



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

PO Box 129  
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

928 638-7779 phone  
928 638-7609 fax  
[www.nps.gov/grca](http://www.nps.gov/grca)

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## Grand Canyon News Release

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Contact(s): Shannan Marcak  
Phone number: 928-638-7958

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### Private Cataraft Temporarily Stranded in Grand Canyon

**Grand Canyon, AZ.** – Yesterday morning, a cataraft (similar to a catamaran), which was part of a private river trip, was freed by National Park Service rescue personnel after becoming stranded on the Rock Garden at Crystal Rapid. The report of the stranded craft was received on July 29 from its oarsman who was already safely ashore. Efforts to dislodge the cataraft commenced the next day; and the craft was freed and able to continue with its trip early on the morning of July 31.

No injuries were reported with this incident; and the group has since continued on its way down the Colorado River.

The National Park Service would like to remind all potential river users to use caution when navigating the Grand Canyon. Grand Canyon National Park contains world class rapids that are very challenging. Fluctuations in water flow can cause day-to-day and even hour-to-hour variations in how best to navigate each rapid. As a result, even the most experienced and well-prepared users can encounter difficulties.

For further information on this incident, please contact the Grand Canyon Public Affairs Office at 928-638-7958 or at 928-638-7779. If you would like information on river trips through the Grand Canyon, please visit our web site at [www.nps.gov/grca](http://www.nps.gov/grca) and click on River Trips/Permits or all our River Permits Office at 928-638-7884.

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