

Project Details
Interdisciplinary Research at the La Botica Site, Conejos County, Colorado
June 3rd to June 11th

Project Overview: Located in the spectacular La Jara Canyon, the La Botica site—Spanish for “the pharmacy”—is an exceptionally large and complex archaeological site that preserves a unique record of American Indian lifeways spanning 8,000 years. The site is also an important locality for the San Luis Valley's Hispano residents, who gathered medicinal plants there in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

PCRG will lead an interdisciplinary team of botanists, paleoecologists, anthropologists, archaeologists, and geologists in a week-long investigation to gather baseline data on the site and its setting. Project activities will include botanical inventory, archaeological testing, site mapping, soil sampling, and dendrochronology. Project activities will be strenuous, including a challenging one-mile roundtrip hike from the camp to the site each day. The crew will carry equipment and samples to and from the site.

While we understand things come up that are not always in our control, please keep in mind that we are counting on you for this project. If your availability changes or you are no longer able to participate please notify us immediately so that we can give your spot to one of the other eager applicants. We are looking forward to a great project and thank you for your commitment! :)

Project Logistics: Project participants will camp near the site; high-clearance vehicles will be required to access the camp. The project camp will be located in a remote area with no services, and there is a possibility we will be without cell coverage so plan accordingly. Cars will be parked near camp so you can use your personal vehicle as storage for coolers, snacks, etc. PCRG will provide all meals. Water will be filtered at camp. You are welcome to bring personal beverages such as beer, wine, soda, etc. but please bring your own cooler and ice. Each participant is responsible for bringing their own personal camping gear. **Refer to the list below for more information on what to bring.**

*Cell phone coverage is not always a guarantee in project and camp areas so please plan accordingly.

To access the camp high clearance, and ideally 4wd vehicles are required (small SUVs such as Escapes, CRVs will do fine). For those of you without high clearance vehicles, travel arrangements to the camp will be made prior to the project.

Sunday June 3rd and Monday, June 11th are dedicated travel days for arrival and departure. Field work will begin on June 4th and run until June 10th. Please plan on arriving at camp after 3pm on Sunday, June 3rd.

Project Schedule

Date	Activities
Sunday, June 3 rd	Arrive at camp after 3pm. Spend the afternoon setting up camp and discussing project goals and methods. Dinner at ~630pm.
Monday, June 4 th to Sunday, June 10 th	6:15am- Breakfast 7:30am- Depart for project area 4:30pm- Return to camp 6:00pm- Dinner
Monday, June 11 th	Breakdown camp, depart project area by 10am

Participant Equipment List:

In Camp:

Camping gear (tent, pad, sleeping bag, pillow, etc.)

Personal dishes such as a mug, plate, bowl, and utensils (PCRG will not provide any of these)

Warm clothes (jacket, hat, gloves, etc. for cold mornings and evenings)

Camp chair

Flashlight or headlamp and extra batteries

Insect repellent

Water for the crew will be filtered at the site. We encourage you to bring your own prefilled gallon+ jug of water for personal use for the first few days or so.

Extras:

Solar shower/towel

Evening beverages such as beer, wine, soda, etc.

Cooler for personal drinks and snacks

Musical instruments, playing cards, or other games/entertainment

Books

Hammock

Camp clothes

Sandals or other camp shoes

The following gear list covers recommended items to bring to the field each day. Excavation equipment will be provided for testing however, you are welcome to bring your own dig kit if you have one.

In the Field:

Long pants and closed toed shoes are required (no sandals or shorts)

Long sleeves are recommended for sun protection although, short sleeves and tank tops are ok

Day pack large enough to carry water, lunch, clipboard, etc.

Hiking boots (boots higher on the ankle are recommended)

Sun hat

Sunglasses

Rain gear

Containers for 2 to 3 quarts of water

Sunscreen

Lip balm (SPF)

Insect repellent

Compass

Clipboard

Your favorite pencil (no pens)

Extras:

Work gloves

Camera, for personal use if desired

Binoculars

Personal first aid-kit

Hand sanitizer

Notebook for personal use

Emergency Contact Information

PCRG

Mark Mitchell

Mark.Mitchell@Paleocultural.org

Cell: 303-913-2435

Vehicle: Ford F-150 CO license plate PNO-422

Local medical facilities

Conejos County Hospital

19021 US Highway 285

La Jara, CO 81140

(719) 274-5121

San Luis Valley Health

106 Blanca Ave.

Alamosa, CO 81101

(719) 589-2511

Please save the following cell phone numbers in case you need to reach us while in the field:

PCRG

Britni Rockwell- (720) 982-9401

Mark Mitchell- (303) 913-2435

****For driving directions and maps to the site/camp area, participants should contact Britni Rockwell at Britni.rockwell@paleocultural.org.**