National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Glen Canyon National
Recreation Area

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Glen Canyon News Release

Rainbow Bridge and Glen Canyon Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Antiquities Act

Page, Ariz. – The Antiquities Act helped establish of some of the most famous national park areas in the nation – including the Grand Canyon, Olympic, Acadia, and Zion. President Taft used the Antiquities Act to establish Rainbow Bridge National Monument on May 30, 1910. Regarded as one of the most important laws affecting conservation in American history, the Antiquities Act is celebrating its 100th anniversary on June 8.

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Antiquities Act, a special exhibit, sponsored by the Plateau Sciences Society, will be in the Page area from June 8- 10. The exhibit, focusing on national monuments on the Colorado Plateau that were established through the Antiquities Act, will be on display at National Park Service headquarters on June 8 from 4:00 to 6:30 pm, and at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center at the Glen Canyon Dam on June 9 and 10 from 8 am to 5 pm. The exhibit is traveling to national park sites across the Colorado Plateau this summer to commemorate the Antiquities Act's anniversary.

The National Park Service will also be sponsoring a birthday celebration at park headquarters on Thursday, June 8 from 6:30- 7:30 pm. The celebration will include presentations by Martin Link, of the Plateau Sciences Society and by Chuck Smith of the National Park Service. In addition, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area staff will provide tours of the park's museum collections storage facility for the evening. The collections include rarely seen artifacts – such Ancestral Puebloan pots, Navajo rugs, and historic photos. The event is open to the public and is free.

Passed by Congress on June 8, 1906, the Antiquities Act allows the president to designate national monuments from federal lands. President Theodore Roosevelt alone established 18 national monuments using the Antiquities Act. Today, Rainbow Bridge is visited by more than 80,000 visitors each year and is administered by Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

Individuals interested in touring the park collections on June 8 should contact National Park Service headquarters at 928- 608- 6200 to reserve a time slot that evening, as the tours will be limited to groups of 10.

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