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U.S. Department of Interior

Grand Canyon National Park
River Permits Office

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Noncommercial River Trip Regulations

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NONCOMMERCIAL RIVER PERMIT REQUIREMENT

A river permit is required for noncommercial river travel on the Colorado River through Grand Canyon National Park. It is the responsibility of the permittee and each trip participant to know and obey all the regulations listed in this document.

A. **Permittee / Trip Leader:** No person shall conduct, lead, or guide a river trip within Grand Canyon National Park unless that person has been authorized to do so through a current river permit identifying them as "Trip Leader" as issued by the Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent. *(The terms "Trip Leader" and "permittee" are used interchangeably and always refer to this same person listed as such on the unaltered permit.)*

B. **Trip Participant:** River permits are only valid for the Trip Leader named on the permit and authorize additional individuals to participate with the Trip Leader on the river trip provided all the following conditions are met:

1. **Total Participants:** The total number of river participants (including the permittee) must never exceed the number explicitly authorized on the noncommercial river permit.
2. **Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek:**
   - i. **Trip Checkout Form and Required Identification.** Each trip participant must be listed on the final "Noncommercial River Trip Participant List" form as remitted at launch by the Trip Leader to the Lees Ferry Ranger – anyone who is not listed on this form is not authorized to be on the trip. At 9:00 am the morning of their launch, all trip members launching from Lees Ferry must complete a river checkout and an orientation program with the Lees Ferry Ranger prior to departing. All trip participants must bring valid, unaltered, government issued photo identification that includes date of birth (i.e. driver license, state issued identification, or passport) on the river trip. Participants launching from Lees Ferry must present this identification to the Lees Ferry Ranger at check-in. Participants without photo identification will **NOT** be allowed on the trip (exceptions are allowed for children 15 years old and younger). Credit cards and birth certificates are NOT valid forms of identification for Grand Canyon river trips.
   - ii. **One Trip Per Year.** All individuals are prohibited from participating on more than one (1) recreational river trip (commercial or non-commercial) per year through any part of the Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek section of the Colorado River. Participation by the Trip Leader/permittee or any other planned member of a group on any prior noncommercial or commercial river trip within the same year will result in that person's disqualification from all subsequent trips for that year. If the original permittee and all those listed for the trip as Potential Alternate Trip Leaders are disqualified from the trip or cannot go on the trip for any other reasons, the noncommercial trip will be cancelled.
3. **Diamond Creek to Lake Mead:** There is no repeat use restriction or checkout form requirement for the Diamond Creek to Lake Mead section of the Colorado River through Grand Canyon. For more information, please see: http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/overview-diamond-ck.htm.

Definition of a Noncommercial River Trip

Sometimes referred to as private river trips, noncommercial river trips are self-guided and non-profit. They are required to be participatory nature where costs are evenly shared among all participants. No trip member may be paid to participate on the trip, and no trip member may pay less than other participants as compensation for their skills.

A. **Self-Guided and Not For Profit.** Noncommercial river trips must be self-guided and may not hire guides. Noncommercial river trips may not be used by any person or organization in any way to obtain a profit. Participating in advertising for a profit will result in the revocation of the permit.

B. **Cost Sharing and Participatory Nature.** All noncommercial river trips must be participatory in nature. Trip preparation, costs, and conduct of the trip **must be shared by all members of the group.** This includes logistics, food purchase, equipment assembly, transportation, vehicle shuttle, food preparation, and sanitation. Failure to comply will cause cancellation of the permit and may jeopardize any future applications by the Trip Leader and/or other trip members.

C. **No Paid Participation.** Collecting a fee (monetary compensation), payable to an individual, group, or organization for conducting, leading, or guiding a noncommercial river trip is not allowed. The Trip Leader should delegate responsibility (financial and otherwise) for various aspects of trip preparation and conduct. Trips may be considered noncommercial even though a member of the trip, within their normal scope of employment, receives a salary from an educational institution or non-profit organization to participate in the trip. This salary may not come directly through fees contributed by members of the party. No person may be hired or paid to participate in a trip under the noncommercial permit system.

Lottery System Requirements

A. Potential Alternate Trip Leaders. The Trip Leader/permittee or an approved Potential Alternate Trip Leader (PATL) must accompany the entire river trip – without this any trip won through the lottery will be cancelled.

1. Normal PATL Requirements. Noncommercial trips are not transferable except to the PATLs listed on the lottery application that resulted in the trip. To be qualified as a PATL, that person must meet three specific requirements. Those who fail to meet any of these requirements will be deemed ineligible as PATLs for the trip:

    a. The trip leader must list the PATL on the lottery application before the lottery closes.

    b. Before the lottery closes, the listed PATL must ensure their last recreational river trip date is accurate in their profile.

    c. The PATL must login and confirm their co-applicant status for the application before the lottery closes.

2. Family Members as PATLs. The only exception to the Normal PATL Requirements is for direct family members of the original trip leader who have not been on the river in the same calendar year and are at least 18 years old at launch. "Direct family members" is defined here as legal spouses, children, parents, and siblings as well as legal spouses of these children, parents, and siblings. Permittees may request these direct family members be added as PATLs by the River Permits Office after a trip has been won and at least one week prior to trip launching provided:

    a. The family member was not listed as a trip leader or confirmed PATL on any other application within the same lottery.

    b. The family member's lottery points would have been equal to or greater than the main applicant and all confirmed PATLs listed on the lottery application.

B. Individuals can have only one profile in the lottery system and can be listed no more than once within each lottery. Having more than one profile in the lottery system and/or being listed as the main applicant or PATL on more than one lottery application within any individual lottery will result in any trip won through that lottery being forfeited. This rule may be waived by the National Park Service in cases where the individual has multiple profiles but has both 1) used only one of those profiles in the lottery and 2) used the profile with the least number of chances.

C. Minimum Age. Lottery applicants and all Potential Alternate Trip Leaders must be 18 years or older by any requested launch date. There are no age restrictions for river trip participants.

D. Last Recreational River Trip Date. A lottery applicant's profile must accurately list their last recreational river trip (noncommercial or commercial) through any portion of the Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek section of the Colorado River. The last river trip date determines the number of points an application receives in the weighted lottery. Launch dates won with inaccurately higher points will be revoked and fees paid to the National Park Service for that launch date will be forfeited.

Trip Requirements

A. Trip Leader and Member Responsibility. The Trip Leader/permittee must comply with all portions of the permit application procedure and is directly responsible for the action of his/her party. Failure by the Trip Leader or any member of the group to adhere to any of these Noncommercial Regulations may result in revocation of the permit, citation of the Trip Leader and/or members, and possible administrative decision that may affect future use of the Colorado River through Grand Canyon National Park.

B. Documentation Must Be Accessible. A National Park Service river ranger may, on occasion, travel or camp with noncommercial parties in order to insure compliance with permit conditions. Rangers may contact your party and request information such as a copy of your permit, passenger list and Lees Ferry check out sheet (this last item is not required for trips launching from Diamond Creek). *It is the Trip Leader's/permittee responsibility to have these items present*. They may also request to check camping procedures to ensure regulations are being followed.

C. Launch Dates are Final. Trip Leaders will be allowed to launch their trips as originally planned, pass their trips to alternate Trip Leaders, or cancel. Deferments and/or swapping of launch dates is not allowed. This ensures everyone interested in a specific launch date will get their chance to compete for it and not lose out to those who applied for other launch dates in earlier years.

D. Fees and Deposits. The river permit fee is $100 per person. The "deposit" portion of this fee is due immediately upon winning a launch date, and the remainder is due 90 days before launch (or in fewer than 90 days for trips awarded after this deadline in follow-up lotteries). The deposit is $400 for standard sized trips (trips that can have up to 16 participants) or $200 for small sized trips (trips that can have up to 8 participants). As an example for a 10 person trip, a $400 deposit will be due immediately after winning in the lottery, and the remaining $600 will be due 90 days before launch for a grand total of $1,000 (i.e. $100 per person). After these fees have been paid, additional participants can be added up to 14 days before launch for $200 each (the normal $100 plus a late fee of $100 per added participant). You can avoid paying late fees by making sure your participant list is complete 90 days before launch. Failure to pay any fees by their due date will result in cancellation of the awarded launch date. Lottery points are not reinstated when a launch date is cancelled due to non-payment of fees. All fees and deposits are nonrefundable and may not be transferred to other trips or applications.

E. Permits are Not Transferable. Except as provided by the Potential Alternate Trip Leader option explained above, noncommercial permits are *not transferable.* The Trip Leader/permittee or an approved alternate must accompany the entire river trip.

F. Canceling Trips. It is the Trip Leader's/permittee's responsibility to notify the River Permits Office of their inability to use their scheduled launch date. Lottery points are not reinstated when a launch date is cancelled. All fees and deposits are nonrefundable and may not be transferred to other trips or applications. If a trip leader or PATL win a launch date, but then cancel that launch date, they may still go as a participant on someone else's trip within that same calendar year (the one trip per year rule still applies).

G. Substitution of Participants. Substitution of participants may occur provided the permittee ensures all participants are listed on the trip participant sheet turned in to the Ranger at Lees Ferry.

H. Trip Size. Noncommercial river trips shall carry no more than 16 persons for a standard group or 8 persons for a small group at any point within the trip (total includes the Trip Leader/permittee and all passengers). People traveling under one permit must travel and camp together and occupy only one beach. It is permissible to split up the trip for the purpose of a loop hike, however, the trip must rejoin and camp together. Trips may not separate for the purpose of securing campsites ahead of other groups.

I. Motorized use season. The motor season starts on April 1st and last through September 15th. Those authorized to launch trips during this timeframe have the option of using motors. Launches occurring between September 16th and March 31st may not be motorized. The maximum allowable trip lengths vary depending upon whether or not the trip is motorized.

J. Maximum Trip Lengths. No trip may exceed the maximum trip lengths listed in the following tables. In addition, trips may never exceed the trip lengths listed on the permit or the Lees Ferry trip checkout form. Please note, in calculating one's trip length, count the day the trip launches from Lees Ferry, the day the trip reaches Diamond Creek, and all days between whether the trip is active on the river or not. For example, a trip launching from Lees Ferry on the 1st of the month and taking out on the 16th of the month has a trip length of 16 days (not 15).

Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek:

Summer Launch (May – August)	**Maximum Trip Length in Days**
Noncommercial Motor	12
Noncommercial Oar	16
Shoulder Seasons Launch (March-April/Sept.- October)	
Noncommercial Motor	12
Noncommercial Oar	18 (Sept 1-15), 21 (Remainder of Shoulder Season)
Winter Launch (November – February)	
Noncommercial Motor	N/A
Noncommercial Oar	25

Diamond Creek to Lake Mead:

Maximum Number of Nights →	**May-September**	**October-April**
Diamond Creek to Separation	1	1
Separation Canyon to RM 260 (Zone 2)	1	2
RM 260 to Lake Mead (Zone 3)	1	2

K. **Maximum Trip Length for Hybrid Trips.** The maximum trip length to Diamond Creek for Hybrid Trips is 14 days. A Hybrid Trip is a human powered trip (oar and/or paddle) accompanied by no more than one motorized watercraft to carry gear and provide support. Additional requirements for Hybrid Trips include:

1. The purpose of the motorized watercraft must be to carry gear and provide support. The hybrid option is not available if the trip's non-motorized craft are capable of safely hauling all of the trip's gear.
2. At all times when traveling downriver, most participants must be on non-motorized boats and under human power. A trip will NOT be categorized as a hybrid trip simply by the addition of secondary, discretionary use watercraft such as play boats and stand-up-paddle-boards.
3. The motorized craft must never exceed the speed of or tow the human powered watercraft. All watercraft must travel down river together at the pace of the slowest watercraft and never out of sight of each other except as needed to get through a rapid. Trip watercraft may not separate for any reason including securing campsites or allowing slower craft to get a head-start.
4. The hybrid trip option is only available for trips launching in the motorized season. Motorized watercraft are NOT permitted to launch during the non-motorized season.

L. **Inner Canyon Camping.** All inner canyon camping while waiting for a river trip must be approved by the Backcountry Information Center through a Backcountry Permit.

M. **Hualapai Tribal Fees.** People taking-out at Diamond Creek are responsible for additional fees. The Hualapai Tribe charges a fee for each person; boat and vehicle to traverse the Diamond Creek Road. Permits are required in advance. For further information, contact the Hualapai River Runners, P.O. Box 246, Peach Springs, Arizona 86434, (928) 769-2219; (928) 769-2210; or (800) 622-4409.

N. **Generator Use Limitation.** Generator use will be limited to emergency situations and inflating rafts. Generators may not be used in the river corridor for the other purposes including providing power for lights, appliances or sound equipment.

O. **Night Navigation.** Rafts/ boats operating on the river or on Lake Mead at night must comply with U.S. Coast Guard running light requirements.

P. **Pets.** No cats, dogs, or other pets are permitted on a raft trip.

Q. **Resource Protection.** Natural or historical features such as rocks, old mining artifacts, fossils, flowers, or Indian artifacts may not be removed or disturbed (36CFR 2.1).

R. **Upstream Travel and Horsepower Limit.** No vessel shall engage in primarily upstream travel above Separation Canyon (RM 240) or have a total horsepower of greater than 55.

S. **Sharing of Camps.** In areas of limited campsites, separate trips are encouraged to camp together when no other camps are available.

Leader and Qualifying Boatman Experience

The Trip Leader and boatmen must have a working knowledge of whitewater safety, general first aid, river equipment repair, and the techniques of white water navigation. The Trip Leader must be at least 18 years of age. Experience in the Grand Canyon or one or more of the other comparable whitewater rivers is mandatory. It is preferable that the Trip Leader or another member of the party be familiar with the Grand Canyon portion of the Colorado River.

Equipment Requirements and Procedures

Watercraft Types and Quantity

A. **Inflatable Rafts and Dories.** All trip applications will be reviewed to determine if the numbers of rafts and/or dories are adequate in size and number in order to meet all equipment requirements (See Equipment and Sanitation sections) and boat capacities (See below). *Commercial names on watercraft must be covered up for the duration of the trip.*

B. Fiberglass or Plastic Whitewater Canoes and Kayaks. Kayaks and canoes must be in good condition. All trips must have the capacity to carry the minimum equipment required (See Equipment and Sanitation sections). Open or canvas-decked canoes are acceptable provided paddlers have extensive high-volume river experience. Canoes should have sturdy reinforcements and adequate flotation. Carlson River Boards are rescue equipment only. They are NOT for floating the river in Grand Canyon National Park.

C. Motorized Watercraft. Motor-powered boats are prohibited from launching between September 16th and March 31st. During the remainder of the year, both oar- and motor-powered boats may launch. Four-stroke motors are the only type allowed on the Colorado River through Grand Canyon National Park. Non-motorized trips launching from Lees Ferry may NOT stow or carry motors for use below Diamond Creek, but motors can be brought in at Diamond Creek.

Watercraft Capacities

Occupant capacities, including boatmen, for boat sizes (including gear) are listed below. A variance for boat capacities may be requested for paddle boats.

Type of Watercraft	Carrying Capacity
Dories: 16 – 18 feet:	5
Inflatable rafts and pontoons:	
less than 12 feet in length	2
up to 14 feet in length	3
up to 16 feet in length	4
up to 17 feet in length	5
up to 18 feet in length	6
22 foot snout	8
22- 27 feet in length	9
33 feet and over with outriggers	16
33 feet and over w/o outriggers	12

Watercraft Registration

Motorized water craft operation in Grand Canyon National Park must be registered and must display numbers and decals in accordance with the Arizona Boating and Water Sport Law, (AGF, Article 5, r12-4-501 through R12-4-505). Arizona accepts boat owner's home-state rules of registration for a 90-day period. Arizona residents must register all watercraft except non-motorized vessels.

Emergency Equipment

A. Life Preservers and Regulations

Each participant **MUST** have a serviceable U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) Type I, III or V. One extra PFD must be carried for every 10 persons on the trip (i.e. a trip with 1 to 10 participants must have at least one extra PFD, and a trip with 11-20 participants must have at least two extra PFDs). These PFDs must be maintained in good and serviceable condition in compliance with the USCG standards **AND MUST BE WORN AND FASTENED PROPERLY AT ALL TIMES WHILE ON THE RIVER.** All PFDs must have a USCG approved label stating the PFD is designed for whitewater rafting, canoeing, sailing, paddling and/or kayaking. **GENERAL BOATING OR SKI VESTS ARE PROHIBITED**. The PFDs may not have any holes, rips, tears, broken buckles and/or broken zippers. A throwable cushion (U.S. Coast Guard approved, Type IV) is required for each watercraft 16 feet in length and over.

On unsupported kayak or canoe trips, one extra PFD is required for every 4 kayaks and/or canoes. If there are fewer than 4 kayaks or canoes, one spare PFD is required.

B. First Aid

A major first aid kit is required and must be carried on each trip. A smaller kit must be carried on each additional boat or unsupported kayak/canoe. See "Suggested First Aid Items" on page 20.

C. Communications and Signaling

Emergency signaling equipment must include a signal mirror of the U.S. Air Force type and two international orange colored panels, each measuring 3 foot x 8 foot, that can be placed in an "**X**" so as to be visible from aircraft. In the event

of an emergency, the symbol "X" marked or placed on the ground by any means will signify that help or emergency aid is necessary. Upon notification by observer, a helicopter will be dispatched by the National Park Service.

A satellite telephone or ground-to-air radio transceiver is recommended (although not required) equipment. The emergency telephone number is (928) 638-7911. Radio frequencies are listed under Helicopter Evacuations.

D. Other Emergency Items

Extra Propulsion

One extra set of oars must be carried on each oar-powered boat or raft. Two extra paddles must be carried on rafts that are paddle-powered.

One extra motor must be carried on each motorized boat. Also, spare motor parts of the types most commonly found to break and need replacement under river-running conditions (such as propellers, shafts, water pumps, etc.) must be carried.

On unsupported and supported kayak or canoe trips, one extra paddle is required for every 4 kayaks and/or canoes. If there are fewer than 4 kayaks or canoes, one extra paddle is required.

Repair and Safety Equipment

When inflatable rafts or pontoons are used, each river trip will carry at least one air pump.

Every trip will carry a boat patching and repair kit.

All motorized craft 26 feet and over are required to carry one B-II or two B-I fire extinguishers. All motorized craft under 26 feet are required to carry one B-I or one B-II fire extinguisher.

Guide Materials

Each trip should carry U.S.G.S. Quadrangles or equivalent maps or river guides.

E. Incident Reports

Any incidents resulting in evacuation from the canyon, personal injury requiring more than first aid, the death or disappearance of any participant, property damage greater than $500, or the occurrence of gastrointestinal illnesses must be reported to Grand Canyon National Park. Completed River Incident Forms should be given to the National Park Service ranger at the time of evacuation or to the ranger at Phantom Ranch or Pearce Ferry, or mailed to the River Sub-district within 7 days of trip completion. Notification of any evacuation for serious injury or requiring hospitalization, WHICH IS COMPLETED BY ANOTHER AGENCY, will be by fax or telephone to the River Sub-district within 24 hours of the incident.

Incident forms will be carried on each trip and are available through the River Sub-district (a copy of these forms is attached (pages 24 through 26). National Park Service reporting does not replace Arizona State reporting requirements. If an incident occurs on "the water", Trip Leaders will be forwarded an Arizona Boating & Casualty Report for completion and submission to Arizona Game & Fish.

F. Illness Reports

All gastrointestinal illnesses which occur on the river during a river trip or following a river trip must be reported (See Confidential River Trip Illness Reporting Instructions and Illness Report Form). The Confidential River Trip Illness Report Form must be completed for each person who becomes ill at the time of onset of illness. Those who report a gastrointestinal illness following a river trip will be asked to complete a Confidential River Trip Illness Report Form. Instructions and forms must be carried on all trips, and may be duplicated as needed from this document.

G. Helicopter Evacuation (See page 22 for evacuation procedures)

In the event of an emergency requiring helicopter evacuation, arrangements will be made for the rescue service by Grand Canyon National Park **only**. The costs of an inner canyon rescue are covered by the tax payer, however ground transport and supporting commercial aeromedical transportation is the financial responsibility of the patient. The Trip Leader/permittee will be responsible for the cost if the passenger is unable to pay.

Launch Requirements: Lees Ferry Information Sheet

For all trips **except** those launching from Diamond Creek, pre-launch procedures and regulations for using the campground and other facilities at Lees Ferry are listed below. The Trip Leader is responsible to ensure that all participants of his/her trip are familiar with the launch ramp and camping procedures prior to arrival at Lees Ferry. This will alleviate problems if some participants show up at Lees Ferry prior to the Trip Leader.

Launch Ramp Procedures

A. **The Trip Leader is required to check in with the ranger on duty prior to unloading equipment on the launch ramp.** Please look for the ranger at the launch ramp, office, or refer to the instructions on the bulletin board on the downstream end of the launch ramp. All individuals will attend the river orientation program and river checkout at Lees Ferry. The orientation and checkout start at 9:00 am MST the morning of the launch and last approximately one hour.

B. Two vehicles at a time are allowed on the ramp only long enough to unload gear. After unloading is complete, vehicles must be moved to the day lot.

C. Vehicles should be left in the 14-day (more than 14 days is okay) parking area for any overnight parking. There is **NO OVERNIGHT PARKING** on the launch ramp or day lot.

D. Due to the congestion at the Lees Ferry launch ramp, rigging between the hours of 8:00 am and 10:30 am will be only for those trips leaving that day. Please do not operate radios or tape players on the ramp during the morning hours; the noise is disconcerting to those attempting to conduct trip orientations.

E. Bathing, washing dishes, and sleeping in the launch ramp restrooms are prohibited. This includes the water spigots near the restrooms.

F. Preparation and cooking of meals or setting up tables on the ramp is prohibited.

G. **A maximum of TWO trip members may sleep ON THEIR BOATS with their gear. Sleeping, camping, and/or overnight parking is <u>not</u> allowed on the launch ramp.** Instead use the river runner's campground provided for noncommercial river parties.

H. There is a **ONE DAY LIMIT** in the river runners camping area. If you arrive earlier, you will have to use the Lees Ferry Campground fee area (1.5 miles from the launch ramp).

I. Upon return to Lees Ferry after a trip, camping is allowed only in the Lees Ferry Campground. No overnight camping is allowed in any parking lot. The "Private River Runner's Camp" is for use only by noncommercial trips prior to launch and may not be used by river runners returning to Lees Ferry after their trip.

J. The orientation / picnic shade structure on the launch ramp is for orientations and picnicking only. The rigging and/or laying out of equipment or gear is prohibited. No camping or sleeping in, under, or around the structure. The structure is reserved daily for orientation from 7 am to 12 noon and is open for picnicking after all orientations are complete.

Camping Procedures

A walk-in camping area has been designated near the launch ramp for noncommercial use. The camping area is located 100 yards west of the launch ramp. The Lees Ferry Campground, which is 1.5 miles from the launch ramp, may also be used; however; this is a fee area. The regulations for the camping area for noncommercial river runners are:

A. The Trip Leader will check-in with the ranger on duty prior to setting up camp during working hours.

B. Camping procedures must comply with the Noncommercial River Trip Regulations. Stove, fire pans, dish washing systems, and human waste system will be set up, depending on the need.

C. Human waste will be carried down river.

D. Charcoal ash will be carried down river. Gathering of firewood is prohibited.

E. Trash will be bagged and deposited in the containers near the launch ramp.

F. A maximum of 16 river trip participants per site is allowed.

G. Quiet hours are from 10 pm to 6 am No loud noise will be tolerated.

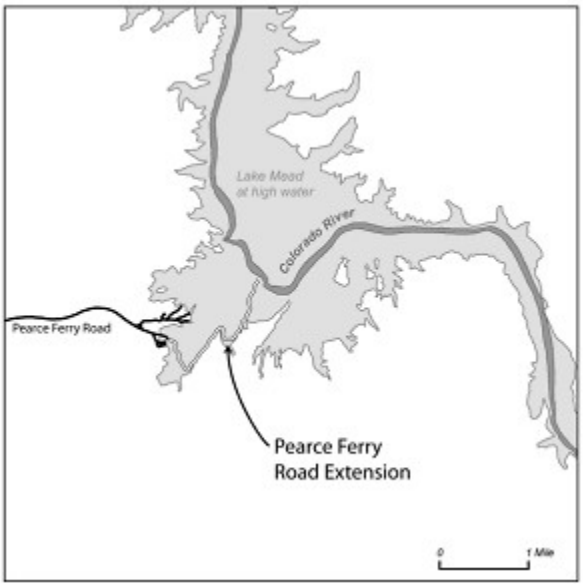
H. There is a one-night limit in the camping area. If you arrive earlier, you will have to use the Lees Ferry Campground fee area.

Thank you for your cooperation with other river runners at Lees Ferry.

Takeout and De-rigging Requirements

Pearce Ferry: OPEN

A two-mile road extension and new takeout ramp were opened on 3/15/2010. This ramp is for take-out only; the launching of boats is prohibited, and the area is closed to swimming, fishing, camping, and shoreline fires. The ramp itself is reserved for boats that are being loaded directly onto trailers without being de-rigged – it is very important that the ramp not get blocked by vehicles. There is a raft de-rigging space upstream and downstream of the ramp, accessible by vehicle.



The road extension project was driven by the lowering lake level of Lake Mead, down more than 120 feet over the previous ten years. Access to the waters of Lake Mead was closed at Pearce Ferry in 2001 when the water elevation dropped to 1,175 feet. Over the next 10-years, the Colorado River scoured a new channel in the silts deposited by the waters of Lake Mead. While most of the river follows the old river channel, a slight deviation from the previous channel occurred near Pearce Ferry, creating a new, large rapid that stopped all upstream travel. The primary purpose of the road extension is to provide for river take-out operations for private and commercial river runners.

South Cove: OPEN

Those scheduled to take out at Pearce Ferry are authorized to continue to and take-out at South Cove. One half mile below the take-out is Pearce Ferry rapid. Pearce Ferry rapid is technically difficult and has been described by many river runners as

being more difficult than any other rapid in Grand Canyon. River Runners are advised to scout Pearce Ferry rapid before they make a decision to run the rapid and continue to South Cove. There are two additional rapids near the western end of Iceberg Canyon.

Continuing to South Cove is an extra 15 miles of travel often on flat water, usually against the wind. This extra distance is likely to add at least one or two additional days to one's trip.

There is a signed area at South Cove designating use by river runners. River runners will not be allowed to trailer or de-rig their boats on the paved South Cove boat ramp. There will be no restriction concerning when boats may be trailered or de-rigged; however, coordinate between trips to ensure that there is adequate space for takeouts operations. In the event South Cove becomes inaccessible, trips may continue on and takeout at Temple Bar.

CAMPING AND VISITATION RESTRICTIONS

Restricted Areas

Areas along the Colorado River with special regulations or closures include:

Approximate River Mile (RM)	Description of Place	Restriction
RM 0.8 – RM 4.5, both sides	Colorado/Paria River confluence to Navajo Bridge	No River Trip camping.
RM 33.3, river left	Redwall Cavern	No River Trip camping and no fires.
RM 43.3, both sides	Anasazi Bridge	Closed to all visitations.
RM 52.5 – RM 53.5, river right	Nankoweap	Special camping regulations see page 15.
RM 60.9 – RM 65.5, river left	Little Colorado River (**LCR**) confluence and surrounding area including the island at the confluence	No camping. Boats may not enter or park in the LCR. To protect native fish habitat, spawning, and endangered young, the southern half of LCR (mid-stream to south shore) is closed to river runner swimming and wading from March 1st to November 30th. Crossing is allowed approximately 0.2 miles upstream of the confluence at the established crossing (marked by cairns).
RM 63.5 – RM 65, river left	Hopi Salt Mines	No visitation.
RM 71– RM 72, river right	Furnace Flats	No visitation.
RM 77.5 – 78.6, river right	Hance Mine	Due to asbestos hazard, no visitation along trail from RM 77.5 (north bank) to and including Hance Mine.
RM 77.5 – RM 89.8, both sides	All camps in the entire corridor between Hance through 0.25 miles below Pipe Creek (Garden Creek)	**Phantom Exchange Camps** Between March 1 and October 31 the following river camps in the Colorado River corridor between River Mile 77.5 (below Hance Rapid) and River Mile 89.8 (below Pipe Creek Rapid) are designated as Phantom Exchange Camps: • Grapevine Camp, river left at approximately River Mile 81.7. • Zoroaster Camp, river left at approximately River Mile 85. • Upper Cremation Camp, river left at approximately River Mile 87. 6. • Lower Cremation Camp, river left at approximately River Mile 87. 7. • Across from Pipe Creek Camp, river right at approximately River Mile 89.2. During this time period these Phantom Exchange Camps can be used only by river trips with passenger exchanges hiking out of Phantom Ranch or Pipe Creek early the next morning. Layovers (camping more than one night) at any camp in this reach (between RM 77.5 to 89.8) are strictly prohibited.

Approximate River Mile (RM)	Description of Place	Restriction
		No Camping Near Phantom Ranch With the exception of the camp across from Pipe Creek (River Mile 89.2), no camping is allowed in the area below Lower Cremation Camp (River Mile 87.7) and River Mile 89.8 (.25 miles below Pipe Creek (Garden Creek)) except in the case of emergencies. Emergency camping (including Roy's Beach) must be approved by the Phantom Ranger. Wood fires are never allowed. Passengers who wish to camp before joining or after leaving trips at Phantom Ranch must have an overnight backcountry permit from the Backcountry Information Center for the appropriate campground.
RM 109.2, both sides	Shinumo Creek	No camping within 100 yards of the confluence of Shinumo Creek and the Colorado River.
RM 111.4, river right	Bass Mine, Hakatai Canyon	Due to asbestos hazard, visitation is not permitted in the area immediately surrounding the mine, talus slope, and camp.
RM 117.2, both sides	Elves Chasm	No camping within 0.25 miles of the confluence of Royal Arch Creek with the river or within the chasm. Upper Elves Chasm, in the Elves Chasm drainage from ¼ mile up-creek from the Colorado River to ½ mile up-creek from the Colorado River has special restrictions. Visitors to the area may not trample or disturb monkeyflower and maidenhair fern vegetation – these plants are habitat for endangered Kanab ambersnails.
RM 134.3, river right	Tapeats Creek	Day Use Only; No river trip camping on river right from 1/8 mile upstream to 1/8 mile downstream of the Tapeats Creek confluence with the Colorado River.
RM 136.6 – RM 137.4, river right	Deer Creek Falls	No camping on the river right (north) side of the Colorado River from 0.25 miles upstream to 0.5 miles downstream of the Deer Creek confluence with the Colorado River. Climbing and/or rappelling (ascending or descending) in the creek narrows, with or without the use of ropes or other technical equipment, is prohibited. This restriction extends within the creek beginning at the southeast end of the rock ledges, known as the Patio, to the base of Deer Creek Falls.
RM 144, river right	Kanab Creek	Day Use Only; No river trip camping from ¼ mile upstream to ¼ mile downstream of Kanab Creek's confluence with the Colorado River.
RM 148.4, river left	Matkatimiba	This is a Day Use Only area. No camping in the canyon.
RM 157.2 – RM 157.8, river left	Havasu Creek	Camping is not allowed from 100 yards upriver of Havasu Creek to 0.5 miles downriver of Havasu Creek. The Park Service boundary with Havasupai Tribal Land is at the Havasu Creek / Beaver Creek confluence. People planning on hiking upstream (south) of this point are expected to pay access fees to the Havasupai Tribe. One can pay these fees in advance or make reservations within Havasu Campground by calling the Havasupai Indian Tribe at (928) 448-2121 or (928) 448-2141.
RM 165 – RM 274, river left	The river left (south) side of the canyon above the historical high water line is Hualapai Tribal Land	Any use of Hualapai Tribal land for camping or hiking must be approved by the Hualapai Tribe in Peach Springs, Arizona. Call (800) 622-4409.
RM 185 – RM 187.5		Camps should only be utilized by trips with exchanges at Whitmore Wash.
RM 266.8	Bat Cave	Entry into the cave is prohibited.

Approximate River Mile (RM)	Description of Place	Restriction
RM 274.9	Columbine Falls	Camping within 300 yards of the falls is prohibited.
RM 274.5	Rampart Cave	Entry into the cave is prohibited.
Other Areas	Restrictions also include all other areas listed on the bulletin board at Lees Ferry	

Backcountry or Off-river Camping

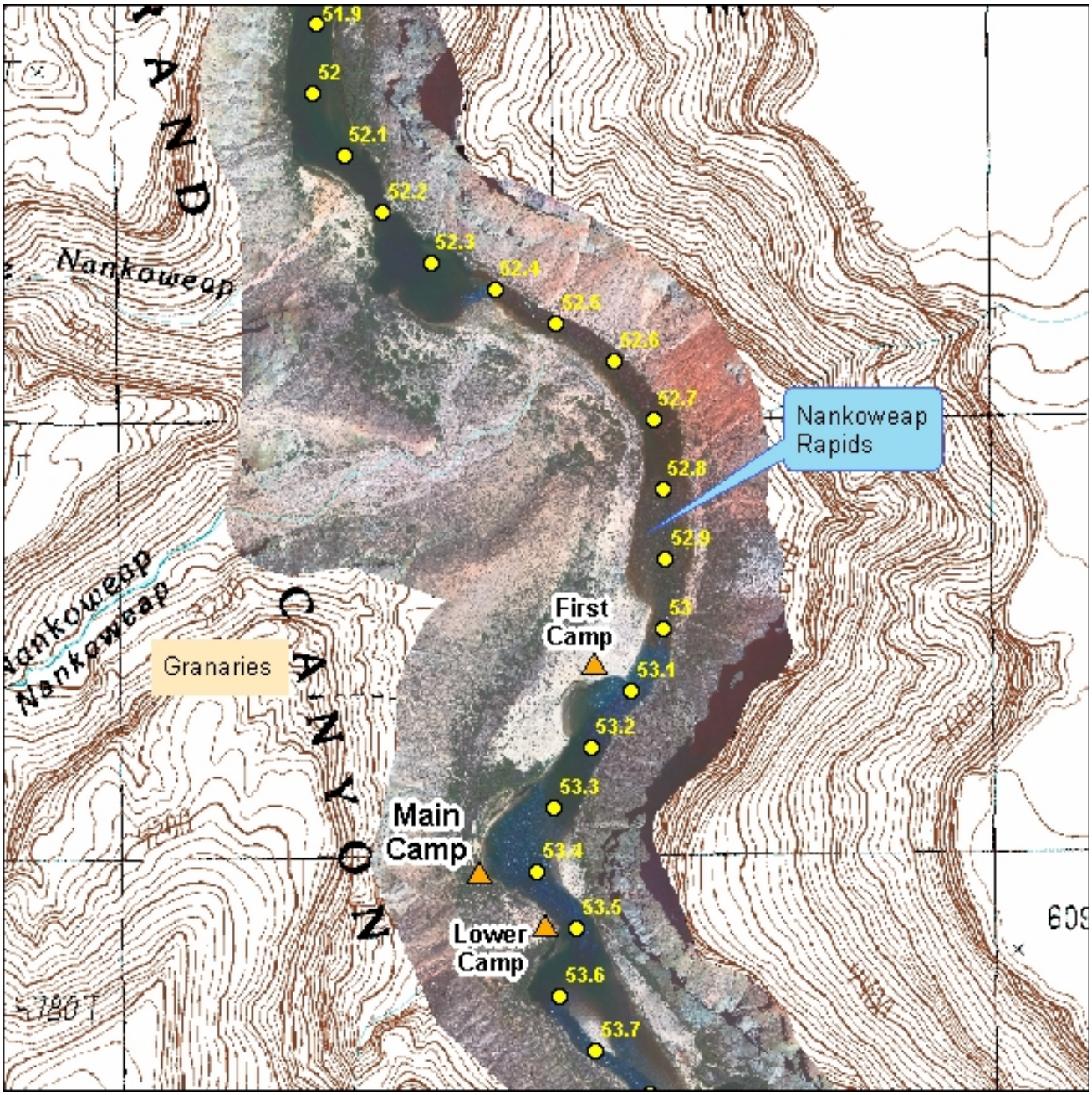
Permits are necessary for off-river camping **in all areas of Grand Canyon National Park**. All backcountry areas have group limits. A small group is 1-6 people and a large group is 7-11 people.

Permits may be obtained from the Backcountry Information Center by mail or in person. Telephone requests are not accepted. Reservations may be made up to, but not more than, 4 months in advance. All requests for overnight off-river camping should be sent to:

Backcountry Information Center	**Phone:**	**(928) 638-7875 M-F 1pm-5pm**
Grand Canyon National Park	**Fax:**	**(928) 638-2125**
1824 S Thompson St, Ste 201	**Email:**	**grca_bic@nps.gov**
Flagstaff, AZ 86001	**Web:**	**www.nps.gov/grca (go to Backcountry Hiking section)**

Nankoweap Special Use Area

Due to the impacts of multiple trailing, campsite competition, and congestion in the Nankoweap area, the following special camping regulations are in effect. Camping for river runners in the Nankoweap Delta area, Mile 52.5 to Mile 53.5, right bank, is restricted to the three river camps identified on the map as First Camp, Main Camp, and Lower Camp. The First Camp is located in a large cove behind a gravel bar, approximately ½ mile downstream of the confluence with Nankoweap Creek. The camp is visible on the right from the tail waves of Nankoweap Rapid. The Main Camp is also visible several hundred yards downstream. The Lower Camp is a small, boulder-covered sand bar forming a point of land 100 yards downstream and around the corner from the Main Camp. **Each camp has a capacity of one river party only. River parties wishing to hike must disembark at any one of the three camp locations or at the mouth of Nankoweap Creek only.** This requirement is due to past problems of multiple trailing. Groups camping early or on layovers should expect other groups to pull in for hikes.



Sanitation and Environmental Protection Requirements

The daily fluctuation of the Colorado River creates an area of wet sand referred to as the flow fluctuation zone. This area is inundated on a daily basis with the fluctuation flows of the river. Impacting activities like smashing cans, washing dishes, and using soap must occur below the high tide line whenever possible. When impacting activities occur above the flow fluctuation zone, extra care must be taken to protect the dry sand in this fragile area.

A. Refuse

Cans, rubbish and other refuse **MAY NOT BE DISCARDED IN THE WATER OR ALONG THE SHORE OF THE RIVER**, in side canyons, trails, escape routes, or any other portions of the canyon. **All refuse material must be carried out.** Deposits cannot be made at Phantom Ranch, Diamond Creek, Pearce Ferry or South Cove. Liquid garbage will be strained directly into the river through a rigid fine-mesh screen capable of holding small food particles; the solids will then be placed in garbage bags. Crushing food and beverage cans must be done on a tarp or below the high water line in a manner that will not leave food particles, liquids, or paper on the beach. The Trip Leader is responsible to ensure that participants properly dispose of refuse. Tarps must be placed under food preparation and serving tables to leave the beach free of food scraps.

B. The Use of Soap

The use of soap is restricted to the mainstream of the Colorado River only. Use of soap in side streams or within 100 yards of any side stream junction with the Colorado is **PROHIBITED**. The use of solar showers must occur in the main flow of the Colorado River. You must stand in the main flow of the river to rinse off with a solar shower. The dishwashing setup must be placed in the wet sand below the high water mark or in such a way as to leave the beach free of soap and food spillage.

C. Portable Toilets

It is the responsibility of each boat party to remove its solid human waste from the canyon. A human waste carry-out system will accompany all trips on the river. This system must contain washable, reusable, human waste containers approved by Grand Canyon National Park. This system must meet the minimum standard described under Human Waste Carry-Out Method, page 18. These facilities will be set up in camp and remain until the party breaks camp. A washable reusable container must be accessible during the day. Deposit toilet paper in the main toilet. **DO NOT BURN TOILET PAPER.**

URINATION MUST OCCUR IN THE RIVER OR IN YOUR TOILET. When in the main corridor of the Colorado River, urinate directly in the Colorado River. Go "HIGH and FAR" at least 100 feet from trails, backcountry campsites, and side streams, to urinate at off-river places to avoid the buildup of feces and urine. Due to the impact of high volumes of people visiting the same areas, **when hiking away from your river camp, bag all human waste (feces) and bring it back to your river camp and deposit it in your reusable toilet.**

D. Fires

Gas stoves (propane, white gas, etc…) with sufficient fuel for cooking are required on all trips. Charcoal briquettes may be used for cooking. Wood fires may be used only for warmth or aesthetics. From March 1 through October 31, all wood **MUST** be carried into the canyon from an outside source. From November 1 through the end of February, driftwood from along beaches may be used for warming and aesthetic fires. **Gathering of wood from any standing or on-site fallen trees, dead or alive, is prohibited.** All wood fires must be contained in a metal fire pan measuring 300 square inches; the lip of the pan must be 3 inches high on all sides. Fire pans must be elevated using manufactured legs (not rocks, empty cans, etc.). Charcoal briquettes may be contained in fire pans 12 inches x 12 inches x 3 inches. **All ash and fire residue must be carried out of the canyon.** Trips launching from November 1 through the end of February must carry an approved fire pan. For the rest of the year, fire pans are required only on trips utilizing charcoal or wood fires. Wood or charcoal fires are not allowed outside of the river corridor beaches. Fire blankets are required for use under the fire pan for all charcoal and wood fires. Fire blankets must be approximately 60 x 72 inches.

E. Multiple Trails

Multiple trailing and its consequent impact on vegetation and soils comprise a perennial problem at attraction sites and along backcountry trails. All river runners should stay on established trails and avoid short-cutting across fragile desert soils.

F. Campsite Impacts

Impacts above the sandy, post-dam riparian zone at camping areas continue to be a problem. Desert and old pre-dam riparian plant communities are particularly susceptible to damage and erosion due to trampling. River runners should set up camp in the more resistant, post-dam, sandbar areas. All camping along the river corridor must be conducted within 100 yards of the water line. **Do not damage any vegetation or blaze new hiking routes or sleeping areas in the fragile desert zone.**

Food Preparation and Sanitation

Proper food handling and sanitation techniques are necessary to prevent the spread of communicable diseases among the members of your trip. Gastrointestinal illnesses are of primary concern. The usual source of gastrointestinal organisms is the human intestinal tract. Some organisms found in the nose or in infected skin lesions can produce a powerful toxin which cannot be destroyed by heat, and which can cause severe gastrointestinal illness. In addition to human sources, meat and poultry may be contaminated. If these foods are inadequately cooked, the result will be the contamination of utensils, preparation surfaces, and the hands of handlers.

Following contamination of a food, it is usually necessary for the bacteria to reproduce before an infective dose is developed. Three factors are required for reproduction: time, temperature, and a nutrient source.

It usually takes no more than 3 to 4 hours after food has been contaminated to produce enough bacterial growth to cause illness in a large number of people. Most of the organisms of concern will grow well between 77°F and 114°F.

In order to prevent contamination of food during its preparation along the river, personal and environmental cleanliness are vitally important. As disease-causing organisms often get into food from hands of a person preparing food, scrupulous personal cleanliness is important. All surfaces with which food comes into contact during preparation, including knives, utensils, cutting boards, and table tops, must be clean and sanitary. Tables and equipment used for preparing raw meats and poultry should not be used for preparing other foods until they have been cleaned and sanitized thoroughly. Use a sanitizing solution with a chlorine concentration of 100-200 ppm for these surfaces. A test kit is recommended to monitor the concentration of the sanitizing solution.

The means by which foods become contaminated with disease organisms, and the subsequent processes through which these organisms pass in order to become dangerous to human health, dictate the procedures necessary to interrupt the chain of events leading to an outbreak of human illness. Briefly stated, these procedures are:

A. After handling or going to the toilet, or handling raw meat or poultry, wash hands with soap and water before handling utensils and preparing foods. Wash hands whenever they become contaminated while preparing food. It is suggested that an antibacterial soap be used for hand washing, Allow the hands to air dry.

B. Cooked, prepared foods, or foods served raw (e.g., vegetables) should come in contact only with clean and sanitized surfaces, equipment, and utensils. Equipment used for raw foods should be washed and sanitized before being used with cooked foods.

C. Persons with communicable diseases, diarrhea, infected wounds on the hands and arms, or boils should not be allowed to prepare food. It is suggested that food handlers not eat while preparing food to prevent cross contamination.

D. Stored perishable food should be kept at temperatures below 41 F or below.

E. Foods such a meat and poultry products should be well cooked (165°F) to destroy disease organisms. All produce should be washed in potable water.

F. After preparation and prior to serving, keep hot foods hot (above 140°F) and cold foods cold (41°F or below).

G. Leftover perishable food should be discarded or refrigerated immediately in clean, protected, labeled containers. Leftover perishable food should be thoroughly reheated before use (to 165°F). It is suggested that leftovers only be used for emergencies.

H. All chemicals should be properly labeled and should be stored separately from food and food equipment.

I. It is required that tarps be placed in the kitchen area and under the dishwashing set-up in order to reduce the amount of food particles left on beaches.

It is recommended to sanitize dishes and utensils using the 4-bucket system. Dish wash buckets should be constructed of non-corrosive material so they are smooth and easy to wash. Place 4 buckets of water below the high water mark to leave the beach free of soap and spilled food. The system is as follows:

1. Use 4 buckets large enough to immerse the largest plates and utensils (pre-wash, wash, rinse, and sanitize). All 4 buckets must contain visually clear water. If the river is muddy, allow dishwater to settle and remove sediment before use. The use of alum is recommended for settling (2 tablespoons per 5 gallons for dishwater). Decant the clear water. Heat 3 buckets of water to near boiling.
2. The first bucket is for pre-washing with soapy water.
3. The second bucket of hot, soapy water is for washing to remove grease and remaining food particles. Water temperature should be 120°F to 140°F.
4. Dip rinse in the third bucket in hot rinse water.
5. Immerse articles in the fourth bucket of a chlorine solution (concentration of 50-100 ppm) for 60 seconds. The effectiveness of chlorine for disinfecting is directly related to time of exposure. Be sure to allow time for the chlorine to sanitize.
6. Place dishes on a rack for air-drying. Store the articles in a clean, dry location to be ready for the next meal. If dishes did not air dry before being packed or dishes become contaminated by river water or other sources, use a sanitizing solution on the dishes before using.

Water Purification

All water consumed or used for cooking should be purified. Research on the Colorado River and its tributaries indicate that increased sediment from flooding or other causes may pose a high risk to river users. The following water purification steps should be followed:

A. Use the main course of the Colorado River to collect water unless the river is quite cloudy from sediment.

B. Use side streams as a water source when the main river is laden with sediment and the side stream is running clear. Avoid the following tributaries because of inconsistent water quality: Paria River, Little Colorado River, Bright Angel Creek, Garden Creek, Hermit Creek, Elves Chasm, Tapeats Creek, Deer Creek, Havasu Creek, and Diamond Creek.

C. Cloudy, sediment-laden water must be cleared before disinfecting. Settle overnight or use flocculating procedures (1 teaspoon alum per 5 gallons of water for drinking water). Decant the clear water into another container.

On the basis of a recent literature review, the Center for Disease Control and the Environmental Protection Agency recommended that water be rendered microbiologically safe for drinking by bringing it to a rolling boil for 1 minute; this will inactivate all major waterborne bacterial pathogens and waterborne protozoa.

Secondly, portable filters having a nominal pore size of 0.2 microns or less may also be used to remove bacteria and protozoan cysts. To assure removal of viruses, a disinfectant must be used in addition to the filter; current recommendations are 2 drops of chlorine per gallon after filtering. Settled water will extend filter life. Decant the clarified portion of settled water, filter, and disinfect with a product labeled for drinking water. Use the disinfectant according to the instructions on the label.

Human Waste Carry-Out Method

Grand Canyon National Park requires all river runners to carry out their solid human waste.

The toilet system must provide for secure containment and adequate volume of storage. Human waste must be deposited directly into the container. The main river trip toilet system and system used at camps must be the washable, reusable type allowing for the sanitary transfer of waste materials to septic vaults or sewage treatment facilities. For day hikes and when the river trip is in progress between camps, trips must as an alternative use toilet systems of the type that use dry chemical/enzymes to render solid human waste into nonhazardous products acceptable for disposal in permitted landfills. (Products currently known to meet this criteria and render solid human waste into nonhazardous products include the PETT System from Phillips Environmental Products, Inc and the Restop 2 from American Innotek, Inc.) Because of their potential for

leaking, plastic bucket systems like the "Scat Packer" are **NOT** permitted on the Colorado River within the Grand Canyon. Used PETT/Wag Bags must be placed in the trash and that trash MUST be stored in a waterproof container like a 20 MM ammo can. Toilet containers that have used PETT/Wag Bags in them cannot be washed out at the SCAT machine in Meadview.

The following components comprise an acceptable system:

A. Washable reusable toilet system designed to contain and store human waste, i.e., welded plastic storage boxes, aluminum boxes, etc. Do not store toilet or associated toilet articles next to food or food equipment to prevent cross-contamination.

B. Toilet seat. A disinfectant should be used to kill pathogens on the toilet seat.

C. Use heavy duty rubber gloves during toilet set-up or clean-up and disinfect them after each use.

D. Many commercially available chemical additives and holding tank deodorants are available. The park strongly suggests the use of non-toxic, non-formaldehyde based additives to lessen the impacts to sewage treatment facilities. Formaldehyde is a known carcinogen.

E. Toilet paper, hand-washing water dispenser, and soap. It is suggested that an antibacterial soap be used. Bar soap is not recommended. A system which allows flowing water to rinse soap off hands without contaminating hands in the process is recommended. The rinse system should not employ the use of beverage coolers due to possible contamination of the spigot.

F. Due to the impact of high volumes of river trip members visiting the same areas, when hiking away from your river camp, **bag all human feces and bring it back to your river camp and deposit it in your toilet**.

Washable Reusable Container System Set-up

When feasible, place the washable reusable toilet near the river's edge to encourage urination in the river unless there is adequate volume for urination in the reusable toilet. The hand-washing water dispenser and the hand soap can be placed close by. The toilet should be covered with a lid to discourage flies. The toilet seat, toilet paper, and deodorant may be stored in an ammo can ready for use at the next camp. Store the toilet brush in separate bag or container to prevent cross-contamination since it cannot be thoroughly disinfected.

Fecal material should be washed directly into the toilet container and not into the river. Wash hands thoroughly after handling the toilet. If contact is made with skin by fecal material, immediately wash the area with antibacterial soap. Use a topical medication if it got on a cut or scratch.

If using deodorant chemicals, please follow the manufacturer's instructions. The amount of chemical used per day depends on the type used and the number of people on the trip. To facilitate the emptying of your toilet it is recommended that you maintain the contents of your toilet in a semi-liquid state. This may require the addition of urine and/or river water. *Only feces, urine and toilet paper should be put in the washable reusable container.*

The number of containers needed is dependent on the number of people and the length of the trip. It is easy to contain about 50 uses in a container measuring 2,000 cubic inches.

The basic tenant is to safely contain feces in a reusable container utilizing a biodegradable deodorizer. *Please note that a washable reusable toilet container must be accessible during the day.*

SCAT Machine Information

A human waste disposal facility is available at Meadview, Arizona. This facility is located at the intersection of Pearce Ferry Road and Hualapai Creek Road. The Meadview Waste Disposal Facility is self-service. It provides for the dumping of toilet boxes, as well as RV holding tanks. A device designed to clean toilet boxes, the SCAT Machine, has been installed at this location. This machine will empty the waste from your toilet system and rinse the interior and exterior surfaces of the container. The SCAT Machine will accommodate a 20 mm ammo can and other containers that are at least 12 inches high and have a central opening of 8 ½ inches.

You will need to have two cam straps available to strap the container to the door of the machine.

In order for the machine to function to its full potential you must follow the instructions provided on the SCAT Machine control panel. The SCAT Machine operates utilizing a sequential series of valve openings and closings; if you do not follow the instructions **exactly** the machine will not cycle completely, and your toilet will not be cleared (or worse yet, it will be held captive inside the machine). *Please do not assume that you know how this machine works.* It will work reliably if you follow the printed instructions located next to the machine.

The SCAT Machine combines the best features of a toilet and a dishwashing machine. In order for it to function properly you must manage your river toilet just like you would use your home toilet. **YOUR RIVER TOILET MUST BE USED AS A RECEPTACLE FOR FECES, URINE, AND TOILET PAPER ONLY.** No other objects should be disposed of in your river toilet. Please transport and dispose of fire pan ash, hygiene products, adult diapers, trash and garbage, and other non-flushable materials at other disposal sites. The SCAT Machine is designed to empty your toilet and rinse the contents from the box. It is **NOT** designed to scour all waste from your toilet, nor will it provide a squeaky clean box. Repeated wash cycle may provide for a more thorough cleaning. Keeping the contents of your toilet is a semi-liquid state will facilitate the SCAT Machine dumping and insure that your toilet container cleans with the fewest amount of machine cycles.

Should you arrive at the SCAT Machine to find that it is out of service please contact the following National Park Service personnel during working hours (7:00 am – 6:00 pm): Grand Canyon National Park, Meadview Ranger Station, (928) 564-2918 or Lake Mead National Recreation Area at (702) 293-8906. This facility is normally closed from November through February because of the potential for frozen pipes.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES AND FORMS

Flash Flooding and Dam Release Advisory to River Trips

Flash floods occur in side canyons of the Grand Canyon occasionally during the summer. The likelihood of flash floods increases during the afternoon. It is advisable to plan takeouts at Diamond Creek during the morning. Keep the possibility of flash floods or rockslides in mind when camping at side canyons.

Glen Canyon Dam is operating under the following criteria: The maximum release is 25,000 cfs; the minimum during the day is 8,000 cfs depending on whether it is a low, medium or high volume month. Upward ramping rates are restricted to a maximum of 4,000 cfs per hour; the downward ramping rate is 1,500 cfs per hour. This information is subject to change. The Bureau of Reclamation has provided a toll-free number for information concerning current day water release schedules (800) 752-8525 or you can check out flows at www.uc.usbr.gov/uc/water/crsp/crsp_cs_gcd.html.

Suggested First Aid Items

Items should be neatly stored in an easy to locate and identifiable waterproof container. First aid kit inventory list should be taped to the inside lid of the container with a Red Cross First Aid Manual or equivalent. The park highly recommends including all the following first aid items.

Injury Stabilization

Instruments	Description	Uses
Antibacterial soap (Phisoderm, tincture of zephesis, Hibiclens)	8 to 12 ounces	Antiseptic for wounds
Moleskin	1 package	For blisters
Betadine	1 bottle	For cleaning wounds
Band-Aids	36 (1-inch)	For lacerations
Anti-bacterial ointment	2 tubes	For lacerations and wounds
Butterfly Band-Aids (or know how to make)	18 (various sizes)	For closing lacerations
Carlisle trauma dressing or substitute (feminine napkin, etc.)	3 (4-inch)	For large bleeding wounds
Elastic bandage	2 (3-inch)	For sprains and securing rigid splints
Steri-pad gauze pads	18 (4 inch by 4 inch)	For large wounds
Steri-pad gauze pads	18 (2 inch by 2 inch)	For small wounds
Tape, waterproof adhesive	2 (2 inch rolls)	For sprains, securing dressings, etc.
Triangular bandage or Muslin pieces	4 (40-inch)	For securing rigid splints, slinging and securing extremities, and protecting dressings from contamination.
Roller gauze	5 rolls (2 inch by 5 yards)	For holding gauze pads in place, securing splints and improvising slings.
Rigid splint, arm board, Sam Splint	1	For in-line fracture, pressure bandage

Instruments	Description	Uses
Rigid splint, leg board, Sam Splint	1	For in-line fracture, pressure bandage
Thermometers (a hypothermia thermometer is recommended)	1 oral, 1 rectal	Diagnosing fever or other exposure illnesses: heatstroke, hypothermia.
Stethoscope	1	Diagnostic tool for EMTs and medical personnel.
Blood Pressure cuff	1	Diagnostic tool for EMTs and medical personnel.
Scissors (EMT type)	1 (medium size)	Cutting tape, dressings, clothes.
Razor blade, single	2	For removing hair before taping
Tweezers	1	To remove wood splinters, etc.
Safety pins	10 (various sizes)	Mending and triangular bandages.
Cotton swabs	1 package	Cleaning lacerations, eyes, etc.
Pencil/Notepad	1 each	Documenting injuries and items used in treatments.

Relief of Discomfort

Instruments	Description	Uses
Pain reliever (aspirin or substitute)	36 tablets (5 grain)	Headaches, minor pain and fever.
Ibuprofen	200 mg tablets	Muscle strains, minor pain, or cramps.
Antacid	18 tablets	Upset stomach.
Antihistamine	18 tablets	Insect bites, colds, hives or rashes.
"Gookinaid" or similar electrolyte replacement drink	1 tub minimum	Relieve or prevent muscle cramps and symptoms of heat exhaustion.
Oil of clove	1 small bottle	Relief of toothache.
Calamine lotion or cortisone cream	1 bottle	Relief of itching from poison ivy, rash or allergy.
Solarcaine	1 bottle	Relief of sunburn pain.
Zinc oxide / PABA or sunblock	1 bottle	Prevent sunburn.
Benadryl Syrup	1 bottle	Minor allergic reactions.
Mineral oil or other mild laxative	Small bottle	Constipation.
Syrup of Ipecac	Small bottle	Induce vomiting.
Kaopectate	Small bottle	Treat diarrhea.
Ophthalmic wash or eye drops	Small bottle	Eye wash / irritation.
Ear drops	Small bottle	Clogged / infected ears.
Water purification tablets	Small bottle	Purify water on side canyon hikes.
Eye pad	2	Injured eye.
Tincture Benzoin	2 Small bottles	To hold tape in place and protect skin.
Insect repellent	Large can or bottle	Flies, ants, mosquitoes.

Other

Instruments	Description	Uses
Signal Mirror	1	Signaling aircraft in case of emergency.
Quarters / calling card number	Several	Making phone calls in case of emergency.

A Note About Hypothermia (Exposure):

Should someone fall in the river, it is extremely important to get them out of the water as quickly as possible. After 5 minutes of floating in 50°F water, muscular strength and coordination rapidly diminish. Generally after 10 to 15 minutes, a person is totally unable to help themselves.

Helicopter Evacuations

Justification – Helicopter evacuations are available for medical emergencies only.

Request Procedures

A. ONLY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HELICOPTER EVACUATIONS.

B. Requests for evacuation can be made by contacting the National Park Service directly (river patrols, Lees Ferry, Phantom Ranch) or through emergency communications (ground-to-air radio, satellite telephone, or mirror flashes). Callers contacting the park should use (928) 638-7911.

C. When contacting aircraft by radio, be sure to provide accurate and concise information, since the message may be relayed several times before it reaches the Grand Canyon Dispatch. Provide information in the following order, using emphasized phrases:

GIVE YOUR LOCATION. State that you are a river trip requesting helicopter evacuation at **River Mile (?) in Grand Canyon National Park.**

Specify a **CRITICAL or STABLE** patient. This will allow EMS personnel to determine priorities in the event of simultaneous requests for medical responses or bad weather.

State whether the problem is a **TRAUMA or a MEDICAL**.

State whether it is a **COMMERCIAL or PRIVATE river trip, or a HIKER** who is in need of assistance.

If there is time, ask the pilot to repeat the message so that you know he understands your situation.

D. Satellite telephones are the most reliable method of obtaining assistance. However, a mirror flash is often the most reliable method of contacting aircraft, so be sure you understand how to use the mirror as a signaling device. Remember that the mirror flash presents problems in that no patient assessment information is relayed and your location is not certain to be reported correctly.

Landing Zone Selection and Preparation

A. Select a **level** area approximately 15 feet by 15 feet. Be sure it is clear of obstacles such as trees and large rocks for a diameter of 75 feet. Such areas are virtually non-existent in some stretches of river (i.e., below Crystal to Bass, Olo to Havasu, etc.). Unless such travel poses serious problems for the patient, transport by boat to a safe landing zone will generally provide a faster and safer evacuation.

B. Set up an X with the orange signal panels. Do not locate the panels directly on the landing zone. **Remove the panels once the pilot locates your position in the event he selects that site for landing.** This will assist the pilot in determining your party from others in the vicinity.

C. Prepare your group and camp for the evacuation. It is extremely important that everyone be gathered together at least 100 feet away from the landing zone and in full view of the pilot. Be certain that no loose items are in the landing zone, since the down-wash will lift and toss articles, possibly into the rotor or into your group. Secure loose equipment in the camp (sleeping bags, ground cloths, tables, life jackets, tents, etc.) in the event the pilot must pass over the area.

D. Wet down as much of the landing area as possible just prior to the helicopter's arrival. This helps the pilot's visibility, decreases the amount of sand blown into eyes, boats, and food, and reduces damage to the helicopter's surface and engine.

E. The pilot's awareness of wind direction is critical for safe landings. The helicopter must fly directly into the wind when landing and taking off. Do not locate your group in the flight path. You can assist the pilot indicating wind direction. The easiest method is to simply toss a handful of sand directly upward. The pilot can then observe the direction of drift. Another method is to stand with you back into wind and extend both arms forward pointing in the direction the wind is blowing.

F. NEVER APPROACH THE HELICOPTER UNLESS DIRECTED TO DO SO BY THE PILOT OR CREW. Never approach from the rear of the helicopter. Keep your group together and in one location. When directed to do so. Approach the helicopter in full view of the pilot. Walk in a crouched position to avoid being struck in the head by the helicopter rotor blades.

RADIO FREQUENCIES FOR AIRCRAFT

GRAND CANYON SECTORS (daytime)

East	120.050 MHz	Lees Ferry to Havasu/Kanab Creek Area
Central	127.050 MHz	Havasu/Kanab Creek Area to Diamond Creek
West	121.950 MHz	Diamond Creek to Pierce Ferry

COMMERCIAL AIR TRAFFIC

Los Angeles Center	135.250 MHz 124.200 MHz 124.850 MHz	Day or Night
Denver Center	127.550 MHz 128.125 MHz 132.875 MHz	Day or Night
Albuquerque Center	128.450 MHz 135.325 MHz 124.500 MHz	Day or Night

EMERGENCY

Emergency	121.50 MHz	Day or Night

Noncommercial River Trip Incident Report Form

Any incidents resulting in evacuation from the canyon, personal injury requiring more than first aid, the death or disappearance of any participant, or property damage greater than $500 must be reported to Grand Canyon National Park. Completed Noncommercial River Trip Incident Report Forms should be given to the National Park Service ranger at the time of evacuation or to the ranger at Phantom Ranch or Pearce Ferry, or mailed to the River District Ranger (P.O. Box 129, Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023) within 7 days of trip completion. Notification of any evacuation for serious injury or requiring hospitalization, WHICH IS COMPLETED BY ANOTHER AGENCY, will be by fax or telephone to the River District Ranger within 24 hours of the incident.

Incident forms will be carried on each trip. National Park Service reporting does not replace Arizona State reporting requirements. If an incident occurs on "the water", Trip Leaders will be forwarded an Arizona Boating & Casualty Report for completion and submission to Arizona Game & Fish.

Trip Leader: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Location of Incident: _____

Nature of Incident: _____

Involved Persons: Name: Home Address: Home Phone: Sex: Age: DOB:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Position in boat of involved person #1_____ #2 _____ #3 _____

Incident Occurred: _____ Ashore (Hiking _____/In Camp _____) _____ On Water _____ Swimming

Describe How the Incident Occurred: _____

_____

_____

First Aid Given: _____

_____

_____

Medications Given (dose and time):

_____

_____

_____

Allergies:

_____

_____

_____

Medical Person on Scene: Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ EMS Level/Physician ID: _____

_____

Victim evacuated from Canyon? (when, where, how, # of people): _____

_____

Confidential River Trip Illness Reporting Instructions

The Trip Leader will complete a separate Confidential River Trip Illness Report Form for **EACH** person who becomes ill with a gastrointestinal illness (GI) on a trip.

The form must be completed at the time of illness for each person who becomes ill. The Trip Leader will send the form to the Grand Canyon National Park Dispatch (P.O. Box 129, Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023), and will notify Dispatch by phone (928-638-7805) that an illness has occurred. Dispatch is open 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, including holidays.

If three or more persons experience any GI illness during a trip, the Trip Leader must do the following:

A. Complete a form at the time of illness for each person who becomes ill.

B. Notify Grand Canyon National Park Dispatch as soon as possible using a SAT phone, giving all pertinent information on the illnesses.

C. If a SAT phone is not immediately available, then do one of the following:

- Use another trip's SAT phone.
- Report to a National Park Service patrol trip.
- Use the phone at Phantom Ranch.
- Use every effort to report the illnesses within 24 hours of onset.

D. At the end of the trip, the Trip Leader will send all forms to the Grand Canyon National Park Dispatch (above address).

If the Trip Leader receives information that a member of their trip experienced a GI illness following the trip that they suspect was related to the trip, the Trip Leader must call and inform Grand Canyon National Park Dispatch as soon as possible.

Confidential River Trip Gastrointestinal Illness Report Form

This form must be completed at the time of illness for each person who becomes ill. The Trip Leader must send the form to the Grand Canyon National Park Dispatch (P.O. Box 129, Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023), and must notify Dispatch by phone (928-638-7805) that an illness has occurred. Dispatch is open 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, including holidays.

Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Date of illness onset _____/_____/_____

Address _____ Time of illness onset ____:____ AM__PM__

City, State, Zip _____ Location of illness onset (River Mile) _____

Phone ( ) _____-_____ Trip Leader Name _____

Which of the following symptoms did the individual experience?

YES NO

_____ Nausea

_____ Vomiting…if yes, check the approximate number of vomiting episodes per day (at maximum):

_____ 1-2 _____ 3-5 _____ 6 or more

_____ Diarrhea if yes, diarrhea lasted ____ days
Check the approximate number of diarrhea stools per day (at maximum):

_____ 1-2 _____ 3-5 _____ 6 or more

_____ Blood in Stool?

YES NO

_____ Fever … if yes, temperature? _____

_____ Sweats/Chills

_____ Abdominal pain or cramps?

_____ Severe weakness

_____ Headache

_____ Backache

_____ Muscle aches

_____ Other (specify) _____

_____

_____ Does this individual have any chronic medical conditions that could mimic the symptoms experienced while on the river (e.g., irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, stomach ulcers, etc.)?

_____ Has the individual had any contact with anyone who had similar symptoms within two weeks prior to the trip?

_____ Does the individual attribute alcohol ingestion or other conditions as a likely explanation for his/her symptoms?

_____ Did the individual take any medications for illness (e.g., antibiotics, anti-diarrhea medications, etc,)?

TRIP START DATE _____/_____/_____
# of people starting at Lees Ferry _____
Phantom Ranch _____
Diamond Creek _____

TRIP END DATE _____/_____/_____
# of people taking out at Phantom Ranch _____
Diamond Creek _____
South Cove _____

Grand Canyon National Park River Recreation Fees

Grand Canyon National Park is a designated federal recreation fee area. Fees collected directly benefit Grand Canyon National Park, and the National Park Service. Entrance fees are charged at many park entrances.

Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek

Fees are charged for the Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek section of the river. Visitors traveling by boat enter Grand Canyon National Park at the Paria Riffle after launching from Lees Ferry launch ramp. Therefore the following permit fees apply:

$100.00 per Trip Participant: This is a comprehensive fee that includes the entrance fee, impact fee, and permit fee. This fee will be paid to the River Permits Office. No money will be accepted at Lee's Ferry. If people are hiking in at any location, their $100.00 fee must be paid at the time the application is sent in. The Trip Leader will be sent entrance passes to waive entrance fees for those entering the park through the one of the entrance stations.

A $10.00 discount to the above charge can be applied for those who are age 15 and younger, who are residents of Grand Canyon National Park, or those with either of the following passes:

1. **Grand Canyon National Park Annual Pass** (Cost $50) Valid for twelve months from the date of purchase, for unlimited visits to Grand Canyon National Park. It admits the purchaser and any accompanying persons in a single, private, non-commercial vehicle, or the purchaser and accompanying immediate family (spouse, children, parents) when entry is by other means (train, shuttle, bicycle, foot, and boat). This passport covers entrance fees only and is not refundable and/or transferable.

2. **America the Beautiful - the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass or "Interagency" Pass:** This pass is available to the general public and provides access to, and use of, Federal recreation sites that charge an Entrance or Standard Amenity Fee for a year, beginning from the date of sale. Replaces: Golden Eagle Passport and National Parks Pass and Golden Eagle Hologram. It admits the purchaser and 3 other individuals when entering the park by boat (or means other than a single noncommercial vehicle). The pass can be obtained in person at the park, by calling 1-888-ASK USGS, Ext. 1, or via the Internet at http://store.usgs.gov/pass
   - Annual Pass: $80, anyone 16 years and older can purchase
   - Senior Pass: $10, valid for the lifetime of the pass owner; must be 62+ older, U.S. citizen, and a permanent resident
   - Access Pass: Free for lifetime with documentation of permanent disability, U.S. citizens, and permanent residents
   - Volunteer Pass: Free, earned with 500+ hours of volunteer service in public lands

Diamond Creek to Lake Mead

Grand Canyon National Park is currently is waiving fees for the Diamond Creek section of the river. Other fees are charged by the Hualapai Tribe (see page 5).

APPENDIX A – SUMMARY OF REQ. PAPERWORK & EQUIPMENT

	Description	Required?	More Details
Paper Work			
	River Permit	Required	Page 2
	Noncommercial River Trip Participant List	Required	Page 2, A.2.i
	Photo IDs for all participants	Required	Page 2, A.2.i
	Lees Ferry Checkout Sheet (Provided at Lees Ferry)	Required	Page 3, B
	Incident Report Forms	Required	Page 7, E
Kitchen and Sanitation			
	Fine-mesh Screen (for straining food particles)	Required	Page 16, A
	Garbage Bags	Required	Page 16, A
	Kitchen Ground Tarps	Required	Page 16, A
	Metal Fire Pan and Elevating Legs	Required	Page 16, D
	Fire Blanket	Required	Page 16, D
	Firewood (if trip will have campfires)	Required	Page 16, D
	Gas Stove	Required	Page 16, D
	Chlorine Test Kit	Recommended	Page 17
	Alternative Day Use Toilet System	Required	Page 18
	Main River Toilet System	Required	Page 18
	Water Filter	Required	Page 18
	Alum	Recommended	Page 18, I
	4-Bucket Dish Sanitizing System	Recommended	Page 18, I
	Hand Wash System	Required	Page 17, A
General Trip Gear			
	First-aid Kit (Major)	Required	Page 6, B
	First-aid Kit (1 Minor Kit per Additional Boat)	Required	Page 6, B
	Signal Mirror (Air Force Type)	Required	Page 6, C
	Signal Panels: 2 at 3′ x 8′	Required	Page 6, C
	Satellite Phone / Ground to Air Transceiver	Recommended	Page 6, C
	River Map or River Guides	Recommended	Page 7, D
Raft / Kayak Gear			
	Watercraft Sufficient for size of group	Required	Page 5
	Night Navigation Lights (if any travelling by night)	Required	Page 5, O
	Front Deck Reinforcing (if Canoes & Kayaks)	Required	Page 6, B
	4-Stroke Motors (if motorized trip)	Required	Page 6, C
	Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) of Type I, III or V. 1 per person + 1 extra per 10 people	Required	Page 6, A
	Throw Cushion (Type IV) 1 per boat 16′ or longer	Required	Page 7, A
	Air Pump (1 per trip if inflatable rafts or pontoons)	Required	Page 7, D
	Boat Patching and Repair Kit	Required	Page 7, D
	Extra Paddles (2 per paddle powered boat)	Required	Page 7, D
	Fire Extinguishers (if motorized trip)	Required	Page 7, D
	Spare Kayak Paddle (1 per 4 kayaks)	Required	Page 7, D
	Spare Motor Parts (if motorized trip)	Required	Page 6, D
	Spare Oars (2 per oar boat)	Required	Page 7, D

APPENDIX B – LISTING OF DOCUMENT CHANGES

March 2015

- Page 3, Potential Alternate Trip Leaders (PATLs)

  Added section allowing direct family members to be added as PATLs after the lottery closes.

- Page 6, Motorized Watercraft

  Clarified that motors may not be stowed on non-motorized watercraft.

- Note: The River Permits Office has received authorization to implement two additional changes not reflected elsewhere in this document. First, each year up to 20 unused noncommercial launches from the previous year will now be added to the launch schedule (near the month and day of the original, unused launch date) with some adjustments to accommodate Trips At One Time (TAOT) limits. Second, to address the TAOT spike occurring in early May, each year the River Permits Office will hold back up to three late April cancellations and then re-release those noncommercial launches either earlier that April or elsewhere within the same season.

- Made other minor grammatical / editorial changes.

August 2014

- Page 5, Maximum Length for Hybrid Trips

  Clarified hybrid trip designation.

- Page 6, Fiberglass or Plastic Whitewater Canoes and Kayaks

  Removed requirement for front deck reinforcement.

- Page 11, Restricted Areas table

  Combined "RM 77– RM 87, both sides" and "RM 136.6– RM 137.4, river right" sections into one and updated the text to be consistent with the Superintendent's Compendium Of Designations, Closures, Use and Activity Restrictions, Permit Requirements And Other Regulations.

- Made other minor grammatical / editorial changes.

April 2014

- Page 11, Restricted Areas table

  Edited text in the "RM 77– RM 87, both sides" and "RM 136.6– RM 137.4, river right" sections to be consistent with the Superintendent's Compendium Of Designations, Closures, Use and Activity Restrictions, Permit Requirements And Other Regulations.

- Made other minor grammatical / editorial changes.

February 2014

- Page 3, Lottery System Requirements

  Added "Last Recreational River Trip Date" section

- Page 4, Trip Requirements

  Clarified "Fees and Deposits" and "Canceling Trips" sections.

- Made other minor grammatical / editorial changes.

January 2013

- Page 11, Restricted Areas table

  River miles changed to be consistent GCMRC's river mileages as updated in 2007.

- Made other minor grammatical / editorial changes.

April 2011

- Page 15, Nankoweap River Miles

  River miles cited for the Nankoweap restricted area were changed to be consistent GCMRC's river mileages as updated in 2007.

- Page 16, Sanitation, Fires

  Fire blankets (approximately 60" x 72") are required under fire and charcoal pans.

- Page 28, Added appendix summarizing required paperwork and equipment.

December 2010

- Page 2, Noncommercial River Permit Requirement

  Removed "Definitions and General Requirements" title. Added section to emphasize river permits are required for noncommercial river travel on the Colorado River. This section covers who may lead or participate on a noncommercial river trip and clarifies that "Permittee" and "Trip Leader" always refer to the same person. Moved trip checkout requirement, identification requirement, and one-trip-per-year rule into this section.

- Page 2, Definition of a Noncommercial River Trip

  Added introductory paragraph. Changed order of bulleted items. Added the self-guided requirement to the "Not For Profit" bullet.

- Page 3, Created a Lottery System Requirements Heading

  Moved / inserted three bullet item into this section pertaining to PATLs, being listed only once in each lottery, and minimum age requirements.

- Page 3, Changed heading to "Trip Requirements" from "General Requirements"

  Reordered the bullet items and combined the "Ranger Audits" bullet with the "Documentation Must be Accessible" bullet.

- Page 5, Removed the word "Trip" from the heading.

  Previously it was worded "Trip Leader and Qualifying Boatman Experience".

- Page 17, Changed heading to "Food Preparation and Sanitation".

  Previously it was "Sanitation and Food Preparation".

June 2010

- Page 7, Helicopter Evacuations

  Clarified who is responsible for costs of an inner canyon rescue.

May 2010

- Page 16, Sanitation, Fires

  All river trips must carry fire pans from November through the end of February. For the rest of the year, fire pans are only required on trips utilizing charcoal or wood fires.

- Page 5, Night Navigation

  Clarified that U.S. Coast Guard running light requirements apply not just to Lake Mead but also to rafts/boats operating at night on the Colorado River through Grand Canyon.

March 2010

- Page 9, Takeout and De-Rigging

  Added takeout information for the newly opened road / takeout at Pearce Ferry.

February 2010

- Page 2, One Trip per Year Rule

  Clarified that the one trip per year rule applies to the Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek section of the Colorado River and does not apply to the Diamond Creek to Lake Mead section of the river.

- Page 4, Maximum Trip Lengths

  Added maximum trip length information for the Diamond to Lake Mead section of the river.

- Page 9, Takeout and De-Rigging

  Added "Lake Mead is working on a road / takeout at Pearce Ferry and expects to open it by the summer of 2010."

- Page 16, Sanitation, Fires

  Time period where all wood must be carried into the canyon from an outside source changed from May 1 through September 30 to March 1 through October 30.

  Driftwood collection season changed from October 1 through April 30 to November 1 through end of February.

  Added recommendation for using fire blankets under fire and charcoal pans with the recommendation becoming a requirement in 2011.

- Page 18, Human Waste Carry-Out Method

  Section modified to differentiate between main river trip toilet system and system used on day hikes. Explained why plastic bucket systems are not permitted. Explained requirement for how PETT/Wag Bags must be stored and not to wash containers at Lees Ferry.

- Page 29, Added this Appendix for easy tracking of changes.
- Made other minor grammatical / editorial changes.