

## Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument (NPS - PARA - 8230)

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument is a vast, remote, and rugged landscape of incredible diversity, wild open space and engaging scenery located in northwestern Arizona. Isolated from the rest of Arizona by the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River, the Arizona Strip remains closely tied culturally, historically and ecologically with southern Utah. No public facilities are available in the monument. The Interagency Information Center located in St. George, Utah offers exhibits, publications, and maps. The public seeks out monument lands for a variety of purposes including motorized recreation, Tribal cultural uses, wilderness isolation, hiking, hunting, photography from scenic geologic vistas, exploration of historic and heritage sites, and viewing largely unimpaired night skies.

### Park History

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument was designated by Presidential Proclamation on January 11, 2000 and is jointly managed by the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management under a Service First Agreement. NPS administered lands in the Monument are within Lake Mead National Recreation Area established in 1964. Superintendent Rosie Pepito (435) 688-3226  
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### Purpose

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument was established on January 11, 2000. It protects a biologically and geologically diverse, vast, remote and impressive landscape, encompassing an array of scientific, cultural and historic resources.

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### Resources

The Monument protects a variety of biological, geological, hydrological, paleontological, archeological, cultural and historical resources. The Monument has a long and rich human history spanning more than 12,000 years. The geologic history is complex as the Parashant includes both the Colorado Plateau and Basin and Range. Layers of rock have been uncovered by the eroding Colorado River watershed, exposing two billion years of geologic history. Elevation and vegetation are diverse, ranging from Joshua trees down in the Mojave Desert at 1247 feet above sea level up to ponderosa pine forests and aspen groves at Mt Trumbull at 8028 feet. Four designated BLM wilderness areas and 188,121 acres of NPS proposed wilderness. Numerous caves, geologically recent lava flows and cinder cones, desert springs, ancient pueblos, petroglyphs, and historic mining and ranching structures are among the many wonders of Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument.

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### Statistics

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument is over a million acres in size - 208,449 acres NPS; 812,581 acres BLM; 27,291 acres non-Federal. Annual Visitation based on road counters was estimated to be 18,200 in 2015, a combination of recreation visitors and grazing permit holders. The FY15 NPS staff was 12.0 FTE  
The FY15 budget was \$1,610,200

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## Interested Agencies and Organizations

- Parashant National Monument is jointly managed as a Service First organization with the Bureau of Land Management and is a unit within the BLM's National Conservation Landscape system.
- Lake Mead National Recreation Area provides administrative support, cultural and natural resource assistance, and fire/fuels management.
- An Interagency Information Center in St. George, Utah is operated in conjunction with the BLM Arizona Strip District, the BLM St. George Field Office, and the Pine Valley Ranger District of the Dixie National Forest. The Dixie/Arizona Strip Interpretive Association operates as the cooperating association under an Assistance Agreement with BLM.
- Parashant is located within Mohave County in Arizona and the administrative offices are located within the City of St. George in Washington County in Utah. Mesquite, Nevada also serves as a gateway community.
- Several Southern Paiute Tribal Bands have cultural ties and traditional homelands within the Monument boundaries and work closely with staff on a variety of issues and programs.
- The Arizona Game and Fish Department works closely with staff on a variety of popular big game hunting activities and wildlife habitat issues.
- The Intergovernmental Internship Cooperative based out of the Harry Reid Outdoor Engagement Center at Southern Utah University assists with a popular and successful youth employment and recruitment program. The program offers students internships on Federal lands to develop their professional skills to help foster the next generation of land managers.
- The Parashant Partnership is comprised of diverse stakeholders and provides a framework to facilitate collaborative dialogue and enhance conservation, protection, and restoration of the monument.
- Descendants of early settlers of the Arizona Strip still live in the area and some still conduct ranching operations within the Monument. The Friends of the Arizona Strip, a non-profit, landowner/ranching based organization was formed to preserve and maintain the traditional and historical multiple uses of the Arizona Strip including ranching, grazing, mining, timber harvesting, hunting, and recreation.
- A variety of environmental conservation organizations remain very interested in Monument management activities.

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## Congressional District

The land base is located in Arizona and the administrative office is located in Utah. The Arizona Strip is closely tied culturally, historically and ecologically with southern Utah.

### **Arizona Delegation**

Senator John McCain (R), Senator Jeff Flake (R),  
4<sup>th</sup> District Representative Paul Gosar (R)

### **Utah Delegation**

Senator Orrin Hatch (R), Senator Mike Lee (R),  
2<sup>nd</sup> District Representative Chris Stewart (R)