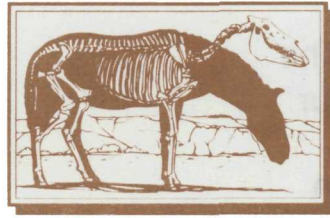


HAGERMAN FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT

The FOSSIL



RECORD

MAY, 1993

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 2

THE "BARE BONES" OF THIS ISSUE

- Don't miss Fossil Day!
- Report on Public Meetings
- Public Tours Scheduled
- Wagons To Arrive Soon

HAGERMAN FOSSIL DAY CELEBRATION SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1993

Craft and food booths in park
10:00 - 4:00

National Park Service (NPS) -
Open House 10:00 - 4:00

If you have any fossils, the
NPS will identify them for you.

PARADE - with Fossil Queen
11:00

Speakers - In The Park
12:30 - 1:30

KEYNOTE: MIKE CRAPO,
U.S. Representative
Neil King, National Park
Service

Jim Martin, Mayor,
Hagerman with
Introduction of
Fossil Queen
Gloria Jazwick,
Hagerman
Fossil Council, Inc.

Also in the Park - Fish
Scramble for Children
Special Stamp Cancellation
with Hagerman Horse;
arranged by Hagerman
Valley Historical Society and
U.S. Post Office
Tractor Pull - South of Frogs
Lillypad \$3.00 2:00 p.m.
Oregon Trail History - At NPS
wagon in Hagerman park
1:00, 2:00, 3:00 AND 4:00

FOSSIL BED TOURS - FREE (FIRST COME/ FIRST SERVE BASIS)

BY BOAT - (SPACE LIMITED) BELL
RAPIDS BOAT DOCK 1:30, 2:30, 3:30,
and 4:30

BY BUS - OREGON TRAIL AND
HAGERMAN HORSE SITE
DEPARTING NPS OFFICE 1:30 AND 3:45

DON'T MISS THESE EVENTS!



PUBLIC MEETINGS - The National Park Service held four public meetings in April to review the Site Selection Plan and Environmental Analysis. The planning team is reviewing and evaluating the public comments. The final plan will consider all input, and is scheduled for release by August, 1993.

IMPROVEMENTS ARE HERE! - PUBLIC TOURS SCHEDULED THROUGH JULY
New programs will be established the second part of this summer. Let us know your ideas and interests.

MAY

Sat 29 Fossil Day - See
 Page One

Sun 30 "Meeting of the
 Trains", King Hill.
 Symbolic meeting
 of a wagon train
 with a steam
 locomotive and
 train. Phone 837-
 4793 for more
 information. (No
 rides available)

JUNE

Sat 5 Twin Falls Wagon
 Days - contact
 Chamber of
 Commerce,
 (208)733-3974

Sat 12 On The Paleontol-
 ogist's Trail -
 Tour with Dr.
 Greg McDonald.
 Meet at 8:45
 a.m. at the
 Hagerman NPS
 office. (See
 note at end of
 schedule about
 conditions*)

Sat 26 Tour the Famous
 Smithsonian
 Horse Quarry
 Meet at 8:45
 a.m. at the
 Hagerman
 NPS office.
 (See note at
 end of
 schedule
 about trip
 conditions*)

JULY

- Sat 10 See the 500 foot high bluffs, steep canyons, and landslides by boat; compliments of the 1000 Springs Tours. Enjoy the tranquility on the water while learning about ancient Lake Idaho, and the fossils formed in its sediments.
Reservations Required - space limited

Phone 837-4793

10:00 A.M. Meet at Bell Rapids Boat Dock.

- Tue 13 Twin Falls - Oregon Sesquicentennial Wagon Train
Parade - 1:00 Contact Chamber of Commerce
(208) 733-3974

- Fri 16 Oregon Trail Wagon departs Kanaka Rapids Ranch for Highway 30 and the Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument for camp. Interpretive Program starts at 6:00 p.m. See separate item in this newsletter for more on schedule. Wagon camp will be along Bell Rapids Project Road, across from agricultural storage pad (beet dump).

- Sat 31 Tour the Monument by Boat - another chance if you miss July 10. Reservations Required - space limited.
Phone 837-4793
10:00 a.m. Meet at Bell Rapids Boat Dock

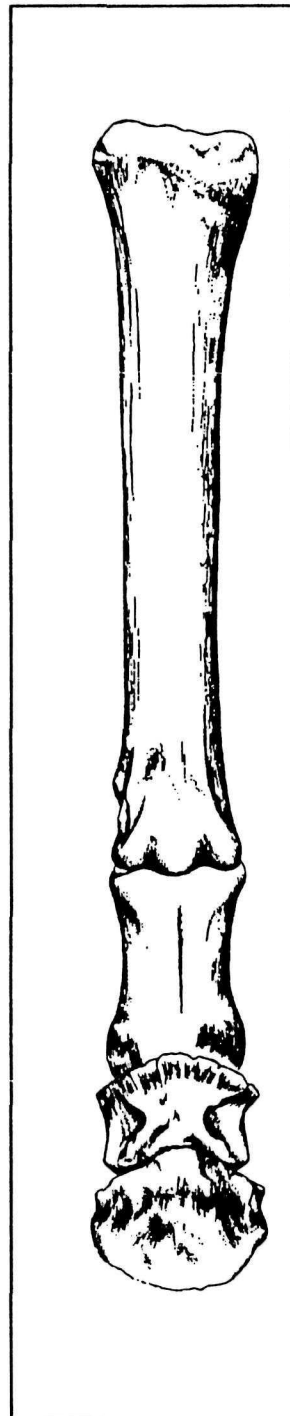
* Note on Land Tours of Monument-

Bring transportation for dirt roads, drinking water, and be prepared for weather conditions. A hike involved with one steep hill; not for the physically challenged.

WAGONS TO ARRIVE

SOON - On Friday, July 16, the Official Oregon Trail Sesquicentennial Wagon Train will be travelling from Kanaka Rapids along Highway 30 and camped in the Monument that night (see schedule of events for location). Visitors are welcome to the camp. The Camp Fire Program is scheduled as follows:

- 6:30 p.m. Pre-show music
- 7:00 Introductions
 and community
 hosts
- 7:30 Trail Talk - Jim
 Renner mixes
 music and
 pioneer
 journals
- 8:00 A Day on the Trail -
 A National Park
 Service
 presentation
- 9:00 Camp fire sing
 along



MONUMENTAL SCIENCE

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT -

Major land movement has recently occurred at a landslide site which destroyed the Bell Rapids pump station in 1987. The entire end of the ridge sheared away in this subsequent movement and pushed sediment 200 feet into the Snake River, forming a new peninsula. The cause is gravity acting on the weight of the sediment layers without sufficient support below. A new cliff has been formed approximately 100 feet from the edge of the previous one. The new cliff is about 150 feet high, and at its base is a flat area the size of a football field. This "bench" is typical of rotational landslides. Materials at the edge of the bench are continuing to cascade downslope.

In addition to the landslide itself, new tension cracks extend south for 1/10th of a mile. One area adjacent to the river has dropped approximately 10 feet. Another shear zone

extends more than one-quarter mile across the slope away from the river, indicating more major movement is inevitable. The area remains too unstable for the natural resource park ranger and paleontologist to assess the damage closely.

This area was closed in 1987 with notice published in the Federal Register, and remains closed to public access.

CRITTER CORNER-

By Dr. Greg McDonald,
Monument Paleontologist

Pearce's Peccary Platygonus pearcei

In 1938, one of the scientists who excavated at the Hagerman Horse Quarry, Dr. C.L. Gazin, described a new species of peccary, Platygonus pearcei, from the Hagerman fossil beds. The name Platygonus means flat head and refers to the straight shape of the forehead. The species name pearcei is for the discoverer, George B. Pearce, a member of the 1934 field crew from the Smithsonian Institution. Since its original discovery at Hagerman,

and at Badlands National Monument in South Dakota. Although common in South America today, peccaries did not reach that continent until about 9 million years ago. Prior to that, there was no isthmus of Panama, and South America was an island continent. As the Panamanian isthmus formed, many North American animals entered South America. Along with peccaries, llamas and tapirs also migrated south. Today people think these animals are South American, yet all come from North American ancestors. The exchange was a two-way street however, and some of the ancient South American species, like the ground sloth, migrated north and are found at Hagerman.

Modern peccaries are social animals and often form herds. Over 100 individuals have been recorded for a single herd of white-lipped peccary but smaller size groups are usually the case in the collared peccary and Chacoan peccary. Such social behavior seems to have been the situation in extinct peccaries as well. Pearce's Platygonus discovery at Hagerman included 3 individuals, an adult and two juveniles. The skeletons were

found articulated (all of the bones in proper position to each other) suggesting that this small family group died at the same time and were quickly buried.

This entire family group was preserved as one piece and is on display at the Smithsonian in front of the Hagerman mural. That Pearce's peccary must have been a common member of the Hagerman fauna 3.5 million years ago is also indicated by the numerous isolated bones and teeth that have been found throughout the Monument.