

HAGERMAN FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT

The FOSSIL



RECORD

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THE BARE BONES OF THIS ISSUE:

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“When we see land
as a community to
which we belong, we
may begin to use it
with love and respect.”

Aldo Leopold

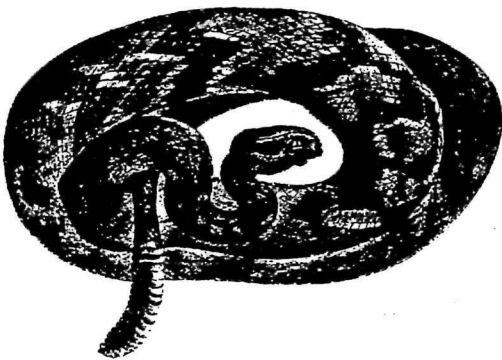
FOSSIL DAYS - Many thanks to the volunteers and staff of the National Park Service and especially to our visitors for attending the fossil Days Celebration! Although the weather was not especially kind, we received over 800 visitors in the Visitor Center and over 200 visitors took our free bus tours out to the internationally famous Smithsonian Institution “Horse Quarry” to watch a fossil excavation-in-progress.

If you missed our tours to the excavation site during Fossil Days, be sure to schedule some time on a Saturday or Sunday morning to watch the “dig.” See our schedule of tours for the remainder of the season on the last page.



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

COTTONWOOD PROJECT - The project to restore the riparian habitat along the Snake River continued this summer. The black cottonwood plantings that died from winter frost damage were replaced this spring. Clearing of the Russian Olive trees allowed vegetation to grow thick and tall, making ideal habitat for the base of the food chain, small mammals like mice and voles. However, this was anticipated, and trees were planted with plastic netting around the base to prevent chewing damage. Because of the increase of rodents, rattlesnakes are now active in these grove areas. Chief Ranger Bob Willhite, has had six close encounters with rattlesnakes so far this season, with the entire staff seeing a total of ten.



The long-term goal is to re-establish a forest that will support a diverse biological community. All plants and

non-game species are protected in the Monument, so they're still out there. The pathway made by the machinery used to remove mature Russian olive trees will be rehabilitated when funds are available for trail improvements. This is part of the River Trail through the north end of the Monument which was approved in the General Management Plan last year.

SEASONAL STAFF - We are happy to welcome aboard our newest seasonal staff members. Many of these people leave the security of homes and family behind so that they may contribute their skills and talent to science, as well as enjoy the outdoors.

Horse Quarry Excavation Crew - Protects the natural, geological, historical, cultural, and paleontological resources of the Monument through excavation, surveys, management plans, computer documentation, and fossil preparation.

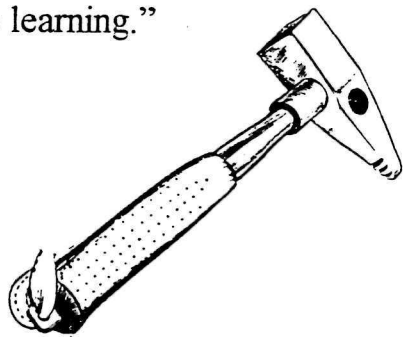
Elizabeth Blum is a Canadian student soon to start her third year of studies at the University of Alberta in Education. Liz, who will be returning to Canada in July says, "I've loved my time here at Hagerman and will miss you all."

John Buonincontro just received his Bachelor's degree in Art History and Anthropology from the University of Vermont and has come to Hagerman as a Student Conservation Association representative. Following his employment here at Hagerman, he plans to continue to travel throughout the west.

Janet Bertog came to Hagerman from the South Dakota School of Mines where she is finishing her Masters' degree in paleontology. After her season at the Horse Quarry, she will be starting her Ph.D. in geology at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio.

Bill Fling received his Masters' degree in interdisciplinary studies from the University of Texas at El Paso. Prior to working here at Hagerman, he did summer internships at Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona, and at Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historical Park in Nebraska.

Chris Kinyon, an undergraduate at the University of Idaho, is studying computer engineering. "I have never worked for the National Park Service before, but I am really enjoying this new experience. Working for the NPS has reinforced the idea that you never stop learning."



Jim Miller, a teacher at Minico High School in Rupert, Idaho, has returned for his fifth season! "The tranquility of the Fossil Beds is a much needed respite after the school year," muses Jim.



Dean Richmond, quarry crew boss, received his Bachelor's and Masters' degrees in geology from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. "I have typically worked in dinosaur quarries trying to understand the stratigraphy, sedimentology, and taphonomy. It is a neat opportunity for me to work in much younger sediments here at Hagerman."

Loren Schneider, a Student Conservation Association representative, received a Bachelor's degree in geology from Western Washington University and a Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Washington. After he finishes his work here at Hagerman he will be attending Utah State University to begin graduate studies in paleoecology.

Interpretative Staff - Provides the visitor with information concerning the natural, geological, paleontological, historical, and cultural resources featured at the Monument and surrounding area through talks, guided hikes, and audiovisual programs.

Lia Vella comes to Hagerman from New York by way of Illinois. Working seasonally in the National Parks, including Women's Rights National Historical Park and Badlands National Park, has facilitated her slow process of escaping the East coast. "The National Park Service has been the closest I have ever come to a 'real job' or a normal life." During the rest of the year, Lia works on her doctoral dissertation in American literature.

Ambrose Richardson, a student of history at Boise State University, is spending his first season with the National Park Service at Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument doing an historical research regarding the Hagerman Valley, focusing primarily on the Oregon Trail. Noting that most Idahoans know too little about Idaho's vast history, Ambrose, who is fascinated by the amount of history the state possesses, hopes to enlighten others with the information he uncovers.

Judi Hart has returned for her third season, although this time as the Education Technician for the Monument. "I hope to pique an interest in the educational community to take a look at the resources we have here in our own backyard." Part of her duties involve working with school groups either at their location or the Fossil Beds. (See related story on School Programs.)

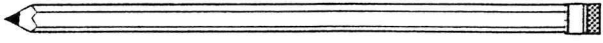
Visitor Center - Here is the place to begin your visit. View our orientation slide program and collect information about and directions to the Monument as well as other attractions in the Hagerman Valley.

Evelyn Summers (whose name you might recognize from her Hagerman Valley Fish-Wrap publication and her 'Blueheart' license plate), works part-time in the Visitor Center's book store. The selection includes postcards, posters, and books about the Oregon Trail, Idaho, nature guides, and titles for children. She also is developing grants for funding projects. "Getting to know the 'crew' here has been a pleasure and this summer there are even more than the usual number of interesting folks," remarks Evelyn.

Volunteers - Contribute their time and talents to the staff by assisting in the field with collection and preparation of fossils; preparing and cataloging new fossil finds in the lab; greeting visitors and answering questions at the Visitor Center; assisting with interpretive programs; and providing administrative skills.

Jean Dickey comes here with her husband, Cliff, from San Diego. Jean still hasn't figured out what her 'normal' assignment is, so she dreams up ideas for other people to implement. In normal life, she's retired, with interests in safety and health. She likes Hagerman because it's not regimented and has beautiful scenery, sunsets, and wonderful people.

Cliff Dickey loves to do photography and shopping. He's also fairly content to do carpentry, and carry out Jean's less hare-brained schemes. In normal life, in the winter, he also takes photos on request at Cabrillo National Monument in San Diego.



SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Teachers,
Parents,
Kids...are you bored
(but don't want to admit it)?

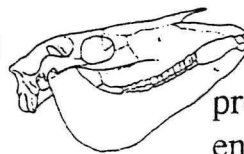
Is it **that** time to think about the next school year?

You have probably answered "no" to each of these questions, but who are we kidding? It is never too early to plan for next semester.

At Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument, we offer **free** programs to school groups either at your location or here at the Fossil Beds.



We also cater to your needs and interests. We will be offering programs through the end of October, so give us a call at **837-4793** to schedule a visit for your school group, scout group, or interested party.



SCHEDULE OF TOURS

All tours will begin at the Visitor Center, located along Highway 30, at 9:30, unless otherwise noted. Participants must have sturdy hiking boots, sunscreen, and water. Be prepared for variable weather. You will need your own vehicle which should be able to travel along gravel roads. There are no facilities on the Monument. Arrangements should be made in advance for large groups. Please call (208) 837-4793.

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| Saturday, July 12 | Horse Quarry Excavation Tour - Here is your chance to see an actual dig! Field crews will be excavating the famous Smithsonian Institution "Horse Quarry" where the Hagerman Horse was first uncovered. |
| Saturday, July 13 | Horse Quarry Excavation Tour |
| Saturday, July 19 | Where Did All The Big Animals Go? - 2:00 pm at the Visitor Center. Slide presentation and discussion on what happened to the "mega" fauna in the Hagerman area. |
| Sunday, July 20 | Horse Quarry Excavation Tour |
| Saturday, July 26 | Meet an Idaho Homesteader Living History Program - 2:30 pm at the Visitor Center. Annie Pike Greenwood, homesteader and schoolteacher, will share stories about turn-of-the-century Hagerman Valley. |
| Sunday, July 27 | Horse Quarry Excavation Tour |
| Saturday, August 2 | Dry Mesa Dinosaur Quarry: The Real Jurassic Park - 2:00 pm at the Visitor Center. Slide presentation and discussion on one of the most famous Jurassic dinosaur quarries in North America. |
| Sunday, August 3 | Bonediggers of Hagerman: The History of Paleo-excavation - 3:00 pm at the Visitor Center. Indiana |

Jones?! The adventures of Hagerman Fossil Beds paleontologists may be even more exciting as you'll see in this slide presentation.

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| Saturday, August 9 | Horse Quarry Excavation Tour |
| Sunday, August 10 | Monument by Water Tour - 10:00 am. Bring your canoe or kayak and view the Monument paddling along the Lower Salmon Falls reservoir. Please call 837-4793 for reservations. |
| Saturday, August 16 | Become a Junior Paleontologist - 2:00 pm at the Visitor Center. Hands-on activities for aspiring scientists. |
| Sunday, August 17 | Horse Quarry Excavation Tour |
| Saturday, August 23 | Horse Quarry Excavation Tour |
| Sunday, August 24 | Horse Quarry Excavation Tour |
| Saturday, August 30 | Monument Clean-up Day - Begins 9:45 am at the Visitor Center. Scout troops, ecology clubs, community organizations and individuals are welcome! Sections of the Monument will be targeted for trash removal. |
| Sunday, August 31 | LAST Horse Quarry Excavation Tour OF THE SEASON - Don't miss seeing the quarry this year! |

To provide a unique visitor experience, the National Park Service is cooperating with commercial boat operators to provide guided tours of the Monument along the Snake River. To make a reservation, phone -

Thousand Springs Tours at 837-4822;
Idaho Guide Service at 734-4998;
High Adventure River Tours at 733-0123;
Bret Silver at 837-6253.