

Thank you for choosing Wet Planet. We're excited you'll be joining us on the river!

TRIP INFO – GUIDE SCHOOL

At Wet Planet we have an amazing wealth of river experience. Our guides, instructors, and staff have lived and worked in river communities all over the United States and world. From ½ day commercial trips to remote multi-week expeditions, our passion for river travel and the whitewater industry has generated experience as both guides and educators. We love being on the river, and love sharing our river experience with future guides and river travelers. Guide school is our way to share our passion with those who wish to seek employment in the river industry and for those who wish to learn the skills needed to captain/guide their own raft.

Course Length: Eight days - two weekends, plus a four-day (Thursday through Friday) multi-day trip.

Meeting time: 9:00 am at the Wet Planet Headquarters. Please plan on arriving 10-15 minutes early on the first day of your course to allow time for check-in.

Meeting location: Wet Planet headquarters, located on the banks of the White Salmon River. At our base, you will find private parking, changing rooms, an espresso bar, and other amenities to complement your river experience. Specific directions to the Wet Planet headquarters are attached as a separate document with your confirmation email. Directions, along with a basic map, are also available on our website on the directions page.

What to bring: Be prepared to be in the river in cold, wet weather. We recommend a dry-suit for maximum comfort. If you don't have your own gear, we can provide everything you need. If your doctor has given you any personal medications to carry (epi-pens, inhalers, heart medications, etc.), please make sure to bring these with you.

Rivers Utilized for Training: (depending upon water level)

- White Salmon River
- Klickitat River
- Hood River
- Wind River (Optional additional day)
- Owyhee River (four-day trip)

Lodging Options: If you need any help planning your trip to our area, don't hesitate to give us a call. We are close to White Salmon, WA and Hood River, OR. There are numerous hotel and B&B options in and around both towns. You can also check out our lodging suggestions on the links page on our website. The Columbia River Gorge is a wonderful place to visit, and we always suggest that people spend extra time here to explore the area. Students on our guide school are welcome to pitch a tent on the Wet Planet property during the weekends of their course. Please let us know if you plan on doing so.

4 Day Owyhee River Multi-Day Rafting Trip: During our guide school, you will also have the opportunity to learn about rowing, boat rigging, overnight river camping, cooking, and group travel on the river during a four-day, multi-day rafting trip. You're welcome to ride to the Owyhee trip and back with Wet Planet. We'll be leaving from the Wet Planet headquarters on Wednesday evening. If you choose to drive separately, please inquire about shuttle information and directions. You'll need to meet us in Rome, OR at 9:00 am on Thursday morning.

If you have any further questions, please give us a call any time.

OPTIONAL GUIDE SCHOOL SPECIALS

First Aid and CPR: First Aid and CPR training is offered optionally during guide school for an additional \$40 fee. Please ask us if you are interested.

Class V Training: A rafting trip on the Wind River will give participants an opportunity to train on Class V whitewater. This trip is offered at a **special \$65 guide school rate**, discounted from \$105 (during season in which guide school is completed and pending availability).

Whitewater Rescue Training (WRT) Certification: Acquiring the skills necessary to perform rescues in a whitewater environment are essential for all paddlers and rescue personnel, from the professional raft guide, to the private kayaker, to a Search and Rescue team member. At Wet Planet, we offer our knowledge and experience to those looking to increase their swift water rescue skills. We provide three-day river rescue courses designed by paddlers for paddlers, utilizing experiential learning in actual river environments. The course mixes classroom instruction with hands-on practice in the river environment, focusing quick and efficient techniques to respond to rescue situations that may occur in the whitewater environment. Typical topics for the course include: rescue gear and preparation, rescue organization, practice with rescue ropes, whitewater swimming, strong swimmer rescues, shallow water diving and wading, victim stabilization, boat retrieval, ropes systems, mechanical advantage systems, and strainer management. These rescue skills are practiced and refined during a series of realistic river scenarios.

This course meets the requirements for certification as either Whitewater Rescue Technician (WRT) or Swiftwater Rescue Technician 1 (SRT 1) by Rescue3 International. We offer our WRT/SRT courses at a **special \$195/\$240 guide school rate**, discounted from \$325/\$370 (discount only valid during course offered in April of which Guide School is completed).

Employment at Wet Planet: Wet Planet typically has very low employee turnover, and hiring is competitive each season. Employment at Wet Planet after successful completion of the guide school is **not guaranteed**. Employment with Wet Planet depends upon attained skill level, personal dedication, and the company's needs. For those wishing to work in the whitewater industry after the course, we will help you determine appropriate rivers. Please realize that not everyone develops the skills needed to guide a raft in their first season. School graduates may be invited to continue training with Wet Planet on our regular commercial trips, until both you and Wet Planet feel you have sufficient technical skills and are ready to carry the responsibility of guiding a raft commercially.

The Paddle Green Program: Rafting is a low-emission, human powered activity, and, through our funding of wind and solar energy, Wet Planet's operations are entirely carbon neutral. However, travels to the beautiful rivers we operate on produce polluting carbon emissions. For this reason, we are proud to offer our guests the Paddle Green program. Simply put, Wet Planet has created a way for our guests to help support the production of clean, renewable energy (wind energy in this case) through the purchase of "Paddle Green Tags". Purchasing a Paddle Green tag from Wet Planet for only \$2 generates enough renewable energy to offset the carbon emissions from a round-trip drive from Portland to Wet Planet's headquarters! If you are interested in making your trip to the White Salmon River carbon neutral, please ask us about our Paddle Green Program when checking in for your course!

OWYHEE RIVER: PACKING LIST

Appropriate clothing on a multi-day river trip is important for both comfort and risk management. While on the river, we could experience warm sunny days, cold rainy days, or anything in between. We need to be prepared for all possibilities. When planning for your trip, try to use the “layering system”. By bringing clothing that can be worn under or on top of others, in layers, you will have the flexibility to adjust to a variety of weather conditions. Make sure that you have warm layers made of synthetic materials (not cotton), such as polypropylene, capilene, or wool. Cotton does not keep you warm when it is wet!

For river travel, we will provide you with the following gear:

- River clothing: wet suit, booties for your feet, paddle jacket
- Helmet
- Personal Flotation Device (PFD)

While we provide all camping equipment and meals, you will need to provide clothing and gear for off the river and at camp. Below is a suggested packing list to use for your river expedition. We will provide you with a dry bag to protect your belongings from the water. Feel free to contact us at any time with packing questions. **Always be prepared for changing weather!**

- Sleeping bag and sleeping pad
- One or two pair of shorts for camp and hiking
- One or two t-shirts
- Rain jacket & pants
- One set long-sleeved light clothes (for sun and/or camp)
- Pants for camp (can be same as above)
- Synthetic thermal underwear (top & bottom)
- Fleece or pile top & bottom for camp(top can be pullover or jacket)
- One fleece pullover or jacket to wear on the river, under your paddle jacket
- Swimsuit
- One pair tennis shoes or river sandals (for on river)
- One pair lightweight hiking shoes (for off river)
- Toilet articles (biodegradable soap)
- Wool or polypro/capilene/fleece socks (stay away from cotton)
- Shade hat/visor (baseball cap)
- Warm hat and gloves (spring and fall trips)
- Plastic bags for wet/dirty clothing
- Suntan/moisturizing lotion
- Chap stick with SPF
- Insect repellent
- Sunglasses with securing strap
- Water bottle with securing strap (1 liter minimum, more if hiking)
- Flashlight/small headlamp & extra batteries
- Personal medications
- Toiletries/small towel, etc.

Optional Items: Binoculars, diary, sketchbook, a good paperback book, small day-pack or fanny pack for hikes, camera and film, paddling jacket & pants, small travel pillow, musical instrument. **All rafting gear, camping equipment, and meals are provided!**

1.800.306.1673

wetplanetwhitewater.com