

best management practices to avoid or reduce pollution to the recreation area. They encourage the National Park Service to "use all available practices to meet the intent of guidance issued by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) integrating pollution prevention opportunities in National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) planning, documents and decisions (Pollution Prevention and the National Environmental Policy Act, CEQ, January 1993)." Pertinent provisions of executive orders should be addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement and the future Lake Management Plan referenced in this rulemaking.

*NPS Response:* Each impact topic contains a summary of the applicable laws and regulations that were applied in the analysis of the effects of PWC on Glen Canyon National Recreation Area resources and values.

The NPS and the marina operators have developed a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC) that provides recommendations and requirements to prevent environmental damage resulting from the spills of oil and fuel. These plans are required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as stated in 40 CFR part 112. All marina operators and National Park Service must comply with these requirements and *Best Management Practices* contained within the Spill Prevention Plan. The CEQ requires NPS units to comply with the recommendations and requirements established by the NPS Hazardous Waste Management and Pollution Prevention Team and the EPA. An SPCC is required by EPA to protect the environment from oil spills. Glen Canyon NRA requires the current concessionaire (ARAMARK) to have a SPCC plan for each marina fueling operations. The SPCC plans comply with CEQ guidance the commenter mentions by following the EPA standards for spill protection and prevention. In addition, placards are displayed at marinas and educational materials are made available to recreation area visitors to inform boat operators about proper fueling of vessels and containers.

The National Park Service manages the water of Lake Powell in accordance with the water quality standards of Arizona and Utah. Water quality in Lake Powell is regulated by the Arizona and Utah Departments of Environmental Quality under water quality standards and regulations that are promulgated in the *Arizona Administrative Code* (R18-11-107) and *Utah Administrative Code* (R317-2), respectively. Consistent with

Federal regulations, Arizona and Utah have established numerical and narrative standards that protect existing and designated uses of state waters and implement the antidegradation requirements. Compliance with the numerical standards for water quality is determined at control points that are specified in the regulations.

In the case of the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements, three alternatives for PWC management were analyzed. The alternatives also consider means to mitigate the effects of PWC on park resources and values, including limiting use in areas where management objectives strive to create a visitor experience without intrusion of these vessels or where important park resources must be protected. Alternative B (modified preferred alternative) in the Final Environmental Impact Statement includes mitigation measures to protect other park users from potential conflicts with PWC (refer to the modified preferred alternative section in the "Environmental Consequences" chapter), as well as other measures to protect species of special concern and water and air resources. Requiring that PWC used in the recreation area after 2012 be compliant with the EPA 2006 emission standards for gasoline marine engines under alternative B (modified preferred alternative) will further mitigate impacts of these vessels on recreation area resources. The National Park Service finds that the modified preferred alternative will not result in an impairment of park resources and values for which the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area was established.

5. Several commenters stated that limiting access to PWC users is against the intent which Glen Canyon National Recreation Area was created.

*NPS Response:* The authorizing legislation for Glen Canyon National Recreation Area was considered when developing alternatives to be analyzed in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements. The "Introduction" section in the "Purpose of and Need for Action" chapter in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements states that the overall objective for the regulation and EIS is to evaluate a range of alternatives and strategies to manage PWC use, to protect recreation and resource values. This objective was derived from the enabling legislation for Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. As further stated in this section, a thorough analysis for the management of PWC was also provided under each alternative following the guidance of the National Park Service Management Policies (2001).

Both the servicewide regulation and the National Park Service Management Policies acknowledge that park units proposing to continue PWC use must complete an analysis of impacts from PWC use. This analysis includes a thorough review of the enabling legislation of the unit and its management objectives, and the resources and values potentially affected by continued PWC use.

In the case of the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements, three alternatives were analyzed under various PWC scenarios. The alternatives consider various ways of mitigating the effects of PWC on park resources and values, including limiting use in areas where management objectives strive to create a visitor experience without intrusion of these vessels or where important park resources must be protected. Alternative B (modified preferred alternative) in the Final Environmental Impact Statement includes mitigation measures to protect other park users from potential conflicts with PWC (refer to the discussion for alternative B in the "Environmental Consequences" chapter), as well as other measures to protect species of special concern and water and air resources.

As a result, the alternatives presented in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements protect resources and values while providing for a number of different recreational opportunities for park visitors to enjoy at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. The NPS concluded that limiting PWC access in certain areas is necessary and appropriate for achieving management objectives in those areas of Glen Canyon NRA.

6. Several comments were received citing the Organic Act and the mission of the National Park Service to leave the resources and wildlife "unimpaired for future generations." A number of letters were received stating Federal law clearly prohibits activities that impair or derogate the recreation area resources.

*NPS Response:* We agree. The "Summary of Laws and Policies" section in the "Environmental Consequences" chapter summarizes the three overarching laws that guide the National Park Service in making decisions concerning protection of park resources. These laws, as well as others, are also reflected in the NPS Management Policies. An explanation of how the Park Service applied these laws and policies to analyze the effects of PWC on Lake Powell resources and values can be found under "Impairment Analysis" in the "Methodology" section of the "Environmental Consequences"