



Please join us for an extraordinary trip through

Cataract Canyon

May 16-21

Departing from Moab, Utah

2nd Annual Fundraiser for the Tamarisk Coalition Education Program

Join the Tamarisk Coalition and O.A.R.S. on the river trip of a lifetime through Utah's stunning Cataract Canyon in the spring of 2010! This eco-adventure has it all -

- An unparalleled opportunity to talk to the experts about river ecosystem health and to participate in a critical scientific monitoring effort of the tamarisk biological control agent, the tamarisk leaf beetle
- Exhilarating whitewater rafting
- Plush camping including deliciously prepared meals
- Hiking trails leading to geologic and historic wonders, including ancient ruins, petroglyphs and pictographs
- Opportunities to watch for the wild animals such as bighorn sheep, bobcat, great blue heron, ring-tailed cat, fox, and beaver



These experiences will inspire visions of a wilder North America, while imparting a desire to preserve the integrity of the wild places we have left! Read on to discover more about this amazing expedition.

The Tamarisk Coalition is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide education and technical assistance for the restoration of riparian lands. Invasive plants, such as tamarisk, are can be a threat to riparian habitat. On this trip, you will be participating in the Tamarisk Coalition effort to monitor the tamarisk leaf beetle, a biological control agent released to aid in the control of tamarisk.

The tamarisk leaf beetle was released by the Colorado Department of Agriculture near Moab, Utah in 2004, and quickly spread up and down the Colorado River system. *Diorhabda spp.* beetle controls the spread of the tamarisk by repeatedly defoliating the plants over several years, essentially starving the plant. Their population now stretches from the Grand Valley in Colorado to Lake Powell.

Preliminary studies of the beetle's effectiveness in controlling tamarisk populations show promising results. However, monitoring these beetle populations is critical to determine their direct and indirect impacts on the riverside ecosystems.

This trip is an extraordinarily unique opportunity for you to join experts to collect data and experience a scientific process that will inform scientists, policy makers, land managers, and decision makers alike. Additionally, money raised by this expedition will fund scholarships to educate students about this important problem.

O.A.R.S., an outstanding worldwide river company will guide us downstream through Cataract Canyon, a stunning chasm in the heart of Utah's Canyonlands National Park boasting spectacular scenery and heart pumping whitewater.



Cost: \$1,564.

For Questions please contact
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More information can be found at:
www.tamariskcoalition.org
www.oars.com