



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area
Rainbow Bridge National Monument
P.O. Box 1507
Page, Arizona 86040
928-608-6200

IN REPLY REFER TO:

January 31, 2012

Dear Marina Customer:

Even though it is only February and we are hoping for another banner snowpack for the Colorado River drainage, the 2012 recreational boating season will soon be here.

We want to take this opportunity to remind owners of personal watercraft (PWC) that after December 31, 2012, PWC's must meet the 2006 emission standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the manufacturing of two-stroke engines as described in 36 CFR 7.70 (e)(3). A person operating a PWC that meets the 2006 EPA emission standards through the use of direct injection two or four-stroke engines, or the equivalent thereof, is not subject to this prohibition and will be allowed to operate.

This rule was promulgated to keep the lake clean. Glen Canyon National Recreation Area has nearly two million visitors a year and most of them spend time recreating on Lake Powell. Carburetor two-stroke engines can discharge up to 30% of their fuel directly into the water and these emissions have the potential to harm water quality, people's health and aquatic organisms.

There has been a 10 year phase-in of this PWC rule at Glen Canyon, as the rule was announced in 2003, and enforcement will begin on January 1, 2013. Please contact your manufacturer or mechanic to determine if your PWC meets the 2006 EPA emission standards. The emission standards and 36 CFR 7.70 (e)(3) apply only to PWCs and no other boats or vessels.

36 CFR 1.4 – Personal Watercraft defines a PWC as the following:

“Personal watercraft refers to a vessel, usually less than 16 feet in length, which uses an inboard, internal combustion engine powering a water jet pump as its primary source of propulsion. The vessel is intended to be operated by a person or persons sitting, standing or kneeling on the vessel, rather than within the confines of the hull.”

Oil injected two-strokes are still carbureted and subject to the new rule as they require a fuel/oil mixture to enter the combustion chamber. Direct injection two-strokes are not carbureted and are not subject to the rule. These two terms are often incorrectly used interchangeably, but they are not the same.

After December 31, 2012, PWCs that are not compliant are in violation of 36 CFR 7.70 (e)(3). Operators will have their voyages terminated and are subject to monetary fines. This rule will also go into effect for Lake Mead National Recreation Area on that date and they will not be allowed on either Lake Mead or Lake Mohave as well.

If you have any questions about this issue, please contact your vessel manufacturer, marina manager or your mechanic. For questions about the regulations, please contact Assistant Chief Ranger, Lindy Mihata at 928-608-6252.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Working together we can assure that Lake Powell continues to be one of the cleanest lakes in the country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Todd W. Brindle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "B".

Todd W. Brindle
Superintendent