

I was able to ascend a short distance higher on the ridge to look into the canyon again. The shorter dryfall in the lower part of this photo is just below the major dryfall, and would need to be climbed if a hiker was attempting to get to the base of the major dryfall.



Looking down into the canyon gorge, shortly above the dryfall which had stopped our progress. Notice what appears to be an arch of sorts to the lower right in the photo.



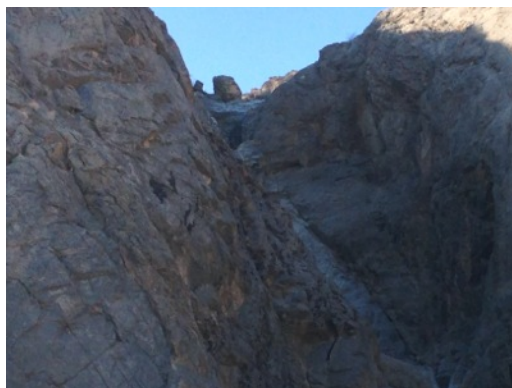
This is the next section of the ridge, which I could have walked over, but it didn't appear to give a better view, and it also didn't appear that the rock is entirely stable.



Panorama looking down-canyon and out at the valley from here. I had not expected to get this far in the canyon, nor had I expected to see such spectacular views or interesting rock formations here.



Zooming in on two rocks which appear to be balanced at the top of this steep section of canyon. It certainly would be interesting to see what is above this part of the canyon.



Looking across at the south fork from here, we spotted where a side-drainage meets the main canyon by cutting through some sort of unidentifiable slot.



From here, after lunch, we started heading over towards the south fork by first descending the ridge we were on towards the main gorge of the canyon.



Looking back at the ridge between us and the main canyon.



Just before reaching the south fork, we turned right and continued on a small ridge above the canyon.



This minor dryfall in the south fork is probably climbable, but it was easier to stay on the ridge west of the canyon and bypass it instead.



It was surprisingly hot in the south fork, although it hadn't been particularly hot in the rest of the canyon. The side-drainage we had spotted from the ridge provided a welcome patch of shade.



Looking back down the southern fork from here. Notice the wall of black rock seen to the left in this photo.



Another view looking down-canyon.



There is a dryfall at the beginning of this side-drainage which was too tall for us to climb. It appears that there is another, more major, dryfall just beyond it.



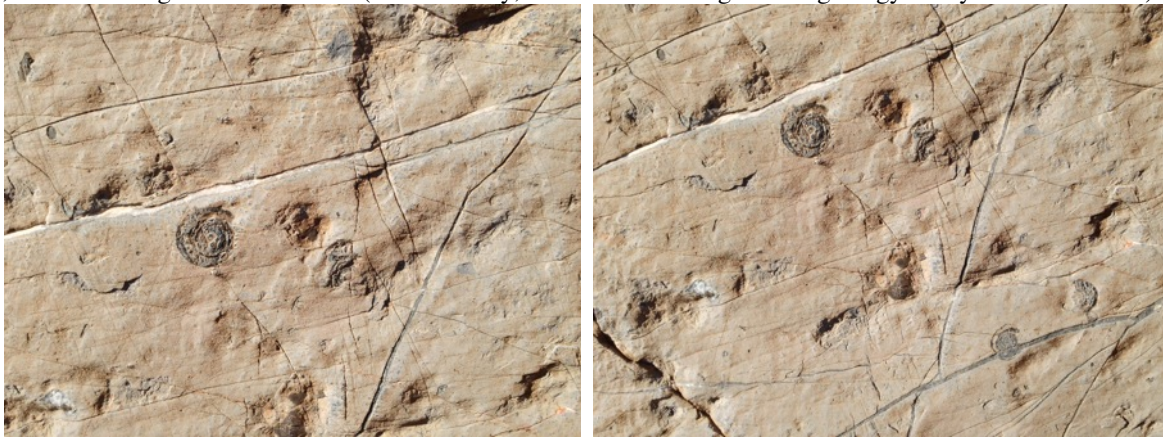
From here, we decided to head back down-canyon. Beyond this point, the southern fork became steep. Unfortunately, the afternoon sun angle prevented me from getting any good photos looking up the rest of the southern fork. This is the view looking back at the nice entrance to the side-drainage.



Panorama from a short distance down-canyon of the black wall of rock to our west.



There is one section of the canyon wall here which has some small snail fossils. Typically, I've seen snail fossils in grey or dark brown colored rock; these are in lighter-colored rock (unfortunately, I don't know enough about geology to say more about this).



This is the entrance to the first gorge-like section of the canyon; this photo is taken from the canyon fork.



Many of the canyons in this Ten Canyons region have surprisingly nice narrows.



Looking back up at the gorge section of the north fork of this canyon from here; the south fork takes off to the left in this photo.



This is the top of the gorge section in the main canyon. Notice the steep, sheer wall to the left in this photo.



Here are some more of the marble-like rocks (they're about two inches in diameter here).



This is an interesting object in the rock; I'm not sure what it is.



Looking down-canyon from the end of the gorge section.



Different arches were visible in the canyon in the afternoon sunlight.



Here is an interesting section of canyon wall, which likely has some arches in it.



This is the narrow section of canyon I had photographed on our hike up-canyon.





HDR photograph of the afternoon shade in this canyon.



Upon reaching where the Canyons 1 and 2 washes join, we headed up Canyon 1.



Canyon 1 starts out similar to Canyon 2, except it is heading in a perpendicular direction.



The formations on the walls of this canyon are also quite interesting.



Up ahead, the canyon slices through a large rock slab.



Notice how this rock slab (left side) is similar to ones seen in Canyon 2.



The lower part of Canyon 1 isn't as steep as Canyon 2, so it has more plants in the wash.



Zooming in on the far canyon wall, which appears to have some small arches. Also notice the conglomerate rock in the lower right part of this photo.



Rounding an impressive bend in this canyon.



Up ahead, we see that we are approaching the first section of dryfalls.



On the right side of the canyon wall, just before the first dryfall, is this nice small arch.



I climbed up to this small arch to get a closer view of it. It's about three feet wide, and about half a foot deep.



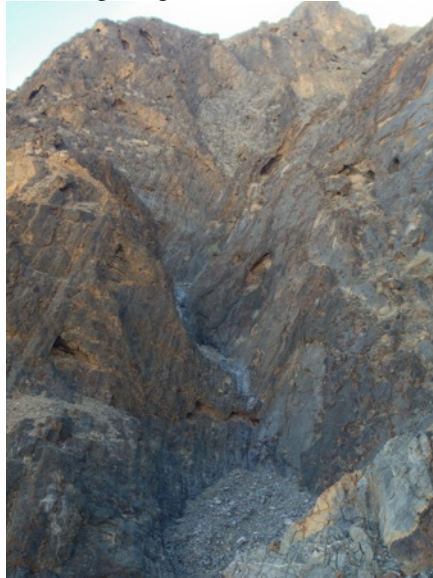
Just above the arch is a good viewpoint looking up-canyon..



Panorama looking down into the canyon here. The white lines and specks on the canyon wall seen to the right in this photo are puzzling; I'm not sure what might have caused them. The geology of the canyons in the Cottonwood Mountains certainly is quite interesting!



This is a closer view of the second dryfall. Since it was getting late and we were tired, we decided not to continue up the canyon.



There are more of the "Moki-marble" formations in this canyon.



Looking down-canyon, and out at the valley, from this viewpoint on the canyon wall.



From here, we headed back down-canyon. This is the other side of the impressive rock slab which the canyon cuts through.



HDR photo looking out at the valley from near where the two canyons join.



We decided to briefly check out the small hill just south of where the Canyons 1 and 2 wash drains out into the valley. On this hill, we found a rock with tiny fossils in it. I'm thinking they are parts of plant stems, but I'm not sure.



Looking across at the mouth of Canyon 1 (center of photo), with the mouth of Canyon 2 not quite visible to the far left in this photo.



There are a few rocks on this knoll with white specks in them (shell fossils, perhaps?).



Panorama of the valley from this knoll, with the Cottonwood Canyon mouth not quite visible behind the hills to the far left in this photo, and the Grapevine Mountains to the left of center. The Funeral Mountains can be seen in the far background in the center of this photo, and Tucki Mountain is to the right.

