

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Two minute animation of the geologic story of Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument - part of interpretive film
Discipline: Interdisciplinary
Type of Project: Education
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Colorado at Boulder
Effective Dates: 6/12/2005 - 6/30/2006
Funding Amount: \$5,875.00

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract:

This geologic animation is intended to be an integral part of a 15 minute park orientation film, being developed by the park and Montana State University. The Monument does not currently have an audio-visual presentation to introduce and inspire visitors about the significances of the park resources. Visitors and the education community often ask to see "the film." Most visitors to national parks and monuments have come to expect high quality audio visual productions that will impart an overview of the parks' resources and its significance. The film would provide the Division of Interpretation more flexibility allowing for more varied personal services. The animation in the film will allow the Monument to clearly and simply explain the important geologic events that led to the formation of the fossils at Florissant.

The purpose of this animation will be to provide the general public, outreach groups, park volunteers and curriculum based education groups with brief, but effective understanding of the geologic and paleo story at Florissant and an understanding of the significances of these events and fossils. This is to serve as "the" audio-visual production for the Monument and will be shown in the Monument's theater as well as to off-site groups, to on site school groups, etc. The animation/film will be shown at the visitor center of Florissant Fossil Beds throughout the whole year. It will be used for onsite and offsite curriculum based programs and offsite outreach programs. The video will also be used for orientation for new employees, volunteers, contractors, and other partners of the Monument. The video may be sold at the bookstore by the Rocky Mountain Nature Association.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

Final product will be a two minute computer animation depicting the sequence of geologic events that occurred at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument 34 million years ago that led to the formation of the massive petrified redwood tree stumps and small insect and leaf compression fossils. The computer animation is to be used in a 15 minute park orientation film that the Monument is concurrently producing under another RM-CESU agreement with Montana State University.

Keywords: film animation, geology, paleoecology, Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, University of Colorado at Boulder

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Date Annual Report Received:
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