National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior



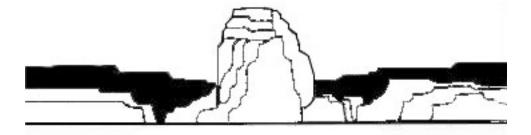
GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

ARIZONA

December

2006

Lees Ferry Improvements Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)



FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Lees Ferry Improvements Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

The National Park Service (NPS) has prepared an environmental assessment, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to examine alternatives and environmental impacts associated with the Lees Ferry Improvement Projects for Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (Glen Canyon NRA). The environmental assessment (EA); released on August 28, 2006 examined two alternatives: Alternative A - No Action and Alternative B – Proposed Action/Preferred Alternative. Topics of concern identified during scoping and evaluated in the EA included: public health and safety, water resources (natural and drinking water), floodplains, Wetlands and Waters of the US, Wildlife, vegetation, and threatened and endangered species, cultural resources, ethnographic resources, and visitor use and experience.

The Environmental Assessment was undertaken to identify and mitigate environmental impacts likely to be created by the construction and/or rehabilitation/repairs to a variety of facilities at the Lees Ferry Area. Improvements will provide replacement of poorly functioning visitor facilities that will increase visitor health and safety and as well as enhance their enjoyment of the Lees Ferry area. These projects will also provide improved safe working conditions for NPS and conessioner employees.

During public the public review period two comments were received through the NPS sponsored Planning, Environment and Pubic Comment System. One comment mainly was mainly concerned with their ability to continue to bring leased dogs into the park. Currently leased pets are allowed within the Lees Ferry Area. We ask that all pet waste be collected and disposed of in available waste receptacles. Dog are not however allowed in Grand Canyon NP and hikers using the Cathedral Wash hiking trail will enter that park near the end of the trail. Therefore we advise hikers not to take their pets on this or any other trail that ends in Grand Canyon NP. The other comment was supportive of the projects proposed in the EA.

A small change was made to the EA based on input from the staff at Grand Canyon National Park. A Record of Decision for their Colorado River Management Plan was signed in February, 2006. As part of this ROD, the preferred alternative selected was Modified Alternative H. The impacts of Modified Alternative H were included in the Cumulative Impacts portion of the EA.

While other minor grammatical or clarifying edits were also made based on input received during the public review period, these edits did not change the impact analysis or the mitigation measures identified in the public review EA.

SELECTION OF THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE (Alternative B in the EA)

After a thorough review of management goals and impacts of the alternatives on park resources, consideration of public comment and consultation with a variety of federal, state and tribal groups, the proposed action/preferred alternative (Alternative B) has been selected for implementation. The proposed action/preferred alternative will allow for implementation of a full range projects designed to repair and/or replace deteriorating facilities and improve communications for the health and safety of staff and visitors using the Lees Ferry area of Glen

Canyon NRA. The following projects will be implemented over the next 5 to 7 years as funding becomes available

- Rehabilitate Roadside Drainage Structures Located along Lees Ferry Access Road, including Cathedral Wash and No Name Wash. This project will replace eroded culverts and create improved drainage patterns to help control erosion of the existing roadway.
- Lees Ferry Compound Upgrade. This project will replace the existing Grand Canyon NP visitor contact station, add updated maintenance buildings and covered parking for boats and other equipment. It will also replace the dated water treatment facility.
- Remove Curb at Graded Raft Launch Ramp. This project will remove a length of curb that is obstructing unloading of float equipment for private parties heading downriver through Grand Canyon NP.
- Replacement of Floating Courtesy Dock. This project will demolish the existing courtesy dock, which is in poor repair and replace it with a new dock in the same location.
- Replacement of Potable Water Intake at the Colorado River. This project will remove the existing water intake pipe that has been corroded over time by mineralization in the water from the Colorado River.
- Install Narrowband Repeater for Grand Canyon National Park On the Paria Plateau Overlooking Lonely Dell Ranch. This project will replace the existing underpowered, under range solar powered wide band radio repeater with a new permanent, electrically powered repeater. The project includes the construction of a small building to house essential equipment, a 40 to 60 foot tower with antenna, overhead electrical service from nearby electrical lines and installation of a small section of new primitive road to access site from existing road.
- Establish the Arizona Road Hiking Trail. This project will include placement of permanent posts to mark path of trail, trail construction to improve visitor safety and creation of a brochure and interpretive plan for the trail.
- Stabilization of erosion of the Paria River bank. This project will be conducted in phases. The first phase will be a complete hydrological study of the affected area and identification of possible construction scenarios. The second phase would construct the scenario that would have the least amount of impacts and control erosion and protect the bridge that crosses the Paria River and the road to Lonely Dell Ranch.
- Replacement of the USGS Gauging Station on the Paria River. This project would construct a new gauging station across the Paria River from the existing largely non-functional gauging station. The existing gauging station, which has been in place since 1922, will remain as a part of the Lees Ferry Lonely Dell Historic District.

Impacts

Summary Comparison of Impacts of Alternatives			
		Alternative B, Lees Ferry Improvement	
Impact Topic	Alternative A, No Action	Alternatives	
Public Health	Implementation of Alternative A	Implementation of Alternative B may	
and Safety	would result in minor to moderate	cause short- term minor detrimental	
	short- term and long- term adverse	impacts to health and safety during	
	impacts on public health and safety	construction periods associated with	
	depending on the intensity of use of	the completion of these projects.	

Summary Comparison of Impacts of Alternatives				
T (T		Alternative B, Lees Ferry Improvement		
Impact Topic	Alternative A, No Action	Alternatives		
	the existing facilities. Drinking water standards changes proposed by the	Additionally, improvements to facilities at Lees Ferry would have beneficial,		
	State of Arizona cannot be met with	minor to moderate, long- term effects		
	the current water treatment facility.	to the health and safety of visitors and		
	If the water intake is not replaced, it	staff. There would be no impairment		
	may fail due to ongoing corrosion	of park values or resources.		
	and raw water will not be available	1		
	for treatment for use by the visiting			
	public. If the courtesy dock is not			
	replaced and the existing dock fails,			
	the ability to safely load and unload			
	passengers and equipment would be			
	compromised.			
Water	Natural Water: There would be no	Natural Water: Construction of the		
Resources	impacts and there would be no	proposed projects would result in short		
(Natural and	impairment of park values or	and long- term moderately adverse		
Drinking	resources.	impacts on water resources. There		
Water)	Drinking Water: Alternative A would	would be no impairment of park values		
	result in negligible to minor, long-	or resources.		
	term adverse impacts to the quality	Drinking Water: Alternative B would		
	of drinking water available at Lees Ferry. There would be no	result in a minor, long- term beneficial impact to the quality of drinking water		
	impairment of park values or	available at Lees Ferry. There would be		
	resources.	no impairment of park values or		
		resources.		
Floodplains	The Lees Ferry compound has been in			
(Impacts are	early 1970's, initially as the site for the water treatment plant. Facility			
the same for A	management and maintenance activities are anchored to the water treatment			
& B)	plant, and resource and visitor protect			
	access and adjacent historic district, close to the compound. This locale is			
	optimal for staging NPS operations and providing direct services for the participation of the providing available optimal for staging to available optimal for stagend to available optimal for stagen			
	visitors. It provides sufficient space for upgrading existing facilities to current standards and adding needed structures for the protection of equipment and materials. Relocating these facilities out of the flood plain would be exorbitant			
	in cost, reduce essential service to visitors, and reduce operational efficiencies.			
	There would be no impairment of park values or resources.			

Wetlands and	There would be no impacts and no	The proposed projects would have
waters of the	impairment of park values or	direct short and long- term negligible

TIC		
U.S.	resources.	to moderate impacts on wetlands and
		waters of the U.S. There would be no
		impairment of park values or
		resources.
Wildlife,	There would be no impacts and no	Alternative B would result in minor to
vegetation and	impairment of park values or	moderate, short- term, highly localized
Threatened	resources.	adverse impacts to vegetation, wildlife
and		and threatened and/or endangered
Endangered		species due to construction activities.
Species		Alternative B would not produce major
		adverse impacts or impairment of
		wildlife resources or values whose
		conservation is necessary to the
		purpose of the establishing legislation of the recreation area, key to the
		natural or cultural integrity of the
		recreation area or opportunities for
		enjoyment of the recreation area, or
		identified as a goal in the recreation
		area's general management plan or
		other NPS planning documents.
Cultural	Alternative A would not result in	There would be negligible, short- term
Resources	impacts to the Lees Ferry Lonely	adverse impacts within the Lees Ferry
Resources	Dell Historic District or the Lonely	Lonely Dell Historic District due to
	Dell Historic Landscape. There	construction related effects. There
	would be no impairment of park	would be no impairment of park values
	values or resources.	or resources. Under this alternative
		the creation of the Arizona Road
		hiking trail would have direct, long-
		term, negligible impacts. There would
		be no impairment of park values or
		resources.
Visitor Use	There would be direct, long- term,	Under this alternative, there would be
and	and negligible to minor adverse	direct, long- term minor to moderate,
Experience	impacts to the visitors use and	beneficial impacts to the visitors use
	experience of the Lees Ferry Area.	and experience of the Lees Ferry Area.
	- · · ·	There would also be negligible short-
		term adverse impacts due to actual
		construction of the proposed projects.

Mitigation Measures

The following actions will be implemented in order to mitigate or minimize impacts from implementation of proposed projects:

Visitor Use and Experience/Public Health and Safety/Economic Considerations

The Hazardous Material storage areas proposed for the Lees Ferry Compound will be designed to withstand most flooding events. If time permits, all hazardous materials will be moved to high ground prior to storm events likely to breach the river bank behind the compound. Additionally, the maintenance personnel at Lees Ferry will endeavor to use environmentally friendly products and limit the amount of hazardous materials purchased. Glen Canyon NRA dispatch monitors the National Weather Service flashflood warnings and would initiate evacuation of facilities and surrounding area of visitors and NPS personnel as the likelihood of a flood event greater than the 100- year level occurs. Once evacuation measures are initiated, visitors and staff alike would be urged to seek higher ground, which is only a very short distance and only a very few minutes from this location, thus allowing quick evacuation. NPS staff would assist in evacuations of visitors and complete area checks to determine all visitors are safe.

Appropriate traffic and pedestrian barriers will be placed to protect visitors and staff from construction related injuries.

Best management practices, including control of dust emissions and a traffic and pedestrian management plan will be instituted to ensure that the visitors, staff, and the natural and cultural resources of Lees Ferry are protected to the maximum extent possible.

Water Resources - Natural Waters

As required by the Clean Water Act, prior to the start of each project staff or their paid contractors will obtain an Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit from the State of Arizona. This permit requires the completion of a storm water management plan and erosion control plan. Using the best management practices available, these plans include instructions on the placement of barriers to insure construction related pollutants and sediments do not enter surface waters in the Lees Ferry Area. Additionally, during the design of the stabilization of the Paria riverbank, special care will be given to ensure that only minimal amounts of sedimentation are captured and that the majority of sediments reach the Colorado River.

Floodplains

To mitigate impact on the floodplain, all new construction would be confined to the previously disturbed area, and as a consequence, above the 100- year flood stage. The current communication and warning system will be maintained in order to evacuate visitors and their personal property in the event of a severe storm over the Paria River drainage.

Glen Canyon NRA dispatch monitors the National Weather Service flashflood warnings and would initiate evacuation of facilities and the surrounding area of visitors and NPS personnel as the likelihood of a flood event greater than the 100- year level occurs. They will be provided with a figure that shows the amount of water in cubic feet per second needed to reach a level above the 100- year flood stage. Once evacuation measures are initiated, visitors and staff alike would be directed to seek higher ground, which is only a very short distance and only a very few minutes from this location, thus allowing quick evacuation. NPS staff would assist in evacuations of visitors and complete area checks to determine all visitors are safe. A Floodplain Statement of Findings was included in appendix A of the publicly reviewed Environmental Assessment and is also attached to this FONSI.

Wetlands and Waters of the US

Because a portion of each of the proposed projects would occur in jurisdictional waters, the NPS would need to obtain the appropriate level of permit from the USACE. This permit would require the development of best management practices to ensure pollution does not reach waters of the U.S. and minimizes the loss of wetlands. It also requires replacement of any wetlands lost during construction. As is typical in these types of projects, if impacts are small and there is a surrounding seed bank, restoration generally consists of natural re- growth over the construction site. For a project the potential size and scope of the stabilization of the Paria riverbanks would require the development of a specific mitigation plan for wetlands. The most likely scenario would include use of erosion control structures that are able to support plant growth along with use of seeds and possibly live plants. Level of restoration is dependent on life cycle needs of plants targeted for replacement.

Wildlife, Vegetation and Endangered Species

Projects along the banks of the Colorado River will be accomplished during the low- water season and appropriate water retention systems will be installed if necessary, to protect water quality. Best Management Practices would be instituted to control the movement of storm-water runoff from construction projects into the Paria and Colorado Rivers in order to protect fish species from construction impacts.

All construction plans would include protective measures to ensure there are no introductions of weeds.

Most vegetation removed during construction projects will be replaced within a growing season through natural processes if weeds are controlled. Gabion structures and finger dikes can be constructed to encourage the growth of native species on the top and sides of these structures.

All of the vegetation or wildlife species being removed by the construction of the proposed projects are common throughout the northern portion of Arizona and their individual removal will not impact the overall numbers or health of the remaining members.

Specific mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts to threatened and endangered species have been identified below. These have been approved by the USFWS. A copy of project correspondence with the USFWS is included in Appendix X of the EA.

<u>Brady's pincushion cactus:</u> The trail guide will remind hikers to stay on the trail. Additionally, natural resource staff will continue to monitor this species to determine if hiking is having detrimental impacts on this species. If there are detrimental impacts, use of this trail may be curtailed or suspended.

<u>California condor</u>: In cooperation with the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has established as set of mitigation measures to protect this species from construction projects impacts. These mitigation measures would be incorporated into all construction documents:

- If a condor is spotted directly on or over the construction site, activities will cease until the bird leaves or is driven off by a biologist.
- Construction workers and supervisors are instructed to avoid interaction with condors

and to immediately contact the appropriate Park personnel if and when the condor(s) settle at the construction site.

- The construction site will be cleaned up at the end of each day (e.g., trash removed, scrap materials picked up) to minimize the likelihood of condors visiting the site.
- All dead animals found within 500- feet of the construction zone will be immediately disposed of by placing the carcass the nearest available dumpsters.
- To prevent water contamination and potential poisoning of condors, a Spill Prevention and Cleanup Plan (SPCP) will be developed and implemented for this project. It will include provisions for immediate clean- up of any hazardous substance, and will define how each hazardous substance will be treated in case of leakage or spill. This plan needs to consider possible leakage from support vehicles as well as the drill rig(s). Please forward a digital copy on CD of the plan to the Environmental Specialist at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, P.O. Box 1507, Page, AZ 86040.
- All drilling personnel will be given a copy of the enclosed literature regarding condor concerns.
- Project personnel are strictly prohibited from hazing condors (chasing, flapping arms, throwing objects, honking horn, etc.)

<u>Humpbacked Chub</u>: A Glen Canyon NRA approved storm water pollution prevention plan that includes erosion control will be required for each project, which will greatly reduce the possibility of construction related pollution affecting this species.

Cultural Resources

Consultation with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office as required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act was completed on 2006. A copy of our correspondence with the AZ SHPO is located in Appendix X of the EA. Phasing of construction projects, set hours of construction noise, and control of fugitive dust emissions would all help lessen the impacts of construction on the cultural resources.

Ethnographic Resources

Ethnographic resources would be monitored by park staff and changes in visitor use patterns instituted if impacts of increased visitation become apparent.

Visitor Use and Experience

Installation of proper pedestrian warnings and barricades, prevention of dust emissions and regular clean- up of construction sites will help alleviate impacts on the visitors use and experience of the Lees Ferry area. In order to make the narrowband repeater tower unobtrusive, it would be painted a color that would blend into the surrounding rocky slopes.

OTHER ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED, BUT NOT CHOSEN

The environmental assessment evaluated the no action alternative in addition to the preferred alternative. Under the no action alternative, minimal maintenance and repairs would continue and no facilities would be replaced and major repairs would not take place. Environmentally Preferred Alternative:

As stated in Section 2.7.D of *Director's Order #12 and Handbook* (USDI, NPS, 2001a), the environmentally preferred alternative is the alternative that will promote the national environmental policy expressed in the National Environmental Policy Act (Sec. 101 (b)). This includes alternatives that:

- Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations.
- Ensure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and esthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings.
- Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk of health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences.
- Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage and maintain, wherever possible, an environment that supports diversity and variety of individual choice.
- Achieve a balance between population and resource use that will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities.
- Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable level of recycling of resources being depleted.

Simply put, "this means the alternative that causes the least damage to the biological and physical environment; it also means the alternative which best protects, preserves, and enhances historic, cultural, and natural resources" (Question 6a in Council on Environmental Quality 1981). In the NPS, the No Action Alternative can also be considered in identifying the environmentally preferred alternative.

Alternative A represents the current maintenance practices at Lees Ferry. Continuation of the current level of maintenance would result in adverse affects to the facilities in question.

The Proposed Action/Preferred Alternative, Alternative B, will allow GLCA management to make reasonable, cost effective repairs or schedule replacement of deteriorated facilities, thus improving visitor health and safety thereby enhancing the visitors use and experience. The Preferred Alternative as compared to current management/No Action Alternative will:

- Enhance the protection of resources for succeeding generations.
- Reduce the risk to human health and safety.
- Improve the safety, healthfulness, and esthetics of the surroundings.
- Provide better protection of historic, cultural, and natural resources.

Therefore, Alternative B, the Proposed Action/Preferred Alternative, also is the environmentally preferred alternative.

WHY THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

As defined in 40 CFR § 1508.27, significance is determined by examining the following criteria:

Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse: Impacts of the proposed action/preferred alternative include long- term beneficial impacts to visitor health and safety due to replacing deteriorating facilities, improving emergency communications and upgrading the water

treatment facility to provide potable water that meets all state and federal regulatory requirements. Construction of the proposed projects would result in short and long- term moderately adverse impacts to water resources by increasing sediment loading in the short- term and water quality in the long- term. Additionally the various projects proposed in alternative B would contribute to an additive or cumulative adverse effect on all the resources in the Lees Ferry area due to increasing visitation in the last 20 years. This trend is expected to continue due to the demand for water based recreation opportunities on the Colorado River and land- based recreational opportunities along the Paria River corridor and around the Lees Ferry Lonely Dell Historic District.

Degree of effect on public health or safety: The proposed action/preferred alternative will have an overall beneficial effect on public health and safety for park visitors and employees. The proposed action/preferred alternative include the replacement or repair of deteriorated facilities in an area that receives large numbers of visitors. Replacement of these facilities along with construction of a new radio repeater station and control of erosion at the bridge crossing the Paria River will help increase ensure visitors enjoy their time at Lees Ferry.

Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas:

Most of the proposed projects would have minor to moderate beneficial and adverse short impacts to water quality of the Colorado and Paria River. Neither of these rivers within the boundary of Glen Canyon NRA has been identified as wild and scenic rivers and the portion of the Colorado River within Glen Canyon NRA is a highly managed environment. The erosion control project along the Paria River could also remove a small amount of wetlands. Construction design techniques will be picked that will have the smallest amount of impacts to wetlands while still resolving on going erosion issues. All wetlands will be replaced on- site using state of the art flood control materials and equipment.

The preferred alternative will have no impacts on prime farmlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas. There will be no significant effects on historic or cultural resources, or parklands as described in Table 9 in the EA.

Degree to which effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly

controversial: Throughout the environmental process, the proposed projects were not found to be highly controversial and their effects are not expected to generate controversy in the future. Public and agency participation during the EA process did not indicate the likelihood of highly controversial issues related to impacts of the proposed projects on the human environment.

Degree to which the possible effects on the quality of the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks: The environmental process has not identified any effects that involve highly uncertain, unique, or unknown risks to the human environment.

Degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration: The proposed action/preferred alternative neither establishes a NPS precedent for future actions with significant effects nor represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.

Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant impacts: The impacts from the proposed action/preferred alternative, in conjunction with past and reasonably foreseeable future actions will result in both beneficial and adverse cumulative impacts on resources and values analyzed in the EA.

No individually insignificant or cumulatively significant impacts to any resources or values were identified for the proposed action/preferred alternative.

Degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed on the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources: After applying the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's criteria of adverse effects, the NPS concludes that implementation of the proposed action/preferred alternative will have no adverse effects on cultural resources, (including the Lees Ferry Lonely Dell Historic District) in the park. The Arizona SHPO concurred with this finding by letter dated September 26, 2006 (see Appendix B).

Degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its critical habitat:

In cooperation with the USFWS, as outlined in their letter of concurrence, dated 12 October 2006 (see EA Appendix B) the following mitigation measures will be incorporated into the construction specification for each appropriate project to ensure proposed construction activities "may affect, but not adversely affect" the following endangered or threatened species or their critical habitats:

Brady pincushion cactus

- The Trail Guide for the Arizona Hiking Trail will instruct hikers to stay on the trail.
- The populations of cactus will be monitored to determine whether hiking results in effects to the species. If effects are observed, use of the trail may be curtailed or suspended.

California condor

• Standard conservation measures addressing construction activities and condors will be incorporated into construction project description and/or specifications. Measures include: appropriate action to be taken if condors occur at a construction site; no interaction between project workers and condors; daily clean- up of project sites to insure condors do not have access to thrash; and implementation of a spill- prevention and clean- up plan.

Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local environmental protection law: The proposed action/preferred alternative will not violate any Federal, state, or local environmental protection laws.

Impairment: In addition to reviewing the list of significance criteria, the National Park Service has determined that implementation of the proposed action/preferred alternative (Alternative B) will not constitute an" impairment" to Glen Canyon NRA's resources and values. This conclusion is based on a thorough analysis of the environmental impacts described in the Lees

Ferry Improvements EA, public comments received, relevant scientific studies, and the professional judgment of the decision- maker guided by the direction in *NPS Management Policies (December 27, 2000)*. Although the plan has some negative impacts, in all cases these adverse impacts are the result of actions taken to preserve and restore other park resources and values. Overall, the plan results in benefits to park resources and values, opportunities for their enjoyment, and it does not result in their impairment.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The objectives, issues, and impact statements and alternatives described in this document were identified by the team and described in a public scoping newsletter that was issued in April 2006 (Appendix A). Concurrently notices of the public scoping period were published in a variety of news outlets in Arizona and Utah. Concurrently, consultations with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service (USFWS), the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and Native American tribes were initiated. Staff also held impromptu discussions with 64 members of the public during May 2006. Based on the responses received and subsequent ID team communications, the impact topics and action alternatives were refined and finalized prior to analysis. During the 30- day public scoping period, comments from 11 individuals and the US Fish and Wildlife Service were received.

Due to unforeseen project delays, the planning effort for the Rehabilitation of the Weaver Ranch House, which was included in the public scoping document, could not be completed in time for inclusion in this EA, therefore this effort will be included in future NEPA documentation.

The EA was available for public review and comment during a 30- day review period that ran from August 28 to September 28, 2006. A press release announcing the availability of the EA was sent to local news outlets. Notices announcing the availability of the plan/EA for review and comment were mailed to interested individuals, organizations, and agencies. The EA was also available for review on line at http://parkplanning.nps.gov. In addition, copies were available for review at library branches in Page, AZ and at the park headquarters building in Page, AZ.

No sustentative comments were received from the public during the 30- day review period.

CONCLUSION

The preferred alternative does not constitute an action that normally requires preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). The preferred alternative will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Adverse environmental impacts that could occur are negligible to moderate in intensity. There are no significant impacts on public health, public safety, threatened or endangered species, sites or districts listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, or other unique characteristics of the region. No highly uncertain or controversial impacts, unique or unknown risks, significant cumulative effects, or elements of precedence were identified. Implementation of the action will not violate any Federal, State, or local environmental protection law. There will be no impairment to key park resources or values.

Based on the foregoing, it has been determined that an EIS is not required for this project and thus will not be prepared.

Based on the foregoing, it has been determined that an EIS is not required for this project and thus will not be prepared.

Recommended: Kitty L. Roberts, Superintendent Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

 $\frac{12/04/06}{Date}$

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Approved:

Michael D. Snyder Director, Intermountain Region National Park Service