
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

NPS Digest
NPS Gateway for Partners, Friends and Alumni



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GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Nevada Man Found Guilty In Quagga Mussel Case

In the first trial involving the park's mussel prevention regulations, a federal judge has ordered a Nevada man to pay a \$2,500 fine for failing to have his boat inspected for mussels before launching it on Lake Powell. On Monday, October 19th, Nevada resident Jonny Ward was found guilty of violating regulations requiring mandatory inspections for "at risk" boats entering Lake Powell. Ward visited Glen Canyon on August 17th and was informed by park staff that he was required to have his boat inspected for zebra and quagga mussels before launching on Lake Powell. Ward instead proceeded to Lone Rock Beach, where he launched in violation of Glen Canyon regulations. Park rangers contacted Ward on Lone Rock Beach and issued him a mandatory citation to appear in court for violating mussel prevention regulations. Ward elected to go to trial, and was found guilty of violating Glen Canyon's quagga mussel regulations. NPS staff testified in court in support of the prosecution. "We appreciate Judge Braithwaite's support for our mussel prevention efforts at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area," said superintendent Stan Austin. "Our success in keeping Lake Powell mussel-free will only continue with the cooperation and support of all of our partners and visitors." Zebra and quagga mussels are aquatic invasive species that can lead to severe economic and environmental consequences for lakes and other waterways. A number of water bodies in the region are known to be infested with quagga mussels. Glen Canyon NRA has had an active mussel prevention program in place since 2000 for Lake Powell. All evidence to date indicates Lake Powell is zebra and quagga mussel free.

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