

Middle Fork of the Salmon River

Application Process: Lottery applications are accepted December 1 through January 31 annually. Launch reservations for May 28 - September 3 (lottery control season) are assigned by the Four Rivers Lottery System at <https://www.recreation.gov/permits/234623>. Successful applicants must confirm their reservation and pay part of their recreation fees by March 15. After the lottery, cancelled Lottery Control Season launch dates are released from 8AM MST. Pre- and post-season launches may be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis on the website or by calling (877) 444-6777 beginning October 1 at 8am MST. Permits are required year-round on the Middle Fork of the Salmon. After March 15th, the Middle Fork will not re-issue cancellations for launches occurring Aug. 15 through Sept. 15.

Fees: Application \$6.00 non-refundable fee.

Recreation Fee - \$4.00 per person per day (or any part of a day) or be a valid Middle Fork/Main Salmon Rivers Season Pass holder (see below). Permit holders will be responsible for submitting complete and final payment of fees for their entire group online at least three days prior to the actual launch date. Payments for recreation fees will not be accepted at the launch sites.

Season Passes: \$40 and are available for purchase from the Middle Fork and North Fork offices. This pass entitles the holder only (not other members of their party) to float the Middle Fork and/or Main Salmon Rivers without further payment of Recreation Fees within one year from the date of purchase.

Federal Park Passes - A fee reduction of 50% is available to valid Senior or Access Pass holders. Season pass holders and persons using a Senior or Access Pass for a fee discount must present their pass, along with their photo ID, to the launch personnel issuing the permit.

Cancellations: If you cannot make the trip, you must cancel your reservation; no exceptions. Cancellations should be made as soon as possible, but have to be submitted no later than 21 days prior to your launch date to avoid a penalty of non-participation in the control season lottery for the Middle Fork Salmon for 3 years. If you need to cancel your launch reservation after payment of fees has been made, your recreation fees will be refunded.

Additional Information: Anyone who wants to launch a boat on Idaho waters will have to buy and display an [Idaho Invasive Species Fund sticker](#). (Inflatable, non-motorized vessels less than 10 feet long are exempt). For more information and purchase options call (800) 247-6332.

During the Lottery Control Season, (May 28-September 3) group size determines trip length:

21 – 24 people, up to 6 days - 5 nights

11 – 20 people, up to 7 days - 6 nights

1 – 10 people, up to 8 days - 7 nights

Pre- and post-season: the maximum group size is 24 and the maximum trip length is 8 days.

Contact: U.S. Forest Service
Middle Fork Ranger District
HC 63 Box 1669
Challis, ID 83226

Telephone: (208) 879-4101 **Fax:** (208) 879-4198 **Reservations/Cancellations:** (877) 444-6777

Office Hours: 7:45am – 4:30pm, Monday – Friday

Websites: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/scnf/recreation/wateractivities/?cid=stelprdb5302105>
and [Four Rivers Lottery Information](#) and [FAQs](#)