



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Glen Canyon National
Recreation Area

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Glen Canyon News Release

Glen Canyon Working To Prevent Mussels at Lake Powell

Page, Ariz. – Quagga mussels, a type of invasive mussel commonly referred to as zebra mussels, have moved to the West and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area is working to prevent them from infesting Lake Powell. Currently, Lake Powell and the upper Colorado River are believed to be free of zebra mussels. However, quagga mussels pose a major threat to Lake Powell if they are introduced.

“Glen Canyon National Recreation Area is committed to doing everything possible to keep quagga mussels out of Lake Powell,” said Superintendent Kitty Roberts. “We will need the help of our visitors and partners to make sure they don’t accidentally introduce these aquatic hitchhikers into Lake Powell.”

Glen Canyon began a proactive zebra mussel prevention program in 1999. Through this program, the park continually has sampled for zebra mussels at locations around Lake Powell. Since 2003, the park has required all boats which have been in zebra mussel infested waters within the last 30 days to obtain a free, specialized boat wash. Boat washes are provided in partnership with ARAMARK – Lake Powell Resorts and Marinas at Wahweap, Bullfrog, and Halls Crossing and at Antelope Point by Antelope Point Holdings LLC.

On January 24, National Park Service divers searched the Wahweap and Stateline marinas for zebra mussels, and none were found. Other marinas will be inspected in early in February.

Visitors to Glen Canyon can help keep Lake Powell free of zebra and quagga mussels by:

- Obtaining a free, specialized boat wash if boats have been in mussel infested waters – including Lakes Mead, Havasu, and Mojave – in the last 30 days.
- Rinsing trucks, boat trailers, fishing gear (such as waders), kayaks, or any other equipment that has come in contact with zebra mussel waters in the last 30- days in a 5% household bleach solution. All equipment must be allowed to fully dry.
- Visit www.100thmeridian.org to find out more information about zebra mussels.

Quagga mussels were discovered for the first time west of the Rocky Mountains on January 6, 2007, in Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Zebra and quagga mussels are normally spread by attaching themselves to boats, which are launched in one lake and then later moved into a different lake. Both quagga and zebra mussels are microscopic in juvenile life stages, making them impossible to detect based solely on a visual inspection.

– www.nps.gov/glca –