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Coming: The 30th NPFF!
Lost, A lifetime Member of the BWA
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Off the Cuff: Discussion of a Whitewater Park In Kentucky
Eddylines of Interest

Coming Soon to a Theater Near You!
National Paddling Film Festival

Read all about it in this issue of Bowlines!
Bowlines is the Newsletter of the Bluegrass Wildwater Association, POB 4231, Lexington Ky, 40504

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Join in on the Fun!

Join the BWA! BWA Membership $20/individual; $25/Family year entitles you to receive the newsletter, 10% discounts at many local and out of state outfitter shops, use of club equipment, discount at pool rolling sessions, a listing in the BWA Handbook, a stream gauge guide, and web site with a forum for member’s messages & a parking pass for the Elkhorn.

Meetings are held at 7:30, the second Tuesday of each month at location announced on our website: http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org

Submission of newsletter articles can be on CD (Mac or PC) or typed. Pictures can be digital or ready to be scanned. Please include stamped envelope for return. Preferred method: Files can also be e-mailed to:

DonSpang@aol.com

Enjoy this issue of Bowlines?

Check out Bowlines Online Archive with many great issues going back to 1998!

Issue Archive:

http://www.surfky-bwa.org/html/bowlines_arcN.html

A must read for all members, our 30th Anniversary issue:

http://www.surfky-bwa.org/bowlines/BL30thAnnv_Aug06.pdf

The BWA wishes to thank Canoe Kentucky & Phillip Gall’s for their support. We urge you to patronize them for your outdoor needs.

Benchmark Outdoor Outfitters
http://www.benchmarkoutfitter.com/
It’s that time of year again folks-time to give up on all those New Year resolutions and time for the National Paddling Film Festival. This year marks the 30th NPFF, so it’s guaranteed to be a riot this year!

We are super stoked to announce Rush Sturges as the guest host of our 2013 festival. Rush, currently one of the preeminent whitewater filmmakers in the world, is the founder of River Roots, a whitewater film production company that has produced a number of award-winning kayaking films. Early in his professional paddling career Rush made a name for himself in freestyle competitions and downriver racing and over the last several years has developed mad creek boating skills and spends much of his energy on expedition paddling. He has traveled and kayaked in over 30 countries and has a knack for capturing not only the best whitewater footage, but the behind-the-scenes stories that exemplify what it takes to succeed in planning and executing expeditions. Rush was recently named an “Adventurer of the Year” by Outside Magazine for CONGO: The Grand Inga Project. We’re eagerly anticipating hearing about Rush’s perspective on the ins and outs and trials and tribulations of filmmaking.

For those of you new to the BWA, NPFF is a 100% volunteer, not-for-profit, grassroots festival dedicated to funding river conservation. Over $56,000 from festival profits have been donated to American Whitewater, the U.S.’s largest river conservation organization, in just the past ten years alone. Donations have also been made to other regional conservation groups dedicated to water quality and access such as the West Virginia Rivers Coalition, Friends of Cheat, and Elkhorn Acres in central Kentucky. In addition to this, recent support has been given to Team River Runner, a national paddle sport organization established to assist with the recovery of those injured while serving in the U.S. military. Although we love throwing a big party, the greatest reward comes from supporting so many great organizations and it’s the reason we’ve put so much effort into this festival over the past 30 years.

The festival will remain at Buffalo Trace Distillery in Frankfort, Kentucky. Festivities will include film viewings, a silent auction, a chili cook-off, and a still image contest. The silent auction booty is rolling in now and it’s all looking good. Jeff Paine from American Whitewater will be there to RoShamBo another boat...
off this year, so start focusing on your technique to win.

In addition to all the festivities offered at NPFF, this year we will be hosting our first Annual NPFF Brew Off. Check out our website for information on how to enter to win homebrewing bragging rights! A downriver race that is unaffiliated with the festival will take place on Elkhorn creek the Saturday of the festival. Stay tuned to the BWA forum for more information about the race.

In order to pull this thing off we’ll need scores of willing BWA volunteers to run several stations at the festival—from kitchen help, collecting money at the front desk, to cleaning up and working the silent auction. Volunteers are asked to pay $10 at the door, so an hour or two of work will get you 50% off the ticket price. Full price tickets can be pre-ordered on-line or purchased at Benchmark Outfitters (formerly Philip Gals) at a discount. Additional information about the event will be posted at www.npff.org regularly so check back often for all the latest updates.

There is a core group of people who have been putting this festival on for years and we could certainly use some new people to step up and get more heavily involved. Please contact me if you’d like to get more involved. Don’t be bashful. I look forward to seeing everyone there and I am looking forward to a really successful 30th NPFF this year!!! Giddy up.

More Info on the NPFF 2011: http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org/NPFF/?f=main
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<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Congo: The Grand Inga Project</td>
<td>They are the world's biggest rapids, thundering down the final pitch of the mighty Congo. Legendary kayaker Steve Fisher and his elite expedition team battle seemingly insurmountable obstacles in an attempt to survive the Inga Rapids. 'Congo' chronicles this historic journey.</td>
<td>Steve Fisher</td>
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<td>Down River Racing in Maine</td>
<td>Clips of downriver racing in Maine.</td>
<td>Timothy Billings</td>
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<td>Ain't Louie Fest</td>
<td>Ain't LouieFest is an informal open canoe festival. This video explains what, where, and why.</td>
<td>Paul Mason</td>
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<td>The Nomad</td>
<td>Why does he wander? What is he seeking? Traveling by foot, skis and kayak, Erik moves through the world and his life in a way few others do. He is The Nomad.</td>
<td>Skip Armstrong &amp; Anson Fogel</td>
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<td>The Mother</td>
<td>Do our mothers still have dreams, hopes and journeys to make? At age 67, Melody reflects on her life, her hopes, her failures and her dreams while exploring the magnificent waters and canyons of the Utah desert.</td>
<td>Skip Armstrong &amp; Anson Fogel</td>
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<td>The Shapeshifter</td>
<td>The supernatural... does it exist? The curious explore unbound by restrictions of place and mind and perhaps discover things we haven't understood. Legend whitewater kayaker Ben Marr shreds the upper reaches of Quebec, pushing limits to new and undiscovered levels.</td>
<td>Skip Armstrong &amp; Anson Fogel</td>
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<td>The Warrior</td>
<td>What are you willing to fight for? Growing up on the North Shore of Oahu, surfing was Christopher Peterson's life. He fought for his place in the sport, for family, and for friends. When his grandmother called and asked for help, he left the islands -- only to find tragedy. He has not surfed in the ocean for over 6 years. Now he discovers solace and release surfing the rivers of the American West.</td>
<td>Skip Armstrong &amp; Anson Fogel</td>
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<td>The Elder</td>
<td>At 68, Rob Elliot has guided 200+ trips on the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River in Arizona. How do you want to be remembered, when this life joins the wind? What did you leave, in these chasms, upon these lives, young &amp; curious? What did you write? What dust in the rain, sand in the rivers? Those you touched, embraced and kissed, loved... what echoes there? How will it travel, your wisdom, your story, your suffering and joy? These walls, silent, deafening, ancient and new. What did you make them, what did they make of you? A life running, teaching or learning, what is escape? What did you find? Wind, replenishing rain, sun. Who did these thorns see? What did these waters wash from you? The stars, in the abyss beyond, how did they shine, on you? Will you release the storm, the scars, whirling as they go, yet holding love, life? The luminous child, the harsh knowing of age, what did you leave behind?</td>
<td>Skip Armstrong &amp; Anson Fogel</td>
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<td>Too Cold to Swim</td>
<td>A short film of some Scotland boating in the West Highlands. In some very cold conditions.</td>
<td>Michael Richardson</td>
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<td>MooseFest</td>
<td>My run at Moosefest 2012 (Bottom Moose) done with a GoPro HD.</td>
<td>Jeanine Newell</td>
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<td>Free Koontz</td>
<td>In early October 2012, our friend Koontz was wrongfully (correctly) accused of chopping down a tree by officials at the Russell Fork in Elkhorn City, KY and was banned from the area forever (for one week). This film documents his epic tale of redemption.</td>
<td>Matt and Josh Turner</td>
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<td>Kayaking the Grand Canyon of the Stikine</td>
<td>This summer I was lucky enough to join forces with an awesome crew of guys for a run down the river of my dreams, the Stikine in far northern BC during low flows (300 ish cumeecs). The river has stolen my imagination for</td>
<td>Adrian Kiernan</td>
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<td>Title</td>
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<td>Habitat</td>
<td>This documentary take you through 35 years of progression of whitewater rafting in the Pacific Northwest. From the ’70s and ’80s when commercial rafting started, into the gear testing years of the ’90s, and into the new era of class V paddlers of the present.</td>
<td>Ryan Scott and Hans Hoomans</td>
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<td>Whitewater Safety</td>
<td>Written, presented and produced by Bruce Jolliffe and Dougie Shannon the DVD aims to bring a realistic, no-nonsense introduction to white water safety to you. Bruce and Dougie took a group of real students to the Spanish Pyrenees with award winning cameraman Paul Diffley, and recorded the coached demos and live practise to highlight what you really need to know to get to grips with this material. The DVD was edited by a television professional with no knowledge of white water safety to ensure that the examples are as clear and concise as is possible.</td>
<td>Bruce Jolliffe</td>
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<td>Remains of a River</td>
<td>Two men follow the Green and Colorado Rivers from source to sea. From Wyoming to Mexico, they paddle and hike 1700 miles. Along the way they find wilderness, magnificent canyons, and a devastated delta.</td>
<td>Will Stauffer-Norris</td>
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<td>Chile Kayaking 2012/2013</td>
<td>Caleb Adams in Chile during Christmas break from WVU. Rivers include palguin, Nevados, Colacu, Fuy, and Turbo.</td>
<td>Caleb Adams</td>
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<td>Tallulah (Honest Version)</td>
<td>Long live BDP, although this is a tribute to the calmer side of recreational release whitewater kayaking in Georgia and the Southeastern classic makes an appearance as the main character alongside some familiar faces. Honest faces and honest paddling make weekends like these special and times that should be cherished.</td>
<td>Matthew Porter</td>
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<td>Currents: The Ottawa River</td>
<td>In this episode Currents explores what this river has contributed to the sport of whitewater paddling. See the history of the Ottawa River through the voices of the people who helped shape what it is today.</td>
<td>Mike McCay</td>
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<td>Currents: The Creek Race</td>
<td>Creek racing is gaining even more momentum than ever. The source of this popularity is the paddlers that are organizing, supporting, and spreading word on these races. While these races continue to get bigger in scale and attention, they continue to be grassroots at heart. Featuring The Brandset Extreme Downhill, The Callaghan Race, The Raquette Race and more.</td>
<td>Mike McCay</td>
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<td>Women of the Whitewater Grand Prix</td>
<td>The Whitewater Grand Prix brings together a group of the world’s best kayakers to compete on spectacular and challenging whitewater. This is a video highlighting the women of the WWGP event.</td>
<td>Erin Galey &amp; Patrick Camblin</td>
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<td>Huck</td>
<td>Waterfall kayaking has emerged as a dominant subset of WW paddling - thrilling audiences and pushing athletes to constantly tempt higher falls. It is constantly glorified and frequently misunderstood by all but the small group of kayakers who make waterfalls their life. Evan Garcia explores what it means to kayak off of big waterfalls - considering both the risks and rewards of a life driven by freefall.</td>
<td>Andy Maser</td>
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<td>Walk on Water</td>
<td>Having been paralyzed from the waist down in a ski accident, Greg Mallory finds the new life through WW kayaking.</td>
<td>Andy Maser</td>
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<td>Turner Wilson</td>
<td>A look at Turner Wilson, a Greenland-style sea kayaker, at home in his element, contemplating the roots of kayaking and how that affected his paddling philosophy.</td>
<td>Justine Curgelven</td>
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### NPFF Entries For 2013

See your festival program for any changes or for date & times of showings

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<th>Title</th>
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<th>Presenter</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tierra del Fuego: Land of Fire</td>
<td>The story of Justine Curgenven and Barry Shaw's ambitious and dangerous attempt to kayak completely around Tierra del Fuego. Documents their 38 days on the water over two years, braving injury, wind and sea, border crossings, and strikes to spend long stretches along the mostly uninhabited but wildlife-filled coastline.</td>
<td>Justine Curgenven</td>
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<tr>
<td>This is the Roll</td>
<td>In ‘This is the Roll’ world class instructors Cheri Perry and Turner Wilson demonstrate and teach the 3 most important Greenland style rolls. The standard roll, the Reverse Sweep and the Storm Roll are a complete package so you can roll up no matter how you capsize. Clear demonstrations, underwater footage and easy-to-follow progressions are filmed in the clear waters of Italy, with the backdrop of Vancouver Island’s mountains and in Wales and Scotland.</td>
<td>Justine Curgenven</td>
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<td>The Marshall Expedition</td>
<td>Imagine a time without paved roads, railways, or internal combustion engines. A time early in our nation’s history when the land was wild and rivers, not interstates provided the most efficient means of exploration and commerce. Such was the climate of 1812 when Chief Justice John Marshall led an expedition into America’s first true frontier, the rugged Appalachians. 200 hundred years later, Andrew Shaw assembled a team in honor of Marshall’s journey and embarked on an expedition of their own. Follow along as ‘The Marshall Expedition’ traverse our nation’s forgotten last frontier.</td>
<td>John Grace</td>
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<td>The Drawdown</td>
<td>A river is a magic thing, A magic, moving, living part of the very Earth itself. It flows through the impossible, never forcing, and at the same time never holding back. Some are distant images never to be tasted, felt, or heard. Yet others hold a deeper connection. Places we have spent time, shared struggle, found piece. We are so connected to some we rearrange our entire lives to be closer to them. The ebbs and flows of these waters quench our souls in a way few earthly things can. The Green River is one of these.</td>
<td>John Grace</td>
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<td>The Fall Line</td>
<td>Few places in the sport of whitewater kayaking are as iconic as Great Falls of the Potomac. In 1975, it was here that Tom McEwan and Wick Walker took running vertical waterfalls and extreme whitewater to a new level, and in doing so, laid the foundation for a new chapter in the sport. 'The Fall Line' visits Tom McEwan for his account of running the falls for the first time as well as an in depth Great Falls tour with local Geoff Calhoun. To learn more about this geologic spectacle be sure to check out 'The Fall Line'.</td>
<td>John Grace</td>
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<td>The Creation of Tilt Deep</td>
<td>Ladies who are charging in Extreme Sports. These chicks are considered Tilt Deep. We are real, powerful, and bring the most substantial amount of style and ease into everything we do. This is the first chapter of a series of short films with women in extreme sports.</td>
<td>Katrina Van Wijk</td>
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<td>Cross Strokin’</td>
<td>A video of OC1 carnage - with occasional stompage - on the Green, Tallulah, Chattooga, and more.</td>
<td>Chris Loomis</td>
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<td>Rescue for River Runners: Episode 2 - Team Strategy</td>
<td>R3 is designed to be new and informative River Running Resource site. It hosts and archives a series of rescue videos designed specifically for paddlers. The video series have been shot in a variety of exotic locations including Costa Rica, Canada, Mexico and the USA. The videos are hosted by reknown paddler and rescue instructor Jim Coffey (Esprit) and filmed by award winning videographer Mike McKay (five2nine).</td>
<td>Mike McCoy</td>
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**Tickets**

Tickets that cover both days of the festival are $25 at the door. Cash or check only. Children under 12, free.

Advanced tickets can be purchased through Feb. 21st online (now) or at Lexington's Benchmark Outfitters for $20 (20% discount).

For Online Ticket orders go to: [https://www.formstack.com/forms/AW-NPFTickets](https://www.formstack.com/forms/AW-NPFTickets)

For With online purchases, you will receive an email confirming your ticket purchase. You pick up your ticket at the door the day of the event. You will not be receiving physical tickets prior to the event.
John Davis was one of the early members of the Bluegrass Wildwater Association and was key to making the BWA a success. He held several offices in the club, taught at the Spring Clinic, Roll Sessions and was one of the key members in the founding of the National Paddling Film Festival and won top honors for many of his early entries as well as the William Nealy Award.

John was known for his fondness of paddling and sharing of campfire stories, often about himself. He was known for his good humor and enduring friendship and his love of dogs. John was voted an Honorary Lifetime Membership in 1990.

After his move to California to work for PBS in Sacramento and to start his own business, Alpenwolf. During his work in California John earned many awards, including several regional Emmys.

John also had a partnership with Kent Ford called Performance Video. Together they produced some of the best learning paddling skills videos earned many top honors at the NPFF. In 2009 They made a video “Call of the River, A Hundred Years of Whitewater Adventure” an award earning history of a century of whitewater paddling.

John Davis often returned to Kentucky to visit his friends. He always described his Kentucky friends as the “best” he ever had. His loss will be leave his many friends in Kentucky with a heavy heart. We in the BWA will miss John Davis on the rivers.
Backpaddling thru the pages of Bowlines:

**Whitewater Parks**

Whitewater parks did not exist when the BWA was formed. To paddle, you went to a river or stream. In fact, put-ins and take-outs did not exist...no parking areas, no changing or bathrooms, private or government provided. We were happy if we could get on or off a river and paddle without any conflict with property owners. The first artificial whitewater course was made in 1972 in Augsburg, Germany for the 1972 Munich Olympic games. Before that time no one could hardly imagine spending millions of dollars to create rapids to paddle. We have rivers don’t we? A few years after that Denver built Confluence Park on the South Platte to modify a low-head dam, It was rather modest by today’s standards. Then in the early eighties, we heard about a Whitewater park they were building on the St. Joseph River in South Bend, Indiana. It opened in 1984. A WW park was considered during the early stages of design for a modification to add turbines at the Meldhal Dam near Cincinnati in the mid-eighties. it failed to make it.

Since then it seems that WW parks, especially for towns with a stream, are being built literally everywhere. A whitewater park for central Kentucky has often been fantasized by some members of the BWA since Augsburg, especially in years of drought. Prospects for a WW park on the Barren River at Bowline Green, Ky. are looking up. BWA paddlers are proposing a WW park on the Kentucky at Boonesborro State Park.

Who knows, we could have our nearby WW Park yet! Here are articles about Whitewater parks from our Bowlines, followed by some of the discussion about one on the Kentucky River from our forum.

**Future Whitewater Park?**

With whitewater parks appearing all over the U.S. could it happen here in Central Kentucky?

The Elkhorn Dam at the Distillery and the rapids below it, could they be enhanced?

Perhaps not, but as I have often said over the years it would be nice to turn the dam at the Elkhorn into a runnable rapid with a ramp that would allow you to carry your boat back up to run the rapid over and over. Changing the dam into a rapid would provide recreation for many that live around Frankfort and it would eliminate a hazard that has claimed the life of at least one person. That may have seemed to be a bit of a dream, but nowadays whitewater parks of all sizes and descriptions are showing up or are on the planning boards all over the United States. I became aware of this as I was updating the BWA website last winter. As I looked for good sites to link to I kept finding whitewater parks I had not been aware of. I have since found out that there are over 25 whitewater parks in existence and at least that many others are being planned or proposed for the US.
This does not include parks that are in very early stages of proposal like the one that is being discussed for Louisville.

I think the inspiration for whitewater parks may have been the whitewater course that was built for the 1972 Olympics in Augsburg, Germany. It was the first time I am aware of that a course was constructed to produce rapids for paddling. It was fitting that it was built in Augsburg as modern whitewater paddling started in the Augsburg Alps mountain rivers in the late 1800's. This man made set of rapids did two things. It brought modern whitewater paddling to the attention of the world since this built for the Olympics. This was also the first time for whitewater in the Olympics although flatwater paddling had started with the 1932 Olympics in Munich, Germany. To those of us who were paddlers the concept was a revelation of what could be done to create rapids where none may have existed before.

Thus by the mid-eighties Sam Moore and I along with other early BWA members were checking out the newly constructed whitewater park in Denver during a western paddling trip. About the same time, in 1984 the first artificial whitewater course in North America the East Race Waterway in South Bend, Indiana had opened and was proving to be a hit in the flat Indiana farmland. It is still providing local Indiana boaters some great times and has often used for paddling training and hosting the U.S. Olympic Team Trials.

The popularity of whitewater canoeing, kayaking and rafting surged in the last half of the nineties and many communities started realizing that the river or stream that flowed through town was an asset that they should pay more attention to. Good planning and use of this asset could benefit the community such as providing recreation and enhancing the beauty of the surrounding area. Residents could also soon discovered area many ways to enjoy the river park such as a place to relax, a good place to hike and walk, or just watching the action on the river.

Paying attention to the river could also help revitalize a part of the town that often had become less desirable to live or operate a business in. A whitewater park could then provide new economic growth for the city by encouraging tourism and special events focused on the park. It also had practical uses like providing a rescue squad or fire department a means to train and practice water rescue skills. All these things could create an image of the city as a desirable community to live in.

As the popularity of whitewater sports grows so does the desire for more white-water recreational opportunities in urban areas. Local citizens and other folks from the surrounding area with their enthusiasm and involvement have been the driving force for the over 25 successful whitewater parks. Parks and whitewater will never be the same. It is like having some new high tech toy, every community who sees it wants one also. Each year improvements are made on the toy and things get better with each city trying to make a better park.

A good example of this will be the new U.S. National Whitewater Center that will be opening in June, 2006 in Charlotte, North Carolina. It promises to be the most ambitious effort yet to create a community whitewater park.

The site which covers 300 acres of varied terrain
mostly cover with woods is about 10 miles from downtown Charlotte near Interstate 85. Located next to the Catawba River with about 1 1/2 miles of river frontage, much of the land is marshy with small ponds, several creeks and an 37 acre island to be used for primitive camping by paddlers. The Whitewater Center proper, sits on 49 acres and will have three-quarters of a mile worth of rapids. This artificial river can be easily modified from "easy water" to the most challenging rapids with the use of seven 750-horsepower pumps. These pumps will move an incredible 537,000 gallons of water per minute. The course will have four channels, one for competition, one for big water, one for freestyle and one for wilderness, all with adjustable water flows. The flow into each channel can be controlled separately to customized the rapids in that channel. There will be a lower collecting pool that will have a connecting incline conveyor belt system to return boaters to the top pool to start the fun all over.

Experience from the whitewater courses at recent Olympics was very influential in the development of the park concept. The Nantahala Outdoor Center was hired as an consultant to the project. Jeff wise the director of the USNWC said the idea was "not to replace but complement" whitewater opportunities in the surrounding mountains of North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee.

But the whitewater is just a portion of what is to be the world's premier outdoor recreation and environmental learning center. There will be something for almost every outdoor enthusiast.

- There will be a boathouse on the Catawba River to provide river access for sculling, canoeing, kayaking or fishing.

- Climbers will have indoor and outdoor climbing facilities and rope courses.

- For mountain-biking, running and hiking there will be over 11 miles of trails.

- A 20,000 square foot lodge and conference center with restaurant and retail.

- An Adventure Camp pavilion and Greek(?) theater.

It will be interesting to see how such an ambitious project succeeds. Certainly it will be a place of destination for those of Charlotte that can only get away for a day and or for many paddlers during dry periods. For paddlers that go to play the rapids...
the east side of Lake Barkley Lock and Dam is promising according to a study commissioned by the former West Kentucky Corporation. According to a website (http://www.trailsrus.com/whitewater/report.html) promoting the park:

The abundant year-round supply of water at Barkley Dam combined with the vertical drop of more than 50 feet gives this site unprecedented hydraulic gradient when compared to existing whitewater sites, which have between 12 and 21 feet of fall. The land area of over 110 acres and the possibility to incorporate adjacent private parcels gives Barkley Dam more development potential than any other existing man-made whitewater venue in the world.

We propose a phased development that will have nearly a mile and a half of whitewater when complete. There will be two channels of varying difficulty that will satisfy a range of users from children in inner tubes to world-class athletes. The budget is $12.5 million for Phase I and $6.8 million for Phase II.

The proposal goes into a lot of detail but the criti-
The technical factor is while it is technically feasible and there is plenty of land and water, its success is "dependent upon a satisfactory allocation of water in order to be a financially sound proposal".

Another proposal is for a whitewater park in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The Corps of Engineers and the Greenways Commission of Bowling Green & Warren County are exploring the possibility of adding a whitewater course in downtown Bowling Green. Dr. Steve Spencer, a professor at Western Kentucky University, suggested the idea for a whitewater park a few years ago to Former City Commissioner and Greenways Chairman Jim Bullington. They have done a lot of legwork and it looks like it might become a reality. Some preliminary drawings and concepts were presented at a meeting held in Bowling Green September 22, 2005. The idea was suggested as part of an overall development of Bowling Green’s river front. A park has been developed on the downtown side of the river and within the next couple of years, plans call for a variety of recreation facilities to be built on the opposite bank, using a $4.5 million federal appropriation.

According to an e-mail I just received from Steve Spencer the idea is gathering momentum “like a snowball heading downhill”. Steve says the run will be about 1100 feet and will drop 10-12 feet and be essentially Class II in nature and will be a great “teaching tool”.

There is more information on the progress of this park at: http://www.trailsrus.com/whitewater/initialative.html

There is yet another whitewater park that is being proposed for Kentucky that is even closer to us. Paddlers in Louisville, especially the Viking Canoe Club, are excited about an idea for a whitewater park below the locks at the Falls of the Ohio. The drop at the falls is between 22 and 26 ft. which is about the amount of drop that will be used in Charlotte. It could be an awesome asset for all of us close to Louisville. Will it happen? As far as I know people are still talking about it and exploring ways to make it possible.

So it a whitewater park on the Elkhorn possible? Perhaps not, but you can never know for sure unless people get involved with the idea. Sure it would never be a contender for whitewater park of the year, but a nice rapid with a couple great playspots?

Don Spangler.
Minutes from the put-in for the Upper Yough in Friendsville, Maryland a new whitewater park has opened. It is located on 18 acres on the summit of Marsh Mountain in McHenry, Maryland next to the WISP ski resort. Drive time from Lexington should be about the same, about 5 1/2 hours, as a trip to the Lower Yough at Ohiopyle State Park in Pennsylvania or to the Chattooga in Georgia. The Adventure Sports Center International, as it is named, offers some fun and challenging class III at the reasonable price of 15.00 a day for private boaters. While the course is man-made, they have done a good job of using local rock from the site to give it a much more natural look and feel than many artificial whitewater courses. With tree planting and landscaping still going on, it should be a very attractive park. I was at ASCI for 3 days in August and another plus is that it was far less crowded than a trip down the Lower Yough on a similar weekend.

Water is brought up the mountain from Deep Creek Lake with the same pumps that are also used in the winter to bring water up to make snow for the ASCI ski run. The 1/3 mile long whitewater course is used in the winter as a means to cool down the relatively warm lake water prior to it being used to make snow. This dual use benefits both activities by lowering the cost involved with the two activities.

The course starts at the entry pond which is fed by four pumps bringing the water up 24 vertical feet from the reservoir pool which is the end of the course. These pumps deliver up to 250,000 gallons of water per minute. One of the pumps is a variable flow output and the others can be added or turned off as desired to produce a wide range of water flow.

To vary the course ASCI uses what they call “wave shapers” at each drop. These are pneumatically controlled. bladders underneath metal plates which are filled with different amounts of air to literally raise the bottom of the river up and down. That allows them to adjust the wave, so that they can create a hole or a vary the size and height of a wave.
With the adjustment of water flow and these wave shapers the rapids can go from class II to class IV very easily. This technology allows the course to be completely adjusted within 20 minutes to adapt to a needed change of venue.

There are 10 rapids in the course and the more difficult and squirly rapids seemed to be the first three. This seems to be inherent in the design as that part is much more constricted. The course does get wider toward the bottom portion which should mean that it will normally be easier on the lower portion. There is good visibility along both aides of the course, but it is easier to follow the action from the island. The island is criss-crossed with some trails, but much of the original character as well as trees seems to have been left intact.

The Whitewater Center building, located next to the entrance pool is where you buy tickets, rent or buy gear and find the changing rooms. Nearby there is also a small restaurant where you can buy a Latté if that is your thing (they also sell other drinks and food).

Plans are being worked on for an International Whitewater Hall of Fame which may actually end up being an Adventure Sport Hall of Fame. The reasoning behind this is an adjacent additional 550 acres that is to include some 10 miles of mountain biking trails, plus running trails as well as a number of rock faces for climbing. The goal to be the adventure sports destination for the region is reasonable if you include the options of snow skiing and snow boarding during the winter.

This area at the corners of West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, has a rich history of whitewater paddling. In addition to the Youghigany, and a number of good runs in the nearby Potomac drainage there is the nearby Savage River. BWA members who attended the 1989 World Championships on the Savage will be familiar with the area as it is just a few miles from the Savage watershed. The Savage River started being run in 1968. Paddlers from the area were able to get releases up on request during the seventies.
Many important slalom and wildwater races. US Team Trials, Olympic Trials, National Championships, and North American Cup Races took place on the Savage during the seventies and eighties. These races were one reason why the quality of whitewater paddling improved so much during that period. In 1992 Olympic trials for the Summer Olympics held in Barcelona, Spain took place on the Savage. Since that time, partly because of the small reservoir on the Savage and because of pressure from fishing interests, there have been no regular releases till this year. There were 3 releases on the Savage River for paddlers for 2007, but no future releases are planned at this time.

The Whitewater Center may be destined to take over from the Savage as a host for future events like races. The week I was there they were hosting the 2007 Whitewater Slalom National Championships. It was to their last race before the Pre-Olympic competition in Beijing, China. The Iranian Women’s Kayak Team also raced there that weekend and there was also a corporate raft race and a freestyle kayak demonstration. All took place without any crowding or problems on or off the whitewater.

While I have always believed that natural runs are to be preferred over artificial courses, if for no other reason then tha they promise more of an adventure, this course does offer a good option in dry times. It can also be useful in developing your paddling skills or bringing your family to a place where there will be activities available for the non-paddling members.

Don Spangler
Here are some photos from Kent Ford of the whitewater event at the 2008 Summer Olympics. Kent describes the course as “dropping at 103 feet per mile and running with about 600 cfs of very stout whitewater.”

The Olympic course was described as perhaps the most difficult one in the world. The 280 metre, semi-circular run has more gradient than previous Olympic courses. The obstacles used for creating the rapids were also laid out in a more complex manner making it very challenging and unlikely for anyone to not make some error. Slovakia's Michal Martikan, three-times Olympics C-1 medallist called it "the most difficult artificial course in the world".

Kent Ford, as he has at several Olympics, provided “on the water narration and course description” for attendees of the event.

**Awarded Medals Canoe /Kayak Slalom**

**Men’s C1 Slalom Medals (Results)**
- Michal Martikan (SVK) - Gold
- David Florence (GBR) - Silver
- Robin Bell (AUS) - Bronze

**Men’s C2 Slalom Medals (Results)**
- Hochschorner/Hochschorner (SVK) - Gold
- Volt/Stepanek (CZE) - Silver
- Kuznetsov/Larionov (RUS) - Bronze

**Men’s K1 Slalom Medals (Results)**
- Alexander Grimm (GER) - Gold
- Fabien Lefevre (FRA) - Silver
- Benjamin Boukpeti=2 (TOG) - Bronze

**Women’s K1 Slalom Medals (Results)**
- Elena Kaliska (SVK) - Gold
- Jacqueline Lawrence (AUS) - Silver
- Violetta Obling Peters (AUT) - Bronze
(top) Ben Fraker (USA C-1) running a gate, (bottom) Ben on the course in China.
On October 2-3, 2009, top-ranked whitewater canoeists and kayakers (and two not-ranked canoeists from Kentucky with a purple OC-2), descended on Charlotte, North Carolina for the USA Canoe/Kayak 2009 Slalom National Championships. As part of its 4th Annual Whitewater Festival, the U.S. National Whitewater Center held a “throwdown rodeo race,” the Dagger Head to Head Slalom Race, and men’s and women’s races in C-1, C-2, K-1, K-2, and Forerunners, including invitational races. Highlights included watching the exhilarating runs of the #1 world-ranked paddlers in the K-1 women’s race (Elena Erza Kaliska from Slovakia) and in the C-1 men’s race (Michal Martikan, also from Slovakia). Wow- these are phenomenal paddlers! Smooth as silk! They made running a very tough slalom course look almost effortless, including the “big drop” and class IV rapid at the end of this very demanding course.

The U.S. National Whitewater Center has the world’s largest man-made whitewater course and is an official training site for the U.S. Olympic team, so this is a superb facility. Check it out at www.usnwc.org/ for more information.
Keith and I brought our own chairs to watch the competition at the final rapid and enjoy the live music. The Whitewater Center has its own mini-version of the “Hoover Dam” right in the middle of the island inside the whitewater course, surrounded by two man-made river loops and the Olympic competition channel. The “Mega-Zip” zipline runs overhead, which Terese Pierskalle and I tried out on a previous weekend. The outer loop of the whitewater course has some smaller rapids and is good for practicing boating moves. A unique (and popular) feature is the “conveyor belt” that takes each boater right back up to the starting point after finishing a river loop – instant portage! You don’t even get out of your boat. If you have ever seen a conveyor belt take bales of hay up to a barn loft, you have the idea.

The Whitewater Center charges $20 per person for all day boating when you bring your own boat. And yes, we did see some solo canoes out there! An interesting feature is that the rapids can be “changed” daily by adjusting the gates and upright stacks on the sides of each rapid and by changing the waterflow. Midweek is devoid of raft parties and makes for better boating.

Besides the whitewater amenities, the Whitewater Center offers swift-water rescue courses and has rafting, rock-climbing walls, miles of mountain bike and hiking trails, rope challenge courses, flat-water paddling on the adjacent Catawba River, eco-caching, a restaurant and beer patio, locker rooms with showers, and a gear shop. As we discovered in July, it is also a great place to watch fireworks from! The Whitewater Center is about seven hours from Lexington, Kentucky on the interstate, although potential visitors should note that I-40 is currently closed (at the Tennessee-North Carolina line in the Smokies) at least until January due to a major landslide that wiped out all four highway lanes.

Anyhow, come down and check out the Whitewater Center next spring – it’s a wonderful facility.
White Water Park at Athens Boonesborough

December 06, 2012

Hi all,
Just a heads up about a change in the schedule for the presentation at the next BWA monthly meeting on December 11. Dave Leachman will be doing a presentation on a proposed white water park at Athens Boonesborough. This is something that would be great to have in the Lexington area and of interest to everyone so don't miss this opportunity to learn about new developments for increased local boating. Dave is using this as a warm up for a presentation that he will be doing for the Corps of Engineers and it would really be great to find out what's going on and how we can all help to make this a reality. Hope to see you there.

P.S. For those that missed the presentation that Wes put on last month, you not only missed an awesome presentation but also a lot of good information that could help save your butt on the river. Great job Wes.

Bob L.

It's summer time. It's hot. It's dry...most places BUT the KY River's got water! So what we do? Go cool off by asking the Kentucky River Authority to build us a gravity fed concrete diversion channel with built in white water rapids. We could train, teach and recreate there. We can have festivals there with slalom and freestyle competitions. Come on out for a power point presentation covering the Athens Boonesborough White Water Park (see the attachment).

Bob, I could use a laptop with power point. I could use a projector. Let me know what the possibilities are. Thanks in advance! Does anyone have two easels I could borrow for a few days?

Looking forward to it!

Ledgeman

Looking forward to hearing more about this! I like your sales pitch!

EG

December 11, 2012

Thanks so much everyone for coming out! Thank you for the feedback. Mackenzie took notes for me.

If you have any more feedback for me put it here. Make it short and to the point (Hanley & Wes).

What is the name of the WWP in Maryland? What is the name of the one in WV?

How about a link to a 1 minute video covering a white water park? Maybe one that is family oriented rafting?

I could use a little help. I have some time tomorrow to tweek the presentation.

Ledgeman

David, try googling Columbus Georgia Whitewater Park. This one just opened this year and there is a bunch of stuff on the web about it. The connection I am on tonight is way to slow for Youtube, or I would try to link one for you. I believe it is in a very similar style too.

Larry Cable

December 12, 2012

Dave,
I think this is the closest whitewater park to us, for comparison. [www.adventuresportscenter.com]

I havent been there but I have been to the park in South Bend, IN as well as the USNWC. [sbpark.org]

In terms of length and use of natural flow I think its probably closest to what you are proposing.

In my experience NUMBERS convey extra authority in any presentation. In this case: numbers of paddlers living within XX hour drive of the park, numbers of dollars they spend on each trip, numbers of trips they make per year, average income, etc. etc., etc. You want numbers that convey economic benefit derived from this project.

I know you dont have much time left but this is marketing not science so um....poetic license is acceptable here. I'll bet you could get some idea if you called the business office folks at the parks above and at the NationalWhitewater Center and ask them for some of these kinds of statistics and make your own best guesses for the rest. AW's office might have this info too.

Good luck and give us a TR when your done!

Chris H
Dave,

Contact Doug Davis. He should be in the handbook. Doug was armed with a lot of economic data relative to paddle sports that got folks' attention yesterday at the Flannagan Dam Advisory meeting which I will post more about later when I have time. But go to Doug and I am sure he will share his data with you.

Brent

Dave,

You may not have enough time now and I should’ve thought about this sooner, but you should reach out to Spalding H with the Bardstown Boaters. They’ve been working on a WW park for years and have made several pitches.

In the minimum, his website has two things you’ll find useful......

1) Their speal, with economic data and some ideas for graphs (ie showing a map of the location and its proximity to I75 would be good).

[docs.google.com]

2) A database of all WW Parks!!
[spreadsheets.google.com]
[bardstownboaters.org]

Bubba

David, technical question for you. What is the projected CFS requirement for this project? Looking at the historical data for the lock at Olive Hill, it looks like flows of under 500 cfs are common in the summer. Is that amount of water workable with the current design?

Larry Cable

Larry I love you man but I dont need questions right now I need answers

But I will respond with this [en.wikipedia.org] If you look over on the right hand side of the page you will see flow rates of 530 to 670 cfs per channel at Charlotte Whitewater center.

The design we have is a concept and will need to be taken to the next level with hydorlogical engineers. Also the design will have to withstand variable flows so the channel might need to be wider?

Ledgeman

How many members are in the viking canoe club?

Any idea on numbers of other clubs in Knoxville and Cincinnati?

Good Idea Hellman. Brent, I called Doug. He is a wealth of knowledge. He is emailing me now. Bubba, I hope they are connected to the internet because I plan to use it. Thanks Ali!

Vikings? Other club member numbers?

Thanks!

Ledgeman

The engineer in me says you should design it to work within a relatively narrow flow range using the low flow numbers as the starting point for the design. We aren’t required to use all of the flow, so for both safety and design purposes, I would think you would want to keep the flows within 25 percent or so of the design number.

But wrong side of the business for me, so it’s just guessing.

Larry Cable

Good Point Larry. We deffinantly want flow in July and August. Maybe a v shaped channel for summer ELF.

Ledgeman

December 13, 2012

Shout out to LEDGEMAN!! ....for an excellent powerpoint to the Kentucky River Authority today about the Boonesborough WWPark concept.

The KRA Board, including Barsip’s awesome sister Clare as Chair, and other noted dignitaries were there, the Mayor of Nicholasville, The CURator of The KY RIVER Museum in CLark CO, The executive Director of the Ky Riverkeeper, all the KRA Senior Staff, The Manager of the Boonesborough State Park and the engineer from Stan-Tech who is in charge of repair and reconstruction were there to hear this AWESOME presentation!

The next step is funding an in depth study that could cost $20 to $25k to answer the most important questions about the concept.

The KRA has money and a campain to get some of that money for this study could be well worth it! Ledgeman got the idea in front of enough people today for this to really have an impact if there is follow through.

GREAT JOB DAVE, The BWA's own Dog and Pony Show!!

Thanks for all you time and effort!

Burgess

Thanks Burgess. I really appreciate it. When your up there presenting it is kind of hard to tell how you’re doing.

I felt like the word got out on the street. It would be great to see this brought to Kentucky!

I have attached the updateed power point. You should check it out. You might be in a picture or two on there. Also read through it and if your pet idea is not on the PP, then let me know I will put it on there.
I plan to email the power point Monday morning to all in attendance to the meeting. Monday they will be fresh and ready to look through the power point again. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU WANT TO ADD SOMETHING or see a mis spelling or you just want to talk about it. Post here or email me at dclmdr@yahoo.com

Thanks again BWA!

Ledgeman

Excellent! I love the additions of info, photos and economic impact of other parks. Also you included more on the rabid enthusiasm of the BWA to drive home that there’s already a lot of people here that would use the park. Thanks again for your work.

Ali

December 15, 2012

Good job Dave! Thanks again for putting in all the time and effort to keep this idea alive. Only thing I might add would be to emphasize that this concept uses gravity instead of expensive electric pumps to deliver water to the course. Meanwhile, please count me in to help with this renewed effort. What’s the next step? Let's keep the great momentum you've started going!

barryg

Great Point B6! That is mentioned verbally during the presentation but not on the PP. The PP needs all of the content not said! The PP is what will be emailed around at the state and hopefully will be forwarded to the right hands. Anybody got a friend in Frankfort? I will add that information. Maybe I need to draw a future graphic displaying the gravity feedingnessment (new word?).

Keep the feedback coming!

More Feedback - Email from Ken Cooke

Interesting,

The circular parks have less shuttle involved. Is is possible to have the spillway/exit closer to the start?

Also, that area floods, what will the behavior of the park during one of Kentucky River’s 40 foot floods be? (That happen about once every 5 years)
There are three issues:

1. Sediment deposition, (Tons of mud deposited)
2. Logs, trash and debris.
3. Erosional/scouring shear forces from floodwaters racing through the breach in the dam required by the raceway.

Engineering consideration will need to be made for those factors. Any thoughts?

Another consideration will be water use during low flow periods (August/September)
My guess is that a facility like this would require a minimum of 750 CFS to be playful. That’s a lot of water.
You would essentially be mining Pool 10 to maintain those flows during periods of low flow, such as those seen this summer with < 200 CFS flow over the top of Dam 10.

Otherwise, I would show up and play!

Ken

Ledgeman

Ken, Great Points.

#1) thru probably #4) my biggest concern. How does the park get designed to shed the sediment and debris?

#5) ledgemans design has the course starting above and not part of the dam.

The CFS question is critical also.

How about raising the dam? what would it take?

as far as low summer pool, maybe its not always open? maybe a recapture area and pump back to the pool during specific times....

These are critical questions but if answered sufficiently, this could be a great opportunity to have dollars of donations multiply in effect. Leachman needs funds to study this further and I will definitely pledge to support his efforts!

Way to go David!

-Burgess

We don't have to reinvent the wheel here. Sure the design would be different than other parks but the obstacles are all the same. Sediment, variation of flows, floods, and debris just to name a few. We should look at other parks and see how they addressed those same concerns.

Great work Dave.

Lafferty

December 16, 2012

Here is an update on the Powerpoint. I also attached the Presentation Boards. Feel free to forward these on.

Also, we can still add to the presentation. It's organic. Hopefully I will get the chance to present again soon.

Ledgeman

Fort Boonesborouhgh White Water Park Email 6.pdf (5.03 MB)
I challenge the idea that 750 CFS would be necessary to make a very playful run. A manmade run such as this is usually unnaturally narrow by design, and the 17 feet of gradient over 1000 feet of drop is equivalent to about 88 feet per mile. Similar gradient as, say, the upper Green, which is a lot of fun at 300 CFS.

As far as looping, if it's got a good path that is straighter than the course, then it's going to be an easy walk back to the top.

Hanley Loller

While I would agree with Hanley's comments I would add an "it depends". If the run will be designed to offer thrills for rafters then that will decided the width / flow and I would say look at USNWC as your guide for both. IMO that site offers pretty close to the minimum width / flow to be enjoyed by both rafters / boaters. If you are designing for boaters only, or small rafts, or duckies, then you could go a bit less on width / flow. During the summer when the natural flow is less than optimal, either the channel should be designed to have adjustable features, or features that will offer something fun for low flows. Another option would be to schedule pulse releases lasting an hour or so with a variable fill time based on natural flow. I would be surprised if anyone except us would agree to the expense of a supplemental pumping solution - unless there was a pretty high fee associated with use. We're a pretty cheap bunch when you get right down to it (as opposed to skiers / snowboarders) so I doubt most would pay more than say $20 for a day of surfing. Oh, BTW, my dream list for the site includes a creeking channel with various boof moves to keep it interesting. Maybe even making it adjustable. It would require minimal flow if properly designed (very tight drops with pools below). Wouldn't that be a national / world first? Now I would pay $20-40 for a day of boofing if nothing else was running.

Wes

Awesome powerpoint Ledgeman! I love those numbers!

How did the presentation go? Did they indicate what the next steps are?

Chris H

December 19, 2012

Point well taken Wes. I forgot to think about Rafting. Of course, rafting companies are usually well equipped to adapt to situations, small rafts, duckies, etc.

HOWEVER.... I submit to you that for kayakers, 300 cfs should be sufficient in a channel that isn't designed to accommodate a 14 foot, 8-person raft.

Hanley Loller

December 20, 2012

I’ve been out of town for a few days now I’m back.

I feel the presentation went well. I feel like the power point was the way to go. The presentation boards are nice to see a design but the economic impact is clear enough to see it could make a difference. Thanks for suggesting that Chris H. Doug Davis helped me out with those numbers, Thank you sir.

The next steps, strike while the iron is hot! There is a small buzz going on about this project. What we need now is some publicity and exposure. Have any friends at the Herald Leader or Courier Journal? Know anybody in Frankfort?

I agree Hanley. The Elkhorn is runnable at 300 cfs. The design of the bottom of the channel should be made to be runnable at 300 cfs. Why couldn't we add boof feature and a different line at each rapid? Another side channel would be cool but we want to keep this thing economically obtainable.

I have also thought about what we could do to raise the pool above the dam. That way we could have all of the flow in the WWP. There is a lot to be thought out and engineered.

Typically with design there are III phases. Phase I is conceptual design, which is the big idea. Phase II is design development where we ask ALL of these questions. This forum is a great place to do that. Phase II is putting construction documents / blue prints together to build from. Design Development is key phase to brainstorm and answer all the questions.

Ledgeman

Seems like raising the pool above came up before when Robby did his gate design. As I recall it's a big deal to folks upstream but can't recall why. Anyone else remember anything like that?

Wes

December 21, 2012

Oh lord.....yes. Raise the pool flood my field.....disturb the stream bank morphology and drown some plant that only lives at that exact elevation and latitude on the KY river only.....the list goes on and on. blah blah blah.
One battle at a time here.....let's not get too far ahead of ourselves and complicate or confuse things

Lafferty

How about a dam modification where the existing spillway would have gate(s) that would close, raise the above pool to a max level that would not disturb the ecosystem along the Kentucky river banks and release into white water park at the desired cfs. In the summer you could close all the gates at night to let the pool rise. There would be a sensor where the pool level reached its max overnight and open up gates as needed to not disturb the ecosystem of the Kentucky River. That way in the summer we could get our necessary CFS to have the park open during the July through September dry days. There has got to be a bank level we could reach without disturbing the ecosystem, surly? There is lots to think about. Also if all else fails with the WWP, what about a spillway modification to add rapids? This could be in addition to the WWP as well. It could class III to IV based on levels. Lots of ideas in this here head.

Ledgeman

December 30, 2012

I would suggest the next step be.....

1. If Boonesborough Park director likes the idea, then have him get you a meeting with Todd Cassidy the director of economic and community development, and Elaine Walker commissioner for Parks.

2. Legislatively I would get state Rep Rita Smart to attend as well. Her district is slightly up stream from the park but being the same party as the governor's cabinet she will play nicer with them, also she represents Richmond which is the biggest town in the county.

At that point if park's commissioner likes it she can submit it for RFP (request for proposal) next year for all the whitewater park engineering firms to bid on. Or Rep Rita Smart can possibly push it through as a special project herself.

But at the end of the day you need someone from within state government to pick up the ball and run with it.

Doug Davis

December 31, 2012

I have talked to Todd Casssity and Elaine Walker about this several times, as well as many members of the KRA board.

My thoughts have been to make the project easier to digest, given KRA capital spending needs, would be to first develop a T.I.F. (tax increment financing) bond application. These bonds are created and the revenue used for public infrastructure improvements that benefit the immediate local area. They are valued using hypothetical increases in sales tax revenues. There fore the economic benefits must be studied and a value placed on the revenue the Public Infrastructure improvements would make.

This area has the State Campground, as well as the closed campground, Canoe Livery (Jeffro!), Riptides, Boone Creek Outdoors, The Bull, as well as the truck stop at south exit 99...others?

I have also met with Madison County Judge executive Kent Clark and he was very supportive of the idea and is open to a project that would mean eco-tourism and jobs to Madco. He even indicated he could possibly get behind it enough to find some $.

The Tiff application, is expensive, John Ferris of Commonwealth Economic advisors suggests a minimum of $100k to bring to market.

If we could somehow raise the money for the application and bond issue, it would really put the ball in the court of the KRA, who has a responsibility to manage the Kentucky River for Recreation, as well as commerce. The Bond, once issued would pay for the infrastructure improvements beyond those that they are already planning on making to the lock and dam.

I believe there is a window of opportunity (especially with Clare Sipple Chr. and Pat Banks on the KRA Board) because of the current program of rehabilitation taking place, to demonstrate a solution to funding this public attraction which would be very difficult to ignore.

We need economic impact numbers from other ww parks to start.

FWIW, Just my game plan....

Burgess

Wow Burgess. Good game plan. Lots of good efforts going out on this. This is a big deal.

Brent

What Brent said ... another great effort to improve local boating

Wes

Burgress,

January 02, 2013

I am not sure how you are involved as the only person I have spoken to thus far on the project, through email, is Dave. But you the approach you have outlined is feasible and sounds like you are on the ball. As for the economic impact numbers, I
have given what I have to Dave, which I believe he used in the presentation.

If you need more than that I can introduce you to Risa Shimoda who is a consultant in the white water park engineering field. She would probably have even more access than myself.

As for the TIF, and Cassidy would be able to shed more light on this, I believe that is limited to cities and counties by Kentucky statute. It might take the legislature to designate all of the land/watershed managed by KRA as a TIF zone. Additionally the improvement would be inside of a state park, rather on county or municipal property. Again Cassidy would know more than me.

Depending on the project's over all expense (which is why it would need an RFP) maybe the state and judge executive Clark could partner and split the costs. Again I would talk to Rita Smart about it.

Let me know how I can help.

Doug Davis

January 03, 2013

Doug, I think it is awesome that you are involved. as a retailer with skin in the game, your opinions and experience will be invaluable in this effort.

We've been musing about this plan for decades and I am merely an advocate. I was at the KRA meeting, and I've known risa for years-but appreciate the tip-NOC and Sutton could also help.

Todd Cassidy is in charge of the tourism loan program.....but wont know about T.I.F....You bring up good points about eligibility, but my feeling is between the semi autonomous KRA and the state park we ought to be able to come up with a plan that would make this project eligible. My own feeling is that if we can self fund enough study into the topic and show the KRA a path to the development that wouldn't cost them more money, they almost couldnt deny it. The accountant for KRA at the last meeting expressed that they had saved enough money on the work on lock four to save for "future projects"....the design for lock 9 and 10 is imminent, and i think dave knows the engineers.

I propose that the BWA/NPFF fund Dave Leachman with enough seed $ to spearhead the development of a feasibility study that could be presented to the KRA, and if the KRA is willing to endorse or sponsor it then we figure out how to apply for and obtain the T.I.F. funding. This second stage of development financing ($100k +) could come from a variety of sources....Madco, KRA, Tourism?, BWA,NPFF Riverkeeper, etc....

Let's meet to discuss these exciting possibilities soon.

I am so glad you are on board.

Burgess

January 04, 2013

Just picked this up off of the TU email list, looks like something we should be concerned about.....

"Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR)

Position Statement

Regarding Boat Restrictions at U.S. Corp of Engineers (USCOE) owned Dams

KDFWR is opposed to the USCOE decision to unnecessarily restrict boat access below the dams.

If you are as well, please contact your U.S. Senators and Representative now!

Background:

The US Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District, released its plans on December 13, 2012 to restrict boating access above and below their damsto maximize safety associated with hazardous waters. These new restricted zones are set to take effect in 2013.

The Corps will hold two public information meetings in KY:

Meeting 1 – January 10, 2013 in Grand Rivers, KY from 6-8 pm (CST) at Badgett Playhouse Theater, 1831 JH O'Bryan Avenue.

Meeting 2 – January 24, 2013 in Somerset, KY from 6-8 pm (EST) at Somerset Center for Rural Development, 2292 Hwy 27, Suite 300 (turn off 27 at Traffic Light #15).

Contact your U.S. Senators and Representative to voice your concerns.

The new restrictions are based on a 1996 policy established in ER 1130-2-520, Chapter 10, Project Operations-Navigation and Dredging Operations and Maintenance Policies. This policy allows restricted areas to be established based on hydraulic criteria and site-specific operational considerations. In this case, the recent decision by USCOE impacts four impoundments in Kentucky including Martins Fork, Laurel River, Barkley, and Cumberland lakes. Although the restricted areas above-dam will not have a notable impact to most boating activity, the below-dam restriction will significantly impact boaters and anglers, especially below Lake Cumberland and Barkley Lake.

KDFWR Concerns:

KDFWR agrees with the USCOE that there are significant safety considerations below any dam due to the periodic turbulent conditions and reverse currents that are created. Based on this, the department recognizes and enforces the current warning signal and requirement to wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) in the restricted zone already. However, KDFWR is strongly
opposed to the proposed restrictive zones for the following reasons:

Both areas support major recreational fisheries that will be negatively impacted. Areas below dams (known as tailwaters) provide a concentration of fish due to the physical barrier, flow and oxygen conditions, and the concentration of forage fish for major predators and these conditions attract boat anglers. Anglers have been accustomed to fishing these areas since 1953 at Lake Cumberland and 1966 at Barkley Lake. Site specific data is not available on Lake Cumberland tailwaters but anecdotally this is highest fishing pressure area and supports the highest catch rate and harvest for this entire 75 miles of trout stream. Data from Barkley Lake in 2000 reveal the importance of these tailwaters. Specifically, there were 562 fishing trips per acre immediately below the dam compared to four fishing trips per acre above the dam. Over 60% of these fishing trips were made by boat anglers. Similarly, the fish harvest in tailwaters was recorded at 2,655 fish per acre, compared to only nine fish per acre in the lake. Overall, the economic value for the Barkley Lake tailwater fishery is over $3M.

The proposed restricted zones below Barkley Lake and Lake Cumberland are unnecessarily restrictive, since they are based on bank full conditions with all major gates open. These conditions represent a true flood stage at either location, when it is definitely unsafe to be in the entire river below the dam. However, the proposed zones will now also restrict access to very calm and safe water for significant portions of the year including the major recreational season. The USCOE’s own policy contains language that allows flexibility, in that any boundaries for restricted access above and below the dam are to be “ordinarily” established based on high flow conditions. The rule does not require the USCOE to take this approach.

The hydraulic line standard only applies at flood stage and is not applicable during other major times of the year. In particular, the Lake Cumberland hydraulic standard is definitely excessive since gates have only been opened during rare events since the dam was constructed except during the current dam repair era. Major dam repairs will be completed sometime in 2013 and a normal flow operation will follow.

The proposed buoy line to delineate the zone will be expensive and has not been budgeted as part of normal congressional appropriations.

The USCOE rule now being implemented has apparently been in effect since 1996. However, the Corp has chosen not to enforce this rule for over 17 years! Despite this, before KDFWR became involved, the USCOE had not announced any intentions to allow for public input to this change in restricted areas. It is important therefore that this input is heard at the public information meetings scheduled for January.

Call to Action and Compromise:

KDFWR has reached out to USCOE officials as well as our state and federal legislators to try and foster a compromise, which addresses the USCOE safety and liability concerns while continuing to promote the outstanding fishing and tourism opportunity in these areas. KDFWR has specifically proposed, as an alternative, warning lights to designate a restricted zone when gates have been opened. Both our Department and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) have agreed to dedicate law enforcement efforts if a less restrictive methodology is utilized. It is our belief that the Corps can maximize safety and minimize legal liability by using these and other alternatives.”

Burgess

I think this needs its own topic heading, and to be a separate post/thread. This would affect not only KY, but the whole southeast.

Zina

Shouldn't affect the proposed WW Park or Ky River Dams, they aren't USCOE dams anymore.

Jr.

January 06, 2013

paddlezrm Wrote:

> I think this needs its own topic heading, and to be a separate post/thread. This would affect not only KY, but the whole southeast.

> Zina

As of right now the proposal is only for the dams on the Cumberland River in KY and TN. 500-700 feet up and down stream of the dam, depending on which dam it is.

My letter to the Assistant Secretary of the Army - Civil Works:

I forwarded our discussion on to the project managers and chief hydrologist for the Flanagan Dam in Elkhorn City, KY. They assured me they would put in a funding request ASAP for project funding for 2014, and would keep me informed as the process moves forward.

Hopefully you and I can continue to work together to ensure that this study receives the funding it needs to move forward so perhaps we can have recreational kayaking, tubing and rafting releases on the Russell Fork gorge by 2015 if at all possible.

I did have a second matter to bring to your attention. Have you heard of the USCOE’s plan to curtail fishing up and down stream of all power generating dams on the Cumberland River in the state
of Kentucky? The reason they claim is due to safety, which I find suspect given that there have only been ten deaths downstream of any dams on the entire Cumberland River since 1970. As a certified river safety and rescue instructor and subject matter expert in the field this few a fatalities is amazingly low.

Curtailing fishing in these areas, which will only stretch 500 to 700 feet downstream of each dam, may seem insignificant and be seen as having little impact on recreational fishing throughout the entire Cumberland River system. However our state department of fish and wildlife resources western fisheries biologist said 90% of fishing occurs within the first 1,000 feet down stream of Barkley dam on the Cumberland River, this is because the dam blocks the fishes’ upstream progress and provides a concentrated area of fishing for recreational fishermen. So this will in fact have a major impact on recreational fishing on the Cumberland River within our state and all the economic activity generated around it.

Again I have to ask is the Corps of Engineers on board with the America's Great Outdoors program? Do they not give any consideration to the impact of their decisions on the outdoor recreational economy? Especially in light of the fact that safety, given the small number of downstream deaths over the past 42 years, cannot legitimately be a reason for restricting access to fishermen, guides and users.

Lastly estimates are that the physical barriers being put in place to keep fishermen in boats out of the downstream areas, will run an estimated $2 million dollars. That money could pay for the Flanagan Dam- Russell Fork River impact study ten times over.

I look forward to your thoughts and response on this matter.

Doug Davis

BarrenRiver WW Park News

February 07, 2013

The BG Daily News wrote an article about a $6 million to $8 million federal grant I am working on to help establish the park. www.bgdailynews.com http://www.bgdailynews.com/news/local/whitewater-rafting-park-proponents-eyeing-grant/article_a14ad0cc-6fbc-11e2-9d49-0019bb2963f4.html

Paul Ress

Whitewater rafting park proponents eyeing grant
By ROBYN L. MINOR, The Daily News, rminor@bgdailynews.com/783-3249 I Posted: Tuesday, February 5, 2013 12:05 pm

Whitewater rafting park proponents will apply for a $6 million to $8 million federal grant to help establish the park.

The Bowling Green Riverfront Foundation plans to apply for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant, Paul Ress, a member of the Greenways Commission, told other board members Monday night.

“We know that it is a highly competitive grant,” he said. “A lot of cities have to apply three to five years in a row to get this grant, but we figured we would take a shot at it.”

The foundation was recently involved in establishing a mountain bike trail at Weldon Peete Park. The whitewater boating course would be on Barren River near that park and the RiverWalk at Mitch McConnell Park.

Ress said nearly all plans are in place for the rafting course, thanks mostly to work done years ago to establish it. Ress said the plan then had the backing of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, but at that time there was no money available to implement it.

Steve Hunter, executive director of the City-County Planning Commission of Warren County, asked Ress if he planned to reference the nearby Tax Increment Financing District or try to have the project included in the TIF.

Ress said they were uncertain of either since the TIF dropped the proposed whitewater park from its boundaries in 2008.

Public Works Director Mac Yowell asked Ress if the grant needed to be submitted by a sponsoring government agency.

“I’m not sure,” Ress said.

Yowell said Ress more than likely would need to seek the sponsorship of the city for the grant proposal, which means he has to act quickly since the pre-application for the grant is due by Feb. 22. Ress and fellow foundation member and hydrology graduate student Nick Lawhon are writing the grant proposal.

Lawhon said he is writing the technical portion of the grant, which describes about how they will install six miniature dams and fortify Bowling Green Municipal Utilities’ existing rubble dam with concrete.

He plans to emphasize the conservation effects of such a project.

“The water ... is undermining the piers for the (Old Louisville Road) bridge,” Lawhon said. The current swirls around the rubble dam and licks at the bridge pier, he said.

The group’s plans would prevent that and would raise the water level behind the dams, giving BGMU a more stable level of water to withdraw from, Lawhon said.
The project would improve the river’s infrastructure and bring tourists to the area who want to use the quarter-mile, Class II to III (depending on water levels) whitewater run, Ress said.

He cited Reno, Nev., as a city that capitalized on a whitewater run it has. Every year, a whitewater festival draws thousands to the city. Neither wanted to speculate on what chances such a grant application might have. “I think they had like $1.5 billion to $2 billion in the program (for two years),” Lawhon said. “They awarded 25 grants last year in the $5 million to $15 million range each.”

The Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery program “enables (the Department of Transportation) to use a rigorous process to select projects with exceptional benefits, explore ways to deliver projects faster and save on construction costs, and make investments in our (nation’s) infrastructure that make communities more livable and sustainable,” according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

To be or not to be:

Does the Construction of Whitewater Parks Bring Nature To Us, or Take it Away?”

The January/February 2008 issue of Paddler magazine has an article discussing Whitewater parks and a dilemma they pose for some paddlers: “the collision of two opposing goals—the original ethic of experiencing the natural world versus driving a bulldozer into the river to make it do what we want.”

The article by Doug Ammons states: “Probably nowhere else can people experience so directly one of the powers that shaped the world......Our ideal was to adapt ourselves to the river, learning its language and following its path.

In contrast, there has been a concerted movement among whitewater aficionados and economic developers to create play waves, rapid, and even entire circular whitewater rivers run by pumps. The goal here is different: it is to maximize our fun by changing the river or even creating an artificial river—to suit our desires. There are many arguments pro and con. Some assert these changes will bring kayaking tourists to mountain towns or fill a need in places where there is no river or whitewater. The parks would help people hone their skills and introduce a huge number of spectators to a sport they’d otherwise never see.

What do you think? Read the article and write a response for the Bowlines.
help spread the word
Brandon Jett & Dot Edwards are in charge of Donations/Auction
January will start organizing volunteer list & PR push
Thanks to Bubba for arranging GREAT beer donation
Friday Brew-Off is a go

Member At Large (Linda Tribble) - nothing to report

IV. Unfinished Business
Roll Sessions & Wilderness First Aid
EG will follow up w/ MAR re: roll sessions and wilderness first aid.

Christmas Party: EG will follow up w/ Clay.

V. New Business
Ledgeman Presentation Is presenting plans for a whitewater park at Athens Boonsboro SC approved pre-presentation at Reg BWA meeting & approval of logo
Motion Allen K, 2nd and past
Money requested to reimburse presentation materials, all in favor but was decided best done at reg. meeting

VI. Adjournment approx 8:12

Dec Reg Meeting Minutes
November, 2012
I. Call to order at 7:30
II. Minutes - accepted as posted
III. Officer Reports
President (Emily Grimes) – nothing to report
Past President (Allen Kirkwood) – nothing to report
Vice President (Jason Powell) - not present (report by Brent Austin)
Release being requested for weekend of May 18th w/ Russell Fork Corp
Treasurer (Jeff Kirkner) – not present
Secretory (KC Frankenstein) - nothing to report
Safety Officer (Marianne Reynolds) – not present
Membership Coordinator (Ali Blair) – nothing to report
Conservation Officer (Bethany Overfield) – nothing to report
Program Director (Bob Larkin) –
Ali Blair presenting in January
Discussion of I-75 Project in February
Web Master (     )
Newsletter (Don Spangler) – not present
Gear Coordinator (Adelessa Harbour) – nothing to report
NPFF Coordinator (Bethany Overfield) –
Sturgess confirmed collecting submissions – advertising via FB & Forum, please
Web Master (        ) - 

Newsletter (Don Spangler) – nothing to report

Gear Coordinator (Adelessa Harbour) –
Plans to replace some broken storage bins

NPFF Coordinator (Bethany Overfield) –
Meeting held before Christmas went well.
Hoping BWA membership will help solicit entries
Ideas for donors requested, please contact Brandon Jett
Online tickets sales are now available $20
Benchmark will also be selling tickets in advance – date TDB

Member At Large (Linda Tribble) - nothing to report

III. Unfinished Business

Roll Sessions
First Winter session Fri.
Logistics discussed
FB event being created
Noted Canoe KY not likely at this session, future availability TBD

Wilderness First Aid Class is “a go”
Jeff K is handling payment deadline

Safety Officer Position
Adelessa shared w/ SC that MAR was stepping down. A. H. will act as interim until nominations and election to fill position can be arranged. Has offered to finish current year as both gear and safety in no one accepts the position

IV. New Business

V. Adjournment approx 8:10

Jan Reg Meeting Minutes

January 2013 BWA Regular Meeting

I. Call to order at 7:30 -23 members attended

II. Officer Reports
President (Emily Grimes) – nothing to report
Past President (Allen Kirkwood) – nothing to report
Vice President (Jason Powell) - not present
Treasurer (Jeff Kirkner) –
After estimated current financial commitments, approx $330 ‘til clinic & renewal time
Secretary (KC Frankenstein) - nothing to report

Safety Officer (Adelessa Harbour) – not present (Report by Emily G).
Great Attendance at last roll session
MAR has stepped down and AH will act as interim
Wilderness First Aid is “a go”; class is closed w/ 17 students.
Jeff K is handled payment deadline

Membership Coordinator (Ali Blair) –
New Members trickling in
Priced postcard/mini-flyers re: roll sessions. Working on this project

Conservation Officer (Bethany Overfield) – not present

Program Director (Bob Larkin) - not present
Ali Blair will be presented at end of meeting

Web Master (        )

Newsletter (Don Spangler) – please submit pictures and/or articles for next issue

Gear Coordinator (Adelessa Harbour) – not present

NPFF Coordinator (Bethany Overfield) – not present (Report Given by Bubba)
Film Deadline is January 23rd
Todd Garland and Barry Grimes are exploring handling the judging entirely online Donations: Ideas for donors requested, please contact Brandon Jett. Encouraged to think “outside the box”, not necessarily boating stuff.
Meeting Jan 22nd: all welcome to come and see how you may be able to pitch in.
Schedule of Volunteers will be down via forum again
Beer donated by Cumberland Brewing: gave us 12 kegs - BIG thanks and membership encouraged to check them out.
Online tickets sales are now available $20; Volunteers cost will again be $10. Benchmark will also be selling tickets in advance – date TDB

Member At Large (Linda Tribble) - nothing to report

III. Unfinished Business

Boonsboro Project Progress/Discussion
For details of this progress please see forum thread where it is discussed
Barry Grimes reported discussion w/ Ledgeman re: next step might be viability study & covering its cost. People are encouraged to join forum discussion for ways to help. Contacts may be Barry G, Ledgeman, & Doug. Also, a suggestion was made to contact Bardstown Boaters and Mark Blair for input, etc

IV. New Business

V. Program: Ali Blair Common Injuries and Prevention

VI. Adjournment approx 8:30
Elmer T. Lee Clubhouse
Buffalo Trace Distillery
113 Great Buffalo Trace
Frankfort, KY

http://www.buffalotrace.com/

From Louisville:
On I-64 Eastbound, take Exit 53B, US 127 North, go about 5 miles. You will cross the KY River and see the Capital Plaza Hotel, turn left (still 127 North, also Wilkinson Blvd.). The distillery will be on the left in one mile.

From Lexington:
On I-64 Westbound, take exit 58, go North on US 60 until it becomes US 127/421. Go straight, follow signs to Civic Center/Downtown and do not make any turns until you see the distillery on your right, about 5.5 miles.

SMOKING NOTE: While smoking is allowed on the porch at the clubhouse, due to the flammable nature of Buffalo Trace products, smoking between the parking lot and the clubhouse, or in most places on Buffalo Trace property, is not permitted.

BWA meetings
Meetings held Second Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm
To eat during the meeting come a little early so you can place your order before the meeting starts.
For up-to-date info on meetings always check http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org

Bluegrass Wildwater Association
PO Box 4231
Lexington, Ky. 40504