

2010  
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 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

*2010 Primary Season ~ May 27<sup>th</sup> through September 10<sup>th</sup>*

## **COMMERCIAL POWERBOAT USE - JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER 2010**

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
BENTZ, Rusty – Bentz River Explorations	263	409
BONSON, Bill and CASSELL, Gabe - Snake Dancer Excursions	1,295	1329
FRIEND, Richard - River Adventures, LTD.	385	385
JARRETT, Bart Jarrett - Northwest Fishing ~ Guide Service	241	241
JOHNSON, Tim - Fishhawk Guides, LLC	68	71
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv., LLC	1409	1414
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv.,LLC II	450	450
KOCH, Jim and Jill dba Heller Bar Excursions, Idaho Rivers Navigation, Rivers Navigation	6,380	6,815
LAMM, Alan - Mainstream Outdoor Adventures, Inc.	43	56
LUTHER, Mike and Jodee - Snake River Adventures	3,903	4,003
ODEGAARD, Butch and Debi - River Quest Excursions	1,957	1,994
SCHULTZ, Jason - Hells Canyon Sport Fishing	444	745
TAYLOR, Reed - Two River Tours, Inc.	853	853
VOGEL, Don - Vogel Outdoor Adventures	118	149
YATES, Mark - Hells Canyon Adv. III, LLC	3,393	3,414
SMITH, Mike - Z & S Outfitters, Inc	183	462
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21,385</b>	<b>22,790</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>19,964</b>	<b>22,322</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>30,147</b>	<b>34,213</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>38,235</b>	<b>40,632</b>





**COMMERCIAL POWERBOAT USE - PRIMARY SEASON 2010**

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
BENTZ, Rusty – Salmon River Explorations	73	73
BONSON, Bill and CASSELL, Gabe - Snake Dancer Excursions	1,021	1,021
FRIEND, Richard - River Adventures, LTD.	312	312
JARRETT, Bart - Northwest Fishing ~ Guide Service	61	61
JOHNSON, Tim - Fishhawk Guides, LLC	14	14
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adventures, LLC	940	945
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adventures, LLC II	450	450
KOCH, Jim and Jill dba Heller Bar Excursions, Idaho Navigation, Rivers Navigation	4,657	4,967
LAMM, Alan - Mainstream Outdoor Adventures, Inc.	27	40
LUTHER, Mike and Jodee - Snake River Adventures	2,659	2,678
ODEGAARD, Butch and Debi - River Quest Excursions	1,368	1,379
SCHULTZ, Jason - Hells Canyon Sport Fishing	36	48
TAYLOR, Reed - Two River Tours, Inc.	826	826
VOGEL, Don - Vogel Outdoor Adventures	75	75
YATES, Mark - Hells Canyon Adventures III, LLC	2,542	2,563
SMITH, Mike - Z & S Outfitters, Inc	20	54
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,081</b>	<b>15,506</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>15,097</b>	<b>15,384</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>20,535</b>	<b>21,267</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>23,528</b>	<b>24,246</b>

## Commercial Power boat Trips 2010

	Primary Season	January- December
BENTZ, Rusty – Salmon River Explorations	5	44
BONSON, Bill and CASSELL, Gabe - Snake Dancer Excursions	74	101
FRIEND, Richard - River Adventures, LTD.	36	46
JARRETT, Bart Jarrett - Northwest Fishing ~ Guide Service	13	48
JOHNSON, Tim - Fishhawk Guides, LLC	4	21
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv., LLC	62	114
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adv.,LLC II	32	32
KOCH, Jim and Jill dba Heller Bar Excursions, Idaho Rivers Navigation, Rivers Navigation	170	242
LAMM, Alan - Mainstream Outdoor Adventures, Inc.	4	5
LUTHER, Mike - Snake River Adventures	148	220
ODEGAARD, Butch and Debi - River Quest Excursions	60	96
SCHULTZ, Jason - Hells Canyon Sport Fishing	6	81
TAYLOR, Reed - Two River Tours, Inc.	63	67
VOGEL, Don - Vogel Outdoor Adventures	8	17
YATES, Mark - Hells Canyon Adv. III, LLC	271	191
SMITH, Mike - Z & S Outfitters, Inc	5	44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>1,369</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>1,308</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>1,591</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>1304</b>	<b>2,128</b>



**COMMERCIAL POWERBOAT DAYS - PRIMARY SEASON 2010**

<b>COMMERCIAL POWERBOAT OUTFITTERS</b>	ALLOCATED	BOAT DAYS	BOAT DAYS
	BOAT DAYS	USED IN W & S RIV. ON ALLOC. DAYS	USED IN SCEN. RIV. MON-THUR
BENTZ, Rusty - Intermountain Excursions	11	4	1
BONSON, Bill and CASSELL, Gabe - Snake Dancer Excursions	85	58	16
FRIEND, Richard – River Adventures, Inc.	40 **	36	0
JARRETT, Bart - Northwest Fishing – Guide Service	4	7	6
JOHNSON, Tim - Fishhawk Guides, LLC	6	3	1
KILLGORE, Kurt - Killgore Adventures, LLC dba Hells Canyon Jet Boat Trips and Lodging	31 **	57	5
KILLGORE, Kurt –Killgore Adventures, LLC II	9 **	32	0
KOCH, Jim and Jill dba Heller Bar Excursions dba Idaho Rivers Navigation dba Rivers Navigation	427	102	68
LAMM, Alan - Mainstream Outdoor Adventures, Inc.	55	4	0
LUTHER, Mike and Jodee - Snake River Adventures	182	121	27
ODEGAARD, Butch and Debi - River Quest Excursions	85	38	22
SCHULTZ, Jason - Hells Canyon Sport Fishing	6	4	2
TAYLOR, Reed - Two River Tours, Inc.	85	52	0
VOGEL, Don - Vogel Outdoor Adventures	7	5	3
YATES, Mark - Hells Canyon Adventures III, LLC	397	191	0
SMITH, Mike - Z & S Outfitters, Inc	6	3	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1436</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>1436</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>122</b>
2008	1436	780	164
2007	1436	1,039	267

**Boat Days included in this total are:**

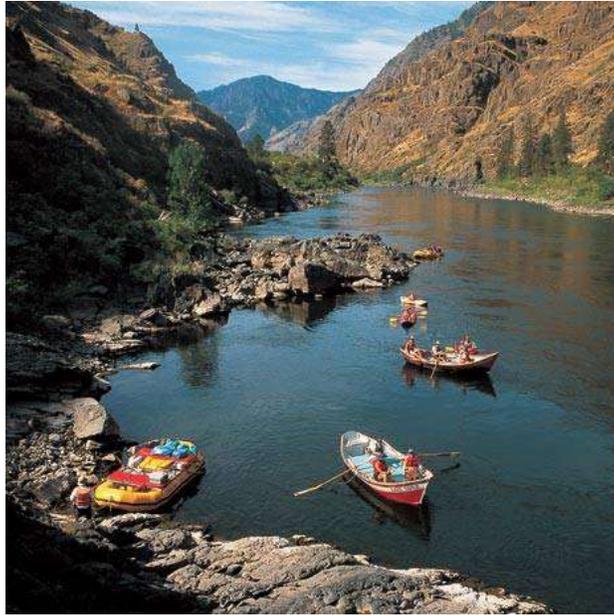
- 1) All boat days used, as documented by commercial manifests, in the Wild River seven days a week in the Scenic River on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays.
- 2) Temporary use (one season) of another outfitter's boat days. Agreement per the Annual Operating Plan, signed by both outfitters and a copy on file in the Clarkston Office.

\*\* **Plus Boat Days from the Riggins Pool (total of 70)**

## COMMERCIAL FLOAT USE - JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER 2010

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	TRIPS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
ARENTSEN, Paul - Winding Waters Rafting	14	186	763
ARMACOST, Kurt - Hells Canyon Raft, Inc.	36	329	1210
BAUGH, JESS –Mountain River Outfitters, LLC.	9	82	295
BOYD, Chuck – Salmon River Experience	7	27	93
COLBERT, Dave – Idaho Afloat	5	34	102
GRUBB, Peter - River Odysseys West (ROW)	14	178	864
HAUPTMAN, George - Canyon Outfitters, Inc.	10	88	352
HUGHES, Jerry - Hughes River Expeditions, Inc.	21	220	978
NACHMAN, Andy - Northwest Voyageurs	1	14	70
WARREN, Jacob - North Star River Expeditions, Inc.	6	62	202
WENDT, George (Curt Chang) - OARS-DORIES, Inc.	13	166	815
ZOLLER, Mark ~ Zollers Outdoor Odysseys, Inc.	10	65	205
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>1,451</b>	<b>5,949</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>1,524</b>	<b>5,191</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>2,097</b>	<b>6,710</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>2,130</b>	<b>5,750</b>





**COMMERCIAL FLOAT USE - PRIMARY SEASON 2010**

COMMERCIAL OUTFITTERS	TRIPS	PASSENGERS	SERVICE DAYS
ARENTSEN, Paul - Winding Waters Rafting	11	155	651
ARMACOST, Kurt - Hells Canyon Raft, Inc.	30	298	1087
BAUGH, Jess – Mountain River Outfitters, LLC.	9	82	295
BOYD, Chuck – Salmon River Experience	6	25	81
COLBERT, Dave – Idaho Afloat	5	34	102
GRUBB, Peter - River Odysseys West (ROW)	13	167	809
HAUPTMAN, George - Canyon Outfitters, Inc.	8	74	296
HUGHES, Jerry - Hughes River Expeditions, Inc.	16	174	812
NACHMAN, Andy - Northwest Voyageurs	1	14	70
WARREN, Jacob - North Star River Expeditions, Inc.	5	42	142
WENDT, George (Curt Chang) – Oars and Dories, Inc.	12	163	800
ZOLLER, Mark - Zoller's Outdoor Odyssey's Inc.	10	65	205

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>1,293</b>	<b>5,350</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>1,494</b>	<b>5,079</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>1,924</b>	<b>6,299</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>1,932</b>	<b>6,052</b>

# **POWERBOAT RESERVATION TOTALS 2010**

## ***AVAILABLE RESERVATIONS***

***WILD: 742***

***SCENIC: 864***

***SALMON: 240***

## ***TOTAL RESERVATIONS AND CANCELATIONS***

***WILD: 415***

***SCENIC: 533***

***SALMON: 95***

***TOTAL POWER RESERVATIONS: 1,043***  
***TOTAL POWER CANCELATIONS: 430***  
***TOTAL RESERVATIONS THROUGH WAITING LIST: 115***  
***TOTAL NO-SHOWS: 22***



**PRIVATE POWERBOAT USE - PRIMARY SEASON 2010**

<b>LAUNCH LOCATION</b>	<b>TRIPS</b>	<b>PEOPLE</b>	<b>SERVICE DAYS</b>
CACHE CREEK	1107	4,801	15,783
DUG BAR	4	13	26
PITTSBURG LANDING	288	1,229	3,445
HELLS CANYON CREEK	36	151	396
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,435</b>	<b>6,194</b>	<b>19,650</b>

**PRIVATE POWERBOAT USE - SECONDARY SEASON 2010**

<b>LAUNCH LOCATION</b>	<b>TRIPS</b>	<b>PEOPLE</b>	<b>SERVICE DAYS</b>
CACHE CREEK	1,383	5,262	8,726
DUG BAR	1	3	3
PITTSBURG LANDING	481	1,784	11,087
HELLS CANYON CREEK	307	1,140	12,137
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,052</b>	<b>8,189</b>	<b>21,953</b>

**TOTAL PRIVATE POWERBOAT TRIPS = 3,787**

**TOTAL POWERBOAT PASSENGERS = 14,383**

**TOTAL POWERBOAT SERVICE DAYS = 41,603**





**PERCENT BY DESTINATION --- COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE FLOAT --- PRIMARY SEASON 2010**

BY PERCENTAGE

PITTSBURG LANDING	62.6
JETBOAT BACK TO DAM	.8
DUG BAR	0
HELLER BAR	36.6

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TOTAL 100

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**PERCENT BY DESTINATION -- COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE FLOAT -- SECONDARY SEASON 2010**

BY PERCENTAGE

PITTSBURG LANDING	83.1
JETBOAT BACK TO DAM	5.9
DUG BAR	.7
HELLER BAR	10.3

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TOTAL 100

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**PRIVATE FLOAT USE - PRIMARY SEASON 2010**

<b>LAUNCH LOCATION</b>	<b>TRIPS</b>	<b>PASSENGERS</b>	<b>SERVICE DAYS</b>
HELLS CANYON CREEK	224	1960	6600
PITTSBURG	25	126	326
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>2,086</b>	<b>9,012</b>

**PRIVATE FLOAT USE - SECONDARY SEASON 2010**

<b>LAUNCH LOCATION</b>	<b>TRIPS</b>	<b>PASSENGERS</b>	<b>SERVICE DAYS</b>
HELLS CANYON CREEK	134	1014	3679
PITTSBURG	14	82	246
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>1096</b>	<b>3,925</b>

**TOTAL PRIVATE FLOAT TRIPS = 397**

**TOTAL FLOAT PASSENGERS = 3,182**

**TOTAL SERVICE DAYS = 12,937**



**FLOAT RESERVATION SYSTEM - PRIMARY SEASON 2010**

	COMMERCIAL	PRIVATE
AVAILABLE LAUNCHES	212	318
** TRIPS/ RESERVATIONS	126	249
SCENIC FLOAT LAUNCHES		15

**FLOAT CRAFT FROM HELLS CANYON CREEK PRIMARY SEASON 2010**

	COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE TOTAL
RAFT	1,189
KAYAK	80
DORY / DRIFT	33
INFLATABLE KAYAK	287
CANOE	1
<b>TOTAL CRAFT</b>	<b>1,590</b>



**RIVER USE BY USER GROUP - PRIMARY  
SEASON 2010**

USER GROUP	PEOPLE	SERVICE DAYS
Commercial Powerboat Passengers	15,081	15,506
Private Powerboaters	6,194	19,650
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>21,275</b>	<b>35,156</b>
Commercial Float Passengers	1,293	5,350
Private Floaters	2,086	9,012
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>3,379</b>	<b>14,362</b>
<b>TOTAL PEOPLE</b>	<b>24,654</b>	<b>SERVICE DAYS 49,518</b>

**Primary Season 2009 = 25,954 ~ Service Days = 44,964**



**RIVER USE BY USER GROUP**  
**January -December - 2010**

USER GROUP	PEOPLE	SERVICE DAYS
Commercial Powerboat (2009)	21,385 19,964	22,790 21,322
Private Powerboaters (2009)	14,383 15,478	41,603 30,138
Commercial Float (2009)	1,415 1,524	5,949 5,191
Private Floaters (2009)	3,182 3,042	12,937 12,317
<b>TOTAL RIVER USE (2010)</b>	<b>40,365</b>	<b>83,279</b>
<b>TOTAL RIVER USE (2009)</b>	<b>39,897</b>	<b>68,968</b>



*Visitors(including private jet boats and passengers) stopping at  
CACHE CREEK ADMINISTRATIVE SITE 2010*

JANUARY	57
FEBRUARY	121
MARCH	167
APRIL	500
MAY	1648
JUNE	2753
JULY	4054
AUGUST	2265
SEPTEMBER	1924
OCTOBER	1325
NOVEMBER	868
DECEMBER	235
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>15,917</i></b>





<b><i>VISITORS TO KIRKWOOD 2010</i></b>
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JANUARY	91
FEBRUARY	116
MARCH	983
APRIL	819
MAY	1,526
JUNE	2,600
JULY	3,836
AUGUST	2,191
SEPTEMBER	1,772
OCTOBER	559
NOVEMBER	111
DECEMBER	62
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>14,666</i></b>

**VISITORS TO HELLS CANYON CREEK RECREATION SITE -  
PRIMARY SEASON 2010**

COMMERCIAL POWERBOAT PASSENGERS AND GUIDES	2,697
COMMERCIAL FLOAT PASSENGERS AND GUIDES	1,813
PRIVATE POWERBOAT PASSENGERS	159
PRIVATE FLOAT PASSENGERS	1,989
DRIVE IN VISITORS	9,905
FISHING	338
OTHER ** HIKERS, BUS VISITORS, ETC.	438
<u>DOWNRIVER PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL JETBOAT VISITORS</u>	<u>2,493</u>
	<b>19,832</b>





(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 line**

**509.758.0270**

**Float Reservations**

**[www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)**