

# LTEMP Resource Goal 6: Recreational Experience

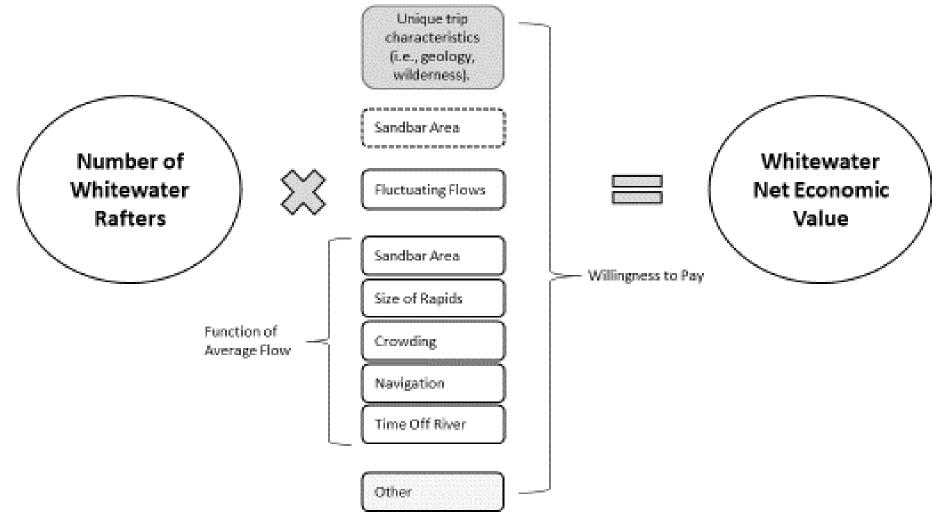
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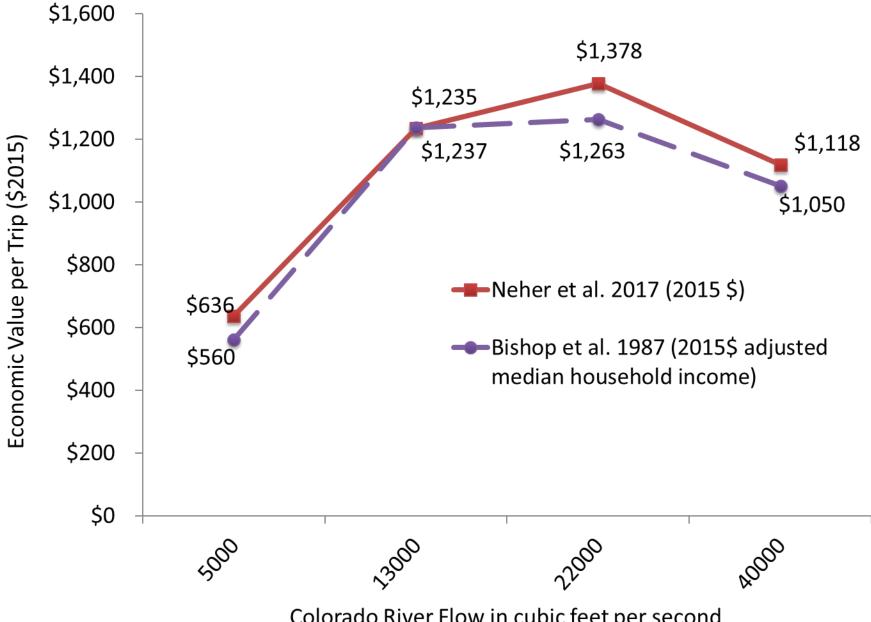
- Maintain and improve the quality of recreational experiences for the users of the Colorado River Ecosystem. Recreation includes, but is not limited to, flatwater and whitewater boating, river corridor camping, and angling in Glen Canyon.
- Economic Value of Recreational Experience
  - Angling in Glen Canyon
  - Whitewater in Grand Canyon



#### **Trip Attributes**



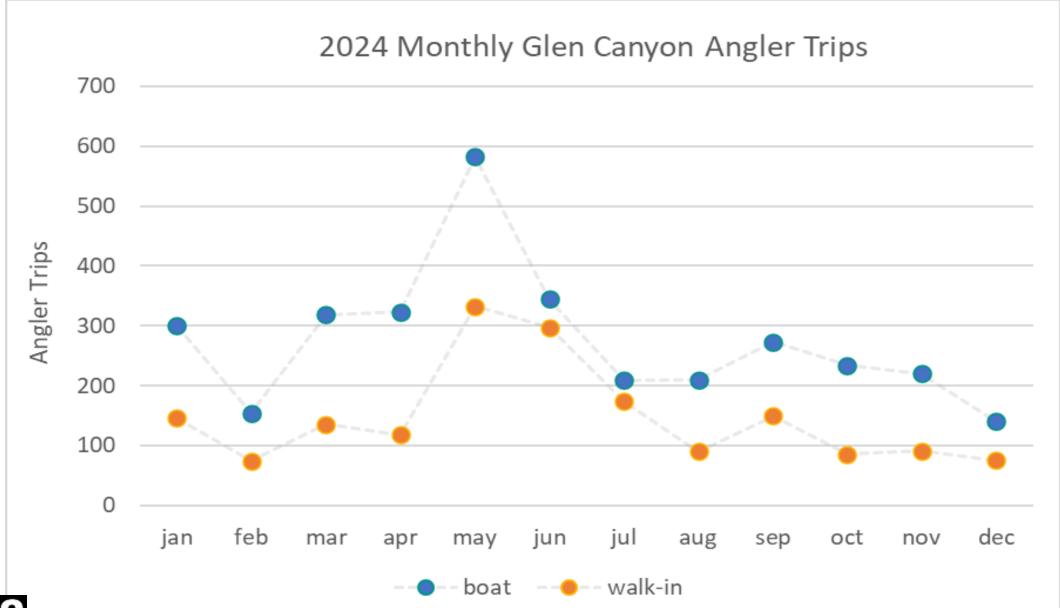






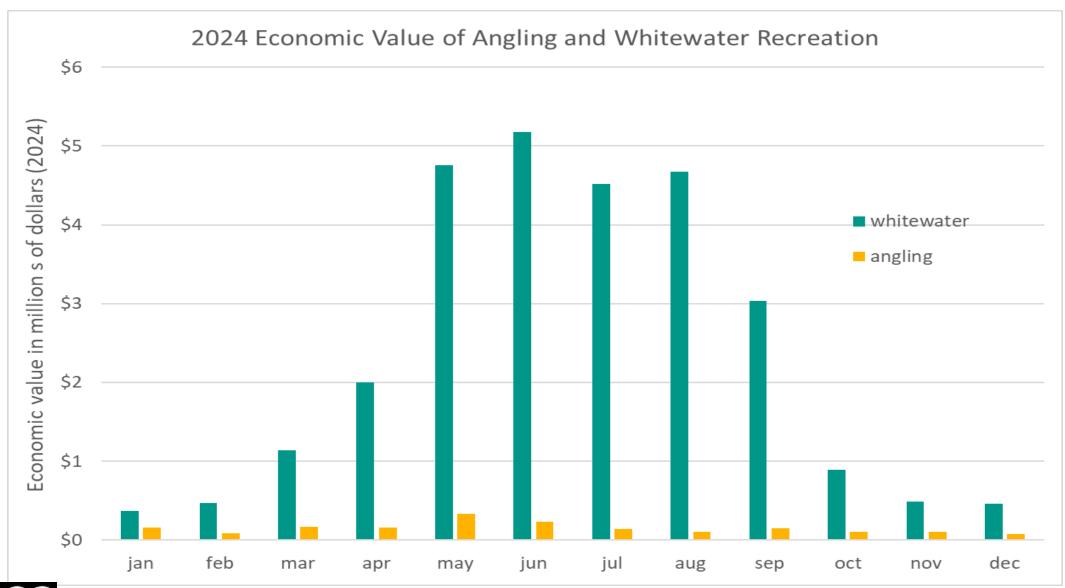
Colorado River Flow in cubic feet per second

Neher, C., Duffield, J., Bair, L., Patterson, D. and Neher, K., 2017. Testing the limits of temporal stability: willingness to pay values among grand canyon whitewater boaters across decades. Water Resources Research, 53(12), pp.10108-10120.











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- The analysis provides an estimate of the economic value of angling and whitewater recreation in 2024 as a proxy for the recreational experience:
  - Whitewater trips: \$28.0 million in economic value. These estimates are based on 2024 permitted trips, as observed trip counts were unavailable at the time of analysis (National Park Service, 2026).
  - Angling trips: \$1.8 million in economic value.
- Together, these result in a total economic value of \$29.8 million for recreational angling and whitewater trips in 2024.



### **Future Direction**

- Additional Attributes: Future estimates should include factors like rainbow trout catch rates and campable beach size to improve accuracy.
- **Baseline Comparisons**: Economic value estimates could be compared to a baseline that accounts for non-GCD factors to isolate operational impacts. Multi-year evaluations may be needed for attributes like beach area and trout catch rates.
- **Historic Trends**: Analyzing historic data can reveal long-term changes in recreation and the effects of management actions.



