- 2 My name is Mike Mayer and I am the Chief Ranger at Glen Canyon National
- 3 Recreation Area in Arizona and Utah.
- 5 I thank you for the opportunity to address the Commission today and to offer the
- 6 following comments on the proposed Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) ordinance
- 7 pending before the commission.
- 9 As a member of the Kane County Trails Committee, we appreciate the opportunity
- 10 to participate and look forward to the backcountry trails and roads planning
- 11 process being undertaken by the county. We thank you for the recent removal of
- 12 signs inadvertently placed in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.
- 14 The designation of OHV routes by county ordinance sends a conflicting message
- 15 to the visiting public as Glen Canyon NRA has not determined, through a public
- planning processes where or if OHV use is compatible with existing park activities.
- We understand that this is an important issue for Kane County in the overall travel
- 18 plans for the area. We can assure you that the management of our park road
- 19 system is also a high priority for the NPS and it is our intention to manage park
- 20 roads consistent with national park policies, park values, resource protection and
- 21 visitor safery.
- We are required to comply with legal and policy requirements that are placed on
- 24 the National Park Service and Glen Canyon NRA as we go forward with any
- 25 planning process.

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27 Our public planning process will assure that all user groups are equally heard and ultimately provide Glen Canyon NRA with direction for management of the 28 29 backcountry roads and vehicle use on these roads. We look forward to working collectively with the counties in this effort to provide the best recreational 30 opportunities for the public while protecting the natural and cultural resources of 31 32 park lands. 33 34 We recognize the passage of a Kane County Off Highway Vehicle Ordinance as 35 currently proposed will create a conflict between county and federal regulations. It 36 is our hope that Glen Canyon NRA and Kane County can work cooperatively to 37 resolve this inconsistency in a manner that is beneficial to both the NRA and the 38 County. 39 As stated in 36 CFR 4.10, Federal regulation and policy provide for off-road 40 41 vehicle (ORV) use in national recreation areas, national seashores, national 42 lakeshores and national preserves on routes that have been designated by the park superintendent through promulgation of special regulations. Special regulations 43 44 must include appropriate NEPA compliance, be published as a proposed rule in the Federal Register, and provide an opportunity for public comments on the proposed 45 rule. 46 47 48 To date, Glen Canyon NRA has not promulgated special regulations designating 49 specific ORV routes. The absence of the rule making process for Glen Canyon 50 NRA and the passage of the pending Kane County ordinance is the essence of the

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conflict we face.

) 5	we are committed to working on the special rule making and regulation process.
54	Park resource management staff has started the process of using GPS technology to
55	remap the backcountry roads in the park and transfer the data to new maps that can
66	be used by all as a base reference. As Glen Canyon NRA covers two states and
57	has common boundary with five counties and the Navajo Nation, it is best that we
8	look comprehensively at a total backcountry road plan for the NRA. In turn, we
9	ask that you work with us to resolve the immediate conflict that our mutual visitors
so	will now face with two sets of rules for OHV use.
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52	In an effort to eliminate conflicting rules and regulations and confusion to the
53	visiting public, we request that Kane County exempt Glen Canyon National
54	Recreation Area from the application of this pending ordinance. In addition, we
55	ask that Kane County remove from maps and publications any roads closed since
66	1979 by the parks General Management Plan. We request that reference to OHV
57	routes on existing park roads be withheld until the park completes a rule making
88	process that may formally designate routes in the park.
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70	We look forward to working with Kane County in this planning process to provide
71	the best recreational opportunities for the public while protecting the scenic,
72	natural and cultural resources of the park.
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74	We would like the opportunity to meet with commission to discuss the specifics of
75	the ordinance with respect to the National Recreation Area.
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77	Glen Canyon National Recreation Area July 2005