

Lower Salmon River: BLM Permits

Currently, no private permits are required on the Lower Salmon River from Vinegar Creek to Hammer Creek. However, self-issue permits are required (at no cost) for all private trips below Hammer Creek from July 1st – Labor Day and all overnight trips year-round. You can get a self-issue permit at White Bird Gravel Pit, Hammer Creek, Pine Bar, Graves/Rock Creek, the BLM office in Cottonwood, or online on the Idaho BLM website (<https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/recreation-activities/idaho>).

This permit also authorizes use of the Snake River in Hells Canyon below the mouth of the Salmon River if your trip originated on the Salmon. This self-issue permit will have all of the current rules and regulations required for a river trip through this section. Please note that the requirements on the Snake River may differ from those on the Lower Salmon. Different regulations will be posted at launch sites or will be printed on the self-issue permit.

Special recreation permits are required for all commercial use and organized group activities on the Lower Salmon River and are issued by the BLM Cottonwood Field Office. Contact the [BLM Cottonwood Field Office](#) for a complete list of authorized commercial outfitters.

Other Permits

- **Idaho Invasive Species Sticker (REQUIRED)**

A state law requires the owner of any boat and any non-motorized vessel - canoe, kayak, raft, drift boat etc. - to buy and display an Idaho Invasive Species Sticker to legally launch and operate the boat in Idaho. Stickers are available online at <http://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/>. For questions about sticker purchases, contact the Idaho Parks and Recreation registration help line at: 1-800-247-6332. Only inflatable, non-motorized vessels less than 10 feet long are exempt.

- **Washington State Discover Pass (Parking at Heller Bar)**

Any vehicles parked at or using the water access site at Heller Bar on the Snake River must have a Washington State Discover Pass. This pass allows for access to recreation lands managed by the State of Washington. The Discover Pass can be purchased at <https://discoverpass.wa.gov/>.