

ORIGINAL

December 2, 1996

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State of Arizona
Navigable Stream Adjudication Commission
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Sirs:

This letter is in response to your "Statement of Intent" regarding the Verde River. First, I would like to present some family history. My grandfather bought a ranch and settled along the Verde River in 1900. I am 68 years old and still operating that same ranch.

I never heard my father or other old timers speak of seeing or knowing of any navigable boats. In the past 25 years, I have seen a few small rubber rafts, rubber tubes, canoes and kayaks. However, they need to get out every few hundred yards and pull them over the shallow rapids. The river in many places is only a few inches deep.

Sincerely,

Thomas Y. Perkins

Thomas Y. Perkins
Perkins Ranch, Inc.

Verde 005