

Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group

Agenda Item Information

February 25-26, 2015

Agenda Item

The Stakeholder's Perspective – The National Parks Conservation Association

Action Requested

- Information item only
-

Presenter

Dave Nimkin, Senior Director of the Southwest Region, National Parks Conservation Association

Previous Action Taken

N/A

Relevant Science

N/A

Background Information

The National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) is an independent, nonpartisan voice working to address major threats facing the National Park System. NPCA was established in 1919, just three years after the National Park Service. Stephen Mather, the first director of the Park Service, was one of our founders. He felt very strongly that the national parks would need an independent voice—outside the political system—to ensure these places remained unimpaired for future generations. Now, nearly one hundred years later, NPCA has more than 875,000 members and supporters. In addition to our LEED-certified national headquarters in Washington, D.C., NPCA has 24 regional and field offices around the country.

The Southwest office—covering Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah—includes an astounding wealth of 73 National Parks, Monuments, Historic Sites, and Trails. This vast region is a tribute to nature's ability to sculpt the desert landscape; rivers, caves, canyons, and dunes are some of the dazzling features in our parks. From the majesty of Rocky Mountain National Park to the ancient ruins of Chaco Canyon, the Southwest Region offers countless opportunities to hike, raft, explore and contemplate.

NPCA works with many different stakeholders and interested parties to support protection of these remarkable places, and also to encourage expansions and development of new parks that continue to help interpret our heritage and preserve our most iconic landscapes. Our work engages a diverse constituency of advocates in efforts to protect parks from adjacent energy development, air quality impacts, water management choices, habitat loss, invasive species, protection of night skies and natural soundscapes. We also advocate for sufficient funding support for a park system that attracts over 300 million visitors annually.

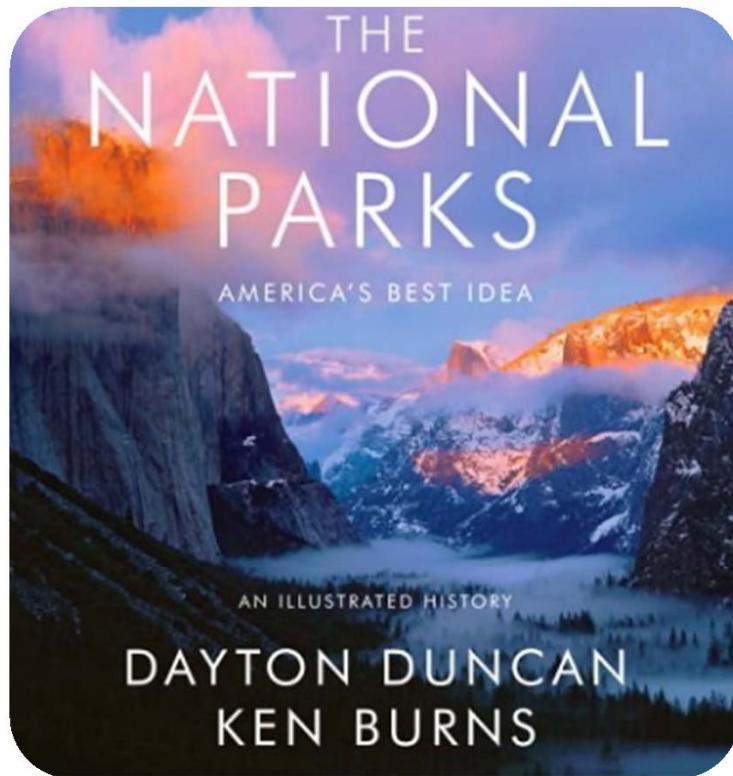


National Parks Conservation Association

Mission: *“To enhance and protect America’s national parks for present and future generations.”*



National Parks: America's Best Idea

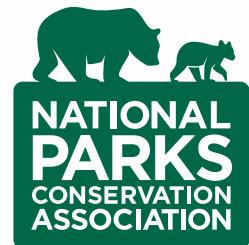


"A visit inspires love of country; begets contentment; engenders pride of possession; contains the antidote for national restlessness.... He is a better citizen with a keener appreciation of the privilege of living here who has toured the national parks." —Stephen Mather, Former NPS Director

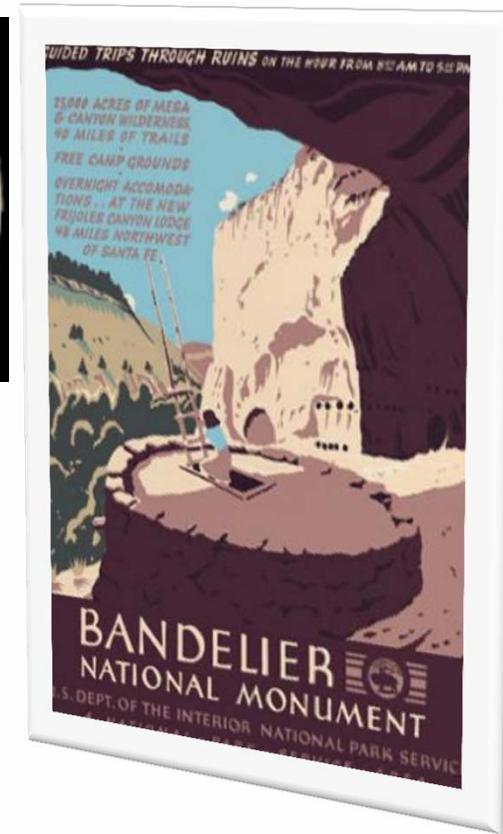
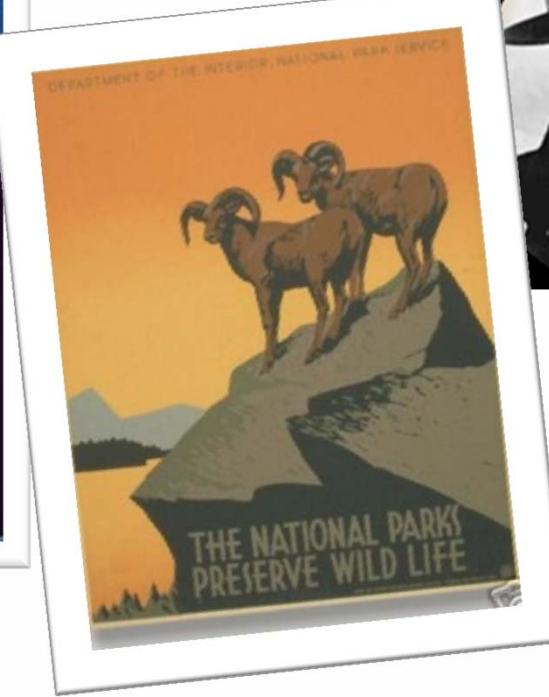
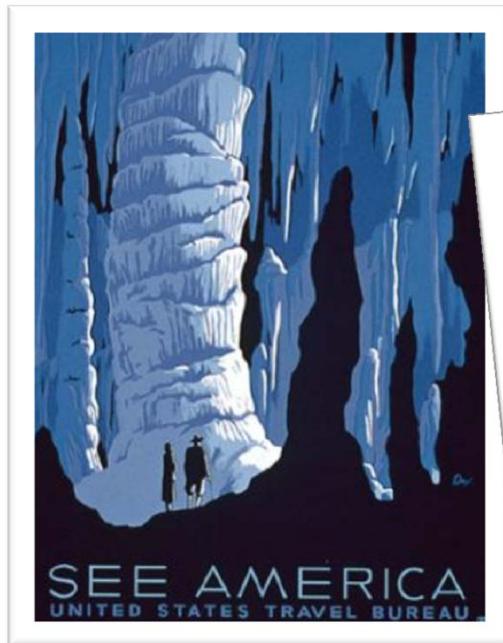


National Park Service Organic Act of 1916

Congress creates the National Park Service, and prescribes fundamental purpose: “*to conserve the scenery, and natural and historic objects and wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same . . . as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.*”



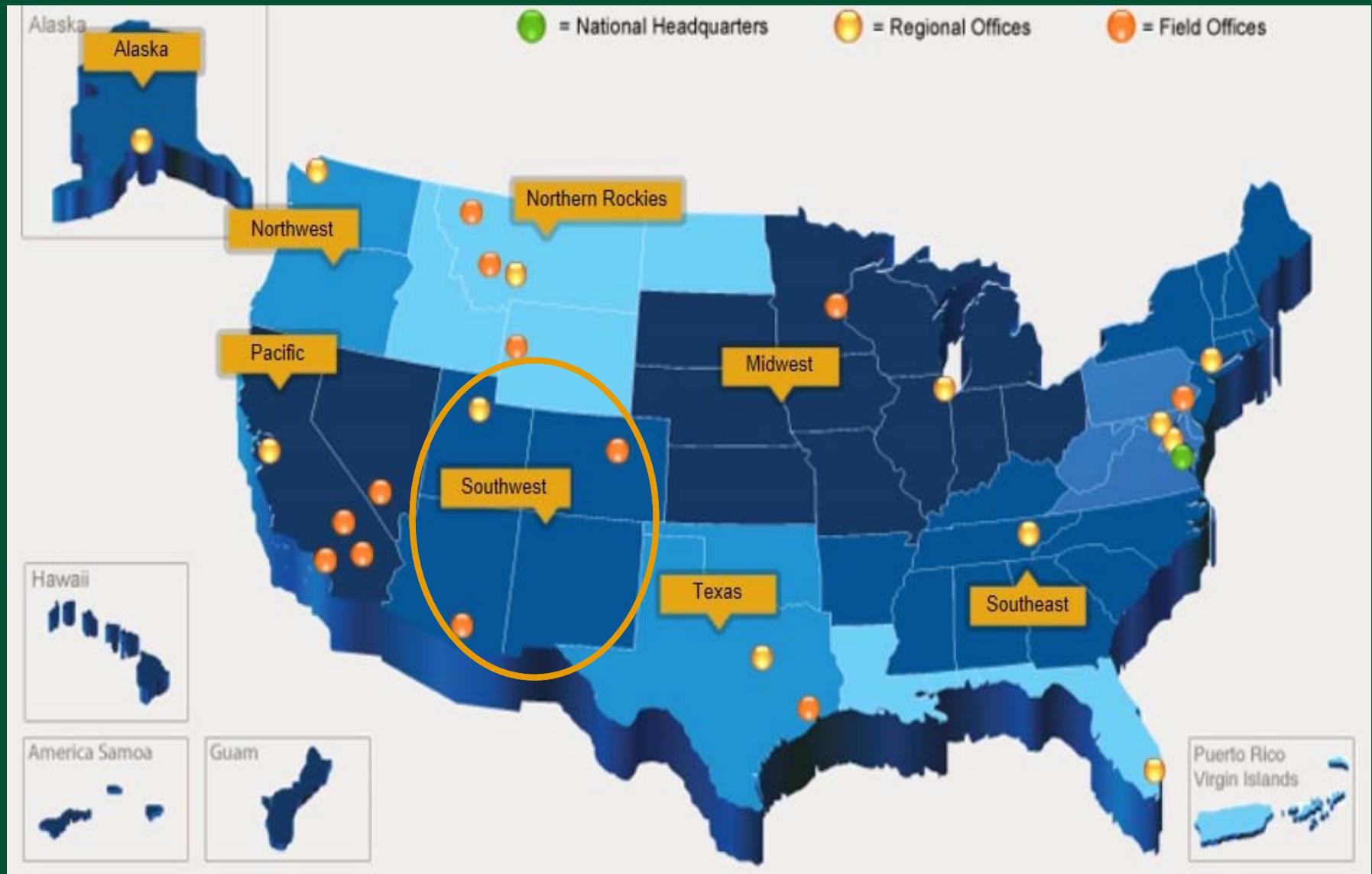
National Parks Conservation Association



- Founded in 1919
- 11 Regional Offices and 23 field offices
- Over 1,000,000 members and supporters



NPCA National Map





\$4

Every \$1 of federal investment
in our national parks creates \$4
of economic value to the public.



WWW.WHITHOUSE.GOV

Economic Impacts of Parks

(2013 Data from USGS/NPS Report)

Total National Park Visitors Spending (in millions of dollars)

AZ 773.9

CO 330.5

NM 83.2

UT 596.5

Total \$1.8 billion

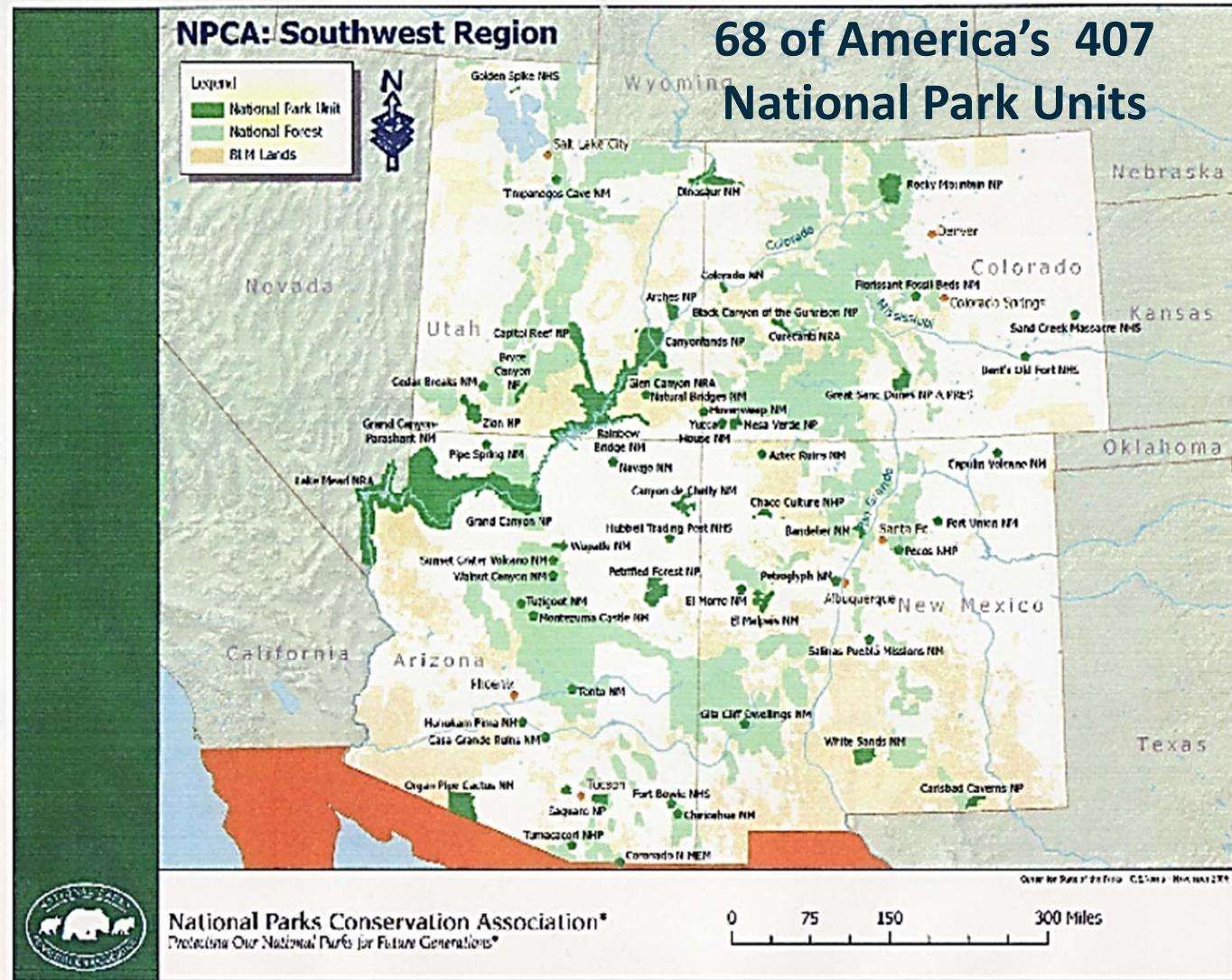
Total visitor spending of National Park Visitors in US:
\$14.6 billion

Photograph by Michael Melford

Glen Canyon Revealed
National Geographic, April 2006
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NPCA Southwest Region



Southwest Region: Priority Issues

Air Quality

Energy
Development

New Parks

Parks As Larger
Landscapes
(Canyonlands)

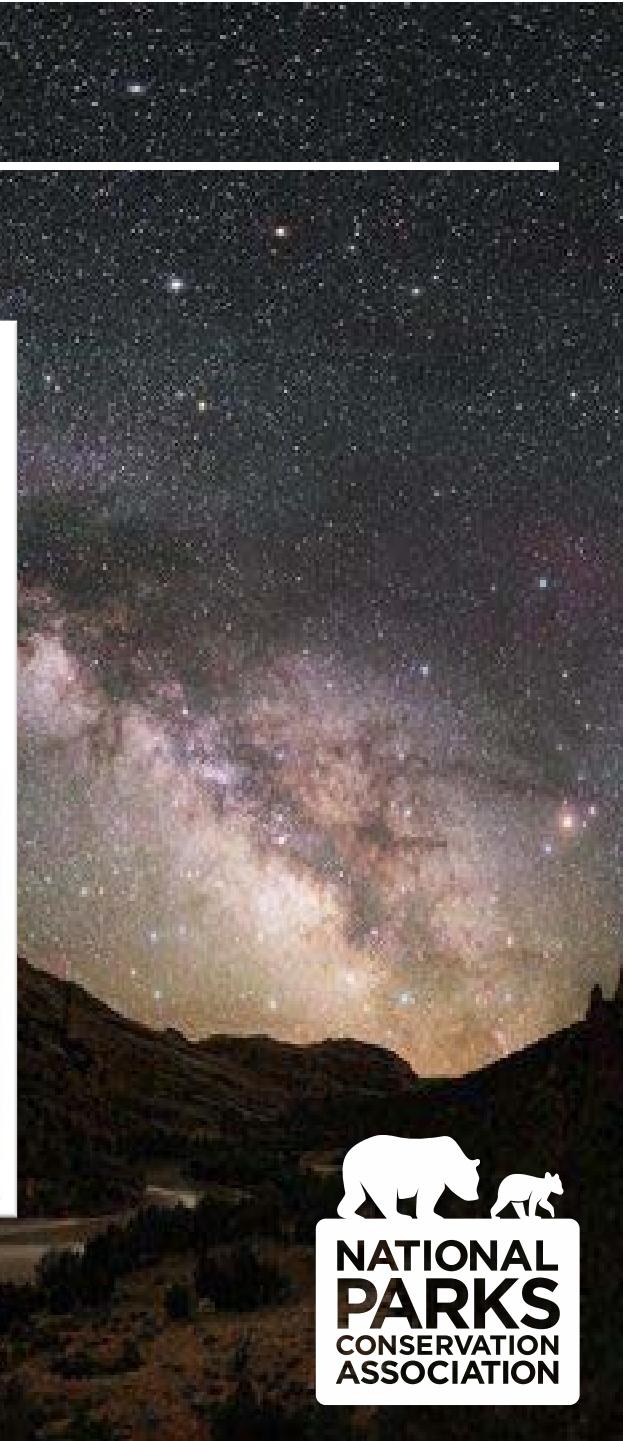
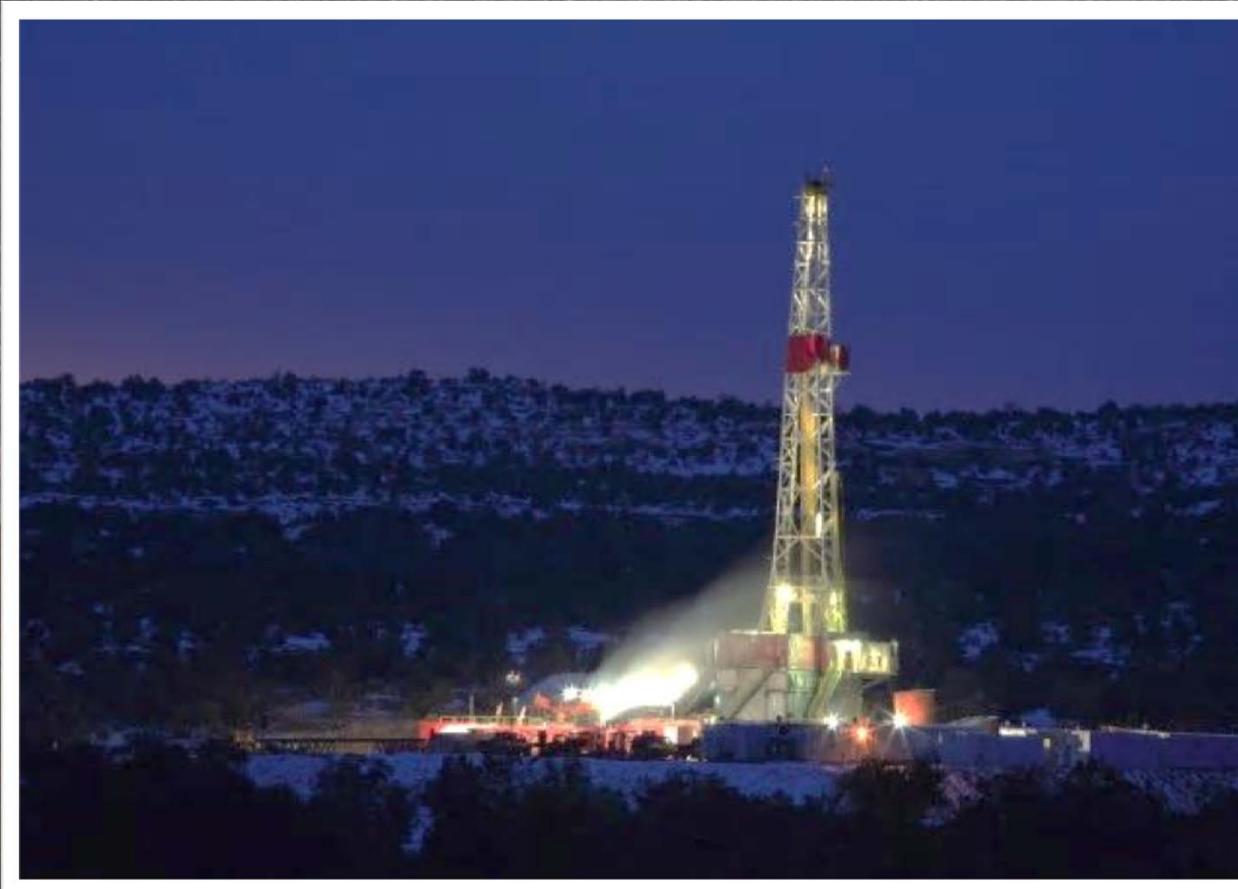
Grand Canyon



Air Quality



Energy Development



New Parks

❖ Valles Caldera



New Parks

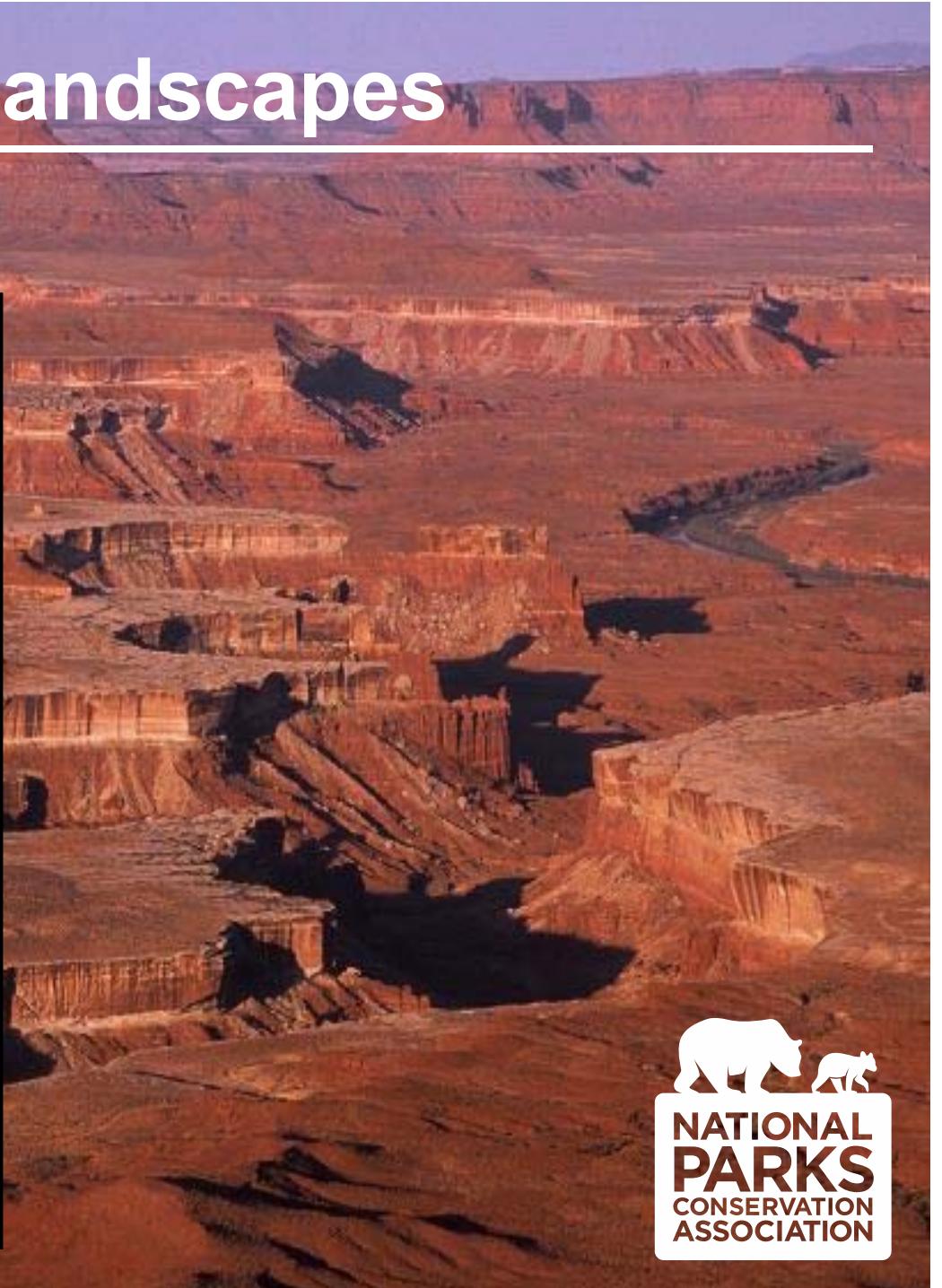
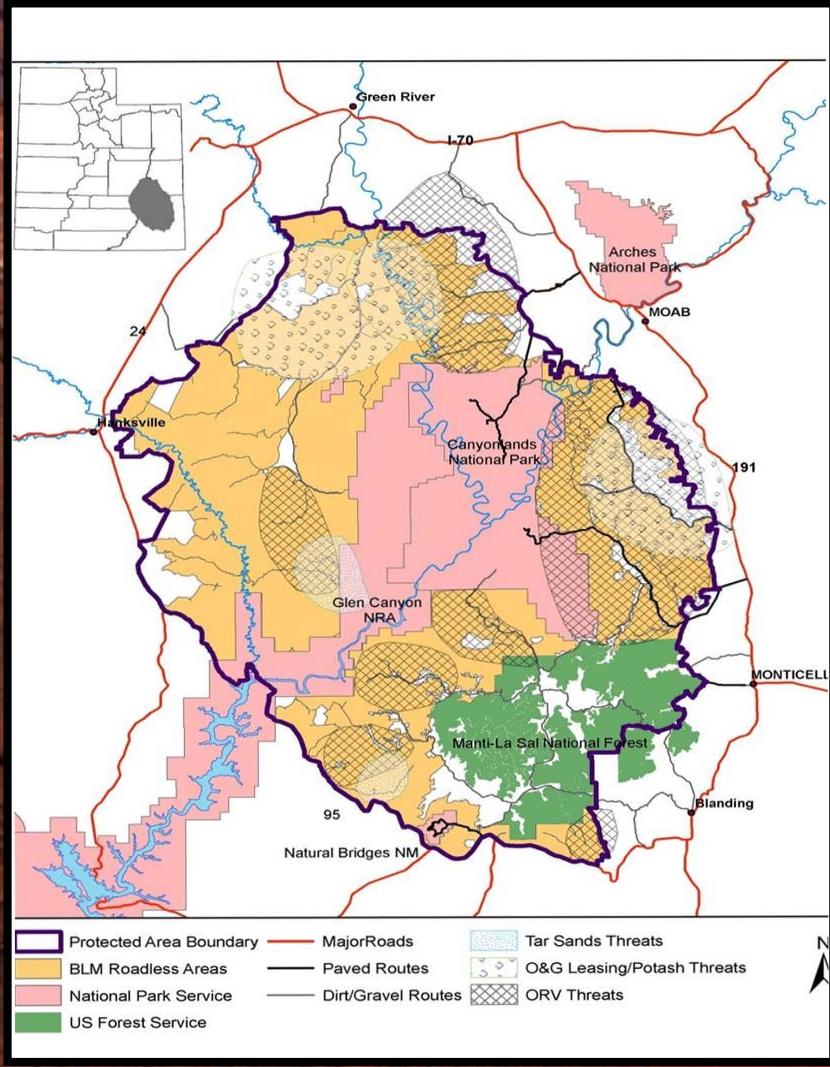
❖ Manhattan Project



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Parks as Larger Landscapes

Canyonlands National Park



Grand Canyon

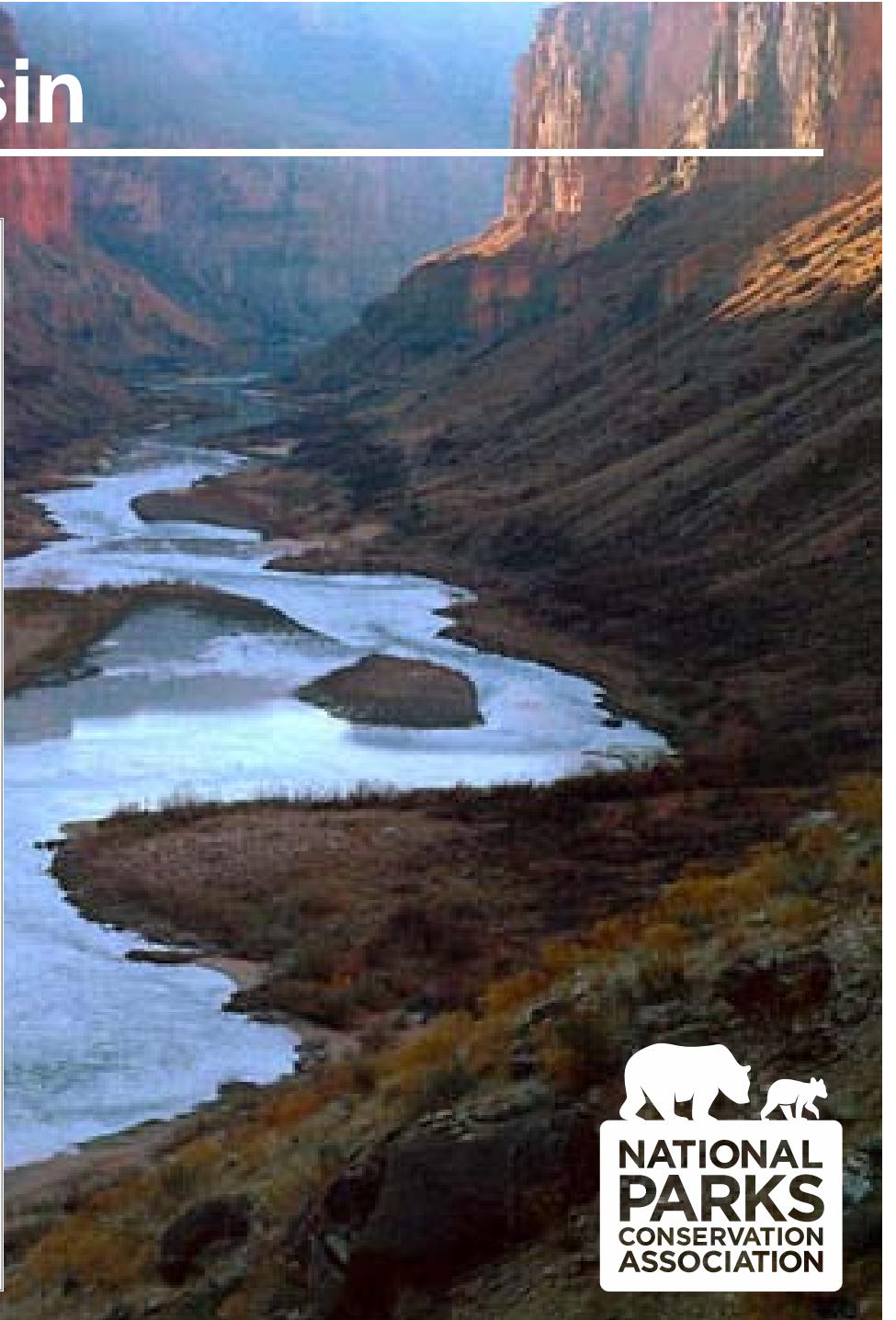
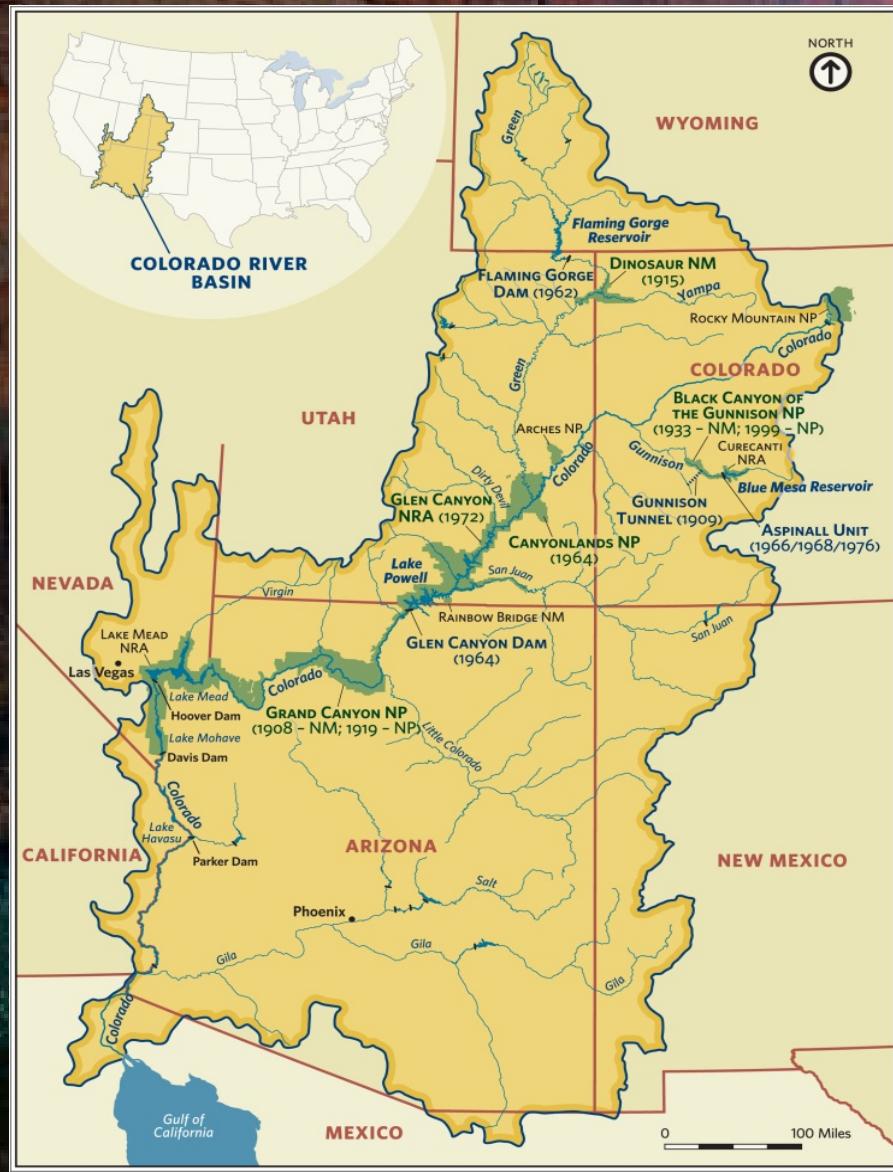


- Development Pressures
- Overflights
- Infrastructure
- Uranium
- Funding / Concessions

degrassing photography © 2012



Colorado River Basin



NPCA: Why We Serve on AMWG

- Protect the Grand Canyon River System
- Encourage management choices that affect entire CO River Basin
- Collaboration with others
- Ecological and Recreational Values



Thank You / Questions?



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