

DAY/DATE: *hotel names, addresses AND phone numbers, check-out times or other special instructions to be followed that day, i.e., baggage requirements? Breakfast on their own? etc.*

9/29/08: TRAVEL FROM HOUSTON TO DEL RIO, TEXAS

Interstate 10 and U.S. Highway 90

Suggested Lunch stop at Oakridge Smokehouse , Schulenburg, TX – Participants pay for own lunch - buffet or barbecue

Lodging: Best Western Del Rio, Del Rio, TX – Cost included in field trip fee.

Dinner: Participants pay for own dinner at any of several nearby restaurants or they can cross the Border into Mexico and have dinner in Ciudad Acuna.

9/30/08: TRAVEL FROM DEL RIO TO ALPINE, TEXAS – U.S. Hwy 90

Breakfast: Participants pay for own breakfast or take advantage of free continental breakfast offered by Best Western Del Rio.

Departure Time From Motel: 8:00 AM

AM-Visit/Stop At: Select outcrops of Upper and Lower Cretaceous units west of Del Rio including Austin Chalk, Atco Chalk, Boquillas ‘Flags’/Eagle Ford Formation, Buda Formation, Del Rio Formation, and Santa Elena Formation. These stops will provide a geologic context and comparison for the southern extension of the Western Interior Seaway to be examined further west in Big Bend National Park (BBNP). There will also be a stop at the Texas High Bridge scenic overlook of Seminole Canyon (Pecos River Gorge) with geologic explanation.

Lunch Stop: Tailgate lunch, Roadside Picnic Area overlooking Pecos River. Cost included in field trip fee.

PM-Visit/Stop At: Select outcrops of the lowermost part of the Boquillas ‘Flags’ (equivalent to the lowermost part of the Ernst Member, Late Cenomanian, in BBNP), Buda Formation, and Atco Chalk (equivalent to the lowermost San Vicente Member, earliest Coniacian, in BBNP). Paleozoic units (turbidites of the Tesnus and Haymond Formations) in the Marathon Basin along Hwy 90 will also be examined.

Lodging: Sunday House Inn, Alpine, TX – Cost included in field trip fee.

Dinner: Participants pay for own dinner at any of several nearby restaurants.

10/01/08: TRAVEL FROM ALPINE TO TERLINGUA, TEXAS – State Hwy 118

Breakfast: Sunday House Inn provides a continental breakfast or participants may pay for own breakfast at any of several nearby restaurants.

Departure Time From Motel: 8:30 AM

AM - Visit/Stop At: Select outcrops of Upper Cretaceous units including Javelina, Pen, Aguja, and Boquillas Formations. The first three units document the slow intermittent regression of the Western Interior Seaway from the Big Bend region in the latest Cretaceous. The K/T boundary in the lowermost part of the Black Peaks Formation (above the Javelina Formation) will also be discussed.

Lunch: Terlingua - Cost included in field trip fee. Hamburgers, cheeseburgers, chips, drink ... vegetarian option available. This is a quality (non-chain) local eatery.

PM - Visit/Stop At: Select outcrops of Upper and Lower Cretaceous units including Boquillas, Buda, Del Rio, and Santa Elena Formations. Reed Plateau overlook of Terlingua/Study Butte Geology and old abandoned Mercury Mining District provides participants with geologic and historical perspective of the Big Bend region. Visit to Terlingua Ghost Town and Terlingua Trading Company Store.

Lodging: Chisos Mining Company Motel, Terlingua, TX – Cost included in field trip fee.

Dinner: All-you-can-eat catered cowboy-style buffet - vegetarian option available Kathy Kosmic Kowgirl Cafe. Cost included in field trip fee.

After Dinner: Open discussion of the Late Cretaceous geology of Texas and other areas around firepit.

10/02/08: SELECT GEOLOGY OF BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK, TEXAS

Breakfast: Huge three-egg bacon/sausage/chorizo/bean burritos with coffee or tea Kathy's Kosmic Kowgirl Cafe. Orders taken in advance. Cost included in field trip fee.

Departure Time From Motel: 8:00 AM

AM-Visit/Stop At: Stop at Park Headquarters, Panther Junction, TX. Visit select outcrops of Upper Cretaceous Boquillas (Ernst and San Vicente Members) Formation including the Cenomanian/Turonian (OAE 2) and Turonian/Coniacian Stage Boundaries in the Ernst Member of the Boquillas Formation within Big Bend National Park. Examine nature of Buda Formation-Ernst Member contact for comparison with the same contact visited in the Del Rio area. Detailed examination of recently measured reference section of the Ernst Member (Cooper et. al, 2007)

Lunch: Catered picnic lunch on the outcrop provided by Kathy's Kosmic Kowgirl Cafe. Cost included in field trip fee.

PM-Visit select outcrops of Upper Cretaceous units including Aguja and Pen Formations in the eastern part of BBNP. These two units document the intermittent regression of the Western Interior Seaway and are compared with the same intervals as exposed in the western part of the Big Bend region.

Lodging: Chisos Mining Company Motel, Terlingua, TX – Cost included in field trip fee.

Dinner: All-you-can-eat catered cowboy-style buffet - vegetarian option available Kathy Kosmic Kowgirl Cafe. Cost included in field trip fee.

After Dinner: Open discussion of the Late Cretaceous geology of Texas and other areas around firepit.

**10/03/08: SELECT GEOLOGY OF BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK AND TRAVEL
FROM TERLINGUA TO DEL RIO, TEXAS**

**Breakfast: Another big breakfast cowboy-style by Kathy's Kosmic Kowgirl Cafe.
Cost included in field trip fee.**

Departure Time From Motel: 8:00 AM

AM-Visit/stop At: Select outcrops of the Tertiary Tornillo and Big Bend Groups including initial igneous activity. Examine exposures of the Upper Cretaceous Boquillas Formation (Cenomanian-Turonian Stage Boundary, Turonian-Coniacian Stage Boundary and Tertiary sill-like intrusions in the Ernst and San Vicente Members).

Lunch: Catered picnic lunch at picnic area/scenic outcrop in the Marathon Basin provided by Kathy's Kosmic Kowgirl Cafe. Cost included in field trip fee.

PM- Visit Paleozoic units in Marathon Basin will be examined if time permits.

Lodging: Best Western Del Rio, Del Rio, TX – Cost included in field trip fee.

Dinner: Participants pay for own dinner at any of several nearby restaurants.

**10/04/08: TRAVEL FROM DEL RIO TO HOUSTON, TEXAS
U.S. Highway 90 and Interstate 10**

Suggested Lunch stop at Oakridge Smokehouse , Schulenburg, TX – Participants pay for own lunch - buffet or barbecue. Other nearby restaurant/fast-food options available. We just think the Oakridge is really good and reasonably priced. Good place to stock up on snacks for during the GSA Convention.

Arrive at: YET TO BE OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

Estimated Arrival Time: 5:00PM and official end of field trip.

Lodging: Responsibility of each participant

Dinner: Responsibility of each participant

COST INCLUDES:

INCLUDED IN FIELD TRIP FEE

LODGING: 5 NIGHTS (SEE ABOVE)

BREAKFAST: 2 CATERED BREAKFASTS; AND 3 FREE CONTINENTAL BREAKFASTS IN DEL RIO AND ALPINE (IF PARTICIPANTS WANT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CONTINENTAL BREAKFASTS)
LUNCHES: 4 PICNIC LUNCHES (SEE ABOVE)
DINNERS: 2 ALL-YOU-CAN EAT CATERED BUFFET DINNERS (SEE ABOVE)

NOT INCLUDED IN FIELD TRIP FEE

BREAKFAST: 3 BREAKFASTS (IF PARTICIPANTS DO NOT WANT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FREE CONTINENTAL BREAKFASTS IN DEL RIO AND ALPINE)
LUNCHES: 2 LUNCHES (ON 9/29/08 AND 10/04/08 - SEE ABOVE)
DINNERS: 3 DINNERS (ON 9/29/08, 9/30/08, AND 10/03/08 - SEE ABOVE)
LODGING: LODGING THE NIGHT PRIOR TO DEPARTURE OF THE FIELD TRIP ON 09/28/08 AND LODGING THE NIGHT THE FIELD TRIP ENDS IN HOUSTON ON 10/04/08 (SEE ABOVE)

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

The temperature at Big Bend National Park Headquarters ranges between 78°F to 86 °F this time of year. Panther Junction is, however, higher up (+2000 feet) than our hikes and participants should expect temperatures around 10 °F higher on the hiking excursions. This is the high desert so rain is unlikely. Sunglasses, sunblock, hats with a brim, bandannas, backpacks, light-colored long-sleeved cotton pants and shirts are urged. Stout walking shoes or hiking boots are also encouraged. Bring all personal medication needs with you and a selection of personal toiletries. For those who wish to have alcoholic beverages, they can obtain them in Del Rio, Alpine or (limited selection) in Terlingua/Study Butte. All accommodations include refrigerators and microwaves. The Chisos Mining Company Motel does not provide coffee in the rooms but our breakfast stop (Kathy's Kosmic Kowgirl Kafe) does and it will be included in the breakfast which will be available at 7:00 a.m. There will be collecting opportunities in areas outside of Big Bend National Park, so rock hammers are okay but within the National Park no collecting is allowed. Hand lenses are suggested. There will be three times when the Field Trip will pass through United States Immigration Checkpoints - participants need to bring either their U.S. Driver's License or other legal photo. I.D. Non U.S. Citizens need to bring passports. Anyone desiring to cross into Mexico from Del Rio for dinner in Ciudad Acuna, MX should have a passport. Ciudad Acuna is a quiet, peaceful Mexican border city. **BRING A CAMERA!**

Each participant is responsible for making their own travel arrangements to and from Houston, Texas as well as lodging on the nights of 09/28/08 and 10/04/08.

CANCELLATION: Must be made in writing and received by the Field Trip Coordinator, GSA Headquarters, PO Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301-9140, (303) 357-1060, by **3 September 2008** to qualify for refund. NO refunds for cancellation notices received after this date. Refunds will be processed as soon as possible after the meeting.