



THE SPRAY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE COLORADO WHITEWATER ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 58, NUMBER 4, July/August 2012

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ACA Swift Water Clinic Sept 8 & 9 (See page 4)

Introducing: Whitewater Youtube Feature Videos

Submit your favorite
youtube videos.

First Selections:

[Best Roll](#) and
[Hold My Beer & Watch
This!](#)



(see page 5)

Other CW Events:

Sept 7-9 Upper CO
Weekend

Oct TBD Fall Dinner

Good Gauley

Extend your fall boating season on this East Coast Classic

By Kate Stepan

Water Season: Six weekend releases during
September 7th- October 21st
Rivers: Gauley, New, Cheat (WV), Youghieny
(MD)
Nearest Airport: Charleston, WV
Outfitter to Contact: Ace Adventure Gear

With summer temperatures soaring and the wa-
ter in our western rivers drying up faster than
you can say "Gore Fest is cancelled again,"
what's a parched Colorado boater to do?

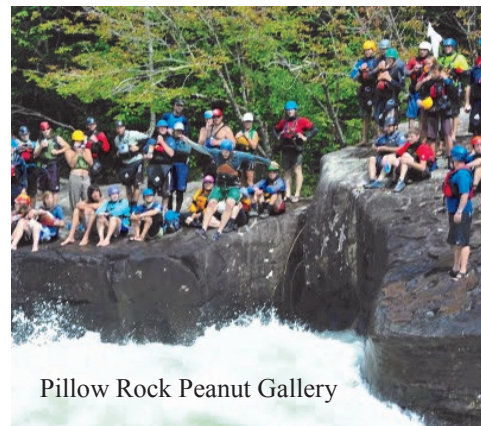
Here's the plan: load up some YouTube videos
of the Gauley River, then force your kayaking buds to watch them until they agree to
make the road trip to WV to sample some of the country's finest whitewater this fall.

Agreed, 21 hours is a lot of driving, especially across some of the most flat and boring
stretches of interstate imaginable (be prepared for some confused looks directed toward
the boats on the roof at the gas station in Kansas). Keep an eye out on I-70 for other
Gauley-bound boaters, then revel in the non-stop party that is West-By-God — Think
Salida with a touch of "Deliverance."

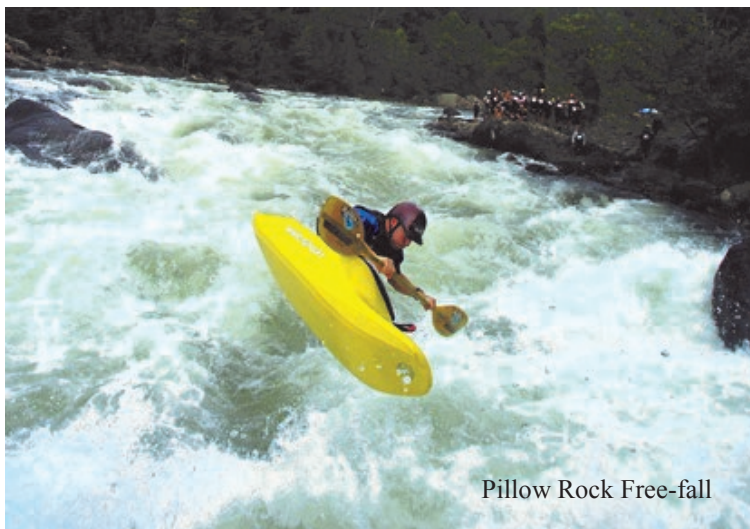
The Lower Gauley
(Wood's Ferry to Swiss)
offers an excellent
chance to cut your big
water teeth before
heading to the infamous
Upper. Rapids like
Koontz's Flume, Mash,
and Pure Screaming
Hell offer up gorgeous
canyon scenery,
straightforward wave
trains, and plenty of
catch-on-the-fly play.
Be sure bring a bomb-
proof roll when taking
on the Upper Gauley
(Summersville Dam to

Wood's Ferry). Pool-drop in nature, the Upper is steep, demanding, and dangerous in
places, though the deep, warm water is a little more forgiving than most Rocky Mountain
mank. Insignificant, Pillow Rock, Lost Paddle, Iron Ring, and Sweet's Falls make up this
section's storied "Big 5" rapids, each of which push the lower limit of Class V.

Continued on page 7



Pillow Rock Peanut Gallery



Pillow Rock Free-fall



**806 Washington Ave.
Golden, CO 80401
303-215-9386
GoldenRiverSports.net**

Beat Feet to This Sale!

**All kayak
footwear is
20% off for
the month
of July!**



**Our New Hours:
10-7 M-Th
9-7 Friday
8 -7 Saturday
9-5 Sunday**

This is it: Our Once a Year Kayak Sale: July 25-July 31, 2012! Golden River Sports is having a one week only sale: Save 15% off all Wave Sport kayaks and save 10% off all Pyranha kayaks*. This sale only happens once a year so if you are thinking of purchasing a new kayak - now's the time to do it as prices will never be lower than this.



WAVE SPORT



"By Enthusiasts - For Enthusiasts"

Free kayak demo's Thursdays! Stop by the shop and pick-up what you want to try. Take it to the Golden playpark and enjoy!

CW MISSION

The Colorado Whitewater Association promotes the sport of whitewater paddling in the Rocky Mountain region. The club introduces new paddlers to whitewater, provides training in technique and safety, supports racing, informs the public about whitewater issues, including river access and conservation, and works to resolve related problems. CWWA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization run entirely by volunteers.

CW was founded in 1954, and is the oldest club in the United States of America devoted wholly to whitewater paddle sports.

CW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS?

To Join CW, visit our website at www.coloradowhitewater.org and join online.
To change your e-mail or other contact information: Contact Helen Johnson at hellionbiz@gmail.com.

2012 Spray Submission Schedule

The Spray encourages article submissions on all whitewater related issues. Please send submissions to Scott Winkleman at scott@coloradowhitewater.org.

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Submission Date</u>
Sept/Oct	September 1, 2012
Nov/Dec	November 1, 2012
Jan/Feb	January 1, 2013
Mar/Apr	March 1, 2013
May/June	May 1, 2013
July/Aug	July 1, 2013

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Submissions
We welcome your contributions on topics related to whitewater paddling.

Written Material
We prefer e-mail submissions, preferably in Microsoft Word, RTF, or plain text.
Maximum length: 1,000 words.

Don't be shy, even if you don't think you're a great writer. We'll edit for length, style, grammar, and spelling as needed to make your writing more clear and readable.

Photos and graphics files:
We much prefer bitmap, jpeg, pdf, or tiff format, but can work with others. Please use a minimum resolution of 300 dpi.

COLORADO WHITEWATER

2012

SUMMER INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Instructor's Corner

CW instructors will be available to help you one-on-one with a skill you may want to develop or improve. Look for a white board at the pool entrance with information on available instructors. Put your name on the board and what boat you are in and the instructor will find you. No cost, but you must provide your own boat, paddle, and spray skirt and be a CW member.

ACA Swiftwater Rescue Clinic

Colorado Whitewater has partnered with Renaissance Adventure Guides for ACA Swiftwater Rescue Clinic's for only \$150 this year which is over 33% off of list price! This clinic is for all Colorado Whitewater members who are kayakers, canoeists, rafters, duckie captains or just like splashing around in the river.

Somewhere, at sometime, you will wish you knew what to do in a river emergency. Just rescuing gear can turn into a nightmare, never mind rescuing a person. Quick response time and the knowledge to set up a rescue safely are skills you should have as a boater. Make this the year to bring your rescue skills to a higher level. Friends owe it to friends to be capable of river rescue. Kayakers must be of Class II-III ability. Rescue lifejackets are considered personal equipment and are highly recommended. This clinic qualifies as an ACA sanction course.

Itinerary:

Day 1:

- Equipment needed for rescues
- How to handle a rescue situation
- Equipment vs life threat
- Rescue organization
- Communications
- Lunch break
- Throw Bag Rescues
- Toe Systems: swimmer/boat/paddle
- Walking in Rapids
- Unconscious swimmer rescue
- River Extrication Backboards
- Zip lines
- Floating platform rescue

Day 2:

- Anchors Z drags
- Bridge Abutment Rescue gaining access
- Unwrapping a kayak/raft
- Vertical pins
- Ankle entrapment
- Lunch break
- Run mock rescues
- Rescue evaluation

Note: This clinic will be customized based on river features, water levels and students needs and skills.

Recommended Gear List

Class participants should bring as much of this gear as they can)

- River Rescue Book (book of your choice)
- Kayak, Canoe, Raft or any other type of river water craft
- Knife (one hand accessible)
- Whistle
- Carabineers (4 or more)
- Prussic Loop (3 or more)
- Webbing (about 8')
- Drybag to put rescue items in
- Lifejacket with rescue belt
- Tow Tether for Lifejackets with rescue belts
- Throw Bag
- Pulley (at least 2)
- Lighter
- Warm clothing
- Energy Food
- First Aid Kit (contents based on paddlers training and remoteness of trip)
- Duct Tape
- Waterproof light

ACA Clinic cont.

Optional Items

Gibbs Ascender (climbing ascender)
Rapid Air (compress air in cylinder for trapped boater)
Saw or wood cutting device
Z-Drag Crib card
GPS
Radio
Cell Phone
Signal mirror
Pocket Knife
Multi-plyer tool
Bee Kit
Static Rope

Location

The location of this class may vary greatly based on river levels and weather. The Sept class will take place in conjunction with Colorado River weekend. We will contact you in advance to let you know the location we have chosen that is best for the class.

Cost: \$150

Date: 9/8/12-9/9/12

Time: 8am-6pm

Knots For Safety & Swift Water Rescue

This class will go over a series of rope knots that are very helpful for swift water rescue scenarios, safety, mechanical advantage and every day use. These knots will be helpful to not only kayakers but also, rafters, SUP, river boarders or even aspiring swr professionals. During this 3 hour class we will provide in-person instruction on how to tie each of the knots below, some basic scenarios on when you would use them, as well as a section of cordelette to keep as well as printed instructions to take home and keep practicing. The knots that we will teach will be the following:

Please bring a single carabiner to class to have something to tie too.

* knowledge of the knots taught in this class will be the prerequisites for the mechanical advantage class the following

Dates: 8/23/12

Time: 7pm-10pm

Location: 455 Sherman Street, Ste. 300 Denver, Co 80220

Cost: \$15

Mechanical Advantage Seminar

This class will teach the basics of mechanical advantage. We will teach the principles of creating anchors, vector pulls and 3 to one pulley systems. These skill sets will be useful for not only kayakers but rafters, SUPers, river boarders or even aspiring SWR professionals. During class you will be taught the principles of mechanical advantage and will be provided a crib sheet for a 3 to one z-drag.

All materials for class will be provided however it will be expected that you know how to tie the following knots prior to class. Please note that all of these knots are taught the prior week in the Knots for Safety class.

Dates: 8/30/12

Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm

Location: Golden Playpark

Cost: \$20

Feature Videos

The Spray will be featuring a whitewater related Youtube video each issue. Video categories are: "Best Roll", "Worst Swim", "Hold My Beer And Watch This!", "Funny", and "Incredible". If you have a video in mind please send links to: erik@ristlaw.com. Here are the first selections for [Best Roll](#) and [Hold My Beer & Watch This!](#)

Shoshone protocol boosts Colorado River flows

Cooperative agreement reached just in time to deal with extreme drought

By Heather McGregor, Editor Post Independent

Reprinted courtesy of the Glenwood Springs Post Independent

Full article may be found at: [Here](#)

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, Colorado

A formal agreement governing the Colorado River, hammered out over the past six years among 43 Western Slope and Front Range entities, is now paying off for fish, anglers, boaters and cities that divert river water for municipal use.



A section of the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement called the Shoshone Outage Protocol is ensuring that flows through Glenwood Canyon and farther upstream will remain at or close to the normal 1,250 cubic feet per second (cfs) level, according to Jim Pokrandt, spokesman for the Colorado River District.

That flow level keeps the water cool enough for fish, high enough for rafting, and clean enough for towns that use river water, such as Silt and Rifle.

The protocol came into play last week when river managers and wildlife officials could see that drought conditions were pushing river flows well below the 1,250 cfs level normally maintained through Glenwood Canyon.

At the same time, Xcel Energy has its Shoshone hydroelectric power plant in Glenwood Canyon operating at half capacity while crews do repair and maintenance work on the plant's over-flow pipes.

When the plant is running at full capacity, its senior water right, known as the "Shoshone call," ensures that flows stay at or above 1,250 cfs. But with plant operations curtailed and the water right not being exercised, Colorado River flows fell below 1,000 cfs from Monday, June 11, to Wednesday, June 13.

At that level, river companies were having a tough time getting passenger rafts down the popular Shoshone stretch, between the power plant and Grizzly Creek, Pokrandt said. In addition, temperatures in the river were rising, which puts a strain on cold-water-loving trout and the river insects they feed on.

Last Wednesday, key players in the Shoshone protocol got on a conference call to discuss the situation, and agreed to make extra releases of about 450 cfs of water from three reservoirs.

Contributing to the flows are the Colorado River District from its Wolford Mountain Reservoir, Denver Water from its Williams Fork Reservoir, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation from its Green Mountain Reservoir, all near Kremmling.

By 10 a.m. on Friday, June 15, flows hit the normal 1,250 cfs level, and hovered between 1,250 and 1,300 through the week-end. By 4 p.m. Monday, flows had climbed over 1,400 cfs.

"The bottom line is to mimic the Shoshone call for the benefit of fish, recreationists and cities that divert water from the river, such as Rifle and Silt," Pokrandt said.

"This makes a real difference in the river," said Eric Kuhn, general manager of the Colorado River District. "Since we started [boosting flows], you can see by the gauge that the temperature of the water has come down 4 degrees Fahrenheit."

The Shoshone call will remain inactive while power plant repairs continue, said Mark Stutz, Xcel spokesman. "The goal is to get done before winter, so it will be into the fall before we do the full call again," Stutz said.

Pokrandt said the river flow situation will be assessed in a conference call on a weekly basis for the time being.

"Every Wednesday the reservoir operators, irrigators, fish biologists and Denver Water will get on the phone and see what the river and the weather look like," Pokrandt said. Based on forecasts, the group will decide how much extra water to release under the Shoshone protocol.

"There is a limit to how much water is in these reservoirs," Pokrandt noted, but for now the releases can be managed.

By mid-July, river managers expect that flows in the Colorado River at Palisade will fall low enough that Grand Valley irrigators will exercise the Cameo call. That's another very senior water right that will require water users upstream with younger wa-

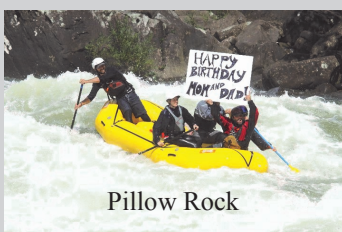
But for now, the agreement between Western Slope and Front Range water users under the Shoshone protocol is serving as a means to maintain flows along the CO River from Parshall in Grand County, through Glenwood and all the way to Palisade. “This is exactly why we all came together to sign the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement — to provide benefit to the Colorado River. Denver Water is proud to be part of an effort that fulfills our goal to operate our system in a way that benefits the environment,” said Jim Lochhead, manager of Denver Water.

Good Gauley continued from page 1...

These and the Class IV boogie water in between harbor nasty sieves and undercut rocks with a history of commercial and private boater deaths; go with someone who knows the lines or scout if necessary, especially at Pillow and Lost Paddle. Three of the most famous trouble spots are the sieve on river right at Initiation, Shipwreck Rock, and “Thumb Rock” just above Sweet’s. Many of the hazards are not immediately obvious; if you don’t know the river stay away from any random slots and if you swim, try to avoid washing up against any large boulders either mid-stream or along the shore. This remote, 10-mile stretch is a little longer than most of Colorado’s roadside runs, so be prepared for a long day of strenuous paddling. The best emergency access point to hike out of the gorge is just above Pillow Rock on river right.

River access via West Virginia’s dirt roads is always part of the adventure — though has been improved in the last few years with a new public boat launch at Wood’s Ferry that sports a graded boat ramp, paved parking area, two permanent restrooms, and changing facilities to replace the “Kayaker’s Nightmare” hike out of the Mason’s Branch takeout upstream. Parking here has been managed with few restrictions but boaters are asked to park close together in an organized fashion to take advantage of all available space. There are several access points to both sections of river; American Whitewater

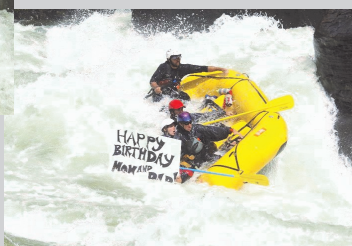
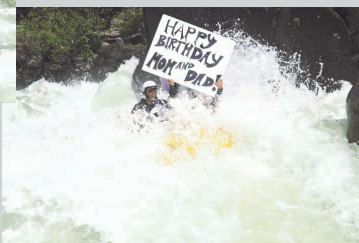
(americanwhitewater.org) has directions to the most used public sites. Watch your speed on Highway 19 (what the locals refer to as the “four-



Pillow Rock

lane”), especially around Summersville. Local police are aggressive with enforcement; if you are stopped, your car will very likely be searched.

Camping is available in Summersville, with free tent sites at the dam river access, however the raft guide scene 20 minutes to the south in Fayetteville is friendly and fun. Fuel up with coffee, and get beta from local paddlers,



Grand County manager Lurline Underbrink Curran said, “This is a good example of how the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement can work when everybody is pitching in to help the river in a time of need.”

“This is a great level right now,” said Geoffrey Olson, co-owner of Blue Sky Adventures, a rafting outfitter in Glenwood Springs, on Monday. “The higher flows makes for a more fun ride through the canyon. We’d like the water to keep coming.”

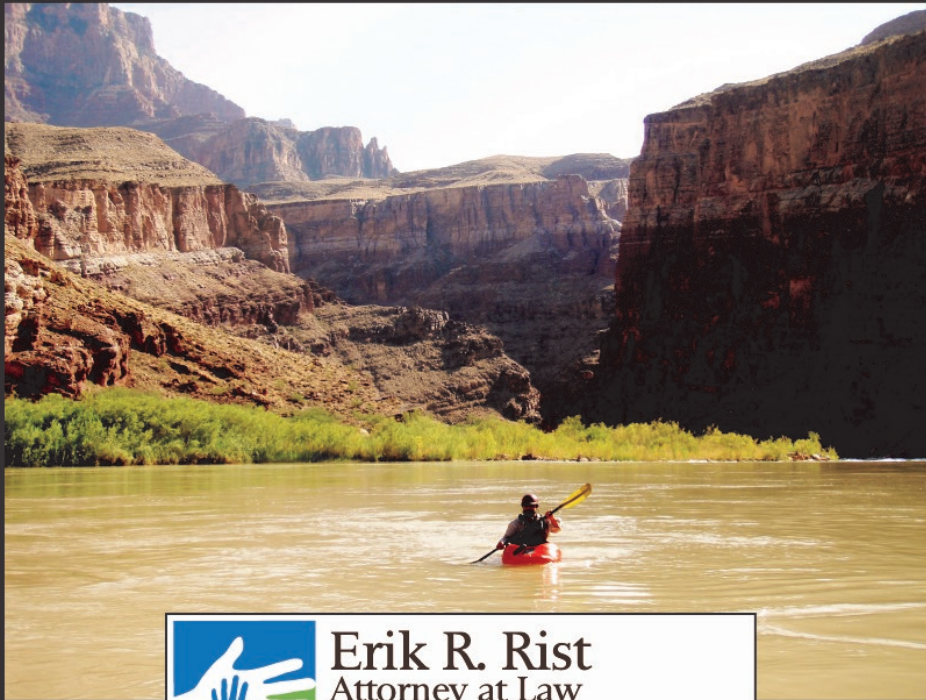
at Cathedral Café on Court Street, the touristy main drag. Local eating establishments like Pies and Pints, Dirty Ernie’s Rib Pit, and Diogi’s Latin Grill keep you going after boating while the party, and often live music, can be found at any of several rafting company bars. The late-night scene at the infamous Charlie’s bar is not for the faint of heart.



Postage Due at Sweets Falls

Gauley Fest is typically held the third weekend in September and a nice time to visit if you want to enjoy the river with 2,000 of your new closest friends. Plan to visit during the last two release weekends, usually in October (bring a drysuit), if you want to dodge the crowds on one of the most popular runs in the country.

Kate Stepan is a regular contributor to Canoe & Kayak Magazine as well as a Kayak Instructor for RMOC and a Video Kayaker on the Upper Gauley



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CW Member

River Events 2012

Colorado Whitewater Festivals/Events:

August 10-12 Bailey Fest, Bailey, CO
August 24-26 Golden River Sports Sale & Gear Swap
Thursdays- Mem Day to Lab Day, Golden Playpark, Free
Demo Evenings
Gore Canyon Race-TBA

National Festivals:

September 7 First Gauley River Release, WV
September 14-16 Gauley Fest, Summersville, WV

