

2013 Whitewater 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	

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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	

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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	
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					

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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	

Whitewater Boating on the Chel...

Survey Results

Question 01 How satisfied were you with the overall whitewater boating experience on the Chelan River.

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



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%



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?

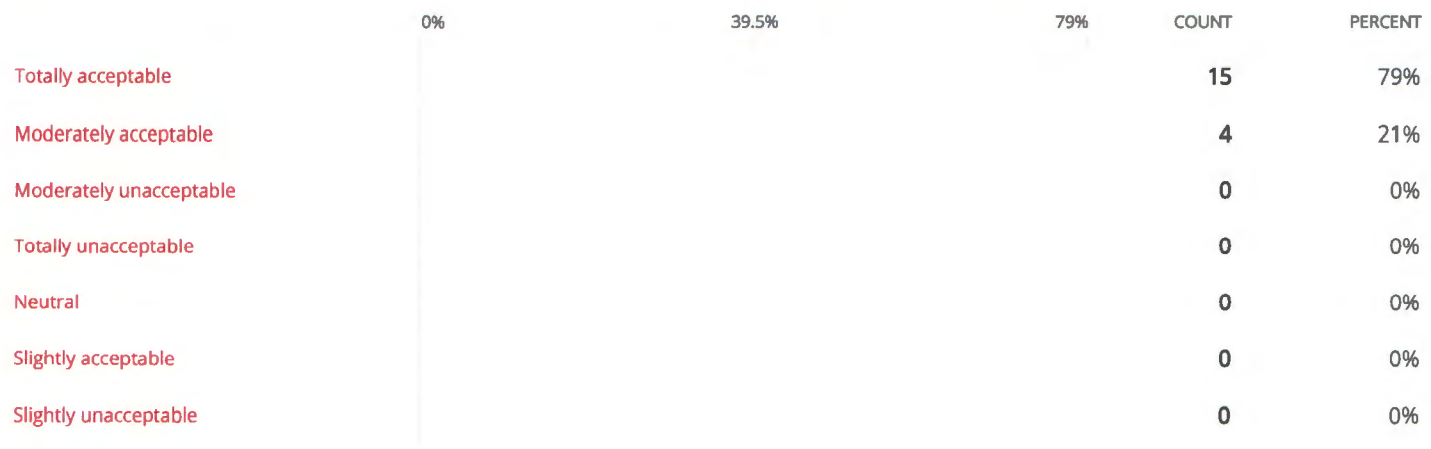
Answers **23** 92%
 Skips **2** 8%



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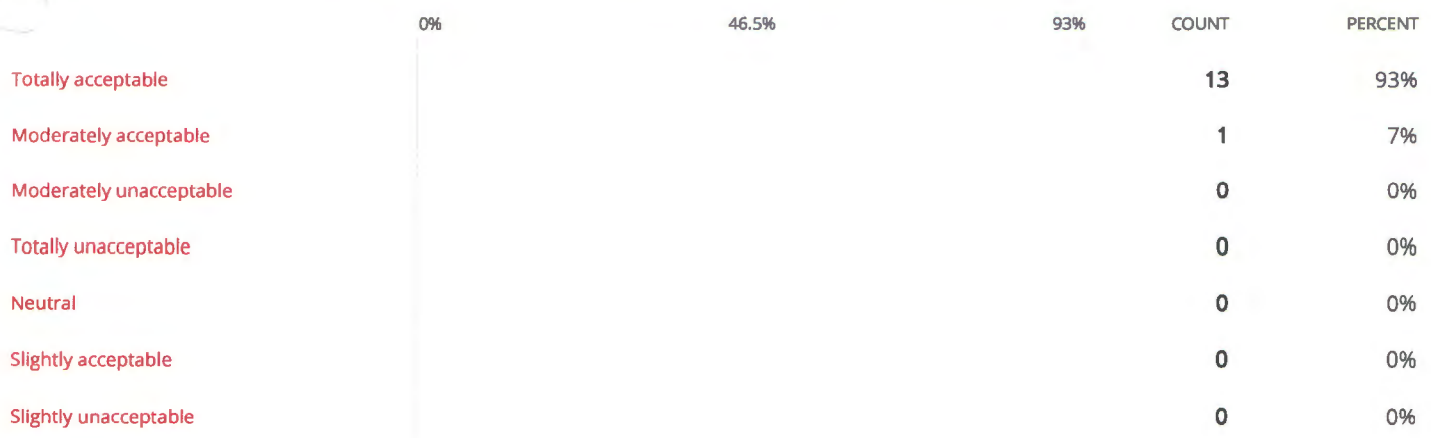
Question 04 If you paddled on Saturday at flows of 375, score the quality of this flow for your craft and skill level. Please consider all the flow-dependent characteristics that contribute to a high quality trip (e.g., boatability, whitewater challenge, safety, availability of surfing or other play areas, aesthetics, and length of run).

Answers **19** 76%
 Skips **6** 24%



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%



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%







- 370-410cfs (59,794,816) Friday, Oct 18th 12:53PM
- 370-410cfs (59,794,718) Friday, Oct 18th 12:53PM

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

Question
07

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

Answers **21** Skips **4**
 84% 16%

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

Question
08

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

Answers **16** Skips **9**
 64% 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

Question

09

Would you participate in this event again?

Answers

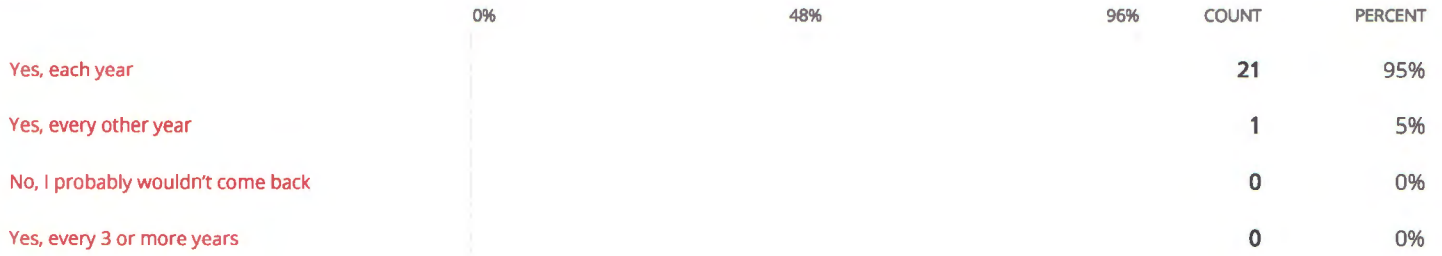
22

88%

Skips

3

12%



Question

10

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

Answers

22

88%

Skips

3

12%

