

2009 Scenic Byway Award Winner

INTERPRETATION



UINTA FOSSIL JOURNEY FILM

BYWAY: Flaming Gorge-Uintas Scenic Byway

STATE: UTAH

Engaging Audiences Through A Theater And Film

The Utah Field House of Natural History State Park Museum in Vernal, Utah has successfully served as the portal and orientation center for the Flaming Gorge-Uintas Scenic Byway since the byway's creation in 1998. In 2004, the State of Utah completed a new museum there. The new facility offers visitors an eleven-minute orientation film, "Uinta Fossil Journey," emphasizing experiences in surrounding public lands.

The film follows a day in the life of paleontologists and interweaves scientific concepts with the processes of discovery. It succinctly communicates information

about the area's intrinsic qualities—diverse scenic, geological and recreational resources, as well as ancient and modern wildlife.

The theater is staged with murals, a truck, large crates and accessories mimicking a paleontology expedition.

The National Scenic Byways Program grant funded the film and theater, and funds from private and public sectors secured other project components. Visitors encounter current, accurate, educational, scientific and engaging experiences of the Uinta Mountain region through this effective film and its theater. The project enhanced the museum's role as the byway portal and orientation center.



INTERPRETATION

