

Day 1 Logistics

Day 1 of the trip focuses on the Proterozoic basement history along with discussion on Paleozoic to Mesozoic stratigraphy. On our last stop we examine a dike that is part of the Cenozoic magmatic record.

Meet at the Ouray Hot Springs parking area at 8:00 am, get organized to leave at 8:15 am.

8:15 AM - 8:30 AM – Drive to Switzerland of America pullover
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM – Overview of Geology of Ouray
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM – Drive to Bear Creek Falls
9:15 AM – 10:45 AM – Proterozoic units and structures (Climax Creek)
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM – Drive to Box Canyon falls visitor center, bathroom break
11:00 AM - 11:15 AM – Drive to Public parking area near CDOT
11:05 AM - 12:00 AM – Box Canyon hike
12:00 - 1:00 PM- Lunch at Box Canyon Fall visitor parking area
1:00 PM -1:15 PM- Drive to parking area for Baby Pools
1:15 PM – 2:15 PM – Explore the lower Paleozoic stratigraphy exposed in Portland Creek
2:15 PM – 2:30 PM – Drive to parking area for Cascade Falls Park
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM – Discussion on Pennsylvanian-Permian geology at Cascade Falls
3:30 Pm – 4:00 PM – Drive to parking area to about 15 miles north of Ouray, “Dike” wall
4:00 Pm – 5:00 PM – Jurassic to Triassic rock units cut by Cenozoic mafic dike
5:00 PM – 5:15 PM – Return to Ouray

Departure time: Vans and some personal cars will leave from the Ouray Hot Springs parking lot at 8:15 AM.

Stops: Short to moderate hikes are planned at each stop. Driving times between stops vary from as little as 15 minutes to as much as 30 minutes. Please plan accordingly. Restroom facilities are limited outside the town of Ouray.

Day 2 Logistics

Day 2 of will explore more of the Paleozoic to Mesozoic stratigraphy, along with discussion on the late Mesozoic to Cenozoic magmatic history and formation of clastic dikes. We will also make a stop to examine replacement mineralization in the Pony Express Limestone.

Meet at the Ouray Hot Springs parking area at 8:00 am, get organized to leave at 8:15 am.

8:15 AM - 8:45 AM – Drive north of Ouray to CR 14 and then CR 14A to Cutler Creek.

8:45 AM - 10:15 AM – Discuss Permian to Cretaceous section, mineralization in Pony Express.

10:15 AM – 10:45 AM – Drive to pull off on HW550N several mile north of Ouray.

10:45 AM – 12:00 AM – Overview of post-66 Ma magmatic history, altered brecciated dike.

12:00 PM – 12:15 PM – Drive to Rotary Park a mile north of Ouray.

12:15 PM – 1:15 PM – Lunch.

1:15 PM - 2:00 PM – Discussion of Cutler Formation and clastic dikes.

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM – Drive to Box Canyon Falls turn off, drive to start of hike to Angel Creek

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM- Hike to Angel Creek.

3:00 PM -4:00 PM- Discuss magmatic to clastic dike history, Hermosa Formation.

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM – Hike back to vehicles, end of trip.

Departure time: Vans and some personal cars will leave from the Ouray Hot Springs parking lot at 8:15 AM.

Travel Logistics: The Day-2 trip will drive in personal vehicles and start and end in Ouray.

Stops: Short to moderate hikes are planned at each stop. Driving times between stops vary from as little as 15 minutes to as much as 30 minutes. Please plan accordingly. Restroom facilities are limited outside the town of Ouray.