

SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society



FIELD TRIP REPORT

Date: **August 14, 2013**

Destination: **Ames Power Plant and Telluride Historical Museum**

Leader: **Bev and Bob Danielson**

Number of Participants: **19**

On August 14, 2013, Bev and Bob Danielson led a fascinating one-day field trip for 19 SJBAS members to the new Mesa Verde Research and Visitor Center (a brief stop); the Ames Power plant, the first A/C electric plant in the country; a picnic lunch looking up to beautiful Bridal Veil falls, and the Telluride Historical Museum.

The generator at the Ames Power Plant wasn't operating because of the unavailability of water from the two plant water sources: Trout Lake had almost no water because of the need for the reconstruction of the new power plant penstock intake from the lake, and Howard Fork because of a leak in the second penstock. Our tour leader, the plant operator, Kyle Seiling, patiently answered many group questions with the help of Marlo Schulz and Bob Danielson, SJBAS members with engineering backgrounds.

During our picnic lunch, Bob circulated pictures and told about the history of the power plant above Bridal Veil Falls. The museum displayed not only the amazing "Telluride Blanket," but also a new exhibit on hydroelectric power in Colorado. Five vehicles made the magnificent trip back via Ophir Pass with a stop for breath and views at the top.

- Prepared by: Bob Danielson