GCI Spring Conference May 25th - SIGN UP NOW!

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of David Brower, legendary environmental leader and advocate for the restoration of Glen Canyon. Glen Canyon Institute is planning a special evening celebration and we hope you will join us! The event will include a reception and dinner to benefit Glen Canyon Institute (purchase tickets here), followed by a public conference to commemorate the David Brower centennial.

The conference, which is free and open to the public, will be held at the new Natural History Museum of Utah in Salt Lake City. Space is limited so you must register on our website. The highlight of the conference will be the presentation of the prestigious David R. Brower Conservation Award to Yvon Chouinard, founder of Patagonia, Inc. and conservation visionary. Never-before-seen Glen Canyon photos taken by David Brower will also be on display.

GCI will be raffling items donated from Black Diamond Equipment and the GCI bookstore.

Click here to register for the Brower Centennial Celebration.

Click here to purchase tickets for the fundraising dinner to benefit Glen Canyon Institute.

For questions, please contact Glen Canyon Institute at info@glencanyon.org or by calling our office at 801-363-4450.

See you there!

LTEMP EIS Update

In January, GCI submitted comments on the Glen Canyon Dam Long Term Experimental and Management Plan EIS (LTEMP EIS). We urged the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and National Park Service (NPS) to study the Fill Mead First alternative, which would shift most of the water storage from Lake Powell to Lake Mead, restoring Glen Canyon and a free-flowing Colorado River through the area. GCI members were also encouraged to submit comments. We are happy to report that there were more comments supporting Fill Mead First than any other alternative! Thank you to all who submitted comments on this important issue. Your efforts made a huge
Two weeks ago, GCI presented the Fill Mead First alternative directly to BOR and NPS officials at a public meeting in Flagstaff. **Our presentation was very well received** and can be viewed on the LTEMP EIS website ([http://ltempeis.anl.gov/involve/pubschedule/](http://ltempeis.anl.gov/involve/pubschedule/)). Thanks to all who have contributed or otherwise supported our efforts. **We could not have come this far without you! Please help us maintain our momentum on this important issue.**

### Lack of Snow? How About Sustainability?

**National Geographic recently published an article** by Jennifer Pitt, Colorado River Project Director for Environmental Defense Fund, discussing the affects this year's low snowpack could have on sustainability talk around the basin.

**This year's snowpack levels are currently 40% of normal** which doesn't bode well for water storage in the west. Last time water projections were this low, western states were forced into discussions about future shortages and potential solutions.

"If 2012 kicks off a series of dry years similar to those of 2000-2010, shortages will be unavoidable in the Lower Basin. Worse, the impact of another extended drought would be magnified by the fact that reservoirs in the basin are only 64 percent filled today, while they were completely full when the last drought started."

![Snow data from NOAA's Colorado River Forecast Center depicting the 1981-2010 snow-water equivalent average, median, maximum, and minimum (in inches), as well as this year's level (green line).](image)

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**difference!**
Glen Canyon Institute will continue to keep our members apprised of snowpack levels and water projections. **One thing is certain - Lake Powell levels will fall significantly in 2012.**

### Renew Your Membership!

**Glen Canyon Institute's annual spring renewal is underway.** Renew your membership today and help us in our work to restore Glen Canyon. Your membership renewal will directly benefit our work to move our Fill Mead First proposal forward. Renew today!

If you are not yet a member of GCI, please join us by [clicking here](#).

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Photo Credit:
Yvon Chouinard - (courtesy company) inc.com
Snowpack Graph - NOAA

Colorado River Lowdown is a periodic newsletter of Glen Canyon Institute. Co-editors: Eric Balken, Tyler Coles. Executive editor: Michael Kellett