

# 1<sup>st</sup> Announcement

## 2025 WILLIAM L. CHENOWETH MEMORIAL FIELD TRIP (# 7)

### GEOLOGY OF UNAWEEP CANYON AND GATEWAY AREA



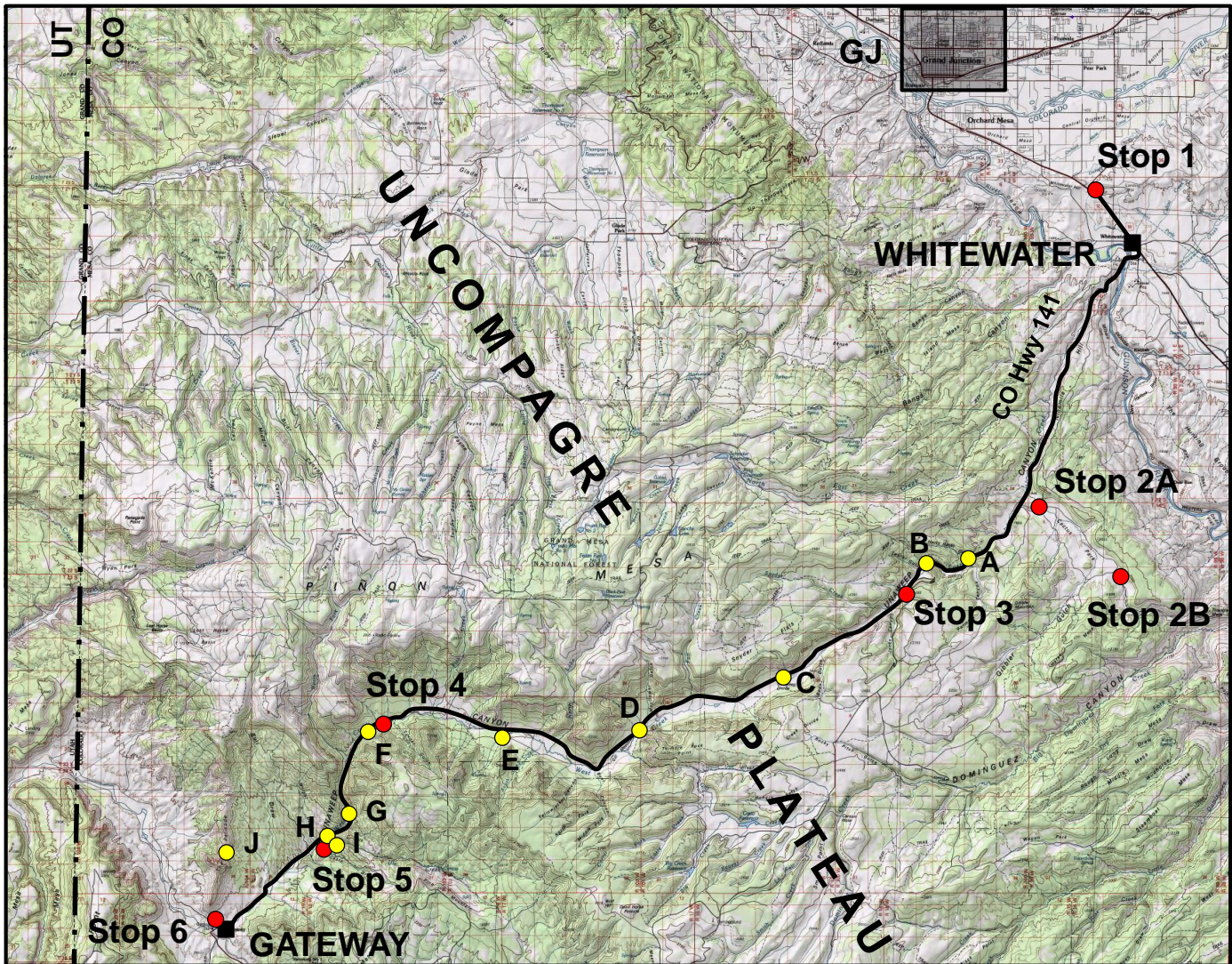
<b>Date -</b>	Saturday, Sept. 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2025.
<b>Duration -</b>	8:00 a.m. to late afternoon or early evening.
<b>Departure Location -</b>	Whitewater terrace (Stop 1).
<b>Leaders -</b>	Andres Aslan, Bill Hood, Rex Cole, Ned Sterne, and others.
<b>Transportation -</b>	Car pool in private vehicles (partial mileage reimbursement for drivers transporting multiple people).
<b>Roads -</b>	Pavement and gravel (very minor).
<b>Stops -</b>	6 to 7 main stops; see attached map.
<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 110 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 Discussion Topics:***

- Geologic framework and history of the Uncompahgre Plateau
- Previous geological research on Unaweep Canyon (UC)
- The topographic dimensions of UC and comparison to other canyons
- Which ancient river or rivers eroded UC?
- Cactus Park gravels and lake beds
- When was UC carved: Paleozoic? Laramide? Neogene? Multi-Stage?
- Subsurface data in UC (drilling and geophysical)
- Hypotheses for abandonment of UC
- Post abandonment sedimentary fill
- Pleistocene glaciation of Uncompahgre Plateau and UC
- Economic geology (mineral deposits) of northeastern UC
- Ute Creek Graben
- Gateway gravels
- Cutler Formation
- Uravan Mineral Belt
- Human history of UC



# Map



## ***Primary Stops***

- Stop 1 -- Whitewater Hill (near drag strip)
- Stop 2A -- Cactus Park Gravel
- Stop 2B -- Cactus Park Lake Beds (time permitting)
- Stop 3 -- Divide Road Overlook
- Stop 4 -- Lower West Creek (Death Cliff)
- Stop 5 -- Casto Draw
- Stop 6 -- Gateway

## ***Other Locations Discussed***

- A -- Nancy Hanks Gulch Mineralization
- B -- Parkinson Quarry
- C -- Unaweep Divide
- D -- Thimble Rock (Driggs Mansion)
- E -- University of Oklahoma drill site
- F -- The Seeps
- G -- West Creek Canyon rest stop
- H -- Mouth of West Creek
- I -- Gateway gravels
- J -- The Palisade

**You need to sign up for this trip! Please contact Rex Cole ([rcole@coloradomesa.edu](mailto:rcole@coloradomesa.edu)) by September 1<sup>st</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?