



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

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Grand Canyon News Release

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National Park Service and Arizona Department of Public Safety conducted commercial vehicle inspections at Grand Canyon National Park

Grand Canyon, Ariz. - On Wednesday and Thursday of last week the National Park Service (NPS) and Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) conducted commercial vehicle inspections within Grand Canyon National Park.

The purpose of the commercial vehicle inspections are to remove unsafe passenger carrier drivers and vehicles from the highways; educate the industry and the public about the importance role roadside enforcement plays in saving lives on Arizona's highways and helping to provide a safe and secure place to travel; as well as educating passenger carrier drivers and others about the importance of safe driving, buckling up and maintaining safe vehicles.

Approximately 22 NPS personnel and 45 DPS officers conducted the inspections. Department of Public Safety officers completed the vehicle inspections that included the mechanical components of the vehicle as well as driver credentials, while NPS personnel were on site to verify whether drivers had the required Commercial Use Authorizations (CUA) which are permitting documents that the NPS uses to authorize private individuals and entities to provide commercial services to park visitors.

During the inspections, 167 commercial vehicles were inspected. Of those inspected 34 vehicles were placed out of service for being unsafe mechanically. Mechanical issues included brake systems, tires/wheels, lights, loading safety, steering, electrical systems, emergency equipment, exhaust systems, and a cracked frame. Twenty-five drivers were placed out of service by DPS officers – most of the drivers taken out of service had exceeded the number of driver hours legally allowed. One driver was arrested for driving under the influence. Department of Public Safety Officers issued 12 citations and 473 warnings that ranged from log book violations to repair orders for equipment violations. The NPS issued three warnings and 12 citations for CUA violations.

Visitors that were on buses that were placed out of service were accommodated by the companies that had arranged their original trips. National Park Service personnel were available at the park's visitor center to assist drivers in making their arrangements by providing

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information on area hotels, cab companies, and local bus companies that could assist with visitor needs.

Last year during a similar inspection conducted by both the NPS and DPS, 130 commercial vehicles were inspected, of those 17 vehicles were taken out of service for mechanical violations and 17 drivers were taken out of service for various violations.

Commercial vehicle inspections are routinely held within Grand Canyon National Park as well as other parks nationwide. Commercial companies and the public have been served well through the inspections, which help maintain public safety in the park and on the highways.

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