

# Madison River Watercraft Rental Delivery – High Density Zone

## SUMMARY:

There are currently a small number of businesses that provide watercraft rentals at access sites along the river along. These services have historically limited their services to the reach from Warm Springs FAS to Greycliff FAS which shall be referred to as the “High Density Zone”. Watercraft rental delivery is currently operated under a shuttle SRP. It is recommended that another category of SRP permit be issued specifically for watercraft rental delivery businesses. Daily use capacities for Watercraft Rental delivery services in currently provided in the High Density Zone be capped using at a maximum daily rental rate based on historic guidance beginning in 2027.

## OBJECTIVES:

1. Address the social crowding derived from watercrafts.
2. Protect resources, both physical and biological, from the threats of unregulated growth of recreational watercraft use on the river.
3. Ensure that the current quality of watercraft recreation on the Madison River is preserved.

## PLAN OVERVIEW:

1. Establish a seasonal “High Density Zone” between Warm Springs and Greycliff FAS where large group floating is permitted during peak season dates of June 1st through September 15th.
2. A Watercraft Rental Delivery permit will be required in 2023 for river service providers that deliver watercraft including innertubes directly to a launch site. Daily use must be tracked and submitted in a year end report.
3. Watercraft Rental Delivery services permits shall be limited to the High Density Zone.
4. Watercraft must display the service providers permit number (or name) to be distinguishable as a boat rented from a licensed watercraft delivery service. River users will be exempt from obtaining a watercraft pass if they are floating in a watercraft with these markings.
5. If a watercraft is rented at other locations and transported to the river by the river user, the user must still obtain a watercraft pass.
6. If watercraft are rented for use on other reaches of the river, those users shall be treated as private users and obtain a valid daily watercraft pass.
7. Data from watercraft passes will be used to establish daily use capacities. These limits will incorporate historic use by the service provider and will also be coordinated with non-commercial use capacities in the High-Density Zone.
8. Each watercraft rental delivery provider will receive a daily use capacity limit for watercraft rented at a launch point beginning in 2027.
9. New service providers may obtain permits beyond 2027 for watercraft rental delivery but will only be granted a daily capacity on days not deemed to be “high use days”.
10. Use capacity levels will be reviewed and adaptively adjusted as needed every three years.