

2012 RIVER RANGER RENDEZVOUS (RRR) AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20 – LUBRECHT EXPERIMENTAL FOREST

- 7:00 – 8:00** **BREAKFAST**
- 8:00 – 8:15** **INTRODUCTION & WELCOME** (RRR Planning committee)
- 8:15 – 9:00** **OPENING SPEAKER** (Rich Torquemada – BLM Missoula Field Office Manager)
BLM Missoula Field Office Manager, Rich Torquemada shares some of his experiences having worked for several federal agencies in several states.
- 9:00 – 9:15** **OVERVIEW OF THE BLACKFOOT RIVER** (Maria Craig & Chet Crowser)
BLM Outdoor Recreation Planner, Maria Craig and FWP River Recreation Manager, Chet Crowser provide an overview of the history, management and recreational use of the Blackfoot River.
- 9:15 – 10:30** **PARTICIPANT INTRODUCTIONS** (All Participants)
Each ranger will have 5 minutes to share who they are, where they work and the top three issues that they are dealing with/working on and what they hope to get out of the RRR.
- 10:30 – 10:45** **BREAK**
- 10:45 – 11:30** **PUBLIC CONTACT SCENARIOS** (AARON BERG & TONY LUE)
Rangers will have an opportunity to take part in some interactive scenarios as an intro to the public contact/enforcement/ranger safety information.
- 11:30 – 12:00** **PUBLIC CONTACTS/ENFORCEMENT/RANGER SAFETY** (Aaron Berg & Tony Lue)
FWP Warden Aaron Berg and BLM Ranger Tony Lue cover the ins and outs of making contacts with the public, dealing with enforcement issues, and the keys to ranger safety. Topics will include: river ranger image, communicating with the public about rules and regulations, gathering information for enforcement purposes, reading people and maximizing personal safety.
- 12:00 – 1:00** **LUNCH**
- 1:00 – 2:00** **PUBLIC CONTACTS/ENFORCEMENT/RANGER SAFETY CONTINUED** (Aaron Berg & Tony Lue)
The topics from before lunch will be continued, along with an opportunity for rangers to apply what they learned as they discuss the interactions from the earlier scenarios.
- 2:00 – 3:00** **SOCIAL MEDIA** (Vivaca Crowser)
With Facebook and Twitter becoming mainstream communication media, what potential might these sources have for your program? FWP Information and Education Manager, Vivaca Crowser shares some thoughts on the role of social media in natural resource management, her experience with creating and administering Facebook and Twitter accounts for FWP and some dos and don'ts for public employees when using social media.
- 3:00 – 3:15** **BREAK**
- 3:15 – 3:45** **GETTING KIDS AND OTHER NON-TRADITIONAL RECREATIONISTS OUTSIDE** (Group Discussion)
Connecting our public to the outdoors and providing quality recreational opportunities continues to be an important goal for managing agencies. What are you doing on your river? What could you be doing on your river? and Why is it important? Be ready to share and brainstorm.

- 3:45 – 4:15** **HUMAN WASTE MANAGEMENT (Group Discussion)**
Discuss what works and what doesn't, both from an equipment standpoint as well as motivating people to "Pack-It-Out."
- 4:15 – 5:00** **VOLUNTEERS & THE BLACKFOOT RIVER CLEANUP**
What does it take to gather more than 100 volunteers and organize a river-wide clean up each year? Marietta Pfister will share her successes with spearheading a community cleanup of the Blackfoot River for the past 8 years, and what it takes to keep things going strong.
- 5:30 – 7:00** **DINNER (Dutch Oven Group Effort)**

THURSDAY, JUNE 21 – BLACKFOOT RIVER FLOAT (CLEARWATER BRIDGE TO WHITAKER BRIDGE)

- 7:00 – 8:00** **BREAKFAST**
- 8:00 – 8:30** **SHUTTLE TO CLEARWATER BRIDGE**
- 8:30 – 9:00** **SAFETY TALK (BEN SCHMIDT)**
- 9:00 – 4:00** **FLOAT – CLEARWATER BRIDGE TO WHITAKER BRIDGE**
- Five minute talks and 10 Minute Discussions:**
1. Cooperative Agreements/Private Land - Public Access
 2. Noxious Weeds
 3. Float Camping & Leave-No-Trace
 4. Enforcement/Managing the Public
- 4:00 – 6:00** **BLACKFOOT FREE-TIME**
Float from Whitaker Bridge to Johnsrud Park FAS, bring a boat to surf the "Ledge," do some fishing, play some horseshoes or bocci, or just relax by the river. Options will depend on seasonal conditions, but transportation will be available.
- 6:00 – 7:00** **DINNER (BBQ AT JOHNSRUD PARK FAS)**

FRIDAY, JUNE 22 – BLACKFOOT RIVER (ROUNDUP FISHING ACCESS SITE)

- 7:00 – 8:00** **BREAKFAST**
- 8:00 – 8:15** **SHUTTLE TO ROUNDUP FISHING ACCESS SITE**
- 8:15 – 9:30** **SPECIAL EVENTS/SPECIAL RECREATION PERMITTING**
Have you ever wondered what goes into setting up a whitewater slalom competition/course and how agencies are involved. We'll visit the site of this year's Blackfoot Challenge slalom course to see how gates are hung, logistics are handled and how agencies are involved in permitting this annual event on the Blackfoot River.
- 9:30 – 12:00** **DISCUSSION TOPICS (ALL PARTICIPANTS)**
Group discussion of issues/topics of interest from Tuesday and Wednesday
- 12:00** **CLOSING REMARKS COMPLETE EVALUATION FORMS AND ADJOURN (LUNCH ON YOUR OWN)**