

TONTO National Forest



Recreation
Opportunity
Guide

www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto



WATER-ACTIVITIES

COON BLUFF

RANGER DISTRICT

Mesa Ranger Station
5140 E. Ingram Street
Mesa, AZ 85205
Phone: (480) 610-3300 Fax: (480) 610-3346

NAME OF WATERWAY

Lower Salt River

RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

Tubing, boating, fishing, hiking, picnicking and wildlife observation

SEASON OF USE

All Year
April 1 - October 31: day-use only
Winter camping: October 15 – March 15

ELEVATION

1340 feet

FACILITIES

Picnic tables
Grills
Vault toilets
No drinking water available

BARRIER-FREE ACCESSIBILITY

- Picnic area is barrier-free
- Vault toilets are equipped with grab bar; some assistance may be necessary

LOCATION AND ACCESS

This site is located 18 miles northeast of Mesa. From Mesa, travel 7 miles east on U.S. Highway 60/70 to Power Road/Bush Highway and turn north. Follow Bush Highway for 10 miles. Turn north (left) on Forest Road (FR) 204 E and follow it one mile to the site. The entire route is paved.

ATTRACTIONS

- Coon Bluff is a popular river-access point (RAP) for tubers floating the Lower Salt River
- It is a lush riparian area that is ideal for bird watching

FEES

\$4.00 per vehicle (day-use)
\$6.00 camping fee during season only

CONSIDERATIONS

- This area can become quite crowded on hot summer weekends
- Bring sun block and tennis shoes if planning to float the river
- To avoid injury, wear shoes when wading in the river
- Pets must be on a leash
- No glass containers allowed in the Lower Salt River area
- CAUTION:** Fallen trees and other materials in the river can trap swimmers and floaters
- BEWARE!!** Alcohol, sun and water are deadly combinations

NEAREST COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Salt River Tubing: Tube rentals, bus service and snacks
Saguaro Lake Ranch Resort: Lodging, food and stable
Saguaro Lake Marina: Full-service marina, fishing supplies, ice, water, restaurant and phones
Mesa: All services

RELATED INFORMATION SOURCES

- Arizona Rivers and Streams Guide*, Arizona State Parks
- For river-flow information, contact Salt River Project's recorded message line (602) 236-5929 www.srpnet.com