



2004 RAINBOW BRIDGE NATIONAL MONUMENT PROFILE

AUTHORIZATION

Rainbow Bridge National Monument was set aside on May 30, 1910 by President William H. Taft because the natural bridge itself "...is of great scientific interest as an example of eccentric stream erosion, and it appears that the public interest would be promoted by reserving this bridge as a National Monument..."

AFFILIATED AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBES/GROUPS

Five American Indian tribes/groups claim affiliation to Rainbow Bridge and surrounding areas. These are the Navajo, Hopi, San Juan Southern Paiute, Kaibab Paiute, and White Mesa Ute Council of the Ute Mountain Ute. A consultation committee made up of members of these groups was formalized in 1991.

RESOURCES

SIZE: 160 acres (65 hectares)

RAINBOW BRIDGE: Height: 290 feet (88 meters)
Span: 275 feet (84 meters)
Top of the arch is 42 feet (13 meters) thick and 33 feet (10 meters) wide

WATER: Bridge Creek flows under Rainbow Bridge and into the waters of Lake Powell.

GEOLOGY: Over millions of years, Rainbow Bridge was formed by the action of erosion as Bridge Creek flowed down from Navajo Mountain and carved through the relatively soft Navajo sandstone which rests upon the more resistant Kayenta formation.

FLORA AND FAUNA (Catalogued species):
800 Plants
311 Birds
64 Mammals
27 Fish
28 Reptiles
7 Amphibians

Exotic species: Several plant species including Russian thistle (*Salsola iberica*) and Tamarisk (*Tamarix* spp.).

ARCHEOLOGY: An intensive survey of the entire monument has been conducted and eight sites of significance have been identified.

HISTORICAL STRUCTURES: None.

CLIMATE: Mean Temperatures:

January: High 42 F (6 C) Low 24 F (-4 C)

July: High 97 F (36 C) Low 69 F (21 C)

Lake Surface Temperature:

January: 46 F (8 C)

July: 78 F (26 C)

Annual Average Precipitation: 6 inches (16 cm)

ADMINISTRATION

Rainbow Bridge National Monument is administered by Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

FY 2003 (Operation of the National Park System) \$104,000

VIP program funding \$ 1,000

VISITOR SERVICES

VISITATION: 2003 Visitation 98,865
Percent decrease from 2002 41.06%
Access for most visitors is via Lake Powell. Few visitors hike in from Navajo Nation land.

FACILITIES: 1,400 feet (460 meters) of floating dock and walkway
Floating micro flush restrooms
2 shade structures - 1 with interpretive signs

SERVICES: Interpretive ranger programs and emergency medical services, boat tours originating in Glen Canyon NRA.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STAFFING: NPS staff stationed at Dangling Rope Marina oversee operations at RABR.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

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