

Mr. Dave Uberuaga,
Superintendent
Grand Canyon National Park
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

December 23, 2015

Attn: Brain Bloom,
Chief River District Ranger
Steve Sullivan,
River Permits Program Manager

Dear Mr. Uberuaga

This letter formally requests a reconsideration of the recent change made to the Noncommercial River Trip Regulations; Equipment Requirements and Procedures; Watercraft Types and Quantities. Specifically, section C, page 6, Motorized Watercraft, which prohibits the stowing of a motor for use below Diamond Creek.

This section states that a motor can be picked up at Diamond Creek. Picking up a motor is not practical and is costly if there are no exchanges at Diamond. I have contacted several outfitting services and the cost of doing so is in the \$700 range.

There are a number of considerations that discourage taking out at Diamond, making Pearce the preferred option. It is not necessary to enumerate these considerations since you are very conversant with these.

I'm an old time private river runner, now 66 years young. My first trip down the Grand Canyon was in the early 1970's. I'm now physically taxed to row the miles from Separation to Pearce – the section past Quartermaster is less than pleasant. The other option is a night float – many favor this. I do not because of having to stay up all night navigating by flashlight to avoid the hazards. Driving that following morning is also hazardous due to lack of sleep and fatigue.

As such, I ask that consideration be given to revising Section C to allow the stowing of a motor if there is no exchange at Diamond Creek and stating that use of the motor between Lee's Ferry and Diamond Creek is strictly prohibited. As is the norm, the trip leader signs the permit, indicating that all restrictions will be adhered to by all members of the group including nonuse of the stowed motor between Lee's and Diamond. This restriction would be in character with the

many other restrictions such as not camping/visiting in designated sections, sharing of trip costs, etc.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Allow me to take this opportunity to wish all of you a great holiday season and prosperous new year.

Sincerely yours,

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