October 2008 sediment update

• March-October 2008 has been one of the lower tributary sediment-supply seasons on record
• During this period, the Paria River supplied ~210,000 (± 20%) and the Little Colorado River supplied ~140,000 (± 30%) metric tons of sand
• Review: Prior to 2008 HFE, upper Marble Canyon was enriched with ~1.7 million metric tons of new sand
• Only about 15% of this “new” sand is still in this reach
• Post-2008 HFE sediment data from downstream reaches are still being processed
• Onset of equalization flows in April increased erosion of sandbars formed during HFE and effectively doubled the export of sand
• Realtime acoustic sediment-transport data to be served by December 2008

Preliminary results – subject to review and revision
EQUALIZATION FLOWS HAVE GREATLY INCREASED THE EXPORT OF SAND

NOTE: Tributary sand inputs to upper Marble Canyon near zero during this period

Preliminary results – subject to review and revision
October 2008 temperature update

• “Normal” post-dam August-October water temperature at Lees Ferry ranges between 9 and 10 degrees C.

• Because of warmer dam releases, water temperature ranged between 11 and 13 degrees C at Lees Ferry during August-October 2008.

• Instream warming owing to post-September 1 stable flows has been negligible.

• Temperature data are now served at http://www.gcmrc.gov/products/other_data

Preliminary results – subject to review and revision
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