



BLM Fact Sheet

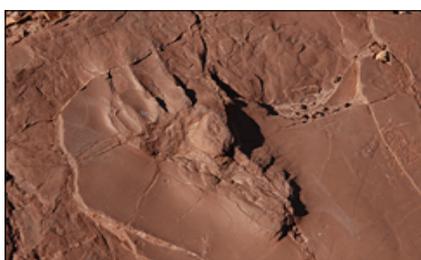
U.S. Department of the Interior • Bureau of Land Management

National Landscape Conservation System

www.blm.gov/nlcs

Paleontological Resources in the Bureau of Land Management's National Landscape Conservation System

A vast wealth of world-class paleontological resources exists on America's public lands. Fossils are national treasures and irreplaceable natural resources for science because they are the only direct evidence we have of past life on Earth. Many of these resources are within the Bureau of Land Management's National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS), which is managed for preservation, public enjoyment, and scientific study.



Dimetrodon's rear footprint, found at Prehistoric Trackways.

Secrets of ancient life are on display at Prehistoric Trackways National Monument near Las Cruces, New Mexico. For 300 million years, tracks of reptiles, amphibians, and other animals have been frozen in the sand of this ancient tidal flat. Jumping trails of wingless insects and activities of other arthropods, including horseshoe crabs, are recorded.



Permian jellyfish swirls, Prehistoric Trackways.

At McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area in Colorado, visitors can explore the Trail through Time Paleontological Trail, which exposes 140 million years of history and includes an active fossil quarry. Actual dinosaur bones from more than eight giant species of dinosaurs are on display, and fossil digs are a frequent occurrence which can be enjoyed by the public.



Paleontological dig at Grand Staircase-Escalante.

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah is renowned the world over for its paleontological resources. Sites here have yielded more information about the end of the age of dinosaurs than almost any other place on the planet. Fossils from this monument have revealed over twenty new species of dinosaurs, painting a vivid picture of what North America was like before dinosaurs vanished. Visitors can see fossils on display at the Big Water Visitor Center or view over 1,000 dinosaur tracks at Twentymile Wash Dinosaur Tracksite.

Teachers: Check out the Grand Staircase-Escalante Student Explorations, featuring interactive web-based lessons on paleontology, geology, archaeology, and more.

→ → → → → <http://www.gsenmschool.org> ← ← ← ← ←



Artist's rendition of Kosmocerotops, a new species of horned dinosaur found at Grand Staircase-Escalante. By Lukas Panzarin, Utah Museum of Natural History.

The Bureau of Land Management's National Landscape Conservation System includes 27 million acres of spectacular, primarily western landscapes identified for their ecological, cultural, historic, recreational, and scientific value. The System consists of National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Scenic and Historic Trails, and the Conservation Lands of the California Desert. To learn more about the NLCS, please visit our website at www.blm.gov/nlcs, or contact your local Bureau of Land Management office.