

Satellite Phones and Emergency Contact Numbers

There are inherent risks associated with backcountry and river recreation. The Middle Fork of the Salmon River is not suitable for the inexperienced boater. Accidents can happen in seconds, but emergency assistance can take many hours, even days. Self-rescue and survival skills, equipment and preparation are important.

If you have a satellite phone and need emergency assistance, be aware that 911 service is not expected to work within the wilderness. If you do not have 911 service, you can contact the Custer County Sheriff's Office or Idaho State Communications for assistance in emergency situations.

Custer County Sheriff's Department: 208-879-2232
Idaho State Communications: 208-846-7610

Be prepared to describe your location as accurately as possible, and highlight the fact that you are on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River within the Frank Church – River of No Return Wilderness.

Emergency Points of Contact and Airstrips

Forest Service Guard Stations are often staffed during the summer months, and Forest Service employees usually carry radios that can be used for emergencies. Many of the commercial outfitters (and some private boaters) also carry satellite phones and are willing to help in emergencies. Airstrips and Private landowners are listed here for emergency purposes.

Boundary Creek Guard Station – River Mile 0.0

Morgan Ranch Airstrip – River Mile 2.0

Pistol Creek Ranch and Airstrip – River Mile 22.4

Indian Creek Guard Station and Airstrip – River Mile 24.7

Little Creek Guard Station/Thomas Creek Airstrip/Middle Fork Lodge– River Mile 34

Cougar Creek Ranch/Mahoney Airstrip – River Mile 40.4

Simplot Ranch/Airstrip – River Mile 49.4

Flying B Ranch and Airstrip – River Mile 67.7

Bernard Guard Station and Airstrip (not usually staffed) – River Mile 68.2

WHEN YOU RETURN FROM YOUR TRIP, YOU SHOULD FILE AN INCIDENT REPORT IF:

Your trip had any incidents resulting in:

- evacuation from the river
- personal injury requiring more than first aid
- the death or disappearance of any participant
- property damage greater than \$500.
- the occurrence of gastrointestinal illness
- *unusual* encounters with wild animals
- *extreme* weather encounters resulting in mud flows or significant events
- downed timber in camps or main river channel
- river wreck resulting in broaches, wrapping or flipped boats causing lost gear, equipment & requiring assistance from others

We ask for your assistance in reporting any of the above situations to Middle Fork Ranger District. Completed River Incident Report forms should be mailed to the River Manager at Middle Fork Ranger District, HC 63 Box 1669, Challis ID, 83226, or faxed to Middle Fork Ranger District at 208-879-4198 within 7 days of trip completion.

Notification of any evacuation for serious injury or requiring hospitalization should be faxed or telephoned to the Middle Fork office within 24 hours of the incident. Phone: 208-879-4101 or Fax: 208-879-4198.

INCIDENT REPORT

Permit Holder: _____ Trip Start Date: _____

Incident Date: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

Nature of Incident: _____

Incident Occurred: On water _____ In camp _____ Hiking _____ Other: _____

Involved Persons Name(s)	home address	home/cell phone #s	sex	age/DOB
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#1 _____

#2 _____

#3 _____

Description of incident: (briefly state facts)

First Aid and/or medical assistance provided? _____ By Whom? _____

Evacuation required? _____ River assistance provided by: _____

Gear/equipment that is damaged or lost: _____

Wild animal encounter; give full description, colorings, behavior, location: _____

Weather phenomenon causing unusual tree falling, rock rolling, mudslide: _____