

North American River Management Symposium

Asheville, North Carolina

Field Sessions

Wednesday, April 25th

7:00 – 8:00 AM

Continental Breakfast

Box lunch pick up for select field sessions

2012 RMS Symposium Field Trips

10:30am – 4:30pm

Legacy of the Biltmore Estate's Landscape

Tour the Biltmore House, a decadent 250-room Chateau built in 1895, and the grounds designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, widely recognized for his early influential contributions to landscape architecture and land management. Participants will enjoy a 1.5 hour bus tour of the estate customized to focus on river, water, and landscape management, featuring a historic lock system and river frontage on both the French Broad and Swannanoa rivers. Following the estate tour participants can enjoy the remainder of the afternoon to explore the house, gardens, and winery. Capacity 15 People. Lunch at the Biltmore Estate (not included in price).

9:00am – 6pm

Implementing a Wild and Scenic River Plan

Visit and hike alongside North Carolina's newest Wild and Scenic River – the charming Wilson Creek near the Blue Ridge Parkway. Stop at access areas and rapids on the way to the new visitor center, and then take a hike into the creek's remote headwaters. Designated in 2000, Wilson Creek is currently implementing their WSR management plan. Capacity 15 people.

9:00 am -5:00 pm

Fisheries Management in Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Join a fishing guide and Park Personnel for some native brook trout fishing on small southern Appalachian streams flowing through Great Smoky Mountains National Park, one of the most visited parks in the country. Learn about fisheries management, research, and decision-making that is aimed at protecting and restoring the astounding aquatic biodiversity of the Southern Appalachians. Waders provided, Bring your own fishing gear if possible. NC or TN fishing license and trout stamp required. Lunch provided. Capacity 10 people. Box lunch included.

Asheville's Urban river restoration, revitalization, and recreation

Compatible conference session(s): A river runs through it; Loving the river without loving it to death

9:00 am – 11:00am In the morning, experience Asheville area restoration projects, development history, and the revitalization of the River-Arts district of Asheville on the RiverLink Bus Tour. Capacity 15 people. \$15

1:00pm – 5pm. French Broad Float

In the afternoon, explore the French Broad River as it floats through downtown Asheville. Experience firsthand the urban river development, as well as a variety of traditional and innovative river craft. Available crafts include stand-up paddle boards, pack-rafts, kayaks, canoes, rafts (heck, we may even throw in an inner tube). This flat stretch of river offers enjoyment to all, regardless of experience level. There is no better way to learn about a form of recreation than to try it! Capacity 15 people. Cost \$25.

9:00 am – 5:30 pm

Restoring Dammed Rivers in Western North Carolina

Compatible conference session(s): A river runs through it; Loving the river without loving it to death; Got water? Is it Clean? What about the fish (and other critters)?

Learn about two dam relicensing processes on two classic rivers: the Nantahala and the Tuckasegee Rivers. For most of the day, visit high use access areas, million dollar toilets, bustling outfitters, and the powerhouse providing the water on the Nantahala. On a raft trip, you will be one of the 200,000+ people that will take a raft, ducky, or kayak down the classic dam-release lower Nantahala in 2012. On the water, you will be treated to lush temperate rainforest scenery and sparkling cold rapids, guaranteed through the dam relicensing process. The trip will conclude with a site visit to the recently removed Dillsboro Dam on the Tuckasegee River.

Capacity 29 people. Lunch at the Nantahala Outdoor Center (not included).

7:15am – 6:15pm

1. Wild and Scenic River Management: A Very Challenging River

Compatible conference session(s): Loving the river without loving it to death; Got water? Is it Clean? What about the fish (and other critters)?

Raft the famous Section III of the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River, which offers paddlers exciting Class III rapids in a remote and scenic gorge. Afterwards, travel upstream for a stop at the controversial Upper Chattooga for a short walk near Ellicott Rock, and a discussion of the unusual and controversial paddling ban. Discussion will focus on capacity analyses and Wild and Scenic River Management Plan development.

Capacity 29 people. Lunch Included.

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

2. **Managing a Wild and Scenic Suitable River Awaiting Designation**

Compatible conference session(s): Ensuring Future Generations of River Rats

Take a raft trip down the free-flowing Class III+ Nolichucky River, a remote and scenic river flowing from North Carolina into Tennessee. The Nolichucky has been found suitable for Wild and Scenic Designation and awaits champions for designation. Discussion will focus on the management of rivers that are eligible and suitable for Wild and Scenic designation.

Capacity 29 people. Lunch Included.

Pre-Symposium Bonus Trip

Saturday, April 21, 2011

9:00 am to 5:30 pm. **A Southern Success Story – the Restored Cheoah River:** Take a trip down the Southeast's newest dam release river on the Saturday before the conference. Discuss and experience the process of bringing a river back to life after 77 years of being dewatered, through the federal dam relicensing process. Visit the new access areas and crash through nine miles of fast Class IV whitewater. Possible alternative would be to flatwater paddle on Calderwood reservoir from the Cheoah Takeout. Capacity 15 people.

Section III Chattooga Raft Trip and Site Visit: Raft Section III of the Wild and Scenic Chattooga River and then head upstream for a stop at the controversial Upper Chattooga for a short walk near Ellicott Rock and a discussion of the unusual and controversial paddling ban. Section III of the Chattooga offers paddlers exciting Class III rapids in a remote and scenic gorge. 7:15am – 6:15pm.

Guided Fly Fishing, Smoky Mountain National Park: Join a guide for some native brook trout fishing on small southern Appalachian streams flowing through Great Smokey Mountains National Park. 8:00 am - 3:00 pm. Capacity 10 people.

Nantahala Raft Trip and Site Visit: Be one of the 200,000+ people that will take a raft, ducky, or kayak down the classic dam-release lower Nantahala in 2012. Visit high use access areas, million dollar toilets, bustling outfitters, and the powerhouse providing the water. On the water however you will be treated to lush temperate rainforest scenery and sparkling cold rapids, guaranteed through the dam relicensing process. On the way back to Asheville the group will stop and see the site of the recently removed Dillsboro Dam on the Tuckasegee River. 9:00 am – 5:30 pm. Capacity 29 people.

Nolichucky Raft Trip: Take a float trip down the free-flowing Class III+ Nolichucky River, remote and scenic, flowing from North Carolina into Tennessee. The Nolichucky has been found suitable for Wild and Scenic Designation and awaits champions for designation. 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Capacity 29 people.

Wilson Creek and Blue Ridge Parkway Hiking and Site Visits: Visit North Carolina's newest Wild and Scenic River – charming Wilson Creek. Stop at access areas and rapids on the way to the new visitor center, and then take a hike into the Creek's remote headwaters. 9:00am – 6pm. Capacity 15 people.

RiverLink Bus Tour: Wednesday morning you can experience Asheville area restoration projects, development history, and the revitalization of the River-Arts district of Asheville on the River Link Bus Tour. 10:00 am – 12:00pm.

Biltmore Estate Tour: Tour the Biltmore House, a decadent 250-room Chateau built in 1895, and the grounds which were designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, widely recognized for his early influential contributions to landscape architecture and land management. Participants will enjoy the 1.5 hour *Legacy of the Land* bus tour of the estate, featuring a historic lock system and river frontage on both the French Broad and Swannanoa rivers. Following the estate tour participants can enjoy the remainder of the afternoon for exploring the house, gardens, and winery. 10:30am – 4:30pm.

French Broad Menagerie Float: Pick from a menagerie of river craft, and swap often, as you descend the French Broad River through downtown Asheville. We'll have stand-up paddle boards, pack-rafts, kayaks, canoes, rafts, and heck we might even throw in an inner tube. The French Broad through town is a flatwater river that you can enjoy regardless of your experience levels. There is no better way to learn about a form of recreation than to try it! 1:00pm – 5pm. Capacity 15 people.