

Midwest Chapter Newsletter

Winter 2011



Note:
Don't forget to
renew or update
your membership!

Message from Chapter President Peter Hark

Greetings Midwest Chapter members!

I hope this e-newsletter from the Midwest RMS Chapter finds you well and eager to dust off your boats in anticipation of spring and summer flows!

I want to take an opportunity to remind you of upcoming River Management Society events, opportunities and happenings coming up this year:



March 31st, RMS Photo contest: The National River Management Society has decided to replace the displays they use for regional and national shows. They plan to create a set of seven displays, one for each region which will include three winning photos of the region. Three of the winning photos will also be used in the national display. Winners will get 'RMS bucks' to use at the online store and a one-year membership renewal. Learn more about the contest at www.River-management.org.

April 15-17, Midwest Chapter Spring Workshop and Float Trip: This year we are planning a trip down the Jacks Fork River in Missouri, see the next page for details.

May 10-13, Interagency River Management Workshop in Girwood Alaska: I encourage you to look into this exciting opportunity which includes a variety of sessions on topics ranging from climate change, recreation, ecology, invasive species and a variety of sessions about issues unique to Alaska. There is even an opportunity to go whitewater rafting or enjoy a hike to take in the local landscape.

The Midwest Chapter officers encourage you to join us on the spring chapter workshop & float trip. Our own Stuart Schneider is orchestrating what will be a superb trip and we anticipate this filling up. We want to give Midwest RMS members the first crack at this opportunity.

State River Stewards Needed!

- Are you a passionate paddler of your state's streams?
- Are you a people person?
- Would you be committed to help ensure the future of RMS?

The Midwest Chapter needs volunteers to serve as State Stewards to recruit river managers and concerned river users to the River Management Society, communicate with agencies, paddling clubs and river organizations, and organize local field trips and events. Please contact Peter Hark at peter.hark@state.mn.us if you're interested in helping out.

Name these Midwest RMS Chapter Rivers!

A. Nebraska



B. South Dakota



C. Illinois



D. Indiana



E. Michigan



(Answers on the back)

Midwest Chapter RMS Spring Workshop & Float Trip

Jacks Fork River, Missouri

When: Friday April 15 through Sunday April 17, 2011

Who: Midwest Chapter RMS members/family & prospective RMS members

What: Spring Workshop & Float Trip for Midwest Chapter of the River Management Society, Jacks Fork River: Buck Hollow to Alley Spring – 24 miles, Class II

The trip is limited to 40 people.

Where: Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Missouri – meet at the Alley Springs Campground Friday afternoon/evening

Why: To join with other river professionals & enthusiasts, learn about river management issues, share knowledge, paddle a beautiful river, make new friends and create memories.

Contact: Stuart Schneider (402) 376-1901 x 105 stuart_schneider@nps.gov

Directions: From Kansas City, MO head east on I-70 to Columbia, then south on U.S. 63 to Rolla. From St. Louis take I-44 southwest to Rolla. Continue south on 72 to Salem. Next take Hwy 19 south to Eminence. From here you'll head west on Hwy 106 to Alley Springs – the 7th largest spring in the state. That's 84 million gallons/day or about (130 cfs)!

Details: Several campsites will be reserved for RMS participants Friday night at the Alley Spring campground (campsite area may be subject to change – we're awaiting further information on this and a possible fee waiver). In the morning we'll shuttle boats and people to the Hwy 17 landing (Buck Hollow). After breakfast, a NPS river ranger will offer a safety briefing. We will then paddle around 18 miles to the Bay Creek campsite (unimproved). Within the river valley are heavily forested hills, steep bluffs, numerous springs and caves. Topics covered by local NPS staff may include water quality concerns, archaeological resource protection, fire management, general management planning, visitor-use management, and impacts of exotic species on native plants and animals. On Saturday we'll visit Blue Spring, Jam-up Bluff and Cave, as well as other points of interest. Sunday we'll continue downriver to Alley and then head home to our own rivers.

What to bring: Bring your own boat, or rent from a local outfitter - prices and information will be forthcoming in a follow-up e-mail. For river gear bring a throw bag, paddling top, dry bags, PFD and a favorite paddle. Bring everything you need for this trip. All meals except Saturday night will be on your own. Saturday night's meal will be provided. Let us know if you have any special dietary needs for this meal. Cost is ~\$20 person.

A limited number of scholarships are available to current college students - please contact Peter Hark peter.hark@state.mn.us for more information. Expected weather in mid-April is variable and can be warm and sunny, or cool with rain. Flooding is a possibility and we will develop alternative plans for inclement weather (paddling the lower Jacks Fork, Current River, or hiking/driving alternatives).



Jacks Fork River



Alley Spring