

# Event: Fieldtrip: Geology of the North Animas Valley between Durango and Silverton

- Leaders:** Drs. David Gonzales and Gary Gianniny of Fort Lewis College, Geosciences Department and Dr. Kim Gerhardt, Consulting Geologist.
- Date:** Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011
- Time:** 9am – 4pm
- Transport:** We have reserved a 44-passenger school bus and driver from Durango 9R because it is not safe to park a caravan of cars along highway 550. No private cars please.
- Cost:** **\$20 per person.** This fee covers the bus and driver and does not include lunch.
- Location:** Please meet the bus on the Fort Lewis College Campus, in the stadium parking lot.
- Lunch:** We will have lunch in Silverton. Participants can either bring their own or buy it there
- RSVP:** Please RSVP by September 22<sup>nd</sup> to Dave Johnson at [David.Johnson@conocophillips.com](mailto:David.Johnson@conocophillips.com) or call 505-324-6169.

**Description:** The 50-mile drive from Durango to Silverton winds over high passes with panoramic views of precipitous mountain ranges and canyons along the western edge of the San Juan Mountains. Along this route there is a blend of spectacular scenery, varied biological communities, historic mining areas, and a vast geologic record that spans 1800 million years. This one-day field trip will explore the general geology and evolution of mountain ranges in the region. This trip will begin in Durango and travel to historic Silverton along the geographic boundary between the Southern Rocky Mountains and the Colorado Plateau. Stops along the way will highlight the geology and key moments in the history of this region.

**What to Bring:** We will drive to various locations where discussions will then be held. Walking will be limited to short hikes on maintained roads and trails. Weather conditions in the San Juan Mountains in September can be quite variable and unpredictable. Be prepared for any type of weather. Bring a hat, jacket, gloves, water, sunscreen, hiking boots or good walking shoes, sunglasses, a camera and lunch.

**Meet here at 8:45am in the parking lot north of the football field.**

