

Grand Canyon Trip God Book

Trip Leader: Eric B

Trip Dates: March 5 – March 21

Put In: Lee's Ferry

Take Out: Diamond Creek

Table of Contents

Grand Canyon Trip God Book.....	1
Personnel List.....	2
Overall Logistics.....	2
Satellite Phone	2
Duty Roster.....	3
Job Rotation	3
Teams & Duties	3
Personal Gear.....	4
Group Gear.....	4
Traveling to Flagstaff.....	5
Day before launch - Tuesday, March 4th.....	5
In Flagstaff.....	5
The Shuttle.....	5
Rigging the Rafts	5
Dinner and Camping.....	6
Flood Information.....	6
Launch Day – Wednesday, March 5th.....	6
Hand Signals On The River.....	7
Lee's Ferry to Phantom Ranch	7
Phantom Ranch – Tuesday, March 11th?	9
Phantom Ranch to Diamond Creek.....	9
Diamond Creek Day – Friday, March 21st.....	11
General Advice	11
Food & Cooking	11
Miscellaneous	12

Personnel List

Lee's Ferry to Diamond Creek

Rowers	Kayakers	Raft Passengers
Bob S, ID (QBO)	Eric B, WA (PT)	Kerri B, HI
Scott H, WA	Kennet B, WA	Shelley S, WA
Chris B, WA	Boris S, WA (PT)	
Pete M, WA	David W, WA (PT)	
Scott W, WA (backup)	Sybille F, WA	
	Rachel P, CA (PT)	
	Edward E, OR	
	Steve F, HI (PT)	
	Scott W, WA (PT)	

Overall Logistics

We will be using Professional River Outfitters (PRO) as our outfitter for river gear, food, and shuttles. Each person will be responsible for their personal gear and transportation logistics to and from Flagstaff, Arizona. There will be a lot of group details before and some after the trip that will be organized by the trip leader, Eric, in combination with the group.

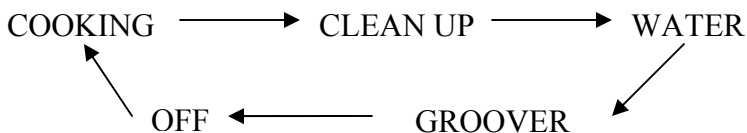
Satellite Phone

During the trip we will have a satellite phone with us. The sat phone has a voicemail box. The phone's battery allows 3.5 hours of talk time or 9 hours of standby time. Depending on the group's preference, we'll be checking the voicemail every or every other day. However, we'll only check it once a day at the most, unless there is an ongoing emergency.

The sat phone's number is **XXX-XXX-XXXX**. If the phone is not on, then the caller will be taken to the voicemail box. To dial out, you must always use 1 plus the area code.

Duty Roster

Job Rotation



Teams & Duties

These duties are listed by camp. That means that the duties listed below are to be performed from time we get on the river in the morning to the time we get on the river the next morning.

Camp	EJ, Sybille, Scott H	Steve, Kerri, Chris	Bob, David, Scott W	Rachel, Eric, Pete	Shelley, Kennet, Boris
1	Cook	Clean up	Water	Groover	Off
2	Clean up	Water	Groover	Off	Cook
3	Water	Groover	Off	Cook*	Clean up
4	Groover	Off	Cook	Clean up	Water
5	Off	Cook	Clean up	Water	Groover
6	Cook*	Clean up	Water	Groover	Off
7	Clean up	Water	Groover	Off	Cook
8	Water	Groover	Off	Cook	Clean up
9	Groover	Off	Cook*	Clean up	Water
10	Off	Cook	Clean up	Water	Groover
11	Cook	Clean up	Water	Groover	Off
12	Clean up	Water	Groover	Off	Cook*
13	Water	Groover	Off	Cook	Clean up
14	Groover	Off	Cook	Clean up	Water
15	Off	Cook*	Clean up	Water	Groover
16	Cook	Clean up	Water	Groover	Off

NOTE: On a layer-over day, the next “camp” will start after breakfast is cleaned up.

* Dry vegetables out, if necessary

Cooking: The cooks will prepare dinner and breakfast. Everyone will help for lunch.

Clean up: The clean up crew will clean up dinner and breakfast (not personal dishes). Everyone will help for lunch.

Water: The water team should utilize the clearest water they can find.

Groover: The Groover crew will set up and take down the toilet and hand washing station. Neither will be done during lunch.

Off: If you are off, then you do not have any group duties. However, it might be necessary to pitch in once in a while.

Personal Gear

The PRO Primer and the [Grand Canyon Private Boater Association's](#) lists are good places to start for putting together your own personal gear list. Here are a couple important or unlisted items you might want to bring.

- **YOU MUST HAVE A PHOTO ID AT THE PUT-IN**
- 2-3 pairs of sunglasses
- 2-3 hats
- Extra cash (for those late night, high-stakes poker games ☺)
- A credit card
- Health insurance card
- Hand lotion/Bag Balm/Chapstick
- Lots of Sunscreen
- Cold weather clothes

Those kayaking, please remember to bring all your necessary kayaking gear.

Group Gear

Below is a list of gear that we may want to bring, but will be shared by the group. The kayakers should probably coordinate bring an extra set of gear in case anything breaks on the trip.

- Spare dry tops (one medium, one large)
- Spare wet suit?
- 100' static line?
- Webbing anchors - 15ft [Kennet, Eric]
- Black light (for spotting scorpions at night)
- Prussik loops [Kennet (2)]
- Pulleys [Kennet (2), Eric (1)]
- Rope for grab lines for the rafts
- Camp Chairs
- Playing cards [Eric (2)]
- Frisbee?
- Volley ball/net?
- Football?
- Sleeping pad repair kit
- Library of Grand Canyon books
- Glasses repair kit
- Sun shower [Eric]
- Tiki torches?
- Extra tarp?
- Stakes for tarp(s)

Traveling to Flagstaff

We all need to be at the Flagstaff hotel, Inn Suites (1008 E Route 66, 928-774-7356), at 10:30AM on Tuesday, March 4th, 2008. However, it is HIGHLY recommended that everyone get into Flagstaff on Monday, March 3rd. Most people are flying into Phoenix on Monday, renting a van or two, and driving to the hotel in Flagstaff. EJ and Sybille will be driving down with most of the kayaks and possibly some of the gear. Scott W will be driving directly there and bringing his own kayak. They will meet those flying at the hotel on Monday or Tuesday. Bob will be getting into to Flagstaff earlier, but will meet us at the hotel on Tuesday.

We have four 2-bed rooms reserved at the Inn Suites Hotel. These rooms will be shared by Eric, Chris, Scott H, Steve, Kerri, David, Boris, Sybille, Kennet, Shelley, Pete, Rachel, and EJ. Bob will be staying with friends in town.

Day before launch - Tuesday, March 4th

In Flagstaff

This is the first time we'll all be together and some of us will be meeting each other for the first time. This is also the last day in civilization, so any last minute items need to be picked up.

When we meet at 10:30AM outside the hotel, we will make sure everyone is there and that everyone has everything that they need. The most important thing is that everyone has there picture id with them. **THE NPS WILL NOT LET YOU LAUNCH WITHOUT A CURRENT PICTURE ID.** We will then get all of our personal gear ready to load onto the PRO shuttle. Any gear not actually going on the river needs to be put in one of the cars.

At 11:30AM, PRO will arrive at the hotel. We will then transfer our personal gear to dry bags, if you are using a PRO dry bag, and ammo cans then load up the vehicles. Everyone will need to dress for rigging the rafts, which will entail getting your feet wet.

The Shuttle

After we are all loaded up, we'll head out to Lee's Ferry, which will take about 2.5 to 3 hours. We will drop off the rental car(s) about a mile away from the hotel on the way to the Lee's Ferry put-in. We will stop on the way there at a fast food place or plaza to pick up lunch.

Rigging the Rafts

From PRR: "Upon arrival at Lee's Ferry we hit the downstream end of the ramp and immediately begin to unload the truck. Personal dry bags and boxes, cases of beer and soda, fishing poles, chairs, kayaks, and other non-raft stuff get carried to the far downstream end of the ramp where they will not get in the way of rigging the boats. They will be the last thing loaded on the boats, after the essential group gear such as toilet, kitchen, first aid kits and food pack.

When the raft rubber comes out the back of the truck, your group will work as a team to blow up and rig the boats. PRO provides an extension cord and electric blowers. Anyone on hand can grab a blower and start inflating the boats. See the Raft Rigging Primer for more info on rigging the rafts.

The food pack boxes and coolers stay in the truck bed until the rafts are ready to receive them. Boatmen and assistants need to help rig the frames, coolers and boxes. They will have to put the rig back together, should the river take it apart. The rest of the group can help by filling water jugs, set up camp, pack/re-pack personal gear.”

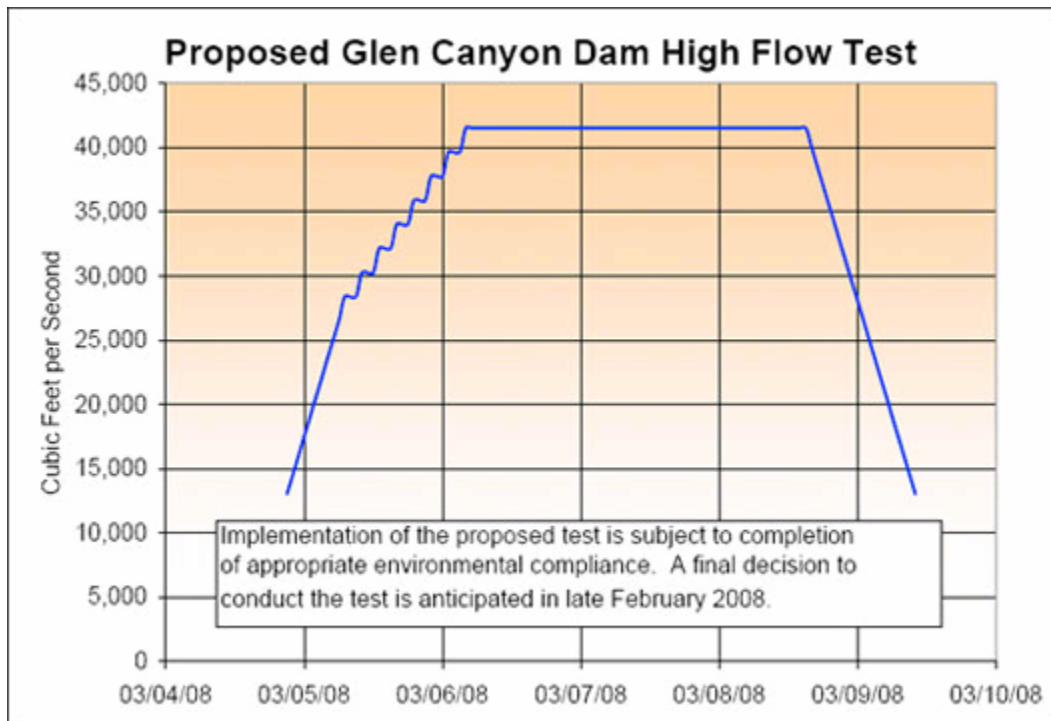
Once we are done rigging the rafts, we will see if we can find out if any changes have been made to the controlled flood plan. This will allow us to discuss any updates at dinner.

Dinner and Camping

The PRO staff will drive us to a local restaurant after we are done rigging. PRO is NOT paying for this meal, so make sure you have enough money or a credit card to pay for it. There will be a store near the restaurant that will have river supplies and books. During dinner we should probably figure out who’s going on which raft and who’s kayaking on launch day.

We will camp at the Private Boater’s Camp just down stream of Lee’s Ferry, which is free for those launching the next day. There should be running water, rest rooms, etc.

Flood Information



Launch Day – Wednesday, March 5th

We will need to wake up early and eat breakfast. This is not included in our PRO meal plan, but will be provided by PRO. For this meal, everyone will observe how the kitchen gear is set up. After breakfast we will load the rafts with any personal gear we used overnight and the kitchen. We need to make sure we have most of what we need for this day’s lunch in the Lunch Box and

pack it so that it is easily accessible. We also need to pull out the frozen meat and avocado pulp of the coolers for this night's dinner so they will thaw.

Then we will have our equipment and photo id's inspected by the NPS Ranger. Once we pass, we will all have to attend a 1 hour orientation.

Once the orientation is over, everyone will discuss on-river procedures. This will include a basic safety talk for those who are new to river running. Once more we will discuss the controlled flood details and where we plan on stopping first (not necessarily camping there though).

Hand Signals On The River

Hand signals are worth knowing and should be practiced before you need them in a rescue situation.

Your trip should agree on a sign language at the start of your trip. If you have comments or additions, mention them. Here is a list of possible hand signals. Not all trips will use all of these.

For more details, please refer to the [American Whitewater Safety Code](#).

1. Point to safety. If you see a rock or a hole or the best run through a rapid, point at the best route, not the danger.
2. Are You OK? - I'M OK - Pat yourself on the head or the thumb on forefinger OK signal. From far away, form your arms in a big O over your head. This is both a statement and a question. A pat on the head can be a question – Are you ok? And a pat on the head back says “Yes, I’m ok” or “Yes, I’m ready.”
3. DANGER/HELP!/NO! Cross your arms over your head in an X.
4. READY - Hold paddle vertical or thumbs up.
5. EDDY OUT – circle arm overhead and then point to the side of the river to pull to shore to.
6. SPEED UP - Move fist in circle like locomotive wheel
7. SLOW DOWN - Wipe brow with forearm (as in "we're getting tired")
8. PERSON OVERBOARD - Stroke arms as in an air swim, and intersperse by pointing to the swimmer. Alternatively, hold a paddle or arm vertically and point to swimmer.
9. HUNGRY/LUNCH - Open mouth and point to it

Lee's Ferry to Phantom Ranch

We will most likely stop often this first day to rearrange gear, scout, etc, especially since the water will be rising rapidly. With our first camp possibly being Badger/Jackass (mi 8) or Soap Creek (mi 11.5) and the flood moving us a long pretty quickly, we should have a lot of time to stop during this day.

There's a nice 4 mile hike at Soap Creek (mi 12).

North Canyon hike (mi 21) is a popular ½ mile hike to a deep pool in upper Marble Canyon.

In the Roaring 20's (mi 20-30), there will be a lot of rapids. We will definitely be going through this section at 41,000 cfs, but it should not get significantly harder.

There may, or may not, be a good surf wave at mile 24 at 41k cfs. It may be washed out.

At Shinumo Wash camp (mi 29.5), there is a hike to/through the Silver Grotto. For a ¼ mile there are a series of pools that are too deep to wade. Somewhere up there, though, is a really cool natural amp theater.

The South Canyon camp (mi 32) is recommended. There are Pueblo dwellings just up the cliff at this camp. Vasey's Cave is near by with good water to filter, but watch out for poison ivy.

The Red Wall cavern (mi 33) will most likely be flooded allowing us to float into it. It'll be a great time for some really cool pictures.

Between miles 30 and 50 there won't be a lot of rapids.

The upper and lower Buck Farm camps (mi 41) will be ok at high water. There's also an easy ¾ mile hike here.

President Harding rapid (mi 44) has a very large boulder in the middle of it. The right channel has a lot of debris in it and the left channel is recommended. We will most likely hit this rapid at flood, and at flood, this rock will be covered. At the camp below this rapid there is supposed to be good surf wave, but it may be washed out.

Saddle Canyon camp (mi 47.5) is also ok at high water. There's a ¾ mile hike to a waterfall here.

Nankoweap Rapid (mi 52) has a large boulder in the mid-left channel in the upper 1/3 of the rapid that will be a large hole at flood.

Below the rapid, is Nankoweap camp (mi 53). The lower camp is another camp that's ok at high water. From either the upper, main, or lower, there are multiple hikes. One of them takes you to the Nankoweap granaries.

The Little Colorado River comes in at mile 62. There is no camping here nor can you take boats up the Little. Swimming is also prohibited on the south side of the mouth to protect fish. You can pull in up stream of the confluence and hike up the river to Beamer's Cabin.

The next major rapid is Tanner Rapid (mi 69).

Cardenas (mi 71.5) and the Unkar (mi 72.5) camps are recommended. Just a little ways down stream, past Unkar Creek rapid (mi 73), there are some Anasazi ruins on river right. There are lots of short and long hikes in this area.

Hance camp (mi 77) is one of the last camps before the camps start getting scarce for a while. This is also the start of Asbestos Canyon, where they used to mine asbestos and get cancer.

The first of the “Big 3” rapids is Hance (mi 77). The good news is the water will most likely still be high, and according to the guide book, some lines in this rapid get easier at higher water.

Right after Hance, is another big rapid, Sockdolager (mi 79). There is usually a very large hole at the top of the rapid. At high water, this may become a monstrous surf wave. Stories from Kyle should let us know that even if it is a wave when we get there, rafts should NOT try to surf it.

Lower Cremation camp (mi 87.5) is a medium sized camp just above Phantom Ranch. This is the only camp that will be possible for us between Hance and Phantom Ranch. There is no camping at Phantom Ranch. If we don't camp here, then the next option is Granite camp (mi 94) which is after Horn Creek rapid (mi 91).

Phantom Ranch – Tuesday, March 11th?

The day before, we will try to camp just upstream of Phantom Ranch (mi 88). The next day, most likely on Tuesday, March 11th, we will be stopping at Phantom Ranch which has running water and a general store. You can mail letters and post cards there, but you must bring your own postage stamps. They also have a pay phone, so you might want to bring a calling card if you are planning on use their phone. I believe the store there takes credit cards. Depending on the camping situation, our time here may be limited.

Phantom Ranch to Diamond Creek

Horn Rapid (mi 91) NEEDS to be hit at the high water mark for the day.

Granite Camp (mi 94) is a good camp, but depending on how Phantom Ranch goes, we may want to pass it by.

Hermit Rapid (mi 95.5) is a big one, but just stay in the middle.

Cremation Camp (mi 96) is a good camp. [NOTE, can't find this one the map]

Crystal Rapid (mi 99) is one of the big three. Watch out for the massive hole and boulder garden below.

It's hard to find camps between miles 100 and 120, so be sure to communicate with other groups in the area.

Ruby Rapid (mi 105) might have an absolutely huge surf wave in it. I believe it'll be at the top, but don't know for sure.

Lower Bass Camp (mi 109) is a good camp. There's a creek below it, Shinumo Creek, which you can paddle up. This is a popular camp, so communicate with the other groups in the area before hand.

Hakatai Rapid (mi 111.5) might have a good surf wave at lower water. There's a good beach in the area, but I believe it is currently closed to camping.

At mile 116.5, there may be a good kayaking play spot.

Elves Chasm (mi 117) is a really popular hike. Be ready to pull in.

The Blacktail camps (mi 121) are good and have a nice hike from them.

The Doll's House (mi 131) is a cool schist outcrop that can be climbed, I believe.

Stone Creek (mi 132.5) is a must camp and hike. It's a very short hike to a cool waterfall.

Tapeats Rapid (mi 134.5) has a hole at the top, right that's burly.

Tapeats Creek (mi 134.5) is where we'll most likely take our layover day if we haven't used it already and are not falling behind. There is no camping directly at the creek's confluence, but there's an upper and lower camp ground (try to get the lower one). There's a 10-15 mile hike from here to the Deer Creek confluence (mi 137). If there are members of the group who want to do that, then the rest of the group could meet them at a camp near the Deer Creek confluence, which is only a couple miles down stream.

Deer Creek hike (mi 137) is supposed to have an amazing view of the canyon.

Kanab Creek hike (mi 144) is another easy hike. There's no camping at the confluence.

Olo Canyon hike (mi 146) is supposed to be good, but you need a rope to get through some tough spots.

Matkatamiba Canyon hike (mi 148.5) is a must hike. The pull-in is really small, so space out.

Matkat Hotel camp (mi 149) is supposed to be a good one.

The Ledges camps (mi 152) have some flat rock ledges. If we stay here, we'll need to let the boats out throughout the night.

Havasu Creek hike (mi 157) is a must. Start early and pack lunches. Let everyone go their own way, but everyone HAS to be back to the boats by 3:30PM. You'll want to spend the entire day here.

158.7 Camp, Tuckup Camp (mi 165), or the National camps (mi 167) are good camps for after the Havasu day.

Fern Glen Camp (mi 168.5) is a good camp with a nice hike.

Mohawk Camp (mi 172) is a good camp with a nice hike.

Lava Falls Rapid (mi 180) is the last of the big three.

Parashant Camp (mi 199) is a good, large camp. This is very popular, so you need to plan ahead with the other groups.

Granite Park Camp (mi 209) is another good, large, popular camp.

There's supposedly a good kayaking play spot around mile 112.

Pumpkin Springs (mi 213) is a hot springs that's must stop. Remember the water has arsenic in it, so don't drink any.

Try to camp at Upper 220 Camp on the last night, 3/20, but if it's not available, the Middle 220 Camp will work too. If we can't get either of those, then 221 and 222 camps will also work. Regardless of where we camp on the last night, we need to wake up early the next morning. One idea is to run the last 4-6 miles of the river in silence, since the Diamond Creek take out will be chaotic and we'll be getting back to civilization that day.

Diamond Creek Day – Friday, March 21st

We will be taking out at Diamond Creek (mile 226) on March 21st, 2008. PRO will be picking us up at 11:00AM and we MUST be de-rigged by then. See the "De-rigging Checklist" in the binder for all the details. This means we need to get to the take-out by 9:00AM. This should not be a problem, since we will most likely camp between miles 220 and 224. Most importantly, we can't miss the eddy at the take-out.

The Diamond Creek take-out is on Native American land, which has prohibited the possession and consumption of alcohol. We either need to consume it all, which probably won't be a problem, or hide any remaining alcohol so no one can see it. I do not think we will be explicitly asked if we have any, only if they see it blatantly out.

Once we have loaded all of the gear, we will have a fresh lunch provided by PRO and be driven back to the Flagstaff hotel, Inn Suites.

General Advice

Food & Cooking

- Use thawed ground meats as soon as possible.
- Consolidate coolers as soon as possible, during the cooler and shadier times of day.
- Drain your coolers daily. Ice will last much longer if it not sitting in water that is conducting the heat from the side of the cooler to the ice.
- Check your onions & potatoes every time you open them and dry them when they feel moist (at least once a week). They are packed in black dry bags and the veggies sweat in there, causing them to mold if not properly dried. To dry them, spread the veggies out for a few hours on a dry clean boat deck, and remove any that have rotten spots. Hang the black bag where it can dry out also.

Miscellaneous

- Cover kayak cockpits at night to prevent creepy crawlies from getting in them
- Strap the rafts to each other at night, so if any one line fails, the boat won't be lost
- As the flow goes down, let the boats out during the night
- Once we get to camp each afternoon, everyone need to help set up the common areas before setting up their personal gear
- Be on the river by 9AM and at that night's camp by 4PM at the latest
- Have a dry bag for an extra set of clothes in case a raft flips or someone needs to change for another reason