



Darren Vancil is the mastermind behind Creature Craft's radical design. After suffering an injury during a Class 5 swim in Gore Canyon on the Colorado river he was determined to design a boat that would reduce the chances of swimming in Class 5 whitewater. Although the inherent risk is always there, Darren wanted to radically minimize the risk involved. While in recovery he spend thousands of hours designing the Creature Craft. Traditionally, with whitewater rafting, a flip guarantees a swim for the entire crew, exposing them to the elements and potential injury. The key trait of all Creature Crafts is they can be rolled back to an upright position while remaining in the boat. In a Creature Craft, the potential for a swim is greatly reduced as the paddler/oarsman rides in a seat with a lap belt. The patented roll cage design provides a protective enclosure even when upside-down. Every seat comes equipped with a velcro quick release system that allows a paddler to quickly release if necessary. Nevertheless, as with whitewater kayaks, it is usually to the paddler's advantage to remain inside the boat and roll it as soon as possible. The challenges presented in whitewater are unique, yet transfer into our civilized lives in so many ways.

Paddling or rowing a Creature Craft provides the individual the ability to achieve whitewater pinnacles that most consider unattainable. In some instances, the Creature Craft is the only way a person can even consider putting on the water. If you're just getting started or are an experienced river runner, the Creature Craft introduces a whole new style of running rivers. Big continuous whitewater abundant with huge hydraulics, steep drops, and gigantic waves become incredible playgrounds.

Creature Crafts help to calm some of those nerves because unintentional swims are rare, so after the past decade of running some of the world's most extreme rivers the Creature Craft Team has developed some tricks. "Doing tricks" is certainly possible in a Creature Craft. Back-flips, barrel rolls, endos, pirouettes, and huge life changing surfs are all waiting just downstream!

During Darren's travels with his Creature Craft he has met a variety of experienced boaters over the years. He always likes to put new people in his boats, he quotes "I just like to see them smile". Creature Craft team members are located across the US, they are an adventurous group of individuals, training and always testing the capabilities of the Creature Craft. All of Creature Craft products are designed and tested in beautiful Colorado. Their headquarters are located in Grand Junction but their reach is global.

In 2006 Darren met a Rescue 3 trainer and past owner of Wave Trek Rescue, who inquired as to whether he had ever put a Creature Craft in a Low Head Dam. "Low Head Dam" operations are traditionally one of the most dangerous environments a swimmer, boater, or rescuer can face. The answer was no, a week later he found a Low Head Dam and put a boat in it. He then realized the Creature Craft performed amazing well in one of the most dangerous environments on the earth.

The Waterwog series is the culmination of years of hard work and D&R, this is an amazing piece of equipment. It is the most unique and versatile product of its kind, equally adept in incredibly diverse water environments. With the use of the Waterwog Rescue Craft, the catastrophic possibility of putting a rescuer into the perfect terminal hydraulic of a Low Head Dam is largely mitigated. This creates an effective safe alternative to putting rafts or other water craft into Low Head Dams. The Waterwog rescue models are capable of carrying motors up to 55hp. They have been clocked at speeds in excess of 40 mph in the open ocean and surfed 20' waves during winter storms in the Pacific as well as demonstrating the ability to be launched in 6' - 8' beach breaking surf. It is the ideal choice for law enforcement patrolling shorelines and river systems especially in our State and National Parks. Currently a jet motor prototype is in production with a release date to come.

Team Creature Craft is always looking for a new adventure. If interested in a demo please get in contact with them and they would be happy to demo in your nearest body of water.