

Red Canyon/Red Cloud Run

Saturday April 3rd 2021

Run Leader: Bill Schopper

Tail gunner: Chris Slaughter/Maurice Cote

Roster:

Bill and Donna Schopper

Ray and Karen Kleinhuizen

Danny and Linda Ward

Maurice and Jeremy Cote

Chris Campbell/Niccole Castellanos

Katy Nachbaur

Mark Chadwick

Chris Slaughter

Run Report:

We had 8 Jeeps, all club members, 1 passenger guest. Meeting spot was at 8am at Travel America in Indio. Headed to the Red Canyon trailhead to air down our tires. About a mile into our run we did an extra credit hill climb where I found out my transmission and transfer case were not liking each other...I had to run in 4 high, 1st gear, which was a fine and my jeep climbed like a goat!! A few did not partake in the extra credit.

Next we proceeded to Red Canyon along a 11 mile drive on some of the worst whoops I've been on, not just up and down but side to side as well. Road conditions were poor but the desert was beautiful.

As we descended into Red Canyon and temps were rising to 95-99 degrees, we traveled across Red Canyon to an alternate side canyon, it was pretty narrow in spots, we did a steep hill climb out of that canyon, then crossing over the top and decent into another wash were we were hit with our first rock obstacle. Where I found out my air lockers did not work, Because I ran my air line too close to the exhaust and burned it in half, so I did the trail without lockers. Everyone else did great! We continued on to several more rock challenges, We then stopped for lunch in the wash with our shade awnings. (I also temporarily fixed my air line). Niccole made us some amazing cookies too! Heading out the way we came in doing the obstacles backwards with no issues.

Now we are in route to Red Cloud Mine via the Bradshaw trail, we had a Jeep that decided to overheat and needed a couple gallons of water.(thanks to Chris Campbell for the H 2 O) we were able to continue. After getting to Red Cloud mine site, we attempted to go up the steep narrow rocky trail to the mine but one very large rock with loose gravel around it made it difficult to get over. After many attempts we decided back out and call it a day. We headed back towards the I-10 to air up before we heading home.

A fun day in our beautiful desert. Was too hot for any bird watching trip and too dry for any wildflowers! Thanks to all who came!

