



Rabbit Valley

Colorado State Natural Area

What to Expect

Rabbit Valley Natural Area contains a vast display of prehistoric remains known from the late Jurassic period. Nearly 4,000 bones have been found here, including Camarasaurus, Allosaurus, and Camptosaurus, Diplodocus, and Apatosaurus. The discovery of an Iguanodon skull in 1982 marks the earliest known record of this species. If you look closely at the fossils at this site, you can sometimes see blood vessels and nerves that once supplied the dinosaur's bones. These prehistoric conduits are preserved as smooth surfaces and small channels.



Hikers within the Mygatt-Moore quarry



Collared lizard

About the Natural Area

Location: Mesa County, 20 miles east of Fruita

Landowner: Bureau of Land Management- Grand Junction Field Office

Size: 280 acres

Address: Colorado 81525. [Google maps link to Parking Area to access the "Trail Through Time"](#). GPS coordinates: 39.193551, -109.020068.

Know Before You Go

Heading west on I-70, take exit 2 right before the CO-UT border and drive north to the parking area. Visitors can walk the "Trail Through Time", a 1.5 mile gentle loop trail, to view the site. The trail features 21 different educational signs, sheltered sitting areas, and expansive views of Rabbit Valley. Please help preserve this geologic wonder by refraining from illegal fossil collection and packing out all trash. Restrooms are available on site. Please visit the [BLM's webpage on the Rabbit Valley Trail Through Time](#) to find detailed site directions and landowner contact information.



Diplodocus fossil

For more information about the Colorado Natural Areas Program (CNAP) visit [CNAP's website](#).