



National Park Service

Grand Canyon National Park

2025 Private River Permit Fee Increase



The last time fees for the private river permit were raised was 1998



1998 Best Selling Toy: Teletubbies

Gallon of Gas 1998
\$1.09

Gallon of Gas 2024
\$3.25

2.98x higher

Hotel Room 1998
\$100

Hotel Room 2024
\$192

1.92x higher

Fast Food Burger 1998
\$0.74

Fast Food Burger 2024
\$2.64

3.56x higher

Cost of a private river permit 1998
\$90

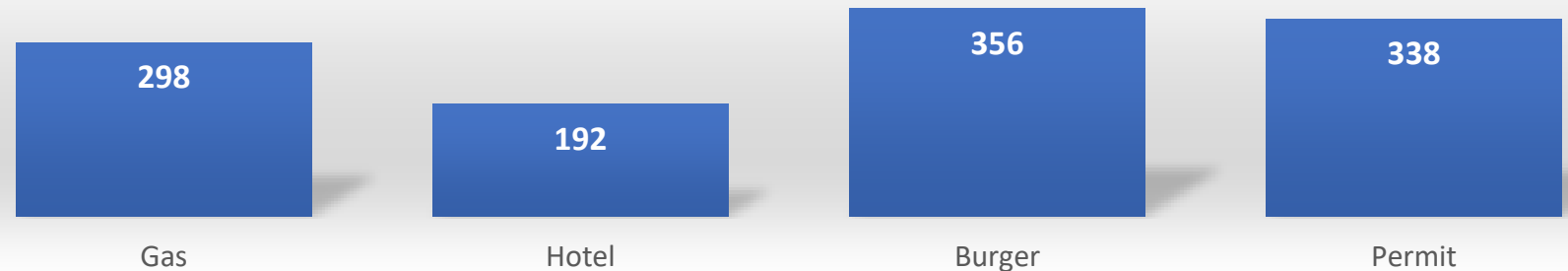
Cost of a private river permit 2025
\$305

3.38x higher



1998 Best Selling Car GM Corsa

Percentage Increase Common Travel Costs 1998 to 2025



Value of the dollar has
changed

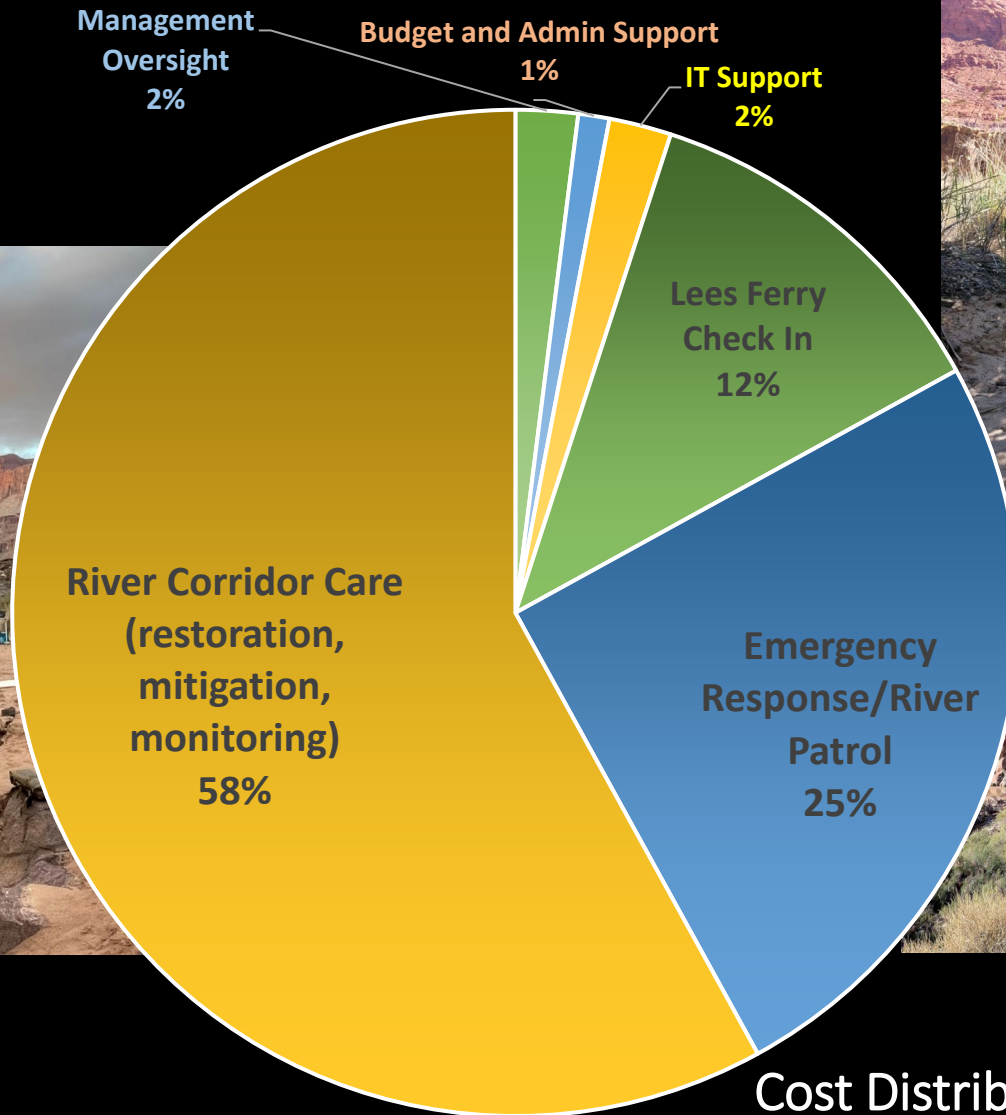
\$1.00 in 1998 = \$1.94 in
2024

A \$90 permit in 1998 is
equivalent \$174.60 permit
today without taking into
account rising *costs* to fund
the work for the visitor





What does the Private Boater Fee buy you?



Cost Distribution





What does the Private Boater Fee buy you?

345 SAR Responses in
2024 – Average over
50% on river

95%

Directly Back to Boating
Community

Approximately
550 private boater check-
in and safety briefings
annually



Over 65 river missions
supported through
River Operations to
include trail work,
campsite maintenance,
and resource
monitoring





ONPS Appropriations and Buying Power

Average GS 09 salary in 1998 \$35,000 + benefits



- NPS Allocation in 1998 was \$1.24 million. We spent about \$0.04 per visitor
- FY 24 allocation for NPS was \$3.6 billion. We spent about \$11 per visitor*



* Keep in mind many NPS units have no entrance fees (National Mall for example)

55 new NPS sites added since 1998 and 39 million more visitors

Average GS 09 salary in 2024 \$60,000+ benefits





What about Commercial Concessions?

COMMERCIAL VS. NON-COMMERCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO BUDGET

