



NRS

2023 | COLLECTION



Salmon River, ID
Neal Wassmuth



Let this be the year.

The year we take that big trip. The year we do less and do it better. When we follow through on spending more days outside, more time with our people, and less bandwidth on Internet buzz. Let us live fully—mindfully, joyfully, healthfully—remembering what matters and forgetting what doesn't. Yes, there is work to be done. For this, we need our strength.

Let us go and restore it.

NEW NEW for 2023

 REVISED or NEW COLOR for 2023

 Efforts in SUSTAINABILITY





Lake Pend Oreille, ID
Jasper Gibson

MEN'S SUP

There's something special about spending a quiet afternoon paddling languid waters amidst a stunning wilderness landscape. Adventure doesn't have to equal sufferfest when your basic needs are covered. Start with a PFD for safety, trusty sandals for on-shore exploration, and apparel to keep you cool and sunburn free—the rest is up to you, your board and your paddle. Stuff a dry sack with snacks and strap a Nalgene to a D-ring and you're ready to make ripples.



Fantastic PFD! It's perfect for lake kayaking. I really like the zippered pouch for my phone.

- Clare K. | Zephyr Inflatable PFD



1. SILKWEIGHT HOODIE

10139.05 | S-XXL | \$74.95

2. ZEPHYR INFLATABLE PFD

40037.02 | UNIVERSAL | \$149.95

3. BENNY BOARD SHORT

10141.05 | 30-40, 33 | \$74.95

4. ASTRAL PFD SANDALS

31016.01 | 8-13 | 95.00

5. QUEST 1-PIECE SUP PADDLE

77119.01 | 68"-86" | \$149.95



WOMEN'S SUP

Whether you paddled all day to reach this moment or pumped up your board 20 minutes ago in a gravel lot, nothing beats a quiet twilight paddle. Performance-minded apparel wicks moisture and keeps you sunburn free for long days on the water, while active layers cut the chill when the sun sets. If SUP is your workout routine, your wind-down time or just a means to access places like this, trust our gear to keep you focused on the present.



-  **1. LONG-SLEEVE RASHGUARD SHIRT**
10021.07 | XS-XL | \$47.95
-  **2. NINJA PFD**
40013.04 | S/M, L/XL, XXL | \$147.95
- 3. BEDA SHORT**
10142.05 | 4-16 | \$52.95
- 4. CHACO Z/1 CLASSIC SANDALS**
34031.01 | 6-10 | \$100.00
- 5. QUEST 3-PIECE SUP PADDLE**
77120.01 | 68"-86" | \$169.95



Must buy! Exactly what I needed them
to be—easy on, easy off, quick
drying and comfortable.

- Meghan G. | Beda Board Short



APPAREL THAT KEEPS YOU COOL, CALM AND COLLECTED

What began as a simple sun shirt has evolved into a well-loved line of apparel with a variety of styles to meet the demands of all paddlers. The quick-drying, technical Silkweight material wicks moisture away from the body for cool comfort while providing UPF 50+ protection. Seam placement purposefully designed for paddlers allows maximum range of motion while eliminating discomfort from chafing. Hoodies and long-sleeve shirts extend sun

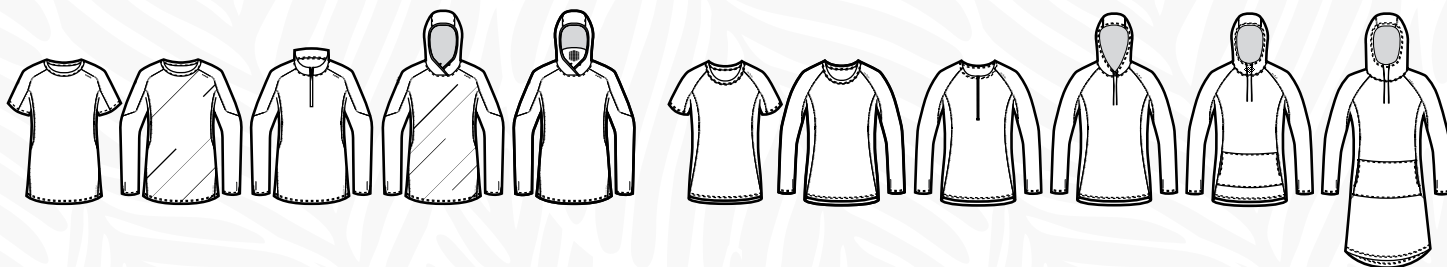
protection through the tops of the hands with laser-cut thumbholes. Paddlers looking for even more protection can choose the Varial or Vesi, with neck gaiters integrated into the hoodies. A fan-fave around the world, the Silkweight Hoodie Dress extends the technical benefits and protection of a sun shirt for guides, stand-up paddlers and camp queens, adding a little flair to the gear bag.



Absolutely great. In addition to wearing these on the water, I use them as wind shirts when cycling. Pretty much my go-to for wearable sunscreen.

— JimBobROK | Baja Shirt





MEN'S SILKWEIGHT

SHORT SLEEVE | 10108.05 | S-XXL | \$47.95

LONG SLEEVE | 10114.05 | S-XXL | \$57.95

BAJA SHIRT | 10009.04 | S-XXL | \$79.95

HOODIE | 10139.05 | S-XXL | \$74.95

VARIAL HOODIE | 10008.04 | S-XXL | \$89.95

WOMEN'S SILKWEIGHT

SHORT SLEEVE | 10111.05 | XS-XL | \$47.95

LONG SLEEVE | 10115.05 | XS-XL | \$57.95

KOSI SHIRT | 10163.01 | XS-XL | \$57.95

HOODIE | 10140.05 | XS-XL | \$74.95

VESI HOODIE | 10164.01 | XS-XL | \$77.95

HOODIE DRESS | 10112.02 | XS-XL | \$79.95



Scan code to see all
styles and colors for
both men and women.





BOARD SHORTS

50+

Comfortable elastic waistband with internal drawcord

Rugged recycled nylon with DWR finish

Two front pockets

Smooth, stretch waistband with internal drawcord

7"
INSEAM

Zippered rear pocket

Superlight nylon fabric

Zippered fly reinforced with laces and hook-and-loop closure

8"
INSEAM

Non-stretch Supplex® interior waistband

Zippered rear pocket

11"
INSEAM



Top notch!!! I ordered these after seeing them on the river, they do not disappoint.

Great fit, true to size and awesome stretching material. I'll be ordering more.

— Christopher S. | Benny Board Short



 **MEN'S HIGH SIDE SHORT** | 10157.01 | 30-40, 33 | \$52.95

MEN'S EDDYLINE SHORT | 10152.02 | 30-40, 33 | \$52.95

MEN'S BENNY SHORT | 10141.05 | 30-40, 33 | \$74.95

We have women's shorts, too!
Scan here to check them out.



Yampa River, Dinosaur National Monument, UT
John Webster

MEN'S RAFTING

Tell us you're a raft guide without telling us you're a raft guide. If the 'stache and Chaco tan don't give it away, that NRS strap as a belt sure will. Our rafting apparel perfectly blends dirtbag style with professional performance to keep guides and private boaters comfortable from the first bag rigged to the last raft-a-pult. Lightweight sun protection, ready-to-party button-ups—we know that earning your fun doesn't mean you can't look good doing it.



1. **NRS RETRO TRUCKER HAT**
12541.01 | UNIVERSAL | \$24.95

2. **SHORT-SLEEVE GUIDE SHIRT**
10011.02 | S-3XL | \$79.95

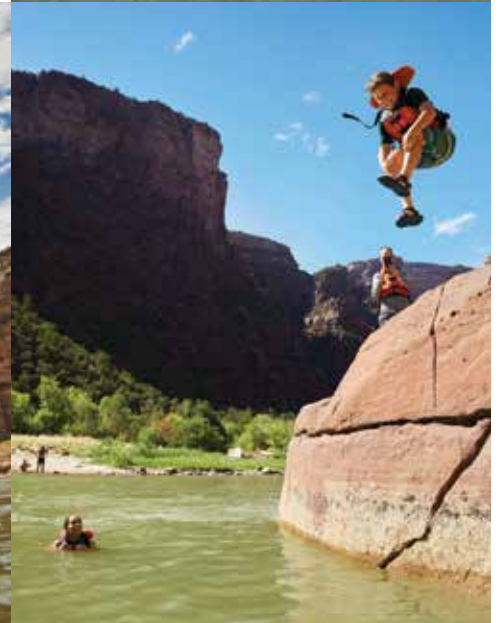
3. **ION PFD**
40056.03 | XS/M, L/XL, XL/XXL | \$119.95

4. **COMPACT RESCUE THROW BAG**
45101.01 | 70' | \$109.95

5. **GUIDE SHORT**
10145.03 | 30-40, 33 | \$74.95


WOMEN'S RAFTING

From geography lessons to cannonball sessions plus the rigging, rowing, and chores in between, a guide's day starts at dawn and ends well past twilight. Apparel that offers both protection and comfort isn't a desire—it's a need. Whether you're a shorts and button-up type of gal, prefer the full coverage of tights and long-sleeves or fancy a sundress, we have the apparel that works as hard as the rookie guide vying for TL position. Wrap the wardrobe with a floppy hat, a well-loved PFD and that Chaco tan.



1. TULA LATTICE GARDENER HAT
13000.01 | S/M, L/XL | \$44.95

 **2. SILKWEIGHT HOODIE DRESS**
10112.02 | XS-XL | \$79.95

 **3. NORA PFD**
40073.01 | XS/M, L/XL, XL/XXL | \$127.95

4. TUFF SACK DRY BAG
55023.02 | 5L-55L | \$22.95-\$59.95

5. CHACO Z/1 CLASSIC SANDALS
34031.01 | 6-10 | \$100.00



Super cute, easy to wear especially after a long day backpacking! Sizing is spot on. Bought another one because I like it so much!

- Karne S. | Silkweight Hoodie Dress



WE WOULD DATE THIS SHIRT

Guide Shirts have a work hard, play harder, bring-on-the-fun vibe that goes from the office to the river to the pub. These shirts set the standard for easy-wearing apparel that gives maximum freedom of movement and UPF 50+ protection. Men's and women's-specific cuts come in short- and long-sleeve designs with dual chest pockets and grommet-style

snaps for ready-for-anything performance. Quick-dry fabric reduces stank, and Silkweight fabric underarm panels enhance ventilation and comfort when rowing, casting, hiking or handling pesky admin duties. You might crave a rest day by the time you hit the sack, but your shirt will be ready to go again tomorrow.



MEN'S



Comfortable during full activity, dries quickly, travels well.

— Reuben F. | Short-Sleeve Guide Shirt

MEN'S SHORT-SLEEVE SHIRT | 10011.02 | S-3XL | \$79.95

MEN'S LONG-SLEEVE SHIRT | 10012.02 | S-3XL | \$89.95

WOMEN'S LONG-SLEEVE SHIRT | 10013.02 | XS-XL | \$84.95

WOMEN'S SHORT-SLEEVE SHIRT | 10014.01 | XS-XL | \$74.95



WOMEN'S



See all of our hard-working
Guide Wear online.



GUIDE SHORTS

When your work is the same as your play, your gear takes on double duty. NRS Guide Shorts accept the challenge. Soft, four-way-stretch fabric dries fast, resists abrasion and offers UPF 50+ protection. The utilitarian design

features five pockets—three zippered and two standard—and a quick-access loop for keys, a 'biner, or Swiss Army. From the daily grind to the weekend getaway, Guide Shorts have you covered.



WOMEN'S GUIDE SHORT | 10147.03 | 4-16 | \$69.95

MEN'S GUIDE SHORT | 10145.03 | 30-40, 33 | \$74.95

NRS

— GENUINE —

*Guide
Wear*

IDAHO, USA




Chatooga River, NC
Scott Martin

MEN'S TOURING

It's easy to feel small against the ocean's vast expanse. Whether you explore shoals or fjords, hug the coastline or navigate offshore, paddling open waters means embracing its ever-changing moods and conditions. Sea kayakers depend on adaptable dry gear and safety equipment with touring-specific details to keep the focus on the vista ahead and find the perfect camp to take it all in.



1. RIPTIDE SPLASH JACKET
20030.03 | S-XXL | \$229.95

 **2. CVEST PFD**
40028.02 | XS/M, L/XL, XL/XXL | \$147.95

3. FREEFALL DRY PANT
22520.04 | S-XXL | \$244.95

 **4. HYDROSKIN® GLOVES**
25014.04 | XS-XXL | \$39.95

5. BILGE PUMP
50033.02 | \$20.95

 **6. PADDLE WETSHOES**
30034.04 | 6-14 | \$63.95





Love the fit! These splash pants are amazing. I am a “full figured” gal and the adjustable waist is a huge bonus for me. I don’t get that gap when I am rowing, the pants stay exactly where I want them to be.

- Andrea T. | Endurance Splash Pant



WOMEN'S TOURING

Exceptional gear inspires exploration and gives sea kayakers the confidence to take on the unknown. Breathable insulation and premium dry protection make the white caps and squalls part of the fun, while comfortable safety gear supports ventures farther from shore. Come sunset, peel off the layers and cue the stories—tall tales of mermaids and Nessie sightings are a rite of passage.



Want a little extra safety
on the white caps?
Try the Zen and a helmet!

ZEN PFD
43000.03 | S/M, L/XL, XXL | \$229.95

WRSI CURRENT HELMET
43000.03 | S/M, M/L, L/XL | \$129.95

1. POM BEANIE
12553.01 | UNIVERSAL | \$24.95

2. HELIUM SPLASH JACKET
20036.02 | XS-XL | \$159.95

3. ZOYA PFD
40029.03 | XS/M, L/XL, XL/XXL | \$127.95

4. HYDROSKIN® GLOVES
25015.04 | XS-XL | \$39.95

5. ENDURANCE PANT
20018.06 | XS-XXL | \$129.95

6. KICKER WETSHOES
30023.04 | 5-11 | \$52.95



Approaching the Dams

An Excerpt from the Grand Salmon Source to Sea Journals

AUTHOR: LIBBY TOBEY | PHOTOS: LIBBEY TOBEY, BROOKE HESS, HAILEY THOMPSON

One of the most important pieces of the expedition (and, in hindsight, also the most grueling) was the Lower Snake River. Here, we ran up against the four dams at the heart of our project's mission and the grim physical reality of the environmental and cultural crises they've created.

When we launched on the Lower Snake in Lewiston after reshuffling ourselves into sea kayaks, we were still riding the high of our sprint down the Salmon, packed with the buzz of high water, the company of the many friends who joined us along the way, and the electric, wildflower-splashed green of an Idaho spring. But within a few miles of leaving Lewiston, that excitement ran headlong into the sluggish torpor of a river that should be a freight train and the moodiness of a place that's been chewed up and spit out by the industries that once promised prosperity.

For five days, it was just our team on the Lower Snake. Access to the river corridor is difficult, as the area's winding rural roads lead to the dams and little else. It felt fitting that this sobering, crucial section of the expedition was ours alone. Instead of camping on sandy flats under old-growth ponderosas, we camped in rural highway pullouts or along overgrown 4WD tracks, some heavily graffitied and all adjacent to busy railroad tracks. (The railroad tracks, at least, had a silver lining; they offer a cheap alternative to barge shipping and another indication of the dams' obsolescence. So, we tried not to complain when the trains screamed past at midnight, only a few hours before our alarms began going off.)

Silver linings were hard to imagine, though, when the concrete face of the first dam, Lower Granite, came into sight. From a mile away, we could hear

the hum of the turbines. We sat staring at it for at least 20 minutes, not talking, all of us in tears. There's something visceral about watching a wild river turn slack and about running into the concrete wall that impounds it. I did almost no journaling during the exhausting slog of the Lower Snake, but one of the few entries sums up the gut punch of that day perfectly: "What have we done here...?"

It wasn't just the current-less, impounded river itself that was disturbing. It was the stark absence of people in a string of reservoirs questionably touted for their "recreational value." It was the surprisingly sparse shipping traffic (although this, too, is one of the dams' frequently cited benefits). And it was the general eeriness of a once-inhabited landscape that's been carved into pieces and largely forgotten about.

In the 130 miles of river between Lewiston and the Tri-Cities, we saw two other "recreational" boaters paddling a tandem canoe. Two. The reason became abundantly clear when we stepped out of our boats for the first portage around Lower Granite. If we hadn't realized the full extent of our self-sandbag on our first day of flatwater paddling, it slapped us in the face as we realized what the "portage" entailed. I say portage because, although there are signs pointing non-motorized boats to a "portage route," there's not a route. The routes are the mostly abandoned highways. And we never encountered one shorter than two miles long. By the time we had finished the first one, we'd dodged several rattlesnakes, and one of Brooke's feet was blistered and bleeding.

In full disclosure, on the grand scale of portages, these were pretty tame. We hiked paved roads, not through the jungle or over miles of talus fields



"I did almost no journaling during the exhausting slog of the Lower Snake, but one of the few entries sums up the gut punch of that day perfectly: "What have we done here...?"





“We had spent weeks advocating for people to write to the Washington delegation, and to our delight, the draft report contained many of the provisions we’d been hoping for.”



around steep gorges. But they heap insult on injury by requiring paddlers to walk around a section of river they should legally, as taxpayers, be allowed to navigate. But upon radioing the dam operators for passage through the locks, we were turned down every time.

At each portage, we looked out over a dystopian maze of tubes and pipes, all meant to sort tiny salmon smolt and funnel them into barges for shipping downriver. Below the spillway of each dam, loudspeakers shrieked the sounds of dying birds to scare the living ones away, “protecting” the fish from a predation problem entirely of the dams’ making. One day, as we hauled boats and gear around Lower Monumental, we watched a dam employee in a motorboat in the spillway tailwaves, picking cormorants out of the sky with a shotgun.

That portage around Lower Monumental came on our last full day on the Snake. What we had initially planned as a 30-mile day turned into a 40-mile

slog. Presumably promising camps turned out to be private land or swampy marshes. It ended up being a 12+ hour day of paddling, accompanied by headwinds that didn’t ease up until early evening. Somehow, we made it to the Army Corps’ Fishhook Park Campground just before dark.

As if the universe knew how badly we needed a boost, we got notice shortly after landing that the draft report from Washington’s Patty Murray and Jay Inslee had gone live. We had spent weeks advocating for people to write to the Washington delegation, and to our delight, the draft report contained many of the provisions we’d been hoping for. The report would consider breaching the Lower Snake River dams as the best option for preserving the continuation of the river’s wild salmon runs. We had a (very low-key) dance party as we made dehydrated dinners in the rain.

My last journal entry from the Lower Snake includes a quote from a friend who met us to film one of the portages. In his words, the whole place “feels like

it’s held together by duct tape and baling wire.” Those words stuck with me for the remainder of the Snake, still hanging in my ears as we cleared the last dam, Ice Harbor, and paddled under the highway bridges that mark the edge of the Tri-Cities—and the confluence of the Snake and Columbia.

The Lower Snake wasn’t the longest segment of the expedition, but for me, it was the most impactful. Seeing the dams firsthand was a shocking illustration of what has been lost, but also of what is possible. We paddled into the Tri-Cities more solidly committed than ever to the project, with growing hope that a small team of kayakers could make a difference in something big.



MEN'S WHITEWATER

Nothing beats piling out of your truck, your breath a cloud of smoke in the morning light, and stepping into the most expensive onesie you've ever purchased. If you're gonna buy it, you gotta use it—amirite? We don't judge fair-weather kayakers; we just assume they don't have the right gear. With waterproof-breathable outerwear and a combination of layers you can adapt to the season, you become the paddler guilting the rest of the crew to ditch the couch for chilly laps.



1. WRSI TRIDENT HELMET

43002.03 | S/M, M/L, L/XL | \$209.95

2. CO-PILOT KNIFE

47303.02 | \$44.95

3. CRUX DRY SUIT

22533.05 | S-XXL | \$1,075.00

4. TOASTER MITTS

25027.06 | XS-XXL | \$62.95

5. ZEN PFD

40030.02 | S/M, L/XL, XXL | \$229.95

6. GUARDIAN PRO WAIST THROW BAG

45108.02 | \$109.95

7. ASTRAL BREWER 2.0 WATER SHOES

31005.02 | 8-13 | \$125.00



This is my first dry suit and I'm glad I made the investment! Super comfortable. Neck gasket starting to get more comfortable. It's fun swimming in winter!

- Craig B. | Crux Dry Suit





1

2

3

4

5

6

WOMEN'S WHITewater

From practicing ferry glides in the sunshine to finessing Class V runs in the snow, we can't control a paddler's line, but we can control her comfort. Focusing on the details of women's silhouettes—shorter torsos and arms, wider hips and larger busts—we've designed women's technical outerwear that enhances comfort and confidence. Pair that with a drop seat, strategically placed seams, and fun colors—layering up to go boating gives the same fuzzy feeling as nailing your first combat roll.



1. WRSI CURRENT PRO HELMET

43006.03 | S/M, M/L, L/XL | \$149.95

2. FLUX DRY TOP

22516.06 | XS-XL | \$425.00

3. ZEN PFD

40030.02 | S/M, L/XL, XXL | \$229.95

4. FREEFALL DRY PANT

22521.01 | XS-XL | \$244.95

NEW 5. CLUTCH POGIES

25031.03 | UNIVERSAL | \$59.95

6. ASTRAL LOYAK WATER SHOES

31012.01 | 6-11 | \$95.00



PERFORMANCE // DRY SUITS

"After over a year in the Axiom Dry Suit, I can attest that this is the best dry suit I have used in 30 years of paddling. Day after day, it has kept me dry and continues to inspire confidence that it's there for me when I need it. I would recommend this suit to anyone."

-Tyler Bradt, dude that kayaked over Palouse Falls



After years of research and development—driven by professional athletes, guides and instructors—we are proud of our latest generation of technical outerwear for paddlers. We considered every cut and cuff, every seam and seal, with a goal to maximize comfort, protection, longevity, and freedom of movement. Then, we selected the best materials and components available today, including the most-advanced waterproof-breathable material ever made, GORE-TEX® Pro. The result is a range of technical outerwear that not only outperforms all others, but that re-defines what performance can be.



MEN'S AXIOM DRY SUIT
22550.01 | S-XXL | \$1,295.00

WOMEN'S AXIOM DRY SUIT
22551.01 | XS-XL | \$1,295.00



JAKL DRY SUIT
22552.01 | S-XXL | \$1,425.00



WOMEN'S REV DRY TOP
22542.01 | XS-XL | \$575.00

MEN'S REV DRY TOP
22541.01 | S-XXL | \$575.00



To reduce its environmental footprint, GORE-TEX Pro uses 100% recycled nylon face fabric, lower-impact DWR, and backer material that is dope dyed to reduce water usage, pollution and energy use.



Scan here to see the full line of GORE-TEX Pro dry wear.

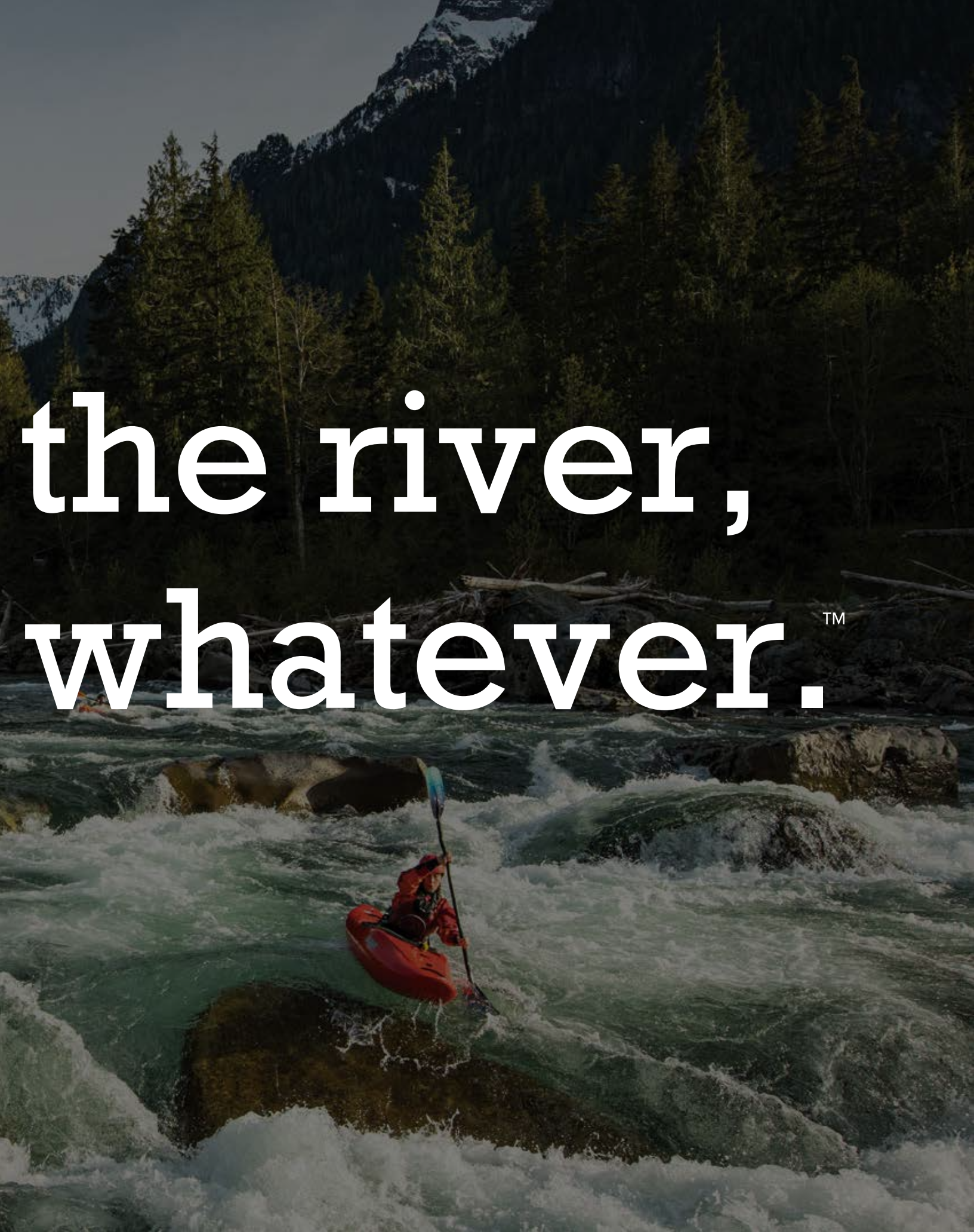


MEN'S NAVIGATOR SEMI-DRY SUIT
22553.01 | S-XXL | \$1,475.00

WOMEN'S NAVIGATOR SEMI-DRY SUIT
22554.01 | XS-XL | \$1,475.00



Born on
ready for



the river,
whatever.™

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Whether introducing the next generation to paddlesports or protecting free-flowing rivers and the health of our common waters, we're proud to support a growing network of activists and organizations to make change and promote progress. Our approach is not to just write a check and check a box, but to roll up our sleeves and work meaningfully with our partners to succeed together.



2022 NON-PROFIT PARTNER IMPACT

65,000+

new participants welcomed



1,500+

volunteers recruited



335,000+

comments sent to lawmakers



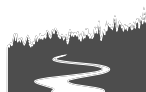
2,000+

river miles protected



160,000+

acres of protected adjacent land



800+

pounds of trash removed



380+

grants and scholarships awarded



\$2.5+ million

raised for conservation



16,000+

people engaged at events



OUTDOOR AFRO PADDLE CAMP

In our work to break down barriers to the outdoors, we've learned an important lesson: breaking down barriers is about building bridges. It's not enough just to remove obstacles. Instead, we must help create pathways to participation. Beginning in 2021, NRS partnered with Outdoor Afro to train volunteers from local networks to lead paddling outings in their home communities and introduce new paddlers to the sport for years to come. The seven-day 2022 summer session included ten canoeists and ten kayakers attending classroom and lakeside instruction outside of Burlington, Vermont. Outdoor Afro now boasts 26 certified canoe and kayak instructors among its volunteer leaders.



“It’s so fulfilling to help guide our volunteer leaders in activities that continue to strengthen our community connections to water.”

- Chaya Harris | National Program Director, Outdoor Afro




WE LOVE THE FLEECE LIFE

These insulating layers are a fan favorite with their midweight combo of high-stretch, breathable material for athletic performance and soft, gridded interior for enhanced coziness. When bundled under technical outerwear, the seam placement avoids high-friction

zones, optimizing your range of motion and letting you paddle and explore in comfort. When worn alone, the fabric's UPF 50+ protection shields paddlers against the sun during the day, and the fleece cuts the chill around the campfire at night.

 **MEN'S LIGHTWEIGHT PANT**
10122.05 | S-XXL | \$64.95

 **MEN'S LIGHTWEIGHT HOODIE**
10120.05 | S-XXL | \$74.95

 **MEN'S LIGHTWEIGHT UNION SUIT**
10160.01 | S-XXL | \$109.95

 **MEN'S LIGHTWEIGHT SHIRT**
10124.03 | S-XXL | \$57.95



*We've got the ladies covered, too!
Stay warm out there.*





"Warm and comfortable. Great for the river.
Great for camping. Great for the ski slopes.
Wonderfully warm and comfortable."

– Mary K. | Expedition Weight Pant





MID-PADDLE INSULATION OR POST-PADDLE PLUSH

Whether you're on the water or fresh to the shore, Expedition Weight layers are an essential piece to the cold-weather gear mix. Rashguard material on the cuffs, ankles and neck plays well with dry suit gaskets, and our seam placement avoids high-friction zones, enhancing

athletic performance. While this line of breathable heavy-weight fleece was designed for paddling insulation, there's no denying its off-water appeal. Mix and match the styles to suit your needs—but nothing beats jumping out of your sleeping bag and into your boat in the same garb.

 **WOMEN'S EXPEDITION WEIGHT SHIRT**
10135.06 | XS-XL | \$84.95

 **WOMEN'S EXPEDITION WEIGHT HOODIE**
10134.02 | XS-XL | \$89.95

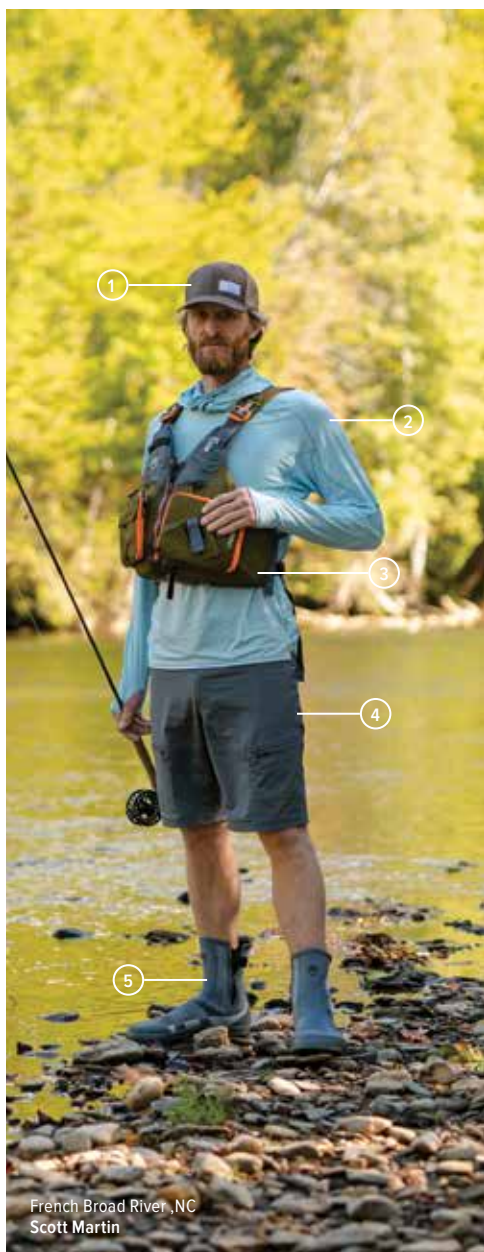
 **WOMEN'S EXPEDITION WEIGHT PANT**
10137.06 | XS-XL | \$84.95



*The fellas gotta stay warm, too.
Check out the men's line of
Expedition Weight base layers.*



FISHING IN THE SUN


The biggest fish doesn't always make for the best story. Sometimes it's the embellishments we add when we recount the one that got away. That's why our team of anglers, *ahem*, designers spend as much time and energy on the little details as they do on finding high-end technical materials for our fishing apparel. With flotation purpose-built to fit your flies and nippers to sun protection and waterproof insulation designed for comfort when casting, the next time you head out to #catchtheadventure, you'll be ready to land the big one. Even if you don't bring home the catch of the day, you'll figure out a story to hook the next generation.




 **1. NRS RETRO TRUCKER HAT**
12541.01 | UNIVERSAL | \$24.95

 **2. VARIAL HOODIE**
10008.04 | S-XXL | \$89.95

  **3. CHINOOK PFD**
40009.05 | XS/M, L/XL, XL/XXL | \$159.95

 **4. LOLO SHORT**
10150.02 | 30-40, 33 | \$79.95

 **5. BACKWATER WETSHOES**
30048.01 | 8-14 | \$74.95

French Broad River, NC
Scott Martin



1. NRS FISHING HAT
12540.01 | UNIVERSAL | \$24.95

2. GUIDE SHIRT
10013.02 | XS-XL | \$84.95

3. SHENOOK PFD
40011.02 | XS/M, L/XL | \$159.95

4. GUIDE SHORT
10147.03 | 4-16 | \$69.95



Functional and protective. Great sun protection and snug fit so they don't slip. No blisters. They dry quickly.
- Hilary G. | Skelton Gloves





Lake Norman, NC
Brooks Beatty

FISHING YEAR ROUND

Rare is the angler who will pass up sunny and 75, but there's no easier way to escape the crowds than to throw a line when it's cloudy and 49. Create your own climate with quality, high-performance fleece under waterproof, breathable technical outwear. Whether you prefer a bib-jacket combo or want full-immersion protection with the Spyn Semi-Dry Suit, we focus on details that enhance anglers' experiences on the water, from the tops of their heads to the tips of their gloved fingers.



NEW 1. NRS WAFFLE BEANIE
12564.01 | UNIVERSAL | \$24.95

2. HYDROSKIN® FORECAST 2.0 GLOVES
25040.03 | S-XXL | \$47.95

3. MATIK INFLATABLE PFD
40080.01 | UNIVERSAL | \$189.95

4. SPYN SEMI-DRY SUIT
22540.01 | S-XXL | \$945.00

5. BOUNDARY BOOTS
30035.02 | 6-15 | \$104.95

*Boundary Boots
100% Waterproof*



A Multiday of Firsts on the John Day River

AUTHOR: AARON BLACK-SCHMIDT | PHOTOS: AARON BLACK-SCHMIDT & JESSE COBLE

My cousin Ryan fell in love with paddling at the ripe young age of 39—less than a year ago. Ryan, like all my cousins from the Schmidt side, was raised in the suburbs of Seattle. By no fault of their own, fate had contrived to raise them to be honest-to-gosh urbanites. I hadn't seen much of Ryan since childhood, but I knew he had a super fun and positive nature, handy traits on any outdoor adventure. So, when he approached me at my wedding and said, "I want to go on one of your outdoor trips," I was stoked and perhaps a tad incredulous.

We started him out easy on a multi-day canoe trip in Minnesota's Boundary Waters. Here he became intimately familiar with things like rain tarps, gigantic mosquitos and headwinds. Ryan was a sponge, soaking up all the outdoor hacks we could throw at him. Despite my best efforts to expose him to the constant misery typical of my outdoor adventures, I just couldn't shake his positive nature. Obviously, I needed to up my game.

The John Day River snakes 284 miles through eastern Oregon before dumping into the Columbia. It's one of the longest free-flowing waterways in the continental US. Like most desert rivers, the topography is incised several thousand feet below the surrounding plateau. As our small convoy of pickups switch-backed down from the small town of Fossil to the put-in at Service Creek, I heard Ryan giggle behind me. "Whelp, there goes the cell coverage!" Sure enough, we were in it now—the basalt cliffs rising on all sides, pleasantly shrouded in bright green grass and thick stands of Ponderosa.

Service Creek offers a modest selection of walk-in campsites right by the put-in, and we settled in for the night after devouring monster burgers from the local store. Rain spattered the tarp over my head as I gently swung myself to sleep in my hammock.

The precipitation continued, and an already high

river swelled even more overnight. Wisps of low-lying cloud clung to the basalt cliffs as our crew launched our quiver of boats—two rafts, a fishing kayak, a canoe and a deflated fishing SUP for later. We had hardly gone 40 feet before I heard the tell-tail whirl of a fishing line. Chris was piloting the Slipstream raft and introducing Ryan to flipping crankbait into pools and eddies as they drifted downstream.

Chris hit first, reeling in a smallmouth. "Just a dinker," he said.

"At least we're on the board!" Jesse said as he slid by in his fishing kayak, an older and near indestructible NuCanoe. He let the boat slowly spin, standing up to cast poppers toward the shoreline.

Up ahead the river turned left, and the distant roar of wave trains started to reverberate off the canyon walls. Shoofly Rapid (also known as Russo) formed standing waves as it crashed alongside the river left wall, but the high flows had swamped out the bigger holes—not to mention a supposedly decent play wave at the bottom. Our crew plunged ahead single file, and the rapids slipped by in a rush.

We quickly settled in at our first camp. With plenty of light left in the late May afternoon, the crew split off to cast their luck from the banks. I had just finished slinging my hammock from the arms of a huge juniper tree when I heard Ryan yell, "I think I got one!"

Sure enough, he reeled in a hand-sized smallmouth. As I wandered over to snap a picture, he shouted, "This is my first fish!"

"Like, ever?" I asked.

Indeed, my city-born cousin had struck scaly gold. I showed him how to grip the bass with his thumb and forefinger, giving basic instruction on hook



"Up ahead the river turned left, and the distant roar of wave trains started to reverberate off the canyon walls."



“And so, less than 24 hours after my cousin caught his first fish, the river provided his first whitewater swim.”

The boat spun sideways before losing momentum in the pool below.

Alan and I turned our attention back upstream, watching as Ryan tentatively paddled toward the top of the wave train. The high seat placement of the NuCanoe might have been beneficial for fishing; it was less so for whitewater. The kayak's nose bit into the first wave, rocking the boat sideways. Ryan flew right out of the seat and into the rolling water. The deep swallowed him, only to spit his head above the surface moments later. His shocked smile spread from bank to bank as he bobbed downstream.

And so, less than 24 hours after my cousin caught his first fish, the river provided his first whitewater swim.

With Ryan soaked to the bone and the day beginning to fade, the crew pulled over at the next available campsite. We set to building a fire and hanging hammocks in a stand of fire-scarred pines. A bullsnake darted through the grass.

Later that evening as we roasted chunks of tri-tip steak over the coals, Ryan and I played back the footage from Fossil Rapid.

“Next thing I knew, I was in the water!” said Ryan. “I kept my feet up and held onto my paddle just like you guys said!”

As the late May twilight gave way to stars, we sat and chatted about the days to come. I pointed out Burnt Ranch Rapid on the map. This would be our next test.

removal. After prying free his lure, Ryan whipped out his phone and began to snap selfies. “My kids aren’t gonna believe this.”

The next morning, Jesse took the forward casting chair in the Slipstream, and with Nate at the oars, they were determined not to let a single patch of slack water slip by without trying their luck. Chris spent the day on the support raft, and I got a kick out of watching his lanky frame crawl over the raft as he flipped lure after lure into the passing waters.

With two paddlers and a trim line, Alan and I had pushed ahead in the canoe. I wanted to get eyes on Fossil Rapid and set up for photos before the


rest of the crew charged the wave train. Fossil is a short drop, less than a hundred yards long, but plows directly into a rock on river right. Alan piloted the canoe down the left side, dodging the bigger holes. We tied the canoe to a stand of reeds and worked our way to about mid-way up the flooded left bank when Chris came into view. With his rods carefully tucked away, he pulled the big boat into the tongue, the raft easily busting through the waves.

Jesse and Nate came on next, hitting the first hole face on. A spray of water launched up. Jesse grabbed the casting bar with both hands, and Nate's left oar popped loose. They struggled to remount the oar, but by then the rapid had them.



*We have booties for days!
Scan to see them all.*



 **MEN'S ARROYO** | 30053.02 | 6-13 | \$37.95



 **WOMEN'S KICKER** | 30023.04 | 5-11 | \$52.95




 **WOMEN'S PADDLE SHOE** | 30040.03 | 6-11 | \$63.95




 **FREESTYLE** | 30017.05 | 5-13 | \$63.95



 **BACKWATER** | 30048.01 | 8-14 | \$74.95



 **MEN'S PADDLE SHOE** | 30034.04 | 6-14 | \$63.95



ZEN PFD
40030.02 | \$229.95 | S/M, L/XL, XXL



NORA PFD
40073.01 | \$127.95 | S/M, L/XL, XL/XXL



NINJA PFD
40013.04 | \$147.95 | S/M, L/XL, XXL



Fabulous fit! I am short and I found other PFDs rode up when kayaking as the back would get caught on the seat back. This one has a mesh back which is cool and does not ride up.

- Hilary G. | Zoya PFD



ION PFD
40056.03 | \$119.95 | XS/M, L/XL, XL/XXL



ZOYA PFD
40029.03 | \$127.95 | XS/M, L/XL, XL/XXL



CVEST PFD
40028.02 | \$147.95 | XS/M, L/XL, XL/XXL

①

②



1. SIREN PFD

40036.04 | XS/M, L/XL, XL/XXL | \$119.95



2. CFD CANINE LIFE JACKET

40023.02 | XS-XL | \$59.95



*All colors, all shapes, all sizes.
Find a jacket perfect for you.*



I purchased the co-pilot knife to go on my rafting vest. Hope to never need it for a river emergency, but if I do, I'll be glad that I have it.

- Glen I. | Co-Pilot Knife



NEKO BLUNT TIP KNIFE | 47310.01 | \$39.95



CO-PILOT KNIFE | 47303.02 | \$44.95



PILOT KNIFE | 47300.02 | \$49.95



GREEN KNIFE | 47308.01 | \$39.95



VOSS KNIFE | 47309.01 | \$39.95



CAPTAIN RESCUE KNIFE | 47307.02 | \$39.95

The Idea that Stuck: Packrafting Alaska's Least Visited Parks

AUTHOR: SAMUEL MARTIN | PHOTOS: SAMUEL MARTIN

As with most crazy and far-flung ideas, it's hard to say with any certainty where and when this one originated. We've all had those conversations at the trailhead after a bike ride or on the side of a river as you scout the next rapid. Normally, these conversations float around and vanish within the same breath, big ideas with little chance of becoming reality. But the idea to connect two of the least visited National Parks in Alaska paddling packrafts—this one was different. This idea stuck.

So, there we were six months later, standing on a rocky beach in the Arctic Circle watching the little red bush plane disappear around the corner of the valley that only 24 hours ago was just a small line on a very large map.

Alaska is home to our nation's most wild and remote landscapes. With a landmass the size of Texas, Montana, and California combined, Alaska's eight national parks and 16 national wildlife refuges hold more than half of America's national parkland. The headwaters of the Ambler River lie just inside the boundary of the Gates of the Arctic National Park. With as few as 11,000 annual visitors, Gates of the Arctic is our nation's least visited national park.

Our group of five came together with a diverse set of backgrounds. There was a whitewater kayaker, an Alaska fly-fishing guide, a thru-hiker, a professional photographer, and a jack-of-all-adventurer-turned-dad.

Our spirits were high as the first pair launched into the fast current. I set my camera aside and prepared to launch my boat when I heard the first whistle. We had swimmers.

Every adventure I've been on, from thru-hiking the Pacific Crest Trail to riding my bike across the country, there comes a moment where the screws turn, and the level of consequence sharply comes into focus. Almost graciously, that moment for us came early in the trip. Our team jumped into action, rescuing swimmers and boats from the current. Two minutes later and 200 yards downstream, the fun ended. Our casualties included a lost GoPro, one Xtratuff boot, a paddle, and a little bit of dignity.

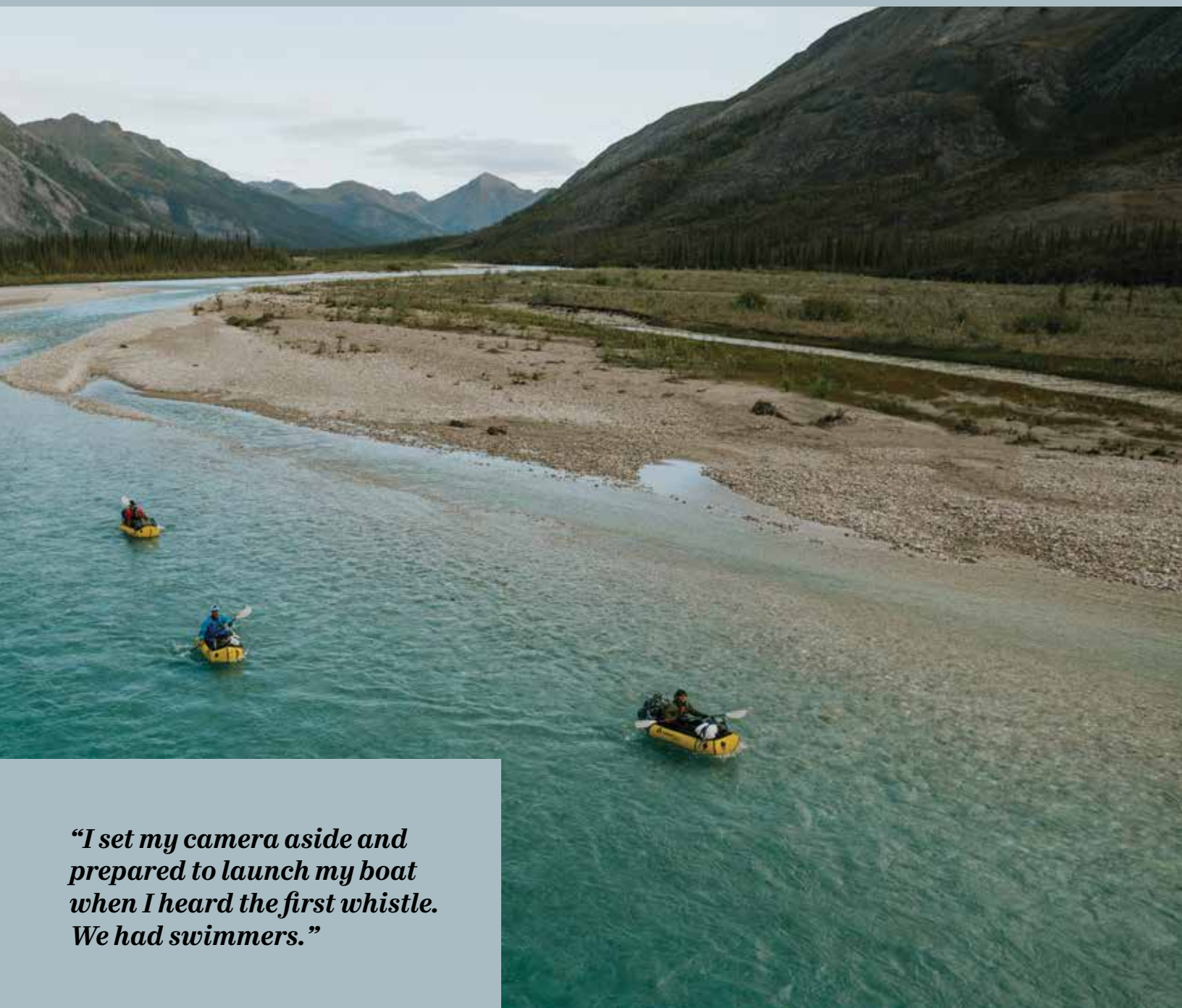
As we sat on the bank and took stock of the situation, you could see the gears turning in everyone's heads. This wasn't just a vacation in the wilderness. We were in the Arctic Circle, hundreds of miles from the nearest hospital, and completely on our own. A simple mistake or miscalculation on one of our parts could have serious consequences for the entire team.

We broke out our spare paddle and set off with renewed respect for the river. We stuck close together and stayed in the main channel. The smiles and jokes slowly returned as the adrenaline wore off and our muscles warmed up. Packrafts were made for rivers like this. Small and agile, they handle the boogie water and tight corners with ease. We paddled for an hour before finding a large beach with good fishing, and we decided to call the first day short.

Johnny Horton's classic song, "North to Alaska," was our alarm clock the following morning. It had become a trip anthem of sorts, and we all loudly sang the chorus from inside our tents. The morning was bright and clear, and as we rigged our boats, the sun hit the beach.



The valley began to widen as we floated down the river in the late morning light. The rocky banks gave way to hardwood forests, and the grayness of the mountains started to hold more and more green. The current was still quite strong, and the river began to spread and braid out. We had to pay close attention to the water ahead of us, taking note of the river's intricacies. When the river ran across the shallow rocks, the water would turn a light green. On the other side, in deeper waters, it continued to hold its deep turquoise. The game quickly became about who would choose the right channel and not run aground.



“I set my camera aside and prepared to launch my boat when I heard the first whistle. We had swimmers.”



Rain moved over us as we paddled into the afternoon. We stopped to inspect a sandy beach to make camp. A half a dozen menacingly fresh bear tracks spread across it alongside wolf and moose tracks. We named it Bear Island and opted to keep floating. A few miles farther brought us past a new island where we found only one set of bear prints. We played card games late into the night and watched rainbows come and go as storms passed over the open valley.

The following morning, we climbed into our wet dry suits and paddled out into

the rain. August is typically the wettest month of the year here, and before we left Kotzebue the weather forecast warned us that today was going to be brutal. The clouds swirled around us all day teasing views of the epic tundra surrounding us only to swallow it up in grey and blue. We stopped for lunch on a shallow beach and served up a round of hot coffee in the cold drizzle. Andy raised our spirits with a solo performance of “North to Alaska.” We all joined in for the chorus. Despite the rain, the river continued to inspire us.



Rogue River, OR
Ben Kitching



New!
5/8"
Micro Strap

1"

1.5"

NEW 5/8" MICRO STRAP PAIRS

60049.01 | 1.5', 3', 4' | \$8.95-\$10.95

1" HD STRAP PAIRS

60027.01 | 1', 2', 3', 4', 6', 9', 12', 15', 20' | \$11.95-\$22.95

1" HD STRAP 4-PACK

60031.01 | 9', 12', 15' | \$32.95-\$39.95

1.5" HD STRAP PAIRS

60030.01 | 3', 4', 6', 9', 12', 15', 20' | \$19.95-\$29.95

1" HD BUCKLE BUMPER STRAP PAIRS

60028.01 | 6', 9', 12', 15', 20' | \$18.95-\$23.95



BUCKET OF STRAPS

MINI STRAP PACK

60032.01 | (2) 3', (2) 4', (2) 6', (2) 9', (2) 12' | \$74.95

MASTER STRAP PACK

60032.01 | (2) 3', (4) 4', (4) 6', (4) 9', (4) 12', (2) 15', (2) 20' | \$159.95





New!
5/8"
Micro Strap

NEW 5/8" MICRO STRAP PAIRS

60049.01 | 1.5', 3', 4' | \$8.95-\$10.95

1" HD STRAP PAIRS

60027.01 | 1', 2', 3', 4', 6', 9', 12', 15', 20' | \$11.95-\$22.95

1" HD STRAP 4-PACK

60031.01 | 9', 12', 15' | \$32.95-\$39.95

1.5" HD STRAP PAIRS

60030.01 | 3', 4', 6', 9', 12', 15', 20' | \$19.95-\$29.95

1" HD BUCKLE BUMPER STRAP PAIRS

60028.01 | 6', 9', 12', 15', 20' | \$18.95-\$23.95



BUCKET OF STRAPS

MINI STRAP PACK

60032.01 | (2) 3', (2) 4', (2) 6', (2) 9', (2) 12' | \$74.95

MASTER STRAP PACK

60032.01 | (2) 3', (4) 4', (4) 6', (4) 9', (4) 12', (2) 15', (2) 20' | \$159.95



KEEPING YOUR GEAR DRY SINCE 1972

Since creating the first purpose-built dry bag for boaters in 1977, the legendary Bill's Bag, we've focused on providing tough, highly functional bags for keeping your gear dry and protected on the river. Our High Roll and Expedition Duffels give you the same renowned durability and utility as the Bill's Bag, but in user-friendly designs that are easy to access and stow.





1. EXPEDITION DUFFEL

55038.01 | 35, 70, 105L | \$264.95-\$317.95

3. MIGHTYLIGHT DRY SACK

55037.02 | 3, 5, 10, 15, 25, 35L | \$22.95-\$41.95

5. ETHER HYDROLOCK DRY SACK

55034.01 | 2, 3, 5, 10, 15, 25, 35L | \$36.95-\$72.95

2. 65L BILL'S BAG

55012.02 | 65L | \$159.95

4. 110L BILL'S BAG

55010.02 | 110L | \$179.95

6. HIGH ROLL DUFFEL

55024.02 | 35, 70, 105L | \$132.95-\$174.95





Stand-up Paddling the Seasonal Transition in the Boundary Waters

AUTHOR: CAITLIN LOOBY | PHOTOS: AARON BLACK-SCHMIDT

The Boundary Waters hugs the U.S. and Canada border, stretching across a million acres in the Superior National Forest in northeastern Minnesota. We were there in September, a time of year when you don't know what season you're going to get. Summer? Fall? The season can even change from one lake to another.

That's what makes it my favorite time of year to go. It's a time of transition.

I'd said for years how much I wanted to do the Boundary Waters with stand-up paddleboards. It's

my preferred mode of transportation. If you do it right and pack light, it's fine. The bigger concern for the Boundary Waters would be how to portage a paddleboard. Rigging shoulder straps from bow-to-stern is one option, but my partner Aaron went a step further by building detachable wooden racks to carry the boards on our shoulders, just like a canoe.

Aaron and I planned a five-day trip. Jordan, his old friend from a wildland firefighting crew, and his son Mason were the first to sign on. Steph and Ann, two of Aaron's paddle friends from the Twin





“The outfitter gave us one final warning: our intended route was busy with reported black bear activity.”

Cities, joined as well. It was their first time in the Boundary Waters.

As we pulled up to the lake, the sprinkle took a slight breather transforming into a cool, humid mist. Odessa sprung from the car, ducking inside to greet every human. No doubt, she took some free handouts in the process. The puppy-like spring in her step told me she knew exactly what we were about to do. It wasn't her first rodeo in the Boundary Waters.

Jordan and I topped off the inflatable boards with a little more air while Steph and Ann reorganized the gear. Behind me, I heard the outfitters' curiosity and borderline incredulous tone as they asked how we would fare on stand-up paddleboards.

While paddleboards were not unheard of, they are still rare. And it certainly wasn't the last time we were going to explain ourselves to passersby.

The outfitter gave us one final warning: our intended route was busy with reported black bear activity. With summer almost over, the bears were taking every opportunity to gain extra calories, and once a bear figures out that a paddler's pack might contain the mother lode, it becomes a real problem. We borrowed a rope and pulley system to make hanging up our food packs a bit easier.



We launched our flotilla, heading directly southeast shortly after 10. Or perhaps it was later. We were on wilderness time. The paddle across Poplar was uneventful, minus several glances at the map to make sure we were headed in the right direction. Navigating in the Boundary Waters can be a bit tricky on the bigger lakes dotted with islands. Without any high points to reference, the shorelines and islands tend to blend together, especially in the rain.

Our first portage—only 53 rods—was an easy one, although we were immediately thankful for the knee-high Boundary Boots as we slogged the gear up onto the bank. Portages are measured in rods. One rod is about 16 feet, or the length of a standard canoe. Although the distances are a bit deceiving because, with our crew and gear, we hiked each portage at least twice.

Halfway down skinny Lizz Lake was the moss-covered U.S. Forest Service sign telling us we were officially in the wilderness. The rain still fell at a steady beat but soon faded into the background.

A small wooden dock helped us gain our footing as we exited the shallow, muddy lake. On the 73-rod portage to Caribou, we answered some questions about our paddleboards and heard our second warning about bears. From that moment on we made a point that someone would always stay with the food bags and Odessa, equipped with our sole can of bear spray. It probably slowed us down a bit, but the peace of mind was worth it.

Caribou Lake opened up as we headed west, skirting along the north side of her islands. On the westernmost part of the lake, we found our quick 15-rod portage, followed by a shallow marshy stream that we floated on to get to one more 15-rod portage that brought us to Meeds Lake.

We were tired and soggy as we hit my least favorite part of canoe camping: finding camp.

Earlier in the day, we decided to grab one of the two island campsites on Meeds Lake for the night, providing a bit of a buffer against the bears. When we found the first camp occupied, intense relief washed over us to find the second one empty. Steph, Ann and I set up camp and dinner while Jordan and Mason scoured the island for wood to start a fire.

I'm not sure what happened faster: Odessa falling asleep by the fire, dreaming all the day's smells, or me opening the boxed Cabernet Sauvignon—my drink of choice while camping.

Our trip that day was roughly a 4.5-mile paddle with 1.5 miles of portaging, and by now we were in a groove. With a little Cab to warm my core, I looked forward to hopping into the tent with a wet-smelling dog.





ESCAPE SUP

Built for going fast and going far, Escape SUPs deliver the efficiency for after-work attainment paddles and the carrying capacity for overnight tours.

ESCAPE 11.6

86126.03 | 11'6" L x 32" W | \$1,295.00

ESCAPE 12.6

86126.03 | 12'6" L x 30" W | \$1,345.00

ESCAPE 14

86126.03 | 14' L x 29" W | \$1,395.00



THRIVE SUP

A board for the do-it-all paddler, Thrive SUPs are equally adept at touring, fitness paddling and light river running with the stability to help any novice feel at ease. Make every weekend memorable with an inflatable SUP that can handle any adventure.

THRIVE 9.10

86128.03 | 9'10" L x 30" W | \$1,095.00

THRIVE 10.3

86128.03 | 10'3" L x 32" W | \$1,145.00

THRIVE 10.8

86128.03 | 10'8" L x 34" W | \$1,245.00

THRIVE 11

86128.03 | 11' L x 36" W | \$1,345.00



RUSH PADDLE

The Rush Paddle's midsize blade fits more paddlers and more styles of paddling. Fiberglass blade and shaft for lightweight durability. Adjustable length covers most paddler's heights and paddling styles.

1-PIECE

77116.01 | 68"-86" | \$189.95

3-PIECE

77121.01 | 68"-86" | \$209.95





Great board, very stable. I am 6', 200lbs, and not very coordinated; but this board is perfectly balanced for me.

- Dexter B. | Thrive Inflatable SUP



CATCH THE ADVENTURE.™



Duncan River, BC
Mitch Cheek

SLIPSTREAM FISHING RAFTS

Purpose-built for adventure anglers, Slipstream rafts feature a streamlined design with deliberately placed D-rings, handles and valves to reduce weight and eliminate catch points. High-pressure drop-stitch floors with EVA foam decking provide stable footing without the need for heavy casting platforms. A sleek redesigned NRS fishing frame, with internally routed anchor system, reduces the number of parts required while delivering an outstanding rowing and fishing experience.



Scan to see all Slipstream
packages and learn more.



KUDA iSOT

Kuda inflatable Sit-On-Top Kayaks (iSOT) make fishing remote waters easy. The Kuda 106 is the lightest, most maneuverable iSOT in the NRS Fishing line, while the Kuda 126 offers a little more room for gear without sacrificing function.

KUDA 106

86262.01 | 10'8" L x 38" W | \$1,395.00

KUDA 126

86263.01 | 12'6" L x 38" W | \$1,495.00



PIKE IK

The Pike is rigged and ready to catch the adventure in remote waters. With unique design elements for enhanced on-the-water performance, the Pike also features limitless rigging options to fit your fishing style. Pro package includes additional accessories.

PIKE 126

86264.01 | 12'8" L x 38" W | \$1,395.00

PIKE 126 PRO

86283.01 | 12'8" L x 38" W | \$1,795.00



HERON SUP

Dual 8" diameter side chambers act like outriggers to make the Heron an incredibly stable platform for fishing. Move around the board with ease to make pinpoint presentations and to land hard-fighting fish. We also give you three accessory mounts, bungee deck rigging up front, and infinitely adjustable rigging on the back for securing your cooler, tackle bag or milk crate.

86138.03 | 11' L x 39" W x 8" D | \$1,495.00



NRS

1638 S Blaine St. Moscow, ID 83843

Prsrt. Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
NRS, Inc.

nrs.com | 800.635.5202

Atlin Lake in Atlin / Áa Tlein Téi x '1 Provincial Park, BC
Andrew Strain



6 03403 47860 7

99108.23.100

2023 NRS Brand Book