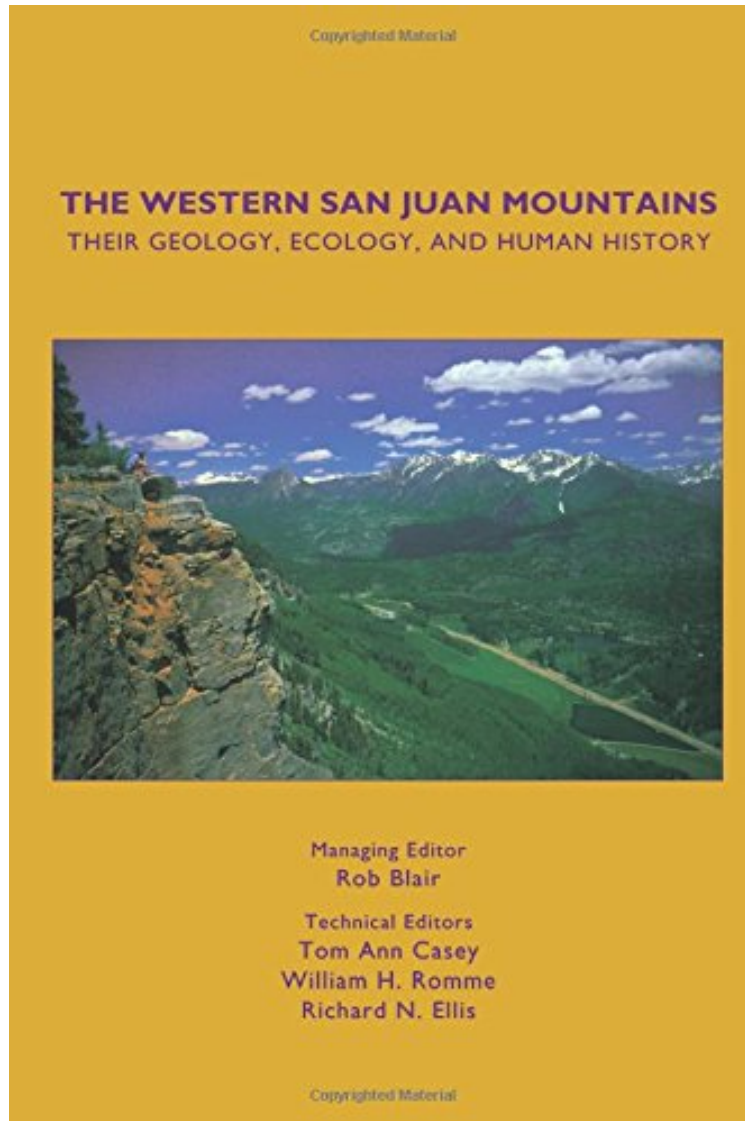


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# The Western San Juan Mountains: Their Geology, Ecology, and Human History

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**From Brand: University Press of Colorado : The Western San Juan Mountains: Their Geology, Ecology, and Human History** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Western San Juan Mountains: Their Geology, Ecology, and Human History:

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. I got yer San Juan Skyway right here, pal!By MaynardGThis book will be tough going if you have no knowledge of geology, but having just finished Foutz' "Geology of Colorado

Illustrated" (another excellent read), this book took me deeper into exactly what I was looking for geology-wise, i.e. more detail. Plus, it ties itself to the San Juan Skyway, a loop of paved highways that winds through the scenery of the San Juan Mountains in southwest Colorado, a place I know well. After treating the geology, ecology, and human history with analyses from experts in each field, it follows up with what I think was a masterstroke: a mile-marker guide through the entire San Juan Skyway, highlighting points of interest previously discussed in the book. Wonderful! The fact that the book is a compilation, with contributions from various experts that know the region well, was also a great idea. You get as a result a wide scope of knowledge that may not have been matched by a single individual. I borrowed it from a friend, but I will buy it now that it has become available on .0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Answers many questions regarding the San Juan's. By Becky Would highly recommend for those who love the San Juan's. Answers a good many questions.

The San Juan Skyway winds its way up, over, and through canyons, mesas, plateaus, mountains, plains, and valleys. The sheer variety of landforms makes the Skyway a veritable classroom for the amateur naturalist and historian. The most complete work published on the natural history of southwest Colorado's majestic mountain system, *The Western San Juan Mountains: Their Geology, Ecology, and Human History* is designed to be used while exploring the scenic 235-mile paved San Juan Skyway, which passes through Durango, Silverton, Ouray, Telluride, Dolores, and Cortez. *The Western San Juan Mountains* covers the physical environment, the biological communities, the human history, and points of interest represented on milepost signs along the highway. Some of the many topics covered include: how the San Juan Mountains were formed; why the landscape is so rugged and picturesque; why the vegetation changes from the lowlands to the alpine heights; energy and mineral resources of the area; why these mountains intrigued early explorers; factors that influence the unpredictable weather; and the first-known inhabitants. The contributions to this guide include Fort Lewis College geologists, biologists, archaeologists, historians, and other specialists. Together they have amassed more than one hundred years of study based not only on previous work but on their own research. This generously illustrated guidebook is aimed at all those who wish to understand this intricate mountain system in much greater detail than provided by most picture books.

About the Author Rob Blair is a professor emeritus of geology at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado.