

# Summary of Interagency River Management Training Needs and Available Resources

This information<sup>1</sup> compliments the [Interagency Wild & Scenic Rivers Council's](#) publication entitled [Technical Core Competencies for River Management Specialists and Non-Specialists](#), available online. Consistent with the Core Competencies publication, the table below crosswalks the eight Competency Areas described in the publication and identifies:

- the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) participants will gain/must know to implement river management stewardship law, regulation, and policy that is applicable across agencies; and
- the corresponding training source for obtaining those KSAs.

The table identifies jointly developed interagency training resources, including the River Management Society's River Training Center offerings. Please note that additional agency-specific policy, guidance, and trainings related to competency areas not listed here may also be available. River managers are additionally encouraged to seek agency-specific trainings related to river management.

The table can support agency/organization and supervisor/staff efforts to identify gaps between existing interagency river management guidance and needed river management KSAs and to prioritize individual training and development plans. Use this table as a quick reference for identifying general training needs or take a deep dive using the Core Competencies publication to refine individual focus on specific areas of learning. The Core Competencies publication and this complementary table can also be used to help identify programmatic needs to inform the development and delivery of training courses.

The table links the most directly related training resources for each Competency Area, but the resources identified are not exhaustive. Resources may relate to more than one Competency Area. Training resources are listed numerically/alphabetically, but particularly relevant trainings are noted with three asterisks (\*\*\*)

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<sup>1</sup> Version 1.0 – Approved/recommended for reference by the Interagency Wild & Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council October 2020. The intent of this document is to assist river management specialists and non-specialists (and their supervisors) in prioritizing individual training and development plans. These competencies can also be used to identify agency and organization training needs and to help inform the development and delivery of training courses to meet these needs. ***This document does not reflect the endorsement of any agency's Human Resources Office or the Office of Personnel Management.***

## Abbreviations Used Below:

**Council:** Interagency Wild & Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council

**CRMP:** Comprehensive River Management Plan

**BLM:** Bureau of Land Management

**KSA:** Knowledge, Skill, and Ability

**National System:** National Wild & Scenic Rivers System

**WSR:** Wild & Scenic River

**WSRA:** Wild & Scenic Rivers Act

Competency Areas	<b>Web-based Training</b> <u><a href="#">WSR Modules</a></u> <i>(Also referred to as BLM/Eppley Modules)</i>	<u><a href="#">Council White Papers</a></u>
<p><b>WSRA History, Law, Regulation &amp; Policy</b> - KSAs needed to interpret and implement the provisions of the WSRA and agency management regulations and policies.</p>	<p><b>Module 1:</b> History and Importance of the WSRA***</p> <p><b>Module 2:</b> Fundamentals of the WSRA, Key Policies, and the Council</p> <p><b>Module 13:</b> Alaska</p>	<p><u><a href="#">An Introduction to Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers</a></u> - A concise primer on wild and scenic rivers and what designation means to you.***</p> <p><u><a href="#">A Compendium of Questions &amp; Answers Relating to Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers</a></u> - Everything you wanted to know about wild and scenic rivers in a question and answer format. These questions and answers can also be accessed through a searchable database.</p> <p><u><a href="#">Congressional Record for Evolution of the Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers Act: A History of Substantive Amendments 1968-2013</a></u> - This page presents the congressional history that was used in the paper below.</p> <p><u><a href="#">Evolution of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act: A History of Substantive Amendments 1968-2013</a></u> - This paper details all of the amendments to the WSRA since its inception and explores the impacts of those amendments.</p> <p><u><a href="#">Implementing the Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers Act: Authorities and Roles of Key Federal Agencies</a></u> - What responsibilities do other agencies have for WSRs? Here's the answer.</p> <p><u><a href="#">Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers and the Use of Eminent Domain</a></u> - Background and facts on limited use of eminent domain for WSRs.</p>

<p><b>Other Relevant Laws, Policies, and Tools for River Management</b> - KSAs needed to implement agency river management regulations and policies; acquire and manage easements and acquisitions; create and manage cooperative agreements; and work with relevant federal, state, and local laws and regulations on designated and nondesignated rivers (e.g., laws addressing topics such as federal, state, tribal, and private water rights; navigability; bed and bank ownership; public access; property rights and zoning; riparian issues; and water quality).</p>	<p><b>Module 2:</b> Fundamentals of the WSRA, Key Policies, and the Council***</p> <p><b>Module 13:</b> Alaska</p>	<p><a href="#"><u><i>Designating Rivers Through Section 2(a)(ii) of the Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers Act</i></u></a> - This paper describes a process for designating rivers into the National System at a state’s request.</p> <p><a href="#"><u><i>Implementing the Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers Act: Authorities and Roles of Key Federal Agencies</i></u></a> - What responsibilities do other agencies have for WSRs? Here’s the answer.***</p> <p><a href="#"><u><i>Wild &amp; Scenic River Management Responsibilities</i></u></a> - Considerations in managing—and developing management plans for—WSRs.</p>
<p><b>River Management Planning</b> – KSAs needed to address river management needs in land use, programmatic, and project level planning processes. These include knowledge of eligibility and suitability analyses; protection and enhancement of WSR values (free-flowing condition, water quality, and outstandingly remarkable values) for designated rivers; and analyses of values for which non-designated rivers are being protected and managed (e.g., ecological, cultural/historical, and social).</p>	<p><b>Module 3:</b> Eligibility</p> <p><b>Module 4:</b> Suitability</p> <p><b>Module 5:</b> Protective Management for Eligible and Suitable Segments</p> <p><b>Module 6:</b> Developing the CRMP***</p> <p><b>Module 7:</b> Managing WSRs</p> <p><b>Module 8:</b> Addressing User Capacity</p> <p><b>Module 11:</b> Overview of 2(a)(ii) – Rivers</p> <p><b>Module 12:</b> Partnerships</p> <p><b>Module 13:</b> Alaska</p>	<p><a href="#"><u><i>Establishment of Wild &amp; Scenic River Boundaries</i></u></a> – Considerations in delineating the area which will receive the greatest effort in resource protection.</p> <p><a href="#"><u><i>Evaluation of State Water Quality Assessments and the National Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers System</i></u></a> – This paper provides guidance for evaluating water quality on WSRs.</p> <p><a href="#"><u><i>Interim Management and Steps to Develop a CRMP</i></u></a> - This paper provides guidance for interim management of a newly designated WSR and generalized steps to develop a CRMP.***</p> <p><a href="#"><u><i>Water Quantity and Quality as Related to the Management of Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers</i></u></a> - How to protect water quality and instream flows.</p> <p><a href="#"><u><i>The Wild &amp; Scenic River Study Process</i></u></a> - This paper explains the WSR study process for congressionally authorized and agency-identified study rivers.</p>

<p><b>River Management Field Skills</b> - KSAs needed to accomplish specific field tasks in a variety of river settings, including public and private lands and easements within river corridors. These include swiftwater rescue; water quality-related data collection and monitoring; river use sampling and monitoring; riverine ecosystem assessment; and restoration techniques.</p>	<p><b>Module 7:</b> Managing WSRs <b>Module 10:</b> Monitoring</p>	<p><a href="#"><u><i>Water Quantity and Quality as Related to the Management of Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers</i></u></a> - How to protect water quality and instream flows.</p>
<p><b>Visitor Use Management and Monitoring</b> - KSAs needed to manage and monitor visitor use and behavior on WSRs; eligible and suitable study rivers; and other non-designated river corridors. These include outfitting and guiding and other special recreation/special use permits; commercial use management; facility design and maintenance; and project funding.</p>	<p><b>Module 7:</b> Managing WSRs <b>Module 8:</b> Addressing User Capacity <b>Module 10:</b> Monitoring</p>	<p><a href="#"><u><i>Steps to Address User Capacities for Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers</i></u></a> - Every river management plan is required to address user capacities. This paper explains how to determine those capacities.  <a href="#"><u><i>Water Quantity and Quality as Related to the Management of Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers</i></u></a> - How to protect water quality and instream flows.</p>
<p><b>Natural, Cultural, and Recreational Resources Management and Monitoring</b> - KSAs needed to manage and monitor natural, cultural, aesthetic/visual, and recreational resources within designated WSR and other non-designated river corridors.</p>	<p><b>Module 8:</b> Addressing User Capacity <b>Module 10:</b> Monitoring</p>	<p><a href="#"><u><i>Steps to Address User Capacities for Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers</i></u></a> - Every river management plan is required to address user capacities. This paper explains how to determine those capacities.  <a href="#"><u><i>Water Quantity and Quality as Related to the Management of Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers</i></u></a> - How to protect water quality and instream flows.</p>

<p><b>River Information Management Skills</b> - KSAs needed to collect, manage, and use spatial and non-spatial information in developing proposed management actions, developing strategies, and making decisions concerning managed river corridors and determining if trigger points have been reached.</p>	<p><b>Module 8:</b> Addressing User Capacity</p> <p><b>Module 9:</b> Section 7(a) of the WSRA</p>	<p><a href="#"><u><i>Steps to Address User Capacities for Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers</i></u></a> - Every river management plan is required to address user capacities. This paper explains how to determine those capacities.</p> <p><a href="#"><u><i>The Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers Act: Section 7</i></u></a> - This paper describes the standards and procedures used in evaluating the effects of proposed water resources projects.</p>
<p><b>Collaboration and Engagement Techniques</b> - KSAs needed to educate, inform, and collaborate with constituency groups; contact and engage partners; and work with diverse stakeholders (e.g., construction project proponents and opponents, private landowners, state and local governments, education groups, non-profit organizations) to forge mutual understanding of each other’s missions and perspectives.</p>	<p><b>Module 11:</b> Overview of 2(a)(ii) Rivers</p> <p><b>Module 12:</b> Partnerships</p>	<p><a href="#"><u><i>Designating Rivers Through Section 2(a)(ii) of the Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers Act</i></u></a> - This paper describes a process for designating rivers into the National System at the request of a state.</p> <p><a href="#"><u><i>Protecting Resource Values on Non-Federal Lands</i></u></a> - How wild and scenic rivers are protected where the federal government doesn’t manage the surrounding area.</p>