

Wilderness Report

A non-profit organization dedicated to protecting wilderness values

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Ms. Lisa Sumption
Director
Oregon State Parks and Recreation
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Lisa Sumption,

Last summer while on a trip down the Grande Rhode our party had an unnecessarily unpleasant encounter with a Fish and Wildlife river patrol working for OPRD. (My perspective on this encounter is detailed in the attached an essay.)

This incident has bothered me for some time and raised a number of questions. I hope you will be able to take a minute and help me find the answers.

- Does the public have any right to expect privacy when camping on undeveloped state park lands or while on federal lands along a state classified scenic river?
- Absent any visible violation, can a state police officer enter your camp without permission. How about your tent? Your recreational vehicle?
- Exactly, specifically, what boundaries can a user expect state officers to recognize?
- How much does the OPRD spend on these patrols each year? What is the source of funding for these patrols?
- How are the benefits of such patrols calculated?

I know am asking for a lot of information but with your help many river runners will gain a much better idea of exactly what they should expect when they encounter a Fish and Wildlife enforcement patrol while on the river. Your written response will be greatly appreciated and shared with other wilderness users on the Wilderness Report website.

Thank you for taking the time to help me find answers to these questions.

Sincerely

Art Pope
Executive Director