

Madison River Watercraft Capacity Calendar

Objective:

The Watercraft Capacity Calendar is a visual tool that allows non-commercial river users to see which days of the season are at likely to reach the daily capacity for watercraft use on the Madison River.

1. Offers a least restrictive pathway that allows river users to modify usage to avoid days that are at capacity or approaching capacity.
2. Allows river users a tool to target days that are not likely to be busy.
3. One calendar will be published for “All Access Watercraft Passes” and another for “High Density Zone Watercraft Passes”.
4. Implements a phased and least restrictive approach. Rationing only occurs after three years of river user education and ONLY targets the days that historically have remained at or over capacity after education attempts.
5. Allows for adaptive management. If demand for watercraft use continues to increase in future years – more days may be managed to capacity. Once a day exceeds capacity it switches to a “High Use Day” and passes for that day are rationed in the future.
6. Each day from the previous season maps to its correlating day in the next year. Saturdays always maps to a Saturdays even if the numerical date changes. Days around the 4th of July such as July 3rd 4th and 5th always map to the correlating days the following season regardless of day of the week.

Day Below Capacity: Unlimited

Days historically below the daily capacity.

High Use Day: Unlimited (2015 and 2016 only)

In the transition seasons of 2015 and 2016 days that are predicted to be over capacity will be coded orange. If these days continue to remain over capacity, then they may become limited beginning in 2027.

High Use Day: Passes are limited (2017 and later)

High Use Days have been triggered by historic use that was above capacity. Starting in 2027 watercraft passes on High Use Days will be limited to ensure that use on these days does not exceed capacity. The number of passes issued will be managed so that actual use remains below the identified daily capacity for non-commercial watercraft.