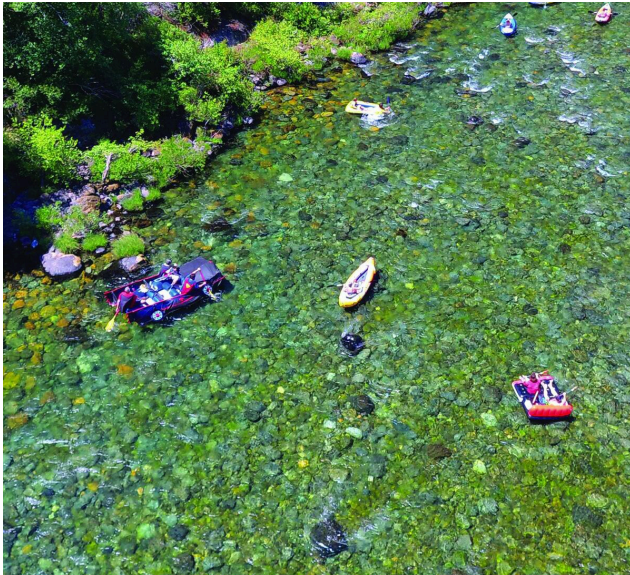


Gasquet Raft races will be a bit different this year

June 30, 2023



The 54th annual Gasquet Raft Races will not take place this year, at least not in the traditional manner the public expects. Instead, a day of fun and relaxing will be hosted and sponsored by American Legion Post 548 in Gasquet, according to Post Commander Jamie Brassard.

The substitute event will take place Saturday, July 8, from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Commander Brassard invites the public to bring their favorite floating, think rafts, kayaks, giant swans and air mattresses to drift down the pristine Smith. Costumes are encouraged and prizes will be awarded for the most creative garb. The public is invited to stay for live music, food and drinks at the margarita bar.

The amending of this traditional event originated by the recent requirement for an event permit and a liability insurance policy from the United States Forest Service (USFS).

The American Legion Post was unable to gather and organize all the paperwork and fees in a timely manner as necessary to file with USFS.

Brassard stated, "As far as the Gasquet Raft Race goes, we will be doing a shorter day. If anyone wants to go down the Smith, they are on their own for that."

He continued, "We'll have it all together for a return to the old format for next year."

Brassard laments the cancer death of the regular coordinator as the reason the Post was not up to date on getting all the paperwork.

If you intend to participate bring your vessel to the Forks on the Smith, in Gasquet, July 8.