

Things to Know Before Your River Trip

The following regulations apply to all federal lands and Oregon Scenic Waterways managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and the State of Oregon within the Willowa-Grande Ronde river corridors. Violations are punishable by law and may result in fines and other penalties.

RIVER PERMITS

Each boating party is required to obtain a self-issue river permit prior to launching. Permits are self-service, free of charge, and do not affect trip itineraries or restrict launch times. Self-service permit stations are located at:

Minam public launch	Troy (Green Bridge)
Lookingglass (Palmer Jct.)	Cougar Creek
Elgin (Cedar St. Bridge)	Boggan's Oasis (WA Hwy. 129 bridge)
Wildcat (Powwatka) Bridge	Shumaker Access
Mud Creek	Heller Bar

Read permit carefully. You are responsible for understanding and complying with the terms of the permit. Deposit white copy in box at permit station and keep yellow copy with you; permits may be inspected during your trip. (Note: commercial outfitters & guides must also obtain a special use permit. Contact the BLM for more information.)

FIRE PANS

Open campfires must be completely contained in a fire-proof metal pan or fire blanket and all ash and unburned debris must be removed from the river corridor along with the camp garbage. Do not utilize or construct fire pits or rock rings. You may only use dead and down material for firewood, or bring your own charcoal. Consider not building a fire. Use gas stoves and lanterns if possible. Fires and stoves may be prohibited during times of high fire danger. Check bulletin boards for seasonal restrictions.

PORTABLE TOILETS

Each boating party is required to carry and use a portable, containerized toilet system suitable for the size of their party. Solid wastes must be removed from the river corridor and may only be disposed of at a facility provided for that purpose. Contact the River Station for helpful ideas and suggestions for portable toilet systems.

GROUP SIZE LIMIT

No group may exceed 25 persons. Groups larger than 25 persons must be divided into separate and distinct parties of 25 or less and may not congregate. Separate permits and portable toilet facilities are required of each party.

MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT

All motorized equipment including chainsaws, generators, etc. are prohibited within 1/4 mile of the river between Sheep Creek (river mile 80) and Wildcat Creek (river mile 53.5). It is illegal to carry, use, transport, or possess motorized equipment within this section of river. Small, handheld battery-powered devices are exempt.

MOTORIZED WATERCRAFT

Motorized boats of any kind are prohibited between Sheep Creek (river mile 80 just below Rondowa) and the Oregon-Washington state boundary (river mile 38.5 near Horseshoe Bend). Additional State Marine Board regulations may apply. Boaters are required to obey all applicable State Marine Board rules.

LIFE JACKETS

All watercraft must have accessible a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket for each person on board. Children 12 and under must wear their life jacket while on boats that are underway. Life jackets must be of proper size and fit.

FIREARMS

Firearms may not be discharged within 150 yards of any occupied area, across any road or river, or in violation of State law. Always observe safe firearms handling rules and shooting practices.

MAPS

In keeping with the primitive nature of the river corridor, signs along the river are few. Detailed river maps and literature will be helpful when planning trips and in locating campsites, landmarks, and rapids. River maps are available at some local businesses, or by contacting the Bureau of Land Management at 541-523-1256.