

MAIN SALMON LEAVE NO TRACE ORIENTATION TALK 2022

INTRODUCTION & HISTORY

The Frank Church – River of No Return Wilderness was established in 1980 and named after Idaho's late senator, Frank Church, who was instrumental in passage of the 1964 Wilderness Act. The wilderness encompasses over 2.3 million acres that includes the 79-mile wilderness section of the Salmon River, which was designated a Wild and Scenic River in 1980.

This is a true escape from all the pressures of daily life. Sit back, relax, and enjoy simple pleasures: run rapids, reconnect with friend and family, take a hike, and view wildlife.

The Salmon River has a rich history of mining, homesteading, exploration, and preservation. The first white men who considered running the Salmon River were Lewis and Clark in 1805, after Clark's horse followed along the bank. Many years passed before anyone attempted to run the river.

In the 1880's, boatmen started running wooden scows – flat-bottomed boats that use long poles fitted with blades in the bow and stern to steer. At trip's end, the boatmen would dismantle and sell the boat for lumber and return to Salmon to start the entire process over again. These one-way trips coined the moniker "River of No Return".

Historic structures can still be found at Campbell's Ferry, Jim Moore's, Rhett Creek, Buckskin Bill's, Polly Bemis, and Shepp Ranch, with three listed on the National Historic Places.

ARCHEOLOGICAL/HISTORICAL SITES

- Many archeological and historical sites along the corridor
- Please do not walk across the lawn
- Do not take anything from site, deface site in any way, or touch pictographs
- Leave for future generations to enjoy and appreciate
- Take only pictures and memories

PACK IN, PACK OUT

- Micro trash—pull tabs, candy wrappers, cig butts, apple core, banana peels, etc.
- Aluminum foil (even burned), grease
- Sweep campsite in the morning for micro trash
- Controls bug problems (ants, bees, etc.), controls odors (bears, etc.)

SANITATION

- Only human waste, toilet paper, and dog waste in porta-potties
- No types of wipes (baby wipes, handy wipes), tampons, rocks, sticks, etc., in porta potties
- Keep garbage bag next to porta-pottie for wipes, tampons, etc.
- Clogs grinders on the SCAT machines - costly and down for repairs
- Keep porta-potties available throughout day, including lunch breaks
- Keep porta-potties in place until ready to launch. "Last Call" can be hour or more away
- SCAT machine located at USFS NRA Office in Riggins. Paid by user fees
- Dog owners—clean up after your pets
- No soap in river or tributaries, including biodegradables
- Take bucket above high water mark. Broadcast soapy water
- Pee in river
- Dilute toothpaste with water to avoid spitting out & leaving white blotches on rocks and sand
- Strain dish soap (strainer requirement). Remove food particles & pack out. Broadcast soapy water

FIREPANS

- No open fires without firepans
- 2023 USFS will be requiring a fire blanket for under fire pan (fire blanket or welding blanket)
- Use only dead or down materials
- Elevate firepans to keep sand from scorching.
- Keep fires small and under control

- Keep bucket/shovel handy for cleanup and/or for emergencies
- Ash container requirement—pack out ashes and charcoal. Do not dump in the river or bury

WATER

- If you run out, boil water for at least 5 minutes
- If using filters, make sure they cover Giardia
- Water available at Buckskin Bills

VISITOR SAFETY

- Visitors may face inherent risks of adverse weather conditions, isolation, physical hazards, and lack of rapid communications, and that help may not be as expected in urban settings. Could be days
- bees, rattlesnakes, poison ivy, ticks, etc.
- keep camp clean to avoid bear problems
- food packed away; no food in sleeping tents or in sleeping area
- keep tents zipped up; no surprises by snakes or bugs
- pay attention to weather changes and where camp is set up—hazard/burned trees, side streams that can blow out, etc.
- scout ALL rapids; conditions in nature are changing constantly
- Drone use is not permitted in the Salmon River Corridor
- pet owners—keep pet on leashes at the boat launch, take out points, or other public places, respect private property

ROCK ART, etc.

- Importance to kids in building sandcastles, etc., on the beaches
- Rocks being used to tie up boats. Encourage use of sandstakes
- Breaking up camp, break up sandcastles, return rocks to original site, and naturalize area
- LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS

JET BOATS

- Historical use on this river. Continue to have good boater relationships
- Important boaters know if jetboats are up on plane their wake is smaller
- Can be heard by floaters before jet boat is visible
- If jet boat stops, they are waiting for you. Know boater safety regulations
- If jet boat is committed to rapid, they do not have ability to stop
- Keep together as a group

BARTH HOT SPRINGS

- Only hot spring on the river. Be considerate in its use
- No soap or shampoos, etc.
- No overnight camping nor to be used as a lunch stop
- Extra precaution in footing around loose and wet rocks hiking up to the springs
- No nudity at the hot springs or throughout the river corridor

PERMIT & BOAT TAGS

- Permit holder responsible for the entire group
- Each watercraft, including inflatables, need to have boat tag attached
- Make tags visible. At the campsite, have tags facing the river so that boat patrol can see tags
- If you have a conflict with group get boat tag # and report to USFS ASAP

FISH & GAME LAWS

- Fishing licenses, etc.

TAKE OUT AT CAREY CREEK/VINEGAR

- Do not lunch or celebrate at the take outs
- Make take outs available to other parties as quickly as possible