

# Exhibit 9

# Verde Independent

Thursday, March 26, 2015

## Verde River recovers from flood impacts

Yvonne Gonzalez  
Staff Reporter

Thursday, March 26, 2015

CLARKDALE -- Freeport McMoRan and Clarkdale officials have been working to replace signage and a berm at the Brewer's Tunnel Diversion Dam after recent storms washed out the area, said Town Manager Gayle Mabery.

"It was like that before, but all that material got washed away in the flood," she said. "They actually smoothed it out and made it even better than it was last year."

With safety precautions back in place, the river is ready for the customers from commercial outfitters. Mabery said four outfitter permit applications were given preliminary approval by a five-member panel, pending the receipt of final application documents.

Outfitters need to submit insurance information, an annual operation plan for the town and Arizona State Parks to review, and their Clarkdale business licenses. They also need to make a deposit for the number of tours they'll be allowed to run.

The [Verde River Institute](#) has most of its paperwork submitted to the town, and will be running a maximum of 300 interpretive, educational tours.

Permits will likely be awarded sometime in April for the other three, Mabery said. Just Roughin' It Adventure Company can run 95 guided recreational tours this year.

The two biggest users will be South By Southwest Adventures and Verde Adventures, Inc., at 2,107 and 5,778 total trips, respectively.

Mabery said the outfitters may not use all of the allotted trips this year, and that they won't be offering any until all documentation is received by the town.

"If they don't meet all those other criteria, they don't get the permit," she said.

### Related Links:



With safety precautions back in place, the river is ready for the customers from commercial outfitters.

	# of Customer Units Recommended			Total
	Guided Recreational	Unguided Recreational	Interpretive/Educational	
Just Roughin' It	95	N/A	N/A	95
South By Southwest	750	415 (Maximum of 11 per day)	250	2,107
Verde Adventures	4,786	992 (Maximum of 25 per day)	N/A	5,778
Verde River Institute	N/A	N/A	300	300
<b>Total Awarded</b>	<b>5,631</b>	<b>1,407</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>8,280</b>
Remaining Capacity	0	0	692	692