



---

## America's National Parks Deserve Consideration and Participation in Colorado River Basin Decisions!

1 message

---

To: ColoradoRiverBasinStudy@usbr.gov

Ms. Pam Adams  
P.O. Box 61470  
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

Dear Ms. Adams,

Thank you for accepting comments on the Bureau of Reclamation's Colorado River Basin Water Demand and Supply Study. This project is a positive and significant step in identifying issues and priorities for the demands on the Colorado River. I support the common sense and low cost strategies such as water conservation and water reuse as effective initial ways to address the identified gap in the Colorado River's water supply.

I applaud the Bureau of Reclamation and the basin states for their work over the past few years to complete the study. I am concerned by the lack of consideration given to national parks and protected areas along the Colorado River basin. The environmental and economic values of the river are an incredible resource that cannot be marginalized in future management discussions.

In order to effectively address the wide variety of concerns along the Colorado River, we need to find solutions that work for all interests, including our national parks. The parks and recreation areas that call the Colorado River basin home, including Arches National Park, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, Canyonlands National Park, Curecanti National Recreation Area, Dinosaur National Monument, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Grand Canyon National Park, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, and Rocky Mountain National Park, are all dependent upon the river for their sustained quality.

Most wildlife species depend on the riparian corridor of southwestern rivers at some point in their life cycle and parks provide important habitat from the headwaters of the river to the sea. These parks and recreation areas are not just majestic places to visit on a family vacation; they are critically significant economic engines for the region. Parks enhance nearby communities and spur economic success in the region.

I ask the bureau to take into consideration the following

recommendations for next steps with the basin study:

\*Increase the participation of the National Park Service into all discussions and provide greater consideration of park resources in the discussions about future management options in the Colorado River Basin.

\*A formal process that provides open, transparent dialogue and fully incorporates all stakeholders into the heart of all discussions for next steps of this study.

\*Efficient continuation and coordination with the EIS process at Glen Canyon Dam for the Long Term Experimental and Management Plan. This process is critical to the continued protection of Grand Canyon National Park and compliance with the Grand Canyon Protection Act.

Thank you for considering my comments.