San Juan River

Reserved Campsite Requirements and Information

For river trips taking out at Clay Hills, camping below Government Rapid (near river mile 64) is allowed at nine designated sites only. You must submit your campsite requests (preferences) when booking a permit or accepting an awarded lottery reservation on www.recreation.gov. Be prepared to submit your reserved campsite preferences, prior to booking a reservation or accepting your awarded lottery reservation, by reviewing the following reserved campsite requirements and campsite descriptions. BLM will assign your campsite within five days of receiving your preferences. You can then view your reservation details in your Recreation.gov account to see your campsite assignments.

Requirements:

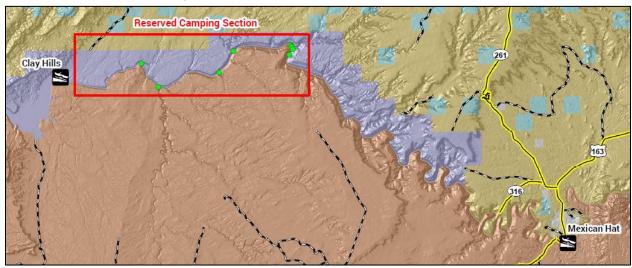
- Trips taking out at Clay Hills must have at least one reserved campsite. If none are available, the permit will be revoked.
- You may schedule up to two nights in this section of the river, if there is availability.
- You may not camp at the same reserved campsite for more than one night.
- If you are spending two nights in the reserved section, your first night must be in one of the Slickhorn sites (A - E), and your second night must be in one of the sites downstream from Slickhorn.
- Camping at any of these sites without a reservation is a violation of permit stipulations.
- Reserved campsites may not be shared by more than one party without advance written approval from the BLM Monticello Field Office (both parties must consent and total group size must not exceed the campsite maximum).
- The left bank of the river from Montezuma Creek to Trimble Camp is in the Navajo Nation. The Navajo Nation requires additional permits to camp, hike or visit archaeological sites on river left. In addition to a BLM reservation, a Navajo Nation permit is required to camp at Slickhorn E or hike up Oljeto Wash (campsite is not in Navajo Nation).

Safety:

Campsites at Grand Gulch, Trimble Camp, Oljeto Wash, and Steer Gulch are located at the mouths of drainages and can experience flash floods during rainy weather. During inclement weather, exercise caution. Make sure your campsite has safe areas of higher ground and is out of the path of flash floods. BLM does not recognize the beach area at the mouth of Oljeto Wash as part of the campsite; if you reserve Oljeto Wash, exercise caution if camping in the beach area and/or camping with a larger than recommended group. Your safety is your responsibility. Travel on the San Juan River has inherent risks and river runners assume complete responsibility for their own safety.

Maps:

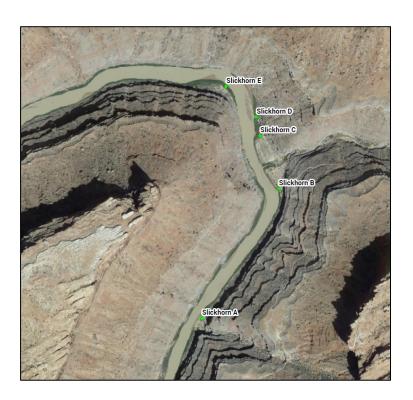
Map 1 - Mexican Hat to Clay Hills Area Map



Map 2 - Reserved Campsite Section:



Map 3 - Slickhorn Campsites



Descriptions:

Conditions and group size suitability are subject to change.

SLICKHORN A: river right; max. group size 25; between river mile 66-67; 17.5 miles from Clay Hills

Slickhorn A is a medium campsite at the mouth of a small drainage. The campsite is approximately ½ mile from the mouth of Slickhorn Canyon. There is a trail to the canyon, but depending on river and weather conditions, it can be a difficult walk, especially for small children. However, the distance from the canyon usually insures more privacy. There are few trees for shade, but the sun drops below the opposite cliff fairly early.



SLICKHORN B: river right; max. group size 25; between river mile 66-67; 17 miles from Clay Hills



Slickhorn B is a large campsite just upriver from the mouth of Slickhorn Canyon, providing easy access for hiking. There is little shade, with tent sites scattered among boulders. The trail from Slickhorn A sometimes leads others through the campsite. It is also often a landing area for groups who are camping elsewhere but want to hike the canyon.

SLICKHORN C: river right; max. group size 25; between river mile 66-67; 17 miles from Clay Hills

Slickhorn C is a large campsite downriver from the mouth of Slickhorn Canyon, providing easy access for hiking. There are some large tamarisks which can provide shade for a kitchen or small group tent sites; larger groups usually have tents scattered across the upper bench area. The trail from Slickhorn D, which is adjacent to this camp, leads through the edge of the campsite.



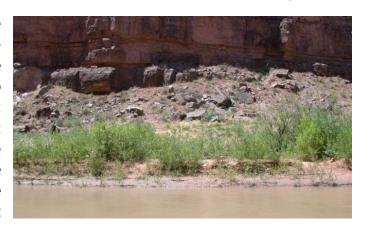
SLICKHORN D: river right; max. group size 15; between river mile 66-67; 17 miles from Clay Hills



Slickhorn D is a small to medium campsite just downriver from the Slickhorn C camp. This camp has easy access for hiking, although the trail requires skirting the edge of the C camp. There are several tent sites among the tamarisks on a bench above the river. Access is sometimes difficult at low water levels.

SLICKHORN E: river left; max. group size 25; between river mile 66-67; 17 miles from Clay Hills

Slickhorn E is a medium size campsite located on the point of land where the river bends left, approximately 0.3 mile below the mouth of the canyon. Due to lack of access to the canyon, most groups who want to hike must stop at the mouth of the canyon before continuing down to the campsite. There are a few tamarisks providing a little shade. An additional camping permit from the Navajo Nation is required.



GRAND GULCH: river right; max. group size 25; between river mile 70-71; 13 miles from Clay Hills



Grand Gulch is a medium size campsite located at the mouth of Grand Gulch. The camp is above the river on a rock bench which gradually decreases in height as you float downstream from the mouth of the canyon, making landing and access easier. Unless the stream is running exceptionally high, tents can be carried across to

additional sleeping areas. The only shade is in the drainage itself.

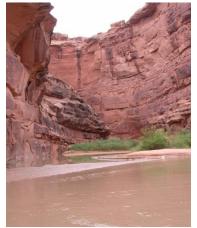
TRIMBLE CAMP: river left; max. group size 10; between river mile 72; 11 miles from Clay Hills

Trimble is a small campsite at the mouth of a small drainage. Due to a flash flood, this camp is currently in a boulder-strewn delta that formed at the mouth of the drainage. There is little vegetation, and few open areas for a kitchen and tents. This camp is recommended for small groups only. The campsite is located within the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, so a Navajo Nation camping permit is not required.



OLJETO WASH: river left; recommended group size is 8 (max is 25); river mile 76; 8 miles from Clay Hills

Oljeto Wash is located at the mouth of a narrow canyon, and size and access vary with river level. It is sometimes possible to boat into the mouth of the canyon and camp on a bench area there, or there is often a large sandy area where it is possible to camp next to the river. Both of these locations are extremely susceptible to flash flooding. There is a small rocky bench



located on the downstream side of the canyon (see pic below), which is above the flood-prone area and accommodates camping for groups of about 8 people. The campsite is located

within the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, so a Navajo Nation camping permit is not required; however a tribal permit is required for hiking in the canyon.



STEER GULCH: river right; max. group size is 25; river mile 78; 6 miles from Clay Hills



Steer Gulch is a medium size campsite located just downriver from Steer Gulch. This area is being greatly affected from siltation caused by Lake Powell, and boat landings can vary from week to week. During the late spring/summer months, standing water trapped at the mouth of the canyon can benefit a large mosquito population. Tamarisks provide some shade.