UNCOVERING THE MYSTERIES OF ANCIENT COLORADO
DEAR EARTHWATCHER,

Welcome! We are so excited that you will be joining us. This project focuses on the Basketmaker III period (A.D. 500–725) and will provide new data on sixth and seventh century A.D. human demography, social organization, and environmental relationships in the northern San Juan region.

Data collected during this project will offer great insights into settlement changes, which occurred as hunter-gatherer societies transitioned to agricultural economies across the Southwest. The adoption of domesticated food production is widely acknowledged as a pivotal moment in human evolution that set in motion a number of transformations in human demography, social organization, and environmental relationships. The results of this process are apparent in the archaeological record of Neolithic societies worldwide but in many regions, the archaeological record is either too spotty or too imprecisely dated to observe these transformations in progress. The archaeological record of the northern Southwest—and in particular our study area—is amenable to such study. Together, we will collect archaeological data to better understand how and why the transformation occurred.

As an Earthwatch volunteer, you will help excavate well-preserved Basketmaker III period sites in southwestern Colorado, including farmsteads and the earliest known great kiva in the Mesa Verde region. You’ll also help us collect the data we need to answer our research questions in the lab. When you’re not in the field, you’ll enjoy fine food, evening lectures from Crow Canyon Archaeological Center staff, starry skies, and camaraderie with people from all walks of life who share your passion for archaeology and what it can contribute to our understanding of the human experience.

We look forward to meeting you and working together on this important project!

Susan C. Ryan  Shirley Powell
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Images © Crow Canyon Archaeological Center
GENERAL INFORMATION
UNCOVERING THE MYSTERIES OF ANCIENT COLORADO

EARTHWATCH SCIENTISTS: Susan Ryan, Shirley Powell
RESEARCH SITE: Indian Camp Ranch, Cortez, Colorado
RENDEZVOUS LOCATIONS:
Durango-La Plata County Airport, Durango, CO or the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center

Complete travel information is not available in this version of the briefing.
Please contact Earthwatch with any questions.

EXPEDITION DATES
Team 2: Aug. 10–Aug. 23, 2014
  Team 2a: Aug. 10–Aug. 16, 2014
  Team 2b: Aug. 17–Aug. 23, 2014
Team 3: Sept. 7–Sept. 20, 2014
  Team 3a: Sept. 7–Sept. 13, 2014
  Team 3b: Sept. 14–Sept. 20, 2014
Read this expedition briefing thoroughly. It provides the most accurate information available at the time of your Earthwatch scientist’s project planning, and will likely answer any questions you have about the project. However, please also keep in mind that research requires improvisation, and you may need to be flexible. Research plans evolve in response to new findings, as well as to unpredictable factors such as weather, equipment failure, and travel challenges. To enjoy your expedition to the fullest, remember to expect the unexpected, be tolerant of repetitive tasks, and try to find humor in difficult situations. If there are any major changes in the research plan or field logistics, Earthwatch will make every effort to keep you well informed before you go into the field.
### Expedition Packing Checklist

#### Required Items

**General**
- This expedition briefing
- Photocopies of your passport, flight itinerary, and credit cards in case the originals are lost or stolen; the copies should be packed separately from the original documents
- Passport and/or visa (if necessary)
- Certification of vaccination (if necessary)
- Documentation for travel by minors (if necessary) (see Volunteers Under 18 Years of Age in the Travel Tips section, pg. 15)

**Clothing/Footwear for Fieldwork**
- Earthwatch T-shirt
- Pants (lightweight, long pants are better for fieldwork than jeans or shorts)
- T-shirts (tank tops and halter tops are not recommended)
- Lightweight, long-sleeved shirts (these are cooler than short-sleeved shirts in the field)
- Socks and underwear
- Pajamas or other sleepwear
- Sweater or sweatshirt
- Windbreaker or jacket
- Wide-brimmed hat
- Rain gear
- Bandana
- Lightweight hiking boots

**Clothing/Footwear for Leisure**
- At least one set of clothing to keep clean for end of expedition
- Shorts
- T-shirts
- An extra pair of sneakers to wear around campus and to get to the shower building at night
- Flip-flops or other footwear appropriate for use in the shower

**Field Supplies**
- Small daypack (large enough to hold water, jacket, rain gear, sunscreen, personal items)
- Sunglasses
- Two one-quart water bottles (64-oz. total)

**Bedding and Bathing**
- Note: Crow Canyon will provide sheets, blankets and/or sleeping bags, pillows, and towels.

**Personal Supplies**
- Personal toiletries (biodegradable soaps and shampoos are encouraged)
- Antibacterial wipes or lotion (good for cleaning hands while in the field)
- Personal first-aid kit (e.g., anti-diarrhea pills, antibiotics, antiseptic, itch-relief, pain reliever, bandages, blister covers, etc.) and personal medications
- Sunscreen lotion with SPF 30 or higher

**Miscellaneous**
- Spending money

**Suggested Items**
- Bathrobe
- Garden or work gloves
- Pencil, pen, notebook
- Insect repellent
- Headlamp with extra batteries and extra bulb (or flashlight)
- Camera, film or memory card(s), extra camera battery
- Drybag or plastic sealable bags (good for protecting equipment like cameras from dust, humidity, and water)
- Hardware for sharing digital photographs at the end of the expedition
- Travel guide
- Books, games, journal, art supplies, etc. for free time.

**Note:** Required and optional items lists are accurate to the best of Earthwatch’s knowledge at the time of publication.
THE STORY

The transition from a hunting and gathering lifestyle to an agriculture lifestyle—known by archaeologists as the Neolithic revolution—is widely acknowledged as a pivotal moment in human history. It set in motion a number of transformations in human population size, social organization, and environmental relationships that shaped how we live with each other and the natural world today.

The American Southwest holds many clues that illuminate what this massive shift looked like. People began to settle down in households for the first time, partly because they had to tend crops. This resulted in population aggregation—more people living in the same location—which, in turn, had anthropological repercussions, such as social stratification, that are visible in what these communities left behind. The layout and position of some houses, for example, reflect the social status of those who inhabited them. People also began to transition toward new technologies such as pottery containers instead of gourds, and bows and arrows instead of atlatls (spear launchers).

Archaeologists still have many questions about this transition, which occurred around the world at so many different times and in so many places independently. Perhaps the biggest question is this: why transition to a lifestyle that appears to be less economically appealing than the one you’re leaving behind? There is copious evidence that hunter-gatherers were healthier than farmers. They had longer life expectancies, and remains show comparatively more decay in the teeth of farmers. And hunter-gatherers seem to have worked on average 18 hours a week, while farmers worked 40 to 50 hours a week.

We modern agriculturalists now face serious questions about the sustainability of our resources, droughts across the world, and food availability. Understanding the Neolithic revolution matters not just for what it can reveal about communities of the past, but also for what it may tell us about our own fate.
THE RESEARCH

On this expedition, you’ll focus on the earliest period of settled agricultural life in the central Mesa Verde region of southwest Colorado, known to archaeologists as the Basketmaker III period (A.D. 500-750). The Earthwatch scientists, working with the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, are pursuing three major goals:

1) To understand how migration and population growth formed the ancestral Pueblo society in the Mesa Verde region. The ancestral Pueblos—a group to which the Basketmaker III society belongs—are the people who originally moved into and settled the Mesa Verde region; the modern groups of Pueblo Native Americans who live in the Southwest today are their descendants.

2) To place the Basketmaker III society into the larger history of the Pueblo people in the American Southwest, filling in gaps with newly collected data.

3) To evaluate the long-term cultural legacies of the first farmers who colonized the region.

The Crow Canyon Archaeological Center partners with schools, private landowners, and American Indian consultants to ensure that this project has a broad impact. Not only are we working to preserve and learn from the archaeological record, but we are also providing Pueblo people living today with the means to strengthen their connection to their history. The significance of this research transcends just local communities: virtually every modern society is grounded in the changes that occurred when ancient people transitioned to agriculture, and our findings can help illuminate the long-term environmental impacts this shift has had.

HOW YOU WILL HELP

As a volunteer on this project, you’ll investigate a well-preserved Basketmaker III settlement cluster in an area called Indian Camp Ranch, which has spectacular views of Mesa Verde and the mountains. You’ll help with the following:

**Excavations of Basketmaker III households and public architecture.** Alongside archaeologists, you’ll use trowels and brooms to carefully remove dirt and help sift through the earth that’s been removed. You’ll have a chance to work in different parts of the site—in household structures, middens (trash deposits), and the great kiva (a ceremonial structure).

**Lab work:** You’ll help process artifacts recovered from our excavations—pottery, lithics (chipped stone), ground stone, animal bone, and other forms of material culture—which includes the crucial work of washing, sorting, cataloging, and labeling them.

**Conducting surface surveys.** You’ll explore potential sites, looking for surface evidence of ancient human use such as pottery sherds on the ground.

**Conducting electrical resistivity surveys.** Remote sensing in archaeology uses geophysical techniques to identify features below the ground’s surface. These non-destructive and non-intrusive techniques create maps of the subsurface before we begin actual excavation. Remote sensing techniques can help identify areas of archaeological significance before we invest in labor-intensive excavations, and can also help us spot features that may have been overlooked by standard survey techniques. By measuring how electrical currents pass through the ground, we can get an idea of what sorts of materials are buried beneath, because different materials conduct or resist electrical currents to different degrees.
YOUR DESTINATION
ABOUT THE FOUR CORNERS AREA

This beautiful part of the Southwest has many cultural and natural attractions to explore. Cortez, four miles northwest of the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, is near Mesa Verde National Park, Hovenweep National Monument, the Canyon of the Ancients, and Four Corners National Monument—where you can put your hands and feet in Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona all at once. You’ll also be near the geographic transition between canyons and mountains, close enough for high-elevation views but still low enough to experience the arid environment of the high desert. If you drive forty minutes to the east or north, you’re at a high elevation with pine trees; if you journey south, you’ll be in the incredibly striking canyon area.

The Sleeping Ute Mountain, Mesa Verde, and the Carrizo and San Juan mountain ranges are plainly visible from town and serve as a backdrop to Crow Canyon Archaeological Center’s beautiful campus. Many locals spend their free time engaged in various outdoor activities including hiking, skiing, kayaking, boating, fishing, rock climbing, bird watching, and biking.

The town of Cortez itself (population 8,500) has a charming downtown area with restaurants and shopping, as well as the Cortez Cultural Center, a museum that offers dances by Native Americans and lectures every night of the week during the summer.
WELCOME TO CROW CANYON

Crow Canyon Campus Map
The expedition will begin with a project orientation, a site tour, and instructions on how to excavate, screen, and collect data. Archaeological fieldwork requires hiking a short distance to reach the site, lifting buckets of dirt, kneeling on the ground, and working at an elevation of 6,200 feet. You can work at your own pace, but you’ll enjoy the experience much more if you’re in good physical shape.

RECREATIONAL TIME: On one evening, you can choose to stay at the accommodations and rest or join Crow Canyon archaeologists for a reception. For those joining the expedition for two weeks, an optional Saturday excursion to Mesa Verde National Park will be offered.

ALCOHOL AND SMOKING: Alcohol may only be used by adults at least 21 years of age. Alcohol may not be consumed in the presence of minors. Alcohol must be kept in a locked refrigerator as per our children’s camp license.

Smoking may occur in only one area of the Crow Canyon campus; this area will be discussed during the introductory presentation.

DRIVING: If you have driven yourself to the project, you may not drive your own vehicle to, from, or for project activities, or to transport project equipment. You may choose to use your own vehicle during recreational time, but know that all driving during recreational time is at your own risk. Earthwatch discourages you from transporting other participants during recreational time. Riding in another participant’s vehicle is also at your own risk as it is not covered under the expedition’s insurance policy.
## ITINERARY AND DAILY SCHEDULE

Weather and research needs can lead to changes in the daily schedule. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

### DAY 1: ARRIVAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Rendezvous at Durango airport or Crow Canyon Archaeological Center if driving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Latest arrival at Crow Canyon (for those driving themselves)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30-6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner on campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30-7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Introduction to key staff, the weekly schedule, the research objectives, and campus facilities.</td>
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</tbody>
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### DAYS 2-3: FIELDWORK DAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast on campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Travel to the project area; field work, break for lunch from noon to 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30-5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Free time (shower, relax, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30-6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner on campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30-7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Evening program lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 onward</td>
<td>Free time</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### DAY 4: LAB DAY AND RECREATIONAL TIME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast on campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.-noon</td>
<td>Lab work: washing, sorting, identifying, and labeling artifacts. Volunteers are also free to relax on campus or visit area attractions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch on campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Work in the laboratory washing, sorting, identifying, and labeling artifacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30-5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Free time (shower, relax, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30-6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner on campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30-7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Evening program lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m. onward</td>
<td>Free time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DAYS 5-6: FIELDWORK DAYS

See Days 2-3 above. Day 6 will include a research wrap-up session.

### DAY 7: DEPARTURE OR RECREATIONAL DAY

One-week team members will depart between 8:30 a.m. and noon. Two-week team members will have the chance to visit Mesa Verde National Park.

### DAYS 8-13: FIELDWORK AND LAB WORK DAYS

Day 13 will include a wrap-up session.

### DAY 14

Departure between 8:30 a.m. and noon.
ACCOMMODATIONS AND FOOD
ABOUT YOUR HOME IN THE FIELD

SLEEPING
You’ll get a taste of traditional Southwestern living while staying in Navajo-style hogans on the Crow Canyon campus. Each hogan has four single beds and one bunk bed, and between two and six volunteers will share it. Volunteers will be separated by gender unless a couple requests accommodations together (couples can stay in the same hogan if space permits). Single rooms can be accommodated only if the number of volunteers works out. Please request couple accommodations in advance, although they can’t be guaranteed.

BATHROOMS
Bathrooms are located in the large “super hogan,” which is divided in half to create separate areas for men and women. The super hogan has three bathroom stalls with flush toilets and four shower stalls with hot water on each side. Please conserve water when possible.

ELECTRICITY
The hogans have reliable electricity. You’re welcome to bring cameras and other electronic equipment. You’ll have time in the evenings to get on computers, etc.

Crow Canyon provides wireless Internet service at no charge. One communal computer (with Internet and printer) is available in the lobby of the Gates Building on campus. One communal phone is also available; you’ll need to use a calling card for long-distance calls. Cell phone reception is good outside of the campus buildings.

FACILITIES AND AMENITIES
Laundry facilities are not available on campus, but there are coin-op laundromats in the city of Cortez if needed.

The kitchen has a refrigerator where you can keep a small amount of personal food. There’s a communal fire ring outside the hogan area, and electric fans are available for volunteer use upon request.

DISTANCE TO FIELD SITE
The Dillard Site, where we’ll focus our work, is located 1.5 miles from Crow Canyon’s campus. We’ll be transported to the project area by vans.
No services are in walking distance of Crow Canyon’s campus. All services and restaurants are located in the city of Cortez.

**FOOD**

Breakfast and dinner are provided cafeteria-style in the lodge dining hall, where other Crow Canyon groups and visitors will also dine (kitchen staff will do all food preparation and clean up). You’ll be treated to delectable, healthy meals that feature hearty entrees and fresh fruits and vegetables. A salad bar and vegetable dishes are available for those who favor vegetarian cuisine.

We’ll eat picnic lunches out in the field—you’ll be able to make your own sandwiches from various breads, meats, vegetables, and cheeses as well as peanut butter and jelly, and choose from sides that include chips and fruit.

Crow Canyon’s kitchen staff will accommodate special diets upon request. Please alert Earthwatch to any special dietary requirements (e.g., vegetarian or vegan diets, diabetes, lactose or gluten intolerance, nut or other serious food allergies) as soon as possible, and note them in the space provided on your volunteer forms.

Below are examples of the foods you might expect in the field. Variety depends on availability, and while this list provides a general idea of food types, please be flexible.

**BREAKFAST:** Cereal, fresh fruit, yogurt, French toast, sausage, pancakes, hash browns, toast, tea, coffee

**LUNCH:** Sandwiches (turkey, ham, roast beef, provolone, cheddar, Swiss, peanut butter and jelly, lettuce, tomato, pickles) fresh fruit, chips, cookies, crackers, granola bars

**DINNER:** Entrees may include stir fry, meatloaf, lasagna, green chili stew, salad bar, enchiladas, and vegetables; vegetarian options are always available. Dessert includes cookies, brownies, cupcakes, etc.

**SNACKS:** Fresh fruit, granola bars, cookies, and crackers

**WATER:** Water is readily available (tap water is potable)

**OTHER BEVERAGES:** Lemonade, iced tea, hot tea, coffee
TRAVEL TIPS
SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ROAD

LUGGAGE

LOST AND DELAYED LUGGAGE: If your luggage goes astray, please have the airline send it to:

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center,
23390 Road K, Cortez, CO 81321.
Phone: (970) 565-8975, ext. 0.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS: Do not bring more luggage than you can carry and handle on your own. If traveling by air and checking luggage, we advise you to pack an extra set of field clothing and personal essentials in your carry-on bag in case your luggage is lost or delayed. Many airlines have strict baggage policies; please check with your airline(s) on baggage weight limits, liquid restrictions, fees for checked baggage, etc.

TRANSFERRING LUGGAGE: If you will take an international flight with one or more connections in the country of your destination, you must collect any checked bags at the airport where you first arrive in the destination country. After proceeding through customs, you must recheck your luggage before flying on to your final destination.

MONEY MATTERS

LOCAL CURRENCY: U.S. dollar.

PERSONAL FUNDS: Credit cards will be accepted in all locations. An ATM is available at the Durango Airport. The Crow Canyon gift shop will accept credit cards. Recommended spending cash is $100.00 or less.

YOUR DESTINATION

LANGUAGE: English

ELECTRICITY: U.S. types A and B. For additional information, see www.kropla.com/electric2.htm.

TIME ZONE: GMT/UTC -7, Mountain Time. For time worldwide with GMT/UTC, see www.worldtimeserver.com.

TELEPHONE DIALING CODES: When calling the U.S. from another country, dial the country’s international dialing code, followed by (1) and the number. When calling within the U.S., you will still need to dial (1). When calling another country from the U.S., dial (011), followed by the other country’s country code and the number. Note: Check with your cell phone provider to obtain any carrier-specific dialing codes you may need; many providers have dialing procedures that may differ in whole or in part from these directions. For additional information, see www.kropla.com/dialcode.htm.
WILL YOU NEED A PASSPORT?
Travelers to the United States from other countries will need passports valid for at least six months beyond the dates of travel.

WILL YOU NEED A VISA?
Citizens of the EU, Australia, Canada, and Japan DO NOT need tourist visas for entry. Citizens of other countries should check with their travel agent or a visa agency for specific visa and entry requirements.

ELECTRONIC SYSTEM FOR TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION (ESTA)
ESTA is used to screen short-term visitors who are citizens of the 36 countries eligible for the U.S. Visa Waiver Program (VWP). For a list of those countries, see http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/temp/without/without_1990.html#countries.

Visitors are required to complete ESTA at least three days before traveling to the U.S. Once approved, the authorization is valid for up to two years if the individual’s passport does not expire in the meantime. Submit applications through the ESTA website: https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/. As of publication, ESTA costs approximately US$14.00.

Citizens of countries covered by the VWP traveling to the US for tourism or business for 90 days or less do not need to obtain a visa provided they have a valid passport (for exceptions see the VWP Quick Reference Guide: http://travel.state.gov/pdf/VWP-QuickReferenceGuide.pdf).

INFORMATION FOR VOLUNTEERS REQUIRING VISAS ONLY

TYPE OF VISA TO GET: Tourist
The purpose of your visit is for vacation, holiday or travel. Immigration officials do not always understand the concept of a "working vacation" or "volunteering." Words such as "working," "volunteering," "research," or "scientific expedition" can raise questions concerning the country’s foreign labor laws and about official scientific research permits and credentials, etc., to which volunteers will not be equipped to respond on their own. All required research permits for the project are in place and have been approved by the proper authorities.

WHERE TO GET A VISA: Contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate to find out how to apply. Please note that this process can take weeks or even months. We strongly recommend using a visa agency, which can both expedite and simplify the process.

SUGGESTED AGENCIES
IN THE U.S.: Travisa; 212-613-2223; travisa.com
IN EUROPE: CIBT, Inc. [U.K.]; info@uk.cibt.com; uk.cibt.com
IN AUSTRALIA: Ask your travel agency if it can send your visa application on your behalf.

REQUIRED INFORMATION: You will need to send your passport (valid for at least six months beyond your stay), a visa application and immigration form, two to four passport-size photos, and payment to the embassy or visa agency (if applicable). Please be sure that your passport is valid for at least six months beyond your stay.

CONTACT INFORMATION: You may be required to list the following contact information on your visa application and immigration form:
Debbie Fish,
Human Resources Vice President,
Crow Canyon Archaeological Center,
23390 Road K, Cortez, CO 81321.
Phone: (970) 564-4349.

COST OF A VISA: Generally between US$40 and $100, but varies from country to country and can cost up to US$180. A visa agency will charge an additional fee.

VOLUNTEERS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE
In an effort to prevent international child abduction, many governments have procedures at entry and exit points to protect minors. Thus, if a minor will be traveling with only one guardian or alone, he or she may need a notarized letter from all legal guardians stating that the minor may travel unaccompanied or in the presence of a single guardian. If necessary, this letter must give an explanation for why only one parent or someone other than a parent is signing the letter. For example, if one parent is deceased, only one parent has legal guardianship, or someone other than the parents are legal guardians, the letter should state that. Airlines may also have documentation requirements for unaccompanied minors, e.g., a birth certificate or a notarized letter like the one described above.

IMPORTANT: Requirements of specific countries and airlines vary and change frequently. You must keep informed of the requirements on your own to avoid problems at immigration. If the minor is refused entry into a country or onto a flight because of lack of documentation, there is nothing Earthwatch can do to help.
PROJECT CONDITIONS

THE FIELD ENVIRONMENT

GENERAL CONDITIONS
The information that follows is as accurate as possible, but please keep in mind that conditions may change.

The climate in southwestern Colorado is generally very dry and sunny. Daytime summer temperatures average in the middle to upper 80s [Fahrenheit], though they can reach into the 90s and occasionally exceed 100. Nighttime temperatures are cooler and generally pleasant, averaging in the 50s. Although it can rain any time, afternoon thunderstorms are most common in July and August.

At an elevation of 6,200 feet, the Indian Camp Ranch project area consists of gently rolling uplands formed on the top of the Dakota sandstone formation. These uplands are covered by varying thicknesses of aeolian, silty-loam soils. These soils were heavily farmed by the ancestral Pueblo, and are currently dry-land farmed.

In areas where the landscape has not been plowed, the flora is dominated by pinyon-juniper woodlands and sagebrush. Within the pinyon-juniper woodland, the understory includes Gambel oak, serviceberry, squawapple, bitterbrush, cliffrose, four-wing saltbush, and mountain mahogany.

Common fauna include desert cottontail, black-tailed jackrabbit, squirrel, pocket gopher, prairie dog, marmot, porcupine, woodrat, and mouse. Mule deer are the only large mammals encountered regularly in the area. Animals occasionally seen include coyotes, foxes, raccoons, badgers, and skunks. Present, but even more rarely seen, are bobcats, mountain lions, and black bears. A number of raptorial birds and songbirds are observed in the area, as well as occasional waterfowl. Reptiles and amphibians include several species of lizards, snakes, and toads. Insects include butterflies and moths, beetles, dragonflies and damselflies, flies, ants, bees, wasps, and spiders.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
Volunteers are required to engage in demanding physical activities including walking over uneven terrain, troweling, shoveling, screening, and lifting field equipment and buckets of sediment. Volunteers can work at their own pace, but the experience will be more enjoyable if they are in good physical condition.

All participants must be able, independently or with the assistance of a companion, to:

- Follow verbal and/or visual instructions
- Enjoy being outdoors all day in all types of weather (see above), in the potential presence of wild animals and insects
- Tolerate 30°C (85°F) and higher daily temperatures and low humidity levels
- Acclimate to high elevation (6,200 feet)
- Traverse short distances of uneven terrain to reach research sites (this is an activity volunteers can take at their own pace)
- Get low enough to access the ground for digging and trowelling in the sediment, up to 20 times a day
- Handle a shovel and trowel to sift through sediment, and a bucket to lift 10 to 20 pounds of dirt
- Carry personal daily supplies such as lunch, water, and some small field equipment weighing 10 pounds or less
- Get up into and down out of a minibus and ride, seated with seatbelt fastened, for a total of about 1.5 hours a day
## POTENTIAL HAZARDS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hazard Type</th>
<th>Associated Risks and Precautions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Crow Canyon staff complete drivers safety training to operate CC vehicles—only these staff members may drive the team to research and recreation destinations. Efforts are taken to minimize transportation needs, so that the group only travels when necessary. There are gravel roads in some sections of the project area, and these will be traveled at reduced speeds. Volunteers will be provided with seatbelts and are expected to use them whenever the vehicle is in motion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking/Hiking/Climbing</td>
<td>Volunteers are required to engage in demanding physical activities including walking over uneven terrain. Project staff will review the participants’ physical abilities, and adjust the pace of the group as much as possible to accommodate needs. Due to the terrain, individuals with severe mobility restrictions may not be able to be accommodated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals/Plants</td>
<td>Information will be provided prior to program to ensure proper medical awareness, and prior review of allergies listed in participant forms will be undertaken by first responders at Crow Canyon. The team will be briefed on what plants and animals should be avoided, and how to identify them. There is the potential to encounter snakes, scorpions, mice, bees and wasps, spiders, ants, mosquitoes, ticks, and skunks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate/Weather</td>
<td>The field project is located outdoors at an elevation of 6,200 feet above sea level; this may create physical difficulties for those individuals residing at or near sea level. The climate in southwest Colorado is generally dry and very sunny. Daytime summer temperatures average in the middle-to-upper 80s, though they can reach into the 90s and occasionally exceed 100 degrees. Volunteers must be able to tolerate long periods of sun exposure during the summer months. Measures should be taken by volunteers to avoid dehydration and sun exposure, such as drinking water throughout the day, covering up with full-length trousers and shirts, and wearing sunglasses and a hat with a generous brim.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Tasks/Equipment</td>
<td>Instruction will be provided on proper excavation technique and proper inspection of equipment to ensure safety. Adequate protective personal equipment (i.e., gloves, hats, hiking boots) should be provided by each participant. Kneeling pads will be provided for participant use.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SAFETY

HEALTH INFORMATION

ROUTINE IMMUNIZATIONS
All volunteers should have the following up-to-date immunizations: DPT (diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus), polio, MMR (measles, mumps, rubella), and varicella (if you have not already had chicken pox). Please be sure your tetanus shot is current.

Medical decisions are the responsibility of each volunteer and his or her doctor, and the following are recommendations only. Earthwatch can only provide details regarding suggested vaccinations, and we are not a medical organization.

PROJECT VACCINATIONS
REQUIRED: If traveling from countries or region where yellow fever is endemic, you must have a certificate of vaccination.
EMERGENCIES IN THE FIELD

Crow Canyon has a robust emergency response plan that it will follow in case of injuries or other emergencies.

**PHYSICIAN, NURSE, OR EMT ON STAFF:**
Garth Scharnhorst (EMT)

**STAFF CERTIFIED IN SAFETY TRAINING:**
- **CPR:** Susan Ryan, Shanna Diederichs, Steven Copeland, Caitlin Sommer, Amanda Hernandez
- **FIRST AID:** Susan Ryan, Shanna Diederichs, Steven Copeland, Caitlin Sommer, Amanda Hernandez

**NEAREST MEDICAL TREATMENT:**
- **Southwest Memorial Hospital**
  1311 N. Mildred Road
  Cortez, CO
  Tel: [970] 565-6666
  Fax: [970] 564-2149
  Travel time from project site: 10 minutes
- **Cortez Medical Center**
  33 N Elm St
  Cortez, CO
  Tel: 970-565-8556 [opt#3]
  Travel time from project site: 5 minutes

**INSURANCE**

Travel insurance is included in the contribution you pay to Earthwatch. The insurance covers your travel medical risks, including medical expenses and emergency medical evacuation, while you are traveling. It also provides trip cancellation insurance and baggage and personal money insurance. It does not provide personal liability insurance. Earthwatch’s insurance is applicable during travel to and from the expedition site and the duration of the expedition, but does not apply to detours for personal vacations made on the same trip. This insurance policy is secondary to your existing health insurance policy.

For more information, please see earthwatch.org/expeditions/travel-insurance. Refer any queries regarding Earthwatch’s travel policy to our insurance liaison at +1 [978] 450-1222 or insurance@earthwatch.org.

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EARTHWATCH’S 24-HOUR EMERGENCY HOTLINE (OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA)

Call Earthwatch’s 24-hour on-call duty officer in the U.S.:
+1 [978] 461-0081
+1 [800] 776-0188 (toll-free for calls placed from within the US)

**HEALIX INTERNATIONAL:**

+44 (20) 3667-8991 [collect calls/ reverse charges accepted]
U.S. TOLL FREE: 1 (877) 759 3917
U.K. FREE PHONE: 0(800) 197 5180
EMAIL: earthwatch@healix.com

EARTHWATCH’S 24-HOUR EMERGENCY HOTLINE (WITHIN AUSTRALIA):

+61 (0) 3-8508-5537

After business hours, leave a message with our live answering service. State that you have an emergency and give the name of your expedition, your name, the location from which you are calling, and if possible, a phone number where you can be reached. An Earthwatch staff person will respond to your call within one hour.

If you booked through Earthwatch Australia, please contact them at +61 (0) 9016 7590 or earth@earthwatch.org.au for any queries.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND EVACUATION ASSISTANCE

For emergency assistance in the field, please contact Earthwatch’s 24-hour emergency hotline number highlighted in the box. You may also contact our assistance provider, Healix International, at the number highlighted in the event of a medical/evacuation emergency or for routine medical and travel advice, such as advice on visas and vaccine requirements.
PROJECT STAFF
YOUR RESOURCES IN THE FIELD

EARTHWATCH SCIENTIST SUSAN C. RYAN (Ph.D., University of Arizona) is the director of Archaeology at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center. She has conducted prehistoric and historic archaeological fieldwork throughout the U.S. Southwest and Midwest for the past 19 years. Working as a research archaeologist for Crow Canyon Archaeological Center since 1998, Susan has directed two multi-year excavation projects, Shields Pueblo and Albert Porter Pueblo. She has published several articles and book chapters in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes and has given countless presentations to professional and avocational archaeological groups. Susan’s major research interests include the Chaco-to-post-Chaco transition in the northern San Juan region, the built environment, and semiotics.

EARTHWATCH SCIENTIST SHIRLEY POWELL (Ph.D., Arizona State University) has worked at the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center since 2007. She directed and was co-principal investigator of the Black Mesa archaeological project in northeastern Arizona between 1978 and 1987, served as Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Archaeology Laboratory at Northern Arizona University, and was a principal investigator for Archaeological Consulting Services in Tempe. She has conducted research throughout the North American Southwest, including in the Phoenix and Tonto Basins, Flagstaff area, northeastern Arizona, and southwestern Colorado. She is the author and editor of many book-length monographs on Ancestral Puebloan and Hohokam archaeology, senior author of Pueblo of the Mesa, the Archaeology of Black Mesa Arizona, and senior editor of Prehistoric Culture Change on the Colorado Plateau: Ten Thousand Years on Black Mesa.

FIELD ARCHAEOLOGIST CAITLIN SOMMER (M.A., University of Colorado) joined Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in 2010. Caitlin specializes in the American Southwest and Great Basin regions of North America. Her research interests include understanding long-standing connections among groups of people through the analyses of symbols and traditions.

SUPERVISORY ARCHAEOLOGIST SHANNA DIEDERICHS (B.A., University of Colorado) joined Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in 2010. Though she has documented cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde National Park and Chacoan Great Houses at Aztec Ruins National Monument, her true archaeological passion is the early Pueblo period when people were inventive about everything from food to community celebrations. She has served as a field and laboratory supervisor for numerous cultural resource management surveys, testing, and mitigation projects in Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico since 1997. She has also written or contributed to numerous resource management planning, reporting, and recommendation documents.

FIELD ARCHAEOLOGIST STEVE COPELAND (B.A., University of Colorado) joined Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in 2006. Steve is responsible for teaching participants about the cultural history of the Mesa Verde region and introducing field methodologies and techniques used in data recovery. He specializes in the American Southwest region of North America, particularly in the Phoenix Basin and the northern San Juan region.

NOTE: All staff members plan to be present for all teams. While Shirley Powell will be on campus for all teams, she will not be working alongside volunteers in the project area.
RECOMMENDED READING
YOUR RESOURCES AT HOME

RESOURCES

ARTICLES
• An overview of the ethics and laws that shape modern archaeology: crowcanyon.org/education/ethics_law.asp
• An introduction to the people who have lived in the Mesa Verde region over centuries past: crowcanyon.org/EducationProducts/peoples_mesa_verde/index.asp
• A recent research report on the Basketmaker community excavations: crowcanyon.org/ResearchReports/BasketmakerCommunities/interim_reports/2013/text_2013.pdf

EARTHWATCH SOCIAL MEDIA
• FACEBOOK: facebook.com/Earthwatch
• YOUTUBE: youtube.com/earthwatchinstitute
• TWITTER: twitter.com/earthwatch_org
PARTICIPANT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This document contains important information concerning Earthwatch Institute policies and participant rights and responsibilities for inclusion in an Earthwatch expedition. Please read this document thoroughly and sign the Liability Release section of your Earthwatch Participation Form to indicate that you understand and accept the risks inherent to your expedition and the policies, rights, and responsibilities enumerated in this document. You will not be permitted to participate in an expedition until Earthwatch has received the signed release form.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

It is permissible to share photos, videos, and stories of your expedition with family, friends, local media, and in a public forum. Sharing your new perspectives and experiences is welcomed and encouraged.

However, please recognize that all information, data, and images shared or gathered in the course of your expedition’s field work become the intellectual property of the Earthwatch scientist. Co-opting or plagiarism of data, images, or information gathered during an expedition for use in a scientific thesis, master’s, or PhD work, or for profit or for the academic or business use of a third party without the permission of the Earthwatch scientist is strictly prohibited. Please be aware that data gathered during the interviewing of local people become the intellectual property of the Earthwatch scientist. Earthwatch scientists have the right to place additional restrictions on your ability to share data or certain research-related images.

Conversely, an Earthwatch scientist may give written permission to use data and images for academic or profitable activity. Please be sure to ask what is acceptable to the Earthwatch scientist.

Fellows or scholarship recipients are sometimes required to submit a written report reflecting what they have learned on a project, sometimes as a step toward developing a curriculum. Earthwatch scientists have the right but not the obligation to review and edit materials involving information gathered on one of their expeditions.

DISCRIMINATION

Earthwatch does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or any other reason prohibited by applicable law and respects participants’ right to privacy. However, you must be aware that local laws in countries in which Earthwatch operates may not be antidiscriminatory and that the possibility exists that local residents may not have an awareness of preferred practice regarding discrimination.

Discrimination on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation will not be tolerated on Earthwatch teams. Disruptive behavior or verbal, physical, or any other type of abuse or harassment will also not be tolerated. Violation of Earthwatch’s nondiscrimination policy is grounds for expulsion from the program without a refund.

INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS

Earthwatch scientists, their staff, their colleagues, and their associates are prohibited from becoming romantically involved with participants during the entire duration of the period that the team is in the field. Romantic relationships that may otherwise seem permissible may eventually create an unpleasant or unproductive work environment and are therefore prohibited for the duration of an Earthwatch project.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Please recognize that the relationship that exists between Earthwatch scientists and staff and participants is analogous to the student-teacher relationship. Therefore, please be aware of the following policies.
Sexual harassment of participants by the Earthwatch scientist or Earthwatch staff is prohibited. Likewise, sexual harassment of other participants, Earthwatch field staff, or local people by participants is also prohibited.

Sexual harassment infringes on an individual’s right to an environment free from unsolicited and unwelcome sexual overtones of conduct either verbal or physical. Sexual harassment does not mean occasional compliments of a socially acceptable nature.

Sexual harassment refers to conduct which is offensive, which harms morale, or which interferes with the effectiveness of Earthwatch expedition teams; such conduct is prohibited. Lewd or vulgar remarks, suggestive comments, displaying derogatory posters, cartoons, or drawings, pressure for dates or sexual favors, and unacceptable physical contact or exposure are examples of what can constitute harassment. No one should be touched in areas that would be covered by a bathing suit. It is important to realize that what may not be offensive to you may be offensive to participants, the local population, or Earthwatch field staff.

Any individual who feels subjected to sexual harassment or has any knowledge of such behavior should report it at once to the Earthwatch scientist, Field Team Leader, or other Earthwatch staff member. The Earthwatch scientist or Field Team Leader will notify Earthwatch when an accusation of sexual harassment or abuse is made or when such conduct is witnessed.

All reports of sexual harassment will be handled with discretion and will be promptly and thoroughly investigated. Any participant who is found to have engaged in conduct constituting sexual harassment will be removed from the expedition at his or her own expense. If a minor is involved in allegations of sexual harassment, his or her parents or guardians will be contacted.

**DRUGS**

Laws on drug use in most countries are severe and may impose lengthy prison terms or the death penalty. The manufacture, possession, use, purchase, or sale of illegal drugs or other illegal substances while on an Earthwatch expedition is strictly prohibited. Prescription drugs may only be purchased and used by the individual indicated on the prescription in keeping with their intended use guidelines.

**ALCOHOL**

Local statutes, customs, practices, ordinances, and regulations with regard to the use, possession, sale, or purchase of alcohol are applicable to all participants and project staff on Earthwatch expeditions. Participants and project staff on Earthwatch expeditions must comply with the law of the country in which a project is located regarding the minimum age required to consume alcohol. In addition, restriction on the use, possession, sale, or purchase of alcohol may be set by the Earthwatch scientist. Any restrictions on the consumption of alcohol should be clearly outlined by the project staff in the on-site briefing to participants at the start of the project and in the expedition briefing.
Consumption or possession of alcohol or smoking is not permitted on any Earthwatch Teen Team, regardless of local law.

Excessive consumption of alcohol by staff or participants is not acceptable on any Earthwatch project. Intoxication can jeopardize personal safety, in addition to the safety of the team. It can also cause delay and hinder response in the event of a crisis or emergency situation.

Earthwatch staff and the Earthwatch scientist have the discretion to remove individuals from the project who consume alcohol in a time and manner that endanger the safety and/or productivity of the expedition.

MINORS

Earthwatch considers participants less than eighteen (18) years of age to be minors. Minors are not permitted to participate on any of Earthwatch’s standard teams unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian, in which case the minimum age is fifteen (15). Guardians accompanying minors on standard teams must be 21 years of age or over. Minors on standard teams do not receive additional guidance or supervision from Earthwatch beyond what is offered to the adult participants. The total number of minors on standard teams may be limited on a project by project basis; this will be noted in the expedition briefing. A maximum of two minors may accompany each parent or guardian on a standard or Family Team. Earthwatch has developed teams specifically for 15-, 16- and 17-year-olds (“Teen Teams”) as well as teams specifically for families (“Family Teams”) with children as young as 10 years. These teams focus on the same research activities and have the same expectations as our regular teams, but with more facilitation and support. Exceptions for some projects may be made at the discretion of Earthwatch and the Earthwatch scientist. Due to a more in-depth screening process for certain programs that select candidates based on school year rather than age, there may be 18-year-olds fielding on the same team as 15-, 16- and 17-year-olds. Please be aware that some Earthwatch projects do not allow participation by minors in any circumstance.

PARTICIPANTS AND DRIVING

Participants are not allowed to drive project vehicles (including motorcycles or all terrain vehicles) or aircraft during an expedition. In select circumstances, participants may be able to drive boats under the direct supervision by project staff. These circumstances are predetermined by project staff in collaboration with Earthwatch. Participants must respect the restrictions for boat driving in place for each project.

If a project environment is such that participants can drive their own vehicles to the rendezvous, those who have driven themselves to the project may not drive their own vehicles to, from, or for project activities, including the transport of project equipment after arriving at the site.
Participants who have driven themselves to the project may choose to utilize their own vehicles during recreational time, but project staff will brief them on any driving restrictions. All driving during recreational time is done at your own risk. Please be advised that the only exception to the above driving restrictions is emergency situations. Riding in other participants’ vehicles is not covered under the participants’ insurance policy for the expedition. Riding in another participant’s vehicle is done at a participant’s own risk.

IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY

In the event of emergencies, judgments must be made by Earthwatch field staff and participants. While Earthwatch makes an effort to ensure that qualified people make the most informed decisions possible, occasionally first aid may be administered and other immediate steps taken by expedition participants who are not licensed medical providers.

Each Earthwatch expedition has safety protocols and emergency procedures in place. Earthwatch encourages team members (the field staff and participants) to exercise their best judgment with regard to their own safety and the safety of other team members. Other participants may perform “Good Samaritan” actions, or actions taken to assist fellow participants during emergency situations in the field. However, Earthwatch does not encourage or expect you to jeopardize your own safety or that of others in attempting to rescue or assist your fellow team members.

RIGHT OF REFUSAL

Earthwatch reserves the right to refuse an applicant’s participation in an Earthwatch project at any time and to terminate any work being done by a participant and require the participant to vacate the project site if the Earthwatch scientist, Field Team Leader, or other Earthwatch staff member in his or her absolute discretion considers it appropriate. In this event, the participant (and his or her parents or guardians, if appropriate) will be responsible for arranging and paying for any accommodation, travel, or other arrangements which may be necessary following the termination of a participant’s involvement in a project for whatever reason, and will not be eligible for a refund.

Earthwatch may not refuse an applicant’s participation in a project for discriminatory reasons (race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or any other reason prohibited by applicable law). However, an application may be denied in the interest of team compatibility or due to logistical limitations. Earthwatch will make reasonable efforts to accommodate participants with disabilities, and the organization endeavors to find appropriate expeditions for those participants who have physical limitations. Refusal of an applicant is an unusual event and is generally done either because of an applicant’s failure to meet the essential eligibility requirements of a particular project or in the interest of team compatibility.

In the event that an applicant is refused participation for health reasons, Earthwatch will refund in full any deposit or payment made toward the expedition.

Earthwatch scientists have the right to refuse special requests, such as visits by media (film, photography, or print), special groups, or teams (students, donors, etc.), if they conflict with Earthwatch scientist schedules, safety, research objectives, or general performance of the team.

Any participant found in violation of any of the policies described in this document (“Participant Rights and Responsibilities”) is subject to removal from the team at his or her own expense. By signing the Liability Release section of your Earthwatch Participation Form, you are indicating that you have read and understand the policies in this document. Removal of a participant from a team is at the discretion of the Earthwatch scientist, Field Team Leader, or other Earthwatch staff. In addition, Earthwatch will support the right of the Earthwatch scientist, Field Team Leader, or other Earthwatch staff to send a participant away from a project once in the field should his or her behavior compromise the safety, research objectives, or general performance of the team, or if the participant has violated a stated policy. In the event that a minor is dismissed from a project, Earthwatch will contact the participant’s parents or guardians prior to his or her dismissal. Should a participant be removed from a team, he or she is responsible for any and all costs associated with departure from the team and will receive neither refund of the minimum contribution for the expedition nor any expenses incurred by participation on the expedition.

(November 2012)
COMMUNICATIONS

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
Volunteers and staff can be reached by mail, email, and telephone (both land line and cellular) for emergencies and casual communication.

Complete travel information is not available in this version of the briefing.
Please contact Earthwatch with any questions.

The 24-hour contact number at Earthwatch in the U.S. is +1 (978) 461-0081 or +1 (800) 776-0188 (see next page for calling instructions).

PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS
Volunteers may use their personal cell phones to communicate or use computers to check email communications.

Personal communication with outsiders is not always possible while participating in an expedition. Earthwatch encourages volunteers to minimize outgoing calls and immerse themselves in the experience; likewise, family and friends should restrict calls to urgent messages only.

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+1 (978) 461-0081
+1 (800) 776-0188 (toll-free for calls placed from within the US)

HEALIX INTERNATIONAL:
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U.S. TOLL FREE: 1 (877) 759 3917
U.K. FREE PHONE: 0(800) 197 5180
EMAIL: earthwatch@healix.com

EARTHWATCH’S 24-HOUR EMERGENCY HOTLINE (WITHIN AUSTRALIA):
+61 (0) 3-8508-5537

After business hours, leave a message with our live answering service. State that you have an emergency and give the name of your expedition, your name, the location from which you are calling, and if possible, a phone number where you can be reached. An Earthwatch staff person will respond to your call within one hour.
MESSAGE FROM EARTHWATCH

DEAR EARTHWATCHER,

Thank you for joining this expedition! We greatly appreciate your decision to contribute to hands-on environmental science and conservation.

As an Earthwatch volunteer, you have the opportunity to create positive change. And while you’re out in the field working toward that change, we are committed to caring for your safety. Although risk is an inherent part of the environments in which we work, we’ve been providing volunteer field experiences with careful risk management and diligent planning for over 40 years. You’re in good hands.

We hope this expedition will inspire you to get more involved in conservation and sustainable development priorities—not just out in the field, but also when you return home. We encourage you to share your experiences with others, and to transfer your skills and enthusiasm to environmental conservation efforts in your workplace, community, and home.

If you have questions as you prepare for your expedition, contact your Earthwatch office. Thank you for your support, and enjoy your expedition!

Sincerely,

Larry Mason
President and CEO