

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
2010 RIVER USE STIPULATIONS
FOR PRIVATE, NONCOMMERCIAL USE
WESTWATER CANYON

Trips may be delayed or permits invalidated if conditions in these stipulations are not met. Failure to comply with stipulations or launching without a permit may result in penalties under Federal or Utah law and regulations. Penalties may include criminal action, civil action, and denial of future permits on this river section and/or other BLM-administered river sections.

1. **The permit is not transferable** without prior approval of the Moab River Office and must be in the possession of the permittee on the trip, or the alternate trip leader. **The permittee must provide photo ID at permit inspection. Permit fees are non-refundable.**

2. The permittee must allow River Rangers to complete permit checks to determine the validity of the permit, ascertain that the group has all required equipment, and orient participants about river etiquette and safety.

3. **The permittee must have at the launch:**

a. a group of **25 people or fewer** and not greater than the number pre-paid for on the permit,

b. a **first aid kit** adequate for the size of the group and type(s) of activities, and sufficient for treating serious injuries,

c. a **repair kit or kits** with adequate materials to repair the types of boats used on the trip,

d. an **air pump or pumps** adequate to inflate boats after repairs,

e. a **washable, leak-proof, reusable toilet system** that allows for the carry-out and disposal of solid human body waste in a responsible and lawful manner. The system must be adequate for the size of the group and length of the trip. **Leaving solid human body waste on Public Land or dumping it into vault toilets or trash receptacles at BLM facilities is prohibited.**

f. a durable metal **fire pan** at least 12 inches wide with at least a 1.5 inch lip around its outer edge and sufficient to contain fire and remains. **Fire pans must be carried, on all overnight trips and all trips (except single-day trips April 1 through October 31) even if stoves are to be used for cooking. All fires must be contained in the fire pan.** Fire blankets under fire pans are recommended to facilitate total ash removal.

g. a properly-sized **whitewater type I, III, or V life jacket in serviceable condition** for each member of the party. A life jacket is *non-serviceable* if it is of an improper size, missing legible US Coast Guard approval information, is an improper type for the activity, an after-market alteration has been made, or if the life jacket is ripped, torn, or missing straps or buckles.

4. **Each raft, dory, or canoe must have at the launch:**
a. an **extra oar, paddle, or motor capable of maneuvering the vessel**, and

b. a **bail bucket** or bilge pump (does not apply to self-bailing boats).

5. Parties using low capacity vessels (kayaks and inflatable kayaks) must carry one **spare paddle** for every three vessels.

6. Each boat 16 feet or longer must have a type IV **throwable device** or a commercially made rescue rope with at least 40 feet of line, a whistle or horn.

7. **The permittee must ensure** that all trip participants:

a. adhere to all posted rules at Westwater Ranger Station and Cisco Landing (i.e., camping/ parking, quiet hours and dogs on leash regulations),

b. carry all charcoal, fire ash, garbage (dishwater strainers recommended), solid human body and pet waste out of the river area,

c. adhere to the Utah Boating Act (Title 73, Chapter 18), which includes the wearing of life jackets from Westwater Ranger Station to Big Hole (children age 12 and under must wear life jackets at all times when on the river), and registration of motorboats,

d. do not engage in commercial use as defined by 43 CFR 2932 [i.e., 1) any person, group, or organization makes or attempts to make a profit receive money, amortize equipment, or obtain goods or services, as compensation from participants in recreational activities occurring on public lands, led sponsored, or organized by that person, group, or organization; Anyone collects a fee or receives other compensation that is not strictly a sharing of actual expenses, incurred for the purpose of the activity, service, or use; There is paid public advertising to seek participants; Participants pay for a duty of care and expectation of safety.2) Profit making organizations and organizations seeking to make a profit are automatically classified as commercial, even if that part of their activity covered by the permit is not profit-making or the business as a whole is not profitable. or 3) Use of public lands by scientific, educational, and therapeutic institutions or non-profit organizations is commercial and subject to a permit when it meets any of the threshold criteria in paragraphs (1) and

(2) of this definition. The non-profit status of a group or organization does not alone determine that an event or activity by such an organization is noncommercial.]

e. list any trip sponsor or affiliated organization, (i.e., scout group, school, etc.) associated with the trip when acquiring a permit.

f. keep side canyon streams and springs free of soap and other contaminants,

g. do not remove, damage, or destroy archaeological, historical, or ecological resources, or cause unnecessary or undue damage to the natural and cultural resources of the public lands

h. make campfires only in fire pans and limit the use of gathered wood for campfires to driftwood found along river banks and beaches,

i. not engage in upstream motorized travel except for emergency purposes or engage in downstream motorized travel at other than a low speed, wakeless mode, except in emergency situations, and

j. launch, travel (stay within visual contact), and camp together as a group.

8. Boat tags issued by the River Ranger must remain attached to boat(s) for the entire trip.

9. Groups launching separately may not camp or stop together (i.e., for lunch) if such action would result in more than 25 persons occupying a site.

10. Boaters may camp only one night in the canyon proper between the Gates of the Canyon at mile 124.5 and Cottonwood Wash at mile 112.5. This camping night must be on your launch date.

Parties who plan to camp within Westwater Canyon are required to reserve a designated campsite with the River Ranger at the time of launching. Campsites are assigned in the order of launching with consideration given to group size. You must stay at the campsite assigned to you.

11. Boaters may only launch once per day.

12. If no River Ranger or BLM Volunteer is present to process your permit and check your equipment, proceed to launch after self-registration and campsite sign-up at the kiosk located near the main boat ramp.

13. Launches must be made from the Westwater Ranger Station and not from any point downstream.

14. Dogs must be kept on a leash at the Westwater Ranger

Station and under control at all times. Dogs may not be left unattended at Westwater Ranger Station or at Cisco Landing. Be sure to clean up and dispose of solid dog waste.

15. For wildlife conservation purposes, the following stipulations apply:

a - Launching of water craft for upstream motorized travel from Westwater Ranger Station and Cisco Landing is not authorized between February 1st and October 15th.

b - Boaters floating past or launching from Cisco Landing may not travel under motorized power for a distance of two river miles below Cisco landing.

c - Camping on public lands is not authorized for a distance of two river miles below Cisco landing.

ADVISORY NOTE: BLM recommends that boaters floating past Cisco Landing use the far river right channel around the large island just below Cisco landing.

For more information regarding your Westwater Canyon river trip, please visit our detailed web site:

http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/recreation/river_recreation/westwater_canyon.html

Bureau of Land Management
 Moab Field Office
 Non Commercial River Trip Permit
COLORADO RIVER-WESTWATER CANYON
 (435) 259-7012



Name Here
 This is an Example
 Issued by BLM

ALTERNATE:

Permit No. L-1

Number of persons in group: **DL#** _____ **State:** _____

Launch Date: _____ **Takeout date (Cisco):** _____

OVERNIGHT: _____ **Campsite:** _____

Note: The maximum stay is one night in the canyon. Overnight trips must be reserved in advance through the River Permits Office for October-March launches.

Make and model of boats and and number of each (complete at check-in);

| <u>MAKE AND MODEL</u> | <u>#EACH</u> | <u>MAKE AND MODEL</u> | <u>#EACH</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1. _____ | _____ | 4. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ | 5. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ | 6. _____ | _____ |

I hereby agree to abide by the conditions and stipulations required for this permit. I understand that it is my responsibility to see that all members of the group will abide by the conditions and stipulations required for this permit. This permit is revocable due to any violation of the stipulations hereof or at the discretion of an authorized officer of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This permit is not valid unless signed by one of the permittees listed above. **ALL PERMIT FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE OF PERMITTEE: _____

Approved subject to final approval by a BLM ranger, after prelaunch compliance check, or self-registration during the winter season.

DATE: _____ AUTHORIZED OFFICER: _____
 Recreation Branch Chief, Division of Resources

DATE: _____ APPROVING RANGER: _____ **Approved Rejected**

Rejected (reason): _____

Westwater Canyon Information Sheet

Please also visit http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/recreation/river_recreation/westwater_canyon.html

General Info

Westwater Canyon is the first whitewater stretch of the Colorado River in Utah. Its 17 miles includes class IV rapids and is therefore only recommended for experienced boaters. As with any remote river section, Westwater can be a very humbling and dangerous place if not treated with proper respect and ability.

Permits Required

Permits are required year-round for commercial and private use of Westwater Canyon. Please visit the above web address for detailed information regarding the permitting process or call (435) 259-7012. All boaters must adhere to the River Use Stipulations, which are mailed with your river permit. **Permit fees are NON-REFUNDABLE.**

Westwater Ranger Station

The Moab Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management is responsible for the management of Westwater Canyon. A contact station and ranger residence are located at the put-in. Westwater River Rangers are present to conduct permit and equipment checks, provide information, and to patrol the Canyon. There are five first-come, first-served campsites at the Ranger Station for public use. No fee is charged for camping at the Ranger Station. There is no trash service but there is drinking water available at the Ranger Station. Please do not depend upon this water source for your trip's water needs as the system isn't always operational. The closest services (i.e., gas, telephone) are in Mack, CO and Thompson Springs, UT, both of which are located along I-70.

River Flow

As a general rule, the river peaks at about 20,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) in late May or early June and recedes throughout the summer and fall seasons to reach a flow of less than 3,000 cfs. High-water trips (13,000 cfs and above) can be extremely dangerous. A low water trip (1,000 to 5,000 cfs) takes about ten hours, a moderate level trip (5,000 to 13,000 cfs) takes about seven hours, and a high-water trip (above 13,000 cfs) takes as little as four hours. For daily flow updates, call (801) 539-1311 or visit <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/co/nwis/rt>.

Camping in the Canyon

Permittees may choose to run Westwater as either a day or overnight trip. Due to limited space, boaters may camp only one night in the canyon. River Rangers assign campsites in the order of launching (first come, first served) and according to the size of the group.

Dogs

Dogs are currently allowed in Westwater Canyon. Dogs should wear PFDs for their safety. Do not leave your pet at the put-in or takeout while you are on the river. Please review dog-specific stipulations.

Shuttle Information

The round-trip shuttle from Westwater Ranger Station to Cisco Landing takes approximately two hours. Please refer to the map on the back for directions. Companies that currently provide shuttle services to Westwater boaters include: Coyote Shuttle (435) 259-8656, American Spirit (970) 523-7662, and Road Runner (435) 259-9402.

Emergency Services

The Grand County Sheriff's Office, (435) 259-8115, has search and rescue jurisdiction for Westwater Canyon. If the illness or injury is life-threatening, such as when body movement must be constrained, helicopter evacuation should be considered. In most cases, the injured party is billed for this service. Helicopter evacuation can be initiated by contacting either Life Flight - St. Mary's Hospital, Grand Junction, CO (800) 525-4224 or Flight for Life, University of Utah Medical Center, Salt Lake City, UT (800) 662-0050. The Utah Division of Parks and Recreation (435) 259-3750 should be notified of any major incidents that occur on the river.

Additional Information

River guidebooks, maps, and related materials are available through Canyonlands Natural History Association (CNHA) by calling (800) 840-8978. Orders can also be placed at www.cnha.org.

-see reverse for area map-

WESTWATER-CISCO AREA MAP

