

Colorado River (Westwater)

How to obtain a permit: A permit is required year-round to run Westwater Canyon. Permits are issued only through advance reservation to individuals 18 years and older. Do not show up at the launch ramp without a permit expecting to launch or to join another group. Launches are issued on a first-come, first-served basis using the telephone - for example, the first five people to call (435) 259-7012 on May 4th (starting at 8 am) will receive a permit for July 4th. Launches become available 2 months prior to the launch date - for example, July 4th launches first become available on May 4th (but you can acquire any launch dates available within the two-month period). If the day to call is a weekend or Federal holiday, you need to call the next working day. No waiting lists are maintained. An online calendar link, located on the [BLM Westwater Canyon](#) page, is available showing open launch dates and is updated daily.

Fees: \$10.00 per person. Payment can be made when you acquire a launch or is due 30 days prior to launch. Payments may only be made by the trip leader or alternate trip leader. No refunds will be issued.

Changes/Cancellations: You must speak to someone at the River Office to make any changes. Changes must be made at least 24 hours prior to your launch date. If you haven't already made two changes to a paid permit, you can request a launch date and payment transfer at the time of cancellation. Please notify the River Office if you are unable to use your launch date.

Additional Information: You can acquire only one launch per day and possess only one unpaid permit at a time. Between April 1st and September 30th, private use is limited to five permits or 75 people (whichever occurs first) per day. From October 1st through March 31st, use is limited to seven permits or 150 people per day.

River Flow: Typically, the river peaks at about 20,000 cfs in late May or early June and recedes throughout the summer and fall seasons to reach a flow of less than 3,000 cfs. High-water trips (13,000 cfs and above) can be extremely dangerous. A low water trip (1,000 to 5,000 cfs) takes about ten hours, a moderate level trip (5,000 to 13,000 cfs) takes about seven hours, and a high-water trip (above 13,000 cfs) takes as little as four hours. Check the [current daily flow](#).

Contact:

Bureau of Land Management
Moab River Office

82 East Dogwood Moab, Utah 84532

Telephone: (435) 259-7012 **Fax:** (435) 259-2158

Hours: 8am – 12pm, Monday through Friday

Website: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/passes-and-permits/lotteries/utah/westwatercanyon> and <https://www.blm.gov/basic/programs-recreation-passes-and-permits-lotteries-utah-westwater-canyon-private>