

Superintendent's Compendium 2016

Summary of Changes

The following items have been modified, added or deleted since the last approval.

A small number of minor changes, i.e. spelling, formatting, etc. that do not change the meaning of the text have been made and are not recorded here.

I. SECTION 1.5 CLOSURES AND PUBLIC USE LIMITS (A)(2)

Addition: p. 3 Explanation added to **South Rim Range Road** closure:

(Firearms training and qualifications can occur at any time of day or night. This closure protects the public from exposure to projectiles.)

Addition p 6 **North Rim Roads – December 1 to May 15**

All North Rim roads are closed to motor vehicles and bicycles from Dec 1 until May 15.

(During the winter months, the high elevation North Rim and North Kaibab National Forest receive significant amounts of snow. It is not feasible for the National Park Service and the Arizona Department of Transportation maintain the 50 miles of Highway 67 between Jacob Lake, AZ, and the terminus of Highway 67 at the North Rim. During the late spring, heavy equipment works to clear the roads and fallen trees. Backcountry dirt roads are impacted by heavy snow and downed trees, making them impassable. All roads are closed for public safety during this period.)

Addition p. 7 Explanation added to **Tuweep Area** public use limit.

(This restriction protects park resources and ensures the uncrowded, primitive visitor experience recommended in the Grand Canyon National Park General Management Plan.)

Modification p. 8 The category title '**River District**' modified to '**River Corridor**'

Addition p. 9 Explanation added to closure of **Roads: South Rim District**

(The 1995 Grand Canyon National Park General Management Plan designated approximately 26,000 acres south of the South rim of the Grand Canyon as natural areas or "natural zones". The GMP states that these "natural areas" are to be managed to allow for "dispersed" low density recreational activities as well as provide for areas to manage wildlife, conduct resource research, and allow for administrative access for the purposes of wild land fire suppression. The above listed "primitive roads" within these natural areas have been identified as meeting the objectives of the GMP for the purposes of low density recreational activities including bicycle use, horseback riding, and hiking.)

Addition p. 10 Explanation added to closure of **Roads: South Rim District**

(The park's General Management Plan identifies the vision for the South Rim as one that will allow visitors direct access to canyon panoramas and to offer a range of visitor experiences. The number of private vehicles parking on the South Rim at any one time will be limited, allowing these areas to become pedestrian spaces where visitors can enjoy the views, use visitor services, and find secluded spots.)

(a)(2) The following restrictions and/or conditions are in effect for the specific uses or activities noted:

Addition p 12 Explanation added to public use limit on **Passenger Carrying Busses**

(This restriction is consistent with park management's plan of reducing air and noise emissions to the maximum extent feasible. These reductions add to and enhance the visitor's experience in the areas of landscape, solitude, primitiveness, remoteness and the inspirational value of the Grand Canyon.)

III. GENERAL REGULATIONS

Addition p 17 Explanation added to 36 CFR 2.1 (a)(4): Restriction on driftwood collection along the Colorado River.

(Driftwood is a limited resource within the river corridor. Collecting is limited to the winter months)

Addition p 17 Explanation added to 36 CFR 2.1(a)(4): Gathering of pinyon nuts.

(Based on resource knowledge, the gathering of pinyon nuts in amounts for personal consumption will not adversely affect the reproductive potential of the species. To adequately protect some specific plant species, gathering of pinyon should occur on the south side of the park road or, if on the north side, one mile from the rim.)

Addition p 23 Explanation added to Camping "At Large" with a permit under specified conditions.

(These public use limits are imposed for the protection of park resources and to ensure that a variety of backcountry experiences are available. This maintains the ecological integrity and cultural significance of a fragile desert ecosystem that experiences heavy visitation.)

Addition p 24 Explanation added to 36 CFR 2.13 **Fires**

(It is the intent of the Superintendent to allow the residents of the park communities and visitors the opportunities to engage in family and social activities compatible with park goals and objectives. This regulation provides for the limited, controlled and minimal use of fire for warmth and esthetic values. Less restrictive management options could potentially lead to resource degradation or damage to park property or structures.)

Addition p 25 Explanation added to 36 CFR 2.14 **Sanitation and Refuse**

(This regulation provides viable options for the appropriate disposal of human waste in the backcountry.)

Clarification p 27 36 CFR 2.20 **Skating, Skateboards and Similar Devices**

The use of roller skates, roller blades, skateboards, and foot powered scooters is also permitted on the established roads within the North Rim residential housing areas.

The use of such devices is also prohibited at the North Rim Visitor Center/Grand Canyon Lodge walkways and parking lots.

Addition p 28 Explanation added to 36 CFR 2.35 **Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances**

(This restriction is intended to supplement restrictions on the possession/consumption of alcoholic beverages within school zones that are imposed under A.R.S. 13-3411. The mission of the Drug Free School Zone is to guarantee a safe environment on and around the school campus.)

Clarification p 29 36 CFR 4.30 **Bicycles**

The Bridal trail on the North Rim, between the North Kaibab Trailhead and the Grand Canyon Lodge is also open to bicycles.