

Even More Events

Annual Eagle Float on the Colorado

Every winter Southeastern Utah and Western Colorado are visited by Bald Eagles looking for an ideal nesting site. Some of these eagles decided to call the cottonwood trees – nestled between sandstone cliffs and the Colorado River below – their winter home. Beyond the bald eagle, many other species of birds call this narrow band of riparian habitat running through the desert climate of the Colorado Plateau home. Canyon wrens, killdeer, belted kingfisher, great blue herons, and red-tailed hawks are just a few of the species seen along the Colorado River in late winter.



Join us and view these majestic creatures on March 3 on Canyonlands Field Institute's annual Eagle Float on the Colorado! On this day long excursion we will float from Loma, Colorado to Westwater Ranger Station, Utah. A mostly smooth, 25-mile stretch of river leads us through Horsethief and Ruby Canyons and their red sandstone cliffs. Throughout the trip, we will keep our eyes and binoculars pointed towards the cliffs edge, cottonwood trees, and sky above for signs of our avian friends.

You don't have to be an expert birder to enjoy the Eagle Float. Accompanying us are members of the Moab Bird Club and a research biologist from HawkWatch International who are all excited to answer any ornithological questions you might have. Marian and Nick Eason, long time Moab Bird Club members and Eagle Float volunteers stated that, "We have been fortunate to participate in several eagle float trips and carry fond memories from each. The combination of time on the river plus a great variety

of birds and scenery are hard to beat." In addition to our wonderful birding volunteers we will also have guidebooks and printouts on hand to help identify birds as we see them.

Beyond birding, we will also see some incredible geology. As we float through Ruby canyon we enter into the Black Rock section. This geologic oddity is composed of a rock layer called the Vishnu schist that has been dated to 1.7 billion years old. Among these rocks, we will talk a bit about the endangered fish species that live in this section of the river.



Our group will be in rafts for the majority of the day, floating quietly as much as possible; motors will be used at times to make this 25-mile stretch in one-day. Occasionally, we will join up to share information, hear comments from our guest experts. Throughout the day we will make several stops on shore to stretch and have lunch. Snacks, water, and lunch are all provided by CFI.

Canyonlands Field Institute is a non-profit outdoor education organization whose mission is to increase awareness and appreciation for the Colorado Plateau through direct natural and cultural experiences. All profits help support youth and school outdoor education programs.

For more information about this seminar or tours CFI provides go to our website at cfimoab.org, call us at 435-259-7750, or by email at info@cfimoab.org. hile leading students in enjoying recreation with friends.



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Connecting People and Nature: History, Education and Adventure

Creative Thinking And Writing With Lou Liberty

Award winning author, Lou Liberty, brings her Creative Thinking And Writing weekend intensive workshop to Moab February 23 - 25, 2018. This unique limited enrollment experience benefits the beginner through the professional writer. Participants will produce the first draft of a short story, the first chapter of a memoir, or the beginning of a longer work during the three days. Each student will spend individual time with Lou in addition to group activities.



Harper Collins editor and author, Patience Hartwell Bloom calls Lou, "a trip and a treat and the best writing teacher I've ever had, period! I wish I could send my clients to her for a refresher course." Robert E. Vardeman, author of The Cenotaph Road series says of Lou, "She understands writing and equally important, she understands publishing. Spend time with her whenever you can."

For workshop details, additional information, and registration, contact Lou Liberty at 505-450-4846 or by email: lliberty@swcp.com The cost of the workshop is \$125.00 for cash. Cards and check registration is \$135.00. All materials are furnished.



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