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# The News

## Interim Edition

Summer 1991

Volume 4 No. 3

- \* Protecting the Grand Canyon \*
- \* Setting the highest standards for the river profession \*
- \* Providing the best possible river experience \*

### GLEN CANYON DAM

## Mr. Lujan decides at last

I T was too long in coming, but Interior compromise Secretary Manuel Lujan's decision to proceed immediately with three regulated water releases. Dam is w...

## Glen Canyon cuts to increase power costs

Flow limits imposed at Glen Canyon Dam

**Unbelievable!**

By JUDY FAHYS  
Sue WASH  
that e

move as the best way resources downstream said it could v

Nathan Sidener

The Bureau of Reclamation, which built a final 354 megawatt hydroplant run d... a for... stream flow tests... it a for... tions — all are blamed for eroding the r... reaches along the Colorado Ri... downstream from

ARDEN

reduce the speed of bea pool stranding of fish d... protect endangered fish river level in the Grand

As new water release restric... Canyon Dam began Thursday, utilities that have the...

But it happened! On August 1, Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan implemented an "Interim Flow Test" to be in effect for 90 days. By November 1 he will announce the final Interim Flow package, to be in effect until the completion of the Environmental Impact Studies in late 1993. That decision will be based on scientific evidence gained during the test flows, and on political pressures from us, from the power lobby and, if it passes, the Grand Canyon Protection Act.

This is an excellent first step and we applaud Secretary Lujan for carrying through with his promise to implement Interim Flows without being required to by the Protection Act.

An excellent first step, but not a time for us to rest on our laurels. Why?

**WAPA:** The Western Area Power Administration is VERY upset about the restrictions placed on one of its favorite toys. They have already launched a scare campaign, quoting astronomical costs for implementation of the Interim Flows, to be passed on to the "innocent consumer" with rate increases of "up to 28%"; an added cost of up to "\$23 million annually". This is in striking contrast to figures prepared for Congress by the Environmental Defense Fund of \$8.6 to \$14.5 mil-

lion for 3 years. Rest assured that WAPA will do everything in its power to prevent the continuation of interim flows.

**FINE PRINT:** Towards the end of the Bureau of Reclamation's news release is the following line: "Criteria have been established that would allow these flows to be exceeded for short periods during emergency situations." If emergency situations can be defined as economic problems for WAPA or their customers, and/or if short periods can be defined as a month or two, then we have gained nothing.

**GRAND CANYON PROTECTION ACT:** Despite great efforts by all of us, all of you, and the Bill's sponsor, Senator John McCain, the GCPA did not make it to the Senate floor before the August recess. It is now scheduled for action in September. Furthermore, the bill's popular support has caused it to be combined with other less viable bills in hopes that the GCPA's strength can pull several other bills through.

It is the legal clout of the GCPA that can add both pressure for continued Interim Flows and a resource oriented thrust to the final EIS.

Passage of the GCPA is ESSENTIAL. Call again. Write again. Tell your passengers.

**IT MUST PASS IN THE SENATE THIS FALL.**

## What's an Interim Flow?

The "interim" here is the segment of time between the ending, on July 29, 1991, of 18 months of test flows, and the implementation of the final Environmental Impact Statement, now scheduled for late 1993.

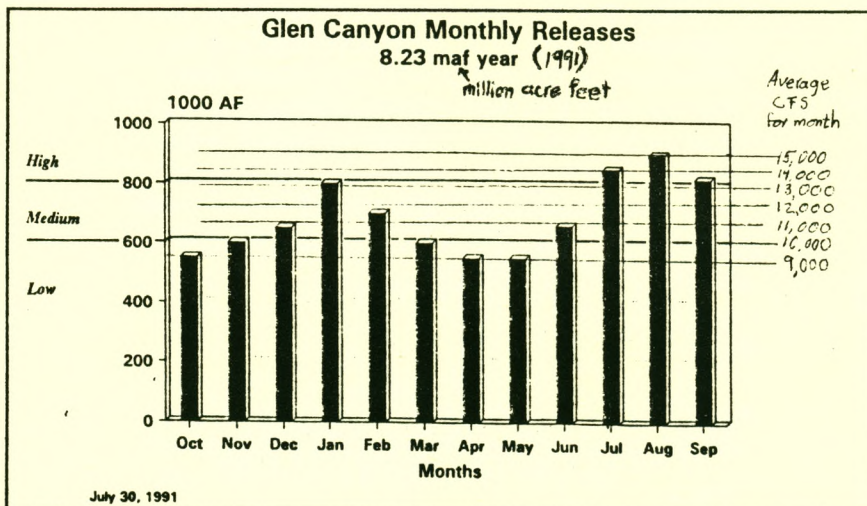
"Interim Flows" consist of restricted dam release flows, based on the outcome of the GCES scientists' findings to date. They are designed to protect the beaches, the ecosystem which depends on those beaches, the native fish, the trout, and other resources.

From August 1 to November 1, "Test Interim Flows" will be in effect, as described below. The final "Interim Flow" package, to be in effect from November 1 until the completion of the EIS, has yet to be decided upon.

### The specific Interim Test Flow criteria are as follows:

- Maximum Flow: 20,000 cfs
- Minimum Flow: 5,000 cfs (6 hours at night)  
8,000 cfs (7 AM to 7 PM)
- Change per day: 5,000 cfs for low volume months (600,000 acre feet)  
6,000 cfs for medium volume months (600,000 to 800,000 acre feet)  
8,000 cfs for high volume months (greater than 800,000 acre feet)
- Ramping Rates: UP = no greater than 8,000 cfs over 4 hours with a maximum of 2,500 cfs per hour  
DOWN = 1,500 cfs per hour

Specific emergency and exception criteria are being developed jointly by the GCES, Reclamation and the Western Area Power Administration. GCES intends to develop a specific monitoring and research program to evaluate the impacts associated with the specific test flow operations



## A note of thanks

Dear Guides:

I appreciate the efforts that Grand Canyon guides have made over the last several years. Without your involvement with the GCES, educating your clients and your guidance to the GCES and myself, we would not have been able to get the science to a level where it now is. Your assistance and gentle prodding have been a very major part in shaping the GCES, the EIS and the Interim Flow decision. Many times it has been frustrating but the hard work does pay off. The Grand Canyon is better taken care of because of you. We owe all of you a great deal of thanks and gratitude and a refreshment or two.

Please contact the GCES office if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks again.

*Dave*

Dave Wegner  
GCES  
(602) 556-7363

## G C Protection Act letter-writing flyers

An updated version of our flyer should be available soon through GCRG Board members and other distributors. Let's keep the ball rolling!

## No-motor season to be more motorless

Last fall, during the heyday of the GCES studies, an exemption to the no-motor rule was made in order to get the science done on time.

This fall the NPS has denied permission for any motorized launches between September 15 and December 15th. The only exception will be the chub tracking boats, which will be allowed to use motors while actually tracking their chubs.

## Interim News

After the last 3 newsletter-a-thons, it became very apparent that we don't have the human resources to pull off 4 mega-newsletters a year. So we're shooting for 2 big ones and 2 updates to fill in between. This issue is an update; expect the next mega-issue this fall. (We need more stuff for it!)

## Jack, we hardly knew ye...

We were all saddened to hear that Superintendent Jack Davis is leaving Grand Canyon this month to take a high level NPS position in Washington. We have been very impressed with his efforts pertaining to resources and the environment, and his great influence in vastly improving Park / Guide relations. He accomplished a great deal in a very short time. Thanks, Jack, from all of us.

As of October 1, the new Superintendent will be Bob Chandler, who has been with the NPS for 32 years. He is currently Superintendent at the Everglades. Rumor has it that he is, like Jack Davis, a resource oriented administrator. That is good news, indeed. John Reed will be acting Superintendent until Chandler's arrival.

## Havasuperhighway

The new trail work at Havasu, with its blasting, sawing and wallbuilding, has received mixed reviews, ranging from "much improved and safer" to "outrageously heavy-handed".

But Havasu has shown a remarkable ability to recover from far graver wounds than this. Already the grasses and grape vines are boiling up over the scars. Says Kim Crumbo, "Just give it a year."



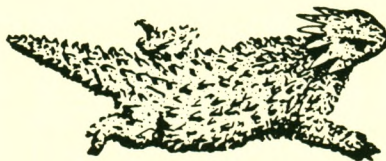
## Election Results

The polls closed June 10th for election of the new Board of Directors. Christa Sadler, poor thing, is the new Secretary / Treasurer. The new Board consists of:

Brad Dimock  
Dave Edwards  
Carol Fritzinger  
Kenton Grua  
Bob Melville  
Tim Whitney

Still in office are:

Tom Moody, President  
Dan Dierker, Vice President  
Jeri Ledbetter, Membership Director



## Income Statement

Fiscal Year-End 7/1/90 - 6/30/91

Beginning Balance 7/1/90		\$1030.10
<b>INCOME</b>		
Advertising	\$	642.00
Dues & Contributions		13,276.00
Michael Jacobs Fund		770.00
T-Shirt & Photo Sales	\$6566.74	
less Cost of Goods Sold (5336.46)		
Net Sales Income		1230.28
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>15,918.28</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Meeting Expenses		1774.51
Michael Jacobs Award		128.95
Office Expenses, Equipment		1944.29
Phone		937.39
Postage		2631.24
Printing		4968.08
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>(12,384.46)</b>
Decrease Liability (loan repaid)		( 500.00)
<b>Ending Cash 6/30/91</b>		<b>4,063.92</b>

## Membership Statistics

Guide Members	340
General Members	<u>243</u>
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>583</b>

## Members and Letters

Our numbers are continuing to grow. That allows us to reach a greater number of people and have the funds to take on larger projects. 61% of our expenses last fiscal year were for printing and postage, which is as it should be.

The most rewarding result is this: We have been swamped with copies of letters sent to Congress by you and your clients. We have heard repeatedly from lobbyists and those in the know that our ability to generate congressional pressure is staggering. We ARE making a difference. Many thanks to those of you who have been distributing our letter-writing flyers and talking it up among your passengers. Keep pushing. Now is the time for the final thrust.

## Emissions from Navajo Power Plant to be cut 90%

An agreement was reached on August 8th between The Salt River Project and the Grand Canyon Trust to clean up one of the dirtiest power plants in the West and bring back blue skies over Grand Canyon. The accord calls for a 90% reduction in sulfur dioxide emissions by 1999 at a cost of 1.8million dollars. Scrubbers are to be installed for each of the three stacks in 1997, '98 and '99. Till then just wear blue glasses.

## GCRG Fall Meeting November 2 & 3

If it's not on your calendar yet, it should be. Be in Kanab for the Fall Meetings at the Grand Canyon Expeditions Warehouse. We haven 't told Mike Denoyer yet, but we're staying for a week. Costumes are optional.

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## Wuddyathink?

We're kicking off a new column, to begin in the next issue and to be written by YOU. It's a 25 words or less opinion/statement page. Our first topic is:

**The term: Boatman. Sexist or unisex?**

Send your 25 words or less to:

Wuddyathink?  
c/o GCRG  
Box 1934  
Flagstaff, Arizona 86002

## Courtesy Flyer

The Grand Canyon Courtesy flyer, a prototype of which appeared in our last newsletter, is in its final stages and should be available to commercial and private trips soon. We'll print the approved and official version in our next newsletter. In order to keep the flyer current and to be sure it represents a broad spectrum of interests, we will be having another forum on it at the Fall 91 meeting.

## Hey! We got Stickers!

By popular demand our logo is now available as a 3" x 5" sticker. They go great on bumpers, oars, motors, boats, ammo cans, etc...

As of August 1, one will be included with each new or renewal membership card.

How to get them? Join, renew, or buy them for 50 cents each. Add 50 cents per order or send a self addressed, stamped envelope.

## Guide Licenses

Just a reminder that guide licenses must be renewed every three years and that you MUST re-take the written test to renew.

