



**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 of CHELAN COUNTY**  
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April 29, 2015

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Honorable Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr., Deputy Secretary  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Lake Chelan Hydroelectric Project No. 637  
License Article 407, Recreation Resources Management Plan  
Whitewater Boating Report for Years 2012-2014

Dear Secretary Bose and Deputy Secretary Davis:

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) issued an “*Order Amending the Recreation Resources Management Plan*”<sup>1</sup> for the Lake Chelan Hydroelectric Project (Project) on July 16, 2012. Order Paragraph (B) of the Order requires Chelan PUD to file a whitewater boating report by May 1, 2015, and every three years thereafter. Chelan PUD is to include with the reports documentation of consultation with American Whitewater, and copies of comments and recommendations on the report.

Chelan PUD hereby files its whitewater boating report (2012-2014) with the Commission. This report includes, at a minimum, information on the dates and volumes of each release for the three-year period, annual use patterns, and an analysis of user preferences based on survey data. The report also includes recommendations for providing whitewater releases, if any, for the remainder of the new license term. The report makes recommendations regarding, at a minimum, an annual schedule of releases (including volume and timing), a reservation system, the minimum number of boaters required to trigger a release, and a mechanism for liability protection. Chelan PUD consulted with American Whitewater and copies of comments and recommendations are included in the appendices of the report.

Please contact me or Ray Heit at (509) 661-4133 regarding any questions or comments regarding this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeffrey G. Osborn". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jeffrey G. Osborn  
Compliance Program Supervisor  
(509) 661-4176  
[jeff.osborn@chelanpud.org](mailto:jeff.osborn@chelanpud.org)

Enclosure

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<sup>1</sup> 140 FERC ¶ 62,051 (2012)

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# **Chelan River Three-Year Whitewater Boating Monitoring Report**

**2012 - 2014**

**LAKE CHELAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT  
FERC Project No. 637**

**April 29, 2015**



**Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County  
Wenatchee, Washington**

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## ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

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On May 1, 2012, Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County (Chelan PUD) filed its three-year whitewater boating monitoring study report, with recommended changes, for the Lake Chelan Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 637. On July 16, 2012, the Commission issued an Order Amending the Recreation Resources Management Plan which approved the proposed changes to the whitewater boating section of the April 14, 2008 Order Approving Recreation Resources Management Plan. As outlined in the revised whitewater boating plan, Chelan PUD is required to file a whitewater boating report by May 1, every three years.

In accordance with the July 16 Order, and after consultation with American Whitewater, Chelan PUD is filing its three-year whitewater boating monitoring study report for years 2012 – 2014. Documentation of consultation with American Whitewater is attached.

As outlined in the revised whitewater boating plan approved in 2012, Chelan PUD provides whitewater boating releases, annually, on the third weekend in September. Flows are approximately 375 cubic feet per second (cfs) on Saturday, and 400 cfs on Sunday.

During the 2012 – 2014 whitewater boating monitoring study period, six days were scheduled for whitewater releases on the Chelan River. A total of 121 whitewater paddlers participated. In 2012, there were 27 boaters on Sept. 15 and 24 boaters on Sept. 16. In 2013, there were 25 boaters on Sept 21 and 13 boaters on Sept. 22. In 2014, there were 19 boaters on Sept. 20 and 13 boaters on Sept. 21.

A survey tool, designed in collaboration with American Whitewater, was used to solicit input from whitewater boaters after running the Chelan River. The following is a summary of boater responses to the survey.

- A majority of the survey participants said they were extremely satisfied with the overall boating experience.
- When the number of boating participants rose to 27 boaters on Sept. 15, 2012, 68% responded it was not a problem and 10% said it was a slight problem.
- In response to whether launch times should be regulated to minimize the number of boaters in each section of the river at a time, 100% of the survey participants stated preference to maintain the current procedure of allowing paddlers to self-regulate launch times.
- 75% of the boaters felt 375 cfs (Saturday flow) was totally acceptable, 11% were neutral or thought it was moderately acceptable, while 4% felt it was slightly unacceptable.
- 86% of the boaters thought 400 cfs (Sunday flow) was totally acceptable, while 5% responded that it was unacceptable.
- Survey participants were satisfied with flows between 375 cfs and 400 cfs. Results varied under this survey question based on boater skill level.

- The aspect of the paddling experience boaters enjoyed the most included the group aspect and comrade, the beauty of the gorge,
- The aspect of the paddling experience boaters enjoyed the least included signing up for the release and extra required safety.
- 83% to 95% of the survey respondents stated they would participate in future whitewater boating events and 100% would recommend the Chelan River whitewater boating experience to other boaters.

In consultation with American Whitewater, and based on the 2012 – 2014 monitoring study, Chelan PUD has no recommended changes to the annual whitewater boating release flow, release schedule, survey and evaluation methods, criteria, or reservation system. Chelan PUD and American Whitewater are, however, respectfully requesting Commission approval to modify the three-year reporting requirement to be every 10 years, with the next report due for filing with the Commission on May 1, 2026.

## ***SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION***

The Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County (Chelan PUD) owns and operates the Lake Chelan Hydroelectric Project (Project) in accordance with a License<sup>1</sup> issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) on November 6, 2006.

On November 7, 2007, Chelan PUD filed its recreation resources management plan (RRMP) pursuant to Article 407 of the Project License. The RRMP included the elements set forth in Settlement Agreement 11(h) of the Lake Chelan Settlement Agreement, which entailed a three-year whitewater boating monitoring study (2009-2011) and a final report. The Commission approved the RRMP on April 14, 2008.<sup>2</sup>

On May 1, 2012, Chelan PUD filed its final report of its three-year whitewater boating monitoring study with recommended changes. On July 16, 2012, the Commission issued an “Order Amending the Recreation Resources Management Plan,”<sup>3</sup> which approved the changes to the whitewater boating section of the RRMP. Order Paragraph (B) of the Order requires Chelan PUD to file a whitewater boating report by May 1, 2015, and every three years thereafter. The Chelan PUD is to include with the reports documentation of consultation with American Whitewater, and copies of comments and recommendations on the report.

In accordance with the July 16 Order, and after consultation with American Whitewater, Chelan PUD is filing its three-year whitewater boating monitoring study report for years 2012 – 2014. Appendix A contains documentation of consultation with American Whitewater.

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<sup>1</sup> 117 FERC ¶ 62,129 (2006), amended by 119 FERC ¶ 61,055 (2007)

<sup>2</sup> 123 FERC ¶ 62,047 (2008)

<sup>3</sup> 140 FERC ¶ 62,051 (2012)

This whitewater boating monitoring study report for the three-year period (2012 – 2014) summarizes and evaluates the following information:

1. Annual schedule
2. Spill volumes
3. Reservation system and mechanism for liability protection
4. Threshold number of participants and use patterns
5. Effectiveness of the survey tool
6. Survey results
7. Consultation with American Whitewater

## **SECTION 2: ANNUAL SCHEDULE AND SPILL VOLUME**

On May 1, 2012, Chelan PUD filed the Final Whitewater Monitoring Study Plan Report, with recommended changes to the whitewater release schedule to be the third weekend in September each year. The Commission Order issued July 16, 2012, approved the change. Flows during the three year monitoring study were targeted at 375 cfs on Saturdays, and flows on Sundays have been targeted at 400 cfs (within an approximate one percent margin of instrumentation error). To meet these flows, Chelan PUD begins ramping up flow at 11:00 am and begins ramping down flow no sooner than 6:00 pm, each day.

Below is a summary of the 2012 – 2014 whitewater boating events, including dates, participation levels, and spill volumes.

<b>Whitewater Boating Monitoring Study (2012 – 2014)</b>			
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Scheduled Dates</b>	September 15-16	September 21-22	September 20-21
<b>Spill volume</b> (increase from 80 cfs)	Saturday: 375 cfs Sunday: 400 cfs	Saturday: 375 cfs Sunday: 400 cfs	Saturday: 375 cfs Sunday: 400 cfs
<b>Participation</b>	Sept15: 27 boaters Sept 16: 24 boaters	Sept 21: 25 boaters Sept 22: 13 boaters	Sept 20: 19 boaters Sept 21: 13 boaters
<b>Skill level</b>	Level V+ (all boaters indicated the extreme difficulty of this run at all levels of flow)	Level V+ (again, all boaters indicated the importance of the maximum level of skill and experience to complete this run at every flow level)	Level V+ (all boaters indicated the extreme difficulty of this run at all levels of flow)

### ***SECTION 3: RESERVATION SYSTEM AND LIABILITY REQUIREMENTS***

In accordance with the July 16 Order, a minimum number of boaters is not required for water releases. However, the Safety Code of American Whitewater discourages boating alone and in light of the unique challenges of the Chelan River, a minimum of two (2) paddlers must be present at the designated boaters' put-in location.

In collaboration with American Whitewater, Chelan PUD has established a reservation system for whitewater boating events. No later than 5:00 pm on the Friday prior to the scheduled release date, boaters must make a reservation with Chelan PUD in person or via the Chelan PUD website at <http://www.chelanpud.org/whitewater-boating.html>. An American Whitewater representative will be designated and present to oversee both days of the event and to serve as a point of contact between Chelan PUD and the paddlers should any questions or issues arise.

#### **On-line Registration**

Chelan PUD created and maintains a link on its home page for registration and for information regarding every aspect of the run including a video and a link directly to American Whitewater's website for further information. Paddlers register on-line using this website. Each registration is forwarded to American Whitewater.

#### **Check-in /Put-in**

All paddlers check-in at the registration area and put-in at the designated area just below the Project dam before 11:00 am.

#### **Take-out**

Whitewater paddlers take out at Chelan PUD's Powerhouse Park, located near the Lake Chelan Project Powerhouse tailrace in Reach 4 of the Chelan River.

#### **Run duration**

The run takes most boaters approximately 3 to 4 ½ hours. Boaters were asked to finish the kayaking run by 6:00 pm, although all boaters typically completed the run and are off the river by 3:30 pm.

#### **Liability and Washington State Recreation Use Statute**

During settlement negotiations, Chelan PUD and American Whitewater agreed to work together to obtain legislative changes to the Washington State Recreational Use Statute that would reduce liability concerns during whitewater boating releases.

During the 2011 legislative session, representatives from Chelan PUD and American Whitewater testified on a proposed amendment to the State's Recreational Use Statute, Senate Bill 5388, which would provide liability protection for whitewater boating and viewing activities associated with FERC-regulated hydroelectric projects.

The Bill passed the Senate on March 1, 2011 and the House on April 1, 2011 and was signed by Governor Christine Gregoire on April 13, 2011. The amendment became effective ninety days after adjournment of the session in which the bill was passed, July 22, 2011.

#### ***SECTION 4: SURVEY TOOL***

Each whitewater boater is asked to fill out a survey at the end of the run. This survey tool provides important information that is analyzed by Chelan PUD and American Whitewater to determine if the whitewater boating plan should be modified. No modifications are made without Commission approval and, based on the 2012 – 2014 monitoring study, no modifications are being recommended for future releases.

The survey tool continues to help evaluate: overall whitewater boating experience satisfaction; if crowding is an issue; whether or not there should be a set launch time for boaters to minimize the number of boaters in each section of the river at a time; quality of flows for craft and experience levels; preference for optimal flows based on craft and skill level; what aspect of the paddling experience was the most and least enjoyable; if boaters would participate in the event again; if boaters would recommend the Chelan River Whitewater boating experience to other boaters. The results of the surveys are attached as Appendix B.

#### ***SECTION 5: EVALUATION OF SURVEY RESULTS***

Chelan PUD received 31 completed surveys in 2012, 25 completed surveys in 2013, and 6 completed surveys in 2014. Completed surveys are attached as Appendix B. The following summarizes survey results by year:

***1. How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience?***

**2012- 100% of survey participants responded to this question.**

97% of participants were extremely satisfied and 3% were moderately satisfied.

**2013 –92% of survey participants responded to this question.**

91% of participants responded they were extremely satisfied and 9% were slightly dissatisfied.

**2014 –100% of survey participants responded to this question.**

100% of survey participants were extremely satisfied.

***2. Was crowding a problem on your run?***

**2012 – 100% of survey participants responded to this question.**



68% of survey participants responded this was not a problem; 13% responded it was barely a problem; 10% responded it was a marginal problem; and 10% responded it was a slight problem.

**2013 – 92% of survey participants responded to this question.**

87% of survey participants responded this was not a problem and 13% responded it was barely a problem.

**2014 – 100% of survey participants responded to this question.**

100% of survey participants responded this was not a problem.

**3. *Should there be a set launch time for boaters to minimize the number of boaters in each section of the river at a time?***

**2012 – 100% of survey participants responded to this question.**

100% of participants responded that, “No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times

**2013 – 92% of survey participants responded to this question.**

100% of participants responded that, “No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times

**2014 - 100% of survey participants responded to this question.**

100% of participants responded that, “No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times

**4. *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).***

**2012 – 90% of survey participants responded to this question.**

75% of survey participants responded the flows of 375cfs were totally acceptable; 11% responded neutral, 11% responded that it was moderately acceptable and 4% responded that it was slightly unacceptable.

**2013 – 76% of survey participants responded to this question.**

79% of survey participants responded the flows of 375 cfs were totally acceptable; 21% responded that it was moderately acceptable.

**2014 – 100% of survey participants responded to this question.**

83% of survey participants responded the flows of 375 cfs were totally acceptable; 17% responded that it was moderately acceptable.

**5. *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).***

**2012 – 68% of survey participants responded to this question**

86% of survey participants responded the flows of 400cfs were totally acceptable; 5% responded neutral, 5% responded that it was moderately acceptable and 5% responded that it was slightly unacceptable.

**2013 – 56% of survey participants responded to this question**

93% of survey participants responded the flows of 400 cfs were totally acceptable; 7% responded that it was moderately acceptable.

**2014 – 100% of survey participants responded to this question**

100% of survey participants responded the flows of 400 cfs were totally acceptable.

**6. *If you could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach given your craft and skill level, what flow would you prefer? Please specify cfs.***

**2012 – 74% of survey participants responded.**

Responses varied from anywhere from 375 cfs to 500 cfs. With most survey participants satisfied with the 375-400 cfs range. For specific responses/comments see 2012 survey results at Appendix B.

**2013 – 80% of survey participants responded.**

Responses varied from 370 to 425 cfs. For specific responses/comments see 2013 survey results at Appendix B.

**2014 – 100% of survey participants responded.**

Responses varied from 375 to 500 cfs. For specific responses/comments, see 2014 survey results at Appendix B.

**7. *What aspect of the paddling experience did you enjoy the most?***

**2012 – 87% of survey participants responded.**

See specific comments at Appendix B

**2013 - 84% of survey participants responded.**

See specific comments at Appendix B

**2014 – 83% of survey participants responded.**

See specific comments at Appendix B

**8. *What aspect of the paddling experience did you enjoy the least?***

**2012 – 81% of survey participants responded.**

See specific comments at Appendix B

**2013 – 64% of survey participants responded.**

See specific comments at Appendix B

**2014 – 83% of survey participants responded.**

See specific comments at Appendix B

**9. *Would you participate in this event again?***

**2012 – 97% of survey participants responded to this question.**

87% of survey participants responded they would participate every year; 13% responded that they would participate every other year.

**2013 - 88% of survey participants responded to this question.**

95% of survey participants responded they would participate every year; 5% responded they would participate every other year.

**2014 - 100% of survey participants responded to this question.**

83% of survey participants responded they would participate every year; 17% responded they would participate every other year.

***10. Would you recommend this Chelan River whitewater boating experience to other boaters?***

**2012 – 97% of survey participants responded to this question.**

100% of survey participants responded they would recommend this event to other boaters under certain conditions. See survey results at Appendix B for specific comments on recommendations for other participants.

**2013 – 88% of survey participants responded to this question.**

100% of survey participants responded, “Yes” they would recommend the Chelan River boating experience other boaters.

**2014 – 100% of survey participants responded to this question.**

100% of survey participants responded, “Yes” they would recommend the Chelan River boating experience other boaters.

## ***SECTION 6: RECOMMENDATION FOR FUTURE WHITEWATER BOATING EVENTS***

In consultation with American Whitewater, and based on the 2012-2014 whitewater boating monitoring and survey results, Chelan PUD has no recommended changes to the annual whitewater boating release flow, schedule, survey and evaluation methods, criteria, or reservation system. Chelan PUD and American Whitewater are, however, respectfully requesting Commission approval to modify the three-year reporting requirement for providing whitewater releases on the Chelan River to be every 10-years, with the next report due for filing with the Commission by May 1, 2026.

***APPENDIX A: CONSULTATION WITH AMERICAN  
WHITEWATER***

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Thomas O'Keefe, PhD  
Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director  
3537 NE 87<sup>th</sup> St.  
Seattle, WA 98115  
okeefe@americanwhitewater.org

Ray Heit, Parks Manager  
Chelan County PUD  
P.O. Box 1231  
Wenatchee, WA 98807-1231

April 28, 2015

Dear Ray,

American Whitewater is writing to document the consultation that occurred in developing the results of the three-year whitewater boating study covering the years 2012-2014 for the Chelan River in accordance with Article 407 of the license for the Lake Chelan Hydroelectric Project (FERC P-637). We worked collaboratively with Chelan PUD throughout the three years of the study and in development of the report. We support the recommendation to modify the three-year reporting requirement for providing whitewater releases on the Chelan River to be every 10-years, with the next report due for filing with the Commission by May 1, 2026.

Article 407 of the License Order and 11(h)(1) – (9) of the Settlement Agreement required Chelan PUD to conduct a three-year whitewater boating monitoring study. Following this initial study, we worked in collaboration with Chelan PUD to jointly propose modifications to the whitewater recreation plan. On July 16, 2012, the Commission issued an Order Amending the Recreation Resources Management Plan which approved the proposed changes to the whitewater boating section of the April 14, 2008 Order Approving Recreation Resources Management Plan. The revised whitewater boating plan required Chelan PUD to file a whitewater boating report by May 1, every three years.

The program is being well managed by Chelan PUD and our members have expressed a high degree of satisfaction with the opportunity that has been provided over the past six years; we believe that the opportunities currently available are well matched to existing demand and are unlikely to substantially change over the next decade. Our primary concern is that crowding could result in safety issues. Ongoing monitoring will allow us to determine if demand changes to a point that modifications to the whitewater recreation program are required. However, we concur with Chelan PUD that ten years is the appropriate time interval for the next formal evaluation and report.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the report. We look forward to continued collaboration with Chelan PUD in implementing the provisions for whitewater recreation on the Chelan Gorge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. O'Keefe', written over a white background.

Thomas O'Keefe, PhD  
Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director

**From:** [Bitterman, Deborah](#)  
**To:** [Bitterman, Deborah](#)  
**Subject:** FW: DRAFT 2015 Whitewater Boating Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 07, 2015 7:58:22 AM  
**Attachments:** [DRAFT 2015 Whitewater Boating Report.docx](#)

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**From:** Heit, Ray  
**Sent:** Friday, April 03, 2015 2:22 PM  
**To:** 'Thomas O'Keefe'  
**Subject:** DRAFT 2015 Whitewater Boating Report

Hi Thomas

Attached is the draft Whitewater Boating Report/Study

If we could have your comments back no later than April 27 to meet our May 1 filing date we would appreciate it.

If you have any questions as you read through it please don't hesitate to call Myself or Michelle.

Thanks Thomas

**Ray Heit**

Parks Manager

Chelan County PUD #1

509 661 4133

## ***APPENDIX B: SURVEY RESULTS***

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2014 Survey Results

How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.	During the weekend, there were 19 boaters on the river on Saturday and 13 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 could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach 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?	
Response	Response	Response	Commen	Response	Response				Response	Response	Comments
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	500 cfs	the challenge of the rapids!	nothing was all good! stoked if it happened more!!	Yes, each year	Yes	some challenging whitewater with some awesome drops! very cool run. would be even better if it ran more often. THANKS!! James Byrd - organizer of North Fork Championship www.northforkchampionship.com
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	More Releases	Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	Both days	Running Pinnacle	NA	Yes, each year	Yes	NA
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	400	Community and beauty of the gorge	Only once a year	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable		375 cfs. seemed pretty damn good to me but the initial stretch probably became less bumpy with a bit more water.	Everyone's excitement for this unusual and limited opportunity to paddle this stretch.		Yes, every other year	Yes	As long as you're ready for it, and I think the fearsome reputation keeps those not yet ready away from it, Chelan gorge is a beautiful and very challenging stretch of river to paddle. Hard to imagine how it might have been different before the dam. Thanks for your ongoing participation in this release!
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	400		Wish there were more releases!	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Moderately acceptable	Totally acceptable	400	The beautiful Canyon and ease of putting in and taking out.	The hangover I had after going out in Chelan Friday night.	Yes, each year	Yes	Its a committing awesome piece of class V whitewater that releases during the driest time of the year in the PNW.



# 2014 Whitewater Boating Survey Results

COMPLETION RATE  
**100%**

TOTAL RESPONSES  
**7**

Question  
**01**

How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.

Answers  
**7**  
100%

Skips  
**0**  
0%

	0%	50%	100%	COUNT	PERCENT
Extremely satisfied				<b>7</b>	100%
Moderately dissatisfied				<b>0</b>	0%
Extremely dissatisfied				<b>0</b>	0%
Slightly dissatisfied				<b>0</b>	0%
Neutral				<b>0</b>	0%
Moderately satisfied				<b>0</b>	0%
Slightly satisfied				<b>0</b>	0%

[Detailed Report](#)

Question  
**02**

During the weekend, there were 19 boaters on the river on Saturday and 13 on Sunday. Was crowding a problem on your run?

Answers  
**7**  
100%

Skips  
**0**  
0%

	0%	50%	100%	COUNT	PERCENT
Not a problem				<b>7</b>	100%
Very serious problem				<b>0</b>	0%
Extremely serious problem				<b>0</b>	0%
Serious problem				<b>0</b>	0%
Marginal problem				<b>0</b>	0%
Barely a problem				<b>0</b>	0%
Slight problem				<b>0</b>	0%

[Detailed Report](#)

Question  
**03**

Should there be a set launch time for boaters to minimize the number of boaters in each section of the river at a time?

Answers  
**7**  
100%

Skips  
**0**  
0%

	0%	50%	100%	COUNT	PERCENT
No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times				<b>7</b>	100%
Yes (please suggest how this could work)				<b>0</b>	0%

Question  
**04**

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).

Answers  
**7**  
100%

Skips  
**0**  
0%

	0%	43%	86%	COUNT	PERCENT
Totally acceptable				<b>6</b>	86%
Moderately acceptable				<b>1</b>	14%
Moderately unacceptable				<b>0</b>	0%
Totally unacceptable				<b>0</b>	0%
Neutral				<b>0</b>	0%
Slightly acceptable				<b>0</b>	0%
Slightly unacceptable				<b>0</b>	0%

[Detailed Report](#)

Question  
**05**

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).

Answers  
**6**  
86%

Skips  
**1**  
14%

	0%	50%	100%	COUNT	PERCENT
Totally acceptable				<b>6</b>	100%
Moderately unacceptable				<b>0</b>	0%
Totally unacceptable				<b>0</b>	0%
Slightly unacceptable				<b>0</b>	0%
Neutral				<b>0</b>	0%
Moderately acceptable				<b>0</b>	0%
Slightly acceptable				<b>0</b>	0%

[Detailed Report](#)

Question

06

If you could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach given your craft and skill level, what flow would you prefer? Please specify cfs.

Answers







7

100%

Skips

0

0%

	390 CFS	Yesterday, 5:57PM
107,212,027		
	400	Thursday, Oct 9th 6:33PM
105,326,609		
	400	Thursday, Oct 9th 3:12PM
105,307,648		
	375 cfs. seemed pretty damn good to me but the initial stretch probably became less bumpy with a bit more water.	Thursday, Oct 9th 4:40AM
105,273,198		
	400	Thursday, Oct 9th 4:08AM
105,272,042		
	Both days	Wednesday, Oct 8th 10:47PM
105,250,917		

[Detailed Report](#)

Question

07

What aspect of the paddling experience did you enjoy the most?

Answers







6

86%

Skips

1

14%







	Camaraderie, technical whitewater, weather, water warmth, beauty of the gorge	Yesterday, 5:57PM
107,212,027		
	The beautiful Canyon and ease of putting in and taking out.	Thursday, Oct 9th 6:33PM
105,326,609		
	Everyone's excitement for this unusual and limited opportunity to paddle this stretch.	Thursday, Oct 9th 4:40AM
105,273,198		
	Community and beauty of the gorge	Thursday, Oct 9th 4:08AM
105,272,042		
	Running Pinnacle	Wednesday, Oct 8th 10:47PM
105,250,917		
	the challenge of the rapids!	Wednesday, Oct 8th 9:23PM
105,246,489		

Question  
**08**

What aspect of the paddling experience did you enjoy the least?

Answers  
**6**  
86%

Skips  
**1**  
14%

	All was good!	Yesterday, 5:57PM
107,212,027		
	The hangover I had after going out in Chelan Friday night.	Thursday, Oct 9th 6:33PM
105,326,609		
	Wish there were more releases!	Thursday, Oct 9th 3:12PM
105,307,648		
	Only once a year	Thursday, Oct 9th 4:08AM
105,272,042		
	NA	Wednesday, Oct 8th 10:47PM
105,250,917		
	nothing was all good! stoked if it happened more!!	Wednesday, Oct 8th 9:23PM
105,246,489		



[Detailed Report](#)

Question  
**09**

Would you participate in this event again?

Answers  
**7**  
100%

Skips  
**0**  
0%

	0%	43%	86%	COUNT	PERCENT
Yes, each year				<b>6</b>	86%
Yes, every other year				<b>1</b>	14%
No, I probably wouldn't come back				<b>0</b>	0%
Yes, every 3 or more years				<b>0</b>	0%

[Detailed Report](#)

Question  
**10**

Would you recommend this Chelan River whitewater boating experience to other boaters?

Answers  
**7**  
100%

Skips  
**0**  
0%

	0%	50%	100%	COUNT	PERCENT
Yes				<b>7</b>	100%
No				<b>0</b>	0%

2013 Survey Results

How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.	During the weekend, there were 25 boaters on the river on Saturday and 13 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?	Comments	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 could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach 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?	Comments
Response	Response	Response	Comments	Response	Response				Response	Response	Comments
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	380	Getting on a unique and rarely run section of river. Water quality was a plus.		Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	As long as paddlers have the option to put in whenever they want, I think we can self-regulate. This river handles large groups pretty well.	Moderately acceptable	Totally acceptable	Someday I wouldn't mind trying to paddle at a slightly higher flow (eg 500), but 400 is the optimum. I	As always, I left Chelan very happy about the overall experience. It is always a pleasure to interact with the dam employees. The camping, town and weather all contribute to making this a great weekend trip to meet up with old friends and make new ones.		Yes, each year	Yes	I recommend it to people who are looking for an "overall" experience. If someone just wants whitewater it might not be worth the drive. I hope the format of two days of releases with camping at the putin remains the same.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable		375	East coast style scheduled release group dynamic. Very fun to have a large group of talented boaters to spend the weekend with.	Being held only one weekend a year.	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	As long as paddlers have the option to put in whenever they want, I think we can self-regulate. This river handles large groups pretty well.	Moderately acceptable	Totally acceptable	Someday I wouldn't mind trying having the opportunity to paddle the gorge at a slightly higher flow (eg 500), but I agree that 400 is the optimum flow for these releases.	As always, I left Chelan very happy about the overall experience. It is always a pleasure to interact with the dam employees. The camping, town and weather all contribute to making this a great weekend trip to meet up with old friends and make new ones.		Yes, each year	Yes	I recommend it to people who are looking for an "overall" experience. If someone just wants whitewater it might not be worth the drive. I hope the format of two days of releases with camping at the putin remains the same.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable		375	Beauty of the gorge	Portaging	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	self-regulate.	Moderately acceptable	Totally acceptable	It would be nice to try 500 sometime.	Camaraderie	The bad weather Sunday:) Nothing really, it has always been quite enjoyable.	Yes, each year	Yes	

## 2013 Survey Results

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Response	Response	Response	Comments	Response	Response				Response	Response	Comments
Extremely satisfied	Barely a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable		380 cfs	The group camaraderie and the steepness of the gorge, perfect combination!	There was nothing about Saturday that was less than optimal. This was a day of paddling on some of the hardest whitewater in the state, with some of the best boaters in the state, in one of the most fun places in the state. Can't wait for next year.	Yes, each year	Yes	This is a must do for any solid class V kayaker. I will bring my friends, when they are ready...
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	Your doing a great job	Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	Around 400	The group aspect	I have nothing bad to say	Yes, each year	Yes	It's a great time in a great city!
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times			Totally acceptable	400 and higher	lots of boaters that come out for a once a year run.	can't think of anything.	Yes, each year	Yes	its fun. the people from the dam are awesome, friendly. security gaurds are friendly.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable		375	The wonderful group dynamics that make this difficult run safe and fun.	Nothing	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	400	For me it was the first year that I had the chance to participate, so the best part was running a new section of river. I'll be back next year thought for the rapids, sunshine and the people.		Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	Turn the water on at 9am. Turn it off at 5pm. Our paddling community are highly skilled operators capable of self regulating.	Moderately acceptable	Totally acceptable	390 cfs	This whitewater and the canyon scenery are very unique. This run is a classic, warm water, high gradient, at a time of year when nothing else is flowing.	Security at the put in / take out was completely unnecessary. staff at the sign in was also unnecessary. Keep the online sign up and form submission, and ditch the manual signup at put in.	Yes, each year	Yes	Please keep the automated signup process, and eliminate the staff and security... There doesn't need to be staff at the put in and security standing by. Its intimidating, and unnecessary. Also, stop asking about group launch times. We are always going to paddle in a group for safety. It doesn't matter if its 6 people or 60.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable			Community.	Graffiti	Yes, every other year	Yes	

## 2013 Survey Results

How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.	During the weekend, there were 25 boaters on the river on Saturday and 13 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?	Comments	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 could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach 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?	Comments
Response	Response	Response	Comments	Response	Response				Response	Response	Comments
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	I think that boaters should be considerate of the PUD and put on by noon. Boaters can self regulate their put on though, we would hate to rush a hang over morning and put on before breakfast.		Moderately acceptable	400	The warm water, and the steep gorge	The stacked nature of the run. This run makes you focus on setting safety and being extra aware of group dynamics and safety.	Yes, each year	Yes	I would recommend any competent and confident class V boater to experience Chelan Gorge. This run is a unique gem for NW Kayakers.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	as often as possible, but realistically I would thing one weekend a month for the summer months would be a great option	Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	400cfs	the whitewater is amazing as well as the people. the scenery is no slouch either. but the best experience of all is just being alive and with the ones I love	the graffiti on the rocks	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Barely a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable					Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	You're doing great with the current system.		Totally acceptable	400-425	The Camaraderie.	The Fear.	Yes, each year	Yes	If they were competent for the run.
Extremely satisfied	Barely a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable			Steep, tightly packed drop and a community atmosphere.	That it only runs once a year!	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times			Totally acceptable	400 CDs	Quality, challenging whitewater		Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	Let us know the times of the release and we will coordinate amongst ourselves as necessary.	Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	400 cfs was good I have not experience any flows other than 375 and 400 though	novelty of the run and the warm weather	needs to be a longer run	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	375	The remote feeling of being deep down in that gorge, so close to civilization.	That it had to end. The lack of fresh cookies.	Yes, each year	Yes	

2013 Survey Results

How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.	During the weekend, there were 25 boaters on the river on Saturday and 13 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?	Comments	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 could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach 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?	Comments
Response	Response	Response	Comments	Response	Response				Response	Response	Comments
Slightly dissatisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	An ideal weekend for Chelan is the second weekend in Sept. Another way to say it would be, the weekend after labor day. Another way to say it is, the first half of Sept. What we experienced this year was terrible weather that sent a number of the group packing, myself included. This would be my vote for future release dates... aim for warm, sunny weather.	Totally acceptable		370-410cfs					
Slightly dissatisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	An ideal weekend for Chelan is the second weekend in Sept. Another way to say it would be, the weekend after labor day. Another way to say it is, the first half of Sept. What we experienced this year was terrible weather that sent a number of the group packing, myself included. This would be my vote for future release dates... aim for warm, sunny weather.	Totally acceptable		370-410cfs	All of it.	The cold weather on Sun.	Yes, each year	Yes	



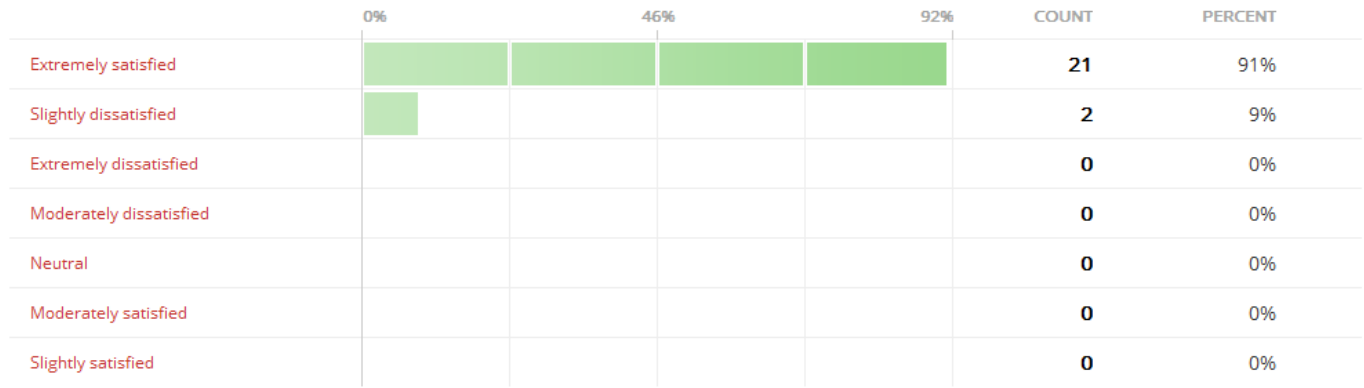
# 2013 Whitewater Boating Survey Results

COMPLETION RATE **100%**  
TOTAL RESPONSES **25**

Question  
**01**

How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.

Answers **23**  
92%  
Skips **2**  
8%

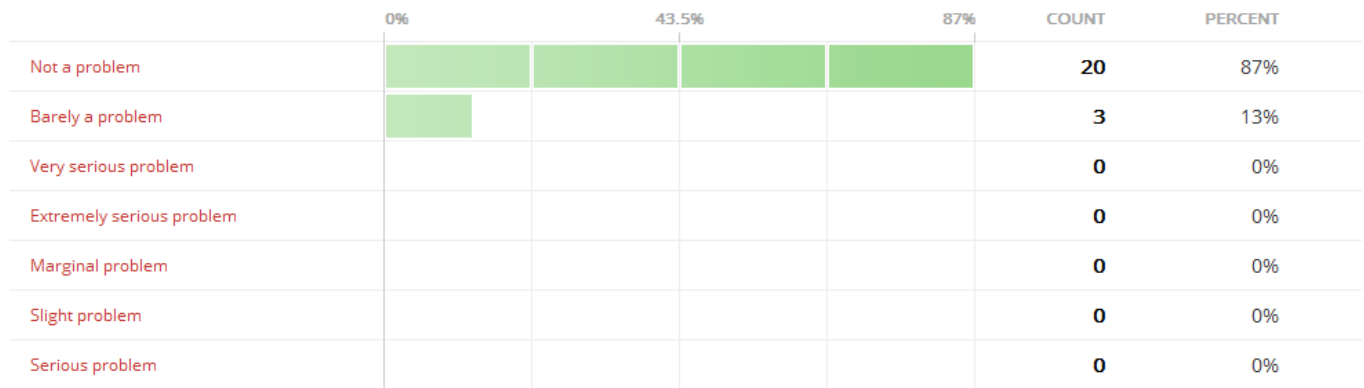


[Detailed Report](#)

Question  
**02**

During the weekend, there were 25 boaters on the river on Saturday and 13 on Sunday. Was crowding a problem on your run?

Answers **23**  
92%  
Skips **2**  
8%

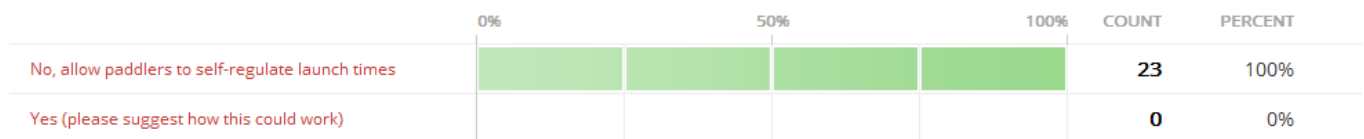


[Detailed Report](#)

Question  
**03**

Should there be a set launch time for boaters to minimize the number of boaters in each section of the river at a time?

Answers **23**  
92%  
Skips **2**  
8%



Question

04

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).

Answers

19

76%

Skips

6

24%

	0%	39.5%	79%	COUNT	PERCENT
Totally acceptable				15	79%
Moderately acceptable				4	21%
Moderately unacceptable				0	0%
Totally unacceptable				0	0%
Neutral				0	0%
Slightly acceptable				0	0%
Slightly unacceptable				0	0%

[Detailed Report](#)

Question

05

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).

Answers

14

56%

Skips

11

44%







	0%	46.5%	93%	COUNT	PERCENT
Totally acceptable				13	93%
Moderately acceptable				1	7%
Moderately unacceptable				0	0%
Totally unacceptable				0	0%
Neutral				0	0%
Slightly acceptable				0	0%
Slightly unacceptable				0	0%

Question  
**06**

If you could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach given your craft and skill level, what flow would you prefer? Please specify cfs.

Answers  
**20**  
80%

Skips  
**5**  
20%

 59,794,816	370-410cfs	Friday, Oct 18th 12:53PM
 59,794,718	370-410cfs	Friday, Oct 18th 12:53PM
 59,656,016	375	Wednesday, Oct 16th 10:21PM
 59,535,541	400 cfs was good I have not experience any flows other than 375 and 400 though	Tuesday, Oct 15th 5:08PM
 59,520,174	400 CDs	Tuesday, Oct 15th 2:40PM
 59,455,672	400-425	Monday, Oct 14th 6:27PM







[Detailed Report](#)

Question  
**07**

What aspect of the paddling experience did you enjoy the most?

Answers  
**21**  
84%

Skips  
**4**  
16%

 59,794,816	All of it.	Friday, Oct 18th 12:53PM
 59,656,016	The remote feeling of being deep down in that gorge, so close to civilization.	Wednesday, Oct 16th 10:21PM
 59,535,541	novelty of the run and the warm weather	Tuesday, Oct 15th 5:08PM
 59,520,174	Quality, challenging whitewater	Tuesday, Oct 15th 2:40PM
 59,479,006	Steep, tightly packed drop and a community atmosphere.	Monday, Oct 14th 11:25PM
 59,455,672	The Camaraderie.	Monday, Oct 14th 6:27PM

Question

08

What aspect of the paddling experience did you enjoy the least?

Answers







16

64%

Skips

9

36%

	The cold weather on Sun.	Friday, Oct 18th 12:53PM
59,794,816		
	That it had to end. The lack of fresh cookies.	Wednesday, Oct 16th 10:21PM
59,656,016		
	needs to be a longer run	Tuesday, Oct 15th 5:08PM
59,535,541		
	That it only runs once a year!	Monday, Oct 14th 11:25PM
59,479,006		
	The Fear.	Monday, Oct 14th 6:27PM
59,455,672		
	the graffiti on the rocks	Friday, Oct 11th 3:17AM
59,223,718		

[Detailed Report](#)

Question

09

Would you participate in this event again?

Answers

22

88%

Skips

3

12%

	0%	48%	96%	COUNT	PERCENT
Yes, each year				21	95%
Yes, every other year				1	5%
No, I probably wouldn't come back				0	0%
Yes, every 3 or more years				0	0%

[Detailed Report](#)

Question

10

Would you recommend this Chelan River whitewater boating experience to other boaters?

Answers

22

88%

Skips

3

12%

	0%	50%	100%	COUNT	PERCENT
Yes				22	100%
No				0	0%

2012 Survey Results

How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.	During the weekend, there were 27 boaters on the river on Saturday and 24 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 could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach 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?	
Response	Response	Response	Comments	Response	Response				Response	Response	Comments
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	Start the flow early and leave it on, people can start when they like.	Totally acceptable	Slightly acceptable	400 was fine but more people seemed to struggle with this flow	The character of the run	Seeing people who were not good enough to be on the river	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Slight problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	375cfs	Character and challenge of the Chelan Gorge rapids.	That all the boaters got stalled out at the first rapid - too many people for my liking. Might I add that my team could have left that situation by moving on, but we chose not to.	Yes, each year	Yes	With a disclaimer that if you are participating you need to be on form - the gorge could be an unforgiving place if you are having a bad day.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	Please don't try to regulate this - the river is pretty well set up to have a large group and it's helpful to have lots of people setting safety at the larger drops. It's possible the event could grow to have too many paddlers to all run at once, but I think the community is capable of spreading out and/or self-regulating if that becomes an issue.	Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	400 or so is probably good, would like to see it a little higher. but not too much higher :)	Camaraderie, and the high level of safety and paddling ability of the other boaters on the river.	Going right at Double Slide.	Yes, each year	Yes	Great run for Class V paddlers!
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Neutral			Quality of boaters there and beautiful river.		Yes, each year	Yes	
Moderately satisfied	Slight problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	I think it was ok letting people self regulate crowding. On a river of this difficulty, the boaters running it know how and when to stagger groups in order to eliminate danger from crowding. Was it crowded? yes. Did it create danger? No. Everyone was very good about spacing and not crowding the eddies. If anything it was safer from all the extra paddlers running safety. Nothing like having three people ready to fish you out.	Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable		The warm water and group cheering.	The beatdowns	Yes, each year	Yes	Yes, but only if they have the skills. It's not a place to find out if you have them or not.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	375CFS	Warm water, quality of rapids, quality of hosts. Chelan PUD and Kris are amazing!	None	Yes, each year	Yes	This is a premier river, with top quality rapids and town to fit all the needs of every paddler.
Extremely satisfied	Marginal problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	We tried to go early on Sunday and ended up getting bottle necked at the first rapid and decided to stay for safety (and entertainment) as the rest of the boaters arrived.	Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	I think it's pretty ideal	I liked the hospitality of the PUD.	The 6 hour run on Saturday was a bit on the long side. I would rather not do that again. I would also say setting safety (ie having someone out on the rock) at the boulder sieve is important.	Yes, each year	Yes	Warm water boating in Washington state is really non-existent, so this is a very special run. I would caution the difficulty of the run.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable		375-400	Running Pinnacle!	Rafts	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Barely a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable			Beautiful water, rapids and scenery	smoke from the fire	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Barely a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable					Yes, each year	Yes	

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Response	Response	Response	Comments	Response	Response				Response	Response	Comments
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	The Chelan is a special circumstance in that everyone seems to enjoy spending the whole day in there, watching and watching out for each other. I think this would be very different if it was a river that ran frequently, in which case it would be very unusual to spend so long on such a short stretch of river with such a huge group.	Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	Hard to say, this was my first year. I think 400 cfs might have been a bit better than 375. Both totally fine.	That's hard. The whole weekend was fun. Met tons of new people who came from far and wide. Everyone was great and supportive. There was no other kayaking happening that weekend so a great crew showed up. The first rapid in the gorge is one of the highest quality pieces of whitewater I have ever paddled. Weather/camping was awesome. Despite being a very challenging piece of whitewater, I felt very safe due to the amount of safety and knowledge present. A totally unique experience that I will look forward to every year.	In honesty, I enjoyed every minute. The last rapid is a bit trashy but it's a small price to pay for the gold upstream.	Yes, each year	Yes	Unique, steep, warm, easy to set safety. Clean Pool Drops!!!! However it is definitely a hard piece of whitewater that isn't run often, so having solid skills is definitely a prerequisite.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable				Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable			Group fun, big rapids		Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Slight problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	400	Warm weather, and fun times with the group	The hole below entrance exam rapid!!!	Yes, each year	Yes	It's an unforgettable experience, worth it for any class V+ kayaker.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	I believe that it would be very difficult to coordinate launch times in a manner that would make everyone happy. It worked very well this year (at least on Sunday when I was there). A few of the most experienced kayakers (including the American Whitewater representative) headed downstream ahead of everyone else to ensure adequate safety was set. Then they waited for everyone else and the whole group tackled each rapid as a team, making sure everyone made it through OK. Even if launches were staggered, the groups would almost inevitably run into each other as some paddlers might take longer to scout, run, rescue, etc.		Totally acceptable	400 - 425 cfs	The beautiful canyon with crystal-blue water and the amazing quality of whitewater: specifically, sitting below the Throne and looking back upstream--simply astounding. The camaraderie of the boaters, hardshells and inflatables alike, was also pretty awesome, and Kris and Judy (the PUD personnel I met) made this great experience even more incredible (yay for cookies!). Thank you all!	The only part of the whole experience that I could even think to list as "least enjoyable" is the fact that it only happens once per year...	Yes, each year	Yes	I would recommend the experience to skilled and competent class V boaters. This is not a place to introduce someone to class V.



2012 Survey Results

How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.	During the weekend, there were 27 boaters on the river on Saturday and 24 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 could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach 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?	
Response	Response	Response	Comments	Response	Response				Response	Response	Comments
Extremely satisfied	Marginal problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Slightly acceptable		You guys are doing great with flows. I paddled Sat because that was my available day, however I would prefer some more water. Wouldn't mind seeing it in the 450-500cfs range.	The time of year. September is a great month to do the release due to lower levels around the state. The large group can be nice if approached appropriately.	The paddle in and out is pretty lousy at 375 cfs. Maybe allow hike-in access near the top of the gorge. It looks like there are some trails around there. However, I don't know if it is a sensitive area for wildlife or plants. I would prefer to hike a quarter mile vs paddle several in low water.	Yes, every other year	Yes	Good run
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	leave it. if anything make everyone paddle at the same time, have a big number of throw bags out there was key to the safety of the day		Moderately acceptable	450 i think, it would nice to have a bit more water in the last big rapid but at the same time i dont know what the gorge would look like, 400 was really good for the rafts in the gorge	the friendships!	the smell	Yes, every other year	Yes	as long as they have sold class V skills.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	Paddlers will always boat with their own crews at their own times.	Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	400 cfs	The challenging whitewater and beautiful canyon	Security guards and sign ups	Yes, each year	Yes	This is world class whitewater run that will grow in popularity and participation each year
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	400	Everything!	Nothing!	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Moderately acceptable	Totally acceptable	400 cfs	The boatingcommunity aspect and the friendliness if the Chelan PUD team.	None	Yes, each year	Yes	Great river and world class rapids. Warm water and sun also add to the experience.
Extremely satisfied	Barely a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Neutral	Neutral	450	Firing off Pinnacle!	How long the river takes to run.	Yes, each year	Yes	It's a great river short dry tops in September!
Extremely satisfied	Marginal problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Moderately acceptable	Totally acceptable	425 cfs	Good weather and warm water during the dry season.	Slow transit time of large group made for a lot of waiting around and no possibility of multiple laps.	Yes, every other year	Yes	Unique whitewater experience for the area with a great warm welcome from PUD and AW representatives.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable			The outstanding support from all of the Kayakers (we rafted)....they were great!	The last section where we had to portage a few boulder strewn runs, but we were rafting so it was expected	Yes, each year	Yes	Very raftable for experienced paddlers....Thanks for letting us participate!
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable		This was my first year and did not run Sunday.					
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable		This was my first run and I did not run on Sunday. 375 was great, but do not have any other flow to judge from.	The team work (this include safety), sheer beauty of the canyon and great rapids.	None (except the sticky rocks)!	Yes, each year	Yes	I would recommend this run to qualified boaters. It isn't the hardest run out there, however it is challenging. What an experience. Thank you so much Kris and Tom!!! Nothing but great memories!
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Neutral	Totally acceptable	400	Unique and powerful hydraulics!	Rocks are very porous and sticky (probably because they aren't blasted with water all year long).	Yes, every other year	Yes	Great event and support by the PUD. It has a good festival vibe to it, making it very appealing.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable		375-400 seemed perfect	Group dynamic, sweet canyon, good rapids.	None	Yes, each year	Yes	If they are qualified it is a great run with warm water when little else is flowing.
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times	Just advertise that there is a drop-dead time for the end of the release. Then people can plan accordingly.	Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	375cfs was more enjoyable for me	The uniqueness of the run and the friendly Chelan PUD staff.	That it had to end!	Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Totally acceptable	Totally acceptable	375 cfs	The super friendly and genuine people from Chelan!	That it had to end.	Yes, each year	Yes	

2012 Survey Results

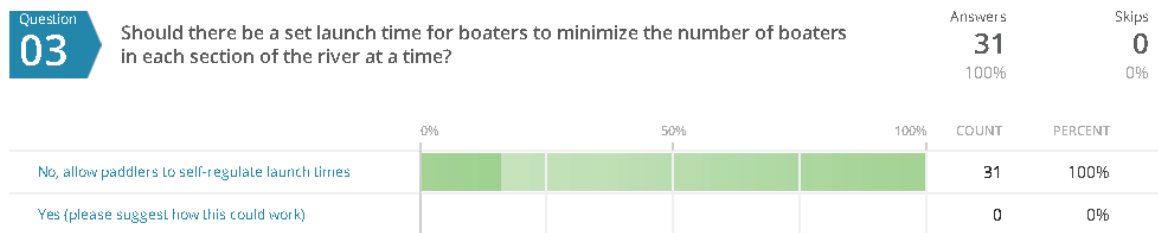
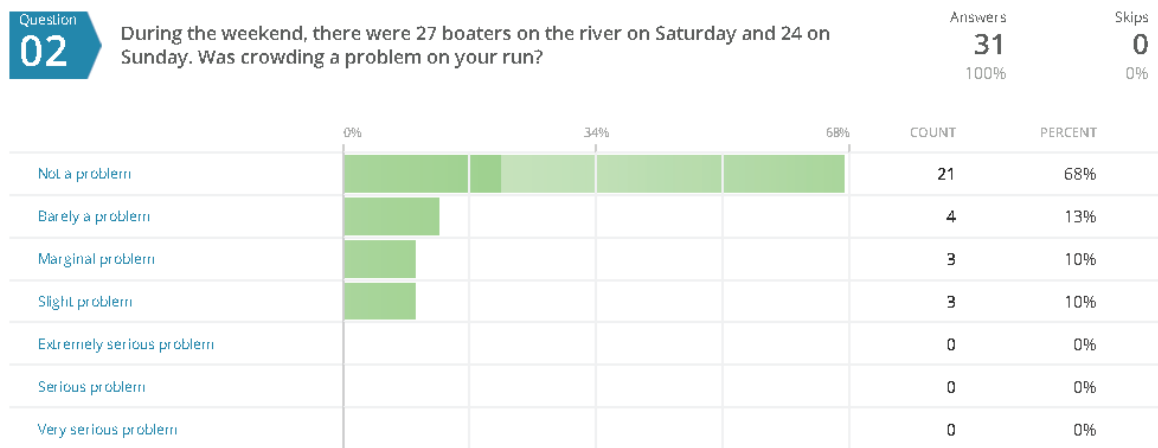
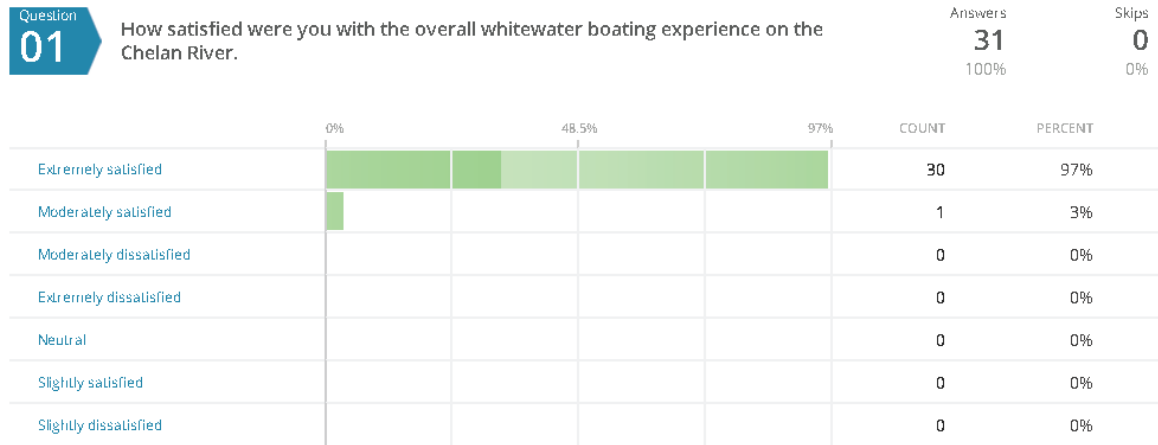
How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.	During the weekend, there were 27 boaters on the river on Saturday and 24 on Sunday. Was crowding a problem on your run?	Should there be a set launch time for boaters to minimize the number of boaters in each section 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 could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach 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?	
Response	Response	Response	Comments	Response	Response				Response	Response	Comments
Extremely satisfied	Not a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times			Totally acceptable				Yes, each year	Yes	
Extremely satisfied	Barely a problem	No, allow paddlers to self-regulate launch times		Moderately acceptable	Totally acceptable	400	Paddling every rapid was a huge up for me, even more so, was paddling with 20 or so new people I have never kayaker with before who immediately became friends after/during the first rapid. As soon as people start setting safety for others no questions, an instant bond is made.	Having the day end because it was so awesome.	Yes, each year	Yes	And I already have, should be more Canucks down for next year.



# 2012 Whitewater Boating Survey Results

## Whitewater Boating on the Chelan...

### Survey Results

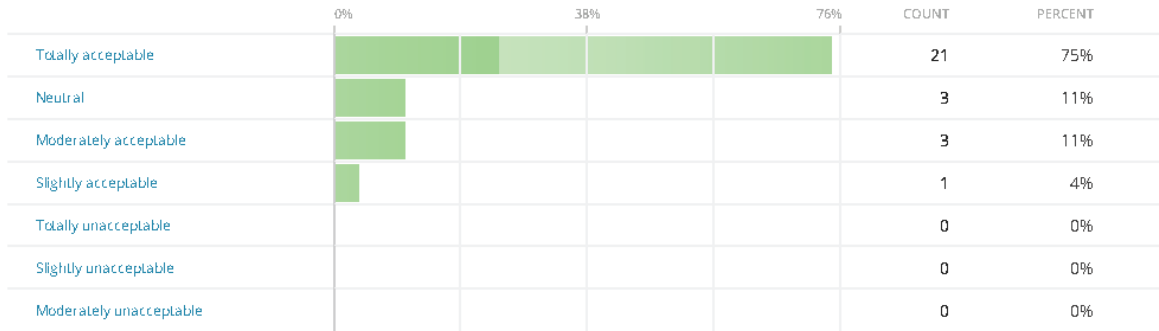


Question  
**04**

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).

Answers  
**28**  
90%

Skips  
**3**  
10%

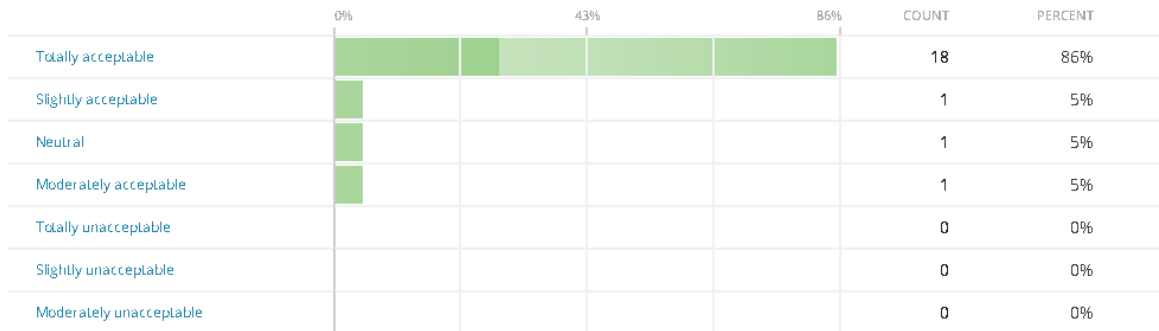


Question  
**05**

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).

Answers  
**21**  
68%

Skips  
**10**  
32%



Question  
**06**

If you could select an optimal flow for boating on this reach given your craft and skill level, what flow would you prefer? Please specify cfs.

Answers  
**23**  
74%

Skips  
**8**  
26%

32.993, '95	400	Monday, Oct 15th 4:48PM
32.9762, '9	450 I think, it would nice to have a bit more water in the last big rapid but at the same time i dont know what the gorge would look like, 400 was really good for the rafts in the gorge	Monday, Oct 15th 7:22AM
32.7, '7, 395	400	Friday, Oct 12th 7:22AM
32.69, '0, '5	375-400 seemed perfect	Thursday, Oct 11th 5:49PM
32.662, 23'	375cfs	Thursday, Oct 11th 9:59AM
32.6, '3, 7, 2	400	Thursday, Oct 11th 6:21AM
32.62, '0, 00	400 cfs	Wednesday, Oct 10th 9:00PM

32,603,037	You guys are doing great with flows. I paddled Sal because that was my available day, however I would prefer some more water. Wouldn't mind seeing it in the 450-500cfs range.	Wednesday, Oct 10th 1:47PM
32,601,570	450	Wednesday, Oct 10th 11:22AM
32,597,930	400 - 425 cfs	Wednesday, Oct 10th 9:51AM
32,592,731	400	Wednesday, Oct 10th 6:05AM
32,511,711	400 cfs	Tuesday, Oct 9th 5:56AM
32,361,526	Hard to say, this was my first year. I think 400 cfs might have been a bit better than 375. Both totally fine.	Friday, Oct 5th 1:28PM
32,315,212	This was my first run and I did not run on Sunday. 375 was great, but do not have any other flow to judge from.	Friday, Oct 5th 8:06AM
32,311,852	This was my first year and did not run Sunday.	Friday, Oct 5th 8:05AM
32,297,696	375 cfs	Thursday, Oct 4th 8:49AM
32,257,350	375-400	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 3:15PM
32,250,571	425 cfs	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 12:23PM
32,213,066	I think it's pretty ideal	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 12:06PM
32,211,111	375CFS	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:39AM
32,217,896	400 was fine but more people seemed to struggle with this flow	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:26AM
32,217,236	400 or so is probably good, would like to see it a little higher. but not too much higher :)	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:20AM
32,211,299	375cfs was more enjoyable for me	Tuesday, Oct 2nd 4:20PM

**Question 07** What aspect of the paddling experience did you enjoy the most? Answers **27** 87% Skips **4** 13%

32,993,195	Everything!	Monday, Oct 15th 4:48PM
32,976,213	the friendships!	Monday, Oct 15th 7:22AM
32,717,395	Paddling every rapid was a huge up for me, even more so, was paddling with 20 or so new people I have never kayaker with before who immediately became friends after/during the first rapid. As soon as people start setting safety for others no questions, an instant bond is made.	Friday, Oct 12th 7:22AM
32,691,316	Group dynamic, sweet canyon, good rapids.	Thursday, Oct 11th 5:49PM

32,662,234	Character and challenge of the Chelan Gorge rapids.	Thursday, Oct 11th 9:59AM
32,640,742	Unique and powerful hydraulics!	Thursday, Oct 11th 6:21AM
32,621,090	The challenging whitewater and beautiful canyon	Wednesday, Oct 10th 9:00PM
32,609,037	The time of year. September is a great month to do the release due to lower levels around the state. The large group can be nice if approached appropriately.	Wednesday, Oct 10th 1:47PM
32,601,570	Firing off Pinnacle!	Wednesday, Oct 10th 11:22AM
32,597,489	The beautiful canyon with crystal-blue water and the amazing quality of whitewater: specifically, sitting below the Throne and looking back upstream--simply astounding.  The camaraderie of the boaters, hardshells and inflatables alike, was also pretty awesome, and Kris and Judy (the PUD personnel I met) made this great experience even more incredible (yay for cookies!). Thank you all!	Wednesday, Oct 10th 9:51AM
32,582,731	Warm weather, and fun times with the group	Wednesday, Oct 10th 6:05AM
32,541,741	The boating community aspect and the friendliness of the Chelan PUD team.	Tuesday, Oct 9th 5:56AM
32,411,321	Group fun, big rapids	Saturday, Oct 6th 9:28AM
32,364,526	That's hard. The whole weekend was fun. Met tons of new people who came from far and wide. Everyone was great and supportive. There was no other kayaking happening that weekend so a great crew showed up. The first rapid in the gorge is one of the highest quality pieces of whitewater I have ever paddled. Weather/camping was awesome. Despite being a very challenging piece of whitewater, I felt very safe due to the amount of safety and knowledge present. A totally unique experience that I will look forward to every year.	Friday, Oct 5th 1:28PM
32,345,242	The team work (this include safety), sheer beauty of the canyon and great rapids.	Friday, Oct 5th 8:06AM
32,297,606	The super friendly and genuine people from Chelan!	Thursday, Oct 4th 8:49AM
32,278,052	Beautiful water, rapids and scenery	Thursday, Oct 4th 1:32AM
32,267,799	The outstanding support from all of the Kayakers (we rafted)....they were great!	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 6:15PM
32,257,350	Running Pinnacle!	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 3:15PM
32,250,571	Good weather and warm water during the dry season.	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 12:23PM
32,249,966	I liked the hospitality of the PUD.	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 12:06PM
32,248,161	Warm water, quality of rapids, quality of hosts. Chelan PUD and Kris are amazing!	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:39AM
32,248,132	The warm water and group cheering.	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:34AM
32,247,806	The character of the run	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:26AM
32,247,544	Quality of boaters there and beautiful river.	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:30AM

32,277,235	Carraraderie, and the high level of safety and paddling ability of the other boaters on the river.	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:20AM
32,271,299	The uniqueness of the run and the friendly Chelan PUD staff.	Tuesday, Oct 2nd 4:20PM

Question  
**08**

What aspect of the paddling experience did you enjoy the least?

Answers **25**  
81%  
Skips **6**  
19%

32,939,195	Nothing!	Monday, Oct 15th 4:48PM
32,876,279	the srnell	Monday, Oct 15th 7:22AM
32,777,395	Having the day end because it was so awesome.	Friday, Oct 12th 7:22AM
32,691,346	None	Thursday, Oct 11th 5:49PM
32,662,237	That all the boaters got stalled out at the first rapid - too many people for my liking. Might I add that my team could have left that situation by moving on, but we chose not to.	Thursday, Oct 11th 9:59AM
32,610,772	Rocks are very porous and sticky (probably because they aren't blasted with water all year long).	Thursday, Oct 11th 6:21AM
32,621,090	Security guards and sign ups	Wednesday, Oct 10th 9:00PM
32,609,037	The paddle in and out is pretty lousy at 375 cfs. Maybe allow hike-in access near the top of the gorge. It looks like there are some trails around there. However, I don't know if it is a sensitive area for wildlife or plants. I would prefer to hike a quarter mile vs paddle several in low water.	Wednesday, Oct 10th 1:47PM
32,601,570	How long the river takes to run.	Wednesday, Oct 10th 11:22AM
32,597,993	The only part of the whole experience that I could even think to list as "least enjoyable" is the fact that it only happens once per year...	Wednesday, Oct 10th 9:51AM
32,592,731	The hole below entrance exam rapid!!!	Wednesday, Oct 10th 6:05AM
32,511,711	None	Tuesday, Oct 9th 5:56AM
32,361,526	In honesty, I enjoyed every minute. The last rapid is a bit trashy but it's a small price to pay for the gold upstream.	Friday, Oct 5th 1:28PM
32,315,272	None (except the sticky rocks)!	Friday, Oct 5th 8:06AM
32,297,696	That it had to end.	Thursday, Oct 4th 8:49AM
32,279,052	smoke from the fire	Thursday, Oct 4th 1:32AM
32,267,799	The last section where we had to portage a few boulder strewn runs, but we were rafting so it was expected	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 6:15PM
32,257,350	Rafts	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 3:15PM

32.253.57	Slow transit time of large group made for a lot of waiting around and no possibility of multiple laps.	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 12:23PM
32.273.366	The 6 hour run on Saturday was a bit on the long side. I would rather not do that again. I would also say setting safety (ie having someone out on the rock) at the boulder sieve is important.	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 12:06PM
32.273.6	None	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:39AM
32.273.32	The beatdowns	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:34AM
32.277.896	Seeing people who were not good enough to be on the river	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:26AM
32.277.236	Going right at Double Slide.	Wednesday, Oct 3rd 11:20AM
32.277.299	That it had to end!	Tuesday, Oct 2nd 4:20PM

