

San Juan River

A permit is required year-round to float any section of the San Juan River between Montezuma Creek and Clay Hills. Permits are issued only through a pre-season lottery and advanced online reservations.

Trips Launching January 1st – April 14th

Permit become available at www.recreation.gov, beginning December 1 at 8:00am (MDT)

Trips launching April 15th through July 15th

Lottery: Lottery applications will be accepted from December 1 to January 31 at www.recreation.gov. Applicants will be notified of the results on their recreation.gov accounts on February 12. Successful applicants must accept and pay the per person permit fees for their awarded reservation by March 15. Unaccepted reservations will be cancelled.

Advance Reservations: Following the lottery, available launches and cancellations may be reserved in advance at www.recreation.gov, beginning March 16 at 8:00am (MDT).

Trips launching July 16th – December 31st

Launch reservations may be reserved in advance at www.recreation.gov, beginning March 16 at 8:00 am (MDT).

To obtain a permit five days or less before the launch date, or to obtain a Montezuma Creek to Sand Island permit, you must call the BLM Monticello Field Office in advance to obtain a permit.

Fees: \$6.00 non-refundable application fee.

The following per person per trip permit fee schedule applies for launches from March 1 – October 31.

Sand Island to Mexican Hat: \$10.00

Mexican Hat to Clay Hills: \$20.00

Sand Island to Clay Hills: \$30.00

No fee is charged for the Montezuma Creek to Sand Island section, but a permit is still required.

Cancellations: Permit holders who cancel their reservation or reduce their party size a minimum of 31 days prior to the launch date will receive a refund of their permit fees. No refunds are issued for reservations cancelled or reduced 30 days or less before the launch date under any circumstances.

Changes: You will be allowed to print your permit 14 days before your launch date. Changes cannot be made to the permit once it has been printed. Do not print your permit until you are sure you will not be making any changes. Group sizes can be reduced (see refund policy above) or increased up to the maximum of 25 persons per group (provided there is availability) until five days before the launch date and prior to printing the permit. To change your launch date or river segment, you will need to cancel your existing reservation and make a new one; all fees will apply to the new reservation. Changes to exit dates, reserved campsites and changes made less than 5 days before the launch date must be made by calling the BLM San Juan River permit desk at (435) 587-1544.

Additional Information: Pack-rafters using nontraditional launch or exit points are required to obtain a permit for the entire permitted river segment, even if they will only be floating a portion of that segment (e.g., a pack-rafting trip hiking in at Honaker and floating to Slickhorn Canyon would be required to obtain a Mexican Hat to Clay Hills permit).

The Navajo Nation Permits: Requires additional permits to camp, hike, or visit archaeological sites on river left. For information on how to obtain Navajo Nation permits, please contact the following offices:
Camping and hiking permits: Navajo Parks and Recreation Department, (928) 871-6647, <http://navajonationparks.org/>. *Permits for visiting archaeological sites:* Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department, (928) 871-6647, online application form: http://www.hpd.navajo-nnsn.gov/files/2.4_Class_A_permit_form.pdf

Trips taking out at Clay Hills: camping below Government Rapid (~ river mile 64) is allowed at nine designated sites only. These sites must be reserved [online](#) through the BLM Monticello Field Office immediately after booking a permit or accepting an awarded lottery reservation.

Contact: Bureau of Land Management, Monticello Field Office

P.O. Box 7 (365 N. Main St)

Monticello, UT 84535

Telephone: (435) 587-1544 **Fax:** (435) 587-1518 **Office hours:** 8am – 12pm, Monday - Thursday

Email: BLM_UT_SanJuan_Permits@blm.gov

Website: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/passes-and-permits/lotteries/utah/sanjuanriver>