Cedar Mesa and Bears Ears Permits and Passes – Spring 2022 Updates
Get Yours Online and Ahead of Time

**Overnight Backpacking and Moon House Permits**

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) permits are required for overnight backpacking in the canyons of Cedar Mesa and visiting Moon House. These activities have a limited entry of 20 people per trailhead/per day. The maximum group size is 12 people.

The BLM has implemented temporary changes to the permit process for the 2022 spring season (March 1, 2022, to June 15, 2022) and encourages visitors to reserve permits online in advance. Permits are available on [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) 90 days in advance of the entry date, including the permits that are typically held for walk-in visitors at Kane Gulch Ranger Station. The requirement to pick up permits in-person at Kane Gulch Ranger Station has been suspended, instead your permit will be emailed to you by BLM staff.

Visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) and search “Cedar Mesa” or use the URL or QR code (below) for more information or obtain a reservation. Backcountry permits are $15 per person. Moon House permits are $5 per person.

**Day Hiking Passes**

Passes are required for some day hiking in Bears Ears National Monument (including routes in the Butler Wash and Comb Ridge area) and the canyons of Cedar Mesa. The maximum group size is 12 people. Passes are unlimited and are not valid for overnight backpacking or visiting Moon House.

Visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) and search for “Cedar Mesa” or use the URL or QR code (below) for more information or obtain a 1-day pass ($5 per person), 7-day pass ($10 per person), or annual pass ($40 per vehicle) in advance.

Day passes and 7-day passes may also be purchased with cash or check at self-pay fee tubes at trailheads and other locations on the mesa top. Annual pass purchasers must redeem or purchase a vehicle hangtag from the BLM Monticello Field Office or Kane Gulch Ranger Station.

**GET YOUR PERMIT:**

[www.recreation.gov/permits/273374](http://www.recreation.gov/permits/273374)

**GET YOUR DAY HIKING PASS:**

[www.recreation.gov/activitypass/cedarmesa](http://www.recreation.gov/activitypass/cedarmesa)

Contact the BLM Cedar Mesa Permit Desk at (435) 587-1510 or [blm_ut_mt_cedarmesa@blm.gov](mailto:blm_ut_mt_cedarmesa@blm.gov) for additional information or assistance.
Welcome to Cedar Mesa

Cedar Mesa is one of the most significant cultural landscapes in the United States, with thousands of archaeological sites and important areas of cultural significance. Abundant rock art, ancient cliff dwellings, standing structures and countless artifacts provide an extraordinary archaeological and cultural record, all surrounded by a dramatic backdrop of deep sandstone canyons carving through desert mesas. Rare perennial springs and streams sustain vigorous riparian ecosystems, while rugged desert animals thrive across the arid mesa tops. The area is sacred to many Native American tribes today, who use the lands for ceremonies, collecting medicinal and edible plants and visiting ancestral homelands.

Visit With Respect

When traveling around Cedar Mesa, you will likely encounter evidence of past human activity. Ancestral Puebloans inhabited the canyons and mesa tops between 700 and 2500 years ago. Many of their dwellings, farming areas and rock art sites remain in excellent condition. Stone and bone tools, pottery pieces and other artifacts give us hints into the lifestyle of these people. Treat everything you find with care and respect. Please leave all artifacts where you find them and don’t touch walls or rock writing since these remnants of past cultures may be more fragile than they appear.

The canyons and mesas of the area are important to many modern day tribes, including the Hopi, Navajo, Ute and Zuni, among others. This area has been home to many and is a rich source of medicinal and ceremonial plants, firewood and game today. It is our shared responsibility to protect this special place. You will find tips for visiting with respect in the orange boxes throughout this guide.

Bears Ears National Monument

The Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) was established by Presidential Proclamation 9558 on December 28, 2016. On December 4, 2017, Presidential Proclamation 9681 modified the boundaries of the BENM. The revised BENM boundary includes two separate units that are reserved for the proper care and management of the objects of historic and scientific interest within their boundaries. The eastern portion of Cedar Mesa, including the Comb Wash Road, Comb Ridge and the Butler Wash Road, is within the Bears Ears National Monument. As in the rest of Cedar Mesa, most of this area is largely undeveloped, with few directional signs or amenities. Please use caution when traveling here.
**Area Information at a Glance**

**Cedar Mesa** offers the adventurous visitor a chance to test practiced outdoor recreation skills, but leave no Trace techniques in a rare primitive setting. Except for a few sites along the State Route 96 and trailheads near State Route 261, the Bullet Gulch Ranger Station is the last point on the map where you will find vault toilets or picnic tables. 

**Experience Level**

Cedar Mesa can be a very difficult place for a first time hiker or backpacker. Remember, your party is only as strong as its weakest member. Beginners may want to consider car camping on the mesa top and attempting a few shorter day hikes (pg. 1-12) to become familiar with the area, or hiring a local professional guide to see you safely through your trip. You may also want to try a hike at Natural Bridges or Hovenweep National Monuments, where you will also find visitor centers, toilets, campgrounds and constructed trails accessing beautiful canyons with ancient sites.

**Water**

Water conditions vary depending on the canyon and the time of year. During any time of year, water conditions can change quickly! Before you arrive at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station to check conditions before you hike. Most springs are dry during the summer months. You may need to pack in all your drinking water. Recommended minimums are one gallon per person per day. During and after heavy rains, springs can be covered by silt-saturated flood water. The most reliable seasonal springs in Grand Gulch are Toddi Sprig, Sheiks Spring and Jailhouse Spring.

Use care to avoid polluting water sources. Where permitted, dogs and pack stock must be closely monitored to prevent trampling and defecating in or near water sources.

**Kane Gulch Ranger Station**

The Ranger Station is operated by the Bureau of Land Management Monticello Field Office from March 1st through June 15th and Monticello Field Office from March 1st through June 15th and more information, see page 16. 

**Trails**

The trails in the canyons and on the mesa tops are maintained mostly by hikers walking the same route repeatedly, thus allowing a barren path to develop. It is best to stay on the most impacted routes. Hiking on the slickrock or rock wash bottoms to avoid creating unnecessary "social trails".

Where the trail crosses slickrock, there are often cafes (small rock monuments) to point you. Please do not add or remove trail cafes. Many routes into the canyons are not marked. It is imperative that you obtain and carry a good map and skill be in orienteering and map and compass reading. GPS units are not always reliable between walls. Maps weigh less, do not need batteries and will not break when dropped!

Floods can cause the trail to erode, vegetation to flatten and lie across the trail for miles and spread much debris across the canyon floor, making hiking tedious. There are usually alternate routes in case of high water. Every year flash floods come through the canyons. Trails and cafes can be wiped out by one good storm. Volunteer trail crews help to rebuild badly damaged sections of the trail, but there is often a lag time between flood season and trail work. Encountering a flash flood is a serious concern while hiking, know the weather forecast before going in the canyons.

The dark crumbly looking soils next to the trails are actually "biological soil crusts". They are made up of lichens, mosses, green algae, micro fungi and cyanobacteria. These organisms bind the soil together, making it resistant to wind and water erosion. Walking on the crusts can destroy them! Stay on the trail or try to walk only in washes or on rock when possible.

Using Ropes to Access Sites is Prohibited 😱

The use of ropes and other climbing aids is not allowed for access to cultural sites or archaeological resources as defined in the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA). Using a safety rope as an aid along a hiking route is prohibited.

**Motorized Vehicles and Bicycles**

Motorized vehicles and bicycle travel is limited to designated roads. Bicycles are not allowed on hiking trails. All vehicles used on the mesa top as a base for day hiking or overnight hiking in the canyons must have a hiking permit displayed on the vehicle dash or bike handlebars. Permits with more than one vehicle can obtain a secondary vehicle permit from the Kane Gulch Ranger Station.

**Personal Sanitation**

Personal sanitation and disposal of human waste is not permitted within 200 feet of a water source, trail, or campsite. Human waste must be packed out or deposited in a "cat hole" (six inches deep) and covered with soil. Used toilet paper must be carried out. Do not burn toilet paper. Washing, bathing, or swimming is not permitted in or near water sources such as springs, streams and pot holes.

Pack it In Pack it Out

All trash, including toilet paper must be carried out. Do not burn toilet paper or trash. All liquids must be strained before disposal and then discarded at least 200 feet from water sources, campsites or designated trails. Use biodegradable soap. Clean up campsites and day use areas. Obeliterate any temporary structures such as rock tables or chairs and tie-up posts.

**Emergencies**

Knowledge of basic first aid should be a minimum for any hiking party. In case of emergencies, emergency radio communication and limited aid may be obtained at the ranger station at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station when the station is open. Cell phones usually do not work in the canyon or many locations on the mesa tops. Search and rescue is provided by the San Juan County Volunteer Search and Rescue team through the San Juan County Sheriff's Office. Response time for the Search and Rescue team could be as much as 24 hours and will usually be conducted in daylight hours. The rescued party will be held financially responsible for any helicopter flights.

Call 911 or contact the San Juan County Sheriff at (435) 857-2237.

**Archaeological Sites**

Cedar Mesa and the adjacent canyons were once home to a remarkable prehistoric people. But this fascinating record of the past is threatened. The unintentional damage caused by visitors is slowly destroying the remnants of the ancient culture. These resources are nonrenewable.

Before entering an archaeological site, take a few moments to plan your "exploration strategy" to ensure that your visit results in a minimum impact. Remove backpacks and make sure sharp hiking pole tips are covered. A midden is a trash pile left by the original occupants of the site. It is usually recognized by darkened soil and perhaps a slightly raised area in front of the site. Do not walk through the midden. This can destroy valuable archaeological information and causes erosion which may undermine the walls of structures above it. If a trail has been built across a site, stay on it. Please respect all local barriers and any area marked as closed to entry.

Climbing on rocks and walls can destroy in a moment what has lasted for hundreds of years. Do not lean on or climb on walls or roofs or enter any rooms. Use extra care around plastered walls. A bump with a backpack can easily break or chip the plaster. When you see "thousands" of potsherds or other artifacts, leave them where they are. If each visitor took just one, there would soon be none left. Putting them into piles takes them out of context, exposes them to weather and destroys clues needed by professional archaeologists gathering information about the site. Please do not remove or disturb any artifact from the site. This is illegal and is punishable by law.

Enjoy rock art by viewing, sketching and photographing it. Never chalk, trace, or otherwise touch rock art. Any kind of direct contact causes these ancient figures to disintegrate. Do not add your name or any other modern day rock art. This graffiti is vandalism and is punishable by law.

Archaeological and historical sites are protected by the Antiquities Act of 1906 and ARPA. It is illegal to damage or disturb any site or to remove anything from the site. If you discover any illegal activity please notify the Bureau of Land Management or the San Juan County Sheriff Office.

No wood or charcoal fires are allowed in any of the Cedar Mesa canyons 😯
Descendants of the Ancestral Puebloans People of the Four Corners Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Periods</th>
<th>Distinctive Characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Pueblo</td>
<td>Small band of people foraged over very large territories. Extinct mammals such as mammoths were hunted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Basketmaker</td>
<td>Subsistence lifestyle based on foraging and hunting. Very high frequency of animal bone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Basketmaker</td>
<td>Habitation is shallow pit houses with storage pits or cells. No pottery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaic</td>
<td>Pueblos I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8000 to 500 BC</td>
<td>Sedentary communities grew corn and squash and lived in large pueblos.</td>
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<tr>
<td>500 BC to AD 650</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Pueblo</td>
<td>Sedentary communities grew corn and squash and lived in large pueblos.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Timelines:
- Pre-Pueblo: 8000-500 BC
- Basketmaker: 500 BC to AD 650
- Archaic: 650-1150 AD
- Pueblo I: 1150 AD to 1280
- Pueblo II: 1280 to 1500 AD
- Pueblo III: 1500 AD to 1650
- Pueblo IV: 1650 to the 1860s

Archaeology

Although scant evidence exists, the earliest inhabitants on Cedar Mesa are attributed to the Paleoindian period (about 11500 to 8000 BC). During a cooler and wetter period at the end of the last ice age, nomadic groups of roaming America hunting mammals, sloths and other now-extinct big game.

As the climate warmed, Archaeological sites are often seen on Cedar Mesa (8000 to 500 BC). Archaeological populations adopted a hunting and gathering lifestyle of following the seasons, hunting big game and collecting plants and seeds. The mano and metate appeared.

By 200 years after hiatus, Late Basketmaker populations moved onto the mesa from about 600 to 700. Late Basketmaker peoples lived in dispersed villages and introduced pottery, beans and perhaps the bow and arrow to an emerging Puebloan life-way.

People visited Cedar Mesa often encounter rock writing panels in the canyons. The majority are from the Early Basketmaker period (300 BC to AD 350) on Cedar Mesa. Both pictographs (paintings) and petroglyphs (incised, pecked, or scratched into the rock) are represented. They often depict broad-shouldered human figures, both male and female, with headresses, clothing and jewelry. Panels may include arrows, faces, masks, handprints, flute players, plants and animal figures.

Evidence of early peoples is seen on Cedar Mesa from 700 to AD 350. By AD 1270, a combination of social and environmental factors prompted Puebloan people to migrate from Cedar Mesa to lands to the south and east. Cedar Mesa’s nearly inaccessible but defensible places such as cliff walls and ditches were repeatedly occupied over time. Waning interconnected with those of Chaco Canyon to the southeast, Mesa Verde in the east, and the Kayenta and Hohokam regions to the south. The corridor between the Basketmaker and Pueblo periods provided by Jonathan Till, Curator of Collections for the Cedar Mesa State Park and Museum. 

The People

Named for their exquisite woven baskets, bags and sandals, Basketmaker societies occupied the region from about 500 BC to AD 700. Early Basketmaker communities grew corn and squash and lived on Cedar Mesa from 300 BC to AD 350.

By 2,500 years ago, prehistoric peoples cultivated crops such as pumpkins, corn, beans and squash, which became their main source of food. The people stored corn, their primary year-round staple, in granaries and used it in a variety of ways. A type of squash which resembled modern-day pinto beans, was the second most important crop. Squash and pumpkins provided important nutrition and calories. Potatoes were not yet grown, but their seeds were dried and used as a source of starch.

Animals

Many animal species that the ancient people used for food and clothing can still be seen on Cedar Mesa. These include deer, elk, bighorn sheep, bison, antelope, and mule deer. Deer were a major source of food. The people hunted deer, elk and antelope for food and clothing. Infants were weaned onto the milk of these animals. Many of these animals are still found in the area today.

Plants

The prehistoric peoples of Cedar Mesa used a number of the native plants for food, medicine, clothing, housing and ornamental purposes.

Indian ricegrass and droopy were probably the most important of the native grasses. These could be harvested in early summer and ground into meal for bread. Fruits of the prickly pear cactus were peeled and eaten, the peel was ground into meal, and roasted pods were an important food source in times of hardship. The native groups also used four-wing saltbush, sheeps sorrel, wild turnips, potatoes, rose hips and sunflower seeds.

The yucca’s sword-like leaves were woven into baskets and sandals. Yucca leaf fibers were spun into cords for fine quality sandals and bags. Yucca roots were used for soap, while the stalks and fruit of the plant were roasted and eaten.

Pinyon pine trees were valuable sources of housing material, fuel and food. In the past, as in the present, a good crop of rich pinyon nuts could be harvested every few years. Wood from the juniper tree was used for firewood, as well as cooking and heating. Juniper bark was used for several purposes such as roofing shingles and padding cradleboards.

Early Exploration

Richard Wetherill, a rancher from Mancos, Colorado, excavated in Grand Gulch for the American Museum of Natural History in New York. The Edge of the Cedars Museum State Park in Blanding, UT curates and exhibits artifacts from the Cedar Mesa and surrounding area.

Early Spanish influence - Great Houses, “ Teenshar”, a type of gray pottery. Corn kernels, bread, beans, corn, squash, coffee, peat moss, etc. The bacteria absorb trace amounts of the minerals and then precipitate it as a dark mineral. The bacteria absorb trace amounts of the minerals and then precipitate it as a dark mineral.

To the ancient peoples, water was life. The availability of water was a primary reason for the location of settlements. The highlands were cooler and had more rainfall than the lowlands. The highlands were cooler and had more rainfall than the lowlands.

Cedar Mesa was inhabited by several groups of people over a period of 1,500 years. They lived in small communities, primarily in the highlands, and had a mixed economy of farming and gathering.

The People

The people of Cedar Mesa were skilled farmers and gatherers. They grew corn, beans, squash, and pumpkins, as well as many other crops. They also collected wild plants for food and medicine. They lived in small pueblos and lived in a semi-sedentary way, moving periodically to different locations to hunt and gather.

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ASPAR CLONES

On the Kane Gulch trail, the canyon walls begin rising along 1.4 miles from the Ranger Station, just before an isolated grove of aspen trees. Aspens are usually found at much higher elevations. However, during the last Ice Age, glaciers moved across the land and deposited seeds which survived and grew into trees. The aspens in Kane Gulch are all of the same genetic makeup; they are clones and represent trees which have been growing there continuously for the past 10,000 years.

The prehistoric Puebloans also valued turkeys. The feathers were often woven into blankets. It is believed that the turkeys were semi-domesticated animals.

In addition to these terrestrial animals, you may also observe a large variety of birds in the area. You may observe a large variety of birds in the area. The prehistoric Puebloans also valued turkeys. The feathers were often woven into blankets. It is believed that the turkeys were semi-domesticated animals.

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Permits and Fees

Cedar Mesa Fees and Reservation System

There are fees for both day and overnight use of Cedar Mesa canyons, including Butler Wash. Fees stay at Cedar Mesa to enhance visitor services. There are no fees for mesa top use or developed sites such as the Mule Canyon Interpretive Site or Butler Wash Interpretive Trail.

All overnight backcountry use in spring (March 1st - June 15th) and fall (September 1st-October 31st) is limited to 20 visitors at each trailhead per day for the following canyons and their tributaries: Grand Gulch, Slickhorn Road, Point Lookout, Fish, Owl, North and South Forks of Mule (north of State Route 95), Road and Lime Creek. You must obtain a backcountry permit from the Kane Gulch Ranger Station for overnight use in any of these canyons. Walk-in permits (one to seven people, non-commercial, no stock) are available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station. Day-use is limited and requires a special permit that can only be obtained at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station in the spring and fall.

Large groups (eight to twelve people), groups with stock pack (see page 14 for exceptions), commercial groups (including educational and scientific trips) and organized groups must have advance reservations. Commercial outfitters and organized groups must contact the Monticello Field Office by December 1st for trips the following spring, or June 1st for fall trips. The Cedar Mesa permit desk operates Monday-Friday between 8:00 am - noon. (435) 587-1510.

Day Use Permits

Day-use permits and seven-days for day use can be obtained at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station (when open) or at fee tubes placed at the following trailhead/canyon access points:

- Kane Gulch
- Todie Canyon
- Bullet Canyon
- Government Trail
- Slickhorn Road
- Collins Canyon
- Fish/Owl Canyons

Group size is limited to 12 people. Payment can be made with cash or check. Fees must be placed in the envelope and dropped into the fee tube, with the tear-off receipt placed the vehicle dashboard with the permit number and dates visible.

Annual Permits for Day Use

Annual day use hangtags are available at the Monticello Field Office or Kane Gulch Ranger Station. Hangtags must be hung from the rear-view mirror of the vehicle and covers the date of the occupancy of that vehicle only. These permits are valid for one year from the date of purchase. They are not valid for backcountry overnight use.

Advanced Reservations

Backcountry overnight and Moon House day use reservations may be obtained at the Recreation.gov website by searching for "Cedar Mesa Permits". Permits can be reserved 90 days prior to and no later than 5 days before your trip start date. For further information, call the Cedar Mesa Permit line at (435) 587-1510.

- Group size is limited to 12 people for day and overnight use.
- Commercial and organized groups must obtain an advance reservation through the Monticello Field Office. Applications must be received by December 1 for trips the following spring, or June 1st for fall trips. Call (435) 587-1504 for information.

Groups of eight or more must obtain an advance reservation.

All advanced reservation permits must be picked up at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station between 8 a.m. and noon on the date of the trip.

- Stock trip reservations can not be made on the Recreation.gov website. They must be made by calling the Ranger Permit Desk during business hours. See page 14 for more information.

- Refunds may be requested directly from the Recreation.gov website for trips canceled 15 days or more prior to the trip start date.

- Permits must be attached to the trip leader’s backpack. License plate numbers must be written on the permit receipts and all vehicles must be obtained on a tag visible placed on dashboards. Vehicle tags for overnight trips are only available at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station.

Walk-In Permits

Walk-in permits for backcountry overnight and Moon House day use can be obtained at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station on the day of the trip on a first-come, first-served basis. No walk-in permits will be issued in advance of the trip start date. Payment can be made with credit card, check, or cash. If permits for your desired entry location are sold out, you have the option of choosing another trailhead or canyon.

Walk-in permits are not available for the following types of groups:

- Groups with eight or more people
- Commercial and organized groups
- Groups with stock (see page 14)

Groups that meet any of these conditions must obtain an advanced reservation through the Cedar Mesa Permit Office. (435) 587-1510.

Off-Season Permits

Off-season winter (November 1st - February 28th) and summer (June 16th - August 31st) overnight and day-use permits for all trailheads except Moon House must be obtained at trailhead fee tubes. Group size is limited to 12 people. Moon House permits may be obtained at the trailhead fee tubes during the off-season.

Permits and Fees (cont.)

Changes to the Permit System

The following changes to the Permit and Fees System will be implemented starting in January of 2020:

- Day use fees will increase to $5/ person/day or $10/person/week.
- Annual passes for day use will be $40 and will be valid for one year from date of purchase (rather than expiring at the end of the calendar year).
- Backcountry overnight fees will increase to $15/person/trip all year.
- Butler Wash will be included in the permit and fee system. Day use and annual passes purchased at any location for Cedar Mesa apply.

McLoyd Canyon/Moon House RMZ Permits

Moon House Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) Requires a Special Permit

Public access is limited to 20 people per day. Entry permits for the McLoyd Canyon/ Moon House RMZ are available only at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station during the high season. During the off season, permits are available at trailhead fee tubes. Advanced reservations for private groups are available through the Monticello Field Office Permit Desk. All permits must be picked up at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station the morning of the hike. Day Use Only.

Pets are prohibited in the RMZ.

Pets

Pets are prohibited in the following canyons and their tributaries:

- Grand Gulch (including but not limited to Kane, Bullet, Collins, Government, Step and Pines)
- Slickhorn Canyon
- Point Lookout Canyon
- McLoyd Canyon/Moon House Recreation Management Zone

Camping

In-Canyon Camping

For overnight use in Grand Gulch, Slickhorn Canyon, Point Lookout, Fish Canyon, Owl Canyon, North Fork Mule Canyon, South Fork Mule Canyon, Road Canyon, Lime Canyon and their tributaries, you must obtain a backcountry permit. See page 6 for information.

There are no assigned campsites in the canyon systems of Cedar Mesa at this time. Some in-canyon campsites are easily seen from the trail; others are hidden, with side trails leading to them. Slickrock camps are a good option. Camping is not allowed in any alcove, overhang, or archaeological site. Camp in well used campsites only. No new camps may be made.

No swimming or bathing is allowed in the pools, streams or potholes.

Slickrock and non-vegetated ground, where there is no living biological soil crusts, are good choices. Camp at least 200 feet from water sources to allow wildlife to visit these areas.

Mesa Top Camping

Cedar Mesa car camping, combined with day hikes, is an enjoyable way to experience the area. There are numerous places on the mesa tops, as well as along dirt roads in Butler Wash, Comb Wash and Arch Canyon to camp. No permits are required for car camping.

Motorized vehicles and bicycles must stay on designated roads. Visitors are not allowed to use an unpermitted campground and avoid impacting pristine, undisturbed areas.

Camping is allowed only in well-established campsites. No new campsites may be created. On the mesa tops, fires are permitted only in established campsites and campgrounds. Fires should be contained in a metal fire pan. All ash and charcoal must be carried out, not buried or dumped in the campsite. Leave no trace camping techniques apply here (see page 6). All cans, trash, organic garbage, (orange peels, egg shells, coffee grounds etc.) and burnable garbage, including toilet paper, must be carried out. Use only biodegradable soap and dispose of liquids at least 200 feet away from camps, trails and water sources.

Fires are not allowed in any of the Cedar Mesa Canyons.
**Suggested Day Hikes in Bears Ears National Monument**

**Bears Ears National Monument** offers several day hiking opportunities, many of which are located on or near the State Route-95 portion of the Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway. Most of the paleontological, archaeological, historic and scenic day hikes listed here have no fee, but please check the rules and regulations for the area you plan to visit.

**Butler Wash Interpretive Site**
This hike is accessed directly off State Route 95. It is signed and the parking area is on the north side of the highway. The parking area is paved and pit toilet facilities are available.

The hiking trail winds its way across some small washes and over slickrock before reaching an overlook of a cliff dwelling. 1/2 mile across the canyon. Round trip hiking distance is one mile and travel time is approximately an hour. It is an easy to moderate hike. Please recycle interpretive brochures at the trailhead.

**Butler Wash Dinosaur Tracksite**
This site is located on route B262, approximately 1/2 mile east of the intersection with SR 95. An interpretive sign and short trail lead to a set of Megalosaurus tracks. This hike is short and easy. There are usually pockets or pools of water. Dogs are not allowed to swim in springs or potholes, as this water is essential for wildlife.

**Arch Canyon**
From the Kane Gulch Ranger Station, drive 4 miles north to U-95. Then east (right) for 13.5 miles. If you are traveling west on U-95 from Blanding, turn north on the Comb Wash Road, County Road D2117, (a dirt road approximately 1 mile west of Comb Ridge, 14 miles west of State Route 95 and U.S. Highway 191 junction). The mouth of Arch Canyon is 2.5 miles up the dirt road. Arch Canyon is a 12 mile long box canyon. The canyon has beautiful red rock walls and it is possible to view several arches at the Forest Service boundary. The creek that runs along the bottom of the canyon normally has water. All water should be treated before drinking. Look along the canyon walls for hanging gardens. You might also spot some cliff dwellings. Please remember to treat these special places with respect.

**Salvation Knoll**
On Christmas Day in 1879, four members of the last Latter Day Saints San Juan Mission climbed this small knoll and found the route to Hilduf, UT. Retrace the pioneers’ steps while learning about the historic Hole in the Rock Trail on this 1/2 mile hike.

**Natural Bridges National Monument (National Park Service fee area)**
Natural Bridges National Monument has several day hikes. There is an 8.0 mile loop hike as well as shorter variations of that hike. These hikes offer views of rock art, prehistoric dwellings and three natural bridges. One campground and limited water are available in the Monument.

The access at the mouth of Arch Canyon is Ute tribal land. Please respect this private property and observe all posted signs. Arch Canyon is open to motorized and mechanized access, however, all vehicles must stay on designated routes. Please be considerate of other trail users with whom you may share this route.

**Mule Canyon Interpretive Site**
The Mule Canyon Indian Ruins Interpretive site includes a surface pueblo, a restored kiva and interpretive information. This hike is accessed directly off State Route 95. The turn off is signed on the north side of the highway.

The parking area is paved and pit toilet facilities are available. A short, paved walkway leads from the parking area to the ruins and is wheelchair accessible. Viewing this site and reading the interpretive information can take just a few minutes to an hour.

**Cave Canyon Towers**
Access off State Route 95 near milepost 103. Turn south on the first dirt road east of the Mule Canyon Ruins Interpretive Site. Please close the gate behind you on the access road. Continue on this road approximately 1/2 mile to several parking areas. From there, it is only a few hundred yards to the towers.

**Visit Bears Ears National Monument With Respect**
- **Use Rubber Tips on Hiking Poles** To prevent scratching subtle rock art
- **Shoe Cleat of Walls** Structures can be easily damaged
- **Leave the Grindling in the Past** Please don’t touch or use grinding sticks
- **Build or add Cairns** Cairns encourage improper use of sites
- **Don’t Touch or Damage Rock Writing**
- **Stay on existing trails**
- **Avoid Building (or Destroying) Cairns**
- **Leave All Artifacts Where You Find Them**
- **Don’t Take or Add to “Display Rocks”**

**McLoyd Canyon/Moon House RMZ (fee area)**
A high-clearance vehicle is required to access the Moon House trailhead. During wet conditions, the Snow Flat Road may be inaccessible even to four wheel drive vehicles. The hike is moderate to difficult due to steep terrain and an exposed six-foot drop-off. There is little shade along the route and temperatures can be extreme in the summer and winter months. This hike is not recommended for novice hikers.

**Moon House Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) Requires a Special Permit!** Public access is limited to 20 people per day. Entry permits for the McLoyd Canyon/ Moon House RMZ are available only at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station during the high-use season. Advanced reservations may be made on the Recreation.gov website. This trail is day use only. General Cedar Mesa day use, week long and annual permits do not apply. During the off season, permits for Moon House day use are available at trailhead fee tubes.

**The Theonic set of granaries known as House on Fire are located in the South Fork of Mule Canyon**

**Suggested Day Hikes in Bears Ears National Monument (cont.)**

**Mule Canyon (fee area)**

**ACCESS POINTS**
From Kane Gulch Ranger Station, drive 4 miles north to State Route 95. Go right (east) 14 miles to County Road 263 north, which is 1/2 mile east of the Mule Canyon Indian Ruins Interpretive site. Once you cross the cattle guard, the bulletin board and fee station for hiking these canyons will be immediately on the left. Continue to drive 1/2 mile north, where the road goes over Mule Canyon. This is the South Fork of Mule Canyon. Park in the pullout along the road or at the top of the hill as the road turns left. The trailhead is located to the west, just below the road. The North Fork is another 1/2 miles up the road where a short bridge crosses the North Fork.

**HIKING CONDITIONS**
The South Fork of Mule Canyon is easy-to-moderate hiking. Although there is no constructed, maintained trail, the route follows the creek bottom and a commonly used foot path. Boulders and evergreen trees crowd the canyon bottoms in the upper ends, while the lower stretches are wider and more open. The hike is in the canyon bottom and only gains a few hundred feet over the course of 7 miles.

Because of the orientation of this canyon, there are ponderosa pines and Douglas firs among the slickrock walls. This is a good day hike, especially with inexperienced or young hikers. In the first four miles, there are several sites. These are interesting sites, although smaller than those in Grand Gulch. The route begins in the canyon bottom and there is very little elevation change, making it an easy to moderate hike.

**WATER**
Mule Creek does not flow year round, but there are usually puddles or pools of water in the wash bottom. However, they can be completely dry in summer and fall months. Dogs are not allowed to swim in springs or potholes, as this water is essential for wildlife.

**MAPS**
The National Geographic #706, Grand Gulch/ Cedar Mesa Plateau map, and/or the USGS 7.5 minute topographic maps: Hotel Rock and South Long Point.
Getting There in Grand Gulch (fee area)

Kane Gulch to Grand Gulch

Map: USGS 7.5 Kane Gulch and National Geographic #706

Access: Park at the Kane Gulch Ranger Station

Trail: 4.0 miles to the junction with Grand Gulch; easy to moderately difficult. The trail begins next to the trailhead kiosk at the west end of the parking lot and continues across the street. The Kane Gulch trail gradually descends 600 ft to the Grand Gulch.

Water: There are usually a few seasonally intermittent potholes of water.

Campsites: A beautiful group campsite is located at the junction of Kane and Grand Gulch, shaded by many large cottonwood trees; some campsite on slickrock are within one mile of the junction.

Bullet Canyon to Grand Gulch

Map: USGS 7.5 Cedar Mesa North, Polly’s Pasture and National Geographic #706

Access: Drive 7.0 miles south of Kane Gulch Ranger Station on State Route 261 and turn right (west). This dirt road (County Road 251) takes you 1.5 miles to the trailhead.

Trail: 7.2 miles to the junction with Grand Gulch; moderately difficult. In 0.4 mile, the trail descends 100 feet in elevation with a few drops on slickrock along the trail. Approximately 1.5 miles from the trailhead is a boulder field that the trail skirts to the right along a steep slope. After the first 2.5 miles and a 500 foot drop in elevation, the trail flattens out.

Water: Deep Hollow Spring is 5.0 miles from the trailhead and Bullet/Grand Gulch Junction spring is in 2 more miles; these are often the only seasonal water sources in Bullet Canyon.

Campsites: There are campsites near both springs.

Government Trail to Grand Gulch

Map: USGS 7.5 Polly’s Pasture and National Geographic #706

Access: Drive 9.4 miles south of the Kane Gulch Ranger Station on State Route 261. Just before Milepost 19, across from the Cigarette Springs Road, turn right (west) on a dirt road (County Road 203/245). Travel 2.5 miles, then turn right at the fork (County Road 245); continue 3.1 miles to the sign at the turnoff and go right (at this point high clearance is required). The trailhead is 1.5 miles from the sign.

Trail: 3.6 miles to the junction of Grand Gulch; easy to moderately difficult. From the trailhead, hike 3.0 miles on the mesa to the canyon rim. This mesa top section is completely exposed, offering no shade in the heat of the day.

During a thunderstorm there is no cover from lightning, which can be hazardous. During a thunderstorm, an altitude of 7,500 feet or above is recommended. During very wet conditions, even four-wheel drive vehicles may become bogged down. Please use caution.

Trail: Hiking in this canyon is rugged. The creek channel is frequently clogged with boulders and there may be poor fords and steep talus slopes to be negotiated, challenging even the experienced hiker.

Pets prohibited in Grand Gulch & Slickhorn Canyon

Please use the guide for pet-friendly hiking areas.

And don’t add anything to panels you see

Don’t Touch or Damage Rock Writing

Please see the guide for pet-friendly hiking areas.

Collins Canyon to Grand Gulch

Note: Table Canyon is a suggested entry access for day hikes only. It is not recommended for novice hikers.

Map: USGS 7.5 Cedar Mesa North and National Geographic #706

Access: Drive south of the Kane Gulch Ranger Station on State Route 261 for approximately 4.0 miles to State Route 95. Turn left, driving about 9.0 miles to State Route 276 and turn left again. Near Milepost 83 there is a sign indicating the Collins Canyon Road (County Road 260) to the left (east). This dirt road travels 6.5 miles to the trailhead; there is one fork, stay right. The road ends at the trailhead.

Trail: The trail gradually descends approximately 2 miles to the junction of Grand Gulch.

Water: Seasonal spring near the Collins and at the bottom near the Narrows.

Campsites: None before reaching Grand Gulch.

Todie Canyon to Grand Gulch

Map: National Geographic #706

Access: Drive north from the Kane Gulch Ranger Station on State Route 261 for approximately 4.0 miles to State Route 95. Turn left, driving about 9.0 miles to State Route 276 and turn left again. Near Milepost 83 there is a sign indicating the Collins Canyon Road (County Road 260) to the left (east). This dirt road travels 6.5 miles to the trailhead; there is one fork, stay right. The road ends at the trailhead.

Trail: The trail gradually descends approximately 2 miles to the junction of Grand Gulch.

Water: There is a seasonal spring 0.2 miles up Todie Canyon from the junction with Grand Gulch.

Campsites: There are campsites near the spring and at the mouth of the canyon.

Slickhorn Canyon

Map: National Geographic #706 and USGS 7.5 Slickhorn East, Slickhorn West, and Polly’s Pasture

Access: Although there are multiple access points for Slickhorn Canyon, Access No. 4 and Access No. 6, as listed on the National Geographic Grand Gulch Cedar Mesa Plateau map are recommended. For these access points, drive 9.4 miles south of the Kane Gulch Ranger Station on Route 261, then turn right (west) onto county Road 203 directly across from the Cigarette Springs Road. In 2.5 miles, you will reach a major junction; stay left, heading south. Access No. 4 is 4.3 miles south of the major junction. The road drops down to the wash and continues. There are pullouts on both sides of the road for parking. Access No. 6 is 1.2 miles beyond Access No. 4. The road passes over a cattle guard and enters an area where the trees have been chained off. A corral will be visible at the head of a small draw. Park by the corral and follow the wash west into a side canyon.

All trailheads are accessible to two-wheel drive vehicles during good weather. High clearance is recommended. After a heavy rainfall, or during winter, the roads can become quite slick and four-wheel drive is recommended. During very wet conditions, even four-wheel drive vehicles may become bogged down. Please use caution.

Trail: Hiking in this canyon is rugged. The creek channel is frequently clogged with boulders and there may be poor fords and steep talus slopes to be negotiated, challenging even the experienced hiker. Pets and stock animals are not allowed in the Slickhorn Canyon.

Slickhorn Canyon, Point Lookout Canyon or their tributaries. At least four days should be allowed to hike the entire length of the canyon and explore the side canyons. The going is slow. Camping is not allowed within one mile of the San Juan River. This area is reserved camping for river rafters.

Water: Slickhorn Canyon has a few springs in the upper forks of the canyon, but can become extremely dry. Top off water bottles at any water source and return back if little water is found.

Visiting

Grand Gulch and Slickhorn Canyon With Respect

Please use the guide for pet-friendly hiking areas.

No Fires in Grand Gulch or Slickhorn Canyon.

Fees prohibited in these canyons and tributaries.

Do In The Bathroom Away from Sites.

Pack out all toilet paper, Do not burn it.

Snow Cleat or Walls

Structures can be easily damaged.

Don’t Touch or Damage Rock Writing.

And don’t add anything to panels you see.

Leave All Artifacts You Find There.

Don’t take or add to “Display Rocks.”

Recommended times are estimates only. Your group may need more or less time depending on many factors, including your experience, trail conditions and weather events. Please consider all of these factors carefully when planning your trip.
Fish Canyon and Owl Canyon (fee area)

Fish and Owl Canyons both cut diagonally across the eastern edge of Cedar Mesa, coming together several miles before they enter Comb Wash. They are both deep canyons, quite narrow, with an abundance of scenic beauty. Erosion has carved canyons that differ from the other canyon systems on Cedar Mesa by their depth, the narrowness of the canyons, and their pools of water in the spring to fall months. The canyon walls average 500 feet high, with the width varying from several hundred feet to very narrow at the upper reaches of Fish creek.

Many of the pools in these canyons have extensive hanging gardens, offering a wide variety of volepilates. The vegetation varies from sage flats in the lower ends of the canyons to cottonwood trees and pine stands on the wider benches in the upper forks.

Where is Stock Use Allowed?

Grand Gulch (Fee Area) - limited to only one stock trip at any time, day or overnight. 

Owl Canyons, Road Canyon, Lime Canyon (Fee Area) - from Comb Wash Road access:

Day Use Only: No Overnight, Fish Canyon two miles upstream of Owl/Cedar confluence, Owl Canyon from Fish/Owl confluence to Nevills Arch.

Closed to Stock: Fish Canyon beginning 2 miles upstream of the Fish/Owl confluence and Owl Canyon above Nevills Arch.

McLoed Canyon (Fee Area):

Day Use Only: No Overnight. Start from Comb Wash at Lower Fish Canyon Trailhead.

Lower Johns Canyon and Arch Canyon (no fee area): Overnight/Day Use Areas: No fees are charged for private groups.

Slickhorn Canyons and North/South Mule Canyons north of U-95: Closed to Stock: All canyons and tributaries.

Water: Upper Owl Canyon has three large springs which are generally dependable in the spring, but do not count on them for water in the summer months. Fish Creek is usually dry near Nevills Arch to the confluence with Fish Creek. Fish Creek often has water in the stretch beginning approximately 2 miles above the confluence with Owl Creek and continues intermittently to the junctions with the upper forks. Conditions change daily, so check with Kane Gulch Ranger Station for driving conditions.

Maps: The National Geographic #706 Grand Gulch/Cedar Mesa Plateau map, and/or the USGS 7.5 minute topographic maps: South Long Point, Bluff NW, Snow Flat Spring Cave.

Stock Use requires a permit. Commercial and organized groups must obtain a Special Recreation Permit (see page 6). Private groups must obtain an Advance Use Reservation for all overnight use and Grand Gulch day use trips. Permits are not available via the Recreation.gov website. Permits are available as early as 90 days and no later than 5 days prior to the trip start date. Walk-in permits are not available for overnight stock use. Permits for Grand Gulch or overnight trips must be picked up from the Kane Gulch Ranger Station between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon the day prior to your trip.

Grand Gulch Wilderness Area is restricted to 12 individuals and 8 animals (pack and/or saddle)

Group size for overnight and day use in the Grand Gulch Primitive area and other Cedar mesa Canyons is restricted to 12 individuals and 8 animals (pack and/or saddle).

Camping is allowed only at existing campsites. No new campsites may be developed. No unauthorized use of existing corrals.

For all riding and pack animals must be certified weed-free feed for 48 hours in advance of and for the duration of the trip on public lands. Adequate amounts of certified weed-free feed must be carried.

Loose herding of pack and saddle stock is prohibited. All stock must be under physical control. When tethered, all stock must be at least 200 feet away from any water source and well away from archaeological sites and their surrounding benches.

Camping: is allowed only at existing campgrounds. No new campgrounds may be developed. No unauthorized use of existing corrals.

Feed: for all riding and pack animals must be certified weed-free feed for 48 hours in advance of and for the duration of the trip on public lands. Adequate amounts of certified weed-free feed must be carried.

Leaving behind of pack and saddle stock is prohibited. All stock must be under physical control. When tethered, all stock must be at least 200 feet away from any water source and well away from archaeological sites and their surrounding benches.

Road Creek and Lime Canyon (fee area)

The elevation in the upper ends of both Road and Lime Canyons begins at approximately 6,200 feet and drops to 4,900 feet at the lower ends. The walls of the canyons vary from 100 feet in the upper ends to over 600 feet in Comb Wash. The upper ends of the colorful Cedar Mesa Sandstone has created a layer cake effect of multiple tiers, especially in the middle and lower portions of the canyons. There are numerous archaeological sites present in both canyons. Please take care when visiting these fragile sites.

Road Canyon Access: From the Kane Gulch Ranger Station, drive 9.0 miles south on State Route 261 to the Cigarette Springs Road. Turn east and drive 3.5 miles to an unmarked pulpout on the north. You will pass the Cigarette Springs bulletin board, register box and fee station for day use permits. The route starts from the northeast corner of the parking area and runs 1/4 mile through the pinyon and juniper forest to the canyon rim and drops approximately 100 feet to the canyon floor.

Drive 6.1 miles from the junction of State Route 261 and the Cigarette Springs Road. Take an unmarked spur road to the north (north) and travel 0.8 miles to the end of the road on the canyon rim, (high-clearance vehicles only). From the parking area, enter the first drainage to the east and make your way down the main canyon.

Lime Canyon Access: From the Kane Gulch Ranger Station, drive 9.0 miles south on State Route 261 to the Cigarette Springs Road. Turn left (east) and drive 4.3 miles to the Lime Creek Road (unmarked). Turn right and travel south 1.2 miles to a fork. Turn right and travel 3.0 miles to the head of Lime Creek Canyon. This route requires vehicles with four-wheel drive and high clearance. From the head of the canyon, an unmarked route descends into the canyon.

From the Kane Gulch Ranger Station, drive 13.0 miles south on the State Route 261 to Milepost 16. Turn left (east) on an unmarked road approximately 10 yards before the milepost sign. Travel 1.4 miles to a fork, then left 1/2 mile to the head of the canyon. Locate the unmarked trail mentioned above and descend into the canyon. This road requires high-clearance vehicles.

Lime Creek Camping: Car camping is available on the MP 16 access road. High-clearance vehicles are recommended.

Hiking Conditions: Permits are required for hiking these canyons. There are no maintained trails in this area. Routes generally follow the mostly dry creek beds. There are long stretches of slickrock in both canyons, with several pour-offs to negotiate. The canyon bottoms are not as lush as some of the other Cedar mesa Canyons and shade is at a minimum.

Water: Both canyons have seasonal, intermittent running water which is usually confined to the upper ends of the canyons. There are several large pour-off pools to negotiate with large cottonwood trees and extensive hanging gardens in the middle and lower portions of the canyons. No bathing or swimming is allowed in the middle and lower portions of the canyons. Some of the other Cedar mesa Canyons and tributaries have seasonal, intermittent, running water which is generally available on the MP 16 access road. High-clearance vehicles are required.

Please Visit With Respect at Cedar Mesa and the Bears Ears National Monument...

Leave All Artifacts Where You Find Them

Don’t Take or Add to “Display Rock”

Don’t Touch or Damage Rock Writing and don’t wash that writing you are seeing

Show Clear of Walls

Structures can be easily damaged

Leave the Gridding in the Past

Historic Artifacts Aren’t Trash

Don’t Disturb Fossils or Structures

Leave fossil remains where you find them

Pay Your Fees

Use Rubber Tips on Hiking Poles

Avoid Building (or Destroying) Cairns

Cairns can increase impacts to sites

Stay on Designated Routes

Stay off of unmarked trails

Don’t Bust the Crust

Stay on existing trails

McLoed Canyon (Fee Area):

Day Use Only: No Overnight. Start from Comb Wash at Lower Fish Canyon Trailhead.

Lower Johns Canyon and Arch Canyon (no fee area): Overnight/Day Use Areas: No fees are charged for private groups.

Slickhorn Canyons and North/South Mule Canyons north of U-95: Closed to Stock: All canyons and tributaries.
You can order these books, maps and other interpretive information for the Cedar Mesa/Grand Gulch area at www.cnha.org. Or call us at (435) 259-6003. Items can also be purchased at the Moab Information Center (MIC), corner of Main & Center Sts., Moab, UT, or the Blanding Information Center, 12 N Grayson Parkway, Blanding, UT.

A limited selection of items is also available at the Kane Gulch Ranger station during office hours.

#677 National Geographic Grand Gulch and Cedar Mesa Map Coverage includes BLM/San Juan Resource Area, Cedar Mesa and the Grand Gulch Primitive Area, Northern Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Valley of the Gods, Comb Ridge, Fish and Owl Creek. Includes UTM grid for use with your GPS unit.

#681 National Geographic Manti-La Sal Map Outdoor Recreation map for the La Sal Mountains, Dark Canyon Wilderness Area, Natural Bridges National Monument; the Abajo Mountains, Bicentennial & Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byways and the Kokopelli Trail. GPS compatible. Full UTM grid.

USGS 7.5 Minute Topographic Maps (scale 1:24,000)

#3666 Naturalist’s Guide to Canyon Country by David B. Williams A comprehensive trailside reference to the plants, animals and geology of SE Utah and adjacent areas. This guide provides easy identification of more than 290 plants and animals plus geology of an area that includes nine national parks and monuments in the Southwest. Maps, color & B/W illustrations.

#3648 Cliff Dwellers of Cedar Mesa by Donald J. Rommes & William D. Lipe The authors share their abiding fascination with Cedar Mesa’s deep cultural history. Bill Lipe’s archaeological insights and Don Rommes’ stunning photographs show why they, and so many others, are drawn to this place.

#4197 Ancient Galleries of Cedar Mesa Photographer Dave Manley focuses his creative eye on the ancient rock art of Cedar Mesa. The indigenous people who lived here for thousands of years left a legacy of beautiful and intriguing marks on the rocks. Dave’s crisp images show the breadth of the rock art found here, from simplistic images to elaborately carved and/or painted panels.

#3289 Comb Ridge and Its People by Robert McPherson Whether viewed as barrier wall or sheltering sanctuary, Comb Ridge has helped define life and culture in this region for thousands of years. Homeland to the ancestral Puebloan people, Comb Ridge is also of spiritual and cultural significance to Utes, Paiutes and Navajo peoples and has played a crucial role in the history of European American settlement.

#4589 Hiking Grand-Staircase Escalante & the Glen Canyon Region A Falcon Guide (2nd Edition) Lace up your boots & sample 59 of the best trails in southern Utah! Includes the Grand Staircase-Escalante, Cedar Mesa & Grand Gulch, Dark Canyon, Natural Bridges & the Faria Canyon-Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness. Detailed maps and descriptions, tips on desert safety, backcountry travel and services.

#3569 What’s in Bloom? Flowers of Cedar Mesa and Southeast Utah Fold out the major flowers of the Cedar Mesa and Southeastern Utah to carry with you. Great photos taken by Kane Gulch Ranger Station staff and volunteers make identification easy.

#3999 Tortuous and Fantastic - Cultural and Natural Wonders of Greater Cedar Mesa This special issue of Archaeology Southwest Magazine brings together photos and essays from many disciplines to illuminate the stunning natural beauty and the extraordinary archaeological and historical riches that abound in the greater Cedar Mesa area in southeastern Utah.

#5557 Sacred and Threatened - The Cultural Landscape of Greater Bears Ears A followup to Tortuous and Fantastic, this issue of Archaeology Southwest Magazine presents a variety of viewpoints on the meaning of these sacred lands, including perspectives from archaeologists, Native American Tribes, and other who are deeply connected to this landscape.

#3177 House of Rain - Tracking a Vanished Civilization Across the American Southwest Author Craig Childs draws on the latest scholarship, as well as on a lifetime of adventure and exploration in the most forbidding landscapes of the Southwest, to frame the question of what brought about the rapid collapse of the Anasazi civilization in a whole new light.