

Cultural Program: Status Review

Glen Canyon Dam
Adaptive Management Program
Technical Work Group Meeting
November 13, 2003



Sub-components of the Cultural Program:

- Socioeconomics
- Recreational Resources
 - Rapids (navigability, safety)
 - Trout fishery (quality, abundance)
 - Camp sites (size, distribution, quality)
 - Experiential aspects (opportunities for solitude, quiet, adventure, etc.)
- Heritage Resources
 - Traditional cultural properties
 - Archaeological sites
 - Other resources of traditional Native American concern



Socioeconomics

- 1999 NRC review was highly critical of AMP for not placing more emphasis on this program element
- There is not a robust program in place at this time
- Past studies have been either
 - Small scale analyses of impacts of experimental flow events on elements of the recreation industry, or
 - Non-peer reviewed, in-house evaluations by WAPA or BOR of hydropower costs of experimental flows
- AMWG approved funding for PEP review of the socioeconomic program and monitoring protocols in FY04
- FY05-06 Budget includes funds to implement top priority PEP recommendations (Project B.4)

Recreation

- The current program is not robust; key info is missing
- Past studies have focused on
 - Evaluating changes in size of a sample of sand bar camps
 - Small scale studies on the effects of experimental flows on safety, visitor satisfaction, and economic impacts to recreation industries
- AMWG approved funding for PEP review of socioeconomic program and monitoring protocols in FY04
- FY05-06 Budget includes funds to implement top priority PEP recommendations (Project B.3)



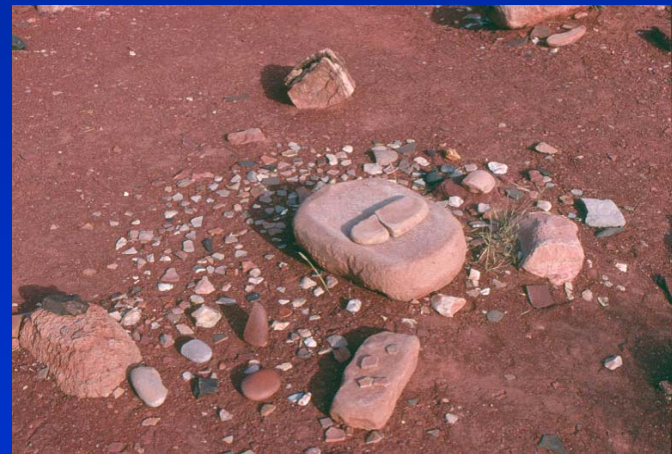
Recreation, continued

- Assessment of previous campsite I&M protocols undertaken in FY01; draft report is available and due to be finalized by 12/03
- Report recommends:
 - Conduct complete inventory of all available camps
 - Ground truth campsite areas and polygons of campable sand areas developed by Breedlove et al. (2003)
 - convene panel to develop long-term monitoring protocols for camp site area linked to visitor capacity
- FY06 budget includes project to address Recommendations 1 & 2 (B.6). FY04 budget funds PEP.



Heritage Resource Component

- Programmatic Agreement fulfills BOR Section 106 responsibilities; covers National Register eligible properties only
- Most cultural resource monitoring and treatment projects have been funded directly by BOR to meet Section 106 obligations re: evaluating and mitigating potential adverse effects of dam operations
- These projects have not been subject to GCMRC's peer review process

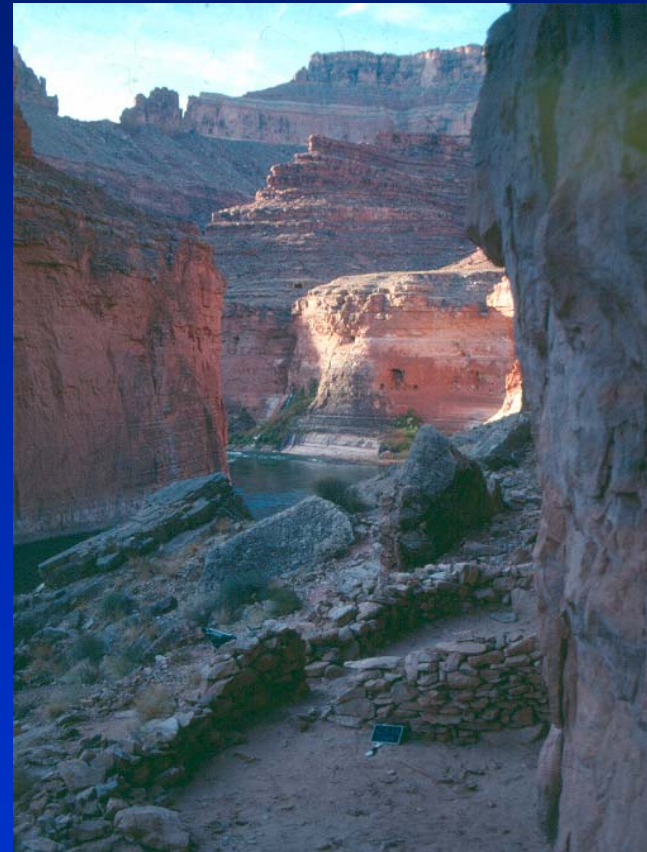


PEP review of cultural program

- Protocol Evaluation Panel convened spring, 2000
- 17 experts in Section 106 compliance, Native American issues, archaeological research, and geomorphology participated in the cultural PEP
- Unlike other PEPs, the review focused on entire cultural program, not just monitoring protocols
- The PEP review resulted in 3 core recommendations and 8 supplementary recommendations

Core Recommendations

1. Complete and adopt a Historic Preservation Plan as the TOP priority
2. Expand Native American involvement in the program at multiple levels
3. Improve coordination and integration of a complex program



Recommendation no. 1 (Top Priority): Complete and adopt a Historic Preservation Plan (HPP)

- HPP is 9 years overdue (PA stated Dec. 1994 as completion date)
- HPP defines relationships between cooperating parties and lays out strategy for future management of historic properties
- PEP recommended creating a series of documents comprising chapters of the HPP:
 - research design
 - tribal consultation plan
 - data management plan
 - traditional cult. properties plan
 - monitoring plan
 - treatment plan



Recommendation No. 2: Expand Native American involvement

- Develop tribal consultation plan
- Promote tribal involvement in all science programs, not just Heritage Resource management issues
- Nominate Grand Canyon as a TCP
- Increase opportunities for face-to-face consultation and discussion

Recommendation No. 3: Improve coordination and integration of a complex program

- Need to do better job of coordinating activities of GCMRC cultural program and PA program to avoid duplication of effort, improve efficiency, and reduce overall costs
- Program areas specifically recommended for future management by GCMRC included cultural data base and long-term monitoring program (part of GCMRC's mission)
- PEP recommended more rigorous research and integrating cultural research with other GCMRC science programs
- PEP urged more use of the competitive RPF process and peer review to ensure high quality results

Supplementary Recommendations

1. **Redefine the Area of Potential Effect (APE)**
 - PEP recommended mapping extent of Holocene deposits; APE project funded in FY04
2. **Prepare a systematic Evaluation of Historic Properties**
 - This still needs to be done
3. **Reassess Geomorphology Research Priorities**
 - Pederson study (2001-2003) was the first step; Project B.2 will continue to refine geomorphic understanding
4. **Redefine Cultural Resource Monitoring Program**
 - Project B.1 will address this in FY05-06

Supplementary Recommendations

5. Prepare a Cultural Resource Data Base Plan

- This was in original FY04 budget but was cut; GCMRC will try to do this with in-house staff in FY04.

6. Develop an Integrated Historic Property Treatment Plan

- FY04 budget includes funding to develop HPTP and begin treatment of properties in Glen Canyon reach; additional funding for remaining river corridor proposed for FY05

7. Expand Public Outreach and Education Activities

- A project to do this for the cultural program was proposed in FY04 but funding was redirected to serve broader AMP needs. AMP outreach project is proposed for FY05-06, but there is no funding specifically targeted for cultural program outreach activities in FY04-FY06.

8. Improve Contracting Procedures

The End

