



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
FEDERAL CENTER, DENVER, COLORADO
Building 25

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Mr. George C. Simmons
U. S. Geological Survey
Box 360
Grand Junction, Colorado

Dear George:

I certainly appreciate your help in contacting your numerous friends concerning our proposed boat trip. I have received replies from Dave Gaskill, George White, and Bus Hatch. Both Hatch and White say they have plenty of equipment and would be glad to make the trip. However, I fear it would be quite expensive.

I have made arrangements here through Geologic Division for three 6-man rubber boats, life jackets and waterproof duffel bags. I feel that we could make the trip with our own equipment much cheaper, and at low water it shouldn't be too dangerous. I figure that we could have two men to a boat and with 3 boats we could carry 6 people. This would allow room for Russ, Frank, myself, and three boatmen.

I would appreciate your comments as to your ideas. Do you think it is feasible to make the trip in rubber boats? Would two men to a boat be okay? Would you be able to go? Do you think of any other gear that we might need?

I fully realize that the larger wooden boats would be more comfortable and probably somewhat safer. However, when I weigh the expected cost at \$1600.[±] against \$300.[±] I wonder if it is worth the great difference. I think that we can make the trip at low water with the rubber boats. Another factor, of course, is the time element. We would like to take plenty of time and probably stop several places and do geology for a day or so. This means we would be paying boatmen \$20. to \$25. per day while they waited for the geologists. Hence, we would pay for a two-week trip and probably only spend about half that time on the river.

Well, anyway, I thought I would let you know my plans and see what you thought. I will probably be over to Grand Junction this month and will see you then.

Best regards,

Rick