



# THE GRAND CANYON PRIVATE BOATERS ASSOCIATION

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Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

August 1, 2017

RE: Grand Canyon Boundary Issues

Dear Superintendent, Regional Director, and Secretary of the Interior:

The boundary of Grand Canyon National Park has always been of concern to both the NPS and to the particular adjacent Native American Nations. It is also a major concern to the constituencies that recreate in Grand Canyon National Park. These constituencies include, but are not limited to, river runners, back packers and hikers. The 1975 Grand Canyon Enlargement Act attempted to resolve these boundary issues. The language of the Act may have been ambiguous, but the intent of Congress was quite clear and we sincerely hope and urge the Department of Interior and GCNP staff to abide by and enforce the intent the Enlargement Act.

Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association(GCPBA) is writing you now to inform you that its Board of Directors has unanimously passed a resolution urging the Department of Interior and Grand Canyon National Park staff to take immediate steps to strictly and diligently recognize, respect and enforce

the Enlargement Act boundaries as intended by Congress. This issue touches two of the most important facets of Park management, access for all and the integrity of the actual Park itself. There should be no further subdividing of Grand Canyon! It is our view that this boundary issue is the biggest potential threat to the Canyon since the dam considerations in the 1950s.

GCPBA is a non-profit organization dedicated to advocacy on issues surrounding private boater access to the Colorado River through Grand Canyon National Park.

Founded in 1996, GCPBA represents a paid membership of over 400 as well as a long-established internet constituency. GCPBA was an active participant in the formulation of the 2006 Colorado River Management Plan, and was a supporting party with the NPS in the ensuing successful litigation defending the Plan.

Since the 1975 Enlargement Act the Grand Canyon boundaries have been encroached upon in many ways with little or no efforts to protect and preserve them. The area from mile 225 to 277 is an example of the devastation to the Canyon that has resulted. Specifically, the daily helicopter rodeo at Quartermaster Canyon, Hualapai river trips not in compliance with the 2006 CRMP, the boat docks built at mile 263 and blocking of off river visitations at National Canyon, Travertine Grotto, Spencer Canyon and Columbine Falls.

GCPBA feels these encroachments should be reversed, but more importantly all current and future encroachments should be challenged. Existing and future encroachments are surely going to be precedent setting all along the River with other boundary disputes.

Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association welcomes continued opportunities to work with you and your staffs to find solutions to the challenges the boundary issues that threaten the integrity of the Grand Canyon.

Sincerely,



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President GCPBA

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