

Gila

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ANSAC:

I understand you are taking comments about navigability on Arizona rivers and streams. On March 24th of this year, I had the pleasure of rowing the Lower Salt River for the first time. The flow was guessed to be about 1500 cfs, said to be a very good level – I certainly found that to be so. We had an assortment of two rafts, three catarafts and a kayak for our group of eight. It was lovely to head south for an early taste of spring, and we totally enjoyed our four day adventure.

That trip has been one of the highlights of my 20+ years of whitewater rafting and kayaking. The scenery is some of the most spectacular I've ever seen, and the river itself was pure pleasure to float. I have mentioned that trip to many people, and intend to add the Salt to my annual river permit applications. I hope that I will be able to return to it.

Outside of the Colorado through Grand Canyon, the Lower Salt is the only river I've boated in Arizona recently. About eighteen years ago I boated the Virgin River within the Arizona Strip and found it to be easily navigable. Now that I have retired to southern Utah, I intend to venture onto more of your delightful rivers, and hope that there will be many which are conserved thanks to your decisions. Please remember the importance of preserving various non consumptive uses of waterways and declare state ownership of rivers like the Salt, Agua Fria, Big Sandy, Blue, Gila, Hassayampa, Little Colorado, Puerco, San Francisco River, San Pedro, Santa Cruz, and others of your major watercourses.

Thank you for the work that you are doing.

Respectfully,



Nancy Orr