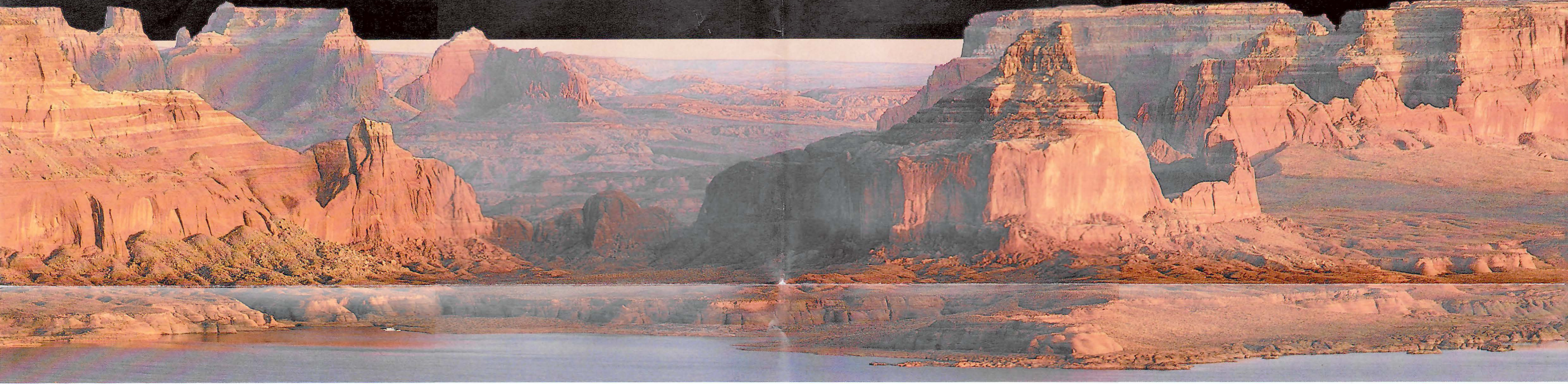


Glen Canyon

Official Map and Guide

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area
Utah and Arizona

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Cover photo by Jeff Gnass

Throughout history, humans have adapted their surroundings to better suit their needs. Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, established in 1972, provides a dramatic example of one of nature's most inspiring settings combined with a most ambitious human project. Impounded behind the Bureau of Reclamation's Glen Canyon Dam, waters of the Colorado River and tributaries are backed up almost 200 miles (320 kilometers), forming Lake Powell. The lake and more than 1 million acres (405,000 hectares) of desert-and-canyon country offer leisure-time activities for American and international visitors. Fishing and water sports are

the dominant activities. Exploring on foot can provide intimate contact with the natural and cultural features preserved here for the enjoyment of present and future generations. Earth forces shaped this topography that now appears as talus slopes, buttes, mesas, canyons, and cliffs. Prehistoric human inhabitants occupied the area and left scattered indications of their presence.

Early Spanish explorers traveled the area looking for an overland route to California and left us a detailed account of their expedi-

tion. Major John Wesley Powell also chronicled the first expedition down the Colorado River. Powell named this stretch of the Colorado River Glen Canyon. Not long after his voyage, permanent settlements were established at the easiest and most reliable river crossings. An early writer about water issues and limits in this arid country, Powell eventually was honored by having the lake named for him. Born amid controversy and compromise, the dam fulfills its goals of water storage and power generation and provides major recreational opportunities. The resulting lake enables many people to view natural marvels and cultural features

once accessible to only a determined few. Construction of the concrete arch dam began in 1956, and the final 2 generating units began providing power in 1966. The lake reached full pool level in 1980. The spillways were used in that year and again in 1983 to handle the rising lake level caused by floodwaters. Lake Powell's presence in a desert landscape has modified the species of plants and animals that now inhabit Glen Canyon. Today, Lake Powell is one of the Southwest's finest lake recreation areas, yearly discovered by more and more vacationers.

Cultural History

The first major human migration into North America from Asia may have occurred from 15,000 to 12,000 years ago. In relatively small groups, these people dispersed quickly throughout North and South America and lived in isolation for thousands of years. The tribes in this area, which we call Desert Archaic people, were hunters and gatherers. Their continuing subsistence needs left little opportunity for development of so-called higher cultural traits or for population growth. About 2,000 years ago a major cultural change—from causes about which we can only speculate—trans-



Anasazi. Notable builders, the Anasazi developed complex stone houses called pueblos by Spanish explorers. Their granaries nestle in sandstone alcoves, and their drawings adorn canyon walls. Pottery shards lie scattered about. Climate changes drove out the agricultural Anasazi, probable ancestors of today's Hopi Indians, by about 1300.

formed these nomads into relatively stationary farmers now called Basket-makers. Their weaving materials included cotton, which was introduced to them by groups living to the south. As they incorporated other ideas from the southern cultures, including above-ground houses, these Basket-makers evolved into the culture we call Anasazi.

Exploration. In 1776, two Spanish priests began an expedition that provided the first written record of Glen Canyon. Father Dominguez, Father Escalante, and their party set out from Santa Fe in July to pioneer an overland route to a military garrison on the California coast. After 3 months, having bypassed the canyon country, the party reached the Great Basin in Utah, where they decided to turn back before the onset of winter. On October 26, the party reached the Colorado River at the mouth of the Paria River. When crossing there proved nearly disastrous, the explorers climbed out of the river bottom and made camp near today's Wahweap Marina. They spent 4 more days searching for a way across the river. Finally, on November 7, they chipped steps in the sandstone wall at Padre Creek and safely led their pack stock to the banks of the Colorado. Here the crossing was wide but shallow. The Crossing of the Fathers today lies beneath the waters of Padre Bay.

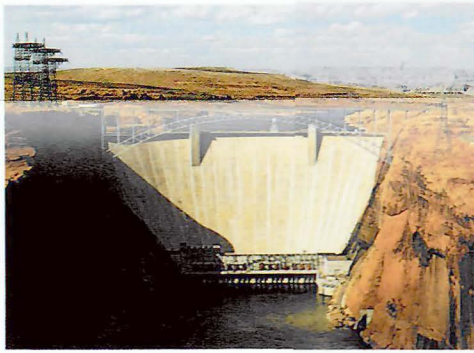
Another journey of discovery began nearly 100 years after the Dominguez-Escalante expedition. Major John Wesley Powell, a 1-armed Civil War veteran, set out to determine these lands' potential for reclamation. In May 1869, Powell and his crew of 9 men left Green River, Wyo., to follow the fabled Colorado. On July 28, they entered Glen Canyon and found its waters calm compared with the rapids of Cataract Canyon. Their trip eventually took them through the Grand Canyon and on to the mouth of the Virgin River in Nevada.

Railroad men with visions of a line from Grand Junction, Colo., to the Gulf of California explored farther along the Colorado River. They declared the route feasible and said the trains could be powered by electric-

ity generated from the flow of the river, but their bankers disagreed. Next came the settlers and, with them, the indispensable ferrymen.

Settlement. Although the Colorado River is accessible near the mouth of the Paria, as Dominguez and Escalante discovered, it cannot be crossed easily. John D. Lee was sent there by the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, or Mormon Church, to build and operate a ferry. He built the Lonely Dell Ranch for Emma Lee, his 17th wife. By 1873 Lee had built a ferryboat named the *Colorado*. He was executed in 1877 for his part in the Mountain Meadows Massacre, the attack by Mormons and Palutes on California-bound settlers. The Mormon Church eventually bought the enterprise from Emma. The ferry ran continuously until 1928. It was replaced by the Navajo Bridge completed across Marble Canyon in 1929.

Mormon settlers sent to colonize the San Juan Valley created a river crossing at Hole-In-The-Rock, just below the confluence of the Colorado and Escalante rivers. These hardy pioneers blasted, cut, and fabricated a road 0.75 miles (1.2 kilometers) long that descended nearly 1,000 feet (305 meters). Charles Hall, a member of that party, later found a somewhat better cross-

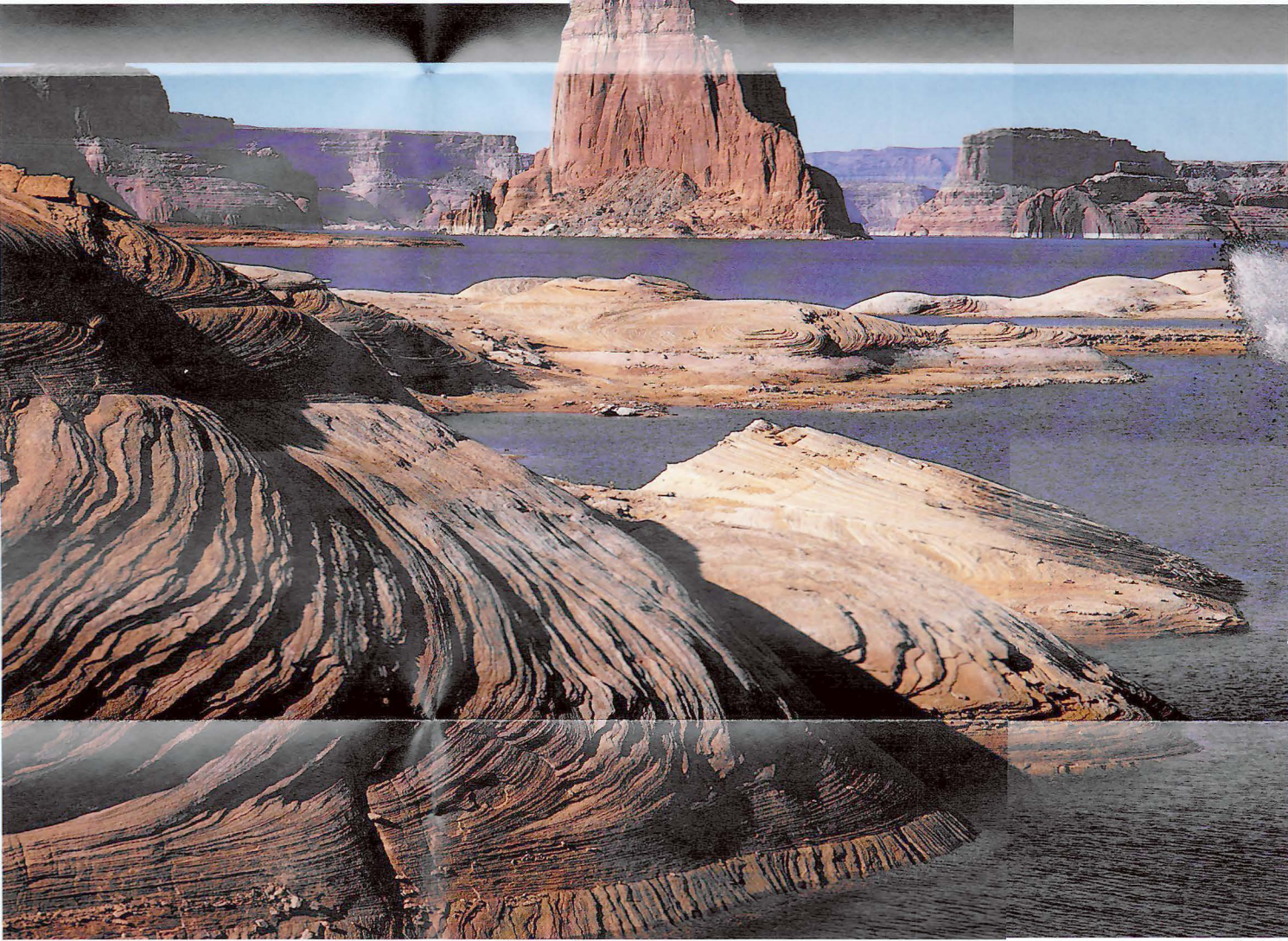


Gary Ladd

Glen Canyon Dam. Concrete for the arch dam and powerplant was poured around the clock for more than 3 years. The dam's crest is 1,560 feet (457 meters) long. It lies 710 feet (216 meters) above bedrock and

583 feet (178 meters) above the original river channel. At its full-pool elevation of 3,700 feet (1,128 meters), Lake Powell measures 560 feet (171 meters) deep at the dam.

ing about 35 miles (56 kilometers) upstream. He ferried travelers across the Colorado at Halls Crossing until Cass Hite found and developed another, still more accessible crossing. The ferry and the town of Hite remained active until flooded by the rising waters of Lake Powell. Cass Hite also found gold in the river's sands, and prospectors searched the canyon and surrounding plateaus for riches. The gold was mostly too fine to be mined commercially, and few miners profited from their efforts.



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Geology. The spectacular landscape dominating this canyon country is the product of eons of geologic activity: shifting of continents, global rising and falling of sea levels, and creation of highlands now worn and redeposited. At times, desert dominated the landscape; sometimes, freshwater or saltwater seas invaded, leaving rivers to erode

the most recently deposited layers. Prevailing winds abetted the process. Periods of erosion account for missing rock strata, layers appearing elsewhere in sequence. The last uplift of the Colorado Plateau began about 60 million years ago. Uplift made meandering streams of the Colorado River run faster and cut the canyons that



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are Lake Powell's basin. Navajo sandstone, the dominant formation, is made of sand dunes hardened by pressure from deposits above them. The deposits eventually wore away and exposed today's sandstone. Other layers contain sea-deposited sediments, still others hold fossils of land or marine organisms that lived millions of years ago. Petrified wood and fossils of dinosaur bones, sea shells, and small sea creatures are found in several rock strata in this area.



Jeff Gnass

Ecology. Most plants and animals found here are typical of desert species. Cactus, yucca, blackbrush, rabbitbrush, and grasses dominate desert plant communities. Spring or summer precipitation prompts sand lilies, fleabane, evening primrose, lupine, Indian paintbrush, and globe mallow to bloom. Pinyon and juniper trees grow at higher elevations. Animal inhabitants include coyotes, foxes, rats, mice, lizards, and insects. In startling contrast, shaded spring-fed alcoves in side canyons provide suitable



Jeff Gnass

habitat for deer and beaver, ferns and sedges, reeds and cattails, cottonwoods and willows. Ravens, eagles, hawks, owls, sparrows, and swallows are regular residents of the canyon country, where canyon wrens sing their unforgettable song.

Activities

Water sports dominate recreational activities at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. Concessioners offer boat tours that last from 1 hour to all day and provide boat rentals at developed areas. Houseboats provide comfort at a relaxed pace, as well as a chance to sightsee beyond developed areas. Sailing is best at Wahweap, Padre, and Bullfrog Bays. Canoes and kayaks provide access to secluded areas in small canyons. Lake waters are relatively warm from June through September, making swimming,



Bonnie Muench

snorkeling, SCUBA diving, and waterskiing enjoyable.

Fishing is rewarding all year. Primary game species are largemouth and striped bass, black crappie, catfish, bluegill, trout, and walleye. The cold water of the Colorado River below the dam provides excellent trophy



Largemouth bass

Illustration by Dan Feaser

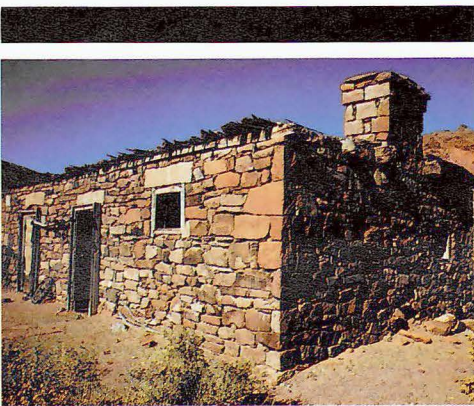
trout habitat. Anglers frequently catch very large rainbow trout upstream from Lees Ferry.

There is excellent camping on flat sites along the lakeshore. You can supplement your water sports with a hike in desert side canyons on trails of your own choosing. Please exercise reasonable caution (see Regulations).

Backcountry hiking in the canyon country requires planning and stamina (see Regulations). However, the rewards can far outweigh the efforts of preparation and the exertion of the experience itself.

Mountain biking is becoming a popular activity within the recreation area. Bicycles, like cars, are limited to traveling on established roadways.

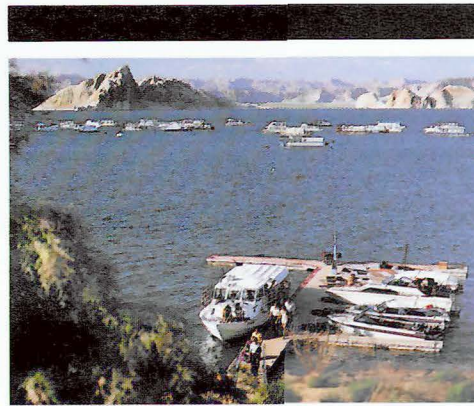
Write to the Superintendent, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, P.O. Box 1507, Page, AZ 86040 for more information about facilities, activities, and regulations. The National Park Service will either answer your questions or send them to the appropriate concessioner or agency for response.



Lees Ferry

Downriver from Glen Canyon Dam, Lees Ferry lies in the break between Glen and Marble Canyons. A natural corridor between Utah and Arizona, Lees Ferry figured prominently in the exploration and settlement of the surrounding canyon country. Because of unrest between settlers and Navajo, a stone fort and trading post were built in 1874. Warren Johnson and his son ran the ferry from 1873 to 1896 for the Mormon Church. The post office established here about 1913 was a focal point for far-flung miners working the canyon country. Remains of the post office and fort persist. Just up the Paria Valley are the Lonely Dell Ranch buildings, an orchard, and cemetery. The upriver ferry crossing and the Spencer steamboat still are visible.

Today's Lees Ferry offers a ranger station, launch ramp, fish-cleaning station, campground, and, upstream toward the dam, prime trout habitat. Located at Marble Canyon on Highway 89A 3.5 miles (5.6 kilometers) from Lees Ferry are a restaurant, service station, post office, and store. River trips through the Grand Canyon begin at Lees Ferry; permits are required and should be secured a year or more in advance. For information on Grand Canyon river trips, contact the Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023.



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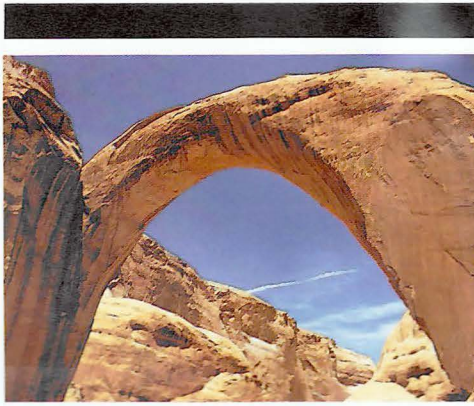
Carl Hayden Visitor Center, Wahweap, and Page

Carl Hayden Visitor Center, next to the dam and Glen Canyon Bridge, is open daily except December 25 and January 1. It offers information, films, a relief map, and views from its observation deck. Daily free dam tours are available.

Wahweap Marina, 5.5 miles (8.9 kilometers) from the visitor center along Lakeshore Drive, is the largest marina and lodging facility in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. The concessioner provides lodging, food services, gift shops, 2 campgrounds (1 with hookups), laundry, showers, and a service station. Full marina services, including slips, buoys, boat rentals, tours, repairs, dry storage, and fueling are available.

The National Park Service provides a self-service ranger station, drinking water, restrooms, free boat pump-out stations, picnic area with grills, fish-cleaning station, and ranger programs in summer.

The town of Page, Ariz., 2 miles (3.2 kilometers) from the dam and visitor center, has stores, motels, restaurants, churches, hospital, and museum. Page can be reached by surfaced roads year-round, and by air from Phoenix, Las Vegas, and Salt Lake City.

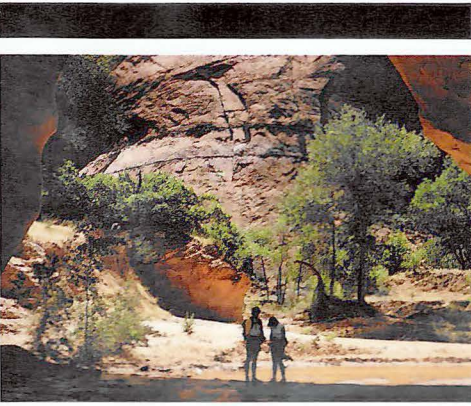


Dangling Rope And Rainbow Bridge

Dangling Rope Marina, accessible only by boat, offers a ranger station, restrooms, free boat pump-out station, emergency communications, boat fuel, minor boat repairs, and a supply store. This floating marina, 40 miles (64 kilometers) uplake from Glen Canyon Dam, replaces the former Rainbow Marina that was in Forbidden Canyon.

Rainbow Bridge National Monument lies about 50 miles (80 kilometers) by water from Wahweap, Bullfrog, or Halls Crossing. It can also be reached by trails across rough canyon country on the Navajo Reservation. The trails are not maintained and are difficult. Hiking permits must be obtained from the Navajo Nation, Recreation Resources Department, Box 308, Window Rock, AZ 86515; telephone 602-871-6647 or 4941.

The world's largest natural bridge, Rainbow Bridge spans 275 feet (84 meters) and is 290 feet (88 meters) high. The top is 42 feet (13 meters) thick and 33 feet (10 meters) wide. The upper part of the bridge is composed of Navajo sandstone, the base of Kayenta formation, a harder rock not as easily cut by the flowing water. Rainbow Bridge is a sacred place for the Navajo. Despite the increase in visitors it still is inspiring to contemplate. Please respect the rights of others; do not swim, dive, or throw rocks within the monument.



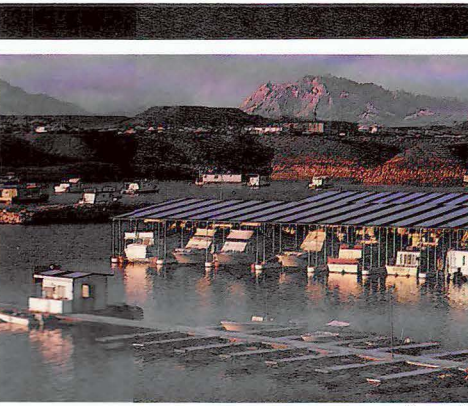
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Escalante

The canyons of the Escalante River and its tributaries long have been favorites of modern-day explorers seeking the canyon country at its wildest. The mouth of Escalante Canyon meets Lake Powell about 70 miles (113 kilometers) uplake from Glen Canyon Dam. Some of its canyons can be explored from small boats.

Hikers can reach the backcountry on foot by trails from the unpaved Hole-In-The-Rock road. Natural bridges, arches, narrow canyons, and remains of prehistoric inhabitants are just some of the region's attractions. Many people feel that the canyons of the Escalante are reminiscent of Glen Canyon before the dam was built. In recognition of their value, portions of Bureau of Land Management and National Park Service lands encompassing the Escalante area are now proposed for designation as wilderness.

A free permit is required for all backcountry camping in the Escalante area, and all travelers should inquire locally before beginning any trip. Minimal impact camping is essential here; leave no trace of your stay. An interagency visitor center in the town of Escalante, Utah, also houses National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management offices.



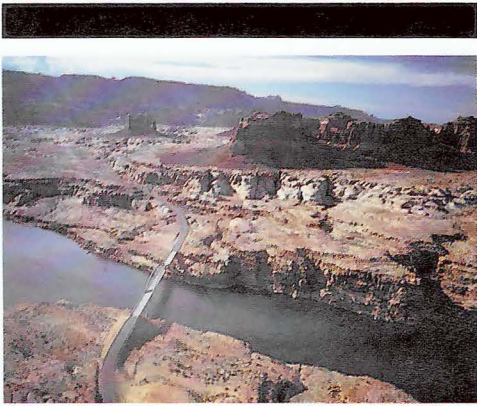
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Halls Crossing And Bullfrog Basin

Halls Crossing, reached from Blanding, Utah, via state highways, offers a ranger station, free boat pump-out station, and launch ramp. The concessioner provides lodging (housekeeping units), 2 campgrounds (1 with hookups), laundry, showers, store, and service station and offers full marina services (except boat tours). The Cal Black Memorial Airport is located east of Halls Crossing.

Bullfrog Basin, set amidst the beautiful Waterpocket Fold country on one side and the Henry Mountains on the other, can be reached by paved state highways from Hanksville, Utah. A new visitor center offers human and natural history exhibits, highlighted by a slot-canyon model, dioramas of the Ice Age environment, and bookstore. Ranger programs and a medical clinic operate in summer. The National Park Service also provides a launch ramp, free boat pump-out station, fish-cleaning station, picnic area, and a paved aircraft landing strip. The concessioner provides lodging, food services, gift shop, stores, 2 campgrounds (1 with hookups), laundry, showers, and service station and offers full marina services.

A regularly scheduled ferry (fee) runs between Halls Crossing and Bullfrog Basin.



Stephen Trimble

Hite

Cass Hite originally named this country Dandy Crossing because it was the best ford in the Colorado above Lees Ferry. Prehistoric peoples also used the crossing. Remains of their structures can still be seen nearby. During the 1880s and 1890s, gold miners would rendezvous here, for Hite had the only post office in Glen Canyon. Today, Hite, the Dirty Devil River, and the upper stretches of Lake Powell are reached by paved Utah Hwy. 95.

Many people find the region around Hite to be the most scenic in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. Just uplake from the present site of Hite Marina, the Dirty Devil River meets the Colorado, making good catfish habitat, while the Colorado itself courses through scenic Narrow Canyon. The National Park Service offers a ranger station, launch ramp, free boat pump-out station, and primitive camping.

The concessioner provides lodging (housekeeping units), store, service station, and full marina services (except boat tours).

Glen Canyon

Driving and Bicycling. Motor vehicles and bicycles must stay on roads in the park, except for Lone Rock, where off-road driving is permitted in a limited, signed area. Unpaved roads may require 4-wheel drive. Some roads on the map are not maintained and may not be passable. **Pets.** Pets must be leashed at all times. **Sanitation.** Boat pump-out stations exist at all marinas. Porta-potties should be carried and used by all shoreline campers. Never discharge sewage into the lake; it is harmful to human health. Human waste and toilet paper left on land can end up in the lake when waters rise. **Antiquities.** Federal law provides severe penalties for the removal or destruction of cultural artifacts or sites. Touching rock art, sitting or walking on walls of prehistoric ruins, and walking off established trails degrades these places. **Plants, Animals, Rocks, and Fossils.** All of these natural features are

protected within the park. Removing, disturbing, or destroying natural features is illegal. Hunting and trapping are allowed; state laws apply. **Weapons.** Possession or use of loaded weapons violates federal law. Water balloon launchers are considered weapons; their use is prohibited. **Boating** **Personal Water Craft.** Jetskis and other personal watercraft are vessels and must follow all boating regulations. Children under 16 years should be accompanied by an adult when operating personal watercraft. **Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs).** Every person aboard a vessel must have an accessible U.S. Coast Guard-approved PFD (life jacket) on board. In Utah, children under 12 must wear PFDs; in Arizona, children 12 and under must wear PFDs. **Alcohol and Boating.**

Boating under the influence of alcohol is dangerous and illegal. Heat, sun, and water glare intensify human reactions to alcohol. Most serious boating accidents are alcohol-related. **Speed.** All vessels must operate at wakeless speed when within 150 feet (46 meters) of another vessel, waterskier, or person in the water and in all signed harbor areas. **Bow Riding.** Bow riding is never safe. Federal regulations prohibit riding on the bow of a boat at speeds greater than wakeless. **Waterskiing.** All boats towing a waterskier must have at least 2 people on board: a competent observer and the boat's operator. An orange or red flag must be held high when the skier is down. **Swimming.** Swim at your own risk. Never jump or dive from boats or cliffs. Invisible, submerged rocks make such activities extremely dangerous. There are no lifeguards within the recreation area. **Weather.** Summer thunderstorms with high

winds are common. During severe weather, seek a sheltered cove and stay there until the storm subsides. **Camping** At developed areas, camp only in established campgrounds (see map). Primitive camping (from car or boat) is allowed elsewhere in the recreation area, if at least 1 mile (1.6 kilometers) from developed areas and more than 100 feet (30.5 meters) from paved roads. The limit for staying at any 1 site is 30 consecutive days. Special hiking and camping regulations apply in the Escalante, Orange Cliffs, Colorado River, and Lees Ferry areas; follow posted instructions. Winter months have freezing temperatures, and July and August are very hot, with severe daily thunderstorms that cause flash floods in constricted side canyons. Drink at least 1 gallon (3.8 liters) of water daily during hot weather.

Purify all drinking water. Bury all human waste at least 8 inches (20 centimeters) below ground and 100 feet (30.5 meters) from all water sources. Pack out or burn toilet paper. Carry out all trash. Do not collect wood to build fires; decaying wood returns nutrients to desert soils. Ground fires are prohibited in the Escalante and Orange Cliffs areas and allowed only in grates along the Colorado River between the dam and Lees Ferry. If you bring wood for a fire where fires are allowed, use a fire pan and carry out all coals. Fireworks are illegal. Avoid stepping on crusty desert soils, called cryptobiotic crusts. Microorganisms compose this crust and prevent soil erosion. **Fishing** An Arizona fishing license is required from Wahweap downstream to Lees Ferry; a Utah license is required

uplake from Wahweap. Each state sells stamps to extend licenses to the other state. Licenses are available at marinas and in nearby communities. A few native fish have adjusted to the cold, clear waters of Lake Powell, and other game species have been introduced. The removal of humpback chub, flannelmouth sucker, and Colorado River squawfish is illegal. Federal law prohibits chumming.

