

2019 Whitwater Boating on the Chelan River Survey Results

How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.	During the weekend, there were 48 boaters on the river on Saturday and 30 on Sunday. Was crowding a problem on your run?	Should there be a set launch time for boaters to minimize the number of boaters in each section of the river at a time?	If you paddled on Saturday at flows of 375, score the quality of this flow for your craft and skill level. Please consider all the flow-dependent characteristics that contribute to a high quality trip (e.g., boatability, whitewater challenge, safety, availability of surfing or other play areas, aesthetics, and length of run).	If you paddled on Sunday at flows of 400, score the quality of this flow for your craft and skill level. Please consider all the flow-dependent characteristics that contribute to a high quality trip (e.g., boatability, whitewater challenge, safety, availability of surfing or other play areas, aesthetics, and length of run).	If you didn't participate on Sunday, why?	If you could select an optimal flow for boating on this river given your craft and skill level, what flow would you prefer? Please specify cfs.	What aspect of the paddling experience did you enjoy the most?	What aspect of the paddling experience did you enjoy the least?	Would you participate in this event again?	Would you recommend this Chelan River whitewater boating experience to other boaters? Explain:
RESPONSE	RESPONSE	RESPONSE	RESPONSE	RESPONSE	RESPONSE	RESPONSE	RESPONSE	RESPONSE	RESPONSE	RESPONSE
Satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Below expectations		I had prior commitments on Sunday.	425	Incredibly unique gorge for the PNW. Fun whitewater set in a super arid environment.	I thought the flow was on the low side. No idea about calibration, but it was fairly obvious that the "375 cfs" on Saturday is significantly lower than Saturday flows from previous years, i.e pre 2017	Yes, each year	Beautiful setting, good whitewater, and it's probably going to be the only thing with water that time of year.
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Met expectations		400	PADDLING WITH EVERYONE	SCRAPING OVER THE ROCKS AT THE END OF THE RUN	Yes, each year	Yes
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Exceeded expectations	Exceeded expectations		Between 375 and 400 cfs is absolutely perfect. ANYTHING BELOW 375 CFS COULD BECOME DANGEROUS.			Yes, each year	Yes Awesome event
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Met expectations	I did. More water could be fun. But 400-425 seems nice	400-425	The large group dynamic and safety.	The initial flow is always dirty but can't change that. :)	Yes, each year	Yes Yes to class V-V+ kayakers and maybe
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Exceeded expectations	Exceeded expectations	N/a	400	Everyone on the river extremely experienced and helpful.	N/a	Yes, each year	Yes Amazing whitewater
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Met expectations		I've only ran it at 375 and 400. I would like to see it at 450	It was all good		Yes, every other year	Yes It was a great time, just a far time from Montana.
Very satisfied	Barely a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations		parental responsibilities	I think it would have been that 400cfs flow	place and the comradery	There is no way to solve for the bunching up of folks. Our group got out in front.	Yes, each year	Yes to qualified boaters
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Met expectations	Work	450	The group	Nothing	Yes, each year	Yes
Very satisfied	Problem	Yes	Exceeded expectations		did not have time	375	the feeling of being in a deep gorge	none	Yes, each year	Yes it is very high quality
Satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Below expectations	I participated	450 cfs	The beauty of the area and the challenge of the white water	Only having two days	Yes, each year	Yes It's awesome
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Exceeded expectations		Had to drive back to Montana	375	The gorge	The brown water at the beginning	Yes, each year	Yes It is a great river
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Exceeded expectations		Had to catch a ferry.	400	The challenging rapids	Graffiti on the canyon walls (WTH?)	Yes, each year	Yes It's very high-quality.
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Met expectations		380CFS	The stout rapids of the central gorge. It was sick!	Taking a swim at throne was not very fun.	Yes, each year	Yes The chelan is a sick run for class five kayakers.

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Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Exceeded expectations		Was tired and sore.	375 cfs	Geology, whitewater, canyon	none (other than seeing graffiti on walls and trash on banks from illegal dumping.)	Yes, each year	Yes Incredible opportunity to paddle class V in a unique
Very satisfied	Barely a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Met expectations	My crew rallied back home Saturday night	375cfs	The community!	Age requirement	Yes, each year	Yes Sickest weekend of the year!
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Exceeded expectations		Had homework	380	Entrance exam	How low the river was before the gorge.	Yes, each year	Yes It's the most unreal event in pnw everyone who is anyone should come
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Exceeded expectations	Exceeded expectations	I participated.	Kayaker - 400 was better as more of the rocks were covered	The level of difficulty, yet ease of scouting/setting rescue.	The flat water in/out	Yes, each year	Yes
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Met expectations		400	being able to paddle this amazing section of whitewater	that we can only do it two times out of the year :)	Yes, each year	Yes it's awesome!
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Met expectations		425 cfs	Challenging rapids and group involvement in getting everyone down the river safely	the 18+ age restrictions as there are many boaters under 18 that have the necessary skill to paddle this river	Yes, each year	Yes It's a great place to push you skills at a time in the boating season that does not provide many other
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Exceeded expectations	I did participate	I would like a little more water, maybe 425 cfs? If not possible 400 cfs is awesome	I just love kayaking!!!	None of it	Yes, each year	Yes It's an awesome time with great people!!!
Very satisfied	Not a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)		Met expectations		400	The people that were there	The portages	Yes, each year	Yes Not many class V runs are available in the state this time of year. The Chelan Gorge release is a great opportunity for paddlers to get together and run hard whitewater in the fall when many other runs are too low.
Very satisfied	Barely a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Exceeded expectations	Long drive home	375	Awesome gorge with great rapids	Length, wish it was longer	Yes, each year	Yes
Very satisfied	Barely a problem	No (allow boaters to self regulate)	Met expectations	Exceeded expectations	N/A	400-450	Unique rapids and large group of like-minded paddlers!	The initial pulse flow on day one was very polluted due to not having flow in quite some time	Yes, each year	Yes
Very satisfied	Not a problem	Yes	Exceeded expectations	Exceeded expectations	had to get home for work				Yes, each year	Yes