



CDOT Paleontology Program



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CDOT Paleontology Program

The Colorado Department of Transportation's Paleontology Program staff works to collect, preserve and facilitate the scientific study of important fossils and associated geologic and paleontological data that might otherwise be damaged or destroyed by CDOT construction and maintenance activities.

Paleontology is the study of plant and animal life of past geologic time, including its evolutionary history and its paleoecological interrelationships.

By law, all fossils on public highway rights-of-way belong to the State of Colorado. Under current agreements, vertebrate and invertebrate fossils collected by CDOT are stored at the University of Colorado Museum in Boulder, while plant fossils are stored at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Law: C.R.S. 24-80-401



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