

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

HAGERMAN FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT



221 North State Street • P.O. Box 570 • Hagerman, Idaho 83332 Phone (208) 837-4793

ACTIVITIES SUCH AS GUIDED "WALKS AND TALKS" ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE BECAUSE WE'RE STILL IN PLANNING STAGES



IF YOU WANT A GOOD, EASILY ACCESSIBLE VIEW OF THE MONUMENT



National Park Service staff are currently planning the activities, services, and facilities you may expect at a National Monument. The present focus is conceptual planning of a Research/Visitor Center and exhibits.

The project office in Hagerman, across from the high school, is open as much as possible between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Starting in April, the office will be open part of the day on Saturday and Sunday. It is frequently closed because the few park rangers are in the Monument, or busy elsewhere working on some aspect of planning. If the office is closed, a sign on the door indicates the time someone expects to return.

Please understand that the Monument is not yet operational. If you are interested in more information, please call the office at (208) 837-4793 and leave your name, address, and phone number. We can put your name on a newsletter mailing list, or if you are interested in a tour of the fossil beds, you can be contacted as we schedule them.

You can drive a few miles south on Highway 30 towards Buhl to "Bell Rapids" for an excellent view of the Monument. About two miles south of Hagerman, turn right (west) at the sign for "Sportsman's Access" and follow the signs to the public boat launch and dock. The Monument is across the river and consists of 4,307 acres. The dock is near the center of the six miles of shoreline. It includes all of the land as far as the eye can see on the opposite side of the river.

The layers of sediment which buried the plants and animals, creating the conditions necessary for fossilization, are easy to see in the exposed cliffs. The sediment (sand, clay and silt) soils are unstable and erode easily. Directly across from the dock is a major landslide that occurred in 1987.

Significant scientific information is lost when the fossils are moved, whether by nature or humans, from where they were deposited. Careful planning and extensive work must be completed to provide public safety and protection of the fossil resources before the area is safe and accessible. In the meantime, you can enjoy the river and waterfowl which use the Monument's shore.

IF YOU WANT TO DRIVE TO THE MONUMENT, THE MAP ON THE BACK OF THE PAMPHLET, "HISTORIC HAGERMAN VALLEY" MAY HELP



WE'RE JUST A BABY COMPARED TO OTHER PARKS, "BORN" IN 1988 AND HAVING RANGERS LESS THAN A YEAR

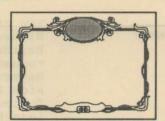
right (south) toward Buhl, drive until you cross the Snake River. Turn right on the road marked with a "Bell Rapids" sign. This road is not on the map on the back side of the pamphlet, but it is close to the dashed line showing the location of the Oregon Trail the Oregon Trail. Just after you pass the turn to the Upper Salmon Falls Power Plant "A", you will see the sign that marks the entrance of the Monument.

Returning to Highway 30 and turning

As you drive up the grade, there are white upright marker stakes designating the historic Oregon Trail where the paved road crosses it. Nice views of the Snake River and the slopes of the National Monument can be seen from this road. STOPPING CAN BE DANGEROUS because heavy agricultural equipment also use this public road. If you must stop, be sure you GET ALL THE WAY OFF THE ROAD. Be careful, VEHICLES CAN GET STUCK IN THE SOFT ROAD SHOULDER. In about two miles, you will reach the top of the grade and farmland, where you will be leaving the Monument. You can turn around at the "T" intersection with the wide gravel road and farm buildings to return the way you came.

Your patience with current limited services is appreciated. Come see us again, and watch the Monument develop like the baby it is.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT FOSSILS, ROCKS, AND PLANTS MUST NOT BE MOVED, OR TAKEN FROM THE MONUMENT



March, 1992