Diatremes and Anticlines, Cottonwoods and Songbirds: The Geology and Natural History of the San Juan River

June 4 – 7, 2019

Don’t wait, this is a river trip of legendary proportions. Few people get to float this iconic stretch of river with guides like Lon Abbott and Tom Fleischner. Upwarps, anticlines, diatremes, big horn sheep, warbler songs, prince’s plumes and a vibrant river all waiting for their stories to be told by people who know the landscape as few do. This knowledge and understanding is conferred in a trip atmosphere facilitated by river masters who take a deep pride in their record of safe and satisfied participants. Contact us today - events like this are rare.

Where: San Juan River – Sand Island to Mexican Hat
When: June 4, 2019 through June 7
Number of Days/Nights: Three days/three nights
Transportation: Vans depart 8am from Natural History Institute, Prescott; return 8pm to Natural History Institute [or provide your own transport]
Group Size: Maximum 20
Age Group: Adults and youth 16+
Cost per Person: $749
Deposit: $200 (non-refundable) applies to total due
To Register: Call or email Natural History Institute (928) 863-3232; info@naturalhistoryinstitute.org
LON ABBOTT taught geology at Prescott College for ten years before moving to the University of Colorado’s Geological Sciences Department, where he’s been a Senior Instructor for the last 11 years. Lon strives to contribute to public understanding of and appreciation for geologic processes, Earth’s deep history, and the significance of geology in our everyday lives.

Lon has published three geology books, including *Hiking the Grand Canyon’s Geology* and over 40 articles for a general audience. His current research efforts include trying to decipher when the Southern Rocky Mountains rose and when and why the Grand Canyon was carved.

TOM FLEISCHNER is the Executive Director of the Natural History Institute, and Faculty Emeritus at Prescott College. He has led educational explorations of the Colorado Plateau canyon country for more than 35 years, and is the author of *Singing Stone: A Natural History of the Escalante Canyons*, among other books and articles.

Itinerary: This multi-day river adventure explores the rich natural history and geology of the Colorado Plateau while floating 27 miles of the scenic San Juan River. The river trip begins at the Sand Island Group Campground near Bluff, Utah, and ends in Mexican Hat. This section of canyon country offers spectacular scenery and abundant natural history wonders. The river varies from calm water to fun Class II rapids. Participants will paddle a rubber raft or an inflatable kayak, with some option to simply ride in an oar boat.

Each day will include structured and unstructured activities focused on the geology and natural history and we will offer hikes, both casual and challenging for you to choose. And, of course, you can expect three delicious meals per day. The trip package includes all gear specific to river rafting, while clients will provide personal sleeping equipment and appropriate clothing. There is something for everyone on this educational adventure.

Notes: We will camp at Sand Island Campground near Bluff, UT, on the evening of June 4th. Dinner is provided. All river gear is provided including a waterproof gear bag. Tents are not provided, but available for rental.

Photo credits: front (top left) Kristine Preziosi, (top right) Jeff Sullivan; back (bottom) Graham Churchard