

G R A N D C A N Y O N T R U S T



October 5, 2006

Horst Greczmiel
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington DC 20503

Dear Horst,

I am writing to see if an extension is possible for the comment period on CEQ's Guidance on Categorical Exclusions under the National Environmental Policy Act. As stated in the Federal Register Online (September 19, 2006), comments are due on October 27, 2006. I am scheduled to teach a field ecology course October 21-28 in southern Utah's national forests (away from email/phone contact) for 22 Whitman College Students ("Semester in the West"). As I co-coordinate the Three Forests Coalition of 15 organizations (www.threeforests.org) which works continuously with NEPA in such US Forest Service arenas as rare species, forestry, mining, livestock grazing, off-road vehicle use, and roads, it is important that I gather thoughts from them as well for the comments.

A month extension would be wonderful, if that were possible. If you have questions, I can be reached at 541/485-6886 until Wednesday afternoon, October 11. After that I will be on the road to Boulder, UT; Flagstaff, AZ; and in southern Utah's three national forests. Until October 20, I can access email (mob@uotegon.edu) most nights.

If you can respond quickly either way, that will help me plan accordingly.

Sincerely,

Mary H. O'Brien

Mary O'Brien
Grand Canyon Trust