National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park Grand Canyon, Arizona



2019 Park Profile

Authorization

- 1882: First unsuccessful attempt to establish a Grand Canyon National Park
- 1893: Designated a "forest reserve" by President Benjamin Harrison (Presidential Proclamation #45)
- 1908: Established as Grand Canyon National Monument by President Theodore Roosevelt (Presidential Proclamation #794)
- 1919: Designated Grand Canyon National Park by an act of Congress on February 26 (40 Stat 1175)
- 1975: Grand Canyon National Park Enlargement Act enacted by Congress on January 3 (88 Stat 2089) (Public Law 93-620)

1979: Designated a World Heritage Site on October 26

2019: Designated an International Dark Sky Park (IDSP) by the International Dark-Sky Association in June after being awarded Provisional IDSP status in 2016

Park Statistics

Grand Canyon National Park

Park Size:

1,218,375 acres (493,059 ha) 1,904 square miles (4,931 km²)

Length: 277 river miles (446 km) Width:

Minimum at Marble Canyon, 600 feet (180 m) Average Rim to Rim: 10 miles (16 km) Maximum Rim to Rim: 18 miles (28.8 km)

Depth: Average 1 mile (1.6 km) Elevations:

South Rim 7,000 feet (2,100 m) North Rim 8,000 feet (2,400 m)

Colorado River in Grand Canyon National Park

Length: 277 miles (446 km) Average Width: 300 feet (90 m) Minimum Width: 76 feet (23 m) Average Depth: 40 feet (12 m) Greatest Depth: 85 feet (25.5 m) Average Gradient: 7 feet per mile (1.3 m/km) Elevation at Phantom Ranch: 2,400 feet (720 m)

The Colorado River is 1,450 miles (2,333 km) long from its source in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado to the Gulf of California.

Volume: 5.45 trillion cubic yards (4.17 trillion m³)

Geology

Grand Canyon National Park preserves an iconic geologic landscape and resources ranging from 1,840 to 270 million years old, including diverse paleontological resources; unconsolidated surface deposits; a complex tectonic and erosion history; and Pliocene to Holocene volcanic deposits. The Colorado River established its course through the canyon about six million years ago and likely evolved from pre-existing drainages to its current course. Geologic processes, including erosion of tributaries and slopes, and active tectonics continue to shape the canyon today. The geologic record in Grand Canyon is an important scientific chronicle and is largely responsible for its inspirational scenery.

Plant and Animal Life

Animals

- Birds: 450 species
- Mammals: 91 species
- Fish: 18 species, 5 native
- Reptiles and Amphibians: 58 species
- Invertebrates: 1,443 species, including 292 butterflies and moths
- Exotic (non-native) animals: 27 species
- Park Endemic animals, not extirpated: 9 species; 5 butterflies, 1 pseudoscorpion, 1 tarantula, 1 snake, 1 mollusk
- Regionally Endemic animals, not extirpated: 5 species; humpback chub, razorback sucker, flannelmouth sucker, Kaibab squirrel, and the Navajo Mexican vole

One reptile, three mammal, and one mollusk species are known only from the Grand Canyon region. At least nine species of insects are endemic to Grand Canyon, and six fish species are endemic to the Colorado River basin.

Plants

Vascular Plants: 1,747 species Endemic Plants: 4 species Exotic (non-native) Plants: 208 species



Vegetation Formations

6 types: riparian, desert scrub, pinyon/juniper woodland, ponderosa pine forest, spruce/fir forest, and montane meadows/sub-alpine.

Endangered/Threatened

Animals: California condor, humpback chub, razorback sucker, southwestern willow flycatcher, Mexican spotted owl, Ridgeway's rail, yellow-billed cuckoo, and desert tortoise. There are over 35 species of special concern and former USFWS Category 2 species.

Plants: The sentry milk-vetch (*Astragalus cremnophylax* var. *cremnophylax*) is the only endangered plant in the park. There are no listed threatened plant species. Nine species of special concern (formerly category 2 species) are known, and 25 additional vascular plants are of management concern due to their limited distribution.

Extirpated Species

Grizzly bear, black-footed ferret, gray wolf, jaguar, Bear Valley sandwort, Colorado pikeminnow, bonytail, roundtail chub, northern leopard frog, and southwestern river otter.



Human History

The oldest human artifacts found date to the Paleoindian period and are nearly 12,000 years old. There has been continuous use and occupation of the park since that time. Archaeological evidence from the following prehistoric culture groups is found in Grand Canyon National Park: Paleoindian, Archaic, Basketmaker, Ancestral Puebloan (Kayenta and Virgin branches), Cohonina, Cerbat, Pai, and Southern Paiute. Historicalperiod cultural groups include the Hopi, Navajo, Pai, Southern Paiute, Zuni, and Euro-American. The park has recorded 4,615 archaeological resources with intensive survey of approximately six percent of the park area. The park's 11 Traditionally Associated Tribes and historic ethnic groups view management of archaeological resources as preservation of their heritage.



Historic Resources

National Historic Landmarks

Individual Buildings: 4 Districts: 3 Sites: 1

National Register of Historic Places

Buildings: 8 Districts: 10 Sites: 2 Structure: 1

Climate

Climate in Grand Canyon National Park is relatively mild. However, low humidity generally allows large temperature differences between day and night.

South Rim

Mean High Temperature: 60°F (15.6°C) Mean Low Temperature: 39°F (3.9°C) Average Annual Precipitation: 15.94 inches (40.49 cm) Total Precipitation in 2019: 15.66 inches (39.78 cm) National Register properties include archaeological sites, historic structures, cultural landscapes, and ethnographic resources. Determinations of eligibility have been prepared by both Hopi and Zuni preservation offices identifying elements of the greater Grand Canyon, Colorado River, Bright Angel Creek, and Little Colorado River as a Traditional Cultural Property.

List of Classified Structures (LCS): 874 listings.

LCS includes National Historic Landmark and National Register listed or eligible properties.

Since precipitation totals are low, year-to-year variations can be large. The passage of a few major storms can have a significant impact on the year's total.

North Rim

Mean High Temperature: 55°F (12.8°C) Mean Low Temperature: 31°F (-0.6°C) Average Annual Precipitation: 24.68 inches (62.69 cm) Total Precipitation in 2019: 30.16 inches (76.61 cm)

Phantom Ranch

Mean High Temperature: 77°F (25.0°C) Mean Low Temperature: 53°F (11.7°C) Average Annual Precipitation: 10.06 inches (25.55 cm) Total Precipitation in 2019: 12.50 inches (31.75 cm)

Development

Buildings

Total: 1,181 National Park Service: 645 Concessioners: 536

Trails

Paved: 35 miles (56.3 km) Unpaved: 560 miles (901.2 km) Total: 595 miles (957.6 km)

Roads

Paved: 106 miles (170.6 km) Unpaved: 148 miles (238.2 km) Total: 254 miles (408.8 km)

Sewage Treatment Facilities

Total: 4

Trans-canyon Pipeline

Water from Roaring Springs to the North and South rims Total: 23 miles (37 km)

Lodging Units

South Rim: 908 North Rim: 219 Phantom Ranch: 15

Rim Campsites

Mather: 317 family, 7 group, 2 hiker/biker, 2 livestock Desert View: 50 family North Rim: 90 family, 3 group Tuweep: 9 family, 1 group

Recreational Vehicle Sites

Total: 123

Visitor Facilities

Visitor centers, museums, theaters, backcountry offices, historic structures, scenic overlooks, accessible rim trails, lodging, campgrounds, dump stations, service stations, restaurants, cocktail lounges, coffee shops, general stores, gift shops, bookstores, clinic, bank, post offices, churches, and a dog kennel. Some facilities are seasonal.

Visitor Services

Services include educational exhibits, curriculumbased education programs, junior ranger programs, ranger programs and hikes, picnicking, bicycling, bike rentals, self-guided hikes, mule riding, backpacking, fishing, river trips, overnight lodging, camping, camper services, guided bus tours, air tours (outside of park), shuttle bus service, taxi, auto repair, publication sales, gift and grocery sales, law enforcement, and medical and emergency services.

Concessioners

In Fiscal Year 2019, 22 concessioners grossed approximately \$182.5 million and paid franchise and other fees of approximately \$17.8 million.



2019 Visitor and Resource Protection

Law Enforcement Activities

Part I Offenses Investigated: 59 Part II Offenses Reported: 4,409 Law Enforcement Jurisdiction: Concurrent

Emergency Medical Services

Emergency Medical Service Incidents: 1,237 Fatalities: 13

Search and Rescue Incidents (SAR)

Total: 328

Preventative Search and Rescue (PSAR)

Total Contacts: 160,106 Preventative Actions: 21,333 Hiker Assists: 722

Structural Fire Incidents and Responses Total: 41

Wildland Fire Incidents and Treatments

Fire Starts Incidents: 19 Acres treated with fire: 8,790 Acres of defensible space treated: 6 Houses treated for FireWise standards: 10

2019 Visitation

Total Visitation

2019 Total: 5,974,411 2018 Total: 6,380,495

Shuttle System Passengers

7,644,231 boardings (not passengers)

The shuttle system was implemented in 1974. Yearround shuttle service began March 10, 2000.

Backcountry User Nights

Total: 91,339 Corridor: 52,751 Other Backcountry Trails: 38,588 Backcountry permits issued: 14,753 Backcountry permits used: 13,758

Colorado River User Days

Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek Commercial: 114,337 Noncommercial: 107,679 Diamond Creek to Pearce Ferry Noncommercial: 15,178

2017 Total: 6,254,238

2016 Total: 5,969,811

Mule Trip Riders

Xanterra, South Rim

Phantom Ranch 1 night: 2,223 Phantom Ranch 2 nights: 316 Canyon Vistas: 8,680

Canyon Trail Rides, North Rim One Hour Rim Ride: 2,646 Half Day Inner Canyon Ride: 4,004 Half Day Rim Ride: 494

Train Passengers

North-bound boardings Total: 190,782



2019 Interpretive Services and Activities

Visitor Centers and Contact Stations

Grand Canyon Visitor Center Verkamp's Visitor Center Yavapai Observation Station Tusayan Ruin and Museum Desert View Visitor Center North Rim Visitor Center Kolb Studio Indian Garden Phantom Ranch

Headquarters Interpretive Walks, Talks, and Programs

2,778 presentations to 388,822 visitors

Environmental Education Programs

615 presentations to 18,187 participants 30,000 Junior Rangers sworn in

Publications

50 print publications currently maintained Park Unigrids/maps distributed on the South

Rim:1,076,400

Pocket Map and Services Guide distributed on the South Rim: 1,837,750

All other brochures: 328,750

Pocket Map and Services Guide available in eight languages.

Digital Media

Facebook followers: 559,091 Instagram followers: 623,590 Twitter followers: 135,793 Social Media engagement clicks: 5,903,211 nps.gov/grca page views: 15,969,192

2015 Total: 5,520,736

Administration

FY 2019 Funding

Operation of the National Park System (ONPS) ONPS Base Operating Appropriation: \$21,607,500 ONPS Non-base Funding: \$41,949

Special Emphasis Program Allocation (SEPAS) FirePro Base: \$1,469,792 Construction and Major Maintenance: \$368,624 Repair and Rehabilitation: \$346,875

Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act—80% portion

(FY-10) \$13,367,858 (FY-11) \$13,780,061 (FY-12) \$13,972,969 (FY-13) \$14,775,466 (FY-14) \$8,407,057 (collections reduced by LSI buy down) (FY-15) \$18,361,846 (FY-16) \$15,215,281 (collections reduced by Pipeline reserve) (FY-17) \$11,739,334 (collections reduced by Pipeline reserve) (FY-18) \$16,263,449 (FY-19) \$15,788,360

10 Year Total (FY10-19) \$141,671,681

Federal Lands Highway Program: \$0

Income 2019

Utilities Reimbursable: \$4,793,491 Quarters: \$1,933,006 Concession Franchise Fees—20% Portion: \$3,231,346 Filming and Location Fees: \$15,605 Donations (monetary): \$1,312,092 Transportation (Shuttle Buses): \$6,594,934 Other (reimbursable, refundable, etc.): \$2,960,853

National Park Service Staffing—FY 2019

Information and distribution of all staff (Permanent, Term, and Seasonal) as of January 2020. Superintendent's Office: 13 Administration: 15 Science and Resource Management: 40 Concessions Management: 11 Planning, Environment, and Projects: 9 Facility Management: 94 Interpretation: 46 Visitor and Resource Protection: 127 Fire and Aviation Management: 17

Total National Park Service Staffing

(FY-15) 457 (FY-16) 451 (FY-17) 382 (FY-18) 452 (FY-19) 372

Volunteers-in-Parks (VIP) Program

Volunteer hours by category Administration: 1,732 Campground Host: 6,902.5 Cultural Resource Management: 1,300.5 General: 0 Interpretation/Education: 13,530.75 Natural Resource Management: 7,016.5 Protection/Law Enforcement: 23,426.25 *In-Kind Service Amount* Total volunteers in park: 1,457 Total hours: 61,110.25 National value of each volunteer hour: \$25,43

Total in-kind services: \$1,554,033.66



Neighbors

Coconino County-AZ Flagstaff-AZ Glen Canyon National Recreation Area-AZ/UT Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument-AZ Jacob Lake-AZ Lake Mead National Recreation Area-AZ Mohave County-AZ Tusayan-AZ Vermilion Cliffs National Monument-AZ Williams-AZ Valley of Fire State Park-NV Garfield County-UT Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument-UT Kanab-UT Kane County-UT Washington County-UT

Partners and Stakeholders

Arizona Game and Fish Department-AZ Arizona Strip Field Office-AZ Flagstaff Area National Monuments-AZ Kaibab National Forest-AZ Pipe Spring National Monument-AZ Bryce Canyon National Park-UT Kanab Field Office-UT Zion National Park-UT

11 Traditionally Associated American Indian Tribes

Havasupai Tribe-AZ Hopi Tribe-AZ Hualapai Tribe-AZ Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians-AZ Las Vegas Band of Paiute Indians-NV Moapa Band of Paiute Indians-NV Navajo Nation-AZ Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah-UT San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe-AZ The Pueblo of Zuni-NM Yavapai-Apache Nation-AZ

Arizona Congressional Representatives

Senator Kyrsten Sinema Senator Martha McSally First District Representative Tom O'Halleran Fourth District Representative Paul Goser



National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

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Located in northern Arizona, Grand Canyon National Park encompasses 277 miles (446 km) of the Colorado River and adjacent uplands. One of the most spectacular examples of erosion anywhere in the world, Grand Canyon is unmatched in the incomparable vistas it offers visitors on the rim. Grand Canyon National Park is a World Heritage Site.

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.