

Looking back down from the ridge towards the main Funeral Slot Canyon. There is still a lot to see in this incredible area. Also notice the small side canyons draining into the second northern side canyon of Funeral Slot Canyon.



From this high point on the ridge, we could see where the main Funeral Slot Canyon cuts through some dark black rock. I recall there is a major impasse comprised of this black rock which is located some distance up the main canyon, and is where we stopped on our first hike to Funeral Slot Canyon.



Panorama looking over towards the main Funeral Slot Canyon, and the ridge across the canyon which we had hiked on during our trip to the upper "More Slots" Canyon the previous year.



Panorama looking the other direction, at the second main side canyon of Funeral Slot Canyon.



The northern part of this side canyon has the deepest forks.



Looking down towards where the second side canyon joins the main canyon; notice how convoluted the hillsides are in this area.



One more panorama from here, with the main Funeral Slot Canyon cutting to the left, and the second side canyon to the right. The first side canyon, which contains the actual Funeral Slot, is just behind the colorful ridge to the far right in this photo. Also notice the colorful hills to the left of center in this photo.



From here, we began to descend the ridge towards the main Funeral Slot Canyon. This is one of the smaller forks draining into the second side canyon.





Looking across at the colorful ridge between the second northern side canyon and the first northern side canyon (i.e., Funeral Slot).



This was our first view into Funeral Slot Canyon from this ridge.



Looking down into the canyon from here. Fortunately, it was not too difficult to descend a small drainage into the main canyon from here.



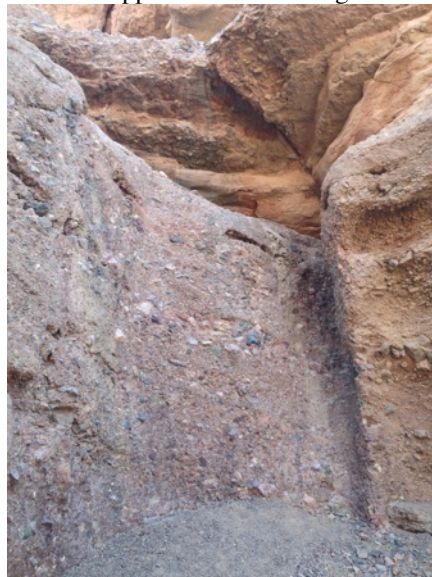
Notice how incredibly colorful the hillsides up ahead are! We should have continued on to photograph these hillsides, as I don't recall them appearing as colorful when we first hiked to this area, and I doubt the lighting will make them appear this incredible on a return trip. However, we were getting tired as this was our first day of hiking for the trip, and there was still one more new-to-us area which we were hoping to check out.



Shortly down-canyon from where we dropped in to the main canyon is this dryfall.



This chute on the south side of the impasse seems to be the best way to ascend or descend the impasse. Note that there is a much more difficult impasse further up-canyon, beyond where we dropped in from the ridge.



There is an interesting narrow-ish section of canyon just below this impasse, which reminds me of the narrows in the canyon just north of Echo Canyon.



We then navigated our way through a colorful boulder-filled section of canyon.



This small drainage is located on the south side of the main canyon, and is surprisingly narrow, but also quite steep.





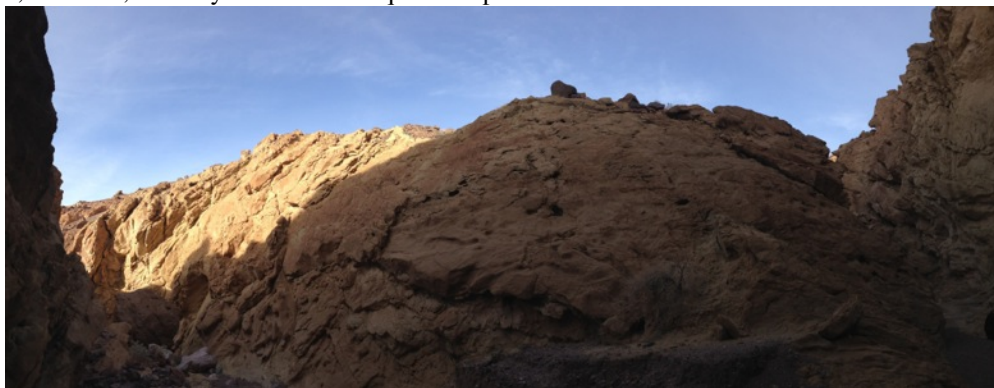
This is where the main Funeral Slot Canyon enters a different kind of rock.



The canyon seems to cut through many different rock formations: From the lower part of the canyon to the upper part of the canyon, there is the gold-colored crumbly conglomerate (also found in lower and middle "More Slots" Canyon just south of here), the yellowish rock that isn't as crumbly, the reddish conglomerate (also found in upper "More Slots" Canyon and in the canyon just north of Echo), the colorful mud-mound-y formations (also found in upper "More Slots Canyon"), and finally the sharp black rock far up-canyon (which I think I've also seen in places in Echo Canyon).



Panorama of an interesting bend in the main canyon. I think this might be a possible way to ascend to the ridge between the first and second northern forks; however, the canyon wall is still quite steep here.



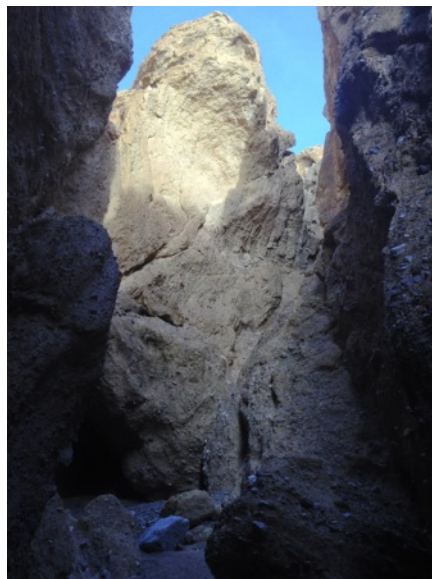
From here, we headed down-canyon to the entrance of the first northern side canyon, the actual Funeral Slot. Near the beginning of the canyon is this large boulder which has fallen down into the wash.



These two photos show our progress up this incredible slot. On our previous trip here, I was not taking HDR photos, so the pictures did not turn out anywhere near as well as these did.



Here, a small side-drainage comes in from the east.



Unfortunately, there is a crumbly dryfall which prevents hikers from accessing this small side-slot from below.



Looking up at the impressive canyon walls here.



Here we have reached the side-slot which we had planned to explore.





Looking back down-canyon, this rock marks where the short side-slot takes off to the east (to the left in this photo) from the main Funeral Slot.



The entrance to the side-slot is narrow, but otherwise unremarkable.

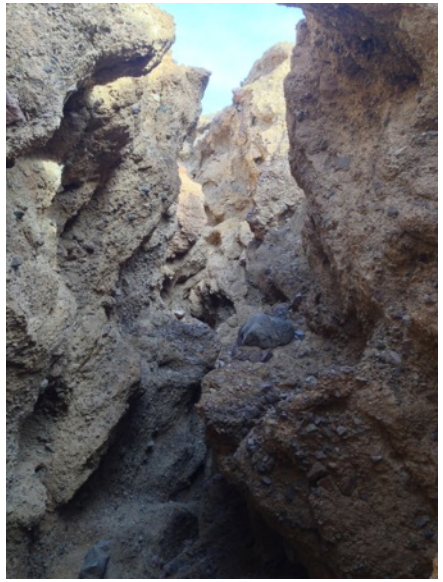


Around the corner in this side-slot, we encounter less smooth canyon walls than in the main canyon, likely because much less water flows down this side-slot.





The side-slot soon narrows considerably, and we frequently must walk sideways to fit through the canyon. The next six photos show our progress up this surprisingly nice side-slot.



So far, the side-slot had not been particularly steep, although it is steeper here than the main Funeral Slot Canyon. Now we encounter a small dryfall, and a boulder wedged in the narrows.





This dryfall is only about 4 feet tall, but the rock is crumbly.



The side-slot widens briefly. This is the view to the left (north).



This is the view to the right (south). It does not appear possible to gain the ridge here, as the terrain appears to get very steep near the ridge, but one might be able to at least get some good views from up there.



Up ahead, the canyon narrows again, and the walls are closer together than they were before.



Notice how narrow the slot is here!

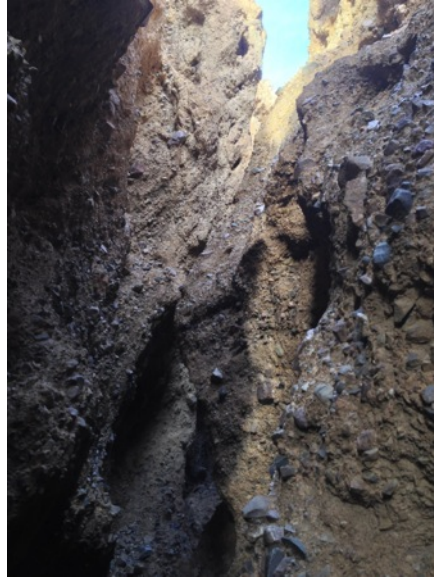


Continuing onward, we were not sure how much longer we would be able to continue before the canyon either got too tight to continue or we reach an impasse. The canyon wash also started to become more steep.

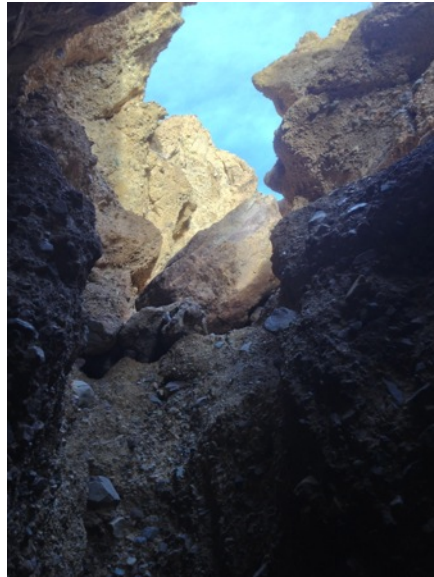




It seems that these very tight narrows appear in side-drainages to more major canyons, where there is less water going down the canyon.



Eventually, we encountered an impasse. This one is about 8 feet tall, and the rock is very loose and crumbly. I stopped at this impasse, but one member of our group continued on.



From the photos, it appears there are three more impasses, each about 8 feet tall and in crumbly rock.



Then, the canyon reaches the ridge.



Hopefully someday I will be able to check out the views from this ridge.

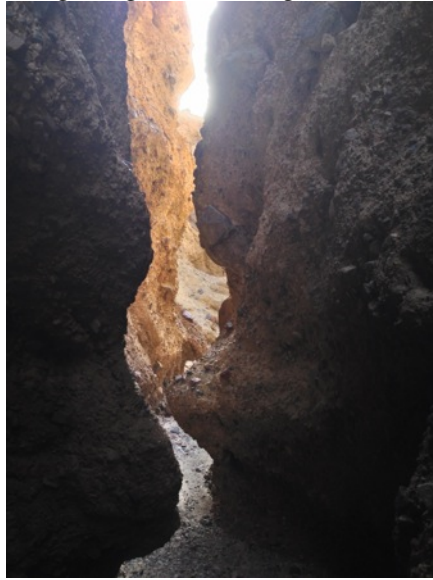


Back down in the slot below the impasses, we began our return trip to the main Funeral Slot.





Notice how the sun is shining into the slot as it is beginning to set, making for some interesting photography.



This is near where I turned around; notice how the canyon walls aren't as tall here as they are further down this side-slot.



This is one of the particularly steep stretches of canyon.



Not only is this side-slot interesting because of how narrow it is, it also has strange formations coming out of the walls.



Here we are getting to where the canyon walls are tall.



This is from the lower part of the slot, as we are approaching where it joins with the main Funeral Slot. Note that the side-slot is rather steep near where it joins the main canyon.





Vertical panorama of the last impressive bend in this side-slot before reaching the main Funeral Slot.



Rounding the last corner of this very nice side-slot before returning to the main canyon.



One last evening panorama of the view on our way back to the parking area for Funeral Slot Canyon.

