United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
345 East Riverside Drive
St. George, Utah 84790
www.az.blm.gov and www.nps.gov/para

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

In Reply Refer To:
AZ-100: 1610

February 2008

Dear Reader:

I am pleased to announce that after five years of hard work and collaborative effort, the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument Management Plan (Approved Plan) is complete. As the first management plan for this Monument, it will provide guidance for the managing 808,744 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered lands and 208,447 acres of National Park Service (NPS)-administered lands in northern Arizona. These lands are within the Arizona Strip BLM District and Lake Mead National Recreation Area (NPS), in Mohave County, Arizona. They are located north of the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon and east of the Nevada state line. These lands include the ponderosa pine forested areas of Mt. Trumbull, Mt. Logan, and Mt. Dellenbaugh; the Mojave Desert in the Grand Wash and Pakoon areas; Kelly and Twin Points overlooking the Grand Canyon; and the Shivwits and Uinkaret plateaus.

The attached joint Management Plan and individual Records of Decision (RODs), one for BLM decisions and one for NPS decisions, have been prepared in accordance with the Federal Land Policy Management Act, the National Parks and Recreation Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act. The document was sent to members of the public who requested a copy and to pertinent local, State, Federal, and Tribal governments.

These two RODs finalize the proposed decisions presented in the Arizona Strip Proposed Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) that was released on March 2, 2007, and subject to a 30-day protest period that ended on April 2, 2007. Seven protest letters were received on BLM decisions in the FEIS and reviewed by the BLM Assistant Director for Renewable Resources and Planning in Washington, D.C. After careful consideration of all points raised in the protest letters, the Assistant Director concluded that the planning team and responsible decision makers followed all applicable laws, regulations, policies, and pertinent resource considerations in development of the Proposed Plan in the FEIS. Minor adjustments or points of clarification that were incorporated into the Approved Management Plan respond to issues raised in the protest process and final BLM review. These are discussed in the BLM ROD under the sections entitled Modifications and Clarifications. The protest review did not result in any significant changes to the Proposed Plan. No letters were received regarding NPS decisions in the FEIS.

These RODs serve as the final decision for the land use planning decisions described in the attached Approved Plan. Now that the RODs are signed, we look forward to your

assistance and participation as we implement the decisions contained in this Approved Plan.

Route designations are described and mapped as part of the travel management decisions included in the RODs and Approved Plan. Route designations are implementation level decisions. Therefore, an appeal opportunity under the Department of Interior's appeal regulations at 43 CFR Part 4 is being provided at this time for the route designations proposed within the Approved Plan.

Copies of the RODs and the Approved Plan can be obtained on the web at https://www.blm.gov/az/LUP/strip/strip_plan.htm. Additional printed or CD copies may be obtained at the address above or requested by email at Arizona_Strip@blm.gov or by phone at (435) 688-3200.

We are pleased to provide this copy of the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument Management Plan for your use and reference. We greatly appreciate all who contributed to the completion of this Approved Plan, including other Federal agencies, Tribal governments, and State and local governments. This also includes the ten Cooperating Agencies that worked with us over the years (Mohave and Coconino counties in Arizona, Washington and Kane counties in Utah, the Kaibab Paiute Tribe, the towns of Fredonia and Colorado City, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Department of Transportation, and the Federal Highway Administration). We also appreciate the extensive public involvement during this time by groups, organizations, and individuals. Public input informed and improved the planning documents and we hope you will continue to work with us as we implement the decisions in this Approved Plan. If you need information or have questions, please contact us at (435) 688-3200.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Bradybaugh

Jeff Bradybaugh
NPS Superintendent and
Acting BLM Monument Manager