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WELCOME

Welcome! You are one of more than 10 million people who visit **Glen Canyon and Lake Mead National Recreation Areas (NRAs)** every year. These units of the national park system were established to protect the outstanding resources of this rugged canyon country and to provide for your enjoyment.

Glen Canyon NRA's 1.25 million acres includes a diverse spectrum of recreational opportunities. With Lake Powell at the center—surrounded by vast canyon lands and remote backcountry proposed wilderness areas—there is no shortage of natural beauty to experience.

At 1.5 million acres, **Lake Mead NRA** is twice the size of Rhode Island. Its diversity attracts boaters and anglers, as well as hikers and wildlife photographers. Three of America's four desert ecosystems—the Mojave, the Great Basin and the Sonoran Deserts—meet here. This seemingly barren area contains an amazing diversity of plants and animals, some of which are found nowhere else in the world. Remember to tread lightly and leave any areas you visit in better condition than they were when you arrived. Respect the park's fragile resources and minimize impact by adhering to park regulations, designed for your safety and the park's protection.

The National Park Service and concessioners—(for Glen Canyon) Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas, managed by Aramark, and the Antelope Point Marina, operated by Ante-

lope Point Holdings LLC; (for Lake Mead) Las Vegas Boat Harbor, Forever Resorts, Guest Services, Inc., Urban Park Concessionaires, Aramark, and AccessParks—collaborate to provide everything you need for a memorable visit.

This *American Park Network* guide to Glen Canyon NRA, Lake Powell, and Lake Mead NRA is provided by Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas and Antelope Point Marina to enhance your appreciation and enjoyment of the park. It is made possible by the support of sponsors whose messages appear herein.



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GLEN CANYON, LAKE POWELL, & LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREAS

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Cover: Aerial view of Glen Canyon

WHAT'S NEW!

PARKS UNITE US



"Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a great battle."

-Plato

Growing up in an urban environment, the parks I was exposed to as a child were mostly concrete, with swings vs. hiking trails. Everything was familiar and everyone was from the neighborhood. My world was quite small. Things have changed a lot. We're all connected now in ways that would have seemed like science fiction in my childhood. Also, as a New Yorker, I'm exposed (IRL) to the most diverse group of people on earth. Ironically, I experience this same amazing diversity when visiting our nation's parks and public lands.

I remember one of my first business trips to a national park. It was a quick visit, with more time spent traveling than in the park. Fortunately, I set aside two hours to go for a hike. I selected a steep switchback trail for a good workout and great views, and ended up with a whole lot more. About half way up, I passed a small nook in a rock formation, where a group was sitting in the shadows, just a few steps off the trail. As I approached, they waved me over. It was an isolated spot, so I cautiously took a step forward. They asked me if I had water, not because they wanted some but because they hiked there regularly and brought extra. You see, this group knew from experience how easy it was to underestimate the physical demands of the trail and the dangers of becoming dehydrated. They shared that they always stopped to rest in the same shady spot on their way down, to make sure people on their way up had enough water

to continue on safely. I couldn't believe they actually carried extra pounds - literally gallons of water - just to give it away!

I quickly learned to call such people "trail angels," and that angels don't always appear as one might expect. Based on first impressions, this disheveled group, slightly hidden from view in an isolated spot, might seem more threat than salvation. With a snap judgement, it would have been easy to keep on walking, perhaps even quickening my pace. Fortunately, I took a leap of faith and, in return, received a lasting memory and had a valuable lesson reinforced. Simply put, we're all more similar than initially meets the eye. Technology has rendered the world a smaller place, but it also seems to be a more divided one. Parks create common ground, where it's easy to discover hidden powers that unite us. These magical places somehow compel total strangers to graciously share and be kind to others. Let's hold onto that wonderfully positive spirit derived from time spent in nature, and use it when we return home to better help each other, regardless of how different we may appear on the surface. By working together and embracing our differences, we're much better equipped to conquer the universal challenges we all face... together!

Founder & Editor-in-Chief

mark@americanparknetwork.com



Check First. Please be sure to check the park's website, ask a ranger or stop by a visitor center to find out about current conditions and regulations, as well as potential changes in operations.

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GLEN CANYON

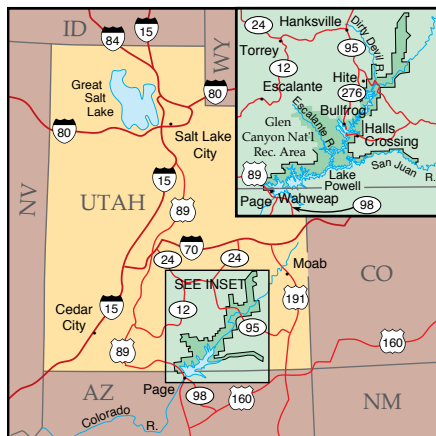
PLAN YOUR VISIT



More than 1.25 million acres of incredibly diverse and beautiful land await you in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA). Lake Powell accounts for a mere 13 percent of Glen Canyon NRA—there is so much more to see beyond the lake! The **canyons**, **buttes**, and **desert sands** invite you to discover a place that tells the story of nearly 270 million years of the earth's history.

Glen Canyon NRA is nestled in the center of the Grand Circle—a collection of seven national parks, eight national monuments and numerous state parks, historical sites, prehistoric Indian ruins, colorful ghost towns, and stunning geologic formations—which reaches from northern Arizona into southern Utah, western Colorado and northwest New Mexico.

Established by Congress in 1972, Glen Canyon NRA is one of only 18 national recreation areas managed by the National



Park Service (Lake Mead was the first). National recreation areas often consist of lakes and reservoirs created by major dams. Others are located in urban areas. The park is the sixth largest national park unit in the lower 48 states!

The park is open 365 days a year. A seven-day entrance permit costs \$30 per vehicle,

FEDERAL RECREATIONAL LANDS PASSES

A federal recreation pass is helpful if you plan to visit many national parks, forests or other federal lands. For information, call **(888) 275-8747** or visit store.usgs.gov/pass.

Type	Cost	Availability	Details
Annual Pass	\$80 \$20	General Public Senior Pass (62+)	This one-year pass is available on site, by phone, or online (see above).
Senior Pass	\$80	U.S. residents age 62+	This lifetime pass is available on site, via mail order, or online. ID required.
Military Pass	Free	U.S. military members and their dependents, Gold Star families, and veterans	This one-year pass is available on site or online. ID (CAC Card or DD Form 1173) required.
Access Pass	Free	U.S. residents with permanent disabilities	This lifetime pass is available on site, via mail order, or online. ID and documentation required.
Volunteer Pass	Free	250 cumulative volunteer service hours	Inquire locally to obtain information about this one-year pass.



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\$25 per motorcycle and \$15 per pedestrian. A Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Annual Pass costs \$55. A seven-day entrance permit for boaters costs \$30 per boat and a Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Annual Vessel Sticker costs \$50 per boat, allowing unlimited entry January 1 through December 31. For current park information, stop at a visitor center or ranger station, call **(928) 608-6200**, or visit nps.gov/glca. Passes can be purchased from any entrance station or downloaded to your mobile device from recreation.gov/. *Note: Entrance fees subject to change.*

A LANDSCAPE IN TRANSITION

Over the past 20 years, the combined effects of climate change and a persistent drought have redrawn Lake Powell's shoreline. It is current at historic low levels. The decline in lake levels has changed lake operations, too. Boat ramp access points and on-lake facilities aren't as easily accessible, especially during the dry season. Visitors are encouraged to plan ahead and prepare for longer wait times, limited parking, and more crowding at ramps and

docks. To make your experience easier, please prepare your boat in a nearby lot before heading to launch ramps. Once on the water, boaters should recognize receding water levels impact navigation. Channels can narrow leading to increased congestion; boaters should exercise caution in all areas of Lake Powell. As lake levels change, so too do the contours of shoreline, exposing landscapes that haven't been explored in decades. Before heading to the lake, visit www.nps.gov/glca to check the current water levels, the status of your desired launch destination, availability of restrooms, floating walkways, pump out, fuel and convenient stations.

GETTING TO GLEN CANYON & LAKE POWELL

By Land: There are two main entry points to Lake Powell. From the south, drive 2.7 miles north from Page, Arizona on U.S. Highway 89 to the South Entrance for Wahweap Marina. From the north, take Utah Highway 276 to the Bullfrog Visitor Center or continue on the highway to Lake Powell. A free NPS brochure on Glen Canyon NRA, containing a detailed map, is available at park visitor centers

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ESSENTIALS FOR BOATERS



- Navigation: Topographic maps and compass or GPS.
- Light: Flashlight with spare bulbs and batteries.
- Food: Extra food and water.
- Clothing: Extra clothing for cold weather.
- Sun Protection: Sunglasses, a brimmed hat and sunscreen.
- Fire: Waterproof matches or fire starter. Fire extinguishers are required.
- First-Aid Kit: Know how to use it.
- Equipment: Knife, horn, personal flotation devices and bailing bucket.
- Signals: Whistle or signal mirror.
- Garbage Sack: Please always put garbage in containers provided. Recycle aluminum cans, plastic and cardboard. Carry out all litter and waste.
- Portable Toilets: Containers can be emptied at boat pump-outs or dump stations. Use of plastic bags is prohibited.
- See the "Park Regulations & Safety" chapter for more information.

and entrance stations. For marina access information, see the "Glen Canyon Resorts & Marinas" article in this chapter.

By Air: Contour Airlines offers service from Phoenix to Page, Arizona. Several services at the Page Airport can provide the last link to your Glen Canyon destination. Shuttle buses, rental cars, and charter and scenic air services are available to take you to Wahweap, Antelope Point Marina, and Page. Public airstrips are available at Bullfrog, Escalante, and Hite. Cal Black Memorial Airport is 10 miles away from Halls Crossing

visitors, supporters, and advocates. The goal is to provide an opportunity for every fourth grade student to experience their federal public lands and waters in person.

All kids in the fourth grade have access to their own Every Kid Outdoors pass at **everykidoutdoors.gov**. This pass admits the pass owner and any accompanying passengers in a private non-commercial vehicle to the park. You must present a pass printed from **everykidoutdoors.gov** (valid until August 31, 2022).

EVERY KID OUTDOORS

The Every Outdoors initiative was launched to help create our next generation of park

VISITOR CENTERS

In 2017, the Bureau of Reclamation and National Park Service replaced all of the exhibits in **Carl Hayden Visitor Center** for

the first time since it was constructed in 1968. Including a model of a dam, interactive trip planning, recreation activities and relief maps, these exhibits tell the story of the human relationship with the Colorado River.

Due to the pandemic, tours of Glen Canyon Dam are currently suspended. The visitor center is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday through Monday. Please visit nps.gov/glca or call **(928) 608-6200** for more information.

Bullfrog Visitor Center offers current weather and lake conditions, general park information, a bookstore and exhibits on the natural and cultural history of the area, including a scale model of a **slot canyon**, an extremely narrow gorge with walls uniquely sculpted by wind and water.

You can often touch both walls with your outstretched arms. The visitor center is currently closed. Call **(435) 684-7423** for more information.

Navajo Bridge Interpretive Center near Lees Ferry features outdoor exhibits and a pedestrian walkway over the Colorado River. It is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please call **(928) 608-6200** for more information.

Escalante Interagency Visitor Center (NPS/BLM/USFS) is located in the town of Escalante, Utah, and is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day except Wednesday. New outdoor exhibits and an app are available to help visitors with trip planning support and to help them have safer adventures in the area. Call **(435) 826-5499** for more information.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Park Information	(928) 608-6200 nps.gov/glca
Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas Lodging, Tours & Boat Rentals	(928) 645-2433 or (888) 896-3829 lakepowell.com
Antelope Point Marina: Full Service Marina, Recreational Rentals	(928) 645-5900 antelopepointlakepowell.com lakepowellhouseboating.com
Wilderness River Adventures (Glen Canyon Floats Trips)	(800) 992-8022 riveradventures.com/glen-canyon-float-trips/ glen-canyon-float-trip-experience
Emergencies (Park Dispatch) Powell Watch	911 or (800) 582-4351 or (928) 608-6300 (24 hours) (928) 614-0820 (text to report non-emergency crime sighting)
Boater's Emergency	If you have VHF radio, dial Channel 16 on the marine band and hail another boater for help.
Campgrounds	(435) 684-3000 (Bullfrog) (435) 684-7000 (Halls Crossing) (928) 608-6200 (Lees Ferry – does not accept reservations) (888) 896-3829 (Wahweap) (435) 233-6822 (Hite)
Lost & Found	(928) 608-6200

GLEN CANYON RESORTS & MARINAS

Four marinas operate year-round on the perimeter of Lake Powell and are accessible by land, and a fifth marina, Dangling Rope is accessible by boat only. The three full-service marinas offer houseboat and powerboat rentals, boat tours, accommodations, dining, fuel, dock-side and dry boat storage, fishing and water sports gear, groceries and general merchandise. **As noted below, many services have been suspended due to receding lake levels.** For the latest launching conditions, please call the park or visit nps.gov/glca.

Wahweap Marina & Lake Powell Resort are located six miles north of Page, Arizona, and five miles from Glen Canyon Dam. This is the largest marina at Lake Powell. It offers six restaurants, two campgrounds, swimming pools and lodging with 350 rooms. Boat rentals, boat tours, boat repairs, four public launch ramps, and restroom facilities are available. **Note:** Wahweap's Main and Stateline Launch Ramps are currently closed to motorized vessels and its auxiliary ramp is closed to all vessels. • (888) 896-3829 • lakepowell.com.

Bullfrog Marina & Defiance House Lodge is the second-largest marina on Lake Powell and offers the widest variety of services on the lake outside of Wahweap. It is located in Utah near mid-lake and offers a restaurant, two campgrounds, and lodging with 48 rooms. Boat rentals, boat repairs, three public launch ramps, and restroom facilities are available. **Note:** The Bullfrog Main Launch Ramp is closed to motorized vessels and its Launch Ramp Spur is closed to all vessels. The restaurant is also closed. • (435) 684-3000 • lakepowell.com.

Halls Crossing Marina is located on Highway 276, about 90 miles north of Blanding, Utah. It is 95 miles upstream from Glen Canyon Dam and is directly across the lake from Bullfrog marina. It offers fuel, family units, a grocery store, two campgrounds (one with hook-ups), laundry, showers, service station and boat repair. **Note:** The Halls Crossing Launch Ramp is closed to

motorized vessels. Various other services are also closed; visit nps.gov/glca for details. • (435) 684-7000 • lakepowell.com.

Antelope Point Marina is just outside of Page off Highway 98, Navajo Route 22B, on the Antelope Point Turnoff. The marina has boat rentals, boat tours, a floating restaurant and lounge, general store, snack bar, valet launch and retrieval services, repair services, boat transport services, dry storage, a day use area, dump station, wet slip rentals, and fuel. **Note:** The Antelope Public Launch Ramp is closed to motorized vessels and services are not available at its Business Ramp. Boat tours are currently not on offer. • (928) 645-5900 • antelopepointlakepowell.com.

Dangling Rope Marina is about seven miles southwest of the entrance to the canyon leading to Rainbow Bridge. Fuel is no longer available at Dangling Rope; boaters should take this into account. **Note:** Dangling Rope will be closed throughout 2022 because of low water levels. • (928) 691-0206 • lakepowell.com

Hite Marina, on the northern tip of Lake Powell, has temporarily suspended operation of its marina services due to the low lake level and while it awaits the selection of a new concessioner. Motorists driving the 126-mile stretch of Utah State Highway 95 between Hanksville and Blanding, Utah will need sufficient fuel for their travel and recreational needs. **Fuel service is no longer available and most visitor services have been halted as of April 2022.** Public restrooms, drinking water, and a dump station are still available. • ticaboo.com • (435) 233-6822.



GETTING AROUND LAKE POWELL

Shuttle Service: Lake Powell Resort, Antelope Point Marina, Bullfrog and Halls Crossing all provide courtesy shuttle service for guests during peak season. Please call **(435) 893-4747** or visit **udot.utah.gov** for more information.

STORES & SUPPLIES

Merchandise for sale in gift shops, marina stores and sporting goods centers ranges from basic necessities to American Indian crafts. A great selection of books and videos about Lake Powell and Glen Canyon NRA are available at any marina gift shop, store, or park visitor center. Hours of operation will vary. Please see the "Lodging & Dining" chapter for more information.

Marina Stores: Located at Antelope Point, Wahweap, Bullfrog, Halls Crossing, and Dangling Rope marinas, these stores sell provisions such as food, ice, resort wear, and souvenirs. Wahweap also provides fishing licenses and tackle. Dangling Rope is closed until further notice because of wind damage. Check with individual stores for off-season operating hours.

Lake Powell Resort Gift Shop: Year-round, buyers and browsers will find a variety of Navajo, Hopi and Zuni jewelry, pottery, and kachina dolls. This is the largest collection of American Indian crafts for sale in the park.

Castle Rock Outlet: Souvenir sportswear and T-shirts, marine accessories, and almost anything that is related to fun in and around the water are sold at this seasonally open specialty store.

Bullfrog Defiance House & The Lower Gift Shop: A gift shop is located in the Defiance House Lodge. In addition, a larger store is located next to the service station at Bullfrog,

which offers a range of gifts and sportswear, and includes a Utah State liquor store.

Convenience Stores: These carry a number of basic necessities and are located in or adjacent to the Lake Powell Resort Complex and Bullfrog and Halls Crossing RV parks.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Bullfrog Medical Clinic, located off highway 276 in Lake Powell, is open May through September and provides emergency and routine medical care. For information, please call **(435) 684-2288**. Page, Arizona, has many physicians and dentists, as well as the full-service Page Hospital, which is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For information, please call **(928) 645-2424**.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Page is served by 14 churches, 11 of which are on Lake Powell Boulevard. Services for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are held in Ticaboo (near Bullfrog) on Sundays.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Park facilities that are accessible to visitors with disabilities are indicated throughout this guide by the - symbol. Lake Powell concessioners Lake Powell Resorts and Marinas (LPRM) and Antelope Point Holdings offer dock and vessel boarding assistance to visitors, as well as accessible houseboat rentals. Almost all land-based facilities inside of Glen Canyon are accessible, including lodging and eating facilities. The Carl Hayden Visitor Center features tactile exhibits and open-captioned films. Fishing docks at Wahweap and Antelope Point Marina are accessible with assistance. They allow everyone—including senior citizens, youth, and visitors with disabilities—an opportunity to enjoy fishing at Lake Powell.

VISITOR SERVICES

	Antelope Point	Bullfrog	Dangling Rope	Halls Crossing	Hite	Wahweap/ Stateline
BANKS						
There are ATMs at various locations around Lake Powell. Ask at one of the lodges or stores for the nearest ATM. There are several 24-hour ATMs in Page, Arizona.	•	•		•		•
BOATING / PERSONAL WATERCRAFT*						
You can rent a boat or personal watercraft (PWC) by the hour, day, week or longer.	•	•				•
LAUNCH RAMPS*						
The NPS maintains public boat launching facilities, and park concessioners offer wet and dry boat storage facilities.	•	•		•		•
BOAT FUEL & REPAIR*						
Bullfrog repair services are offered on land only.	•	•		•		•
GAS STATIONS						
Self-service auto gasoline and related products are available.		•		•		•
LAUNDROMATS & SHOWERS						
These services open year-round and are located at the campgrounds at Wahweap and Halls Crossing, and near the Bullfrog RV Park.	•	•		•		•
POST OFFICE / MAIL						
Each day, mail is picked up from and delivered to Halls Crossing, Wahweap, and Bullfrog (no Saturday service in winter). There is a post office in the city of Page, Arizona with full postal services available.		•				
FAX SERVICES						
Fax service is available for a fee.	•	•				•
RV PARKS						
Comfortable and convenient facilities and hook-up sites with water, sewer, and electrical service are available. Please call (888) 896-3829 for more information.		•		•		•
CAMPGROUNDS						
The NPS also operates a small campground at Lees Ferry and primitive camping is available at Hite. See the "Camping" chapter for more information.		•		•		•

*Boaters should always check current lake conditions by contacting the NPS or marinas, or by visiting **nps.gov/glca** prior to their trip. See the "Glen Canyon Resorts & Marinas" chart in this chapter for contact information.

GLEN CANYON

PARK REGULATIONS & SAFETY



Glen Canyon National Recreation Area is like a museum without walls—there are rules. For your safety and enjoyment, **please observe all park regulations.**

Glen Canyon NRA rangers patrol the lake by water and air, both to enforce boating and water quality regulations, and to provide assistance to those in need.

Quagga mussels are non-native organisms that wreak havoc on aquatic ecosystems. They have infested much of the Midwest and Eastern U.S., and were discovered in 2007 in Lake Mead. Quagga mussels pose a major threat to Lake Powell. Please remember to clean, drain, and dry your boat before coming to Lake Powell and again when you leave.

The National Park System no longer requires mussel decontamination certificates. Quagga shells are starting to wash up on beaches. These shells are sharp and will cut through skin, clothes and paws, so please wear closed-toe shoes and put booties on pets when on beaches. Launch ramps are open 24/7, unless water levels prevent launching altogether—then they are closed for safety reasons. Arizona and Utah have different regulations regarding how boats are decontaminated. Check for updates at nps.gov/glca/learn/nature/mussel-update.htm.

For Arizona regulations, please visit azgfd.com/fishing/invasivespecies.

Personal watercraft (PWC) can be fun, but they can also be dangerous. Operators must obey all **regulations for boat use** on Lake Powell, including

wakeless speed in harbors and speed-in-proximity laws on open water. Due to lowering water levels, it is especially recommended to go slow in narrow passages and heed warning buoys. In Arizona, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult when riding in any personal watercraft.

In Utah, children under 18 must have an adult on board when operating personal watercraft or be at least 16 years of age and possess a Utah PWC Education Certificate. Riders between 12 and 15 years old must have a certificate and operate under direct adult supervision. *PWCs are not allowed within Rainbow Bridge National Monument. PWCs must meet 2006 emission standards set by the EPA for the manufacturing of two-stroke engines.*

Do not drink alcohol while operating a boat. The combination of sun, motion, glare, and wind while boating can seriously impair coordination and affect your ability to judge distances, speed, and water depth.

Drowning is the number one cause of accidental death at Lake Powell. An average of six people drown each year in the lake. **Personal flotation devices (PFDs) or life jackets must be worn by all children** 12 years and younger when on a boat. Everyone should wear PFDs whenever they are near the water.

Portable toilets are required if you are camping overnight on Lake Powell. Boats are regularly checked for compliance. Toilets can be rented from park concessioners. Do not

PACKING ESSENTIALS

Don't hit the trail without:

- **Topographic Map and Compass + GPS**
- **Whistle**
- **Flashlight or Headlamp**
- **Sunglasses, Sunscreen and Hat**
- **High-energy Food and Plenty of Water**
- **Appropriate Clothing and Extra Layers**
- **Waterproof Matches**
- **Insect Repellent**
- **Pocket Knife**
- **First-Aid Kit**
- **Sturdy Footwear**

leave human waste on beaches or bury it.

All boats must be driven at wakeless speed in Utah when they are within 150 feet of another boat, a water-skier, a person in the water or in any harbor area. The following canyons will be at wakeless speed only: Antelope, Labyrinth, and Lost Eden.

Do not drink alcohol while operating a boat. No anchoring into rock. Pin anchors and houseboat staking are prohibited. Pounding permanent anchors into slickrock is damaging and illegal.

Riding the bow of a boat is prohibited, except on boats with factory-installed seats.

Cliff diving (or jumping) is dangerous and is not recommended, even for experienced divers and from any height. It is illegal to jump or dive into the lake from a height greater than 15 feet. The NPS discourages jumping from any height.

Boats towing a water-skier must have at least two people on board: a pilot and an observer (both at least 18 years of age). The boat must display an orange flag to indicate when a skier is down in the water.

Waterskiing is not permitted in marked channels, in narrow side canyons or within 500 feet of harbors, mooring areas or swimming beaches.

Swimming is strongly discouraged.

There are **no lifeguards** in the recreation area; there is **danger of rock slides, rocky shorelines, and unseen drop-offs**; and there is **risk of electrocution from hot dock structures**.

Wakes generated by boats can be an unexpected hazard on the lake. Minimize the danger by slowing down and crossing the wake at a 45-degree angle. Look out for signs designating No Wake and for wakes rebounding off the walls in narrow, steep-walled canyons. Serious accidents and fatalities were caused by boat wakes!

Strong winds can whip the surface of the lake into high waves. Small craft are particularly vulnerable. If you observe a storm approaching, seek shelter of a leeward cove. These storms usually pass within an hour or two.

Buoys defining a safe passage uplake from Glen Canyon Dam are provided only in the main channel of the lake. Hazards in other areas of Lake Powell are not marked. As you pass a buoy, note its color and number to identify your location. Learn the shapes and colors of buoys and markers before you set out on your boat.

Night boating involves many hazards and is not recommended.

Always carry a map indicating the locations and numbers of buoys. Find maps at the reservations office and marina stores, boat rental offices, and park visitor centers.

Beware of flash floods, especially in tributary canyons, which are susceptible to

dangerous, unpredictable flooding. The thin, sandy, desert soil reaches its saturation point quickly during a thunderstorm. Runoff builds up in small, dry washes that converge in washes, or rush into narrow, steep canyons. Eleven hikers died during a 1997 flash flood in Antelope Slot Canyon. Avoid camping in canyons or under dry waterfalls.

Deadly carbon monoxide gases come from boat engines, generators, and gas appliances. Symptoms of **carbon monoxide** poisoning include headache, nausea, blurred vision, memory loss, and lethargy. Do not swim, sit, or work near exhaust fumes. If carbon monoxide poisoning is suspected, seek fresh air, and medical assistance immediately.

Giardia lamblia is a tiny protozoan often present in streams and lake water in this area. The germ causes diarrhea, cramps bloating, and may require treatment by a doctor.

Carry adequate water for short trips to avoid this parasite. Boil all your water on longer hikes.

Hantavirus has come up nearby. Always spray rodent droppings with bleach water before cleaning them to avoid breathing dusty hantavirus. Glen Canyon NRA lies within two states: Utah and Arizona. The laws of each state apply within its own boundaries. Arizona and Utah **fishing licenses** both work for Lake Powell. Licenses are **available at marinas** and in nearby communities. Fishing below Glen Canyon Dam requires a valid fishing license as well. Ask a ranger about regulations before you fish.

Motor vehicles and bicycles must stay on park roads. Some roads require four-wheel-drive vehicles. Check the road status at a visitor center, as some roads may

not be open.

Don't dump garbage in the lake or leave in remote locations. Take garbage to a marina or to garbage containers.

Plants, animals, and rocks must be left undisturbed.

Drones are illegal. No unmanned aircraft are allowed in the national park.

Pets must be on a leash no longer than six feet. Pets are allowed in Aramark lodges and RV parks on a leash, but are prohibited at Rainbow Bridge National Monument. Pack out all pet and human waste from campsites as it can degrade water quality.

Dehydration is an important concern for those who venture into the backcountry. Carry and drink a minimum of one gallon of water per person per day in the summer.

Beware of cliff edges. Seemingly stable rock can suddenly crumble or break, sending you over the edge.

Always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to be back so that help can be summoned if you are overdue.

Climbing and rock scrambling accidents have increased. The canyon country has a lot of **slickrock**. When the weather is dry, loose sand can cause you to slide. When wet, it lives up to its slippery name. Be careful when hiking, never hike alone and always let someone know when and where you are going. *Note: Putting permanent climbing aids into rocks is prohibited.*

For information about **possessing a fire-arm** within Glen Canyon NRA, please visit **nps.gov/glca**. Federal law prohibits firearms in certain park facilities. responsibility of visitors to understand and comply with all applicable firearms laws before entering NPS sites. Check with the NPS regarding where firearms may be carried.

GLEN CANYON HISTORY & CULTURE



From prehistoric Indian cultures to miners and ranchers, from modern-day adventure-seekers to vacationers, the Glen Canyon area has been home to humans for thousands of years.

EARLY INHABITANTS

Small bands of prehistoric Indians, called **Paleo-Indian people**, roved and hunted the Glen Canyon area at the end of the Ice Age, about 9,000 to 11,000 years ago. Later, a **Desert Archaic** culture developed that was based on a simple, nomadic lifestyle.

Around 200 B.C., the **Ancestral Puebloan (Anasazi) Basketmaker** culture arose. These people, named for their tightly woven, elaborate baskets, were primarily hunters and gatherers. As their corn pro-

duction steadily increased, they built more permanent settlements called pit houses. Over the centuries, communities expanded into the architecturally ingenious cliff dwellings that mark the **Pueblo** period. These Ancestral Puebloans installed irrigation systems and used other canyon resources to make exquisite baskets, pottery, tools and adornments.

Defiance House, located in Forgotten Canyon, was occupied at the peak of the Ancestral Puebloan culture, from A.D. 1050 to A.D. 1250. More information about visiting Defiance House is available in the “Sights to See” chapter of this guide. Ancestral Puebloan cultures eventually migrated to regions along the Rio Grande River and North of the Little Colorado River, continuing their ceremonial cycles and cultural traditions of the Hopi, Zuni, Acoma and other modern Pueblo tribes of today. Other cultural groups—the Paiute, Ute and Navajo—moved into the Colorado Plateau, adding to the rich cultural tapestry of the region.

DARING EXPEDITIONS

Two young and spirited Spanish priests from Santa Fe led the first documented journey through the area in 1776.

On their way home from a futile attempt to find an overland trail to California, the **Dominguez-Escalante** party of 10 men cut through the Glen Canyon area as a harsh and early winter threatened their survival. Without the help of guides, they negotiated the maze of canyons, keeping detailed journals and maps. They named



many of the features of the Four Corners area, including the Colorado River. This portion of Arizona was ceded to the United States by Mexico in 1848. Although some military groups were sent into the area, it remained largely unexplored.

Then, in 1869, **Major John Wesley Powell**—a soldier, scholar, scientist and fearless explorer—mounted the first of his two Colorado River expeditions. He mapped and kept detailed journals on the 1,000-mile trip while the public back east avidly followed his daring journey. Powell proved to be an intrepid leader.

GOLD & GRASS

When gold was discovered in 1871, miners came in hordes to separate flour gold (fine flecks) from the mud of the Colorado and San Juan rivers. Much later, in the 1940s and early 1950s, there was another great mining boom in the area—this time for uranium. Grass became another valuable resource as cattle and sheep ranches were established in the late 1800s. Drought and overgrazing affected the cattle industry, as did rustling. Robbers Roost, the occasional hideout of Butch Cassidy and the Wild Bunch, was located up the Dirty Devil River.

THE MORMON SETTLERS

Mormons first arrived in the area searching for a river crossing before Powell's first expedition. In 1871, at the direction of the Mormon church, **John D. Lee** established a ferryboat service across the Colorado River at present-day Lees Ferry, providing the first accessible canyon crossing. One of the most courageous events of the early Utah pioneers was the **Hole-in-the-Rock Expedition** of 1879–1880.

More than 200 people, 83 wagons, nearly 400 horses and more than 1,000 cattle headed eastward across southern Utah. Ahead of them lay 290 miles of the most difficult terrain imaginable. They expected to reach their destination in six weeks, but instead, it took six months.

At a point opposite Cottonwood Canyon, overlooking the Colorado River, they found it necessary to chop and blast the perilously steep path now known as "Hole-in-the-Rock." Ultimately, the settlers reached their destination, which is now the town of Bluff, Utah.

TOURISM COMES TO GLEN CANYON

As time passed, increasing numbers of explorers, prospectors and pioneers were experiencing Glen Canyon. It was not until the early 1920s that tourism took the form of river trips outfitted and guided by **David Rust**, an early guide in Kanab. Rust built the trail from the North Rim of the Grand Canyon to the Colorado River, and then spanned the River with its first aerial crossing by a tram attached to a cable. Rust took his tourists through Glen Canyon in canvas fold boats brought by wagon to Hite Crossing, and then taken out at Lees Ferry.

THE MAKING OF A PARK

The area that is now Glen Canyon NRA was part of the 6,000-square-mile area proposed in the 1930s as Escalante National Park. After World War II, treaty agreements with Mexico and other commitments led to the construction of the Glen Canyon Dam, completed in 1966. During construction, NPS would administer the reservoir's public use. In 1972, Congress established Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

GLEN CANYON PRESERVATION



By understanding and protecting the fragile natural and cultural resources of Glen Canyon, you can help preserve the park for future generations.

HISTORIC & ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

Glen Canyon's prehistoric Indian ruins and remains of 19th-century settler and mining activities are protected by the NPS under law. You are invited to visit four culturally significant sites: Defiance House, Descending Sheep Petroglyph Panel, Lonely Dell at Lees Ferry, and Hole in the Rock. *Defiance House can be reached via boat and requires a walk up a hill.*



All other prehistoric and historic sites are closed. You may observe and photograph them from a distance, but entering is prohibited by law. Be careful not to disturb any site. Studies of these sites are in progress and the movement of any pottery pieces, artifacts or building materials can render the sites useless. Defacement of a site or theft of artifacts carries civil and criminal penalties. Please contact a ranger or any law enforcement official at **(800) 227-7286**. You can also text **(928) 614-0820** to report a non-emergency crime sighting.

TRASH TRACKER PROGRAM

The **Trash Tracker Program** is a co-operative effort by the NPS and Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas to clean up the 1,960 miles of Lake Powell's shoreline. The program has been operational since 1989, making it the longest-running NPS park-partner program. Members of the NPS's **Volunteer-In-Parks (VIP) Program** spend five days aboard a houseboat-barge cleaning up trash and debris along the shoreline.

They bring their own food, personal gear, and enthusiasm. The volunteers remove over 50,000 pounds of trash and recyclables annually in this enormously successful program, which is sponsored by Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas (Aramark).

For information or to volunteer for the Trash Tracker Program, please visit



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nps.gov/glca/getinvolved/trashtracker.htm, call (928) 608-6200 or write: Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, P.O. Box 1507, Page, AZ 86040.

QUAGGA MUSSELS SCREENING

Quagga mussels are a real and imminent threat to many Western waters. They damage boat engines, threaten native fish and wildlife, and cost taxpayers by clogging power plant and public water intakes and pipes. Quagga mussels primarily spread westward on trailered boats—and a boat that has been in infested waters for as little as an hour can carry these tiny pests. There are no current technologies or treatments to eradicate the initial population in an open water environment the size of Lake Powell. For the latest information about quagga mussels visit nps.gov/glca/learn/nature/mussel-update.htm.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO & POWELL WATCH

Know Before You Go is a public outreach campaign focusing on unsafe and illegal activities. Information will be shared with boaters at all Lake Powell marinas.

Local tour and service providers have signed up to **Adopt a Canyon on Lake Powell**. As canyon stewards, these companies will remove trash from their canyons throughout the year.

The **Powell Watch** asks visitors to keep a watchful eye on park resources. Tips from the public are key to detecting and prosecuting damage to the park's vast and often remote resources. If you see something, say something! You can email any reports to the park's Dispatch Center, including

coordinates and/or photos if possible, at GLCA_Dispatch_Center@nps.gov.

Calling **911** or hailing via Marine Band 16 are other emergency communication options on Lake Powell.

GRAFFITI REMOVAL & INTERVENTION TEAM (GRIT)

Unfortunately, the canyon walls around Lake Powell are plagued with graffiti—writings left by visitors. These thoughtless acts of vandalism deface the beauty of our park. The **Graffiti Removal & Intervention Team (GRIT)** travels around Lake Powell in a houseboat, removing graffiti. This program is similar to the popular Trash Tracker Program in that volunteers sign up for a five-day minimum houseboat trip. This can be strenuous yet very fulfilling work.

GRIT will not run in 2022, due to the need for repairs on the boat. For more about this program, please visit nps.gov/glca/getinvolved/grit.htm, call (928) 608-6352, or email glca_trackergrit@nps.gov.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

There are several endangered fish that live in Glen Canyon NRA. Species include the **bonytail chub**, the **humpback chub**, the **razorback sucker**, and the **Colorado pikeminnow**. All of these fish are native to the Colorado River and thrived in the warm, silty waters of the river before Glen Canyon Dam was built. Today, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the states of Utah and Arizona are taking steps to ensure that these endangered species survive for future generations.

GLEN CANYON

SIGHTS TO SEE



CANYONS OF THE ESCALANTE

Accessed by boat or trails, the Escalante River canyons draw visitors to their cool, serene depths, the relatively profuse flora and fauna of their riverbanks, and their natural bridges and arches, including

Stevens Arch (the largest in Glen Canyon NRA) and **La Gorce Arch**. For camping, backpacking and other information, please contact the Escalante Interagency Visitor Center at **(435) 826-5499**. *Note: Permits are required for overnight stays in Escalante. Pick one up at one of the entry trailheads or the visitor center. The Escalante Interagency Visitor Center is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day except Wednesday.*

ORANGE CLIFFS

One of the least-visited attractions in Glen Canyon NRA, the Orange Cliffs area offers hiking and camping opportunities as well as spectacular vistas into Canyonlands National Park, which borders Glen Canyon to the northeast. Access this area east of Utah Highway 24, north of Hanksville, Utah, or just north of the Highway 95 bridge across the Colorado River.

The **Flint Trail** offers excellent hiking and mountain biking. Permits (fees apply) are required for all overnight backcountry use. Camping is allowed only in designated areas. Advance reservations are required; only email requests are accepted. For more information, email the Backcountry Permit Office at canyres@nps.gov or call **(435) 259-4351**, 8 a.m. to noon, Monday-Friday.

THE RINCON

This unusual Colorado River formation between Long and Iceberg canyons, down-lake from Bullfrog, was created when a loop of the river changed course, leaving a sandy river bottom that makes for interesting hikes. You can only access it by boat or on foot.

ALSTROM POINT & ROMANA MESA

From Warm Creek Road, turn off to Alstrom Point. This four-wheel-drive road ends with jaw-dropping overviews of Lake Powell's Padre Bay and Gunsight Butte, a favorite vista for professional photographers. Mountain bikers can also enjoy biking along this road.

DEFIANCE HOUSE

This archeological site is associated with the Ancestral Puebloan (Anasazi) people, who occupied much of this region between A.D. 600 and 1300, farming in the river valleys and living in shelters in south-facing alcoves. Eleven separate structures were recorded, including: a retaining wall; a series of contiguous room blocks; storage units for corn, grain and squash; and one **kiva**, where religious ceremonies are believed to have been performed.

An Ancestral Puebloan clan constructed this community cliff dwelling in **Forgotten Canyon** at the peak of their culture. Along the back of the alcove are rock art panels and animal-like figures with human characteristics, which archeologists call **anthropomorphs**. The name "Defiance" refers to the pictograph of three warriors carrying shields.



Archeologists believe that as many as 20 individuals (two to three families) inhabited this site for months at a time.

RAINBOW BRIDGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Rainbow Bridge is a must-see for visitors to Glen Canyon NRA. Its size, symmetry and color reveal how special it is. Reaching a height of 290 feet, its red sandstone arch spans 275 feet and is 42 feet thick at the top. Natural bridges like Rainbow Bridge are formed by extremely rare natural events. An arid climate, a stream with good flow rates and rock like Navajo Sandstone—which is firm enough to form cliffs hundreds of feet high, yet soft enough to erode quickly—create an environment that makes the bridge unique.

The geological significance of Rainbow Bridge led to its designation as a national monument in 1910, but long before its

discovery by white explorers, American Indians considered Rainbow Bridge a sacred religious site. In 1995, the National Park Service began working with Navajo, Hopi, Kaibab Paiute, San Juan Southern Paiute, and White Mesa Ute tribes to identify and implement culturally sensitive management practices for the monument. Rainbow Bridge is still considered a sacred place to many American Indians, and the viewing area at the end of the trail provides an opportunity to honor its significance. For information about guided tour boat trips to Rainbow Bridge, please call Lake Powell Resort at **(928) 645-2433**. Tours are currently suspended until further notice. There is no dock access to the bridge as a result of low water. You can hike to Rainbow Bridge via a 14-mile trail that crosses the Navajo Reservation. A permit is required. Visit **navajonationparks.org** for more information. The monument has been designated as an International Dark Sky Sanctuary.

GLEN CANYON DAM

Constructed between 1956 and 1966, the Glen Canyon Dam was erected amid great controversy and compromise over the fate of America's western water resources and vast wilderness tracts. Water began to back up behind the dam's 710-foot wall in 1963, reaching its "full pool" in 1980. Much of the Colorado River's original canyon (Glen Canyon, for which the park today is named) disappeared from view and Lake Powell was created.

Due to the pandemic, the dam is currently closed to the public and tours are suspended. Ask at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center for updates or call **(928) 608-6200**.

GLEN CANYON BRIDGE

At 700 feet above the river, this is the second-highest steel-arch bridge in the world. Before the bridge was opened on February 20, 1959, the road distance from one side of the river to the other was 197 miles. Walking paths across the bridge are accessible from Carl Hayden Visitor Center.

HOLE-IN-THE-ROCK

Twenty-eight miles down-lake from Bullfrog, gaze up at this monumental crevice in the rock cliff. Drive to the top from Escalante, Utah (State Highway 12), and look down to better understand and appreciate the courage and determination of the Mormon pioneers as they struggled to cross the Colorado River in the winter of 1879-1880. Visitors can walk the steep trail that pioneers cut and blasted down the rock face to lower their wagons and drive nearly 1,500 head of livestock to the canyon bottom. The Hole-in-the-Rock Road is 55 miles long, the last six of which require high-clearance, four-wheel

drive vehicles. The entire route on the east side of Lake Powell requires a four-wheel-drive vehicle.

LAKE POWELL

Named for Civil War veteran John Wesley Powell, the lake is 186 miles long and backs up into more than 96 major side canyons. Its 1,960-mile shoreline encompasses 27 million acre-feet and has a surface area of 161,390 acres, making it the second-largest man-made lake in the United States, after Lake Mead.

Lake Powell is the result of a single dam with a concrete crest, which extends nearly one-third of a mile across the sandstone rim of Glen Canyon. The lake's blue water, more than 500 feet deep in places, is the product of a score of rivers draining large portions of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico.

LEES FERRY/ LONELY DELL RANCH

Lees Ferry is the only place within Glen Canyon where visitors can drive to the Colorado River. A natural corridor between Utah and Arizona, this historic river crossing opened travel from Utah into Arizona territory and enabled primarily Mormon settlement of the Four Corners region.

Mile 0—the dividing line between the Upper and Lower Colorado River basins—is the starting point for white-water river trips through the Grand Canyon.

An historic fort, silt lab, mining equipment, and the remains of a steamboat can be seen as you walk the River Trail, which remind us of the area's colorful past. Visit the nearby Lonely Dell Ranch to see historic ranch buildings, a cemetery, and the orchard and garden maintained by the NPS.

GLEN CANYON THINGS TO DO



Warm water, hot days, and cool nights make Lake Powell ideal for water lovers from May through October. At 3,700 feet elevation and within a 78 percent sunshine belt, the lake often gets comfortable daytime temperatures even in the winter months. An elevation range from 3,200 feet at Lees Ferry to 7,154 feet atop the Kaiparowits Plateau ensures four mild seasons.

The lake provides plenty of opportunities for adventure throughout the year. Summer is the busiest season, but many essential services are available year-round. Seasonal discounts are available for lodging and boat rentals. Check for special offers when making reservations. Spring and fall are best for hiking into the canyons and viewing arches or ancient American Indian rock art, or just enjoying the glens, for which the park is named. Winter offers solitude and outstanding photo opportunities.

The area warrants an extended stay—to sail the waters and to hike the canyons. But, if you only have a day, refer to the “If You Only Have a Day” chapter, or ask at a visitor center for suggestions on how to best enjoy this “away-from-it-all” holiday spot.

PARK PROGRAMS

Junior Ranger programs are available at Carl Hayden Visitor Center, as are ranger presentations and audio-visual programs. For more information, call **(928) 608-6200**.

MUSEUM

Glen Canyon Conservancy's **John Wesley Powell Museum (currently closed)**,

which also provides visitor information for the Page, AZ area, is located downtown. Previous exhibits have included early artifacts, paleontology of the Glen Canyon region, a replica of Major Powell's original boat, and fine American Indian basketry. 6 N. Lake Powell Blvd., P.O. Box 547, Page, AZ 86040. For more information, call **(928) 640-3900**, or visit **powellmuseum.org** or **canyonconservancy.org**.

TOURS ON THE WATER

Boat tours are sometimes available from **Lake Powell Resort**. At the time of writing, all boat tours were suspended for safety reasons. For updates, call **(888) 896-3829** or visit **lakepowell.com/tours**.

The **Rainbow Bridge Cruise (currently suspended)** departs from Lake Powell Resort and is the best way to visit the awe-inspiring Rainbow Bridge National Monument. This scenic six-hour-long cruise travels over 100 miles round trip to Forbidding Canyon.

The **Canyon Princess Dinner Cruise (currently suspended)** is a two-hour cruise through Wahweap or Warm Creek Bay on a 96-foot yacht-style tour boat. Tours run May through September on select Tuesdays and Saturdays and depart at 5 p.m. or 6 p.m., depending on sunset. The **Antelope Canyon Tour (currently suspended)** is a 1.5-hour cruise that visits the narrow, winding Antelope Canyon. The **Navajo Canyon Tour (currently suspended)** takes you to the towering sandstone walls of Navajo Canyon, the

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50/50 Wall, and the majesty of Glen Canyon Dam. This 3.5-hour tour, which runs from March through October, is a great way to see all the highlights of South Lake Powell.

The **Panoramic Lake Powell Tour (currently suspended)** transplants you to the dramatic backdrop and authentic majesty of Lake Powell. Take in the epic scenery and rich atmosphere as you learn about the rich history and geology of the area from an interpretive guide. The boat departs Lake Powell Resorts when the light is just right, typically around 5 p.m.

Wilderness River Adventures presents motorized and non-motorized full-day and half-day raft trips down the Colorado River from Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry. (Raft trips are same distance, different durations.) For more information, call **(800) 992-8022**, or visit **riveradventures.com**.

FISHING

Lake Powell's various game fish and the Colorado River trout population between the Glen Canyon Dam and Lees Ferry provide fishing year-round. The lake is known for its **largemouth**, **smallmouth** and **striped bass**, **crappie**, and **walleye**.

March to November is prime fishing season. Crappies swim into the shallows to spawn in spring, so fishing the shoreline brush is a good bet. Fish in deep waters during the cooler months to catch walleye. If you're an avid angler, inquire at a marina store about upcoming fishing tournaments. Before you cast, check with a marina store for the proper licenses, fish limits, and regulations.

BOATING

Lake Powell's sheer, twisting canyons intrigue and delight boaters. Inlets are interspersed with sandy beaches, which lure visitors to picnic or camp in the shadows



of multicolored cliffs. Broad bays offer space for water sports, while house boating seems to be made for Lake Powell. Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas and Antelope Point Holdings LLC maintain a fleet of houseboats, powerboats and an assortment of personal watercraft (PWCs) for rent.

Houseboats are available year-round. It takes several days to really get away and appreciate the solitude and chameleon moods of the lake's nooks and crannies. The most enjoyable speeds for house boating are "slow" or "stopped." Talk with park rangers or marina staff to determine how far you can travel across the waters and back within your time limit. But remember, getting sidetracked by yet another intriguing canyon is part of the thrill. Before setting out, you'll receive an orientation session and instruction manual covering such maneuvers as piloting, docking, anchoring, refueling and pumping out. Study a map and chart your course before departing. Bring beach towels, flashlights, batteries, map and compass. Many people rent a "tag-along" powerboat for waterskiing or side trips, using the houseboat as a mobile base.

Powerboats are available in many types and sizes. Not all boat sizes are available at all marinas. Small boats rented for overnight use must have a portable toilet on board. Portable toilets are available for rent at Wahweap boat rentals and may be purchased at Bullfrog boat rentals.

Personal watercraft and other equipment are available for rent. Wakeboards and ski tubes are great for water enthusiasts of all ages. Kneeboards and water skis are also popular. Please see the "Park Regulations & Safety" chapter for personal watercraft operating rules. Please

call **(801) 538-2628** to learn how to obtain a Utah PWC education certificate. Hourly rentals can be arranged on the spot at each marina. For full-day or longer rentals, advance reservations are recommended. Please call **(888) 896-3829** or call the marina directly. Please see the "Plan Your Visit" chapter for marina phone numbers.

KAYAKING & PADDLEBOARDING

Kayaks and paddleboards offer a great way to explore the narrow canyons of the lake. You don't need to be an expert paddler to have fun: Lake Powell offers opportunities for one-hour or multi-day excursions. Kayaks, paddleboards, and guides are available for rent locally; remember to wear your life jacket. For a fee, Wilderness River Adventures will haul kayakers or canoeists from Lees Ferry upriver to the base of the dam. They can then paddle back down to Lees Ferry at their own pace. Due to water temperatures, paddleboarding is not recommended on the Colorado River.

SWIMMING

During the summer, water temperatures are ideal for swimming, reaching an average of 80°F in August. Avoid swimming in crowded boating areas and use extreme caution when diving or jumping into the water. See the "Park Regulations & Safety" chapter for more information.

WATERSKIING

Most of the lake's surface is ideal for waterskiing at any skill level. However, waterskiing is prohibited in areas with heavy boat traffic and inside the narrow canyons. Please see the "Park Regulations & Safety" chapter for more information.

GLEN CANYON LODGING & DINING



LODGING

Lodging at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area includes onshore lodges, motel rooms and family units, and spacious houseboats.

For lodging reservations, call the appropriate marina (see the “Plan Your Visit” section for phone numbers); write to Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas, 2850 East Camelback Road, Suite 240, Phoenix, AZ, 85016; call **(888) 896-3829**; or visit **lakepowell.com**. *Note: Check-in is at 4 p.m. and check-out is at 11 a.m. at all lodges, motels, and family units.*

HOUSEBOATS

Discover “the ultimate escape from a clock-watching world.” Cast off as your own captain and sleep under the stars in a private cove. Houseboat rentals are available at Antelope Point, Bullfrog, and Wahweap

marinas. A variety of sizes and features are available. Houseboats are equipped with a range, refrigerator, propane grill, utensils and dishes, heater, drinking water, and bathroom(s) with toilet and shower. Some houseboats even have hot tubs and fireplaces!

Houseboat reservations should be made as far in advance as possible. Inquire about special packages and discounted rates. For houseboat rentals at Wahweap and Bullfrog, call Aramark at **(888) 896-3829** or visit **lakepowell.com**.

For houseboat rentals at Antelope Point Marina, call **(928) 645-5900** or visit **antelopelakepowell.com**. For more information about houseboats, see the “Things To Do” chapter.

LAKE POWELL RESORT

Located at Wahweap Marina and overlooking Wahweap Bay, Lake Powell Resort is the largest lodging facility on Lake Powell. The elegant Rainbow Room dining room is on-site, as are banquet and meeting facilities. Amenities include a lounge, a gift shop, two pools, a sauna, a jacuzzi, an exercise room, and HD TV. Access to the resort is via the north or south entrances to Glen Canyon NRA, just outside of Page, Arizona.- **Dining:** Rainbow Room, Driftwood Lounge (see “Dining” for details).

DEFIANCE HOUSE LODGE

Defiance House Lodge is located on the lake in Bullfrog, Utah, directly across the



lake from Halls Crossing Marina and on a bluff overlooking Bullfrog Bay. Inspiring views of the sacred Navajo Mountain and the Henry Mountain Range reward guests at the lodge. Amenities include a restaurant, lounge, gift shop, and HD TV. -

Dining: Anasazi Restaurant (see “Dining” for details).

FAMILY UNITS

To enjoy the comforts of home, many visitors choose to stay in family units at Bullfrog Marina and Halls Crossing. Each three-bedroom unit has a living room, fully equipped kitchen, two full baths, satellite TV, electricity, garbage collection, and air conditioning. There are units at Bullfrog Marina with ramps. ♿

CAMPGROUNDS

For information about campgrounds at Glen Canyon, see the “Camping” chapter.

DINING

JÁDÍ'TOOH

This remarkable restaurant is located at Antelope Point Marina on a one-acre “floating island” surrounded by floating fountains. The dramatic open breezeway welcomes you, while floor-to-ceiling glass walls provide stunning views. Being away from home doesn't mean you'll have to give up great food. JádíTooh Restaurant highlights the most innovative Southwestern cuisine with Native American fusion, featuring steamed mussels and wood-fired pizza. Prefer to stay onboard? Call in your order and it will be delivered dockside!

RAINBOW ROOM

This elegant, glass-walled restaurant at Lake Powell Resort combines fine and romantic dining. The panoramic view of

Wahweap Bay and Castle Rock will tempt you to return for both breakfast and dinner, so you can observe the changing colors of the landscape. The Rainbow Room's ambience matches the variety and quality of its entrées and wines. Before or after dinner, learn more about the history of the area through interpretive displays located in the adjacent lobby. The Rainbow Room is open April to October for breakfast and dinner. *Note: The Driftwood Lounge serves food when the Rainbow Room is closed for the season.*

CANYON PRINCESS

The Canyon Princess, a yacht-style tour boat, is available for a two-hour dinner cruise that allows diners to take in the breathtaking sunsets around Wahweap Bay and Warm Creek Bay. The luxurious 96-foot Canyon Princess is also available for charter for special functions, such as weddings and catered meetings.

There is a bar onboard and comfortable seating in the fully enclosed upper and lower dining rooms. The front section of the lower deck and the rear section of the upper deck are both open, offering spectacular views as you glide across Wahweap Bay. Reservations are recommended. For more information, call Lake Powell Resort at **(888) 896-3829**. Dinner Cruises run May through September. Please check at Lake Powell Resort's front desk for dinner cruise departure times, which are determined by sunset.

DRIFTWOOD LOUNGE

In addition to its stunning lake view setting, the Driftwood Lounge at Lake Powell Resort (at Wahweap Marina) offers mouthwatering pub fare, plus a variety of specialty cocktails, beer, and wine. It is open for lunch and dinner daily



April through October and dinner only November through March. Enjoy the relaxed atmosphere while tucking into a tasty sandwich, salad, or appetizer.

WIND COFFEE

The Wind Coffee shop in the lobby of Lake Powell Resort sells coffee drinks, tea, and grab-and-go food items. It is open year round; for current hours, visit lakepowell.com/dining/wind/.

LATITUDE 37

Dine at Latitude 37, Lake Powell's newest floating restaurant featuring indoor and outdoor seating. Conveniently located at the Wahweap Marina, Latitude 37 is accessible by both land and water, with temporary slips available for boaters. It is open 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. May through September.

ANASAZI RESTAURANT

This restaurant adjoins Bullfrog's Defiance House Lodge and affords panoramic views

of Bullfrog Bay, Henry Mountains, Navajo Mountain, and the Waterpocket Fold of Capitol Reef National Park. Diners can also see a display featuring reproductions of Ancestral Puebloan (Anasazi) pottery and a mural depicting a traditional village. Anasazi is open seasonally and offers a wine list, bar service, breakfast (seasonal), lunch, and dinner.

MARINA STORES

Stores at all marinas sell basic food supplies, beverages, ice, and sundries, and a variety of shirts, hats, mugs, and souvenirs. Details on each store can be found at lakepowell.com/things-to-do/shopping/ and antelopepointlakepowell.com/marina-village/shopping/.

BOX LUNCHES

For visitors at Wahweap or Bullfrog, box lunches are available with advance notice. Call the front desk of your lodge to place your order the night before.

GLEN CANYON CAMPING



Glen Canyon offers a variety of camping options, including RV parks, classic campgrounds, and primitive campsites. Some campgrounds are managed by the NPS, while others are managed by concessioners. The information that follows will help you decide which type of camping facility is best for your trip.

CAMPGROUNDS

Concessioner-operated campgrounds are located at **Wahweap, Bullfrog, and Halls Crossing**. Reservations can be made at **lakepowell.com**. Each campground has an RV dump station and hookups. Wahweap has Wi-Fi. Campgrounds are open year-round.

The NPS operates a campground at **Lees Ferry** on a first come, first-served basis. The campground's facilities include camping sites, a dump station, grills, water, and flush toilets.

Primitive camping areas—open all year and suitable for backcountry camping—are located at **Lone Rock** (near Wahweap), Hite, Dirty Devil, **Farley Canyon** (near Hite), and **Stanton Creek** (Bullfrog). *Note: Due to low water conditions, primitive camping may change. For updated information, please call (928) 608-6200 or visit nps.gov/glca.*

No camping is allowed within one mile of the marinas and Lees Ferry or at Rainbow Bridge National Monument. There is a 14 consecutive-day limit for camping in the park and a total of 30 nights within one calendar year.



A free permit is required for overnight hiking in the Escalante Canyon area. Permits can be obtained in person at the Escalante Interagency Visitor Center. Please call **(435) 826-5499** or **(435) 826-4315** for more information. No permit is required for day hikes. Camping is prohibited in roadside pullouts, picnic areas or on posted beaches near developed areas. Overnight camping along the Beehive/Ferry Swale road network is currently closed.

RV PARKS

RV parks with full utility hookups are available year-round by Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas at Wahweap, Bullfrog, and Halls Crossing. Facilities include grocery, gas, and coin-operated showers and laundry. For additional RV information, visit **gocampingamerica.com**.

GLEN CANYON WALKING & HIKING



Backcountry walking and hiking opportunities in Glen Canyon NRA are well-kept secrets. There are few marked trails through Glen Canyon's spectacular and undeveloped areas, some of which have limited accessibility. For information about specific areas to walk or hike, current conditions and safety tips, contact **Glen Canyon NRA** at **(928) 608-6200**. Several publications describe the area's canyons and hiking opportunities. These are available for sale at NPS visitor centers and at retail stores in the park.

PAGE/WAHWEAP AREA

The **Horseshoe Bend Trail** leads to a spectacular vista 1,000 feet directly above the Colorado River, including a new viewing platform which was opened in Summer 2018. The trail is located just five miles south of the Carl Hayden Visitor Center off Highway 89. The hike is 1.5 miles round-trip. The **Hanging Gardens Trail** is an easy 1-mile hike to a desert oasis.

CANYONS OF ESCALANTE

At the mid-lake region, the lower Escalante River canyons on the lake's north side are noted for their easy, streambed hikes as well as some tricky scrambling over slick rock formations. Access to this area is by boat or from trailheads along Hole-in-the-Rock Road, southeast of the town of Escalante. The new Escalante Interagency Visitor Center has outdoor exhibits to help you plan your visit. Note: Different backcountry regulations than the rest of the park apply.

LEES FERRY

Several hikes ranging from one to 34 miles originate in the Lees Ferry vicinity. The **River Trail** starts just upriver from the historic fort. Walk past the main ferry site to the remains of Charles Spencer's steamboat, which still exists from the gold boom years.

Cathedral Wash Trail, a moderate 1.25-mile hike (one way) through narrow canyons and interesting rock formations, leads you to Cathedral Rapids on the Colorado River. To reach Cathedral Canyon, park at the second turnout on the right as you enter the road to Lees Ferry. The 34-mile trail through **Paria Canyon Primitive Area** leads from Lonely Dell Ranch at Lees Ferry through canyon twists to the Paria River at U.S. Highway 89 between Page, AZ, and Kanab, UT. Day and overnight hikes require a permit from the Bureau of Land Management office in Kanab.



LAKE MEAD

PLAN YOUR VISIT



Lake Mead National Recreation Area offers a wealth of things to do and places to go—no matter what the season. One of the area's most striking features is its diversity, highlighted by the remarkable contrast of water, mountains, deserts, canyons, and rugged backcountry.

The recreation area is comprised of Lake Mead and Lake Mohave, both of which were created by manmade dams. Hoover Dam was completed in 1935, and Lake Mead filled up behind it. Lake Mohave followed, with the completion of Davis Dam in 1953.

Not surprisingly, Lake Mead NRA offers opportunities to enjoy boating, sunbathing and fishing. Hikers, sightseers, and wildlife photographers can enjoy the many attractions of the desert ecosystem. Three of America's four desert ecosystems—the Mojave, the Great Basin, and the Sonoran Desert—meet in Lake Mead NRA and, as a result, this seemingly barren area contains an amazing diversity of plants and animals, some found nowhere else in the world. Visitors to Lake Mead NRA can't help but marvel at the breathtaking scenery: the stark, unspoiled beauty of the desert, the majesty of the mountains dominating the Basin and Range province; colorful canyons and high plateaus; and the historic Hoover Dam—the highest concrete dam in the Western Hemisphere.

The park is open 365 days a year. A seven-day entrance permit costs \$25 per vehicle, \$20 per motorcycle and \$15 per pedestrian. A Lake Mead National Recreation Area Annual Pass costs \$45. A seven-day entrance permit for boaters costs \$16 per boat and

a Lake Mead National Recreation Area Annual Vessel Sticker costs \$50 per boat, allowing unlimited entry January 1 through December 31. For current park information, stop at a visitor center or ranger station, call **(702) 293-8990**, or visit **nps.gov/lake**.

Note: Entrance fees subject to change.

HISTORY

Lake Mead and Lake Mohave were both created by dams that back up the Colorado River as it flows through one of the hottest, driest regions on Earth. Lake Mead NRA was established on October 8, 1964, as America's first national recreation area and continues to be a destination for millions of visitors each year.

Before the lake was created, the desert was sparsely populated—undoubtedly due to the fact that the dry, hot land could be very harsh for human habitation. **Artifacts** like fire hearths and stone tools prove that humans existed in the area as early as 13,000 years ago. These early people were part of a desert culture that was dependent upon small game, seed collecting and plant gathering. They were probably nomadic and moved in small bands or family groups. Certain **petroglyphs** (rock art) suggest that the earliest permanent settlers were American Indian tribes. As time wore on, Mormon settlers, prospectors, riverboat captains and fur trappers also lived in and around the environs. From the mid-1850s until the early twentieth century, steam-powered boats were a common sight on the Colorado River, bringing supplies to military outposts, mining towns and other settlements. But once the railroad arrived in 1905, there was less need for this river

LAKE MEAD RESORTS, MARINAS & TOURS



Caville Bay Resort & Marina has a grill, gift shop and convenience store, public showers, RV sites, campground, dump station, and houseboat and recreational boat rentals. Its full-service marina has a launch ramp, slip rentals, dry boat storage, boat repair, and decontamination services. • **(702) 565-8958** or **(800) 255-5561** (reservations) • **callvillebay.com** Note: The launch ramp is currently closed.

Cottonwood Cove Resort & Marina has a café, meeting room, convenience and grocery store, marina, boat rentals, houseboat rentals, auto/boat fuel, dry boat storage, boat repair, decontamination services, boat towing, dump station, fish cleaner, showers/laundry, motel, trailer village, RV sites, campground, and launch ramp. • **(702) 297-1464** or **(800) 255-5561** (reservations) • **cottonwoodcoveresort.com/**

Echo Bay offers many amenities, including a trailer village, short-term RV sites, dry boat storage, showers, laundry, land-based fuel, convenience store, and dump station. There

is also a boat launch and campground. • **(702) 394-4000** or **(800) 255-5561** (reservations) • **cottonwoodcoveresort.com** Note: The launch ramp is currently closed.

Lake Mead Cruises offers brunch and dinner cruises April through October, as well as sightseeing tours aboard the *Desert Princess*, a paddle wheel vessel, February through November. The *Desert Princess* offers refreshment centers, handicap accessible restrooms, and plush seating. Charter boat service is also available. • **(702) 293-6180** • **lakemeadcruises.com**

Lake Mead RV Village is located in the Boulder Beach area. The village's facilities include dry boat storage, a convenience and grocery store, an activity center, a visitor trailer village, RV sites, showers, and laundry (available only to guests). An outdoor recreation area features a bocce ball court and horseshoe pits. There is a boat launch ramp nearby. • **(702) 293-2540** • **cottonwoodcoveresort.com**

LAKE MEAD RESORTS, MARINAS & TOURS (CONT.)

Katherine Landing at Lake Mohave

Marina has a restaurant and lounge, retail store, motel, auto/boat fuel, marina, boat rentals, houseboat rentals, trailer village, RV sites, dump station, showers/laundry, dry boat storage, personal watercraft rental, campground, launch ramp, boat repair, fish cleaner and decontamination services.

• **(928) 754-3245** or **(800) 752-9669** (reservations) • **katherinelanding.com**

Las Vegas Boat Harbor is located in the Boulder Basin near Hemenway Harbor.

Facilities include a cafe and lounge, convenience and grocery store, boat rentals, dry boat storage, boat fuel, boat repair, decontamination services, dump station, launch ramp, and fish cleaner (nearby). •

(702) 451-2901 (main) or for reservations call • **(702) 293-1191** (Lake Mead Marina) • **boatinglakemead.com**

Temple Bar Resort & Marina has numerous facilities, including restaurant/lounge, convenience and grocery store, motel, trailer village, RV sites, dry boat storage, marina, boat rentals, shower, laundry, boat/motor repairs, personal watercraft rental, auto/boat fuel, campground, fish cleaner, dump station, and launch ramp. • **(928) 767-3211** or **(800) 255-5561** (reservations) • **templebarlakemead.com** Note: The launch ramp is currently closed.

Willow Beach Marina & Black Canyon

River Adventures is located at the northern end of Lake Mohave, just a short trip from the Hoover Dam with a retail store, docks, boat rentals, RV park/campground, grill, fishing pier, fish cleaner, boat fuel, dump station, and launch ramp. Black Canyon River Adventures also offers raft trips. • **(928) 767-4747**

(information), **(800) 255-5561** (reservations) • **willowbeachharbor.com**

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traffic, and steamboat use diminished almost exclusively to local shuttles. Construction of **Hoover Dam** began in the early 1930s, sealing the river and marking an end to the boating fleets that plied it. Hoover Dam was the engineering masterpiece that turned the often wild Colorado River into the still waters of Lake Mead. More than 5,000 workers spent five years erecting the massive structure, which stands between the walls of Black Canyon. **Davis Dam**, which is downstream from Hoover Dam, was finished in 1953 and controls the flow of water from Lake Mohave.

VISITOR CENTER/ RANGER STATION

The **Lake Mead Visitor Center** is located four miles from Boulder City, Nevada, on U.S. 93. It offers information, a film, exhibits, maps, and more. The center is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Obtain information by calling **(702) 293-8990** or by stopping at **Park Headquarters** in Boulder City, at the intersection of Nevada Way and Wyoming Street.

CRUISES

Lake Mead Cruises offers seasonal **brunch** and **dinner cruises**, and

sightseeing tours to Hoover Dam, which include views of other landmarks like Fortification Hill, an ancient lava flow, and the colorful Arizona Paint Pots. For more information, contact Lake Mead Cruises by calling **(702) 293-6180** or visiting **lakemeadcruises.com**.

SAFETY

Park regulations are available at visitor centers and online at **nps.gov/lake**. In the event of an emergency, dial 911. The non-emergency number is **(702) 293-8998**.

QUAGGA MUSSELS

Quagga mussels are freshwater mollusks that typically have a zebra-like pattern on their shells. They are alien to North America, but have been found in Lake Mead and Lake Mohave. Mud, plants, and animals that may be lurking on your watercraft, on your trailer or on your vehicle will cause the spread of this invasive species. Always clean, drain, and dry all equipment each time you leave the water. You may also have your boat professionally decontaminated. See the "Preservation" section for more information.



LAKE MEAD

THINGS TO DO



Lake Mead National Recreation Area offers a variety of recreational activities on land and water, along with a host of sights to see.

BOATING

Since Lake Mead and Lake Mohave cover 290 square miles, recreational boaters can enjoy lots of space without feeling hemmed in. Sailboats, kayaks, fishing vessels, power boats, personal watercraft, and houseboats regularly make use of the area, exploring sights like the **Overton Arm** to the north, **Black Canyon** in upper Lake Mohave, and numerous secluded coves.

MARINAS & TOURS

Concessioners operate a number of marinas along the lake—offering boating services, rentals and supplies for 12 months of the year. There are free public launch ramps and parking areas; however, parking is limited to seven days per stay. Concessioners provide tours, including paddle wheel vessels and raft trips. Authorized paddlecraft tours are also available. For more information, visit nps.gov/lake.

SWIMMING & WATER SPORTS

Swimming, snorkeling, waterskiing and **scuba diving** are popular water sports in both Lake Mead and Lake Mohave—since both lakes have waters that are sparkling clean and clear. Spring, summer, and fall tend to be the prime seasons. Realize, however, that

Lake Mead NRA has no lifeguards, so visitors swim at their own risk. Life jackets are recommended and are available on loan at popular beaches. Never swim alone.

FISHING

Some of the nation's finest sport fishing can be found at Lake Mead and Lake Mohave. The waters are populated with **largemouth bass, channel catfish, black crappie, and bluegills**, among others. **Striped bass** is a particularly popular catch in Lake Mead. Arizona and Nevada share jurisdiction over both Lake Mead and Lake Mohave. If you wish to fish from shore, you need only a license from state you are standing in. Fish cleaning stations are located near marinas. Fishing piers are located at Hemenway Harbor, Willow Beach, and Katherine Landing. Anglers should familiarize themselves with catch limits and legal methods of capture. Authorized fishing guides are available.

HIKING

Hikers in the desert can take in natural wonders that are not visible by car or boat—including the colorful sandstone formations near Redstone Picnic Area. There are few maintained trails, however, so hiking usually requires cross-country travel. For longer hikes, it's critical to plan carefully and carry plenty of water. Rangers lead guided hikes and can offer additional insights. There are also authorized guided hiking outfitters available. Summer hiking is not recommended due to high temperatures.

CAMPING

Backcountry camping is permissible along the lake's shoreline, as well as in designated sites along unpaved country roads. There is no camping in the developed marina areas, but there are nine designated NPS campgrounds around the lakes that have restrooms, picnic tables, and some fire rings. Please read the park brochure or park newspaper or ask at visitor centers to find out time limits and rules in the campgrounds. More information is also available at nps.gov/lake.

SCENERY

A drive through the Lake Mead NRA environs offers a chance to see some unforgettable scenery. There are several paved roads in the area, which wind through mountains and desert basins. **Lakeshore Road** and **Northshore Road** afford views of the blue lake silhouetted against the rich, majestic mountains. Visitors can also glimpse brilliant red boulders and rock formations along Northshore Road.

One of the world's finest **Joshua tree forests** can be seen along the **road to South Cove**. Visitors should be aware that the Lake Mead NRA region includes many unpaved roads in remote areas; it is highly recommended that you check road conditions before traveling these particular routes. Always bring plenty of water, both for drinking and for servicing your car if needed. (Automobile tools should be taken along as well.) Drive only on paved roads or unpaved roads signed with yellow, numbered arrows. Authorized motorized scenic tours are also

available. Be aware that some sights you've seen in magazines require a significant hike and/or boat ride to see.

HISTORIC SITES

History buffs can find structures at Lake Mead NRA that reflect the area's Mormon population, gold mining culture and ranching background. The **Historic Railroad Trail**—which is left over from the construction of Hoover Dam—winds around the sides of mountains and through five tunnels, ending at the Hoover Dam parking garage. For those who want to get out on the water, a **gauging station** from the Hoover Dam construction era and the site of the **gauger's house** can be seen from the cool currents in Black Canyon down by Willow Beach. Many of these sites are listed on the National Register of Historic places. Visitors are not permitted to remove or damage any cultural artifacts, since they are protected by federal law. *Note: Historic Railroad Trail Tunnel 3 is closed until further notice.*

PICNICKING

Boulder Beach, Longview Overlook, 33 Hole Overlook, Las Vegas Bay, Callville Bay, Redstone, Echo Bay, Rogers Spring, Temple Bar, Willow Beach, Cottonwood Cove, and Katherine Landing all offer picnic tables and restrooms. Boulder Beach, Las Vegas Bay, Callville Bay, Willow Beach, Cottonwood Cove offer drinking water. Glass and styrofoam are not allowed in the park.



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A visit to Glen Canyon, Lake Powell, and Lake Mead will provide kids with memories to last a lifetime.

GLEN CANYON & LAKE POWELL

At Wahweap and Bullfrog, check out the **Junior Ranger programs** and activity pamphlets that help kids learn about the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. Kids can also print a Junior Ranger booklet from Glen Canyon's website. Simply visit nps.gov/glca.

Lake Powell provides families with all sorts of **water play**. Kids will love boating and houseboating, swimming, waterskiing, kayaking, canoeing, boat tours, and raft tours.

Note: Water safety is very important to the basic mission of the National Park Service at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

Kids can even try their hand at **fishing** for striped bass, carp and catfish throughout the summer. Please review the "Park Regulations & Safety" section of this guide and observe your children whenever they are in or near the water. Ask at any marina store for more information.

The Carl Hayden Visitor Center has a Junior Ranger Corner, which includes an augmented reality sandbox, play space, and other creative activities. Daily ranger-led hikes on the Hanging Gardens trail take place from May through September. Times vary throughout the summer and program schedules are posted at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center and nps.gov/glca.

Glen Canyon is a great place for kids to learn about **American Indian culture**.

They can explore well-preserved ruins and marvel at **ancient rock art** left by the Ancestral Puebloans (Anasazi) who lived there hundreds of years ago. Ask rangers about **Defiance House in Forgotten Canyon** and other dwellings and artifacts. See if you can answer these questions:

- Where did the Ancestral Puebloans sleep?
- What did they eat?
- What is a *kiva*?
- What kinds of animals are painted on the walls?
- How many people lived in one dwelling?
- How high up are the cliff houses?
- When was Defiance House occupied?

LAKE MEAD

Kids can earn a **Junior Ranger** badge by completing the Lake Mead NRA Junior Ranger booklet. They'll learn how the lake was created, find out more about park wildlife, and even dabble in archaeology! Stop by any visitor center for additional details.

The National Park Service presents a variety of **ranger-led programs** throughout the year. The programs, some of which are geared specifically toward kids, are presented at different locations in the Lake Mead NRA, ranging from Boulder Beach to Katherine Landing.



NATURE & WILDLIFE



Life in Glen Canyon and Lake Mead requires tenacity and creative adaptability. While the region appears harsh and sometimes barren, the park abounds with wildlife. The Colorado Plateau rises like a lush island from the surrounding Great Basin Desert. The mountains and high plateaus that encircle this area create a self-contained plant and animal community quite distinct from the adjacent desert habitats, ranging from riverbanks and lakeshore to barren mesas and piñon pine and juniper woodlands.

Unless you are extremely lucky or especially sharp-eyed, chances are you will not see any of the 80 species of mammals that live here. Most are nocturnal and only a few of them exist throughout the entire area. Keep your eyes peeled if you camp overnight, you never know who might come out of hiding!

Desert bighorn sheep are highly adapted to the desert environment, preferring the crags away from human activity. **Bobcats**, **mountain lions**, and **coyotes** also inhabit the area. It's unlikely you'll see them but



you may come across their tracks and scat.

Antelope ground squirrels spend the day scampering around campground and picnic areas oblivious to the sun and heat. Several other species of **ground squirrels** and **chipmunks** inhabit the parks, as do **woodrats**, **badgers**, **mice**, **gophers**, **kangaroo rats**, and even **porcupines**!

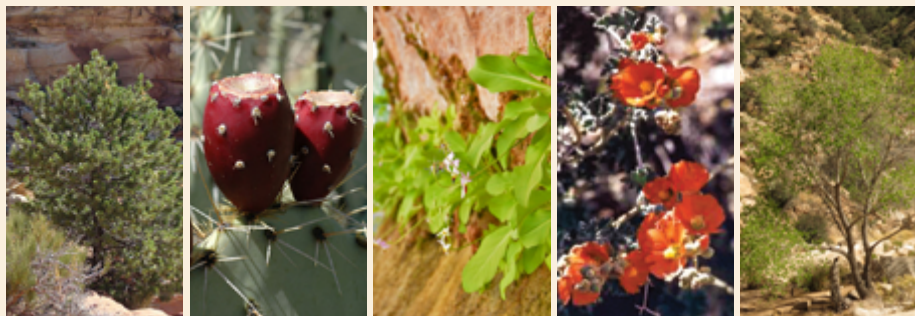
The river from the base of Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry attracts neotropical migrant birds, including **blue grosbeaks** and **yellow-breasted chats**. In the winter, **waterfowl** of all types flock to both the lake and the river, as do **bald eagles**.

Look closer at the ground as you explore the desert of the Colorado Plateau, and you may notice a bumpy or spongy crust covering the floor.

Cryptobiotic soil crusts are an important part of arid and semi-arid ecosystems throughout the world, including those in Glen Canyon and Lake Mead. These soil crusts are a significant part of biodiversity and are formed by very small organisms and their byproducts, which create a crust of soil particles held together by organic materials. Watch your step: cryptobiotic soil crusts are fragile.

Tires and foot traffic by humans and livestock can break through the crust, increasing the risk of soil erosion and nutrient loss. Once compacted, cryptobiotic soils can take anywhere from a few years to decades or longer to recover. Research suggests recovery of some of the algal and lichen components and their functions may take much longer, and could take several hundred years in very dry environments.

→ GLEN CANYON'S PLANTS ZONES



Found in the Kaiparowits Plateau and Orange Cliffs areas of Glen Canyon, the high-elevation **Piñon-Juniper Community** receives more moisture than other areas. The additional water and cooler temperatures enable large plants, including the piñon pine, to thrive here. This small, bushy evergreen tree is 15 to 35 feet tall with a rounded, spreading crown. Its egg-shaped cones take two years to mature, at which point they open to release several large, edible seeds.

The diverse vegetation of the **Hillside Community** varies depending on latitude, topography and slope exposure. Many plants here appear grayish-green because they are covered with tiny white hairs that protect against moisture loss. The **prickly pear cactus (beavertail cactus)** is a low plant that forms clumps up to three feet wide and six inches high. Its waxy flowers are two to four inches wide and can be red, pink or yellow.

Hanging garden communities survive on water seeping out of stone formations in canyon walls, on rock debris slopes and on canyon bottoms. This moist environment provides a habitat

for lush vegetation. Vertical collections of Gambel oak, maidenhair fern, poison ivy, monkey flowers, redbud and snowy white columbine flowers make up the ancient hanging gardens that have evolved around seeps and drip lines in the sandstone canyon walls in Glen Canyon NRA.

Terrace Communities are located on old floodplains, which are usually higher than the reach of present-day floodwaters. The herbaceous **globemallow** plant can be one to three feet tall and has scallop-edged leaves surrounding vertical clusters of orange-to-scarlet flowers. A relative of cotton and hollyhocks, this perennial blooms in April near Glen Canyon Dam.

The plants that thrive in **Riparian Community** are found along streams and in canyon bottoms. Although streams can be dry in the spring, water is generally available deep below the surface. These adaptable plants must be able to tolerate occasional severe flooding. Natives of Arizona, the tall **Fremont cottonwood** trees have grayish bark and broad leaves that turn bright gold in fall. They grow by riversides and are often planted as shade trees.

WATCHABLE WILDLIFE



CALIFORNIA CONDOR

GYMNOGYPS CALIFORNIANUS

are critically endangered members of the vulture family. These scavengers have long black wings with white triangular markings on the underside and bald heads and necks, useful to keep rotting meat from sticking to them. Look for condors soaring above, especially near Lees Ferry. • **Weight** 15-25 lbs • **Size** 45-55 in tall; 9-10 ft wingspan • **Active** year-round

DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP

OVIS CANADENSIS

roam across large swaths of land to find food and water and are seldom seen. With hooves that grip steep ledges, they are well-adapted to the desert environment and prefer rocky cliffs away from human activity. When temperatures soar, they rest by day and feed at night. • **Weight** 100-300 lbs • **Size** 3-4 ft tall • **Active** year-round.

GOPHER SNAKES

PIITUOPHIS CATENIFER

are frequently mistaken for rattlesnakes due to their brown, diamond-shaped markings and the rattle-like noise they make when threatened. These otherwise harmless snakes prey on rodents, lizards, and birds, and have even been known to eat other snakes. In summer they bask in the sun by day and hunt at night. • **Weight** 4-8 lbs • **Size** 4-8 ft long • **Active** spring through fall

MULE DEER

ODOCOILEUS HEMIONUS

speed across rough terrain, taking bounding leaps, and landing on all fours simultaneously. They have large, mule-like ears, which earned them their name. Keep an eye out for them at dusk and dawn, as they browse for food. • **Weight** 100-300 lbs • **Size** 4-5 ft long • **Active** year-round.

PEREGRINE FALCON

FALCO PEREGRINUS

These chocolate-brown, crow-sized raptors breed in more than 80 places in the cliffs around Lake Powell. The fastest of all birds, the peregrine falcon can swoop down in a 200-mph vertical dive to capture its prey—almost exclusively medium-sized birds like doves and waterfowl. • **Weight** 18-35 oz • **Size** 13-19 inches tall, six-foot wingspan • **Active** year-round.

CANYON BAT

PIPISTRELLUS HESPERUS

These small gray bats have a black leathery facial mask and control the park's pest population by foraging up to 50 feet above the ground on insects. Canyon bats inhabit areas with rocky exposures and rock-walled canyons. They are so valuable to the ecosystem that they are celebrated at the annual Bat Fest • **Weight** 5-6 oz • **Size** 1-2 in long • **Active** year-round.

RESPONSIBLE RECREATION - ORV

Glen Canyon/Lake Powell has 388 miles of designated GMP roads (304 miles are unpaved), with endless opportunities for exploration. A GMP road is a paved or unpaved park road that's identified in the park's General Management Plan as open to motor vehicles. To further expand access to desert exploration, the NPS is opening *only* these designated roads to off-road vehicle (ORV) recreation. This is a privilege, so drive safely, obey the rules and enjoy the desert! Please be sure to check with a park official or go to nps.gov/glca/planyourvisit/off-road-vehicles.htm to know before you go! This section is a starting point for your next adventure.

ACCESS

ORVs are authorized for use on unpaved GMP roads previously open to only conventional vehicles and street-legal ATVs. ORVs are prohibited on park roads in the Orange Cliffs Special Management Unit, except for approximately eight miles of the Poison Spring Loop. All other user-created routes within the recreation area are closed to public motor vehicle travel. For visitor safety and to protect habitat for threatened and endangered species immediately adjacent to the road, street-legal ATVs are prohibited on the Lees Ferry Access Road and other paved roads in the Lees Ferry developed area. Designated **shoreline access areas** are open only to conventional motor vehicles and street-legal ATVs with proper ORV permits. This includes beach area that is up to ½ mile in both directions laterally from the end of the GMP road extending to the shoreline. Some areas are closed seasonally. Speed limits are 15 mph unless otherwise posted.

ORV PERMITS

Permits are required to operate a motor vehicle off road in specified locations. Park entry fee is always required. Please check in advance to be sure you obey all regulations.



Note: As of press time, a permit system for vehicles to operate on designated access areas is in development.

BACKCOUNTRY PERMITS

There is no additional camping fee or backcountry permit required to camp in undeveloped **backcountry areas**, with some exceptions. Check with park officials for details.



RESPONSIBLE RIDING TIPS

Quiet hours are 10 pm to 6 am, unless otherwise posted. Operation of a motor vehicle during quiet hours is prohibited. Always ride in control. Never attempt anything beyond your skill level or machine capability. Follow trail courtesy and back-country etiquette so you'll always be an ambassador for your sport.

Tread Lightly! and land management partners lead a national initiative to protect and enhance recreation access and opportunities by promoting outdoor ethics to heighten individuals' sense of good stewardship. Our combined goal is to balance the needs of the people who enjoy outdoor recreation with everyone's need to maintain healthy ecosystems. If every rider follows the TREAD principles, we will assure minimal impact on the environment and open access to our public lands.

RULE #1
WEAR YOUR HELMET!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For Utah Guidelines & State Laws

Call **(801) 538-7433** or visit **ohv.utah.gov**

For Arizona Guidelines & State Laws

Call **(602) 542-2146** or visit **azstateparks.com/ohv-laws-regulations**

For Glen Canyon Guidelines, Regulations & Maps

Visit **www.nps.gov/glca/planyourvisit/off-road-vehicles.htm** and **nps.gov/glca/planyourvisit/orv-maps.htm**

ORV RENTALS AND TOURS

Epic Adventure Rides
EpicAdventureRides.com
(928) 614-4094

Outdoor Adventure Rentals
OutdoorAdventureRentals.com
(928) 640-0581



Minimize your impact on the environment by traveling and riding responsibly, respecting others' rights, educating yourself and avoiding sensitive areas. For more information, visit **treadlightly.org**



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Professional riders on closed area. Side-by-Side models shown are recommended for use only by operators 16 years and older with a valid driver's license. Always wear your seat belt, helmet, eye protection and protective clothing. Yamaha recommends that all Side-by-Side riders take an approved training course. For Side-by-Side safety and training information, see your dealer or call the RDIWA at 1-866-267-2751. Read the Owner's Manual and the product warning labels before operation. Avoid excessive speeds and never engage in stunt riding. Always avoid paved surfaces and never ride on public roads. And be particularly careful on difficult terrain. Never ride under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. It is illegal and dangerous. Model shown with optional accessories. Vehicle specifications subject to change. ©2021 Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A. All rights reserved.

IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

The best way to enjoy your time at Glen Canyon is to get on the water. Take any of the **boat tours** on Lake Powell (currently suspended) or try a **float trip** on the Colorado River. All tours include a lively narrative describing Lake Powell and the area. If you prefer to go at your own pace, **rent a boat** for the day from a park marina.

Between Memorial Day and the end of August, enjoy **sunset dinner cruises** aboard the Canyon Princess (currently suspended) two evenings a week, departing from Wahweap. Call **(888) 896-3829** and select option 1, or call Lake Powell Resort directly at **(888) 896-3829**. Check the schedule of **ranger-led activities** posted on bulletin boards at Wahweap to see if a brief ranger program will fit into your schedule.



LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Lake Mead National Recreation Area comprises a stunning 1.5 million acres, encompassing Lake Mead, Lake Mohave, the Colorado River, and the surrounding desert. With such an amazing amount of terrain, there are nearly endless recreational activities. Don't miss a chance to get out on the water. **Boating, canoeing, kayaking, fishing, and swimming** are great ways to enjoy a day at Lake Mead. Please always wear a life jacket.

Off the water, there are several paved roads around Lake Mead, winding in and out of the stunning desert terrain surrounding the lake. Take a **scenic drive** or enjoy a **bike ride** through the canyons and desert. Several **short hikes** begin near many of the main roads, leading to views you won't see from a boat or car. When you're tired, stop at one of the many **shaded picnic areas** along the shore with water, tables, fire grills, and restrooms.

For more information, call the Lake Mead Visitor Center at **(702) 293-8990**. **Hoover Dam**, one of the greatest engineering wonders of the world, is on the southwestern tip of Lake Mead, separating the lake from the Colorado River and forming Lake Mead. Take a **tour of the dam** and enjoy **impressive views** of the adjacent canyon and desert terrain. For more information on dam tours and ticket reservations, please call **(702) 494-2517**.



For answers to all your questions, go to **OhRanger.com**

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