

## **PARKNAME Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument**

**STATE CO**

**Alpha Code FLFO**

**Position Title Paleontologist**

### **Job Description**

The participant will coordinate two projects relating to the geologic and paleontologic resources of the Park. The primary project will be preparation of site maps and a manual to document the inventory of paleontological sites, and to monitor the condition of some of those sites. The secondary project will be to collect fossil leaves and insects by splitting blocks of paper shale that were removed during roadwork in the fall of 2007 and to produce a taxonomic census of this site; this will involve preparation and cataloging of fossil specimens, identification of some of the fossils, and entry into the cataloging database. Participants may also have the option of using a portion of their time for self-initiated research if they have a research plan defined beforehand.

### **Time Frame**

May 21 - Aug 9, 2008, dates somewhat flexible

### **Qualifications**

Applicants may be from any level, undergraduate to professional. Minimal requirements include completion of basic undergraduate course work toward a degree in geology or biology, with an emphasis in paleontology. Experience with ArcGIS is preferred but not necessary. The applicant should be able to work well independently.

### **Housing**

Housing will be provided in a shared house or apartment and may require sharing a room. Housing will include basic amenities such as cooking utensils, bed, and furnishings, but bedding is not provided. Personal vehicle required; housing may involve a commute of 20-30 minutes to the monument. A personal vehicle/transportation will be needed to drive from housing to the park office.

### **Park Geology**

The Florissant Formation preserves an abundant flora and fauna of fossil plants and insects that were deposited in late Eocene (34 million-year-old) lake shales.

### **Location Information**

Summer weather is cool to warm with sunny mornings and often rainy afternoons. The job may involve strenuous physical activity (hiking at altitude) and exposure to weather extremes. The small town of Florissant is 2 miles from the monument and has basic services such as gas station, convenience store, and small restaurants. Woodland Park is 16 miles away and has large supermarkets, Walmart, mechanical services, a variety of restaurants, and a new hospital. Colorado Springs airport is 47 miles from the monument and provides regular service by all major airlines.

More information about the park can be found at <http://www.nps.gov/flfo>

**Note to Candidates**

Work time will be split between office, lab, and field, according to project needs.

**Primary Contact (person who will directly supervise the GIP)**

Herb Meyer

Paleontologist

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**Secondary Contact**

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