



**NEWS
RELEASE**



United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Salmon - Challis National
Forest
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40th Anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to be Celebrated in Salmon

2008 is the 40th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Central Idaho is home to the Middle Fork (one of the original eight wild and scenic rivers) and the Main Salmon rivers so what better place for a celebration?

On Saturday, June 21st a conference Reflecting on Water: Celebrating 40 years of Wild and Scenic Rivers in Idaho will serve to educate and inspire community leaders about the economic, recreation, and ecological benefits of Wild & Scenic Rivers. It will be held at the Sacajawea Interpretive, Cultural and Education Center in Salmon, Idaho with registration beginning at 8 am. The conference will feature panel discussions on the benefits of wild rivers; modern influences on rivers such as climate change and development; the hard work done through collaboration by members of the Owyhee Initiative in southwestern Idaho; and tools to help landowners and communities protect their rivers.

Highlights of the conference will be a keynote address at 1:00 pm, free to the public, featuring Dr. Roderick Frederick Nash, considered America's foremost river historian and author of several books, including *The Big Drops: Ten Legendary Rapids of the American West* and an evening slide program, *Rivers of America* presented by Tim Palmer - award winning author of 19 books about rivers, conservation and adventure travel and renowned photographer of American landscapes at the Salmon Valley Center at 8:00 pm. There will be a \$5 charge for Tim Palmer's program.

The conference is organized and sponsored by Salmon Valley Stewardship, the Lemhi Regional Land Trust, the Salmon Arts Council, Idaho Rivers United, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service. If you are interested in attending there is a \$35 registration fee which covers all of the conference sessions, lunch and dinner. To see the full agenda or to register online go to <http://www.idahorivers.org/getinvolved/events.aspx?id=32> or call Salmon Valley Stewardship at 208-756-1686.

