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Author: hahorn@juno.com at smtpgate
Date: 1/22/97 12:48 AM
Priority: Normal
TO: F-ARM-NPRM-COMMENTS at ARM
CC: gcrg@boris.infomagic.com at SMTPGATE
Subject: Grand Canyon Overflight rule

FAA-03-14715-32

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To:Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt

I have just recently read of the new ruling your agency has announced on the Grand Canyon Overflight rule. I must tell you I am very concerned that the Interior Department just doesn't get it. My understanding of the new rule is that you all have NOT REDUCED SUBSTANTIALLY THE NOISE POLLUTION OVER THE GRAND CANYON!!
The Canyon is perhaps the most magnificent natural wonder this country is blessed with. The Noise pollution your ruling would allow is unacceptable. With efforts underway to restore more of the natural ecosystem in the Canyon, i.e. reintroduction of the Condor why can't the Interior Department tighten up its ruling, specifically:

* Tour operators should be required to convert to the quietest technology available.
* We should not allow whatever gains are made by this conversion to be lost by allowing more aircraft into the airspace. The cap on the number of aircraft should be firm and permanent.
* Specifications for categorizing an aircraft's noise efficiency should be more stringent than those proposed.
* No aircraft - even the less noisy ones - should be granted a route through a flight free zone.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration of the above points and in expectation of your reply.

Sincerely,
Helen A. Horn