

Date: 10/17/2019 7:47:19 PM

Subject: Postcard

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We left Entrada Escalante (Spanish for “where Sheila and Dale stay”) as the sun struggled up, and we headed down Hole In The Rock Road. The road goes for 62 miles through Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument from Utah Route 12 to the shores of Lake Powell. If you drive to the end there is narrow, natural crevice that was enlarged in 1879 using picks, shovels and blasting powder by migrating Mormons and designated a hole even though it’s a crack. But I digress. We only went 26 miles, to Dry Fork Road and the Dry Fork Trailhead.



Our goal was to hike Peek-A-Boo Gulch and Spooky Gulch, a pair of slot canyons. We signed in. Later we signed out but there will be no picture.



There are precious few trail markers provided by the Park Service in Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument, consistent with its charter. The trails are mostly “social” which means hikers wear a path and build cairns. Often it works fine.



And by the grace of cairns and Vibram we made it down into the canyon and to the gulches.

It is recommended to hike the two gulches in a loop, up the Peek-A-Boo and down the Spooky. Spooky has a 12 foot drop at its base and is best hiked in that direction. We headed up Peek-A-Boo.









We found the exit at the very end.

And we endeavored to cross over to Spooky.

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But then sometimes it doesn't. We found a line of cairns at the Peek-A-Boo exit and followed them faithfully. Judging by the multitude of footprints so did a lot of other people. But these cairns led us back to the gulch entrance.



The good news was it was a beautiful day and we enjoyed the hike.



Yes, really.

We then walked to Spooky. There was a line of people who had not done their homework waiting to have a try at getting up that 12-foot wall you should be getting down.

When we'd had enough entertainment, we climbed up to our car and vamoosed, dodging open range cattle on HITRR.



We had lunch along the way at a place called Devil's Garden. More hoodoos. Ho hum.



Back to Entrada Escalante.

D&S