

Middle Fork of the Salmon River

New – 4 Rivers Lottery

Reservations, cancellations and recreation fee payments will be processed through the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS) website at www.Recreation.gov for the Selway, Snake, Middle Fork and wild section of the main Salmon rivers. This switch to NRRS begins on December 1st, 2009. All river users need an email address and access to a computer to apply for the lottery. Lottery is from December 1st to January 31st for the control season occurring between May and September (specific dates vary from river to river). Applicant may apply for each of the individual rivers with up to four launch dates per river if desired. Each river will require a separate application and fee. The Middle Fork will use this online system to assign pre or post season reservations which occur outside of the control season or boaters can call 1(877)550-6777. Permits are required year-round on the Middle Fork of the Salmon. Cancelled launches will be allocated at website or by calling 1(877)550-6777 on a first-come, first-served basis.

Application Process: Lottery applications are accepted December 1st through January 31st annually. Launch reservations for May 28 thru September 3 (the lottery control season) are assigned by the Four River Lottery System. Successful applicants must confirm their reservation and pay part of their recreation fees on the www.recreation.gov website by March 15th. Unconfirmed reservations will be released as cancellations. Pre- and post-season launches may be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis at www.Recreation.gov or by calling 1(877)550-6777 beginning December 1st at 8:00 a.m. Mountain time for the 2010 float season. Normally the pre- and post-season launches can be reserved beginning October 1st, but because of the transition to the new system, this has been delayed for this year only to December 1st, 2009.

Fees:

Non-refundable fee of \$6.00 for each river reservation or lottery application

All persons floating the Middle Fork of the Salmon River must pay a Recreation Fee in the amount of \$4.00 per person per day (or any part of a day) or be a valid Middle Fork/Main Salmon Rivers Season Pass holder (see below). A fee reduction of 50% is available to Senior or Access Pass holders (formerly Golden Age or Golden Access Passports). Season pass holders and persons using a Senior or Access Pass for a fee discount must present their pass, along with their photo ID, to the launch personnel issuing the permit.

Season Passes - are available for purchase from the Middle Fork and North Fork offices for \$40.00. This pass entitles the holder only (not other members of their party) to float the Middle Fork and/or Main Salmon Rivers without further payment of Recreation Fees within one year from the date of purchase.

Permit holders will be responsible for payment of fees for their entire group. Payment must be made at www.recreation.gov website at least three (3) days prior to the actual launch date. Payments for recreation fees will not be accepted at the launch sites.

Cancellations and Refunds: Cancellations must be made 21 days prior to the launch date to avoid a 3-year no-show penalty. Cancellations should be entered at the www.recreation.gov website or by calling 1(877)550-6777. If you cancel your permit, your recreation fees will be refunded. However, there are no refunds for the \$6.00 reservation/application fee. See website for more details about cancellations and refund policies.

Additional Information: New State Requirement – Anyone who wants to launch a boat on Idaho waters will have to buy and display an Idaho Invasive Species Fund sticker. (Inflatable, non-motorized vessels less than 10 feet long are exempt).

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

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

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

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

Outside the Lottery Control Season the maximum group size is 24 and the maximum trip length is 8 days.

Required equipment: Porta-potty, fire pan, ash container, mesh strainer, shovel, bucket

Contact:

U.S. Forest Service

Middle Fork Ranger District

HC 63 Box 1669

Challis, ID 83226

Telephone: (208) 879-4101

Reservation and Cancellation Line: (877) 550-6777

Fax: (208) 879-4198

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 7:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Websites: www.fs.fed.us/r4/sc/recreation and www.Recreation.gov