

# Announcement

## 2024 WILLIAM L. CHENOWETH MEMORIAL FIELD TRIP (# 6)

### GEOLOGY OF MONTROSE-CIMARRON- BLUE MESA AREA

<b>Date -</b>	Saturday, Sept. 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2024.
<b>Duration -</b>	8:30 a.m. to late afternoon or early evening.
<b>Departure Location -</b>	Sunset Mesa in Montrose (Stop 1). Please arrive by 8:30 a.m. For those wanting to carpool from Grand Junction please meet at the CP9 parking lot at CMU at 6:45 am. More information will be provided later.
<b>Leaders -</b>	Laurie Brandt (Buckhorn Engineering), Andres Aslan (CMU), and Rex Cole (CMU).
<b>Other Potential Contributors -</b>	Allen Stork, Steve Cumella, and Ned Sterne.
<b>Transportation -</b>	Car pool in private vehicles (partial mileage reimbursement for drivers transporting multiple people).
<b>Roads -</b>	Pavement and gravel (very minor).
<b>Stops -</b>	Nine are possible; see attached maps.
<b>Exertion Level -</b>	All stops involve gentle topography. No strenuous climbs or long walks.
<b>Handout -</b>	Provided free of charge.
<b>Roundtrip Distance -</b>	Approximately 240 miles from Grand Junction.
<b>Cost -</b>	None (donations to the Chenoweth Fund are encouraged).
<b>Food -</b>	None provided; bring your own lunch, snacks, water, etc.
<b>Liability -</b>	Participants will need to sign a liability waiver before participating.

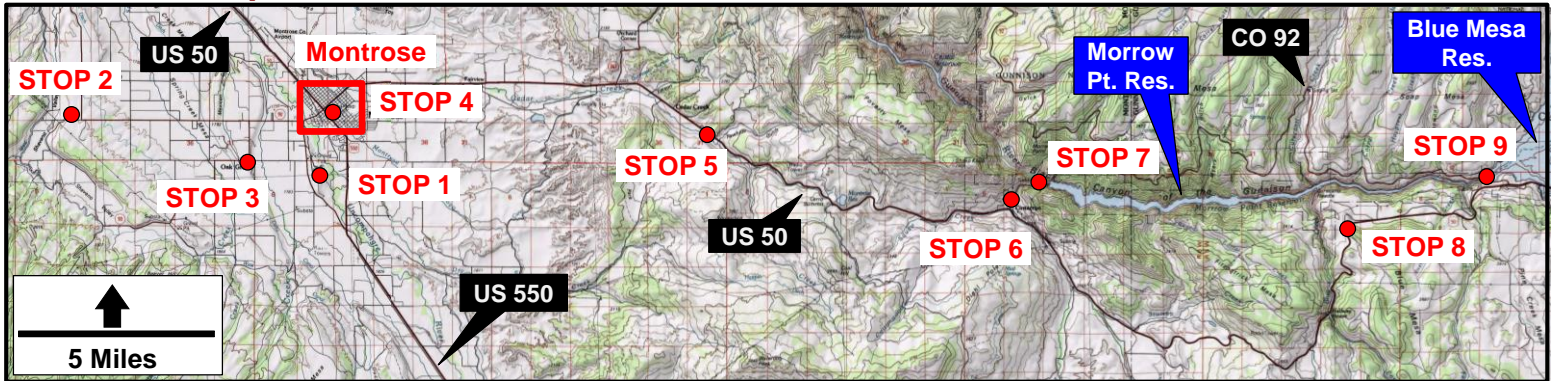
#### ***Tentative Topics in Approximate Order of Discussion:***

- Stratigraphic and structural setting (Montrose syncline and Gunnison uplift).
- Overview of the the geologic history of western Colorado.
- Surficial deposits and expansive/collapsible/ corrosive soils in Montrose area.
- Irrigation effects on slope stability of the Mancos Shale.
- Quaternary river terraces and the history of the Uncompahgre River.
- Sedimentology of the Dakota (Naturita) and Burro Canyon Formations (Cretaceous).
- Dakota Sandstone aquifer in the Montrose area.
- History of the Cedar Creek landslide complex adjacent to US Hwy. 50.
- Bostwick Park Paleo-valley and the Yellowstone Lava Creek B tephra.
- Cimarron Fault, Laramide Orogeny, and Gunnison Uplift.
- Aspinall project and Marrow Point Dam.
- Railroad history of Cimarron, CO, and the upper Black Canyon.
- Precambrian geology of the Black Canyon area.
- Incision history of the Gunnison River.
- Summary of the volcanic history of the West Elk and San Juan Mountains.
- West Elk Breccia and local ash-flow tuffs (e.g. Blue and Sapinero tuffs).
- The Great Unconformity.
- Rocky Mountain erosion surface and post-Laramide deformation.

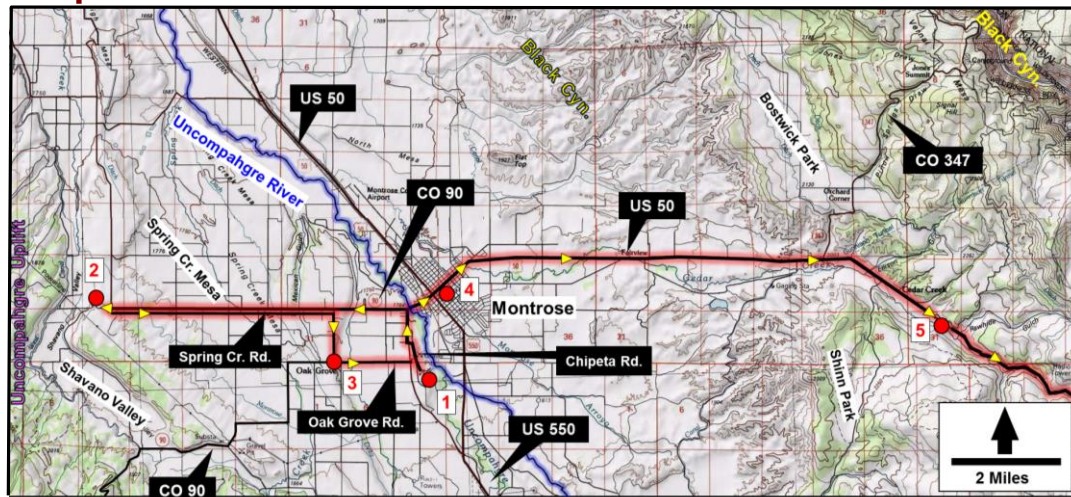


# Maps

## Total Field Trip



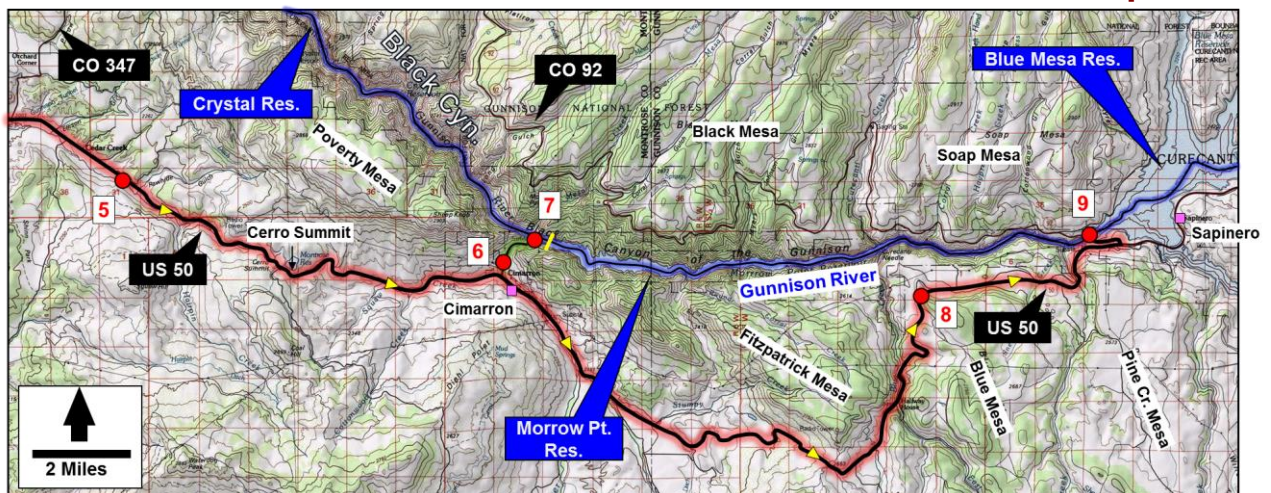
## Stops 1-5



## FIELD TRIP STOPS

1. Sunset Mesa Sports Complex
2. Shavano Valley
3. Suicide Hill (drive-by only)
4. Buckhorn Engineering
5. Cedar Creek Landslide Complex
6. Cimarron Fault
7. Morrow Point Reservoir Dam
8. NW nose of Blue Mesa
9. Blue Mesa Reservoir Dam

## Stops 5-9

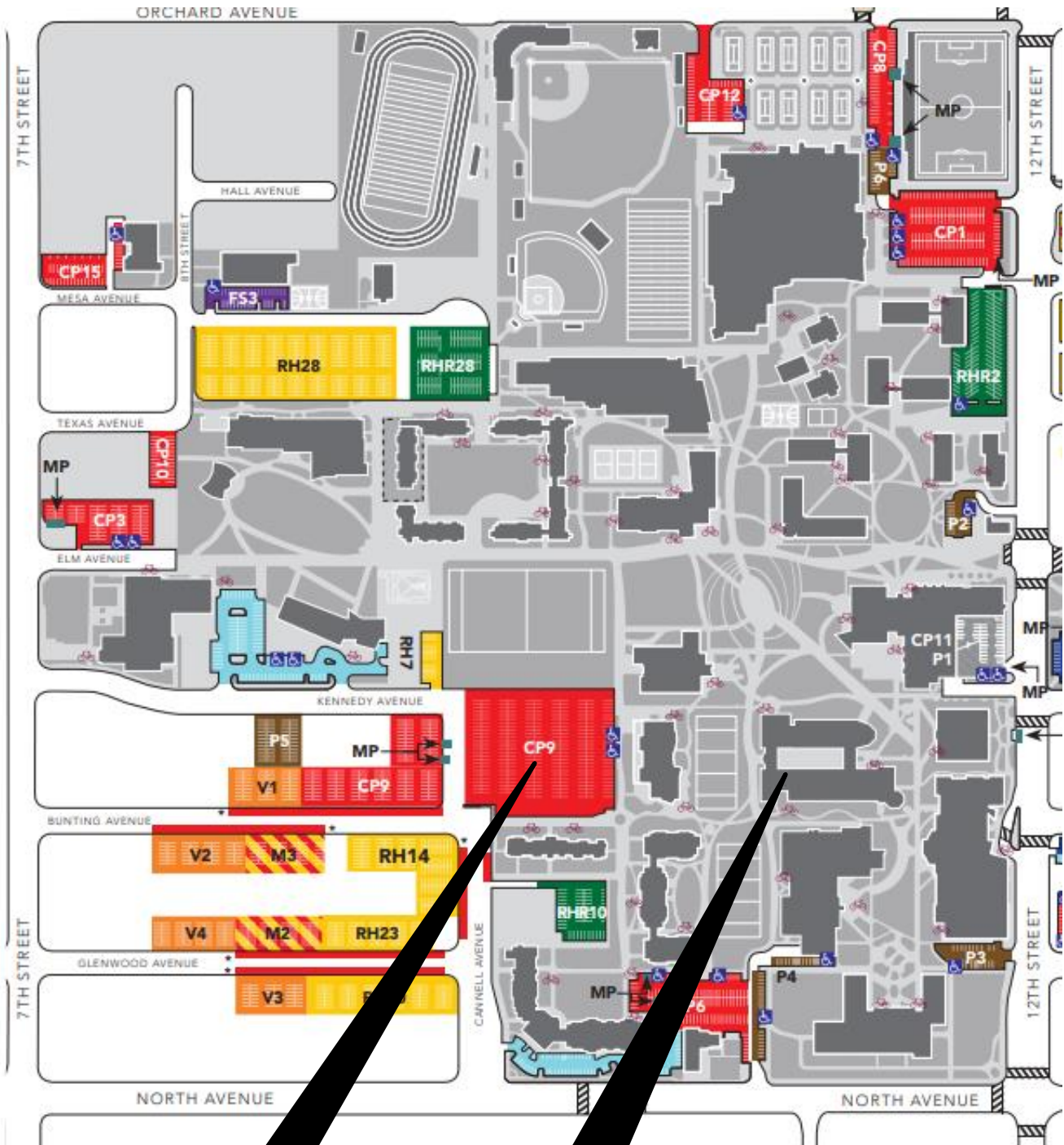


**You need to sign up for this trip! Please contact Rex Cole ([rcole@coloradomesa.edu](mailto:rcole@coloradomesa.edu)) by August 23<sup>rd</sup> and provide the following input:**

- How many GJGS and non-GJGS guests will ride in your vehicle?
- Will you have room for other passengers?
- Do you need a ride?



# CMU Campus Map



**CP9 Lot**

**Wubben  
Science  
Bldg.**

**Free Parking on Weekends**