

September 5 – September 25, 2013 Grand Canyon Trip

April 15, 2012

Dates until launch - 509

Tom Strauch's planning website: <http://tstrauch.home.comcast.net/~tstrauch/GrandCanyon2013/>

Tim Strauch's email address: tims.janett@comcast.net Cell: 920 285-9750

Our launch date is a long ways away, but it is worthwhile to begin our planning now. Not only do we have a full trip, we have five friends and family on our waiting list. If past trips are any indication of the future, I do expect changes.

Please email me as soon as possible, but no latter that May 31, 2012, a confirmation that you are still interested in being on this trip or remaining on the Waiting list and the basic information that is required for the permit which is:

- **Legal Name (including middle initial) – your ID will be checked on Launch day**
- **Date of Birth**
- **Address**
- **Phone Number**

Time Line:

May 31, 2012 – Confirm that you are committed to the trip, and send basic information

June 15, 2012 – Remove the names of those that have not confirmed from the trip list and add the people from the waiting list

September 6, 2012 – **Deadline for each participant to get in their \$500 deposit to William French**

September 7, 2012 – Put on the waiting list anyone that has not sent in their \$500; and allow those on the waiting list to send in \$500 to secure a spot.

November 1, 2012 – begin negotiations with trip outfitters – the primary ones are Canyon REO and Pro – will consider others if anyone has suggestions. In the past we have received significant discounts if we secure an outfitter in the calendar year before the trip

December 15, 2012 – Bill French sends \$1500 retainer to our outfitter

May 1, 2013 – Confirm that Bob Jackson as permit holder is 100% committed to go and then drop our back up date of August 29, 2013.

May 5, 2013 – Bob Jackson sends in completed permit

May 6, 2013 – Bill French sends in National Park fees – estimated at about \$2000

May 10, 2013 – Request final trip estimates from Outfitter

May 29, 2013 – All participants have final payment to Bill French – I expect it to be an additional \$1000

June 8, 2013 – 90 days until launch date – anyone added to our permit will be charged an additional \$100 by the National Park service.

July 3, 2013 – Bill French sends 50% of invoice to outfitter (in the \$10,000 range)

Wednesday, September 4, 2013 – If you are flying into Flagstaff you probably want to arrive Wednesday evening

Thursday, September 5, 2013 – You will want to be in Flagstaff at the outfitters by mid morning or at the put in, at Lees Ferry by early afternoon

Thursday, September 5, 2013 mid afternoon – We will rig the rafts. When this is complete the ranger will inspect our gear

Friday, September 6, 2013 – morning – Ranger talk and the ranger inspection of each person's ID. (make sure you have a valid picture ID available) – LAUNCH!!

Monday, September 23, 2013 – pass Diamond Creek (mile 226)

Wednesday, September 25, 2013 – take out at Pearce Ferry

We currently are planning to rent five 18' rafts, although if one or two boatmen would prefer a smaller raft, we could accommodate that. I expect that that we would also have 3 or 4 tandem inflatable kayak, since they became very popular last trip. The permit allows 16 participants. Currently we have 21 people who are interested, so there are five people on the waiting list.

Current Participants and proposed "home" rafts :

Raft # 1 Boatman: Tim Strauch, Trip Leader

Sam Strauch

Holly Strauch

Raft #2 Boatman: Tom Strauch, Food Organizer

Bob Jackson, lottery winner and permit holder

Matt Strauch

Raft#3 Boatman: Bill French, Treasurer (won permit for August 29)

Tarn Sublett

Kelly Sublett

Raft#4 Boatman: George Steigerwald

Bob Schafer

Mike Murphy

Raft#5 Co-boatmen Nathan Wendt; Jason Marley

Greg Lambert

Radha Adhar

Waiting List:

Chris French

Jordan French

Polk Burleson

Alison Van Dusen

Tim Long

Daylight:

In September we will have 12-14 hours of daylight. We will want to take advantage of the daylight hours by getting up and starting early. Camp fires will probably be the norm at night.

Hiking:

On all river trips, there are those who like to hike and there are those who prefer to relax and hang out in camp. Grand Canyon trips can accommodate both and everything in between. Our group is very oriented toward hiking.

Camp Chairs:

I feel that one of the most important items to bring along on the trip is a camp chair. It represents your personal space at camp and around the camp fire. For some unknown reason, on the few trips that I have been on that had less chairs than people, there have been disagreements about chairs and space. Please bring your own camp chair.

Equipment:

The outfitter will supply almost all of the river equipment. Many of us have our own river gear, such as life jackets, dry bags and ammo cans and will want to use our own gear. For those that do not, there is no need purchase equipment because the outfitter will rent you what you need.

I strongly recommend Aquaphor, a skin ointment for your hand and feet. Your hand and feet will become cracked and dry as a result of being wet most of the time. Wearing gloves can also help your hands. It is recommended that you start using Aquaphor a week before the trip to moisturize your hands and feet.

Wet suits and dry suits are not included as part of the equipment. It is a good idea to bring one or the other if you have them. At this time of year they are good to have but not necessary. You will want clothing that will keep you warm when you are wet. The Outfitters may have used wetsuits that they will sell at discounted prices. It is likely that we will have some very hot days, but we could also have some cool ones.

Snack, drinks, beer and wine

Even though the outfitter will supply us with plenty of food you may still want to bring your own snacks. There is plenty of space so you can bring as much as you want of drinks. Do not bring any glass. Soda and beer should be in cans and wine in bags (a small glass container of hard liquor is OK). There will be plenty of filtered water and everyone is encouraged to drink plenty of water. If you prefer to bring your own drinks up to four or five cases is acceptable.

NPS Registration:

Although it is apparently not yet necessary for participating, I would recommend that everyone creates a profile at: <https://npspermits.us>. Most all of us have done that when we applied for the lottery.

NPS Regulations:

Can I change my passenger list or gear after sending you my trip application?

Participant names may be changed online before launch. Before going to Lees Ferry, ensure that each participant will have picture ID and the total number of participants (including the permittee) does not exceed 16 at any one time (8 for a small trip). The trip leader must be present the entire trip. You may change or add boats at Lees Ferry. Just be sure to show up with the required gear associated with the additions. Between 30 and 90 days before launch, the trip leader will be allowed to request that additional trip participants be added to the trip. For these late additions there will be the normal \$100 charge per added person plus an additional late fee of \$100 per added person. Trip participants may not be added within 30 days of launch.

Please review the Noncommercial River Trip Regulations. Tom has a link to it on his website.

Let me know if you have any questions or ideas.

Tim