

Lake Mead

National Recreation Area

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Firearms Fact Sheet

The Department of the Interior has adopted new rules that allow individuals to carry concealed, loaded, and operable firearms in federal park units and refuges to the extent that they can lawfully do so under non-conflicting state law. Lake Mead National Recreation Area (LMNRA) covers area in both the States of Arizona and Nevada. In order to carry a concealed firearm within the boundaries of the LMNRA, you must comply with state law governing concealed carry.

Applicable Federal Laws & Regulations

18 U.S.C. § 930

(a) Except as provided in subsection (d), whoever knowingly possesses or causes to be present a firearm or other dangerous weapon in a Federal facility (other than a Federal court facility), or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

(b) Whoever, with intent that a firearm or other dangerous weapon be used in the commission of a crime, knowingly possesses or causes to be present such firearm or dangerous weapon in a Federal facility, or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

36 C.F.R. §2.4(h)

Notwithstanding any other provision in this Chapter, a person may possess, carry, and transport concealed, loaded, and operable firearms within a national park area in accordance with the laws of the state in which the national park area, or that portion thereof, is located, except as otherwise prohibited by applicable federal law.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is considered a concealed firearm?

Nevada – A concealed firearm “means a loaded or unloaded pistol, revolver or other firearm which is carried upon a person in such a manner as not to be discernible by ordinary observation.” (NRS 202.3653)

Arizona – A weapon means anything that is designed for lethal use. The term includes a firearm. (ARS 13-3101)

Can I carry a firearm in plain view?

No. Regulations concerning firearms in national park areas only allow concealed carry of firearms by those with a state issued concealed carry permit, except as may be permitted under hunting regulations.

Can I carry my firearm into the visitor’s center, ranger station or park headquarters?

No. Carrying firearms or other dangerous weapons into a federal building is still prohibited by federal law. (18 U.S.C. § 930)

I am from out of state can I carry my firearm in LMNRA?

Nevada – Nevada currently recognizes concealed carry permits issued by Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Tennessee and Utah. These are subject to change. You should contact the Nevada Department of Public Safety (<http://dps.nv.gov/>) for the latest list prior to your visit to LMNRA.

Arizona – Arizona recognizes permits from all states as long as the holder is not a resident of Arizona, is legally present in the state, not legally prohibited from possessing a firearm, and is at least 21-year-old. (ARS 13-3112) This is subject to change. You should contact the Arizona Department of Public Safety (<http://www.azdps.gov/>) for the latest list prior to your visit to LMNRA

Is shooting allowed in the park?

No. Discharging firearms for reasons other than lawful hunting is prohibited on National Park Service lands. Shooting is allowed on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management for more information visit its web site at:
<http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lwfo.2.html>

Is hunting allowed in the park?

Yes. Hunting is permitted in designated areas of the park. Hunters must adhere to state regulations governing such activity. For regulations and hunting license information contact:

Nevada – Nevada Division of Wildlife
<http://www.ndow.org/> - 800-576-1020

Arizona – Arizona Game & Fish Department
<http://www.azgfd.gov/> - 602.942.3000

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