

Glen Canyon Guide 2009

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area
Rainbow Bridge National Monument



Adventures in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

Looking at a map of Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA), one of the first things you might realize is how massive the park is. A little less obvious is what this means in terms of recreational opportunities. At 1.25 million acres, the park stretches nearly 200 miles and sprawls across two states. Glen Canyon NRA has something for everyone, regardless of time, interests, or abilities. The course of the Colorado River winds underneath Lake Powell, leaving a legacy of exploration and development of the West in its path. Even before the lake existed, water (or the lack of it), was a defining feature of the landscape. It continues to distinguish how people interact with and feel about this place. What can Glen Canyon offer you that will make your visit not just satisfying, but draw you back year after year, building a family legacy of your own?

The park has been working hard to make your visit here a satisfying one (see "Your Fee Dollars at Work" on page 3). Today, your park journey by car, kayak, foot, river raft, or boat makes Glen Canyon one of the more diverse parks in the region. You can stroll among the historic buildings and take in the rich pioneer history of Lees Ferry. A raft trip on the Colorado River offers the opportunity to visit the astonishing petroglyph panel located about eight river miles downstream from the dam. Take a tour of Glen Canyon dam to learn about hydroelectricity and water in the West. Travel by boat from one of the marinas to explore the remarkable canyons on Lake Powell. Include an unforgettable visit to Rainbow Bridge National Monument. Hike for an hour, a day, or a week in Glen Canyon's astounding backcountry.

Your adventure starts when you open this newspaper and acquaint yourself with the park. Bring your questions to any of our visitor centers for more in-depth help. Do not fear the park's large size. You will quickly find its intimacy as you discover the stories and pathways left by the ancient ones, the pioneers, the miners, the researchers, and the river runners. Begin a journey in their footsteps. Gaze on vistas that have remained unchanged for thousands of years. This park, with its seemingly opposite faces of water-based recreation and places of unbelievable peace, solitude, and tranquility, will hopefully bond you to it as it has for millions of visitors who have come before.

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Emergency Numbers

911

NPS Park Dispatch: (800) 582-4351
or (928) 608-6300

Marine Band CH 16

If you do not have a radio or phone, hail another boater who can call for help

Welcome to Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and Rainbow Bridge National Monument



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Rainbow Bridge National Monument

Park Address

P.O. Box 1507
691 Scenic View Rd
Page AZ 86040

Website/contact information

www.nps.gov/glca
www.nps.gov/rabr

Fax Number

928-608-6259

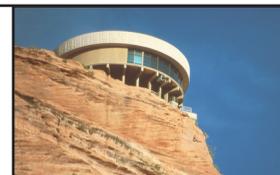
Park Headquarters

928-608-6200

Area Visitor Centers	Hours	Information
Carl Hayden Visitor Center	8:30am-4:30pm daily with extended hours in the summer	928-608-6404 www.nps.gov/glca
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Headquarters	7am-4pm Monday-Friday closed weekends and holidays	928-608-6200 www.nps.gov/glca
Navajo Bridge Interpretive Center	9am-5pm daily April through Oct	928-355-2319 www.nps.gov/glca
Bullfrog Visitor Center/ Halls Crossing Contact Station	Hours will vary Memorial Day - Labor Day	435-684-7423 www.nps.gov/glca
Big Water Visitor Center (operated by the Bureau of Land Management)	8am-5pm daily with extended hours in the summer	435-675-3200 www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/grand_staircase-escalante.html
Paria Contact Station (operated by the Bureau of Land Management)	8:30am-4:15pm daily mid-March through mid-Nov	No phone https://www.blm.gov/az/asfo/paria/index.htm
Escalante Interagency Visitor Center (operated by the Bureau of Land Management)	8am- 4:30pm daily with extended hours in the summer	435-826-5499 www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/grand_staircase-escalante.html



Amphitheater



Carl Hayden Visitor Center



Solar Scope



Big Water Visitor Center



Navajo Bridges

Ranger Programs

Carl Hayden Visitor Center

- **Ranger Talks:** presented daily on a variety of subjects. (length 15 min.) Year-round.
- **Ranger Programs:** Presentations in the auditorium three times a week. (length 30 min.) Memorial Day through September.
- **Solar Scope:** Solar telescope viewing is offered outside the visitor center several times a week. April through October.
- **Education Programs:** Available for school groups by appointment. Contact Education Specialist at 928-608-6353 or www.nps.gov/glca/forteachers. Year-round.

Note—These programs may also be available outside the regular season. Contact a Park Ranger at the information desk for further information.

Lake Powell/Colorado River Trips

- Park Rangers are on board at least one commercial boat tour and/or river trip several times a week, May through September.

Wahweap Campground Amphitheater

- **Evening Programs:** Park Ranger presentations on a variety of subjects from Memorial Day through September. Check for times, dates, and topics posted at Carl Hayden Visitor Center and the Wahweap Amphitheater.

Bullfrog

- **Ranger Talks:** “Table of Wonder” Park Ranger talks are presented twice a week at Defiance House Lodge. Presentations are offered from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Memorial Day to mid-September. Check at the Bullfrog Visitor Center for times and topics.

Rainbow Bridge

- **Ranger Talks:** Park Rangers at Rainbow Bridge will give presentations at various times of the day. May through early October.

Navajo Bridge Interpretive Center

- **Ranger Talks:** Park Rangers will give talks on a variety of subjects at the Interpretive Center and on the Navajo Bridge and down the road at Lees Ferry. Check at the visitor center for times and topics. May through September.

Note: Special programs and presentations will take place at various locations from May 15 through September. Check at a park visitor center or call 928-608-6404 to find out the latest program information.

Fees

Glen Canyon Passes (Entrance fees are required year-round)	1 – 7 days	Annual Pass
Vehicle Entrance	\$15	\$30
Individual Entrance	\$7	
Boating	\$16 first vessel	
	\$8 each additional vessel if on the same trailer	

America the Beautiful - National Parks and Federal Lands Passes

Interagency Annual Pass	Valid for one year in federal recreation areas which charge an entrance or standard amenity fee.	\$80
Interagency Senior Pass	Lifetime pass for any US citizen age 62 and over	\$10 one-time fee
Interagency Access Pass	Lifetime pass for any US citizen with permanent disabilities	No fee required
Interagency Volunteer Pass	Good for one year access to any volunteer who has acquired 500 hours of service	No fee required

Camping (entrance and boating use fees apply)

Lees Ferry	\$12 per site/night	Limits on camping: 14 consecutive days, 30 days maximum per calendar year. No camping is permitted at Rainbow Bridge National Monument.
Lone Rock Primitive	\$10 per vehicle/night Camping fees required 8pm-6am.	
Stanton Creek, Hite, Farley, Dirty Devil Primitive	\$6 per person/night (not to exceed \$12 per vehicle)	
Backcountry, Including shores of Lake Powell and Colorado River	No camping fee required	
Additional developed campgrounds, operated by the NPS concessioner Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas, are available at Wahweap, Bullfrog, and Halls Crossing. For details and rates call 1-800-528-6154.		

Day Hikes in Glen Canyon



Horseshoe Bend, Page



Hanging Garden, Page



Cathedral Wash, Lees Ferry

Hike	Bullfrog Area	Length	Terrain	Difficulty
Bullfrog Campground Nature Trail	Start from Bullfrog Campground loop "B", or park at the Ferry lot and walk up to trailhead.	1.5 mile (2km) round-trip	Sandy hike, some slickrock scrambling, follow rock cairns	Easy
Pedestal Alley	From the Bullfrog Visitor Center, take Highway 276 north approximately 4.4 miles (7 km) to the marked junction with the Burr Trail. Turn left onto the Burr Trail and go about 4.8 miles (7.7 km) to the Pedestal Alley parking area. The trailhead is across the road from the parking area.	3 mile (4.8km) round-trip	Sandy and rocky, must cross some washes	Easy to moderate
Bullfrog Narrows Trail	Leave your vehicle at the Bullfrog Visitor Center and walk the trail as far as you wish.	1 mile (1.6km) round-trip	Sandy wash, must climb in and out of wash	Moderate
Hike	Lees Ferry Area	Length	Terrain	Difficulty
Cathedral Wash	Drive down the Lees Ferry Rd from 89A for 1.4 miles, and park at the pullout. Then walk across the road to enter the wash, heading downstream.	3 mile (4.8km) round-trip	Rocky wash , requires some scrambling	Moderate
Lonely Dell (\$1 Guide Available in Parking Area)	Lonely Dell Ranch Parking area at Lees Ferry. Park in the lot and walk towards the buildings and trees.	1 mile (1.6km) round-trip	Grassy and flat	Easy
Paria	Park in the Lonely Dell Ranch parking area and walk up past the buildings and trees to the river. The trail meanders upstream. Hike up and down the river as far as you wish. (Permit Required for Overnight Hikes - Permits available at Paria Contact Station)	The entire canyon is 45 miles (72.4km) one way	Sandy wash and multiple river crossings	Difficult
River Trail/Lees Fort	Park at launch ramp parking area. Walk through the historic district upstream along the Colorado River.	2 mile (3.2km) round-trip	Sandy	Easy
Spencer Trail	Park at launch ramp parking area. After walking along the River trail, Spencer Trail cuts to the left to climb the cliff.	2.2 mile (3.5km) one-way	1505 foot (457.8m) rocky climb up switchbacks	Difficult
Hike	Page/Wahweap Area	Length	Terrain	Difficulty
Agua Tierra (Free Guide Available)	Loop trail begins at Lake Powell Resort Lodge.	1.2 miles (2 km) round-trip	Paved	Easy
Dam Overlook (Free Guide Available)	From Carl Hayden Visitor Center drive south 1.5 miles (2.4km) on Hwy 89, turn west on Scenic View Road. Take the first road to the right, and park in the parking area at the end of the road.	940 ft (286m) round-trip	Walk down stairs and over sandstone	Easy
Hanging Garden (Free Guide Available)	From Carl Hayden Visitor Center, turn south on Hwy 89 and proceed across Glen Canyon Bridge. Turn off is one half mile (0.8km) east on Hwy 89. Trailhead parking is 500 yards (455m) off of Hwy 89.	1 mile (1.6km) round-trip	Rocky and sandy	Easy to Moderate
Horseshoe Bend (Free Guide Available)	From Carl Hayden Visitor Center turn south on Hwy 89. Approximately 5 miles on U.S. Hwy 89, just south of highway marker 545, turn west on the dirt parking area, and park at the base of the hill.	1.5 mile (2.4km) round-trip	Climb up and down sandy hill, Caution: dangerous drop-off, no railings	Easy

On all trails, there is little to no shade, questionable cell phone reception, and no water available. Be sure to bring enough water. Wear sturdy shoes, sunscreen and a hat. Before you leave, tell someone where you are going. Check weather and road conditions before attempting any hike. Do not enter any trails through washes if there is a potential for Flash Floods!

Things to do in and near Glen Canyon

One Hour

Bullfrog

- Tour Bullfrog Visitor Center and Defiance House Lodge or the Bullfrog Marina
- At the Bullfrog Visitor Center, watch the 50-minute movie on the history of Glen Canyon Dam

Lees Ferry

- Lonely Dell Ranch: Explore the orchard, log cabins, stone ranch house, and pioneer cemetery in this 1 mile (1.6 km) walk. Picnic under the fruit trees. Bring drinking water with you.
- Navajo Bridge Interpretive Center: View the double Navajo Bridges and Marble Canyon, learn about the history of the bridges, look for California Condors.
- Hike: River Trail & Lees Fort.

Page Area

- Carl Hayden Visitor Center: Exhibits about the Glen Canyon Dam, water conservation. Watch a movie about the Dam and about Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. View the aquarium featuring endangered native fish. Attend a Ranger program. Browse the Glen Canyon Natural History Association's bookstore.
- Glen Canyon Dam Tours: Follow your guide to the crest of and into Glen Canyon Dam and to the powerhouse in this 45-minute tour. You must sign up in person at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center to attend the tour. Call for times: 928-608-6072.
- Hikes: Agua Tierra Loop Trail, Glen Canyon Dam Overlook, Wahweap View Overlook. Approximately 1 hour each.

Two Hours

Bullfrog

- Take a ride on the Halls Crossing-Bullfrog ferry. Walk on passes are \$5 each one-way. Call 435-684-3000 for ferry schedule.
- Hikes: Bullfrog Campground Nature Trail, Bullfrog Narrows Trail.

Page Area

- Antelope Canyon Slot Canyon Tours: Guided tours through the famous Antelope Canyon begin in the city of Page or at the entrance to the Navajo Tribal Park on Hwy 98. 1 ½ - 2 ½ hours. Navajo Park entrance fee and guide fees required.
- Antelope Canyon Boat Tours: Take a ride on a cruise boat with knowledgeable staff into the lake entrance of Antelope Canyon and to view the back of the Glen Canyon Dam. Tours begin in the lobby of the Lake Powell Resort Lodge. 1 ½ hours. For reservations call: 928-645-1070.
- Visit the John Wesley Powell Museum in the city of Page. \$5 entrance fee.
- Visit the Big Water Visitor Center and its paleontological exhibits 12 miles north of Carl Hayden VC on Hwy 89.
- Hikes: Hanging Garden Trail, Horseshoe Bend Hike. Bring drinking water.



Antelope Slot Canyon

Three Hours

Lees Ferry

- Hike: Cathedral Wash. Bring drinking water.

Page Area

- Navajo Tapestry Boat Tour: Take a ride on a cruise boat with knowledgeable staff into Navajo Canyon where you will see a tapestry wall, then continue into Antelope Canyon and to the Glen Canyon Dam. Tours begin in the lobby of the Lake Powell Resort Lodge. 3 hours. For reservations call: 928-645-1070.
- There are several hikes along Hwy 89 North between Page, AZ and Kanab, UT. For information on these (Paria Townsite, Paria Rimrocks – Toadstool Trail, Bucktank Draw and Birthday Arch, Blue Pools Wash and Arch, Skylight Arch) please stop at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center. 2-3 hours each including driving time.



Smooth water raft trip on the Colorado River

Half-Day to All Day

Bullfrog

- Rent a power boat or kayak and explore the upper regions of the lake at your leisure. Call 435-684-3000 for reservations.
- Drive the Burr Trail up to the Halls Creek Overlook or Waterpocket Fold Overlook. See Bullfrog Visitor Center for Driving Guide.
- Drive to the Hite Overlook and the Hog Springs Nature Trail. See Bullfrog Visitor Center for information.

Lees Ferry

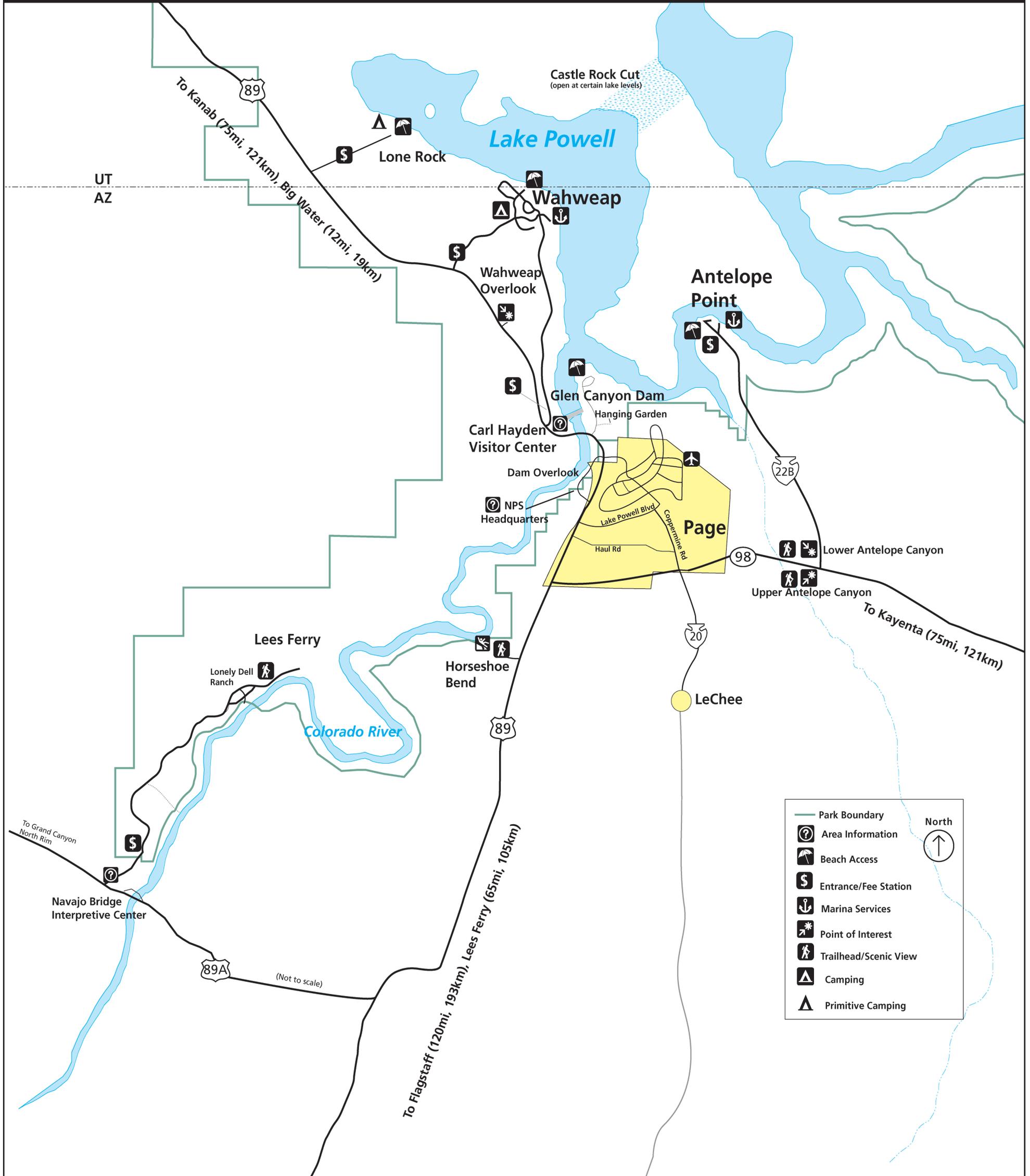
- Hike: Spencer Trail: This historic trail climbs 1505 feet (458.7 m) up the cliff behind Lees Ferry. It is not regularly maintained but is passable to careful hikers. Magnificent views of the Colorado River and Marble Canyon. Bring drinking water and food.

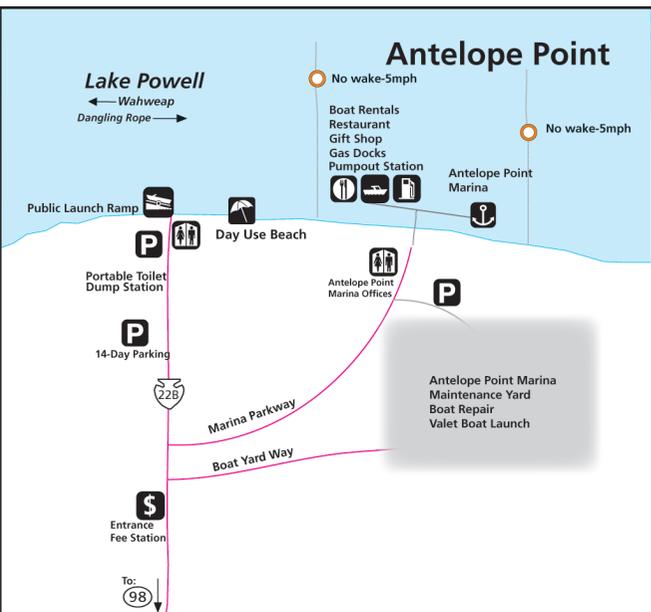
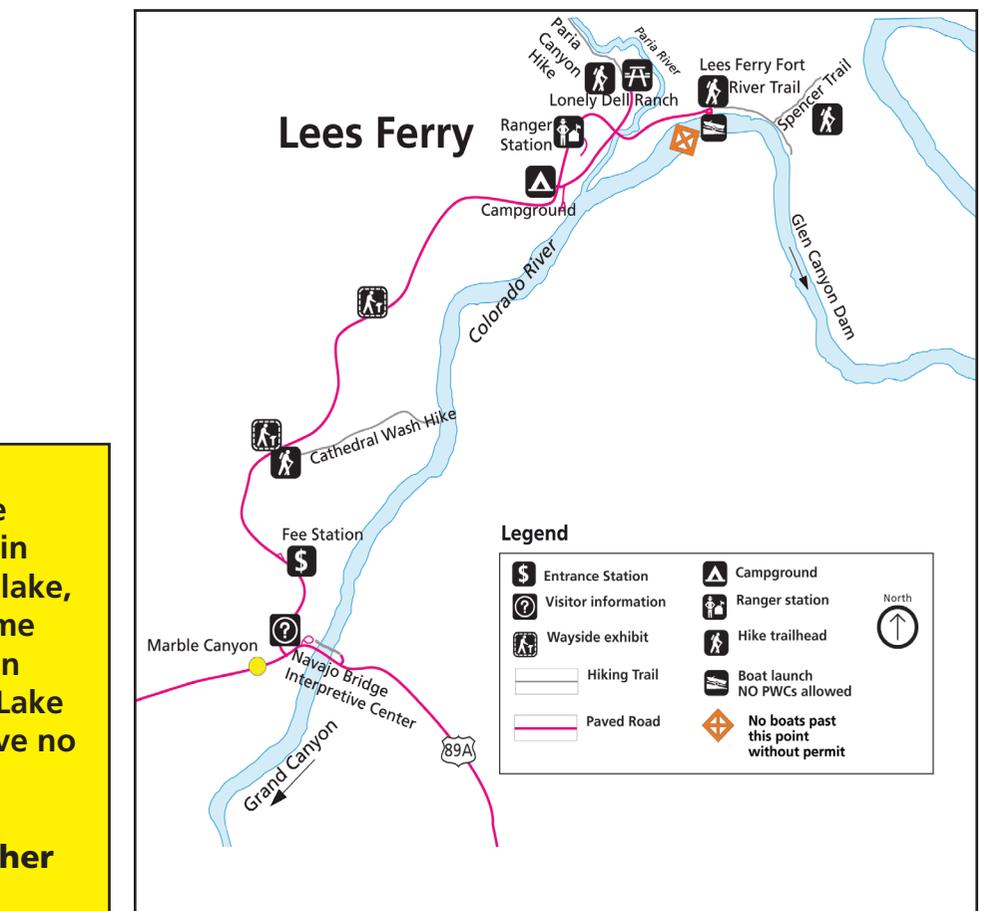
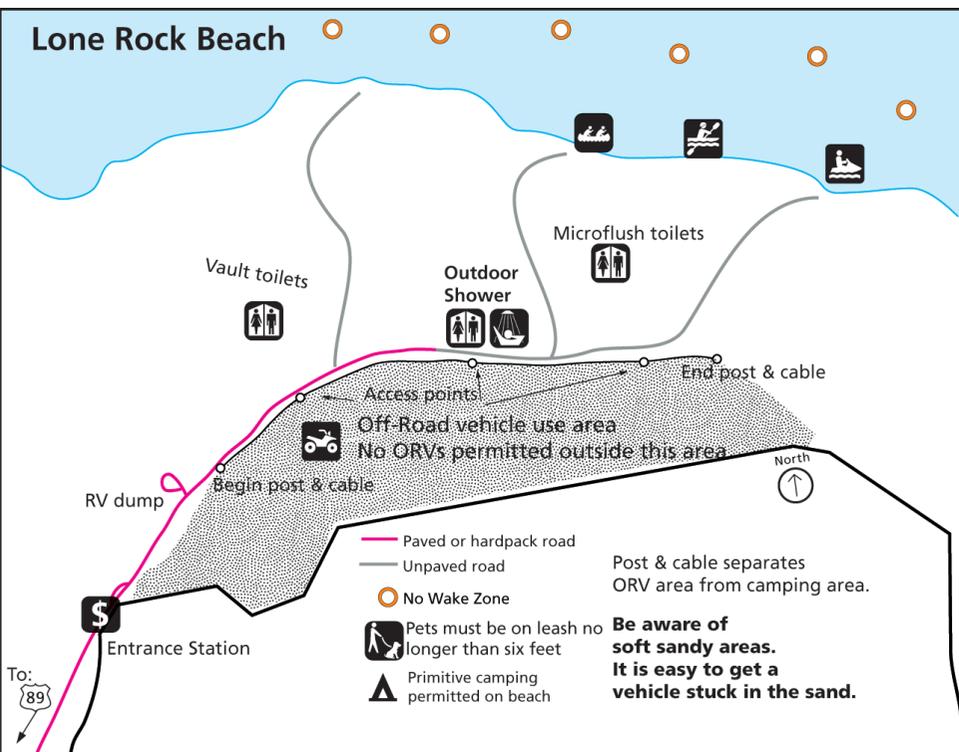
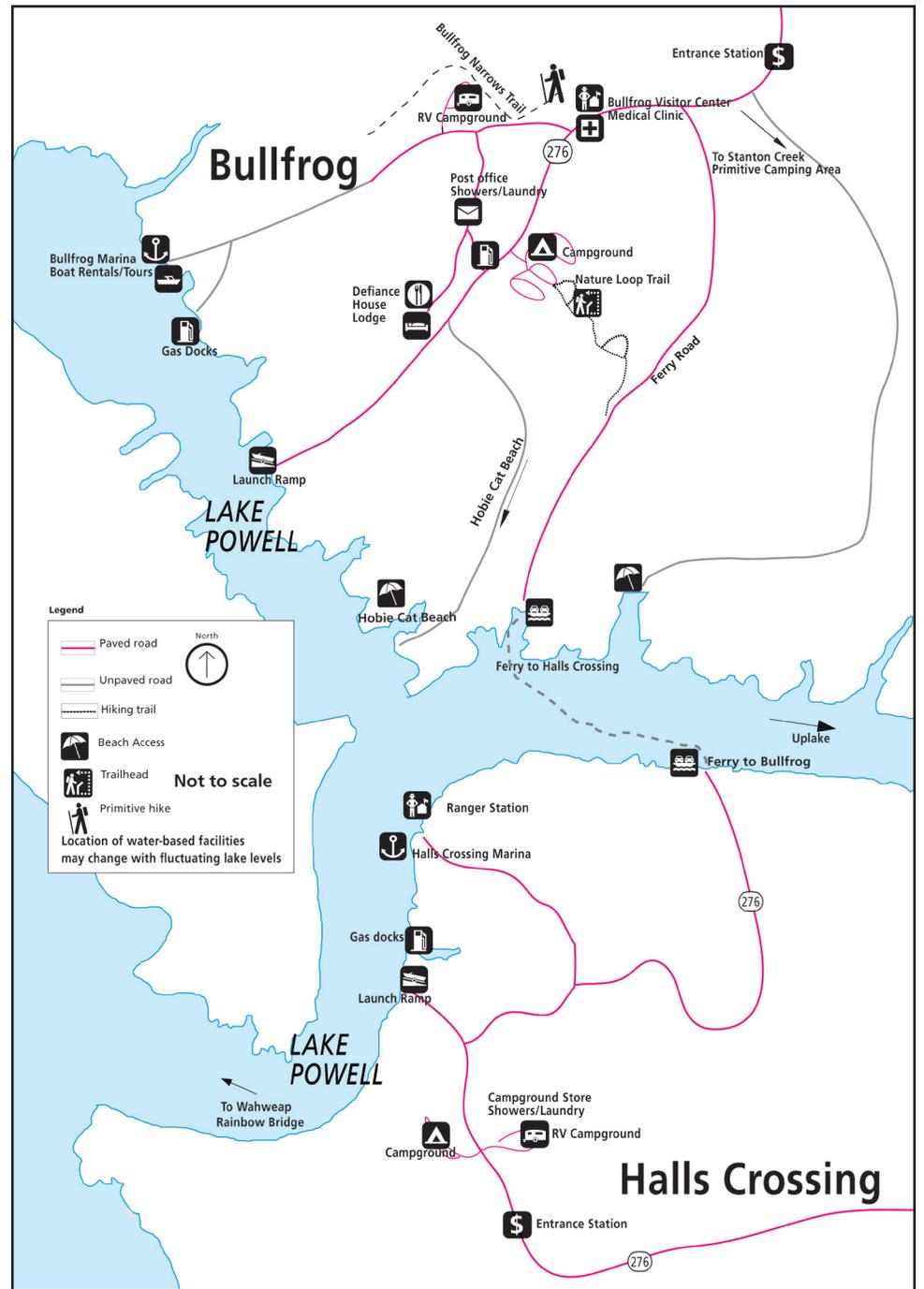
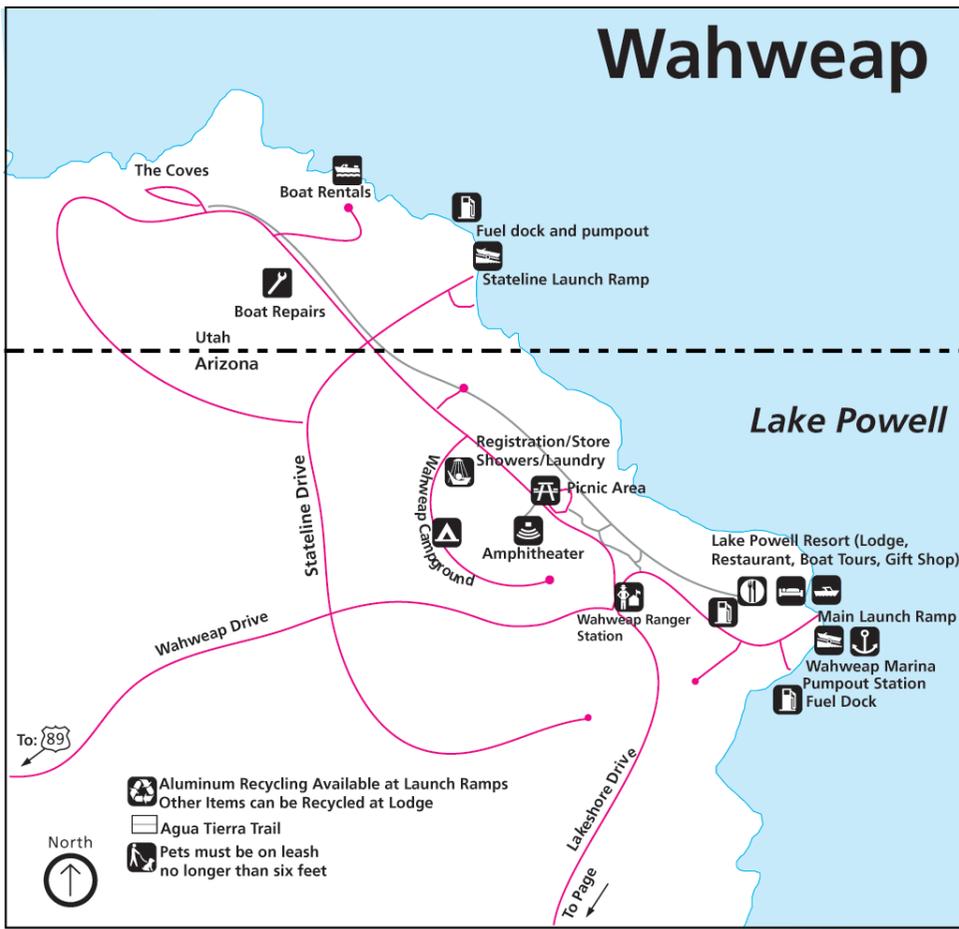
Page Area

- Rainbow Bridge Boat Tour: Take a 5½ - 8 hour boat ride up to Rainbow Bridge National Monument. Travel through superb views of Lake Powell to Bridge Canyon where you will disembark and walk approximately 1¼ mile (2 km) on a maintained, dirt trail up to this magnificent natural bridge. Bring drinking water with you on the trail. A box lunch is served on the ride back. Tours begin in the lobby of the Lake Powell Resort. For reservations call: 928-645-1070.
- Rent a boat or kayak and explore the lake. For reservations: Antelope Point Marina: 928-645-5900, Lake Powell Resorts Boat Rentals: 928-645-2433.
- Smooth Water Raft Trip: Join Colorado River Discovery for this memorable 5 hour float trip from the base of Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry. For reservations call: 888-522-6644.

Contact a Park Ranger or Visitor Center for more ideas to make your visit to Glen Canyon National Recreation Area the best it can be.

Page, AZ and Nearby Points of Interest





These are the only locations accessible by land. If you get in trouble out on the lake, it may be a long time before someone can come to help you. Lake Powell beaches have no lifeguards.

Live to Play Another Day... Be Safe!

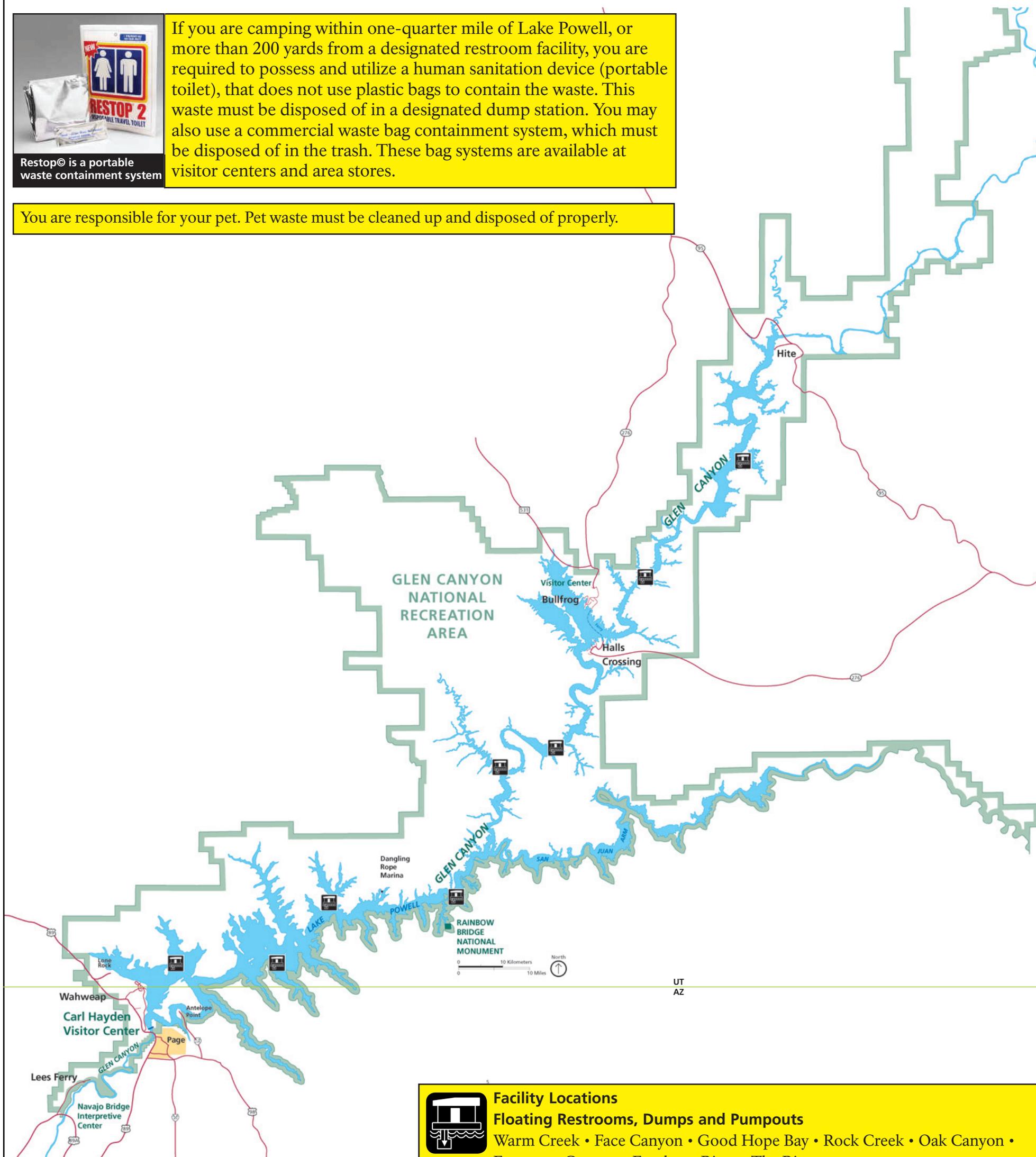
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area



Restop© is a portable waste containment system

If you are camping within one-quarter mile of Lake Powell, or more than 200 yards from a designated restroom facility, you are required to possess and utilize a human sanitation device (portable toilet), that does not use plastic bags to contain the waste. This waste must be disposed of in a designated dump station. You may also use a commercial waste bag containment system, which must be disposed of in the trash. These bag systems are available at visitor centers and area stores.

You are responsible for your pet. Pet waste must be cleaned up and disposed of properly.



Facility Locations

Floating Restrooms, Dumps and Pumpouts

Warm Creek • Face Canyon • Good Hope Bay • Rock Creek • Oak Canyon •
Forgotten Canyon • Escalante River • The Rincon

Note: Some of these facilities may close for the winter.

Antelope Point Marina

We invite you to experience Lake Powell ...
... Up Close and Personal



Lakeside Dining
Valet Boat Launch
Water Craft Rentals
Water Toys and Kayaks
(In the water, fueled and ready to go)

12 miles from downtown Page, Exit 22B off of Hwy 98
928.645.5900 • AntelopePointLakePowell.com



Antelope Point Holdings is an authorized concessioner of the National Park Service and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

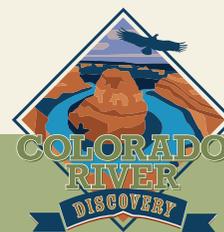
TAKE A ^{RAFT THE} COLORADO RIVER BREAK FROM YOUR LIFE



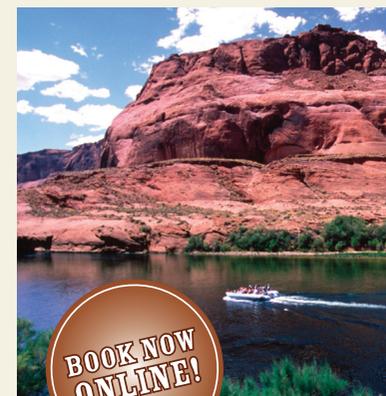
DISCOVER THE BEST ADVENTURE AND VALUE IN THE WEST

Take a break from your life and raft the Colorado River in Glen Canyon. Experience the beautiful blue-green waters and the majestic walls and discover the way to the past with Colorado River Discovery. We offer half-day and full-day motorized raft tours along with our all-day oar powered trips.

Rafting a day on the Colorado River is the perfect escape. Call or book online today!



Colorado River Discovery is an authorized concessioner of the National Park Service, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.



BOOK NOW
ONLINE!

888-522-6644

www.raftthecanyon.com



YOU DRIVE...

FOR THE ADVENTUROUS IN SPIRIT, explore Lake Powell's Red Rock Canyons in a Power Boat or on a PWC. Ski, Wakeboard or Kayak on Powell's vast blue water. Have the experience of a lifetime on one of the world's greatest water recreation areas. Ask about our 10 am specials and other offers.

TO RESERVE THE WATER ADVENTURE OF A LIFE TIME TODAY, CALL:
928 645 1070 Wahweap (South Lake) • 435 684 3000 Bullfrog (North Lake)

Lake Powell
RESORTS & MARINAS
ARAMARK



WE DRIVE...

RELAX, WE'LL DRIVE. Journey to Rainbow Bridge National Monument, cruise scenic Antelope or Navajo Canyons, enjoy an Elegant Dinner Cruise on the Canyon Princess, Lake Powell's only 96' yacht style tour boat or take in the night sky during one of the summer's evening cruises.

TO RESERVE YOUR SCENIC CRUISE ADVENTURE CALL: 928 645 1070

North Lake Scenic Tours are available on charter basis for up to 6 passengers. Call 435-684-3000 for Bullfrog Scenic Cruises. Lake Powell Resorts & Marinas, managed by ARAMARK, is an authorized concessioner of the National Park Service, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.



NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

We are a cooperating association that supports and funds education, research, interpretation, and visitor services within the public lands on the Colorado Plateau. Working in partnership with Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Rainbow Bridge National Monument, and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, we promote and inspire the preservation and stewardship of cultural and natural resources.



Your purchase at bookstores in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area visitor centers will directly support education, interpretation, and research in this park.

www.GlenCanyonNHA.org ♦ (877) GLEN-CYN

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Park Profile

Authorization

Glen Canyon NRA was established by the U.S. Congress on October 27, 1972 to : "... provide for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment of Lake Powell and lands adjacent thereto in the States of Arizona and Utah and to preserve the scenic, scientific, and historic features contributing to the public enjoyment of the area..."

Name

During Major John Wesley Powell's 1869 expedition of the Colorado River, he noted, "So we have a curious ensemble of wonderful features - carved walls, royal arches, glens, alcove gulches, mounds, and monuments. From which of these features shall we select a name? We decide to call it Glen Canyon."

Size

1.25 million acres (505,868 hectares) lies within the two states of Arizona and Utah.

Lake Powell

Only 13% of the National Recreation Area, but is the second largest man-made lake in North America. At full pool (3700' elevation) it is 186 miles (299 km) long, has 1960 miles (3161 km) of shoreline, over 96 named side canyons, and a capacity of 27 million acre-feet (32 million cubic meters). Its maximum depth (at Glen Canyon Dam) is 561 feet (171 m).

Geology

Glen Canyon NRA is part of the Colorado Plateau ecosystem. Different environments over a period of 300 million years laid down layer upon layer of sedimentary materials, primarily sandstones and mudstones. Approximately 5 million years ago this region was uplifted, thus forming the Colorado Plateau. The Colorado River and its tributaries carved through the plateau's layers, creating Glen Canyon.

Flora and Fauna

Glen Canyon NRA has catalogued the following species: 800 plants, 311 birds, 64 mammals, 27 fish, 28 reptiles, and 7 amphibians.

Archeology and Human History

There are thousands of remote archeological sites throughout Glen Canyon NRA. The oldest human artifacts found are nearly 10,000 years old. There are four National Register listed properties within Glen Canyon NRA. These are Lonely Dell Ranch National Historic District at Lees Ferry, Defiance House Ruin, Hole-In-The-Rock, and the Davis Pictograph Panel.

Ten Ways Not to Be Safe In Glen Canyon NRA

Danger! Glen Canyon's beauty can deceive you into letting your guard down. Here are ten ways you can hurt or kill yourself in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

10) You didn't drink enough water.

It's a desert. It's hot! Your body needs water to replenish electrolytes and to stay cool. Sodas and alcohol only help dehydrate you.

9) You underestimated the elements.

Glen Canyon experiences extreme weather throughout the year. In the wintertime, water temperatures can be near freezing. In the summertime, keep your skin protected with light-colored clothing, sunglasses, a hat, and sunscreen. Sudden storms can create flash floods. Do not attempt to cross flooded areas.

8) You jumped off what?

Cliff diving is a killer. It is illegal to jump off any structure, man-made or natural, that is more than 15 feet high.

7) You drove dangerously on land.

You don't have to be on Lake Powell to be in an accident in Glen Canyon. Each year rangers pull people who were driving dangerously out of wrecks.

6) You parked your boat in the wrong place.

That rocky overhang looks inviting during a rainstorm, right? Wrong! That is the worst place to go. The whole thing could fall on top of your boat. A rockfall killed two people in their boat in 2007.

5) You drove dangerously on the water.

Boats don't have brakes. There are many things on and under Lake Powell to run into. Be aware of your surroundings.

4) You breathed the deadly air.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is the stuff nightmares are made of. Except you never wake up from this sleep. Don't hang out where the boat vents its exhaust. Make sure CO detectors are working properly and pay attention to them. When your generator is running, no one should be playing or sleeping anywhere near it.

3) You aren't wearing your smartest accessory.

Wear your lifejacket. On the boat, it's optional for you, but required for your children. On the docks and beaches anyone under 12, no matter how well he or she swims, should wear a lifejacket.

2) You had a few alcoholic beverages.

Boating under the influence is the same as driving under the influence—it is dangerous, illegal, and a good way to die. So save the booze for later.

1) You forgot to bring two important things: your common sense, and your judgement.

How many of these situations can be prevented by just thinking them through? All of them! Don't get lulled into the false sense of security that being on vacation leads to. Glen Canyon NRA averages six deaths per year. We want you to have a vacation experience you will never forget. Don't let it be for the wrong reasons. Live to play another day.



Leave No Trace



Glen Canyon NRA is a fragile place, despite what you may think while recreating on lake Powell. Leave No Trace tenets apply here too. Leave your campsite looking better than when you found it. Pick up all your garbage so the next set of campers will have as beautiful site as you did during their visit. Do not pick up any of our natural or archeological resources, plants, rocks, pot sherds, etc. This practice is not only extremely disappointing to other visitors and park staff, but is illegal and subject to fines. Know these and other laws concerning leave no trace practices on our website at www.nps.gov/glca/parkmgmt/lawsandpolicies.htm. Explore the seven tenets of the Leave No Trace program at www.lnt.org.

Mussel-Free Certification

Quagga and zebra mussels are aquatic nuisance species. They do not belong in Lake Powell or the Colorado River. All watercraft at Glen Canyon NRA, including canoes, kayaks, and rafts, are required to be certified free of quagga and zebra mussels. Procedures to certify your watercraft are available through entrance station staff, stations near the top of all launch ramps, and online at www.nps.gov/glca. All vehicles with an attached watercraft or trailer must have a "Mussel Free" certificate visible through the front windshield. You are strongly encouraged to visit the website for detailed information about this program. Doing this may save you time and money when visiting Glen Canyon NRA. Take pride in preserving Lake Powell by doing your part in stopping the spread of mussels and other aquatic nuisance species.

You Can Become a Junior Ranger



Free Junior Ranger activity booklets are available at the Carl Hayden Visitor Center, Navajo Bridge Interpretive Center, Lees Ferry Ranger Station, Dangling Rope Contact Station, Rainbow Bridge National Monument, Bullfrog Visitor Center, and Halls Crossing Contact Station. Inside the booklet are a number of activities divided by age group. Once you complete three of the activities suitable for your age, bring the booklet back to any of the Visitor Centers to get your very own Glen Canyon Junior Ranger badge. There is also a website with dozens more activities from parks all over the country. Visit www.nps.gov/webrangers/ to become a webranger.

100 Years of "Discovering" Rainbow Bridge



Would you consider planning a vacation into a vast, unknown wilderness to an undocumented destination? Would you consider embarking on this trip if you were told your destination may or may not exist? Be aware that this trip requires: (a) documented experience of successfully finding a needle in a haystack, and/or (b) successfully swatting a fly in complete darkness. If this seems like a good idea to you, know you share a bond with a group of successful explorers from 1909.

Traveling to Rainbow Bridge today entails a leisurely cruise on Lake Powell that presents much of the grandeur, but little of the challenge that the 1909 Douglass-Cummings expedition experienced during their 1909 search for the bridge. The scorching desert offered scant resources and little comfort for these men, who had collectively failed or abandoned the expedition on one previous attempt.

The previous failure to locate Rainbow Bridge was not due to a lack of determination or experience on the part of searchers, but was rather the product of a rugged, inhospitable maze of winding canyon terrain and extreme heat. Additionally, contemporary information regarding the location and potential existence of Rainbow Bridge was scarce and contradictory. This area of northern Arizona and southern Utah remained one of the last uncharted wilderness areas in the United States well into the 20th century, and Rainbow Bridge was a needle in that haystack.

Local Paiute and Navajo Indians were the first to reveal the existence of Rainbow Bridge with local Anglos such as John Wetherill, who served as the lead Anglo guide of the 1909 expedition. This information shared by American Indians was invaluable to planning the expedition, and the first-hand guidance of White Mesa Ute Jim Mike and San Juan Southern Paiute Nasja Begay was instrumental in locating Rainbow Bridge.

After three and a half harrowing days of riding in blistering heat, the expedition party was weary and wondering if they were on the right track.

Fortunately for the men, redemption was quite literally around the corner. Just after 11am on August 14th, 1909 Professor Byron Cummings shouted, "Eureka, there she is!" The proverbial needle in a haystack had been found. The race to "discover" Rainbow Bridge was over and the process to document and study Rainbow Bridge commenced within minutes of Professor Cummings's exclamation.

That afternoon, Federal Surveyor William Douglass and Archaeology Professor Byron Cummings drew detailed geographical maps and prepared scientific observations regarding the Rainbow Bridge area. This information, coupled with high public interest in Rainbow Bridge, would ultimately lead President Taft to declare the site a National Monument a mere nine months later in 1910.

This summer the National Park Service celebrates the 100th Anniversary of the Anglo "discovery" of Rainbow Bridge, a geologic wonder first publicized to the outside world in August of 1909. After 100 years the story of the 1909 "discovery" of the bridge remains a vibrant tale of daring, ambition, and stewardship.

When you visit Rainbow Bridge today you are participating not only in its continual "discovery" by park visitors, but also in the continual preservation of the monument. The National Park Service maintains a state of preservation that is compatible to the same landscape that William Douglass sketched in his notebook on that joyous afternoon in 1909. Your own feelings of awe and wonder are a shared bond with the men of this 100 year-old expedition. There remain few opportunities in this modern world to travel back to earlier times and unchanged places; Rainbow Bridge is a living crucible of our past.

Even a hundred years later, the opportunity to discover or re-discover Rainbow Bridge awaits. Eureka, it remains quite a sight!

Jonathan Parker, Park Ranger

Rainbow Bridge National Monument Park Profile

Authorization

Rainbow Bridge NM was set aside on May 30, 1910 by President William H. Taft because the natural bridge itself "...is of great scientific interest as an example of eccentric stream erosion, and it appears that the public interest would be promoted by reserving this bridge as a National Monument..."

Administration

Because of its remote location, Rainbow Bridge NM was under the custodial management of Navajo National Monument from its authorization in 1910 until 1963, when management of the Monument was handed over to Glen Canyon NRA.

Name

No one person can take claim for the actual naming of the bridge. The name just came about by virtue of its resemblance to a rainbow turned to stone. During the discovery expedition in 1909, surveyor William Douglass tried to call it the Paiute word for rainbow - Barohoini Bridge, but that name never stuck.

Affiliated American Indian Tribes/Groups

Five American Indian tribes/groups claim affiliation to Rainbow Bridge and surrounding areas. These are the Navajo, Hopi, San Juan Southern Paiute, Kaibab Paiute, and White Mesa Ute Council of the Ute Mountain Ute. A consultation committee made up of these groups was formalized in 1991.

Size

Monument: 160 acres (65 hectares)
Rainbow Bridge itself:
Height - 291 feet (88 m)
Span - 275 feet (84 m)
Top of the arch is 42 feet (13 m) thick and 33 feet (10 m) wide.

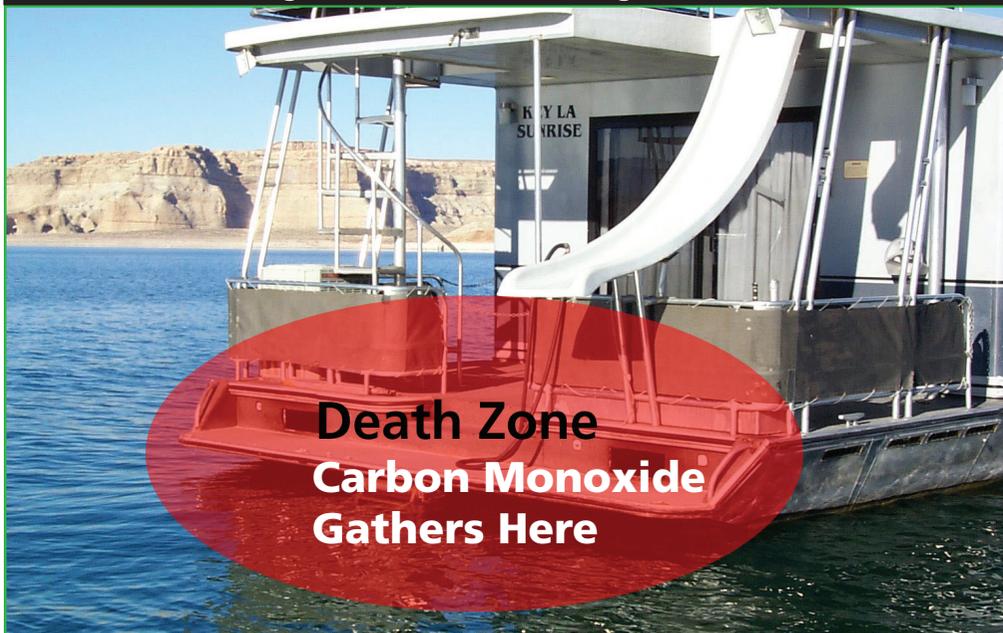
Geology

Over millions of years, Rainbow Bridge was formed by the action of erosion as Bridge Creek flowed down from Navajo Mountain and carved through the relatively soft Navajo sandstone which rests upon the more resistant Kayenta formation.

Flora and Fauna

Glen Canyon NRA has catalogued the following species: 800 plants, 311 birds, 64 mammals, 27 fish, 28 reptiles, and 7 amphibians. Any of these species could potentially be found at Rainbow Bridge NM as well.

Live to Play Another Day... Be Safe



**Death Zone
Carbon Monoxide
Gathers Here**

Do stay out of the Death Zone. In 2008, the park had one fatality and over 13 people became seriously ill due to Carbon Monoxide poisoning.



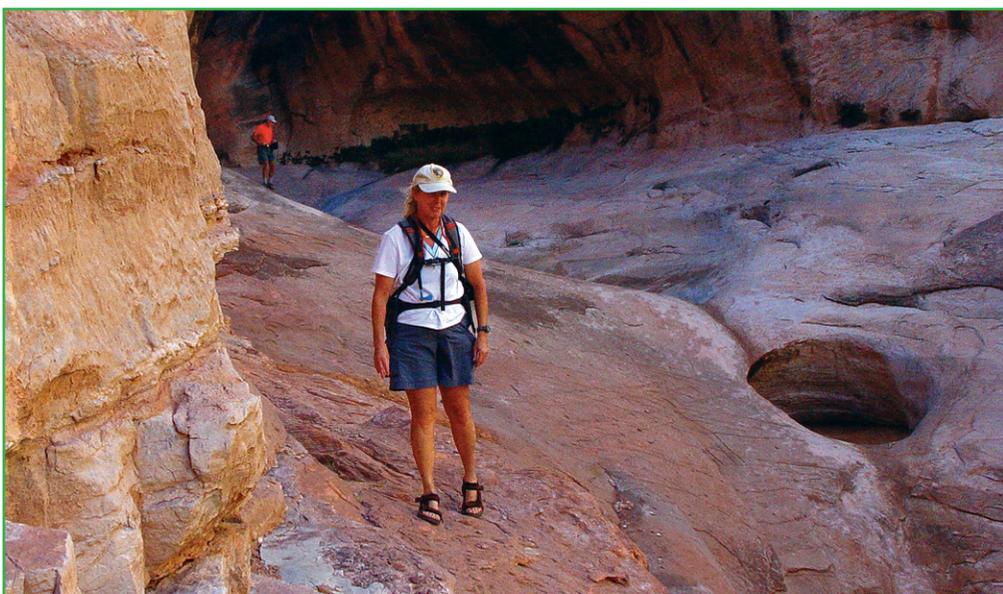
Don't drink while boating. It is dangerous and illegal too! Alcohol is a major factor in up to 50% of boating fatalities.



Do wear your life jacket! In 2008, 3 people died from water-related accidents.



Don't jump off a cliff. This young man DIED.



Do wear sunscreen and a hat, do bring plenty of water, don't let the heat take over your vacation.



Don't attempt crossing a flash flood! They come on strong, and they come on fast.