



Clay Hills Crossing Boat Ramp. Photo courtesy of Linda Richmond.

## Clay Hills Takeout

by Bill Bishop

GOOD NEWS: Recent telephone conversations with Vic Knox, Chief of Professional Planning Services, and Ken McMullen, Environmental Specialist for Glen Canyon National Recreation Area indicate that all permits and approvals have been obtained and funding has been secured for the improvements to the river takeout at Clay Hills. It will take about three days to complete the project and it is anticipated that all work will be completed before March 1, 1994.

The existing access road will be widened to 25 feet and two 18 inch culverts will be installed in the slough. The takeout ramp will be expanded to approximately 130 feet wide by 90 feet deep - almost doubling the river access and increasing the cleared area four fold. The silt bank at the river will be leveled and the area graded to attain a 5:1 slope for the entire ramp. The ramp and access road will be covered with filter fabric and then three inches of gravel.

An open-air, port-a-potty will also be provided. NPS is going to construct the slab and privacy enclosure; the commercial outfitters will supply the toilet and supplies. A sign discussing takeout etiquette will be erected.

No improvements to the county road or parking area are proposed at this time. River runners will still need to pack out all trash and human waste as no receptacles will be provided.

Ironically, the last permit to be obtained was from the Army Corps of Engineers. Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 requires a permit for the deposition of fill into navigable waterways. It seems ironic that the agency responsible for so many boondoggle water projects throughout the west was concerned because a little dirt could accidentally get pushed into the river.