

## Glen Canyon National Recreation Area 2009 Expanded Invasive Mussel Prevention Plan

**Purpose:** To enhance zebra mussel prevention at Lake Powell in meaningful ways while minimizing inconvenience to visitors.

**Goal:** 100% vessel screening at major marinas.

**Background:** For 2009, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area is expanding its invasive mussel prevention efforts. Current funding enables the stated goal to be met through actions that will only minimally contribute to visitor inconvenience such as, nighttime ramp closures and limited inspection and decontamination services for short periods during the day. Difficulties in hiring staff have delayed efforts this year, but the NPS believes 100% screening will be possible within a few weeks.

Glen Canyon has the support of the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish and Utah Department of Natural Resources.

**Plan:** To be implemented beginning June 29, 2009

- The self-certification option will be suspended at major marinas (Wahweap including Lone Rock Beach, Antelope Point, Bullfrog including Stanton Creek, and Halls Crossing).
- All tow vehicles in major marinas will be required to display a newly designed NPS Issued Mussel Free Certificate that is only available after screening from NPS entrance booth staff or Interdiction Rangers. Specific state or concessioner staff may be approved to conduct screening as well.
- **Launching at the major marinas will be prohibited at night when launching activity cannot be monitored. Launch restriction hours are 9:00 pm to 4:30 am MST (10:00 pm to 5:30 am MDT).** Antelope Point launch hours will match their entrance booth hours.
- New regulatory and directional signage is being developed for all launching locations.
- Launching at Halls Crossing may be restricted further than the other marinas, especially during initial implementation of the plan due to staff limitations.
- The self-certification option will remain in effect at Hite and remote accessible shorelines where 100% screening is not possible and no other interdiction strategy currently exists.
- Launch ramps will be closed using cones and signs during initial implementation, but physical structures for hard closure are being investigated.
- A tagging program is being investigated to help reduce staffing requirements and maximize visitor accommodation, especially for the local user.
- These launching restrictions and screening requirements will exist through the busy season of 2009. NPS is looking into options for the off season this winter.
- Partner services, additional funding, or volunteers could improve this plan helping to minimize visitor inconvenience. These services could include covering inspections/decontaminations, compliance checks, and general ramp security.