

## Paria Canyon Notes and Hike Information

1) BLM (Kanab) phone contact for recent weather and canyon informatory on 435.644.4600. I'm told that for emergencies, contact the National Park Service (Page) at 928.608.6200.

2) Who is going?

If for any reason that at the last minute you need to back out, there is no reimbursement of your \$15.00 BLM reservation fee. If you need to back out, please let me know as soon as possible, there are some potential possibilities to fill the vacancy.

Bill Garling

Mike Riggs

Monica Jagelski-Riggs

Lisa Nguyen

Lori Zito

Hank Lewis

3) Simple Itinerary:

a) Day 1, Thursday, Oct 5th, leave Phoenix around 10:00 AM, arriving at Lees Ferry Trailhead parking between 2:30-3:00 PM where we will be meet the Trails End Shuttle driver who will take us to the White House Trailhead, located about 40 miles west of Page, AZ. From Lees Ferry, it will take about 1-1/2 hours to get to the trailhead. We will spend the night at the trailhead. There is no water at the campsite, so

1) this will either be a dry dinner/breakfast or be water limited and

2) water should be brought with us. From reading the book, there is a spring within the area and may be of interest since this is also the original homestead and does have some old cowboy graffiti. The next available spring water will be about 6 - 7 miles downstream. Trash bins and Toilets are available at this campsite. There are no plans to do any site seeing (i.e. Glenn Canyon Dam, etc.) along the way. There may be a \$5.00 per campsite fee to camp here.

b) Days 2, 3 & 4, Friday, Saturday and Sunday we will average about ten (10) miles of hiking per day with the last night being a dry camp. We will be taking some side hikes during these days. Any type of cell phone communication once in the canyon is virtually non-existent.

c) Day 5, Monday October 09, we will hike the remaining 6 - 8 miles out and then return home. If you feel a need to "clean up" before returning home, there is limited facilities at the BLM public campground above Lees Ferry.

4) Fees:

a) BLM Reservation Fee; \$90.00 or \$15.00 per person. Payable to Bob Whiting

b) Shuttle Fee; \$250.00 for 6 people, Cash; \$42 per person if there will be 6 hikers.

c) NPS Lee's Ferry; \$25.00 per vehicle or NPS Pass

d) White House Camp Ground Fee; \$5.00/night/sight.

5) What to expect in your hiking adventure. Paria Canyon and the area you will be hiking in is located mostly in Northern Arizona. The hike will start in Utah, is about 38 miles long and ending at the Colorado River in Arizona. Dependent on previous rains, about 70% of the hiking will be in ankle or slightly higher water levels. It is recommended that you either wear Water Shoes and socks or old disposable tennis shoes with disposable socks. After hiking in the river for so many miles, your shoes will not be of much use afterwards. If you like hiking in Teva type of shoes then give them a try. For me if I was hiking I would try to get a pair of water shoes and socks like what I wore when hiking the Virgin River in Zion National Park. For the first several

miles, the canyon walls are mostly sandstone, in excess of 200 feet high, 10 to 15 feet wide between walls. Because of the narrowness of the canyon, flash floods will be a major concern, especially during the first 6 miles. Fresh spring water is available along the first 25 miles. You will be taking side canyons hikes looking for Points of Interest (POI).

6) Further Reading: To gain a better description of the hike refer to Hiking and Exploring the Paria River, by Michael R. Kelsey (available at REI). This book is an excellent resource about Paria Canyon history, what to expect in your hike, suggestion of what to take, and interesting sites along the way. To help you in your planning I have also included a list of suggested items you may want to consider taking.

7) Transportation: To save on gas, vehicle pooling is highly encouraged. As referenced before, you will meet our shuttle driver at Lees Ferry, where they will drive us around to the White House Trailhead. For this service, it will cost us \$250.00 dollars cash not including tips or about \$42.00 apiece. I individual that I have been in contact with for the shuttle is Timothy Stephenson ([trailsenshuttle@gmail.com](mailto:trailsenshuttle@gmail.com)). We have asked Timothy to pick up your reservation from the BLM so that will not be an issue prior to starting your hike.

8) Since Lees Ferry is now part of the National Park Service, there may be a parking fee. I think the fees are around \$25.00 for entry. The NPS Passport should also work.

### Suggested What to Take, not Inclusive

Teddy Bear		Shorts		Dinner (4 Night)	
Sleeping Bag		Under Shorts		Breakfast (4 Mornings)	
Ground Pad		Tee Shirts		Lunch (5 days)	
Ground Cover/Poncho		Nylon Shell, Jacket & Pants		Snacks (All day, every day)	
Stuff sacks (3 - 4 ea.)		Socks, cotton		Biodegradable Soap	
Tent Stakes, Bows		Wet Shoes/Socks		Stove (Share)	
Plastic Bags to pack out		Tennis Shoes (old)		Gas + Extra Can	
Pillow		Tevas/Sandals		Eating Utensils/Plate	
Tent		Long Sleeve Shirt		Cooking Pot & Pans	
Toilet Paper (pack it out)		Boots/Water Shoes		Coffee/Hot Drink Cup	
Plastic Trowel		Personal Hygiene Kit		Camera	
Towel/Wash Cloth		Tooth Brush & Paste		Trekking Poles	
Back Pack		Pocket Knife		Baby Wipes, Handwipes	
Canteens and/or Bladder (70 oz), 4 qts, minimum		Flashlight, w/ extra batteries		Sun Screen, Bug Repellent	
Water Filter and/or Iodine Tablets <sup>(1)</sup>		Copy of Permit, Bill will provide a copy		Waterproof Matches / Lighter	
Clothes Pins		Convertible pants		Backpack Chair	
Map <sup>(2)</sup>		Hat		Sun Glasses	
First Aid Kit		Belt		Light weight Rope with a large paper plate (or)	
2 Way Radio w/extra Batteries		Bandana		Varmint SS Bag	
Mini Binoculars		Personal Survival Drugs			

<sup>(1)</sup> Not everyone needs to bring one. From people that I have talked with, they didn't filter their "spring water", only the Paria River Water. For liability reasons, the NPS and BLM highly recommend the use of a filter.

<sup>(2)</sup> Bill will have a map available, but if you would like to order your very own personal one, call the St. George BLM office at 435.688.3246. They cost \$8.00 each plus \$3.00 shipping. These maps detail the canyon, both Paria and Buckskin, points of interest, springs and camping sites. It also has a very brief history of the canyon and historical weather information.

If you have any additional questions, call or text Bob Whiting at 928.274.4761. Any updates, suggestions or changes, Bill or myself I will sure keep you informed.

Bob Whiting

