

THE FOSSIL RECORD

A publication of the Northwest Museum of Natural History • July 2018

Field Trip:

THE HISTORY OF THE NORTHWEST

Ochoco Mountains Geology & Ranchers and the Land they Manage.

Date: September 8th & 9th, 2018

Cost: \$15 for non-members (families \$25), Free for members.

Call: (503) 358-9030 or

e-mail blitz124@comcast.net

Trip leaders: Dave Taylor & Phil St. Clair

This trip has two parts: (1) To investigate fossil-bearing rocks deposited 210 to 80 million years ago, and (2) learn how a rancher combines raising his cattle and being a good steward of the land.

Part 1: We will learn about the geological history of rocks that were laid down in the Suplee-Izee area of Central Oregon during the age of dinosaurs. But, these rocks are marine (dinosaurs were land-dwelling) so instead of dinosaurs we will find the squid-like animal, the ammonite, and other subtropical shelled animals. While we will briefly review rocks spanning a wide age-range, our focus will be on the middle part of the Jurassic (about 165 million years ago). The sequence of fossil faunas from the lower part of the Middle Jurassic in Suplee rivals those in other parts of the world. We will have a chance to find fascinating fossils from that time period.

Part 2: Phil and his wife Kristy grew up in Portland, participated in the artistic scene in there, and in their early twenties moved to Izee in 1974. They have been ranching there ever since. The upper reaches of the South Fork of the John Day River flows through their land. Phil loves the

land he works, and as a member of the South Fork John Day Watershed Council he is working on projects including juniper tree removal, re-introducing aspen groves, and fencing critical areas adjacent to streams for protection. We will learn about how he balances cattle ranching with projects such as these and he will tell us about the local Redband Rainbow Trout.

Meeting time & place: Sept. 8, 7:30 a.m., Saturday in Prineville at the Crossroads BBQ Pit & Pub, which is at 3rd & Main.

Logistics: From Prineville we will travel 80 miles east to the Suplee area. We will camp Saturday night at Izee, although you may spend the night in John Day (45 miles away) to stay in a motel. We will plan to spend the morning and early afternoon in Izee before returning to Portland (5-hour drive).

Please email or phone me for more logistical details, including camping and collecting supplies as well as more information on what to expect.

Exhibit Update: We are presently building the exhibit cases for our dinosaur exhibit and will update you when we are ready to go.

Meeting: You are invited to attend our annual meeting at Ernestos Restaurant, 8544 SW Apple Way in Southwest Portland from 4 – 5 pm August 8th. We are pleased to invite Robert Hatfield as a new Board Member and vote to include the following as officers: Dave Taylor, President; Bret Richards, Vice President; Robert Hatfield, Treasurer; and George Grill, Secretary.