



AMERICAN WHITEWATER

Conservation • Access • Events • Adventure • Safety

BY BOATERS FOR BOATERS
Jul/Aug 2022

The 2021 Impact Report



INTRODUCING AW'S NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!



A KAYAK FOR EVERY
ADVENTURE



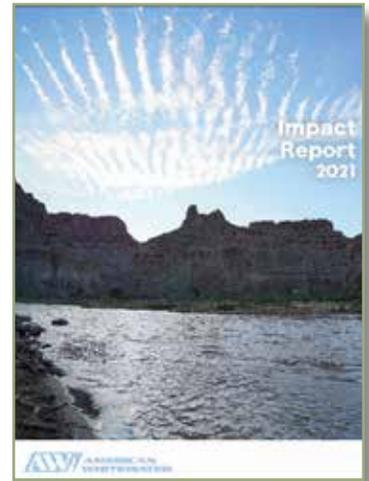
aire.com | 844.243.2473

American Whitewater Journal

Jul/Aug 2022 – Volume 62 – Issue 4

STEWARDSHIP

- 5 The Journey Ahead by **AMBROSE TUSCANO AND EVAN STAFFORD**
- 6 Welcome AW's New Executive Director by **EVAN STAFFORD AND BETHANY OVERFIELD**
- 10 A Big Win for River Protections in Arizona by **KESTREL KUNZ**
- 12 Win for Water Quality in Colorado by **KESTREL KUNZ**
- 13 Weber River Releases (UT) by **KEVIN COLBURN**
- 15 AW 2021 Impact Report by **AW STAFF**



FEATURE ARTICLES

SAFETY

- 40 The Safety Binary by **TERESA GRYDER**

RIVER VOICES

- 45 Kayaking and River Research by **CARLY KOPPE**

Cover Photo

After years and years of grinding hard to see a river restored, paddlers were able to enjoy the inaugural Weber River releases (UT) this spring and summer! Four negotiated Saturday releases will now occur annually between May-July for the Scrambled Eggs section of the Weber, a 1.8-mile roadside run just outside of Ogden.

PHOTO BY BILL HUNT

Publication Title: American Whitewater
 Issue Date: Jul/Aug 2022
 Statement of Frequency: Published Bimonthly
 Authorized Organization's Name and Address:
 American Whitewater
 P.O. Box 1540
 Cullowhee, NC 28723

PURPOSE

RIVER STEWARDSHIP: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH

Our mission: "To conserve and restore America's whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely," is actively pursued through our conservation, access, safety and education efforts under the umbrella of River Stewardship. The only national organization representing the interest of all whitewater paddlers, American Whitewater is the national voice for thousands of individual whitewater enthusiasts, as well as over 100 local paddling club affiliates.

AW's River Stewardship program adheres to the four tenets of our mission statement:

CONSERVATION: AW's professional staff works closely with volunteers and partner organizations to protect the ecological and scenic values of all whitewater rivers. These goals are accomplished

through direct participation in public decision-making processes, grassroots advocacy, coalition building, empowerment of volunteers, public outreach and education, and, when necessary, legal action.

RIVER ACCESS: To assure public access to whitewater rivers pursuant to the guidelines published in its official Access Policy, AW arranges for river access through private lands by negotiation or purchase, seeks to protect the right of public passage on all rivers and streams navigable by kayak or canoe, encourages equitable and responsible management of whitewater rivers on public lands, and works with government agencies and other river users to achieve these goals.

SAFETY: AW promotes paddling safely, publishes reports on whitewater accidents, maintains a uniform national ranking system for whitewater rivers (the International Scale of Whitewater Difficulty) and publishes and disseminates the internationally-recognized American Whitewater Safety Code.

EDUCATION: AW shares information with the general public and the paddling community regarding whitewater rivers, as well as river recreation, conservation, access, and safety. This is accomplished through our bi-monthly AW Journal, a monthly e-news, americanwhitewater.org, paddling events, educational events, and through direct communication with the press.

Together, AW staff, members, volunteers, and affiliate clubs can achieve our goals of conserving, protecting and restoring America's whitewater resources and enhancing opportunities to safely enjoy these wonderful rivers.

AW was incorporated under Missouri nonprofit corporation laws in 1961 and maintains its principal mailing address at PO Box 1540, Cullowhee, NC 28723; phone 1-866-BOAT-4-AW (1-866-262-8429). AW is tax exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Service.

American Whitewater Journal Staff

Editor: Ambrose Tuscano
P.O. Box 913, Soda Springs, California 95728
e-mail: editor@americanwhitewater.org

Graphic Design/Production/Photo Editor: Megan Seifert

Assistant Editors: Patricia Rutka, Erica J. Seifert, Barry Tuscano

Contributing Writers

Ambrose Tuscano, Evan Stafford, Bethany Overfield, Kestrel Kunz, Kevin Colburn, Teresa Gryder, Carly Koppe

Photo Contributors

Bill Hunt, Evan Stafford, Patrick Beville, Teresa Gryder, Kailee Smith, Carly Koppe

Industry Partnerships and Advertising: Mark Singleton
e-mail: mark@americanwhitewater.org

Safety Editor: Charlie Walbridge
Route 1, Box 329F, Bruceton Mills, WV 26525
e-mail: ccwalbridge@cs.com

Stewardship Reports Editor:
Evan Stafford evan@americanwhitewater.org

Missing Copies and Address Changes:
Bethany Overfield bethany@americanwhitewater.org

Founded in 1954, American Whitewater is a national non-profit organization (Non-profit # 23-7083760) with a mission "to conserve and restore America's whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely." American Whitewater is a membership organization representing a broad diversity of individual whitewater enthusiasts, river conservationists, and more than 100 local paddling club affiliates across America. The organization is the primary advocate for the preservation and protection of whitewater rivers throughout the United States, and connects the interests of human-powered recreational river users with ecological and science-based data to achieve the goals within its mission. All rights to information contained in this publication are reserved.

EDITORIAL DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in the features and editorials of American Whitewater are those of the individual authors. They do not necessarily represent those of the Directors of American Whitewater or the editors of this publication. On occasion, American Whitewater publishes official organizational policy statements drafted and approved by the Board of Directors. These policy statements will be clearly identified.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brent Austin
Lexington, KY
baustin@jbrentaustin.com

Melissa Driver
Asheville, NC
melissaanddriver@gmail.com

Susan Elliott
Lyle, WA
Susan.H@gmail.com

Christopher Hest
Chico, CA
kayakasia@yahoo.com

Brian Jacobson
Long Creek, SC
brianjacobson@gmail.com

Greg Lee
West Lebanon, NH
gregliest@gmail.com

Bruce Lessels
Buckland, MA
bdlessels@gmail.com

Megi Morishita
Bend, Oregon
megi1971@gmail.com

April Montgomery
Norwood, CO
aprilmontgomery@gmail.com

Chris Neuenschwander
Pike Road, AL
Chris.Neuenschwander@jacksonhornton.com

Erin Savage
Asheville, NC
savage.ee@gmail.com

Chris Tulley
Folsom, CA
chris.tulley@gmail.com

Charlie Walbridge, Honorary
ccwalbridge@cs.com
Bruceton Mills, WV

BOARD OFFICERS

President: Chris Neuenschwander
Vice President: Brent Austin
Secretary: Erin Savage
Treasurer: Brian Jacobson
At Large: Melissa Driver and Chris Tulley

AW STAFF

Clinton Begley
Executive Director
Springfield, OR
clinton@americanwhitewater.org

Kevin Colburn
National Stewardship Director
Asheville, NC
kevin@americanwhitewater.org

Scott Harding
Stewardship Associate
Forks of Salmon, CA
scott@americanwhitewater.org

Hattie Johnson
Southern Rockies Stewardship Director
Carbondale, CO
hattie@americanwhitewater.org

Kestrel Kunz
Southern Rockies Associate Stewardship Director
Crested Butte, CO
kestrel@americanwhitewater.org

Bob Nasdor
NE Stewardship Director
Sudbury, MA
bob@americanwhitewater.org
Thomas O'Keefe
Pacific NW Stewardship Director
Seattle, WA
okeefe@americanwhitewater.org

Bethany Overfield
Membership Director
Lexington, KY
bethany@americanwhitewater.org

Theresa Simsiman
California Stewardship Director
Sacramento, CA
theresa@americanwhitewater.org

Evan Stafford
Communications Director
Fort Collins, CO
evan@americanwhitewater.org

Dave Steindorf
Special Projects Director
Chico, CA
dave@americanwhitewater.org

Laura Wilson
Finance Manager
Cullowhee, NC
laura@americanwhitewater.org

By **AMBROSE TUSCANO AND EVAN STAFFORD**

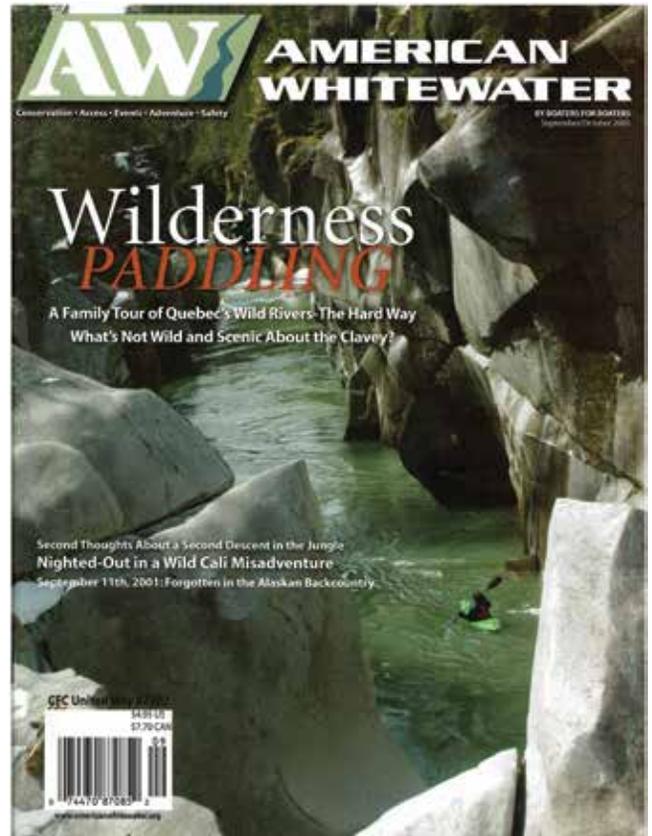
FOR THE PAST 18 years, this space in the *American Whitewater Journal* has been reserved for Executive Director Mark Singleton's direct communication with AW Members. In this first *Journal* issue since Mark's retirement, we look back at the history of the publication before we once again Journey Ahead.

The *American Whitewater Journal* has been an essential home for dialogue and new ideas about the protection and restoration of rivers and the safe enjoyment of whitewater recreation since 1955. Born out of the growing need for whitewater information to be more readily available, and under an "explosive development of interest in white water sport and in travel on wilderness waterways," the *Journal* has always provided a forum for our community to tell their stories of high adventure, misadventure, love and loss, and whatever else the river has meant to them. Ideas that helped spawn the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act appeared in the *Journal* in the early 1960s, including a 1964 essay by the American Whitewater co-founder Wolf Bauer on the "Concept of River Wilderness." Articles exploring new ideas about river safety have appeared throughout the *Journal's* 67 years of publication, spurring the collection of the whitewater accident information that now makes up the largest dataset of whitewater injuries, fatalities, and near misses in the country. Over a long, winding, and storied road, the *American Whitewater Journal* has cemented its place in the history of whitewater recreation and river conservation in the United States.

Under the 18-year tenure of Executive Director Mark Singleton, the *Journal* lived up to its purpose of spreading the news about impending situations with river stewardship implications and spawning dialogue about meaningful topics in whitewater paddlesports. Mark brought the *Journal* into the era of all color pages in the mid-2000s. Since then, the *Journal* has continued to appear in members' mailboxes (either physical or digital), connecting them with the important work American Whitewater has done or intends to do. Under Mark, AW began publishing its annual "Top 10 River Stewardship Issues" in the *Journal* in 2008. Fourteen years later, there's no end in sight to this tradition, in which AW stewardship staff look forward to anticipate where their energies will best be spent on behalf of rivers and paddlers in the coming year, and also look back at the issues they highlighted the previous year for a status update. This kind of deliberate, reflective practice typified the evolution of the *Journal* over the past two decades, during which time frequent updates from stewardship staff became a real focal point of the magazine, displacing some lighter content, but ultimately demonstrating that the organization takes its work seriously and cares that its members remain well informed about their rivers.

Mark also began the tradition of publishing the organization's Annual Report in the *Journal* every summer. This insistence on transparency and featuring AW's member enthusiasm and support alongside the fruits of a highly productive stewardship staff's labor also meshed with the organization's overall move toward sustainability and maturity during this same period. Beginning in 2022, the tradition of annually publishing a transparent look back at the previous year will continue with our 2021 Impact Report on page 15 of this issue.

Of course, Mark's dogged determination to pen a note to AW's members inside each issue of the *Journal* during his time in the Executive Director's seat was an impressive display of endurance and also showed how important it was to him that members get a look inside their organization every couple of months. It was in this forum that Mark coined his famous valediction, "Take care of our rivers and your paddling will take care of you," a fitting slogan for the reciprocity between humans and rivers, American Whitewater and the paddling community, and this publication and its stakeholders.



STEWARDSHIP

MEET AMERICAN WHITEWATER'S NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CLINTON BEGLEY!

BY EVAN STAFFORD AND BETHANY OVERFIELD



Clinton (behind) multi-tasking, West River, Vermont.
PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN

A MERICAN WHITEWATER IS proud to announce and introduce to you our new Executive Director, Clinton Begley! Clinton will have some gigantic shoes to fill, coming in on the heels of our beloved outgoing ED Mark Singleton's extraordinarily successful 18-year run, but we know he's up to the task! Clinton comes to the position with over eighteen years of nonprofit experience, seven years as executive director leading the Long Tom Watershed Council in Eugene, OR, and with nearly two decades of volunteer work and interaction with American Whitewater. Starting as a volunteer Streamkeeper for AW in 2004, helping to add and update reaches to the National Whitewater Inventory, Clinton has also frequently participated in letter writing to elected officials, has testified in a state committee on behalf of American Whitewater, and has helped organize local AW fundraisers and events. We're delighted that Clinton is already so deeply engaged with our community.

In the early 2000s, Clinton learned to paddle on storm water runoff cutting down through limestone bluffs in Quincy, Illinois, surfing Dead Carp Drop on the Sangamon River, and finally figuring

out what an eddy was while paddling the St. Francis River in Southern Missouri. He grew up skipping rocks and catching catfish on North River, a tributary to the Mississippi that cuts through his family farm in Missouri, where he was raised.

Since those early days he's paddled and lived across the country, developing a personal and enduring connection to several river stewardship projects in every region American Whitewater serves. From taking Georgia State University students to experience some of the best rivers in the Southeast, to working in Montana at the Watershed Education Network and The Glacier Institute's Big Creek Camp teaching kids about the magic of wild rivers and supporting the organizations that serve them, to spending time during graduate school hanging with the Merrimack Valley Paddlers Club and falling in love with the tight knit community of boaters who are "wicked devoted" to New England creeks and rivers, Clinton has developed a firm understanding and appreciation for the people we serve, the work we do now, and the work we'll need to take on in the future.

Clinton begins his Executive Director role on August 1st and plans to travel to American Whitewater events this summer and fall to meet up with our staff, volunteers, members and supporters in their home regions. We're all excited to welcome Clinton aboard and are looking forward to working with him! In case you don't get the chance to meet Clinton in person this summer, here's a brief Q&A with him:

AMERICAN WHITEWATER: WHAT EXCITES YOU THE MOST ABOUT BEING THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT AMERICAN WHITEWATER?

Clinton Begley: I've been paddling whitewater for just over 18 years (you'd think I'd be better at it by now!). I think I learned about AW for the first time on BoaterTalk forums in about 2004. It was just months after I first started paddling, and I signed up to be an Illinois/ Missouri Volunteer Streamkeeper the same day. So for me the very existence of paddling in my life is intertwined with the existence of American Whitewater. I do not know of a paddling family without AW, which means I do not know a paddling family without the team of heroes that I'll now be working alongside. That is what excites me the most! I'm thrilled to be working with talented folks whose efforts I've admired in the stewardship updates and *AW Journal* articles over the years. I also know nonprofit organizations well enough to know that there are some magicians on staff whose behind the scenes work is essential in keeping it all running smoothly. I'm just as excited to learn from them and see how this team dreams together for what is next.

AW: ARE YOU ENTERING THE POSITION WITH ANY GOALS IN MIND?

CB: My number one goal right now is to learn. I cracked open the most recent AW board meeting minutes and read all fifteen pages with a goofy smile on my face. There is so much interesting work happening right now at AW and I'm eager to get started. It is clear to me that we have an exceptional team of individuals who are unique, passionate, highly skilled, and effective already. I would be a fool to walk in the door on day-one with a clear set of goals in mind, and claim to know exactly where to add value. So my first goal is to learn. It is important to me to get a sense for "current state" and build my own understanding of how the organization's members and partners are already working together effectively on the issues that matter to them. The AW members, donors and supporters, Tribes, NGO partners, agencies, local communities, and everyday paddlers make up a robust ecosystem. It will take a lot of time listening, learning to ask better questions, and spending time with people in the places they care about to comprehend it. Connecting with those who have given blood, sweat, and tears to AW over the years and helped get it where it is today is a top priority. Mark Singleton and I are already working together on making some of those initial connections, which is pretty fun, and I've been glad to have that opportunity to learn from him firsthand. I have so much respect for what he and this team have built together; it's important to me that I take the time to understand it. I also want to check in with folks who may not feel like there is a way for them to make a difference within the whitewater community. Some of the challenges we face are so big we will need all hands on deck. So it is important to me that I understand where barriers to belonging exist, and how we as a whitewater family can do better to create space for everyone who shares our love for rivers and paddling to participate in the work we do together.

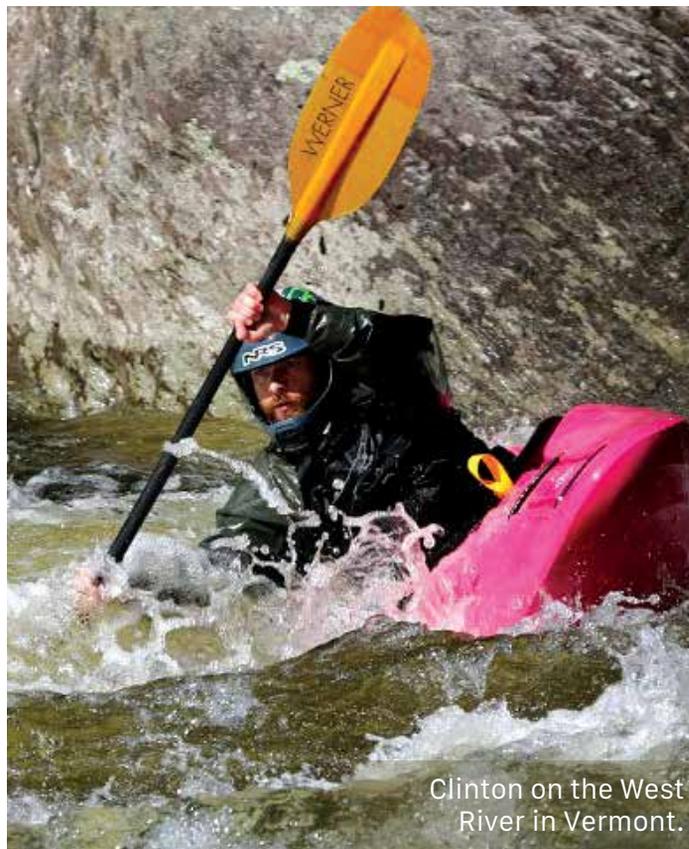


Clinton right on line, Spirit Falls, Little White Salmon, Washington
PHOTO BY PATRICK BEVILLE

STEWARDSHIP



The passing of the torch: outgoing American Whitewater Executive Director, Mark Singleton (l) with incoming AW ED Clinton Begley (r).



Clinton on the West River in Vermont.

AW: WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO IN YOUR DOWN TIME?

CB: From 2013-2018 I moved between Georgia, Montana, New Hampshire, and Oregon, and was paddling in excess of 130 days a year. In 2018 I tore cartilage in my sternum and separated two ribs in Petrified on the Ohanapecosh River in Washington. It wasn't very far into my long road back to paddling that realized I needed to diversify my outdoor pursuits. I reconnected with waterfowl hunting that I'd done as a kid growing up on the Mississippi River, and got into sailing dinghies with my partner Ashley on the freshwater lakes near our home in Oregon. Both of those activities also benefit from a lot of hands on DIY project work. I make my own duck calls on a lathe, and sailboats always need some attention. Fixing and building things with my hands is something I inherited from both sides of my family: carpenters, gardeners, seamstresses, and mechanics. I also love to cook. Ashley and I like to adapt recipes from old cookbooks for wild game we have on hand. We especially have fun curing, pickling, and preserving. Time spent with mason jars and a pressure cooker reminds me of my Grandma Begley canning pickled beets and spiced apples when I was a kid. That heritage of creativity and self-reliance is really important to me. Paddling is still my first priority and the fact that Ashley and I can enjoy that together is a real gift that I look forward to every time it rains.

AW: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE KIND OF TACO?

CB: As a born and raised Midwestern boy I go with the pork option every time. A carnitas street taco with cabbage, onion, habanero salsa, and a squeeze of lime is my go-to, no frills, taqueria choice. Hold the cilantro, please!

AW: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PIECE OF GEAR?

CB: When I first discovered NRS back in 2005, my very first order included an NRS Titanium Hydroskin sleeveless shirt. It's been 17 years and it's still the first thing I put on under my drysuit. I've tried other layering, but paddling winters in New Hampshire I learned it's tough to beat the flexibility that comes from one less bulky layer over the arms while still keeping a warm core. It's still in one piece, it still fits, and it smells like a shirt half its age.

Clinton is going to be an excellent addition to our team and the staff at American Whitewater is sincerely looking forward to working with Clinton under his leadership!



Kōkatat[®]

THERE IS A REASON THE KOKATAT[®] MERIDIAN IS CONSIDERED BY MOST AS THE BENCHMARK OF PADDLING DRY SUITS. IT WORKS! WE'VE UPDATED THE LOOK AND FUNCTION OF OUR MOST POPULAR WHITEWATER AND PERFORMANCE SEA KAYAKING DRY SUIT. IT IS THE ONLY SUIT OF ITS KIND, MANUFACTURED AND SERVICED IN OUR ARCATA, CALIFORNIA FACTORY.



WWW.KOKATAT.COM

A BIG WIN FOR RIVER PROTECTIONS IN ARIZONA

BY KESTREL KUNZ

THE TONTO NATIONAL Forest in Arizona will receive robust protections for some of Arizona's finest rivers. The Final Land Management Plan for the Forest was released this spring, and we are celebrating a big win for rivers. The Tonto National Forest is home to rivers like the multi-day section of the Salt River, the Verde River, and steep waterfall runs like Christopher Creek.

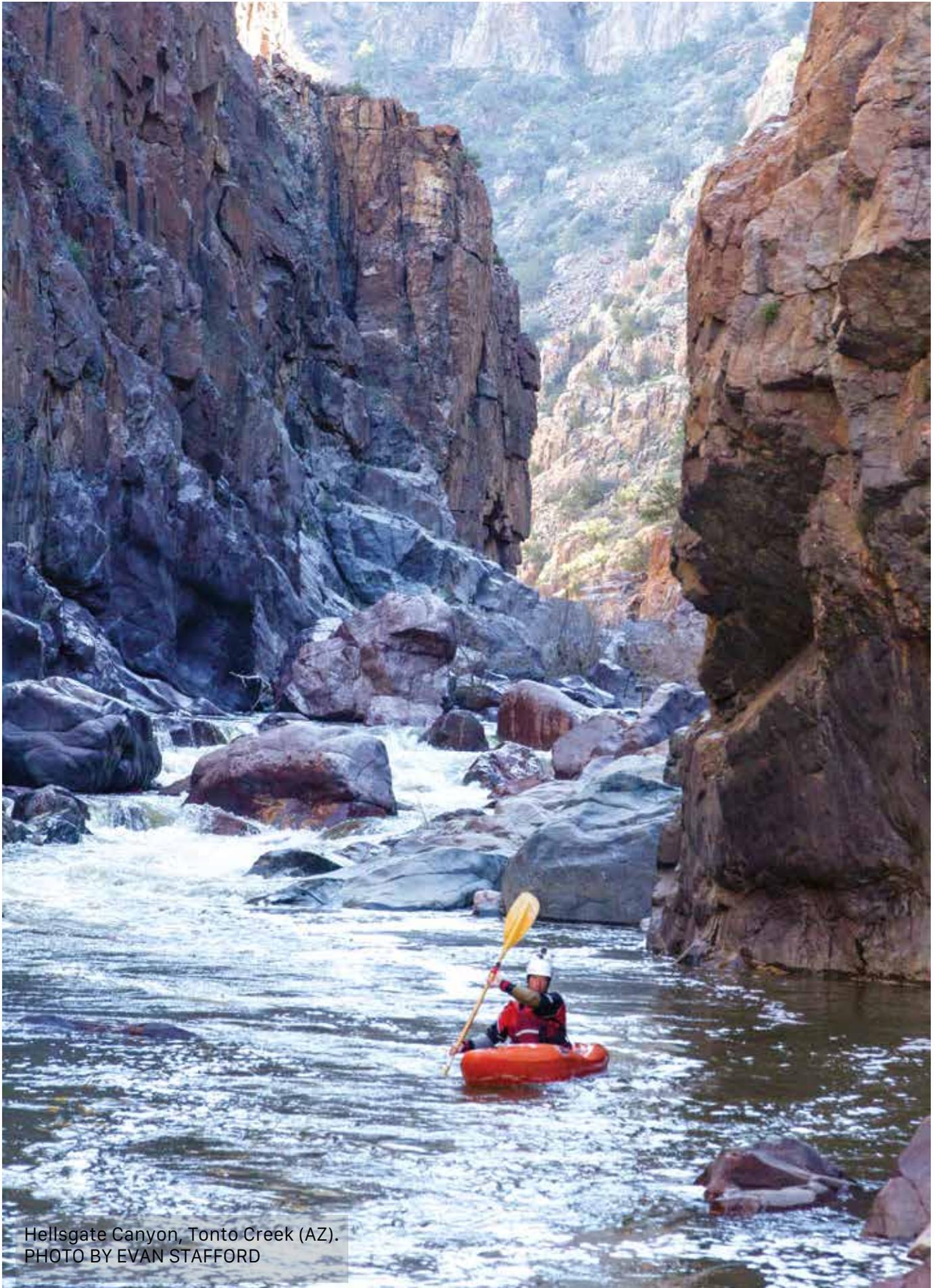
American Whitewater and our partners worked to advocate for more protections for these rivers and for improved management of the Forest's cherished landscapes. We submitted substantive evidence in support of Wild and Scenic eligibility protections on Tonto Forest rivers and creeks, highlighting the unique and diverse paddling opportunities that occur on these wild public lands. We also collected numerous comments from our members, the people who know and love these rivers the best! Alongside other

conservation and recreation groups, we also met directly with Forest Service staff to advocate for these rivers and landscapes.

The Final Plan protects numerous rivers and creeks as eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. While not the same as a designated Wild and Scenic River, Wild and Scenic eligibility requires the Forest Service to protect these rivers for their free-flowing character and their identified values. The plan has identified 188 total river miles as eligible and 134 of those miles have high quality boating opportunities. Eligibility protections on boating segments include the Salt River, the East Fork and main stem of the Verde Rivers, Tonto Creek, Christopher Creek, and Salome Creek. These rivers will be protected under the plan for the enjoyment of paddlers and for the surrounding environments that they nourish. The Forest Supervisor still needs to sign the Final Plan, and we encourage them to do so promptly.



Tonto Creek (AZ), newly protected through Wild and Scenic eligibility.
PHOTO BY EVAN STAFFORD



Hellsgate Canyon, Tonto Creek (AZ).
PHOTO BY EVAN STAFFORD

STEWARDSHIP

UNPRECEDENTED WIN FOR WATER QUALITY IN COLORADO

BY KESTREL KUNZ



Escalante Creek recently received an Outstanding Waters designation along with 25 other streams in Colorado! PHOTO COURTESY AMERICAN WHITEWATER NATIONAL WHITEWATER INVENTORY

ON JUNE 14, Colorado's Water Quality Control Commission voted 7-1 to protect 520 miles on 25 streams across Southwest Colorado, adopting the first proposal of its kind. American Whitewater and our partners that make up the Southwest Colorado Outstanding Waters Coalition have been hard at work over the past three years to prove that these high quality rivers and creeks deserve protection. Our proposal included beloved paddling segments like the headwaters of the Taylor River, Escalante Creek, Lime Creek, and many others that are acknowledged for their exceptional ecological and recreational attributes.

Under the Clean Water Act, Outstanding Waters provide the highest level of water quality protections in Colorado. The designation acknowledges the high water quality that currently exists and ensures it is protected at that level for the future. These rivers and creeks will be protected from future development, mining, and other uses that would degrade their water quality below its current high level.

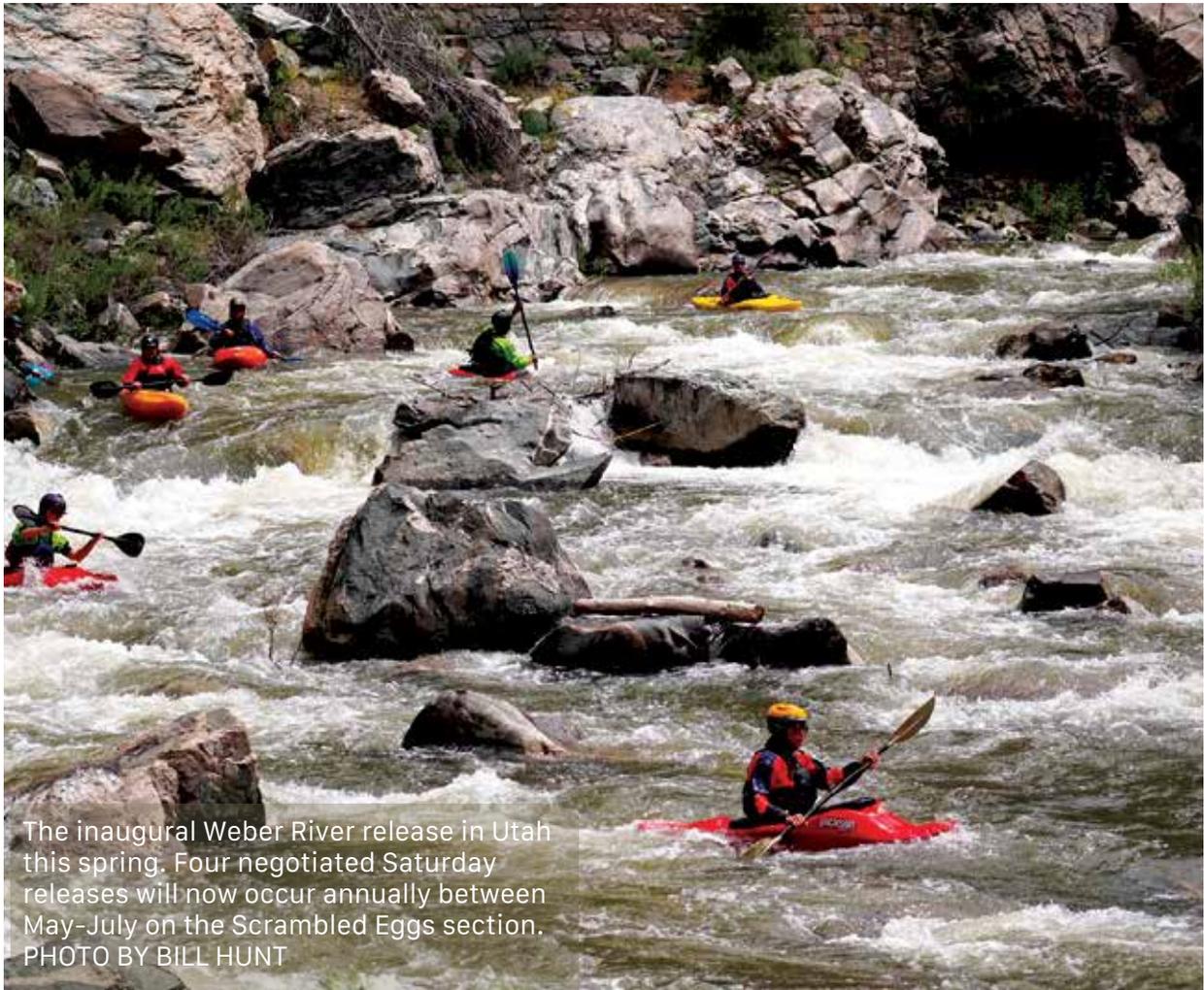
In tandem with High Country Conservation Advocates, AW staff gave final testimony to the Water Quality Control Commission on June 13, making the argument for water quality protections on 26 streams across the Gunnison, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan Basins in Colorado. All but one of our 26 proposed streams were approved and recognized for their high water quality, exceptional ecological and recreational values, and the need for their protection. While recreation is included as a qualifying value in Colorado's water quality regulations, this is the first time that recreation has been successfully used in an Outstanding Waters proposal.

As we face continued drought and water quality stressors in Colorado, protection of over 500 miles of high-quality waters in the state is a big win, but more needs to be done. Our next opportunity to secure Outstanding Waters protections is in the Arkansas and Rio Grande Basins, where there are many high-quality streams still deserving and in need of protection.

OVER 50 PADDLERS ENJOY INAUGURAL WEBER RIVER RELEASES (UT)

BY KEVIN COLBURN

ON JUNE 4, the first ever of four negotiated Saturday releases that will now occur annually between May and July for the Scrambled Eggs section of the Weber River (UT), a 1.8-mile roadside run south of Ogden, went off without a hitch. The release day was well-attended and critically restored river flows to a region severely impacted by dams and diversions. American Whitewater has spent the past seven years working towards these releases and we hope paddlers enjoyed them this year and into the future! The remaining release days for this year occurred on June 18, July 2, and July 9. Releases in the future are subject to change if unexpected conditions occur but this is a huge win for boaters in the region and will provide predictable flows on the Weber River's most classic whitewater stretch.



The inaugural Weber River release in Utah this spring. Four negotiated Saturday releases will now occur annually between May-July on the Scrambled Eggs section. PHOTO BY BILL HUNT

*Leave a lasting legacy to the
special places that made
a difference in your life.*



Become a member of the American Whitewater Enduring Rivers Circle, created exclusively to honor and recognize people who have helped to continue our river stewardship efforts through a gift to American Whitewater in their estate plans.

For more information about making a bequest to American Whitewater
CONTACT Bethany Overfield : 1.866.262.8429 or bethany@americanwhitewater.org

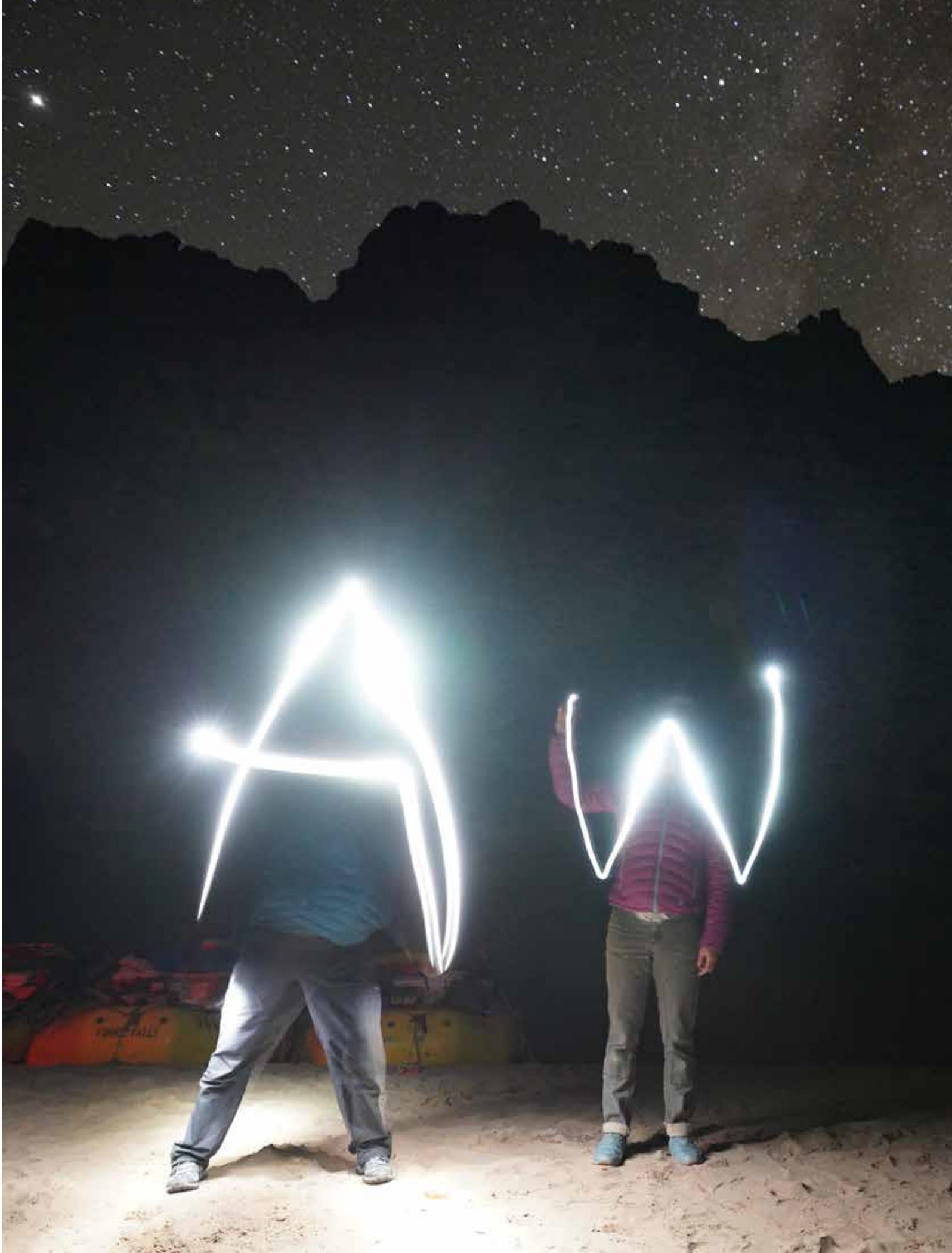


Impact Report 2021

Our Mission & Vision

As a national river conservation nonprofit, our **mission** is to protect and restore America's whitewater rivers and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely.

Our **vision** is that our nation's remaining wild and free-flowing rivers stay that way, our developed rivers are restored to function and flourish, that the public has access to rivers for recreation, and that river enthusiasts are active and effective river advocates.



Letter from the ED and Board President

Dear Fellow Members,

When I look back over the last couple years at American Whitewater the word that comes to mind is “resilience.” The capacity to recover quickly from difficult situations is a hallmark of our ability to weather uncertainty and thrive in challenging conditions. The following 2021 Impact Report outlines our accomplishments, the goal of this report is to provide membership with a solid overview of organizational performance and tangible achievements.

The coming year will be one of change for the organization. After 18 years as your executive director I have announced my departure from American Whitewater at the end of June. As I write this, there was a national search taking place for the next leader. For me personally, it’s been a highly rewarding experience to serve you and our community of conservation oriented river lovers. The modern version of American Whitewater was built from a notion that we could do important stewardship work and make a difference in the health of rivers. Collectively, we’ve done that!

The right time for a leadership transition is when an organization is at its peak; as this report highlights, American Whitewater is clearly there. The organization is stronger than it has ever been and the staff know how to punch way above their weight. I’ve accomplished more than I ever dreamed was possible in my role here; this is the right moment to usher in a new leader, and I’ll be working closely with our board to make this a smooth transition.

Take care of rivers and paddling will take care of you,



Mark Singleton
Executive Director

To my fellow beaters and between-swim boaters,

It’s a great time to be a boater in the world of American Whitewater. Membership, financial positioning, and overall engagement have crested heights never before reached. Your regional stewards continue to maintain Super Hero status by protecting and restoring your favorite paddling corridor. Enjoy!

Certainly the transition from 18 years of exemplary leadership under Mark to a new Executive Director gives us great reflection and gratitude for his service. However, looking past this horizon line to the prospect of a new leader, is an exciting process full of new organizational development. Mark will be missed and we wish him well on his new retirement journeys.

We are thankful for your confidence in AW to be the premier leader in whitewater advocacy. Our tent is large for the community of folks that love recreating on and around the rivers we love. Come on in, the water’s fine!



Chris Neuschwander
President, Board of Directors

AW AMERICAN WHITEWATER

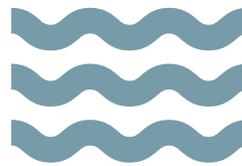
With 12 Staff Our Stewardship Success in 2021

1,259 Public Messages sent to lawmakers

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act **10.85 Billion** Dam Removal, River Restoration and Access

25

American Whitewater Expert Testimony Letters



Wild and Scenic Legislation Introduced

1,041 Rivers, 6,485 Miles

Public Land Units We're Working to Identify Eligible Wild and Scenic Segments on

11



48

Administratively Protected Rivers

25

Meetings with Lawmakers



National Monuments Restored



2

7,035

Public Comments Sent to Land Management Agencies

2

Clean Water Act Victories



POLICY

WILD & SCENIC

RESTORE & PROTECT

ACCESS & ENJOYMENT



Whitewater Flow Release Studies

6

32 Rivers, 624 Miles

of Managed Flow Restoration



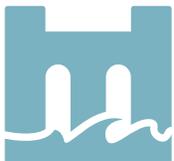
2

Basic Whitewater Safety Films Released



River Safety Sign Toolkit

1



1

Dam Removed



3

Campaigns Against New Dams



1

New iOS App Released

2

New River Access Areas



Navigability Toolkit

Updated

1

Guide to Evaluating Access on Public Lands



Applications to Block River Access Denied (NM)



Your support is our fuel!

Membership - 6,900

Supporters - 70,000

Affiliate Clubs - 91

11 Years Running of ★★★★★ Charity Navigator Ratings



The Wigston Family – Platinum Paddler Members

“American Whitewater provides our family with flows and beta, paddling safety and etiquette knowledge, and peace of mind that the rivers we love and our access to them are being protected and improved all year long.

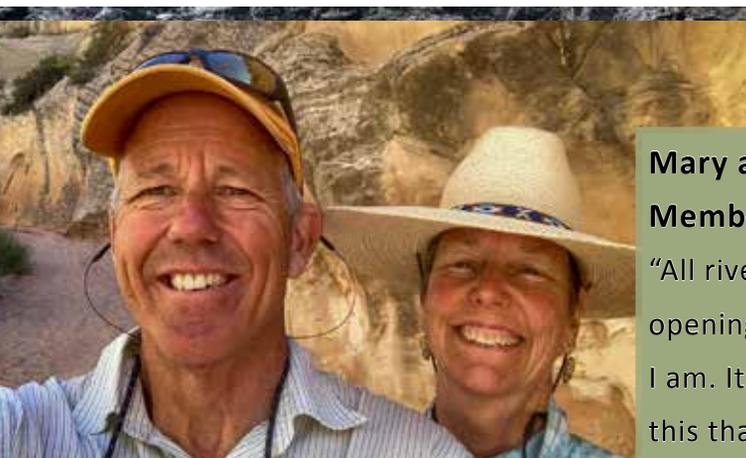
Jordana Barrack – Lifetime Member

“Being a fellow river runner it is easy to love the resources American Whitewater provides our river community, however as a professional directing philanthropic funding toward watershed protection, American Whitewater provides an invaluable perspective on the economic and environmental value that our waterways provide.”



Megi Morishita – Board of Directors Member

I support American Whitewater because kayaking changed my life. I grew up poor without exposure to the outdoors until my final year of medical school when I took a kayaking lesson. The river opened up a new world and passion. Our rivers are worth fighting for and the AW staff are the best at protecting what I have come to love.



Mary and Phil DeRiemer – Enduring Rivers Circle Members

“All rivers, but especially wilderness rivers, provide an opening to that which is bigger than the small person I think I am. It is this experience that I wish for everyone. It is for this that we give to ensure free-flowing rivers with access to all through the work of AW.”

**Attain higher
engagement
with us!**

Our Community



Champions - 100+

**(Board members, Key volunteers,
Regional coordinators)**

Patrons - 1,700+

**(Major donors, Upper-tier partners, Affiliate Clubs,
Enduring River Circle Members)**

Contributors - 4,500+

**(Members and small donors, Contributing partners,
Volunteers, Web contributors)**

Endorsers - 43,000+

**(Newsletter subscribers, AW web user accounts,
Action takers, Event attendees)**

Followers - 150,000+

**(Social media followers,
Unique website visitors)**

River Stewardship Highlights 2021



American Whitewater revitalized our river safety program in 2021 with the release of two short films introducing aspiring and newer paddlers to safe river practices and with the development of the Paddle Wise program which reminds and inspires all paddlers to enjoy rivers in a way that reflects the best of our community.



American Whitewater helped secure an unprecedented \$2.3 billion for **environmental and recreation enhancements around and below dams, dam removal, and dam safety improvements** in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

As a partner in the effort to acquire 96,080 acres of private timberlands in the **Columbia River Gorge (WA)** along the White Salmon and Klickitat Rivers, we are pleased to celebrate this success. We now have time to fundraise, develop and implement a range of permanent conservation strategies with local partners that will seek to secure public recreational access, ensure sustainable timber harvesting, and preserve the natural, climate and community values of these spectacular rivers and the lands they flow through.



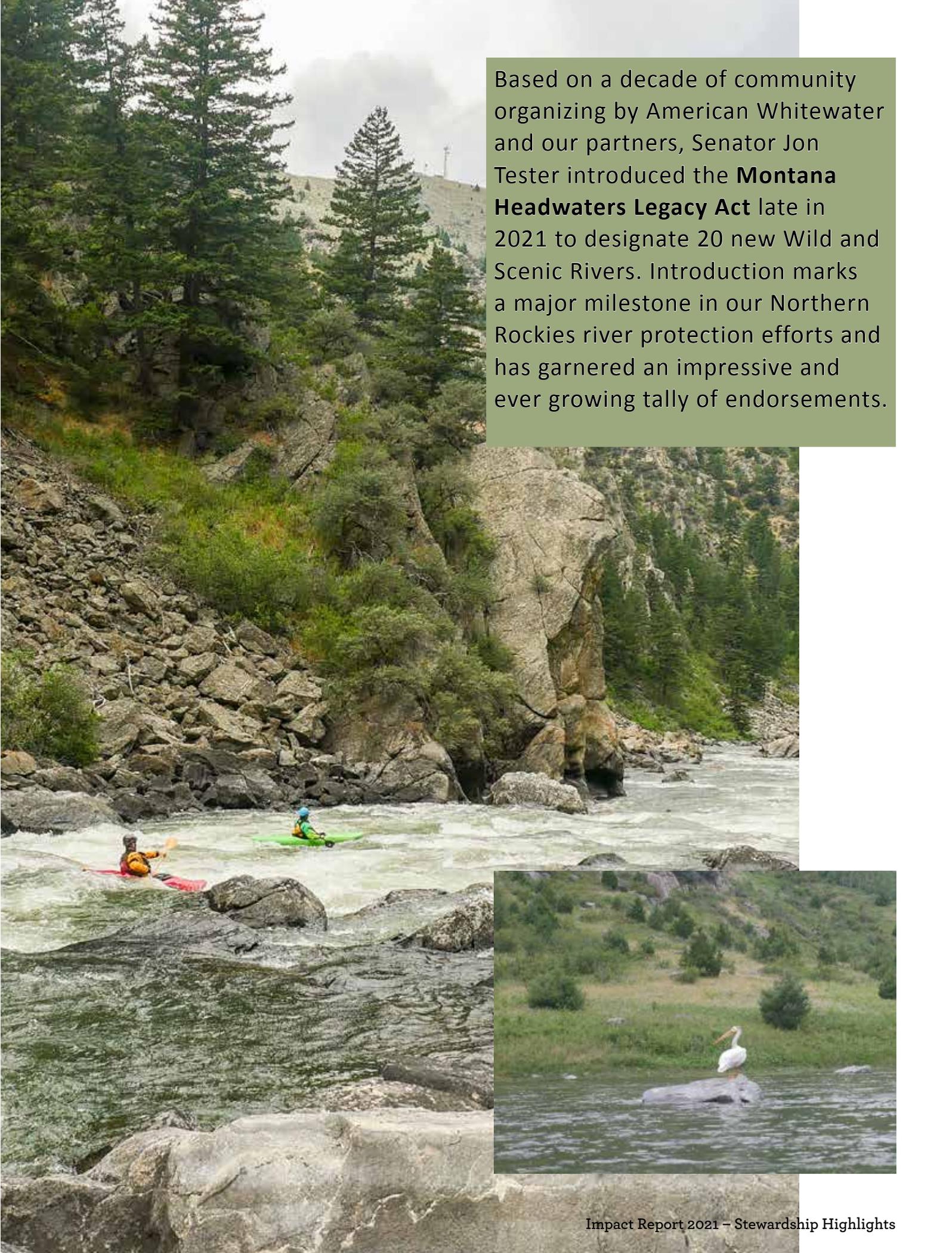


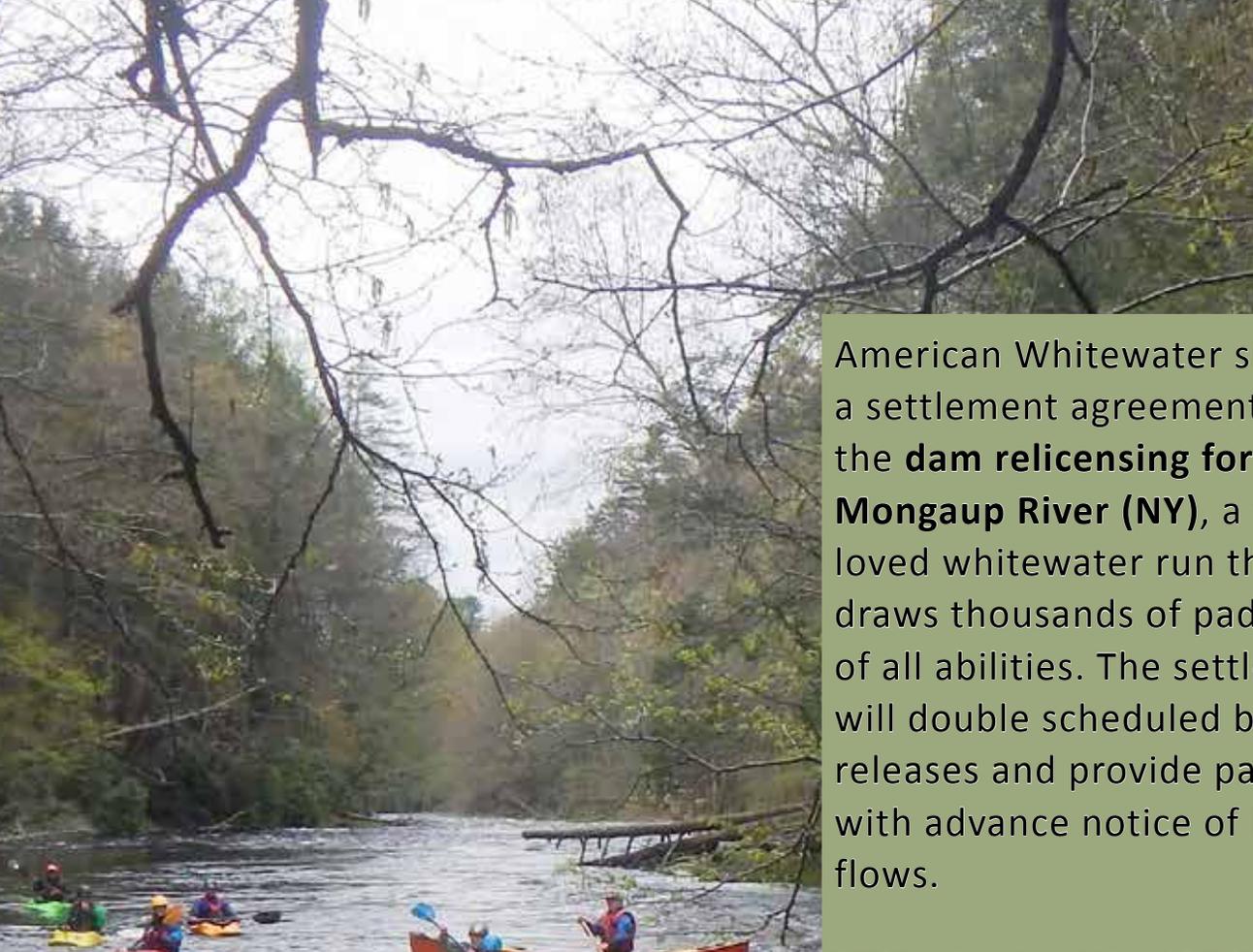
American Whitewater and our partners advocated for the **protection of 26 high quality streams in Colorado as Outstanding Waters**, including Escalante Creek, Wolf Creek, and the Taylor River. In 2021, we made it through a critical hearing for our proposal, which was finalized in June of 2022.

Public access to New Mexico's rivers was affirmed by the state Supreme Court in a huge win for recreation, after American Whitewater and a group of partners fought a State Game Commission system that authorized private landowners to "close off" boatable sections of the Upper Rio Chama and the Upper Pecos River.



Based on a decade of community organizing by American Whitewater and our partners, Senator Jon Tester introduced the **Montana Headwaters Legacy Act** late in 2021 to designate 20 new Wild and Scenic Rivers. Introduction marks a major milestone in our Northern Rockies river protection efforts and has garnered an impressive and ever growing tally of endorsements.

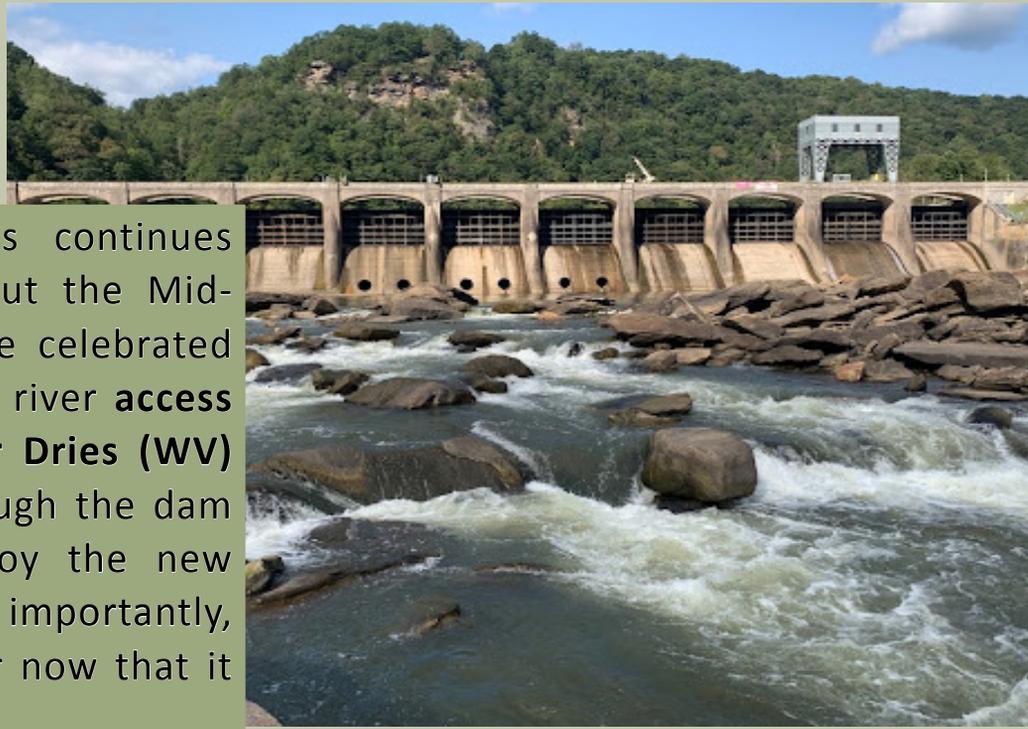




American Whitewater signed a settlement agreement on the **dam relicensing for the Mongaup River (NY)**, a well-loved whitewater run that draws thousands of paddlers of all abilities. The settlement will double scheduled boating releases and provide paddlers with advance notice of boatable flows.



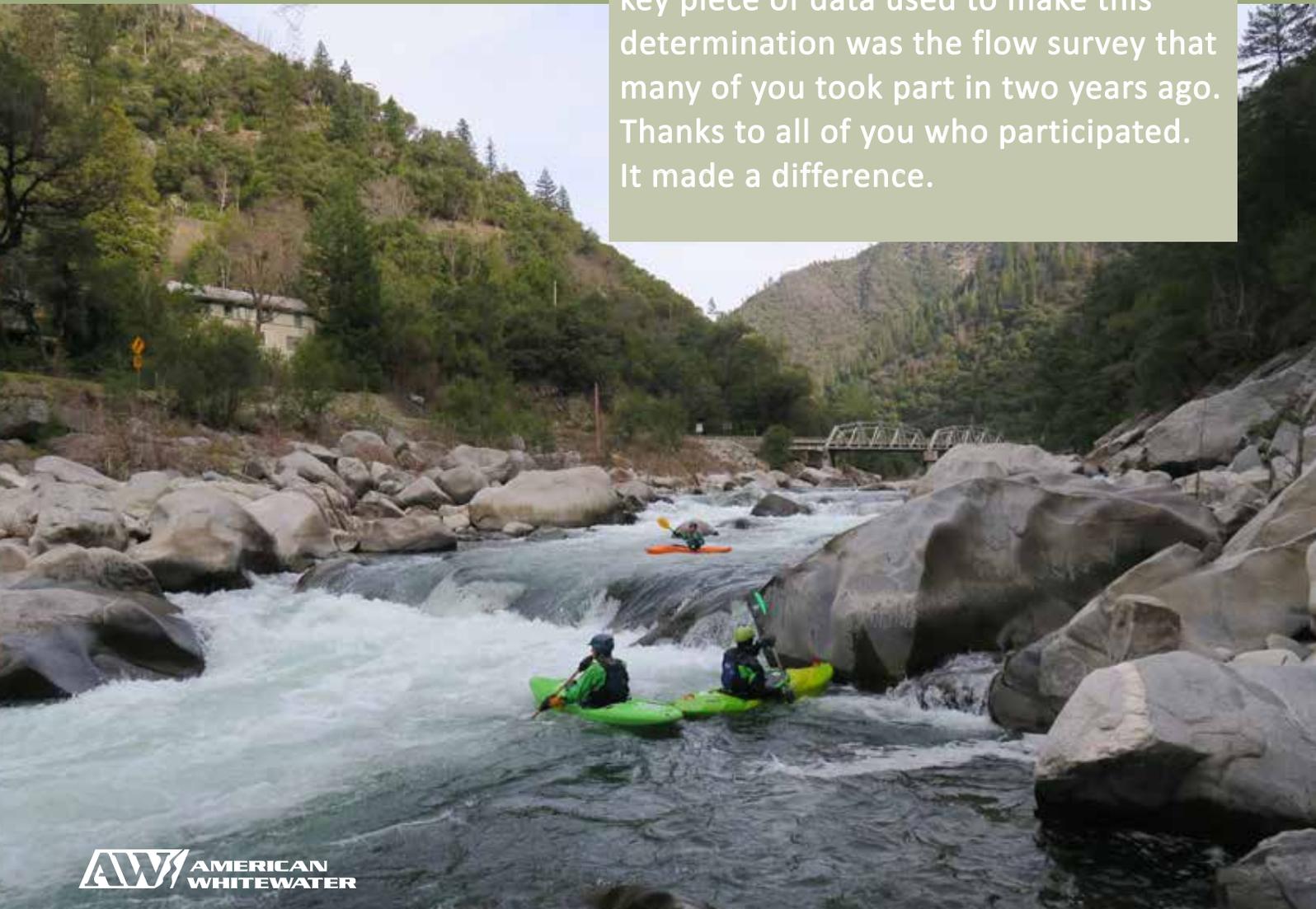
Improving public access continues to be a focus throughout the Mid-Atlantic, and in 2021 we celebrated the creation of two new river **access areas on the New River Dries (WV)** that we negotiated through the dam relicensing process. Enjoy the new access site, but most importantly, enjoy this beautiful river now that it has additional flows.



Dry for a century, American Whitewater worked with Duke Energy to prepare the **Great Falls of the Catawba (SC)** for flow restoration throughout 2021. Access areas, boat passage channels, and trails were designed and built in a collaborative manner based on past agreements.



The Rock Creek / Cresta hydropower license on the **North Fork Feather River (CA)**, issued in 2001, was crafted as an adaptive management process, meaning the utility was to collect data for 15 years and determine a final flow schedule based on the data. We are pleased to announce that after two years of data analysis, and substantial negotiations, flows on the North Fork Feather will largely stay the same for the remainder of the license. Tobin/ Lobin summer weekend releases and boatable base flows will continue every day during the spring and summer in all but Critically Dry Water Years. A key piece of data used to make this determination was the flow survey that many of you took part in two years ago. Thanks to all of you who participated. It made a difference.



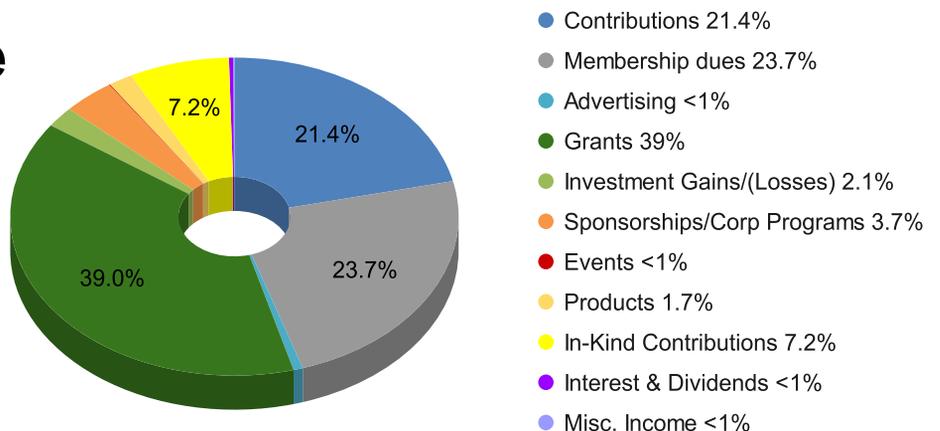
Membership Driven River Stewardship Since 1954



2021 Statement of Activities

REVENUE	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL 2021	TOTAL 2020
PUBLIC SUPPORT				
Membership dues	\$ 534,052		\$ 534,052	\$ 518,525
Grants	\$ 255,773	\$ 623,941	\$ 879,714	\$ 673,943
Contributions	\$ 424,963	\$ 58,226	\$ 483,189	\$ 397,668
Sponsorships/Corp Programs	\$ 84,019		\$ 84,019	\$ 124,062
Events			\$ 1,601	
In-Kind Contributions	\$ 163,353		\$ 163,353	\$ 58,096
Products	\$ 39,657		\$ 39,657	\$ 14,077
Advertising	\$ 15,376		\$ 15,376	\$ 650
Investment Gains/(losses)	\$ 23,270	\$ 24,189	\$ 47,459	\$ 6,918
Interest & Dividends	\$ 454	\$ 6,117	\$ 6,571	\$ 6,169
Misc. Income	\$ 2,247		\$ 2,247	\$ 1,065
Net Assets Released from Restriction	\$ 646,773	\$ (646,773)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total Support and Revenue	\$ 2,191,538	\$ 65,700	\$ 2,257,238	\$ 1,801,173
EXPENSES				
Program Services:				
Total Program Services	\$ 1,586,033		\$ 1,586,033	\$ 1,510,135
SUPPORTING SERVICES				
General & Administrative	\$ 320,521		\$ 320,521	\$ 198,144
Fundraising	\$ 53,006		\$ 53,006	\$ 14,905
Total Supporting Services	\$ 373,527		\$ 373,527	\$ 213,049
Total Expenses	\$ 1,959,560		\$ 1,959,560	\$ 1,723,184
Total Change in Net Assets	\$ 231,978	\$ 65,700	\$ 297,678	\$ 77,989

2021 Revenue Sources

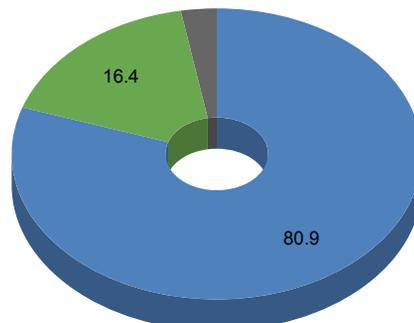


2021 Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS	2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 952,410	\$ 863,567
Accounts Receivable	\$ 8,510	\$ 7,739
Grants Receivable	\$ 47,841	\$ 33,633
Investments	\$953,371	\$ 924,707
Prepaid Expenses	\$27,097	\$ 35,255
Intangible Assets	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,004
Inventory	\$ 18,996	\$ 14,408
Total Current Assets	\$ 2,008,225	\$ 1,884,313
LONG-TERM ASSETS		
Lands held for protection	\$ 58,317	\$ 58,317
Computer equipment, net	\$ 122,631	\$ 96,484
Total Long-Term Assets	\$180,948	\$ 154,801
Total Assets	\$ 2,189,173	\$ 2,039,114

LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	2021	2020
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$ 34,424	\$ 34,110
Note Payable	\$ 0.00	\$ 171,700
Deferred Revenues	\$205,666	\$ 185,925
Payroll Liabilities	\$ 52,408	\$ 48,382
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 292,498	\$ 440,117
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 1,449,408	\$ 1,217,430
Restricted Net Assets	\$ 447,267	\$ 381,567
Total Net Assets	\$ 1,896,675	\$ 1,598,997
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 2,189,173	\$ 2,039,114

2021 Functional Expenses



- Program Services 80.9%
- General & Administrative 16.4%
- Fundraising 2.7%

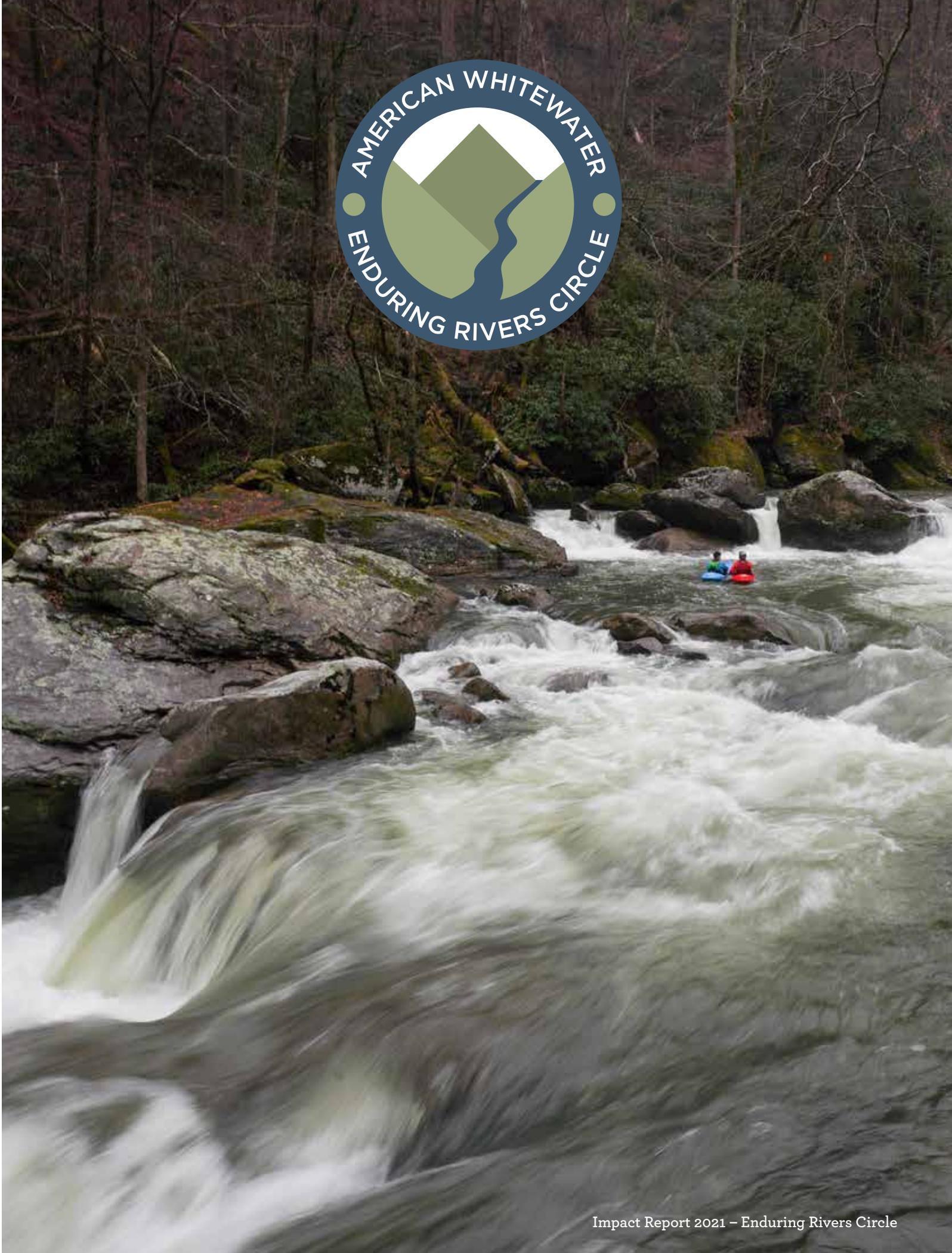
Enduring Rivers Circle 2021

Leave a lasting legacy to the rivers that made a difference in your life. American Whitewater would like to thank the following individuals for making legacy gift commitments.

Barry Adams
Rich and Stephanie Bowers
Bob Brewer and Jonna Hussey
Thomas J. Christopher
Melissa and Joe Driver
Kent Ford
Jennie Goldberg
Rorie Lin Gotham
Joseph Greiner
Christopher Hest
Chris Hipgrave
Dennis and Ginny Huntley
Bob Brewer and Jonna Hussey
Brian and Maria Jacobson
Seth Kallman
Karl and Jo Ann Koenig
David Mason
Megi Morishita
Carol Nelson and
Douglas Wallower
Douglas Pineo
Norwood Scott
Peter N. Skinner
Peter Stekel

*For more info about planned giving opportunities visit americanwhitewater.org







Lifetime Members

Michael and Susan Abernathy
Russell Abney
David Ackerman
Milt Aitken
Charlie Albright
Dick Almquist
Jon Almquist
Holly and Chase Ambler
Doug Ammons
Leif and Natalie Anderson
Jay Anderson
Aubrey Anderson
Walt Andry
David Aries and Margot Stiles
Mike Aronoff
David Asbell
Brian M. Aubin
Brent Austin
Stephen Bachelor
Sutton Bacon
Chris Baggott
Laura Nugent and Ian Bailey
Bess and Rod Baird
Colton Baker
Scott Barnes
Jordana Barrack
Pope Barrow
Allison Barth
Kim Bates
Keith Beck and Hedy Chung
Steve Becker
Craig Bedard
Kemper Begley
Chris Bell
Roger Belson
Davis Benfield
Suzanne Benson
Brian Berg
Julie Berg
Geoffrey Bergmark
Mark Scantlebury and Audrey Bergsma
William Bergstrasser
Alison Bermant
Peter Bernstein
Eric Bessette
Ted Bilek
William Bishop
Mark Bishop
Brian Bivens
Alan Blado
Preston Blake
Scott Blase
Tom Blue
Harlan Blynn
Leigh Boike
Patty Bolden
John Bonn
Bruce Bordelon
Rich and Stephanie Bowers
Dave Bowman
Sandra Boynton
Steve Braddom
Larry Brammer
Hunter Branstetter
David Brauer
Charles Bray
Jeffrey Brennan
Alan Bressler
Charles Brewer
Brian Briant
Barbara Brock
Peter Bross
David Brown
Ian Brown
Alex Brown and Vanessa Campbell
Raymond Brugger
Elizabeth Buck
Ian Buckley and Debra Kadner
Katie and Bradford Buddenberg
Mike Buechler
Paul and Laurie Bunce
Buffy and Curtis Burge
Macy, Amanda, Azalea, and Wylie
Burnham-Marusich
Mike Burns
Victoria Butler
Brian Byrd
Stewart Caldwell
Margaret Caldwell
Alp Can
Stephen Canale
Jason Carey
Bryan Carrington
Les Case
David and Mary Cernicek
Christian and Angela Chabot
Yvon and Malinda Chouinard
Thomas Christopher
HellBender Paddle Boards
Christopher Fox
Ed Clark
Emerson Clauss
Ed Clerke
Jeff Clewell
Chuck Cloninger
Friends Cloud Mountain Foundation
Cal Coetzee
Peter Coha
Christy Coleman
Trey Coleman
Zachary Collier
Kim Collins
David Collins
Morgan Colonel
Jordan Combs
Hope Concannon
Terry and Lesley Conning
Julian Cooper
Belton Copp
Gretchen Cornell
Jesse Costello-Good
Lora Cox
Kevin Coyne
Jon Crain
Adam Cramer and Jen McCadney
Tom Cromartie
James and Kristie Cross
Joshua Crossman
Shannon Crosswhite
Robin and Triel Culver
Randy Cummings
Bryan Cunitz
Magdalena Dale
Chris Daly
Rebecca Dameron
Stephen Daniel
Mike Daniel
Lyle Danielson
Andrew Davis
Jennifer Davis
Brent and Dawn Davis
Christopher Dawson
Matt Deacon
Rick Decker
Austin Deitz
Downing and Paul Denison
Lisa and Tad Dennis
Phil and Mary DeRiemer
Jack Ditty
Andrew Dolian

Mary Dombey	Sean and Mary Gallivan	Francheska Hebden
Bryon Dorr	John Gangemi	Jacob Hedrick
Patrick Dougherty	Albert Garcia	Paul T. Heffernan
Stratford Douglas	Holley and Brian Gardel	Robert Heineman
Kenneth Ferguson and Dawn Dow	Ken Garrison	Andy, AJ, and Skye Held
Jack and Barbara Doyle	Bruce Genereaux	Alex and Charlene Hellman
Peter Dragon	Bill Gentry	Eric Henrickson
Melissa and Joe Driver	Ross George	John Hereford
Chip Duckett	Keith Gershon	Alex Herr
Phil Duff	Ken Gersten	Martha Herzog
Scott Duffens	Edward Duffler	Christopher Hest
Kenneth Duncan	Claire Gesalman	Jason Hightower
Todd Echan	Steven J Getz	David Hillman
Christine Eckel	Ken Gfroerer and Aileen Lampman	George Hodges
Susan Eckerly and Terry O'Donnell	Morgan and Elise Giddings	Todd Hoffman
Robert Eckhardt	Nancy Gilbert	Dan Hoheim
Alison Edmiston	Matt Gillum	Andrew Holcombe
Clint Edwards	Brian Ginsberg	Paul Holmes
Anthony Edwards	Megan Glaab	Ann S. Hopkinson
Mike Eiseman	Paul Glasscock	Richard Hopley
David Elliott	Saul Gleser	Jason Huber
Benjamin Ellis	David Glickerman	Werner Huck
Michael Elovitz	Jennie Goldberg	Watts Hudgens
Ted Engelhardt	James C. Good	Rick Hudson
Donna K. Ennis	Jacob Goodkin	Ben Huneycutt
Vann and Laura Evans	John C. Goodwin	Thomas Hungar
Stephen Fabrey	George and Clarice Gordon	Dennis and Ginny Huntley
David Fallside	Karl and JoAnn Gordon	Lester Hurrelbrink
Hermann Family	Stephen and Karen Gowins	Jon Irlbeck
Lisa Farin	Shawn Graham	Adrian Ishee
Mike Farrell	Gregory Grant and Paula Haynes	Jarred Jackman
George Feinberg	Brian and Caroline Green	Kristine and Eric Jackson
Nathan Fey	Lee Green	Nick and Kate Jacob
Frank Fico	Joni Greenberger	Brian and Maria Jacobson
Bill Finger	Anne Greer	John Jamnback
Graham Fitter	Joseph Greiner	John Jerger
Terri Fitter	Keith Grieser	Jody Jett
Charles Fiveash	Shawn Griffin	Hattie Johnson and Jonathan
Jacob Fleisher	Robbie Griffith and Jeff Redding	Snodgrass
Troy Fleisher	Barry Grimes	Jeff and Susan Johnson
Ian Foley	Andy Grizzell	Mike Johnston
Kent Ford	Mike Gunter and Susan Ryan	Susie Jones
David Ford	Wendy Gustafson	Brandon Jones
Bob and Andrea Forster	H. Hancock	George Orr Jr
Jason Fortner	Greg Hanlon	Daniel Kanner
David Fosdick	Robby Hansen	Stacy and Dale Karacostas
Terry Foxworth	Hanzlik-Green	Eric Kaufmann
Gary Franks	James Hardee	Phillip Keck
Stuart Fraser	Marc Harkness	Joseph Keck
Ken Frederick	John Harris	Jeff Keim
Marilyn Freedberg	Robert Harris and Jody Schaeffer	Robb Keller
Joel Freedman	Charles Harris	Charles Keller
Allen Freeman	Peter Harvey	Stephen Kelly
Michael French	Cedar Lochsa Harvey	Chris Kelly and Nanette Laughrey
Debbie Frye and James Fore	John Harvey	Jay Kenney
Mort Fuller and Sue Langfitt Fuller	Eric Hayes	Dave Kersey
Damon Gabriel	Ron Healy	Patrick Kessler
Nathan Galbreath	David Hearn	Don Kiely



Lifetime Members

Jim Kilkenny
Kai Kinder
Leah Kindree
Earl King
Trip Kinney
Don and Nanci Kinser
Keith Kishiyama
Mike Klaiber
Hank Klausman
Nathaniel Klema
Cameron and Kerri Klinger
Brian Knight
Scott and Devan Koehn
Karl and Jo Ann Koenig
Chris and Caron Koll
Eric Kollwitz
Carolyn Komar
Clinton Koontz
Wendy Krause
Victor Kress and Dawn Meekhof
Bill Krissoff
Sarah and Austin Krissoff
Austin Kriz
Jack Krupnick
Gary Kuehn
Bradley Kulbaba
Ken Kyser
Andy and Wendy Laakmann
Jeanne Langan
Troy Langley
Mike Larimore
John Lawson
Matt and Nicole LeBlanc
Gregory Lee
Marcus Lees
Brent Lehman
Ann Lehr
Debbie and Todd Leonard
Ben Levy
Kevin Lewis
Stephen Lex
Charles Ligocki
Kevin W. Lindberg
George Lindemann
Douglas and Marine Liu
Ron Ladders
Ben Loeffler
Frank Lorch
Quentin van Marcke de Lummen
Tony Lunt

Tracy Luther
Brooks Lutterloh
Mike and Michelle Mahaffey
Ben Edson and Emily Mahowald
Greg Mallory
Marilyne Marchand-Gouin
Mimi Margulies
John Marshall
Nicholas Martin
Robert and Debora Martz
David Mason
Ron Mastalski
Bill and Anne Masters
Ryan Masterson
Nick Matisse
Graham Matthews
David May
John McClester
Bob McConachie
Michael McDonald
Joanne McGrew
Scott McKay
Mike McKay
Mark McKinstry
Janet McLaughlin and Kurt Konolige
Huston McMillan
Darin McQuoid
Steven Miller
Kevin Melvin
Scott and Patty Mengel
Bob Metzger
Carol and Mike Meyhoefer
Don and Audrey Millard
Robert Mingus
Lindsey and Brad Modesitt
Daniel Mongno
Phil Montgomery
Susan Moore and Bill Joerger
Joshua Moore
Robert Moore
Pete Morey
Charles Morgan
Megi Morishita
Alex Morris
Arianne Morrison
Stephen Muck
Scott Murray
Timothy Narron
Mark Neitenbach
Chris Neuenschwander

Douglas Nicholson
Eric Nies
George Noe
Ted and Karen Northup
Roger Nott
John Nutt
Thomas O'Keefe and Rie Yamazaki
Philip O'Rourke
Frank Ohrt
Keith Oldham
Eing Ong
Benjamin Orkin
Tim Overland
James Oxford
Steven Pack
Anne Pagano and Luke Hopkins
Eric Panebaker
Janet and Dave Panebaker
Aida Parkinson
Bill and Donna Holmes Parks
Thomas Pasquarello
Nicholas Paumgarten
Tim and Annie Payne
James Pepin
Jeff Perizzolo
Stephen Perkins
Benjamin and Melissa Peters
Roderick Peterson
Lance Petrack-Zunich
Don Piper
Alex Placzek
Graeme and Debra Plant
David Plott
Patrick Polan
Rebecca Post
Sean Power
Chris Prangley
Andrea Price
Nick Pritchard
Aaron and Tamsen Pruzan
Joe and Lucy Pulliam
Peter Quayle
Bill Queitzsch
Clifton Rabuffo
Justin Rae
Pete Rainey
Chris Ramko
Morgan Randell
Ken and Emily Ransford
Mark Rasmus

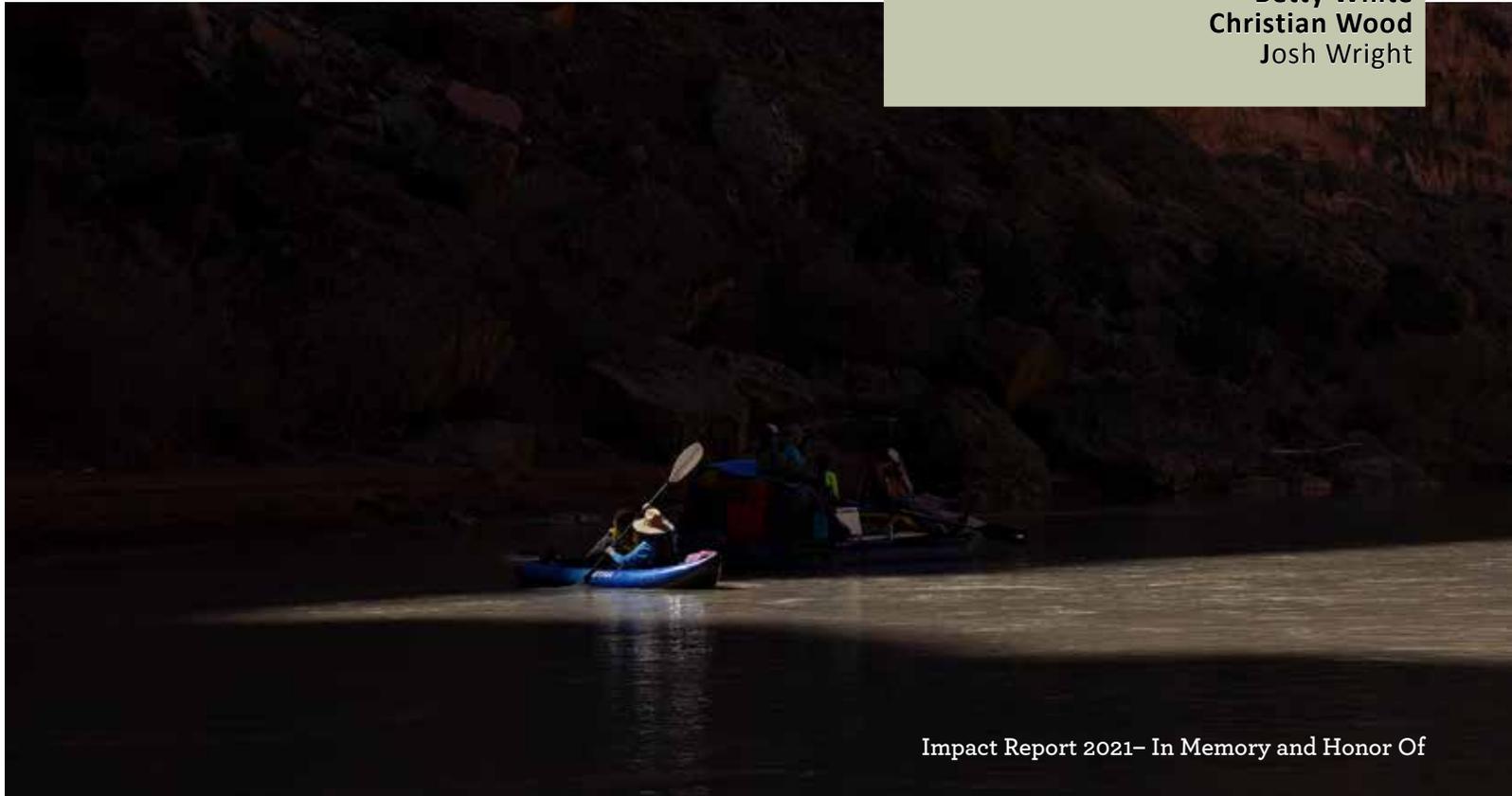
Harrison Rea	Aulton Smith	Glen Tsaparas
Paul Reavley	Mike Smith	Christopher Tulley
Brett Redfearn	Stephen Smith	Barry and Kitty Tuscano
Brian Reeder	Thomas Smith	Caroline and Jakob Uecker
Will Reeves	Chris Sneed	Kenny Unser
Robert Reiterman	James Sneeringer	Nicholas Urquhart
Deborah Reyes	Keirith Snyder	Lee Van Pelt
Timothy Reynolds	Sean Snyder	William VanderKooy
Johnson Rice	Matt Solomon	David E. Vann
Eric Richardson	Marv Sowers and Amy Pearsall	Jim Veltrop
Lucas Rietmann	Susan Spaniol	Charlie Vincent
Dave Robey	David Spiegel	Stephen Vitale
Brian Robin	Eli Spiegel	Joan and Kurt Wade
Barry Robinson	Joel Spiegel	Charlie and Sandy Walbridge
Stephen Robinson	Corey Spoores	William Walden
Corey Robinson	Kevin St. John	Trinity Wall
Matthew Rodgers	Aaron Stabel	David Wallace and Betsy Frick
Karl Rogers	Bruce Stajnrjah	Chip Wallingford
Richard Rollins	Kurt Stalnaker	Cindy Walter
Jesse Rosenzweig	Robert Stanley	Duke Warner
Fred Ruddock	Roger L. Starring	Gordon Warren
Eric Ruhl	Mary Starzinski	Ryan Waterhouse
Brett Russell	Chris Stec	Glenn Watt
Lee Rust	Gordon Steindorf	Christopher Weed
Roman Ryder	Dave Steindorf	Scott Weems
Tim Ryle	Peter Stekel	Sebastian Weiche
Lawton Salley	John Stelianou	Debbie and Kirk Weir
Chanchal Samanta and Deborah Reichert	Sarah Stephenson	Kate Wempe
Neal and Brooke Sandford	Stevi	Sally Wetzler
Arnold Schaeffer and Deborah Chandler	Michelle and Bryan Stewart	Michelle White
Patricia Schifferle and Bob Gilliom	Jason Stingl	Greg and Maria Whiteaker
Fritz Schlereth	Edward Stockman	Collin Whitehead
Johanna Schneider	John Stow	Natalie Whiteman
Tom Schneller	Andrew Stuart	Harrison and Brooks Whitten
Rick Schoen	Dave Su	Martin Wick
Eric and Tera Schreiber	Alicia Sullivan	Greg Widroe
Norwood Scott	Mark Sullivan	Lisa Williams
Mark Scriver	Nicholas and Charlie Sutcliffe	Kurt Williams
Roberta Scull	Collin Swan	Dock Williams
Leaf Seabrook	Thomas Sweeney	Cheyenne Wills
Richard Seagraves	Michael Symonanis	John Wilson
David Seay	Josh von Szalatnay	Laura Wilson
Chuck Seidler	John Tarpey	Susan Wilson
Herman Senter	Jeffrey Taschler	Julianna Wilson
Pat Sheridan	Charles Taylor	Courtney Wilton
Ed Sherwood	Jennifer Taylor	Brandon Woerth
Amy Shipman	Richard Thistle	John Wolken
Jim Silavent	Brandon Thompson	Chloe Wonnell
Jim and Iris Sindelar	Rick Thompson	Brandon Woods
Jim and Iris Sindelar	Charles Thornton	Greer Woody
Brian Sineath	Howard and Joan Thullbery	Candice Wozniak
Tom Sitz	Newton Tilson	Carter and Wendy Wray
Peter Skinner	Marc Tohir	Brad Xanthopoulos
Brady Sleeper	Eric Tollefson	Mark Zakutansky
Edwin Smalley	Patrick D. Tooley	Art Zemach
Michael Smith	Linda Tribble and Britt Lindstrom	Craig Ziegler
	Nick and Emily Troutman	Andy Zimmerman
	Phil Trunnell	Mikko and Oskar Zuchner

In Honor of

Madeline and Ciaran Andres-Brown
Joshua Buchanan
Bud Bud
Dan Cook
Emily Cureton and Russ Cook
Phil & Mary DeRiemer
Henry Dorris
Sean and Kim Finigan and Gills
RDH Foundation
John and Susan Franklin
Jennie Goldberg
Geoff Harkness
Jason Hodge
Daniel Holzman
Timmy Johnson
Nori Kayak
Tom Kennon
Scott & Devan Koehn
Bruce Lessels
Brik Miller
Leta Millsap
Megi Morishita
Thomas O'Keefe
Bethany Overfield
Rick Patrinellis
Paul Pettyjohn
Craig Quigley
Brian Russell
Katie Selin
Amy Shipman
Mr. and Mrs. Clay Smith
Brant Smith
The Great Spaghetti Monster
Nathan Sullivan
Eric Swanson
Yaw The Movie
The Vickers Family
Charlie Walbridge
Deanne Whiteside
Jordan Yeager

In Memory of

Alan Baldwin
John A Banks
Dugald Bremner
Alec Bruno
John Clark
Bob Cooper
Frank Daly
Daniel DeLaVergne
Randy Elam
Joseph Hatcher
Herm Hoops
Taylor Hunt
Patsy Isley
Logan Jauernigg
Cally Kaynine
Mac Kelsall
Chuck Kern
Katie Lee
Ellen Levine
Herman Lion
Beth McVay
Dean Munroe
Ricky Brandon Owens
Craig Quigley
Peter Weingarten
Gary West
Betty White
Christian Wood
Josh Wright







**Thank You To Our Entire Community
For Your Engagement in 2021**

Board of Directors & Staff 2021

Board of Directors

Brent Austin, Secretary
Cosby, TN
Melissa Driver
Mills River, NC
Christopher Hest
Chico, CA
Susan Hollingsworth Elliott, President
Lyle, WA
Brian Jacobson, Treasurer
Long Creek, SC
Greg Lee
Portland, OR
April Montgomery
Norwood, CO
Megi Morishita
Bend, OR
Chris Neuenschwander, Vice President
Pike Road, AL
Erin Savage
Flat Rock, NC
Chris Tulley
Folsom, CA
Charlie Walbridge, Honorary
Bruceton Mills, WV
Courtney Wilton
Portland, OR



Staff

Kevin Colburn, National Stewardship Director
Asheville, NC
Scott Harding, Stewardship Associate
Forks of Salmon, CA
Hattie Johnson, Southern Rockies Stewardship Director
Carbondale, CO
Kestrel Kunz, Southern Rockies Associate Stewardship Director
Crested Butte, CO
Robert Nasdor, Northeast Stewardship Director
Sudbury, MA
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director
Seattle, WA
Bethany Overfield, Membership and Engagement Director
Lexington, KY
Theresa Lorejo-Simsiman, California Stewardship Director
Citrus Heights, CA
Mark Singleton, Executive Director
Cullowhee, NC
Evan Stafford, Communication Director
Fort Collins, CO
Dave Steindorf, California Hydropower Specialist
Chico, CA
Laura Wilson, Finance Director
Cullowhee, NC



LIFE ON THE WATER
GOOD FOR THE SOUL

PETER KAZBAN

MADE IN USA

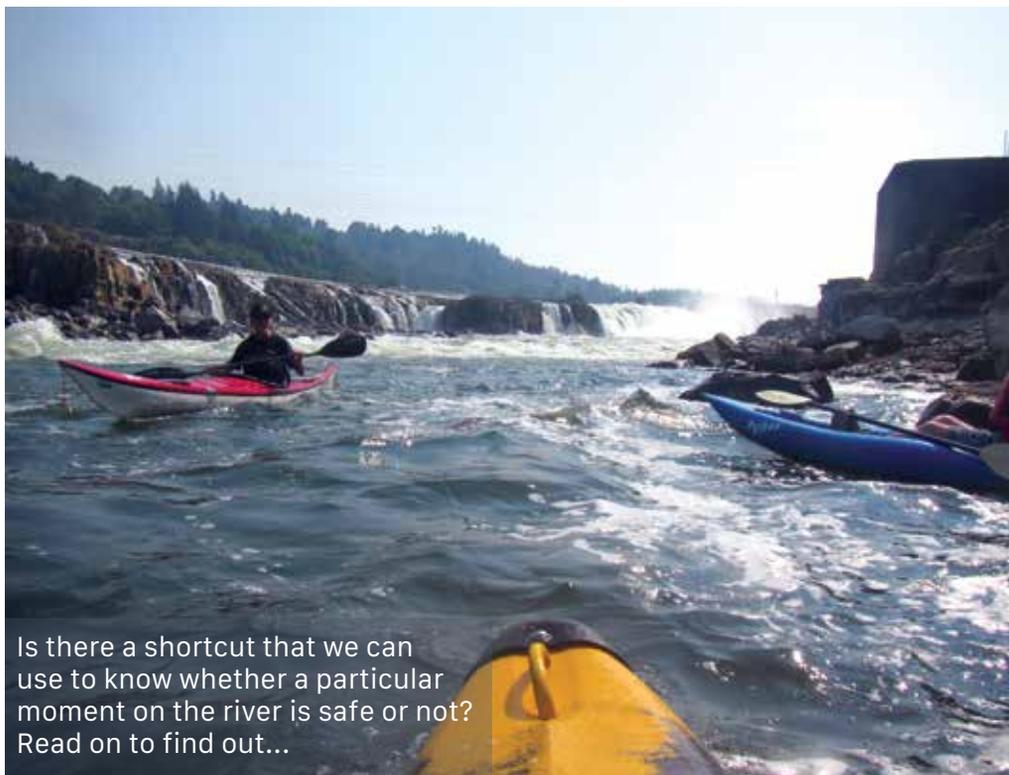


www.LIQUIDLOGICKAYAKS.com



THE SAFETY BINARY

STORY AND PHOTOS BY TERESA GRYDER, ND



THE RIVER IS either safe, or it's dangerous. You're with us, or you're against us. Getting vaccinated against Covid is smart, or it's foolhardy. There are old boaters, and bold boaters, but there are no old, bold boaters. You're male or female, we're winning or losing, you're rich or poor, etc., etc.

We don't mean to think in binaries, but a whole lot of psychology research says we do. Life is simpler that way. We prefer clear-cut choices with obvious answers over murky questions and uncertainty.

However, boating decisions often come down to a binary. Am I going to launch? Yes or no. Am I going to run that? Yes or no. The answer is binary, but the situation is not that simple. If danger is black and safety is white, we live in a world of gray.

SIMPLISTIC THINKING

I've written about heuristics in other articles, and they apply in spades here. A heuristic is a mental shortcut that gets us to a quick decision. It's an alternative to an in-depth assessment of the facts,

and bypasses questioning our assumptions. Emotions get more weight than logic in heuristic behaviors. These shortcuts do an end-run around all the gray and lead quickly to a binary choice. Such intuitive decisions can lead you to be overly cautious, or throw caution to the wind.

Here are a few heuristics that I fall prey to. I will launch on harder runs with less backup if one of my favorite people is there (I like to bask in the "expert halo"). If I drive hundreds of miles to an out-of-state run, I'm probably going to launch no matter how high or low the water is ("sunk costs"). I think that if a lot of people are running a drop, it probably isn't that bad ("social proof").

The trick is to notice when you are leaping to a conclusion. If you notice and correct your own bad assumptions, you will know you need better information for decision-making. If, on the other hand, you let heuristics make your decisions for you, you may be assuming more risk whether you mean to or not.

PROBABILITIES

One reason why we take mental shortcuts is that we aren't good at comprehending probabilities. Poker players and statisticians understand odds. The rest of us don't bring rain gear when there's a 9% chance of rain. We're quick to ignore small chances.

We also tend toward giving 50/50 odds instead of smaller increments. You can test this assertion by asking people to estimate the odds of stuff. A surprising number of people will just say 50/50. This tendency interferes with risk-prudent assessment.

Imagine you're a kayaker scouting a rapid. You estimate that you have a 50% chance of flipping over and a 50% chance of rolling up. Now change those percentages. Imagine a rapid where you have a 75% chance of flipping over, and you have a 25% chance of rolling up. The second pair of percentages contains more information. It tells a story of a hard rapid and a sometimes functional roll. Fine-grained odds are more useful for making decisions.

RIVER RATINGS

I've heard folks kick into binary thinking about whitewater ratings. Usually they think that Class II is safe and Class V is dangerous. I disagree.

CANOEING A CLASS II RIVER IS RELATIVELY DANGEROUS IF:

- You're dressed for a hot sunny day and the water is ice cold.
- The water is high and/or rising.
- You aren't very good in that kind of boat.
- The de facto leader is more charismatic than skilled.
- You don't wear a lifejacket.
- You don't know the river.
- There's a hazard, like a strainer or a low-head dam on the run.

What to get for the paddler who has everything?
Give them the gift of rivers with an American Whitewater membership!

AMERICAN WHITewater
GIFT MEMBERSHIP
Member Name: A.M. Whitewater
Member #: 007
Renewal Date: 01/01/2099

Colorado River, Grand Canyon. | Photo: Evan Stafford



Any trip on a river comes with its own unique set of circumstances, some of which present risks. Learning to take these risks into account each time we put on can make us safer.

- You tie yourself to the boat.
- Nobody else is going with you.
- Nobody knows where you went.
- You have no way to call for help.

PADDLING A CLASS V RIVER IS RELATIVELY SAFE IF:

- You are highly skilled and physically fit.
- You have rescue skills.
- Your group forms a cohesive team.
- You have emotional intelligence.
- You are well-equipped with drysuits, rescue gear, etc.
- Someone in your crew knows the run or has good information.
- You scout, sneak, and portage when appropriate.
- The water level is perfect.
- You have communications and backup.

RISK

River running has inherent risk. It cannot be eliminated. Hidden risks like siphons could be anywhere. Other risks are easy to detect but hard to quantify. (Q: How bad is that hole? A: I'm not going to find out.) Prevention is key, but the unexpected still happens.

Evaluating risk involves estimating its probability and magnitude. How likely are you to miss your line (probability) and how bad are the consequences if you do (magnitude)? The bad outcomes you are willing to tolerate determine your risk tolerance.

The river is non-binary. It is neither safe, nor dangerous. Instead it is gloriously complex. It takes work to get good at river running, but each nugget of learning contributes to safer trips and better odds of a long and delightful boating career.

Teresa Gryder is a naturopathic doctor living in what she calls "whitewater heaven"—the Pacific Northwest. She is mainly a kayaker now, after years of piloting most kinds of river craft. She's also the safety chair of the Lower Columbia Canoe Club and a lifetime member of the East Tennessee Whitewater Club.

7 Figure

Dry Suit



MILLION DOLLAR PERFORMANCE

With A Reasonable Price Tag.

Sporting a redesigned athletic cut for improved mobility while reducing bulk with a tapered fit. Sleek, Simple, yet reliable. The 7Figure is **Pure Money**.



Polyester
Outer Shell



Naturally Hydrophobic



Made From
Plastic Bottles



Light Weight + Fast Drying

WELCOME TO THE WHITEWATER NATION

**SUBSCRIBE TO KAYAK SESSION MAGAZINE,
CONTRIBUTE TO AW EFFORTS EVEN FURTHER AND SAVE MONEY!**



\$30 for 1-year subscription (normally **\$50!**)
\$5 back to AW for every subscription purchased

As an AW member, you save money when subscribing to Kayak Session, and if that was not enough your purchase awards another **\$5** back to AW's effort to change the world. If that doesn't change the world, it can at least make it a little sweeter.

> so get to the membership page and tick kayak session subscription!

NEW

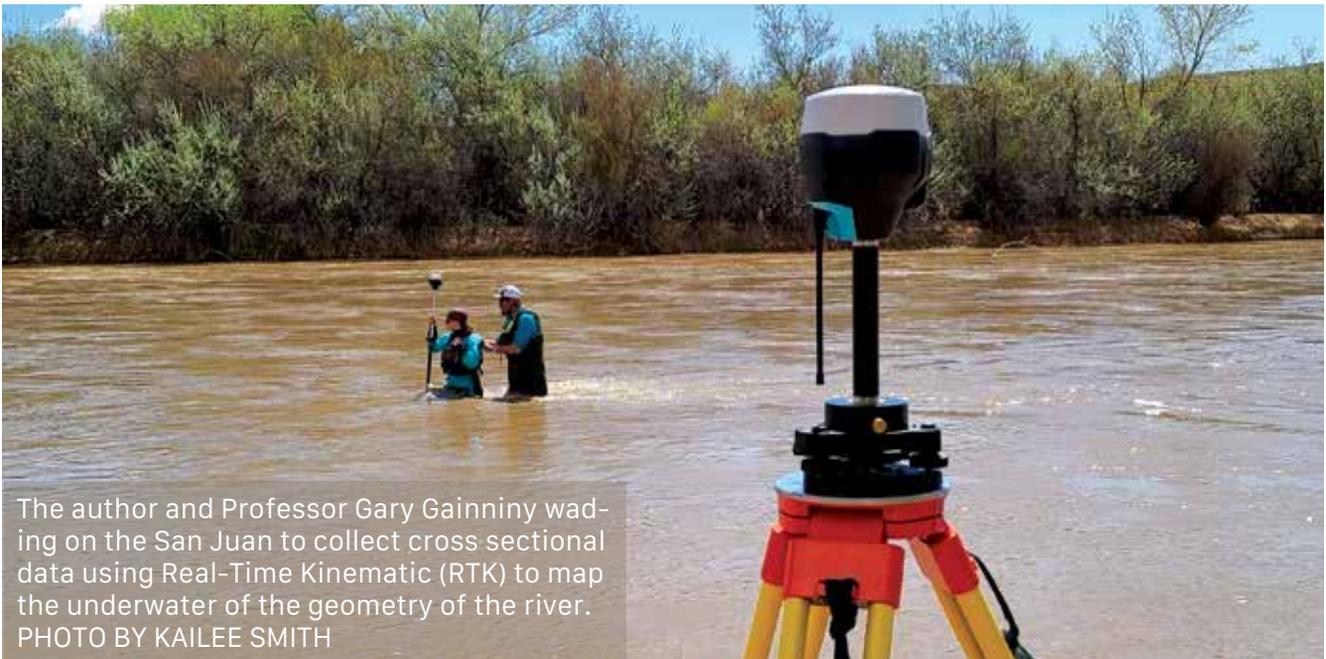
Print + Digital (you can now get access to each Kayak Session issue's contents through the KS App at no extra)



SINCE 2001 KAYAK SESSION HAS CONTRIBUTED TO AW FOR A VALUE OF NEARLY \$250 000 TO SUPPORT ITS TREMENDOUS EFFORT!

CONNECTING KAYAKING AND RIVER RESEARCH

BY CARLY KOPPE



The author and Professor Gary Gainniny wading on the San Juan to collect cross sectional data using Real-Time Kinematic (RTK) to map the underwater of the geometry of the river. PHOTO BY KAILEE SMITH

WHEN I FIRST kayaked down the Nantahala River in North Carolina in 2016, I instantly had a connection to the river, the boating community, and the landscape. Since then I have been inspired to travel around the world and kayak.

Traveling to Ecuador to kayak, I was introduced to issues dealing with dams, excessive amounts of rain, and water policy. There, I was involved with the Piatua River and raising awareness locally about the impact of damming the river. Learning about these issues sparked my interest in conducting research on rivers and water policy.

I moved to Durango, Colorado where I discovered more water issues in the Four Corners area. Having extremely low water levels in the Animas River by September opened my eyes to the bigger issues, not only with the quantity of water but also with water quality, river geomorphic issues, endangered species, channel complexity, and vegetation depletion. This made me aware of the need for more research on rivers in this area.

The majority of the larger rivers in the Four Corners area are dam-controlled. However, each year with less snowpack runoff and less water in the reservoirs has led to more frequent low water releases. This specifically affects boaters, riparian vegetation, river health, endangered fish species, and channel complexity.

For one of my classes at Fort Lewis College we did a three-day river trip on the San Juan River to look at the geology. From this experience I fell in love with the San Juan River and think everyone should have an opportunity to float it at least once. Not surprisingly, I decided to do my senior research on the San Juan River.

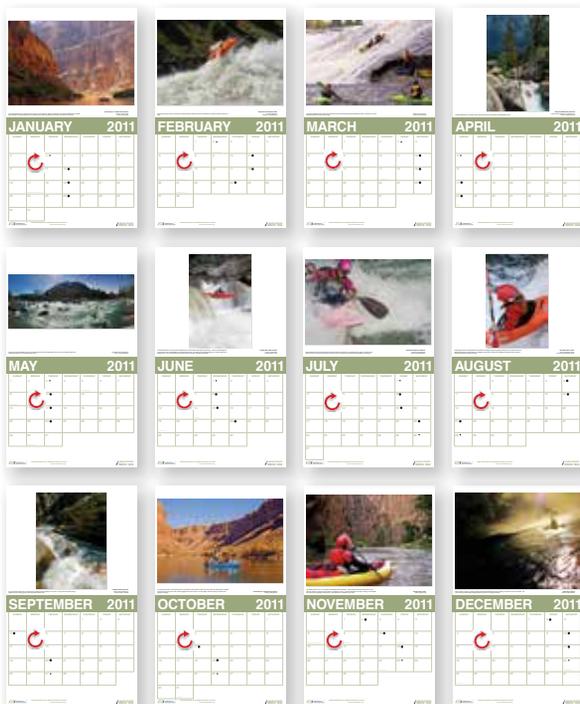
For my research, I am observing varying flows to see how they are affecting where different vegetation is growing along the banks of the river. If I have time, I will also study how varying flows are affecting channel complexity because it is an important mating requirement for certain endangered fish on the San Juan. Currently, there is not enough water to create the breeding

RIVER VOICES



Professor Gary Gainniny and Kailee Smith measuring the thickness of layers on the San Juan.
PHOTO BY CARLY KOPPE

Membership Installment Plans!



Big support, small payments

Now, you can choose to pay for any \$250+ membership in four or twelve payments. It makes that \$1000 Lifetime membership just \$83.33 a month. Easy as \$83 pie :)

New and renewing members:

americanwhitewater.org/join

Current members:

1-866-262-8429



PADDLE WISE

a responsibility code
for river runners



PADDLE SMART

- Paddle within your ability
- Keep your skills sharp
- Communicate with your team on the river
- Think for yourself
- Don't let bad decisions compound
- Go big, but come home safe



PADDLE INCLUSIVE

- Share it
- Everyone with the proper skillset is welcome
- Find a mentor
- Be a mentor
- Acknowledge indigenous stewardship and land
- Be a positive part of the community



PADDLE NO TRACE

- Leave no trace
- Always be a river steward
- Use existing access areas, trails and campsites
- Pack it in
- Pack it out
- Use restroom facilities or bring your own waste disposal
- Be aware of and remove micro-trash



PADDLE PREPARED

- Plan ahead
- Consult existing beta
- Understand International Scale of River Difficulty and your chosen river's rating
- Carry proper equipment including medical kit, spare paddle and emergency food/layers



PADDLE SAFE

- Wear your PFD
- Carry a throw rope, knife and other safety gear
- Practice safe river running technique
- Set safety where appropriate
- Take a swiftwater rescue course
- Practice whitewater rescue skills regularly



PADDLE AWARE

- Check weather and flow conditions
- Check for closures and river regulations
- Know your ability and your group's ability
- Understand surrounding landscape and escape routes
- Research existing hazards, portages and critical features



PADDLE RESPECTFUL

- Consider impacts to gateway communities
- Consider impacts on other paddlers
- Drive slowly
- Park in designated areas
- Respect closures
- Be friendly and represent the whitewater community positively
- Appreciate cultural resources but leave undisturbed

RIVER VOICES



Above: The author in her kayak with a makeshift depth finder.

PHOTO BY KAILEE SMITH

Right: The research team's raft parked on an island in their study area of the San Juan.

PHOTO BY CARLY KOPPE

grounds for these fish. Through my research, I hope to find a correlation between river flow and vegetation and propose an ideal constant flow to keep the San Juan River system healthy. Eventually, I would like to compare my results from the San Juan with other dammed rivers in the Four Corners area to see if there is a relationship.

To answer my research questions, I am going to create an inundation model (a type of map that shows different flow levels and where the water will go at that specific flow) and use computer mapping analysis tools. What this ultimately means is that I get to go kayak on the San Juan for my senior research. Being able to use my passion for kayaking not only as a way to have fun but also as a way to make a difference for the river ecosystems and future boaters makes my boating experience more meaningful.

By doing research on the San Juan, I hope to help us understand how damming and lower water is affecting river systems. Hopefully current and future research on the San Juan can help the river return to a healthy habitat and river system, and maybe even bring higher flows for boaters. All fields of science should be coming together and collaborating to find a solution to these pressing issues.



All Together Now

On The Deerfield River

August 6, Charlemont, MA

**Celebrate outdoor recreation at
American Whitewater's Deerfield Fest
Come together to paddle, float, fish or bike
all weekend along the Deerfield River Valley**

**Enjoy an evening celebration at Berkshire East
on Saturday, August 6 from 5-10 pm**

**Highlights: Music by Lakeside Drive, Paddlesports Vendors,
Silent Auction to benefit AW. Admission \$10**

Deerfield Fest supports American Whitewater's effort to protect, restore, and enjoy our treasured rivers here in the northeast. www.americanwhitewater.org/deerfieldfest



AW PARTNERS

\$20,000 - Class V



NEW BELGIUM.

Fat Tire

EST. COLORADO U.S.A. 1991

\$15,000 - Class IV



NANTAHALA OUTDOOR CENTER

\$10,000 - Class III



\$7,500 - Class II



\$5,000 - Boof



Rocky Mountain Rafts



RIGGED FOR ADVENTURE



outdoor prolink-

\$2,500 - Wave



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT - NORTHWEST RAFTING COMPANY

NORTHWEST RAFTING COMPANY began on the Rogue River in 2009 as a way for Zach Collier, one of its founders, to make a career out of river guiding. Over the next decade NWRC added trips on other favorite rivers—the Illinois, Owyhee, Chetco, and Middle Fork of the Salmon, as well as paddling and cultural trips in Bhutan.

Beyond being a guide and outfitter, Zach is also an avid kayaker and cat boater, which led to the creation of whitewater rowing schools on the Rogue River. These courses have expanded to more advanced rowing courses, private instruction, and International Rafting Federation workshops for professional river guides. All of these courses have slowly become an integral part of what NWRC does.

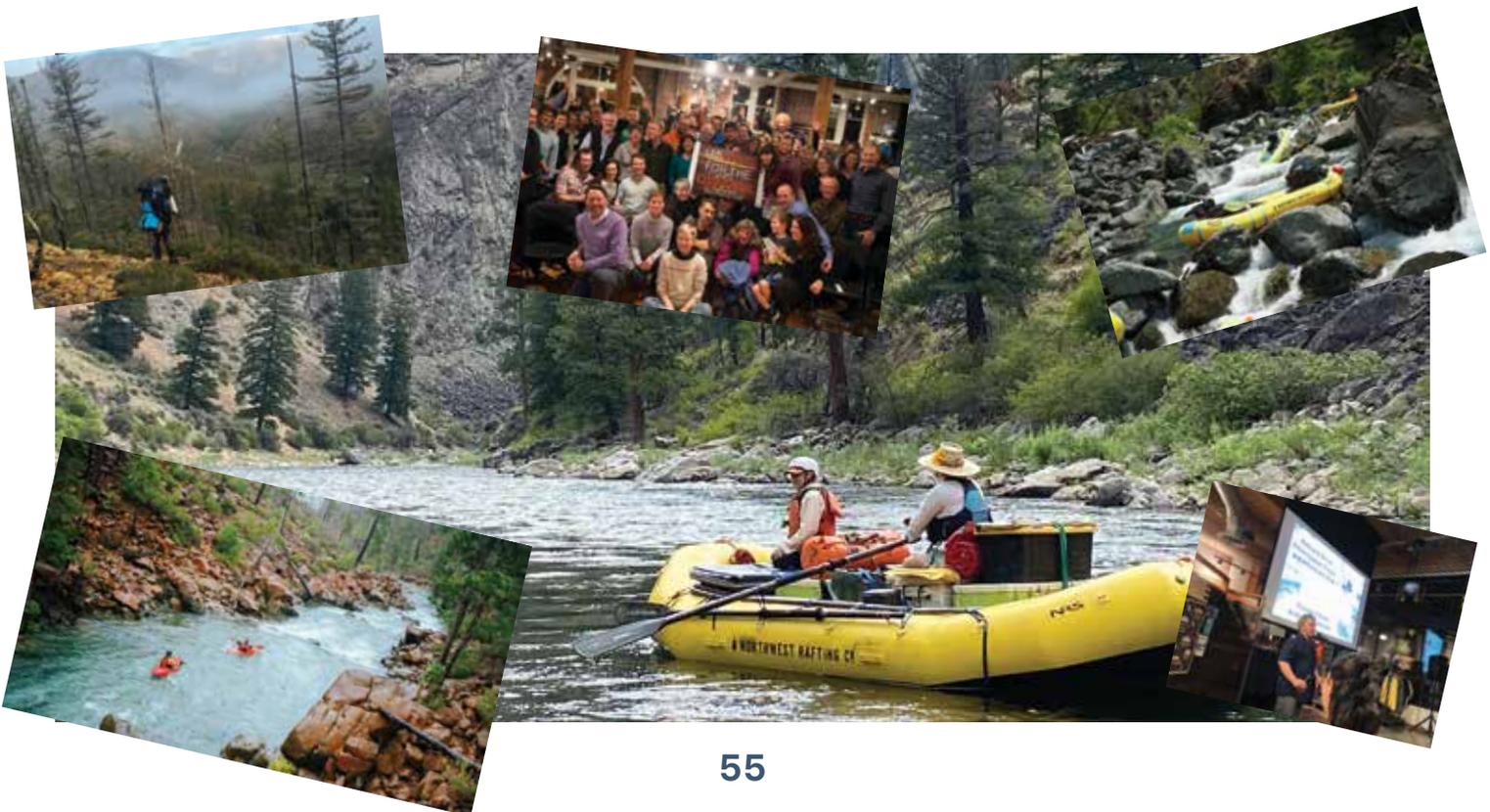
Since its formation in 2009, Northwest Rafting Company has had the opportunity to work alongside American Whitewater on a number of conservation projects. These include much-needed protections for the Owyhee, Rogue, and Chetco rivers, and tributaries of the Illinois River, like Rough and Ready Creek. American Whitewater does the heavy lifting by lobbying Congress, contributing to legislation, sifting through complicated legal jargon, and organizing caring paddlers to support conservation

efforts. Our guides are able to assist American Whitewater’s work by paddling these threatened streams and coming back with photos, videos, and stories about these special places.

Perhaps the best example of our collaboration with American Whitewater is Wild Rivers Night, an annual event in Portland, Oregon that brings together conservation groups, river lovers, and paddlers from around the northwest to share stories about paddling protected and unprotected rivers in the region. Tom O’Keefe, in particular, has been an amazing supporter and speaker each year.

Finally, we organize a fundraising trip with American Whitewater on the Rogue each June. This is a great opportunity to float down the storied Rogue River with other American Whitewater supporters and spend some time with AW staff and board members. I’m particularly proud of the personal connections made between boaters, NWRC guides, and AW staff that happen on the river.

Thank you for being a member of American Whitewater. You are supporting a well-run, efficient organization that helps us all have access to so many beautiful rivers.



AFFILIATE CLUBS

AW'S ORIGINAL PURPOSE

BY BETHANY OVERFIELD

American Whitewater's original purpose since 1954 has included distribution of information among its Affiliate Clubs. We have over 100 current AW Club Affiliates and they are all doing great work on your behalf; if you don't belong to a club, consider joining one.

American Whitewater has two levels of Affiliate Clubs - a Supporting Affiliate Club or an Affiliate Club. Affiliate Clubs that choose AW's \$100 annual level are recognized in the AW Journal, on our website club page, and in our annually published Honor Roll. In order to be recognized at this level, a Club needs to maintain an annual \$100 contribution.

Affiliate Clubs that choose AW's \$400 Supporting Affiliate Club annual level are recognized in the AW Journal, on our website club page, and in our annually published Honor Roll as well as being listed as sponsors of an AW stewardship presentation each year. In order to be recognized at this level, a Club needs to maintain an annual \$400 contribution. A Supporting Affiliate Club can revert to the \$100 Affiliate Club annual level at any time.

An Affiliate Club that is already being recognized as an AW Lifetime member is recognized in the annual Honor Roll as a Lifetime member. They do need to contribute either at the \$100 or the \$400 level annually to be recognized as an Affiliate Club in the AW Journal and under the Affiliate Club heading of the published Honor Roll. Is your club missing from this list? It might have expired. Contact me at membership@americanwhitewater.org to square your club membership away!

SUPPORTING AFFILIATE CLUBS

Alaska

Fairbanks Paddlers, Fairbanks

Arkansas

Arkansas Canoe Club, Little Rock

Colorado

Dolores River Boating Advocate, Dolores
Colorado Whitewater Association, Denver

Georgia

Georgia Canoeing Association Inc, Winston

Kentucky

Bluegrass Wildwater Association, Lexington
Viking Canoe Club, Louisville

New York

KCCNY, Brooklyn

North Carolina

West Asheville Canoe and Kayak Organization (WACKO), Asheville

Ohio

Keelhaulers, Cleveland

Oregon

Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club, Portland

South Carolina

Foothills Paddling Club, Greenville
Palmetto Paddlers, Columbia

Washington

Paddle Trails Canoe Club, Seattle
Washington Kayak Club, Redmond
Washington Recreational River Runners, Renton

AFFILIATE CLUBS BY STATE

Alaska

Nova River Runners Inc., Chickaloon

Alabama

Coosa River Paddling Club, Wetumpka
Huntsville Canoe Club, Huntsville

Arizona

Outdoors Unlimited, Flagstaff

California

Gold Country Paddlers, Placerville
Redwood Empire Paddlers, Santa Rosa
River City Whitewater Club, Sacramento
Smith River Alliance, Crescent City

Colorado

Diversity Whitewater, Fort Collins
Friends of the Yampa, Steamboat Springs
High Country River Rafters, Wheat Ridge
Rocky Mountain Outdoor Center, Buena Vista
Royal Gorge River Initiative Org, Canon City
San Miguel Whitewater Asso, Telluride
Team Colorado Whitewater Racing Club, Longmont
Upper Colorado Private Boaters Asso, Glenwood Springs

Connecticut

Housatonic Area Canoe & Kayak Sq, Lakeville

Delaware

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks (PA)

Idaho

Idaho Whitewater Association, Boise

Indiana

Hoosier Canoe Club, Brownsburg
Ohio Valley Paddlers, Evansville

Iowa

Iowa Whitewater Coalition, W. Des Moines

Kentucky

Elkhorn Paddlers, Lexington

Maine

Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society, Freeport

Maryland

Blue Ridge Voyagers, Rockville

Minnesota

Northland Paddlers Alliance, Duluth
Rapids Riders, Eagan

Missouri

Missouri Whitewater Association, St. Louis
Ozark Mountain Paddlers, Springfield

Montana

Beartooth Paddlers Society, Billings

Nevada

Sierra Nevada Whitewater Club, Reno

New Mexico

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico, Albuquerque

New Hampshire

New England Canoe and Kayak Racing Association, Contoocook

New Jersey

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks (PA)

New York

ADK Schenectady, Schenectady
Kuyahoor Valley Paddlers, Middleville
Zoar Valley Paddling Club, East Aurora

North Carolina

Carolina Canoe Club, Raleigh
Landmark Learning, Cullowhee
Mind Body Play, Asheville

Ohio

Friends of the Crooked River, Akron

Oregon

Lower Columbia Canoe Club, Portland
Northwest Rafters Association, Roseburg
Oregon Whitewater Association, Portland
Willamette Kayak and Canoe Club, Corvallis

Pennsylvania

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Oaks (PA)
 Canoe Club of Greater Harrisburg, Harrisburg
 Conewago Canoe Club, York
 Lehigh Valley Canoe Club, Lehigh Valley
 Three Rivers Paddling Club, Bridgeville

Tennessee

Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts,
 Jonesborough
 Chota Canoe Club, Knoxville
 Clean Water Expected in East Tennessee,
 Sevierville
 East Tennessee Whitewater Club, Oak Ridge
 Eastman Recreation Club, Kingsport
 Tennessee Scenic River Association, Nashville
 Tennessee Valley Canoe Club, Knoxville

Texas

Houston Canoe Club, Houston

Utah

High Jim and the A.S.K., Salt Lake City
 Utah Whitewater Club, Salt Lake City

Vermont

Vermont Paddlers Club, Montpelier

Virginia

Blue Ridge River Runners, Lynchburg
 Canoe Cruisers Association, Middlebury
 Coastal Canoeists, Richmond
 Float Fishermen of Virginia, Roanoke

Washington

Northwest Whitewater Association, Spokane
 Spokane Canoe & Kayak Club, Spokane
 Yakima River Runners, Selah

Washington, DC

Canoe Cruisers Association

West Virginia

Friends of the Cheat, Kingwood
 Mason Dixon Canoe Cruisers, Bolivar
 WV Wildwater Assn, S. Charleston

Wisconsin

North East Wisconsin Paddlers, Inc., Neenah
 Rapids Riders, Eagan
 Sierra Club/John Muir Chapter, Madison

Wyoming

American Packrafting Association, Wilson
 Jackson Hole Kayak Club, Jackson

National

Team River Runner

DISCOUNTED AW MEMBERSHIP FOR AFFILIATE CLUB MEMBERS

AW offers a discounted Affiliate Club membership of \$25, a \$10 savings. If you are renewing your AW membership or joining as a new member, select the Affiliate Club Discounted Personal Membership online at <http://americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-AW/> Or, if you are renewing or joining by mail or telephone just mention the name of the Affiliate Club you belong to and you can take advantage of the \$25 membership.

A list of AW Affiliate Clubs can be found on our website at <http://americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-AW/>. If you do not see your Club listed here please encourage them to renew their Club membership or to join AW as a new Affiliate Club. Your Club's membership and your personal membership enable our staff to be active and engaged in the process of river stewardship. When you join or renew your membership your support is helping to meet the many challenges whitewater rivers face.

If you have any questions about the Affiliate Club membership, please contact me. I can be reached at 866_BOAT-4AW or membership@americanwhitewater.org.

JOIN AMERICAN WHITewater AS A CLUB AFFILIATE!

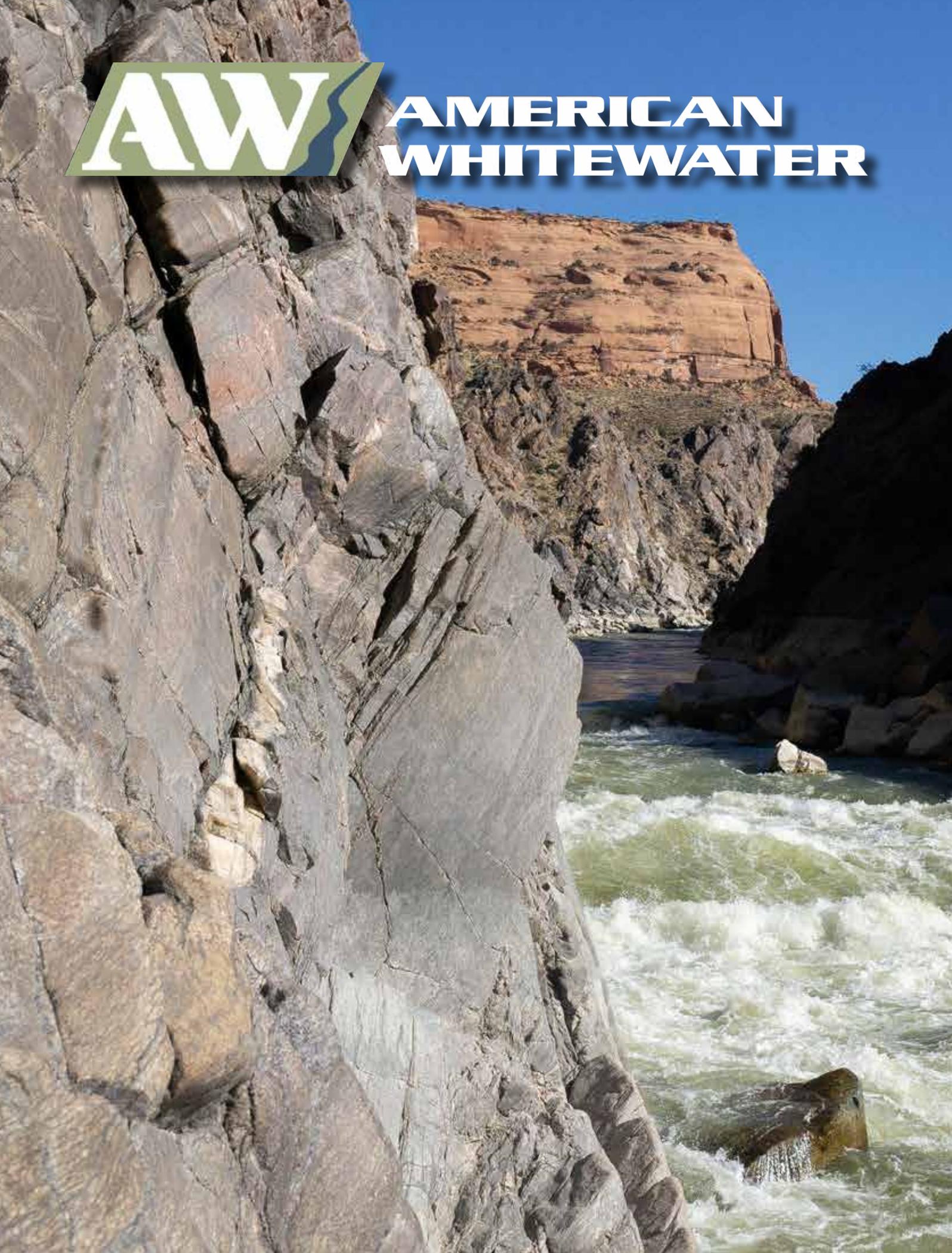
10 REASONS TO JOIN AW AS AN AFFILIATE CLUB

1. Support river access and restoration through the AW River Stewardship Team.
2. Be part of a national voice for the protection of the whitewater rivers your club values.
3. Tap into the professional expertise of AW staff for river issues that come up in your backyard.
4. Your club's members can become AW members for \$25. A \$10 savings!
5. Receive the American Whitewater Journal, the oldest continually published whitewater magazine.
6. Your club is recognized in the list of Affiliate Clubs posted to the AW website.
7. Recognize your club in the list of Affiliate Clubs noted in each bi-monthly AW Journal.
8. Post Club information on the AW Website to help paddlers find you.
9. Gain Club satisfaction from lending support to AW's stewardship efforts.
10. Improve your club members river karma.

For more information, contact Bethany Overfield at membership@americanwhitewater.org or sign-up on line at www.americanwhitewater.org/membership.



AMERICAN WHITEWATER



The Strength of Our Voice is Your Membership

Standard w/AW Journal	\$35
Family w/AW Journal	\$50
Ender Club w/T-Shirt	\$125
Platinum Paddler w/Hoodie	\$250
Explorer w/Watershed Bag	\$500
Lifetime	\$1,000
Steward w/\$400 Kokatat Gift	\$2,500



*Incentive gifts change from time to time, please check the website for the latest rewards.

Join @ americanwhitewater.org/join

Donate @ americanwhitewater.org/donate



Membership Driven River Stewardship
americanwhitewater.org/join

Whitewater River Defenders

Since 1954

Salmon River, ID – By Evan Stafford

