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**Conor Watkins is a PhD student in Department of Geological Engineering at the University of Missouri – Rolla studying bedrock megalandslides of the Colorado Plateau, including many in the Grand Canyon. He grew up near St. Louis and first became interested in the Meramec Dam Project as a young boy. He often heard small snippets about the project while taking family float trips on the Meramec and other Ozark Rivers but found good sources of information hard to uncover. Much of the information had been forgotten and many who lived through the era remain very biased against or in favor of the project, making it hard to decipher the whole story. Although the entire story will never be told, Conor will attempt to give a concise summary in as complete and unbiased of a manner as possible.**

**Conor enjoys caving, hiking, camping, floating, and just about any other outdoor activity, including his field work in the Colorado Plateau.**



**Conor at the top of the Spencer Trail overlooking Lee's Ferry, AZ, the put-in point for all Grand Canyon River Trips. The Vermilion Cliffs and some of their numerous landslides are visible in the background.**