Fundraising Initiative: Glen Canyon Living Atlas

Glen Canyon Institute is creating the definitive online resource for all things Glen Canyon. We are busy cataloging historical images and video, biological inventories, cultural resources, and hiking trails.

Our living Atlas will be an interactive map with multiple layers. Users will also be able to upload geo-tagged photos of their own experiences in the Glen Canyon region they would like to share.

This interactive map will be a much needed resource for communicating the complex and inter-related issues on the

Upper Basin Reservoir Re-operation a Bad Idea

GCI's Executive Director, Christi Wedig, attended the Colorado River Water Users Conference in Las Vegas Nevada last week. Declining water levels in Lake Mead and Lake Powell were the center of discussion.

The perceived importance of maintaining hydro power production at Glen Canyon Dam was also a common theme. A proposal to "bend the curve" of decline at Lake Powell through Upper Basin Reservoir Re-Operation was presented. This proposal would release storage from Flaming Gorge reservoir to supplement water levels needed for hydro power production at Glen Canyon Dam.

This proposal does not address any long term sustainable solution. In fact, it only encourages continued dependence on an unsustainable and broken system.

Increasing storage in Lake Powell would result in increased seepage losses. This is not prudent water management as the basin is looking towards shortage declarations.

Glen Canyon Institute will monitor the progress of this proposal and keep you informed on how you can help the basin move towards sustainable Colorado River management.
Colorado River. Help get this project moving by clicking here to make a contribution. Also, if you aren't already a member of Glen Canyon Institute, please

JOIN US TODAY!

We need your support now more than ever!

Reservoir Levels Update

After a dry 2013 in the Colorado River Basin, major reservoirs are left only partially full. Unless precipitation increases dramatically this winter, reservoir levels will continue to drop, nearing shortage triggers.

As of December 19, 2013, Lake Powell was only 42.9 percent full and Lake Mead was also under half-full at 47.6 percent of capacity.

Snow pack in the

This graph shows the projected elevation of Lake Powell if the current 14 year drought were to repeat itself.

You Can Help Restore Glen Canyon

Glen Canyon Institute has an important year ahead. Water management in the Colorado River Basin has reached a tipping point. The status quo of reservoir operations is a broken system that is nearing failure. Common sense solutions like Fill Mead First warrant serious consideration in the coming year. The opportunity to recover 300,000 acre feet of Colorado River water is impossible to ignore.

We need your support to help us encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to fully study Fill Mead First. Shifting reservoir operations to improve reservoir efficiency is the first step towards Glen Canyon restoration. Glen Canyon is coming back to life. Our work to protect this special place is more important than ever. Please consider GCI in your year end giving and help us restore Glen Canyon.

Click Here to Help Restore Glen Canyon Today!

Take Action Now: Sign GCI's Petition to State and Federal Government to study Fill Mead First!
Colorado River Basin, while still highly variable, is reported to be 107% of normal.

The falling reservoir levels have led to reduced deliveries for water year 2014. Follow the links below to view current reservoir levels and see current snow pack numbers:

Lake Powell Water Database

Lake Mead Water Database

Upper Colorado Snow pack

Glen Canyon Institute's recent peer-reviewed studies in the Journal of American Water Resource Association and The Water Report show water savings and feasibility of prioritizing Lake Mead for water storage in the Colorado River Basin. Sign our petition to ask the federal government to study implementing this program!

Click Here for the petition

Bring Glen Canyon Institute's Road Show to your Town.

Do you have friends and family that are interested in the recovery of Glen Canyon? Help us get our message out about the importance of recovering America's lost National Park.

Our Roadshow presentation explores current Colorado River water management along with the history of Glen Canyon. We discuss the importance of efficient water storage and the upcoming needs for protection of the re-emerging Glen Canyon landmarks.

Help us get the word out about Glen Canyon! Email us today to schedule a Road show presentation in your town. info@glencanyon.org

Photo Credits:

Hiker in Glen Canyon- Michael Kellett
Reflection- James Kay
Rainbow Bridge- Philip Hyde
Roadshow- Eric Balken

Colorado River Lowdown is a periodic newsletter of Glen Canyon Institute. Co-editors: Mike Sargetakis and Eric Balken. Executive editor: Christi Wedig