

Living Rivers National Campaign

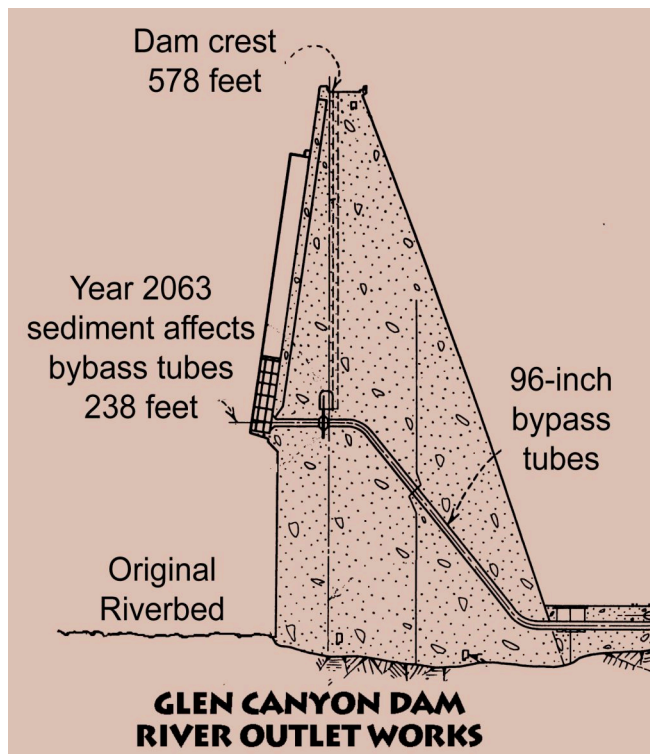
On March 14, 2000 Living Rivers was joined by 300 people representing 60 environmental, social justice and business interests for a rally at Glen Canyon Dam. David Brower, who kept dams from inundating the Grand Canyon, Dinosaur National Monument and other treasured landscapes, led the group in adopting the *Glen Canyon Declaration* for the decommissioning of Glen Canyon Dam and restoration of the Colorado River watershed. Now in its third year, Living Rivers is actively engaged in a range of programs to accelerate the restoration of the Colorado River through Glen Canyon and beyond.

Join us!



Sediment

The tremendous inflows of sediment into Lake Powell reservoir will soon render Glen Canyon Dam useless. Sediment is fast approaching the level of the bypass tubes used as the first line of defense to prevent floods from overtopping the dam. Once these tubes are blocked, the dam will have to be decommissioned. Sediment at the head of the reservoir is already a major problem for recreationists. No economically feasible means exist to dredge sediment from the reservoir, nor do we have technically feasible means to flush sediment through the dam. It's not a question of *if*, but *when*, Lake Powell will be drained.

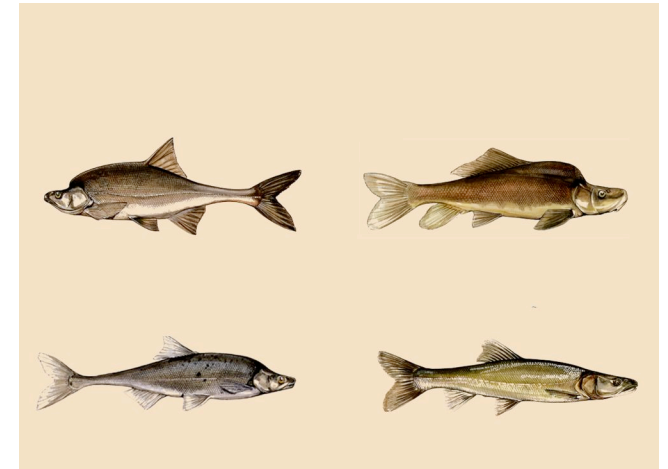




Grand Canyon

The Colorado River through the Grand Canyon is no longer natural. It's a regulated canal between Glen Canyon Dam and Lake Mead reservoir. The impact has been enormous: the dam's cold water releases have contributed to extirpation or endangerment of four of the Grand Canyon's eight native fish species.

In addition, sediment that should be replenishing sandbars is trapped behind the dam. As a result, the entire food web of the Grand Canyon has been dramatically altered. Such changes, combined with continued beach erosion and invasion by non-native species, will continue as long as Glen Canyon Dam remains operational.





Sacred Sites

Many sites used by traditional people for ceremonies were inundated or damaged by Lake Powell. The reservoir partially inundated Rainbow Bridge, one of the most sacred sites on the Colorado Plateau and a national monument designated by Teddy Roosevelt. This, the world's largest natural bridge, was inundated despite protests by Navajo medicine people and environmentalists to protect it. The Diné Medicinemen's Association has revived these efforts, demanding that all their religious sites in Glen Canyon be "uncovered" by draining the reservoir.

Reappearing Water

More water will be available when Lake Powell is drained. The reservoir loses up to ten percent of the Colorado's annual flow through evaporation into the dry desert air, and seepage into the porous sandstone surrounding it.

Evaporative losses on a single Labor Day weekend could satisfy the needs of 17,000 western homes for a year. No metropolitan areas or farmers rely on Lake Powell water, only the small community of Page, Arizona, which could pump its water directly from the river.



Electricity

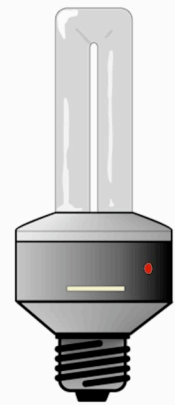
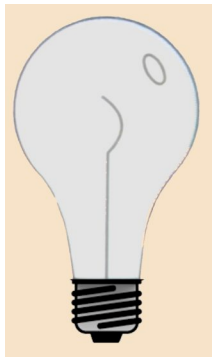
The Lights will stay on.

Glen Canyon Dam is connected to a grid of power plants, ensuring that lights will not dim when the dam is turned off for maintenance or decommissioning. Permanent replacement power is available through conservation.



Conservation

Utah alone can immediately begin saving enough power to eliminate the need for 1.5 Glen Canyon power plants. If Utah residents and 23 million other water users connected to the Colorado replaced two standard light bulbs with compact fluorescents, Glen Canyon's power plant can go.



Avoid Catastrophe

Large dams can and do fail. The Teton Dam in southern Idaho experienced a catastrophic collapse in 1976. During the wet year of 1983, the Colorado River nearly spilled over the top of Glen Canyon Dam because of massive damage to the dam's spillway tunnels during normal operation. This flood, described as a once-in-25-year event, will certainly be surpassed in the future.



The highly porous sandstone, in which the dam is set, is prone to splintering and collapse. Increasingly longer bolts are being used to help maintain the dam's adherence to the canyon walls.



Restore the Joy



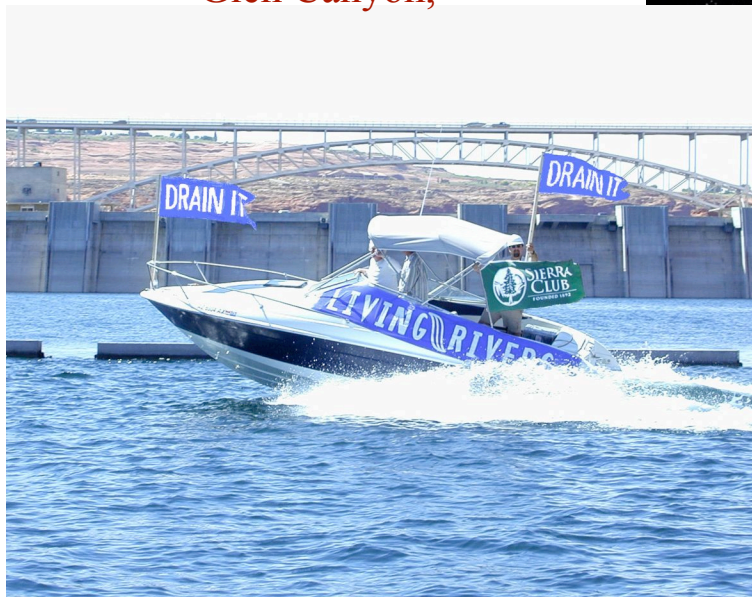
Glen Canyon, intersected by nearly 125 side canyons, offers a redrock wonderland of hidden arches, grottos, and stone chambers, with shaded galleries of trees and verdant hanging gardens. The return of the oak-set glens, fern-drenched alcoves, and fragrant flowers will once again contribute to the splendor of the Colorado Plateau. “Glen Canyon was for delight,” wrote Wallace Stegner. The gentle gradient of the Colorado River through the canyon of cathedrals will make it all the more peaceful and contemplative for those who journey there following the draining of Lake Powell reservoir.



Sustainable Recreation

Motorized flat-water recreation on Lake Powell reservoir is an industry that is destined to disappear as the reservoir fills with sediment. This is already becoming a problem at Hite Marina. In contrast, human-powered recreation in a restored canyon will bring a new form of economic vitality to the region. Outdoor enthusiasts interested in hiking, rafting, biking and viewing wildlife in a natural canyon setting, will generate significant income as now occurs elsewhere on the Colorado Plateau.

Because sediment accumulation affects both flat-water recreation and the time necessary to restore Glen Canyon,



the sooner such an economic transformation begins, the more effective it will be.

