

# NEWS RELEASE

Pacific Northwest Region - Wallowa-Whitman NF  
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## Recreation.gov Reservation System for Private Powerboaters in Hells Canyon NRA begins this Saturday, March 1

**Baker City, OR** The Recreation.gov reservation system for private powerboaters in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (HCNRA) will go online this Saturday, March 1, 2014 at 8 a.m. pacific standard time. Following the national direction in the President's "Recreation One Stop Initiative", powerboaters will have the opportunity to utilize an online reservation system for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (HCNRA) portion of the Snake River. This is the same system that was successfully implemented for float boats in 2009 on the Snake River and for other rivers in Idaho under the 4 Rivers Lottery. This change will not affect commercial powerboaters.

Hells Canyon National Recreation Area District Ranger, Kris Stein states, "I know this will be an adjustment for people but the new reservation system will provide a more efficient and equitable opportunity for private powerboaters to obtain permits for the Snake River. We are providing tools and will be available to help folks through this transition". Information about the transition and how to use Recreation.gov can be found on the [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov) website and on the Wallowa-Whitman website at:

[www.fs.usda.gov/goto/WWNFPrivatePowerboatReservations](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/WWNFPrivatePowerboatReservations)

The details of the private powerboat permits, such as number of permits, season of use, etc. will not be changing, only the tool in which to obtain a permit. The online reservation system will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, which will allow users to check for cancellations at any time that is convenient for them. The public will also have access to a well-informed call center and HCNRA personnel if they need assistance with the website or do not have access to a computer. The powerboat reservations only apply during the primary season, which is the Friday of Memorial Day weekend through September 10.

Please continue to visit the Forest Service office in Clarkston, WA. The staff will continue to assist with travel plans into the beautiful and unique Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. If you have any questions about the new permit please call Public Affairs Officers Jodi Kramer at 541-523-1246 or Matthew Burks at 541-523-1364.



for the greatest good