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## Grand Canyon News Release

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### **Grand Canyon National Park announces plan to accommodate river permit holders once government re-opens**

**Grand Canyon, Ariz.** – The National Park Service at Grand Canyon National Park announced today that all river permit holders who were denied their scheduled launch due to the government shutdown will receive a refund for permit fees.

River permit holders will also be entitled to reschedule for a Colorado River trip with their choice of dates in 2013, 2014, 2015 or 2016. The permit holder will be required to submit their choices within 60 days of the government reopening. No more than three launches will be permitted in a day and the new trip must adhere to the trip length of the chosen season.

Permittees who had launch dates three days prior to opening and including opening day, may choose to get a refund for permit fees and reschedule with the same parameters as outlined above or launch after opening. The maximum number of launches will be adjusted to four per day for the first two days after opening. After that, the maximum will be three launches per day until the backlog has been cleared. River permit holders with the current launch date will have priority to launch on their scheduled date.

Commercial river companies that have scheduled launches during the government shutdown will be able to carry over lost user days that occurred under the government shutdown in the 2014 season. A user day is equal to one passenger on the river over the period of one day. Therefore, if a company was to launch with 10 passengers for 10 days, they'll be able to carry over 100 user days in the 2014 season.

Twenty-one private river launches and six commercial launches were scheduled over the first two weeks in October.

“The Park worked closely with affected parties to develop this plan, and I appreciate their understanding and support,” stated Park Superintendent Dave Uberuaga.

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Details will be sent to each river permit holder outlining the options in the plan and any priority each may have.

The Park is also looking at options for other permit holders, and will provide information on any options it may offer in the near future.

-NPS-

## River Permit Accommodation Plan

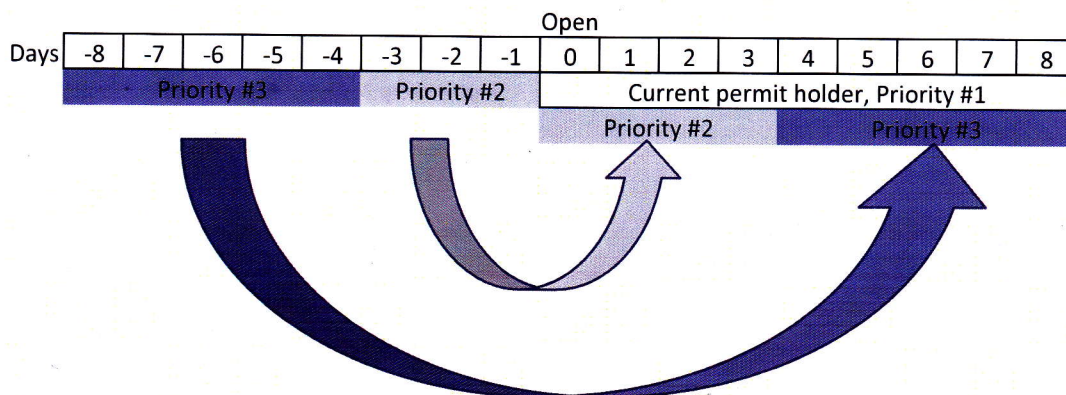
All permit holders who were denied their scheduled launch due to the Government Shutdown will receive a refund for permit fees. The permit holder will be entitled to reschedule a Colorado River trip with their choice of launch date in 2013, 2014, 2015, or 2016. They must submit their choice for the trip date within 60 days. Submissions must be flexible as we will not accommodate more than three non-commercial launches in a day and must adhere to the trip length of the chosen season. Only the permit holder will be allowed to reschedule a trip, and the option is non-transferrable.

The river permit holders who had launch dates 3 days previous to opening and including opening day may choose to get a refund for permit fees and reschedule with the same parameters as above or launch after opening. The maximum number of launches will be adjusted to 4 per day for the first 2 days after opening. After that, the maximum will be 3 launches per day until the back log has been cleared. River permit holders with the current launch date will have priority to launch on their scheduled date. The additional launch openings will be offered to the permit holder from 3 days prior, then 2 days, then 1 day. This will clear trips that are immediately prepared to launch. Any trip launching later than originally permitted will have the choice to travel on the river for the same number of days as on their permit or to take out on their originally scheduled date.

The river permit holders who had launch dates greater than 3 days prior to opening day may choose to get a refund for permit fees and reschedule with the same parameters as above or launch after opening. Subsequent launch openings to this group will be prioritized by their launch dates.

The river permit holders who have launch dates up to 3 days after opening day may choose to launch on time or get a refund for permit fees and reschedule with the same parameters as above.

Original permit for launch during closed period Oct. 1 to 3 days prior to opening	Refund	and	Reschedule trip in 2013, 2014, 2015 or 2016	Or	Launch after 3 days of opening with max of 3 trips per day. Prioritization based on original launch date.
Original permit for launch within 3 days prior to opening	Refund	and	Reschedule trip in 2013, 2014, 2015 or 2016	Or	Trip allowed within 3 days of opening with max of 4 trips per day. Prioritization based on original launch date.
Original permit for river within 3 days after opening	Refund	and	Reschedule trip in 2013, 2014, 2015 or 2016	Or	Launch as scheduled



- Priority #1: Trips scheduled to launch for that day
- Priority #2: Trips scheduled within 3 days prior to opening
- Priority #3: Trips scheduled from Oct 1 to within 3 days of opening