SLICKHORN CANYON

An advanced permit is required for all overnight use in Slickhorn Canyon (commercial, education and private parties). This permit can be obtained from the Bureau of Land Management Monticello Field Office up to six weeks in advance. For information, please call 435-587-1510.

Scenic Values: Slickhorn is a canyon of many shapes and colors—twisted and carved in eroded reds, browns and yellows. It is an impressive canyon of sandstone walls varying in height from 300 feet in the north end to 800 feet as the canyon approaches the San Juan River. The varying hues of the Cedar Mesa sandstone give way to the rugged Halgaito sandstone and shale as the river nears.

Hiking Conditions: Hiking in the canyon is rugged. The creek channel is frequently clogged with boulders and there are many pour-offs and talus slopes to be negotiated even the experienced hiker. All routes are impassable to stock animals. At least four days should be allowed to hike the entire length of the canyon and exploring the upper side canyons. The going is slow. Camping is not allowed within one mile of the San Juan River. This is reserved camping for the river rafters.

Photos by Jed Carling, Monticello BLM