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Take It Outside!



Take It Outside!

Case Study:

An example of a simple, sustainable and successful Take It Outside program



Messing About in Boats

Believe me, my young friend, there is
nothing -- absolutely nothing --
half so much worth doing as simply
messing about in boats.

-- Kenneth Grahame, *Wind in the Willows*



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Uncompahgre Field Office
Colorado



In The Beginning . . .

Prior to 2008, the first year for Take it Outside, we did annual float trips with the Partners organization of our local counties.



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With borrowed life jackets and loaded boats it was chaotic, but loads of fun. The Partners provided fried chicken, cookies and Kool-Aid, which turns out to be perfect river ranger food. Sweet!

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Then Came **Take It Outside!**

We applied for TIO funding to purchase river gear that allowed us to expand our offerings



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Expanded Programming

- EXPLORE! (teen youth group)
- Diné College (Native American environmental youth camp)



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Partnerships

- Colorado Canyons Association (friends group)
- Diné College and EXPLORE! both have funding aid through outside sources



On our trips we conduct resource stewardship work...



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...which makes us happy, and gives the kids an understanding of BLM's mission



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Most of the kids have never been boating



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It is the first time swimming for some



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With new experiences come opportunities to learn new skills



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Rangers work with kids to develop river safety skills



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Reading the Water



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River Crossing Techniques



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The kids learn to “catch an eddy” while swimming in flowing water



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It is great to see their skills develop



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New skills lead to increased confidence...



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...and lots of fun!



Take It Outside!





Take It Outside!





Take It Outside!





Take It Outside!





Take It Outside!

