Dear Bodaciously Bouncing Boating Scramblers,

We hope you are all as excited as we are for this amazing Scramble that will include flotillas down lazy stretches of the Snake River, fast and turbulent whitewater on the Salmon River, and white sandy beaches along the way! Whether you’re already an experienced rafter or have never touched a paddle in your life, this trip promises to be a great learning experience, a chance to bond with some of your new classmates, and a splashing good time all around. You will be led on this wonderful river adventure by six Whitman raft leaders:

**Sara Friedberg** – I have been a water baby since day one after being born in a hot tub. I was raised in a yurt out in the mountains across from Mount Hood in Oregon, where I grew up living in the outdoors. I now call Telluride, Colorado my home and have been doing outdoor activities my whole life. My love for rivers has been growing over the years with each trip that I go on, having most experience in rafting and a taste of whitewater kayaking. While waiting for the rivers to fill with fresh water, I’m a ski bum at heart. I am a rising junior and am doing a combined major in Biology-Geology. Get excited to go rafting!

Certifications: Swift Water Rescue, Wilderness First Responder (WFR), River Guide Leadership

**Jenny Gruenberg** – Since my first rafting trip during the summer between sixth and seventh grade, I've been hooked on the river. On my numerous family river trips around the Northwest with my brother and co-leader Nathan Gruenberg, I’ve fallen in love with the rhythm of the water, the thrill of the rapids, and the native wildlife you can spot on the riverbanks. I’m proud to call myself a Portland, Oregon native and grew up exploring the outdoors with my family. At Whitman, my love of the outdoors has continued to grow and I try to spend as much time outside as possible, whether it’s throwing a frisbee around or going on a run with friends. I’m a senior Sociology major with a Politics minor and have a particular interest in social justice issues. I’m really looking forward to meeting you all and am excited to be spending a week together on the river.

Certifications: Wilderness First Responder (WFR), River Guide Leadership

**Nathan Gruenberg** – I love the water, I’ve always loved the water, and I can’t wait to share my love of water with all of you (darn, I’m cheesy!). I have been a river rat (along with my sister and co-leader Jenny Gruenberg) since the young age of 8 years old when I went on my first multi-day rafting trip with my family down the beautiful Deschutes River in central Oregon. My uncle, who was once upon a time a crunchy raft guide in his prime, has taught me almost all of my river knowledge. From the first time I took the oars at the age of 10, he has transformed me from the scared boy at the oars into the confident navigator of the rapids I am now (although I still have quite a bit of boy left in me). At Whitman, I am a Junior rhetoric studies major, politics minor, I play on the ultimate frisbee team (Lets Go Sweets), and guide campus tours at the Whitman College admissions office. I can’t wait to meet all of you, and you folks should be SUPER stoked to bounce down the Salmon with me and the rest of our awesome crew!

Certifications: Wilderness First Responder (WFR), River Guide Leadership

**Zach Hartzell** –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Things Zach Likes:</th>
<th>Things Zach Doesn’t Like:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rafting</td>
<td>Classes before 10 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dim Sum</td>
<td>Winter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>EZ-Cheez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Always having an earbud in</td>
<td>Rivers without current</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
- Sunshine
- Dancing A LOT
- Spontaneity
- Soft and cuddly objects/creatures
- Having awkward tan lines
- Being a San Francisco, California local
- Having a twin
- Long conversations
- Colored and fabulous lights

- Rivers that go uphill
- Mayonnaise
- Feeling insecure
- Chemistry goggles
- Analog clocks
- Having to go to the bathroom when inside a tent
- Dress clothes

Certifications: Wilderness First Responder (WFR), River Guide Leadership

**Paul Minor** – Greetings, Scramblers! My name is Paul, but my grandfather calls me Paulus and my grandma calls me Paulito. I’ll let you pick one. I will be a junior this year at Whitman, and I am stoked for another great year of adventure. A little bit about me: my favorite class at Whitman was Creative Fiction, and I encourage everyone I meet to take it; I like to play pick up and IM soccer, and like many others on campus, I spend fewer hours than I should but more hours than I want studying in the library. I crave adventure and I’m easily described as a free spirit. I have also been an outdoor guide in two countries and three states (including commercial raft guiding). May the wind forever be at your back. I’ll see you in August, get ready for fun.

Certifications: Wilderness First Responder (WFR), Swift Water Rescue (SWR), River Guide Leadership (RGL), Lifeguard

**Shane Randle** – Although I have always loved the outdoors and been filled with a thirst for adventure, I never saw myself as a soon-to-be raft guide until I registered for classes at Whitman and realized it was a dream I could make a reality. A Seattle native, I’ve grown up in the Cascades camping since the ripe old age of two. Ever since I first slept at a campground and discovered a love of eating rocks (which I have since outgrown), my favorite means of getting outside now include mountain biking, skiing, rock climbing and, of course, rafting. At Whitman, I spend my time in the climbing gym, working in the Outdoor Program Rental Shop, studying for a possible Environmental Studies-Biology major (I’m a sophomore and haven’t declared yet), and always looking for the next adventure. I’m excited to see you soon and share innumerable fun times on the river!

Certifications: Wilderness First Responder (WFR), River Guide Leadership

Now that you have been introduced to your leaders there are some important logistical things to go over:

**Itinerary** – We will meet on August 19th at 2:15 pm at the Reid Campus Center for a Scramble orientation and gear check. Early on the 20th we will load into our vehicles and drive about four hours to White Bird, Idaho, where we plan to get on the water and paddle to our first campsite. For the next six days we plan to average a leisurely 12 miles on the river, traveling a total of 73 miles. This will include everything from mellow flat water sections to bodacious class III-IV rapids. There will be ample time on the river to play and swim, as well as lots of time in camp to lounge on white sand beaches, eat, and bond with your fellow Scramblers. On the 25th we will arrive at Heller Bar on the Snake River, take out, load up, and drive back to school; once there we will unload, and spend the night at College Cabin (Whitman’s cabin in Oregon about 40 minutes from Walla Walla). The next afternoon, the 26th, we will roll back into Whitman and spend some time wrapping up and
returning gear to its rightful place. At 6pm we will attend the Scramble Picnic, where your parents can join us if they are around. After the picnic you will have access to your permanent dorms, although you will not have access to your belongings in storage (see next section) until the next morning.

**Arriving at Whitman** – please fill out the Travel Plans Google Form [https://goo.gl/nF1zwH](https://goo.gl/nF1zwH) (also available on the Scrambler Resources Page) so we know when and how you will be arriving in Walla Walla so we can greet you with sufficient flair and enthusiasm. This form lets us know if you will need to be picked up, or if we will need to work with you on a place to stay if you arrive early.

**Safety** – Whitewater rafting does include elements of risk. We will share various safety talks both on and off the river and we will expect everyone to act responsibly. Every one of us has completed raft guide leadership training and/or commercial training, we have six Wilderness First Responders, and two of us are Swiftwater Rescue certified.

**Gear** – Take the gear list seriously, but don't panic and go on an REI binge. Many items are available to rent from the OP. Before we leave we will go through your gear with you to make sure you have all the necessities, and weed out un-necessities like anvils and hair gel. All boating-related gear will be provided but feel free to bring your own if you've got it and want to have it at school with you.

So, that should cover the basics of what you need to know. However, if you have any further questions, comments, concerns, or funny jokes, please don't hesitate to email, call, or text Sara to which she will promptly respond. We are all so excited to meet and get to know each and every one of you! So, until then, have an excellent, safe summer, and we will see you in August!

Sincerely,
Sara, Zach, Jenny, Nathan, Paul, and Shane
Contact information: Sara Friedberg, 970-708-0622, friedbsm@whitman.edu