473
2012	12,441	12,619
2011	11,953	12,541
2010	15,081	15,506
2009	15,097	15,384

Commercial Power boat Trips 2013

Allocated with permit*

	Primary Season	January- December
BENTZ, Rusty – Salmon River Explorations *11	6	17
BONSON, Bill & CASSELL, Gabe - Snake Dancer Excursions *85	57	20
FRIEND, Richard - River Adventures, LTD.*40 (+Riggins pool)	28	13
DAYTON, Brett – Dayton Adventures *4	0	0
KING, Bruce and Pam *6	1	12
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv., LLC *31 (+Riggins pool))	66	59
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv.,LLC II *9 (+ Riggins pool)	32	0
KOCH, Jim and Jill * 224,118,85 = 427 dba Heller Bar Excursions, Idaho Rivers Navigation, Rivers Navigation	121	53
LAMM, Alan - Mainstream Outdoor Adventures *55	1	1
LUTHER, Mike - Snake River Adventures *182	121	72
ODEGAARD, Butch and Debi - River Quest Excursions *85	73	48
SCHULTZ, Jason - Hells Canyon Sport Fishing *6	3	71
VOGEL, Don - Vogel Outdoor Adventures *7	10	10
YATES, Mark - Hells Canyon Adv. III, LLC *397	171	74
SMITH, Mike - Z & S Outfitters, Inc *6	9	38
Total	699	488



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

COMMERCIAL FLOAT USE - JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER 2013

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	TRIPS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
ARENTSEN, Paul - Winding Waters Rafting	13	160	705
ARMACOST, Kurt - Hells Canyon Raft, Inc.	29	252	999
BAUGH, JESS –Mountain River Outfitters, LLC.	15	151	541
BOYD, Chuck – Salmon River Experience	1	5	20
COLBERT, Dave – Idaho Afloat	1	6	18
GRUBB, Peter - River Odysseys West (ROW)	13	177	898
HAUPTMAN, George - Canyon Outfitters, Inc.	15	122	457
HUGHES, Jerry - Hughes River Expeditions, Inc.	18	155	554
ARIEN, Parker – America’s Rafting Company	0	0	0
WARREN, Jacob - North Star River Expeditions, Inc.	3	54	216
WENDT, George (Curt Chang) - OARS-DORIES, Inc.	15	183	897
ZOLLER, Mark ~ Zollers Outdoor Odysseys, Inc.	10	105	471
Total 2013	133	1,370	5,776
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 2013

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	TRIPS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
ARENTSEN, Paul - Winding Waters Rafting	13	160	705
ARMACOST, Kurt - Hells Canyon Raft, Inc.	28	236	959
BAUGH, Jess – Mountain River Outfitters, LLC.	12	132	470
BOYD, Chuck – Salmon River Experience	1	5	20
COLBERT, Dave – Idaho Afloat	1	6	18
GRUBB, Peter - River Odysseys West (ROW)	12	172	873
HAUPTMAN, George - Canyon Outfitters, Inc.	09	93	330
HUGHES, Jerry - Hughes River Expeditions, Inc.	18	155	554
ARIEN, Parker – Americas Rafting Company	0	0	0
WARREN, Jacob - North Star River Expeditions, Inc.	3	54	216
WENDT, George (Curt Chang) – Oars and Dories, Inc.	14	165	843
ZOLLER, Mark - Zoller's Outdoor Odyssey's Inc.	10	105	471

TOTAL 2013	119	1,283	5,459
2012	128	1,315	5,365
2011	128	1,236	5,131
2010	127	1,295	5,352
2009	158	1,494	5,079

POWER BOAT TRIPS May24th ~ September 10th 2013

TOTAL RESERVATIONS

WILD: 402

SCENIC:589

SALMON: 107

TOTAL POWER RESERVATIONS PRIMARY SEASON: 1,098



PRIVATE POWERBOAT USE - PRIMARY SEASON 2013

LAUNCH LOCATION	TRIPS	PEOPLE	SERVICE DAYS
CACHE CREEK	1056	4,618	8,425
DUG BAR	6	27	47
PITTSBURG LANDING	286	1,326	3,684
HELLS CANYON CREEK	32	149	351
2013	1,380	6,120	12,507
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

PRIVATE POWERBOAT USE - SECONDARY SEASON 2013

LAUNCH LOCATION	TRIPS	PEOPLE	SERVICE DAYS
CACHE CREEK	896	3,223	5,987
DUG BAR	11	36	436
PITTSBURG LANDING	319	1,145	4575
HELLS CANYON CREEK	203	716	1,632
2013	1,429	5,120	12,630
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

TOTAL PRIVATE POWERBOAT 2013 TRIPS (all year) = 2,809

TOTAL POWERBOAT 2013 PASSENGERS (all year) = 11,240

TOTAL POWERBOAT 2013 SERVICE DAYS(all year) = 25,137

PERCENT BY DESTINATION --- COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE FLOAT --- PRIMARY SEASON 2013

(BY PERCENTAGE)

PITTSBURG LANDING	65%
JETBOAT BACK TO DAM	2.5%
HELLER BAR	29.5%
OTHER	3.5%

PERCENT BY DESTINATION -- COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE FLOAT -- SECONDARY SEASON 2013

(BY PERCENTAGE)

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



PRIVATE FLOAT USE - PRIMARY SEASON 2013

LAUNCH LOCATION	TRIPS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
HELLS CANYON CREEK	222	2,097	11,246
PITTSBURG	24	105	484
TOTAL	246	2,202	11,730

PRIVATE FLOAT USE - SECONDARY SEASON 2013

LAUNCH LOCATION	TRIPS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
HELLS CANYON CREEK	123	805	3,010
PITTSBURG	6	88	112
TOTAL	129	893	3,122

TOTAL PRIVATE FLOAT TRIPS = 375

TOTAL FLOAT PASSENGERS = 3,095

TOTAL SERVICE DAYS = 14,852



FLOAT CRAFT FROM HELLS CANYON CREEK PRIMARY SEASON 2013

COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE
TOTAL

RAFT	1273
KAYAK	91
DORY / DRIFT	20
INFLATABLE KAYAK	345
CANOE/ OTHER	46
TOTAL CRAFT	1,775



**RIVER USE BY USER GROUP - PRIMARY
SEASON 2013**

USER GROUP	PEOPLE	SERVICE DAYS
Commercial Powerboat Passengers	12,134	12,473
Private Powerboaters	6,120	8,425
Sub-Total	18,254	20,898
Commercial Float Passengers	1,283	5,459
Private Floaters	2,202	11,730
Sub-Total	3,485	17,189
TOTAL PEOPLE	21,739	SERVICE DAYS 38,087



RIVER USE BY USER GROUP
January -December - 2013

USER GROUP	PEOPLE	SERVICE DAYS
Commercial Powerboat	17,693	19,263
Private Powerboaters	11,240	25,137
Commercial Float	1,370	5,776
Private Floaters	3,095	14,852
TOTAL RIVER USE	33,398	65,028



*Visitors (including private jet boats and passengers) stopping at
CACHE CREEK ADMINISTRATIVE SITE 2013*

JANUARY	57
FEBRUARY	60
MARCH	188
APRIL	240
MAY	388
JUNE	2,100
JULY	3,001
AUGUST	3,744
SEPTEMBER	1,901
OCTOBER	815
NOVEMBER	201
DECEMBER	100
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>12,795</i>





<i>VISITORS TO KIRKWOOD 2013</i>

JANUARY	52
FEBRUARY	106
MARCH	530
APRIL	829
MAY	1,402
JUNE	2,300
JULY	4,001
AUGUST	2,037
SEPTEMBER	1,315
OCTOBER	402
NOVEMBER	52
DECEMBER	85
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>13,111</i>

**VISITORS TO HELLS CANYON CREEK RECREATION SITE -
PRIMARY SEASON 2013**

COMMERCIAL POWERBOAT PASSENGERS AND GUIDES

COMMERCIAL FLOAT PASSENGERS AND GUIDES

PRIVATE POWERBOAT PASSENGERS

PRIVATE FLOAT PASSENGERS

DRIVE IN VISITORS

FISHING

OTHER ** HIKERS, BUS VISITORS, ETC.

DOWNRIVER PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL JETBOAT VISITORS

PENDING





(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