

**Addendum to Eric Hertz's testimonial.**

There was a possible mistake in the testimonial made by Eric Hertz that the Magpie could be rafted throughout the year. If this was said by me it was a mistake and should be rectified. The Magpie is only raftable from the beginning of June until the end of September. The ideal time, however, would be from the beginning of August until the end of September when the black flies have abated, the weather is mild and the water is not too high. This is actually a similar length season to many popular commercially run rivers like the Middle Fork of the Salmon which is able to accommodate 18,000 week long participants each summer. This is accomplished by staggering launch dates so that trips are overlapped on the river at the same time. The number of participants allowed on the Middle Fork of the Salmon is tightly controlled by the government to protect the resource and people's experience. The actual demand for people wanting to run the river is actually much higher. Without government control this number could easily be 3 times higher. Because the season on most rivers is relatively short, companies use the rest of the year to market the following year's trips.

In response to something the developer said in response to my testimonial: The developer stated that the project would only affect a small portion of the actual trip. In terms of kilometers they are correct but once you begin to erode some of the river's most impressive scenery (falls #2) and the river's most dramatic and challenging rapid, the river becomes less attractive as a world class destination. What makes a classic trip is all the pieces. The greatest rapid on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon is Lava Falls which is reached towards the end of the trip. The three days above Lava Falls are nearly flat with no whitewater and some of the least impressive scenery on the whole trip and yet the buildup for running Lava Falls, the river's biggest rapid, is tremendous and for many people rafting it is the highlight of the trip. Lava Falls is 1/2 of a kilometer long but it is one of the most impressive things people do on their two week trip through the Grand Canyon. We have had a similar experience with the final rapid below falls #2 on the Magpie. It is in another league from the rest of the rapids we run on the Magpie both scenically and in terms of difficulty and it is invariably one of the highlights of the trip. The difficulty of the whitewater on the Magpie builds as the week progresses and the rafting teams get better. Having the most challenging rapid coming last on a river is extremely unique and a wonderful experience for the clients who are able to end the trip knowing how far they have progressed.

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**Final Note:**

I have enclosed some magazines for your interest:

- 1) Men's Journal Magazine, which is a popular outdoor magazine in the U.S. and has a brief article on the Magpie.
- 2) National Geographic, which has an article on a first descent Earth River did in Tibet
- 3) American Way (American Airlines) which has an article on the Futaleufu River in Patagonia which Earth River pioneered in 1990
- 4) Outside Magazine, which has an article this month (July 2004) on the best river trips in North America. I thought it would be interesting for the commission to compare the scenery in these professionally shot photographs in the article to the photographs I have included on the Magpie of Falls #2 and the downstream rapid in order to properly put into perspective the world class nature of the Magpie and the area that is proposed to be wiped out by the dam.

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