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Park:

Grand Canyon National Park

Project:

Backcountry Management Plan

Document:

Backcountry Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

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GCPBA is in support of Alternative B. We limit our comments to the RABT section as that is what we are most familiar with.

We sent a letter to Superintendent Uberuaga and Linda Jalbert April 11, 2013. It was co signed by American Canyoneering.

The basic goals of the RABT remain the same as outlined in that letter. More Specifically the RABT should allow no sporting use of the river. It should allow only for a means of travel to connect back country routes. It should prohibit the running of certain rapids, such as, but not limited to Hance, Crystal, Lava. And it should prohibit in all cases any re running or playing in rapids.

Comments:

The zone system as outline in the plan is fine. However, RABT camping should be prohibit at specified popular river camps.

In General Closures such as what took place at Deer Creek (handled very poorly) and adaptive management should provide previous public notice of intent and means and opportunity for the public to comment.

Our members have mixed emotions about Deer Creek Closure. Some favor some do not. I think that Lynn Hamilton at GCRG expressed this extremely well in GCRG's official comments.

And, as always, GCPBA stands ready to be a supportive resource.

Sincerely, Wally Rist, President GCPBA 816 536 3059

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