

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1) **What is the regulated use season?** May 15 through October 15. During the Off-season, October 16 through May 14 self-issuing permits are available on-line at the Grave Creek Boat Ramp (drop box at north end of bridge), and in front of the Smullin Visitor Center (drop box next to door).
- 2) **Do I have to be off the river before May 15 when the permit season starts?** No, you just have to launch before May 15 and be off the river by the seventh day of the trip. You can only be on the river seven days/six nights, year-round.
- 3) **How can I pick-up spaces to float the Wild Section of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River between May 15 and October 15?** Applying to the Rogue River Noncommercial Float Permit Lottery in December and January is the first opportunity to get spaces to float the Wild Rogue. The second opportunity is by calling the Smullin Visitor Center at 541-479-3735 between 9:00 am and 3:00 p.m. the first five business days in April. The third opportunity is by calling the Visitor Center May 05 through October 15. A fourth opportunity is by coming to the Visitor Center and picking-up or waiting for openings to launch that same day. The fifth opportunity is by coming to the Visitor Center and signing-up on a waiting list for openings. For more details go to [Rogue River Permits](#).
- 4) **Can I add an alternate party leader to my permit?** Your only opportunity to add an alternate to your permit occurs when you apply for a permit through the lottery or when you pick-up a permit over the phone. You cannot add an alternate to your permit or change the alternate later.
- 5) **Can I change the party members listed on my confirmation sheet after I have sent it to the Smullin Visitor Center?** Yes, you can change party members, other than the party leader, up to and including the day of your launch. But you cannot change your party leader unless you have an approved (by the Visitor Center) alternate to take the party leaders place.
- 6) **The alternate I named on my lottery application was left off of the confirmation sheet you sent me. What happened to my alternate?** The alternate you named must have also been named on another application. We therefore removed your alternate because we remove all duplicate names from the lottery. According to our lottery rules, a person can only be named once in the lottery, either as a party leader or an alternate. All duplicate names are removed.
- 7) **If I am waiting at the Visitor Center for openings can I pick-up openings that are available for any launch date during the season?** No. You can only pick-up available spaces to launch on that day. If there are openings for any other day of the season, you need to call the visitor center beginning at 8:00 a.m. You have to call to help keep the system as fair as possible to as many people as possible. People calling-in are considered first in-line to pick-up spaces for every day of the season except for the same day launches. For same day launches, people at the Visitor Center are considered first in-line and considered ahead of the people calling-in.
- 8) **Do you give spaces out the same day the spaces are cancelled?** No, we give cancelled spaces away the day after they are cancelled. The only exception to this rule is when spaces are cancelled on the launch date for that same day launch. See the next section for more information on waiting at the Visitor Center for a permit.

9) **Do you have a waiting list for people to put their name on to get spaces when they become available?**

We do have a waiting list. There are many rules that go with the waiting list. These rules are in place to make getting spaces as fair as possible to as many people as possible. The first rule is you have to come to the Smullin Visitor Center to sign-up on the waiting list. Then, you have to be at the Visitor Center by 7:00 a.m. sharp each morning to keep your name on the list. We conduct a rollcall with the waiting list first thing each morning. If you are not at the Visitor Center in time for “rollcall” we cross your name off the list. If you show-up later in the day, you can put your name back on the list, but you may have lost your spot on the list.

More waiting list rules:

- The first party on the list has first choice on spaces, regardless of the preferred date they wrote with their name on the list.
- Only the Party Leader may sign-up.
- The Party Leader must:
 - Be at least 18 years old
 - Pick up the permit by 3:00 p.m. on the launch date
 - Accompany the group on the river trip
- The Party Leader must show up for rollcall at the Smullin Visitor Center at 7:00 a.m. each day to keep their name on the list.
- After rollcall, any party member may claim spaces that become available, but only the Party Leader may pick-up the permit.
- As spaces occur, they will be assigned in the order on the list and will require the presence of a party member to secure the permit. Failing that, the spaces will be reallocated to those below you on the list.
- The party may decline spaces if offered fewer than requested and still retain their position on the list.
- If the party accepts fewer spaces than requested:
 - They must launch the smaller group on that day.
 - A party member left behind may assume the party leader’s position on the list to try to pick up the remaining spaces the following day. In this case, the Party Leader could choose to be the party member that keeps the position on the list for the following day and name a new Party Leader to go with the group that launches that day.
- No person or company may appear on the waiting list more than once at any given time.
 - Outfitters with more than one MRP number may have more than one MRP number on the list at the same time.
 - Outfitters must have a different person waiting at Smullin Visitor Center for each MRP number on the list.

- Commercial Outfitters may not sign-up more than nine days prior to any launch date.
- Commercial Outfitters may use the waiting list to create whole new starts in May, June, and September 16 - October 15.

- Those who do not obtain the spaces needed on any given day will automatically roll-over and maintain their position on the list providing the party leader shows-up for roll call at 7:00 a.m. the following day.

- If you need extra clarification, call the Smullin Visitor Center at 541-479-3735 and talk to a River Ranger.

10) Do hikers being raft supported need permits?

Yes, a Wild Rogue Float Permit is required for trail hikers, when trail hikers are supported by boaters. If a hiker utilizes the entire trail and packs all their own gear, a float permit is not required. You can swap out hikers and boaters except for the party leader. The party leader has to stay with the watercraft. All the boaters and hikers need to be on the permit. No hiking permits needed for people that are hiking only, not part of a boating party in anyway.

11) Who can help when people have a boating accident? Anyone on the river who is qualified and willing. Sometimes people get help from other boaters that are in the area. Outfitters are often helpful and usually have river rescue training and experience. Agency personnel, the Lodges, the Rogue River Ranch and Brushy Bar might be able to help with the incident or call for help.

12) What if our boat or equipment is stuck in a rapid and poses a boating hazard to other boaters? Please report hazards in the river to one of the following offices.

- Curry County Sheriff Dispatch - 541-247-3242
- Josephine County Sheriff Dispatch - 541-474-5115
- Smullin Visitor Center - 541-479-3775
- Forest Service, Gold Beach Ranger District - 541-247-3600
- Grants Pass Interagency Office - 541-471-6500

13) How do we get help if we have a medical emergency? Agency personnel, the Lodges, the Rogue River Ranch and Brushy Bar might be able to help with the incident or they can call for help. Outfitters and anyone on the river who is qualified and willing. Call 911 as soon as possible if the emergency is life-threatening. One of the offices above can also assist you.

14) Who is responsible for removing boats and equipment left on the river? The Party Leader will be held responsible for removing boats and equipment from the river corridor. Abandoning personal property is prohibited, Title 43 CFR 8365.1-2 and 36 CFR 261.10(e).

If your group has a boating accident and you are forced to leave equipment on the river, we ask that you report the situation as soon as possible to the Smullin Visitor Center. Please include your contact information, helpful details about hazards remaining at the site, and plans to remove personal property left behind. If there is an injury or fatality, complete a Boating Accident Report Form within 48 hours. The Boating Accident Form can be found at [Boating Incident Report Form](#).

15) Who do I contact if I discover a natural feature, artifact or cultural resource that is being disturbed or damaged? Good question! Call the Forest Service, Gold Beach Ranger District at 541-247-3600 or the Grants Pass Interagency Office at 541-471-6500.

16) What are the Leave No Trace Principles?

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize campfire impacts
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of other visitors

➤ Using these principles can help you have a safe and fun trip while doing what is needed to take care of the natural and cultural environment and other visitors. To get details about the [Leave No Trace Principles](#).

17) **How can I keep up to date with new Rogue River information?** We have a “[News and Updates](#)” webpage where we try to post new and useful information.