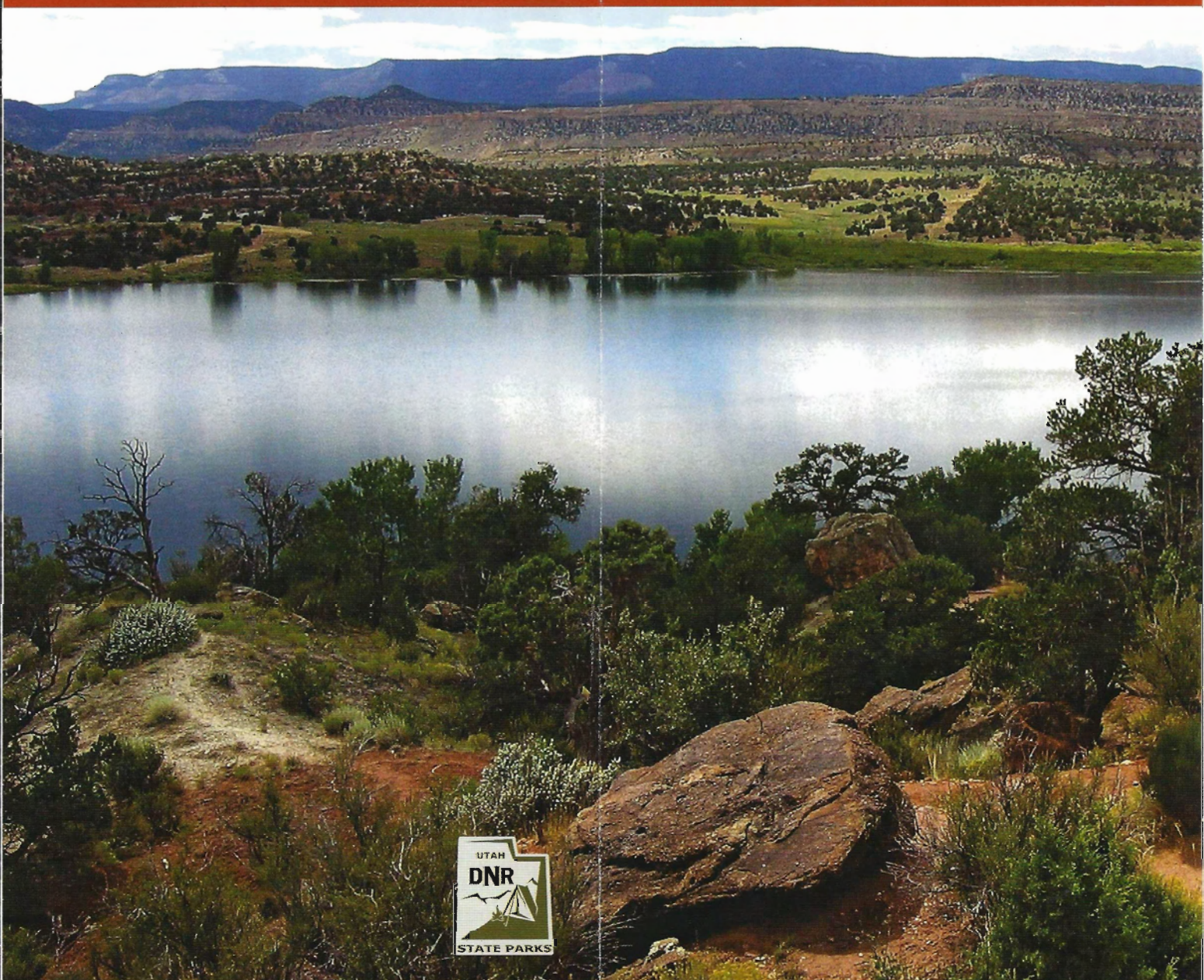
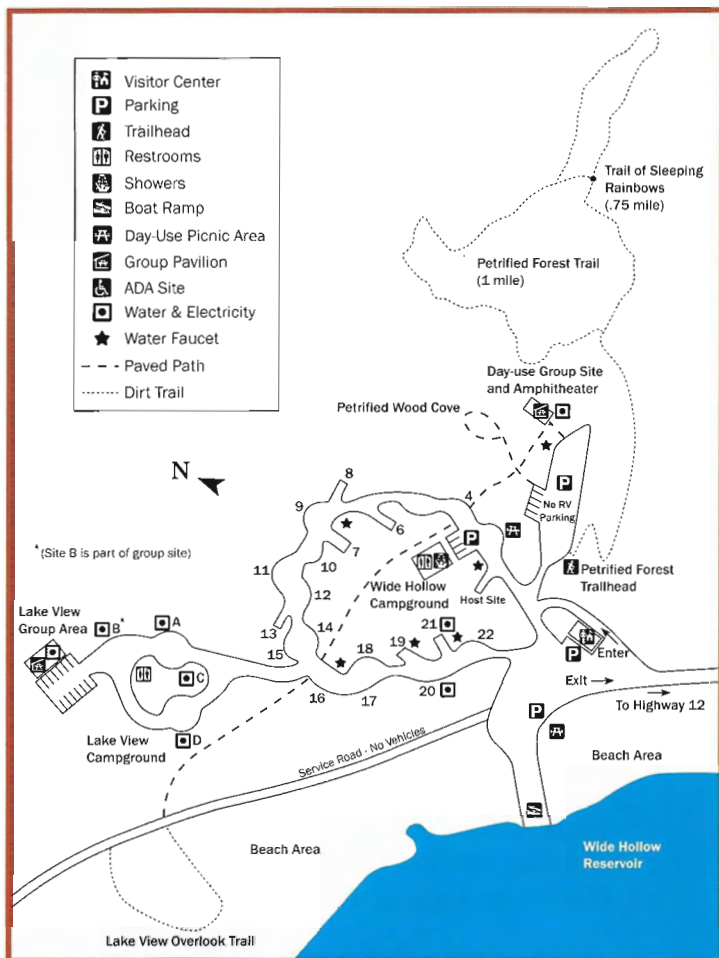


Escalante Petrified Forest State Park



Utah State Parks



Your park fees provide for the care, protection and enhancement of this park.

Park Location:

The park is located one mile west of the town of Escalante on Utah State Route 12.

Operating Hours:

Summer: 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Winter: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Address Inquiries To:

Escalante Petrified Forest State Park
710 North Reservoir Road
Escalante, UT 84726-0350
(435) 826-4466

or

Utah State Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 146001
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6001
(801) 538-7220
stateparks.utah.gov

For Reservations Call:

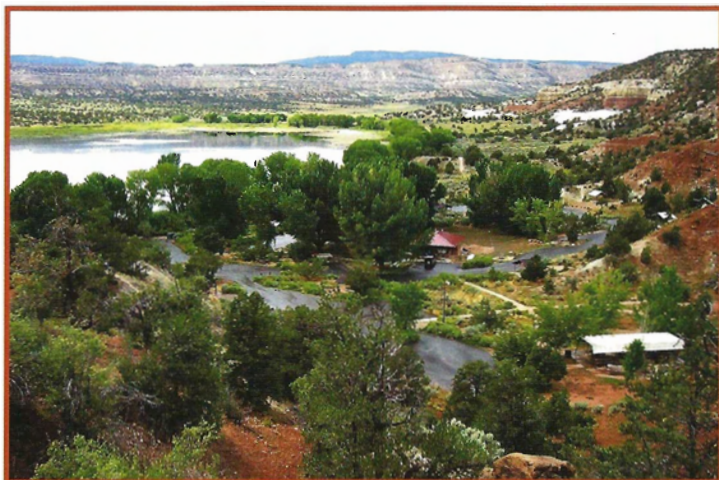
(800) 322-3770

Utah State Parks Mission:

To enhance the quality of life by preserving and providing natural, cultural and recreational resources for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations.

Information contained in this brochure was accurate at the time of printing. Policies, facilities, fees, hours and regulations, etc., change as mandated. For updated information please contact the park.

The Utah Department of Natural Resources receives federal aid and prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national origin or disability. For information or complaints regarding discrimination, contact Executive Director, Utah Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 145610, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5610 or Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1801 L Street, NW, Washington DC 20507-001



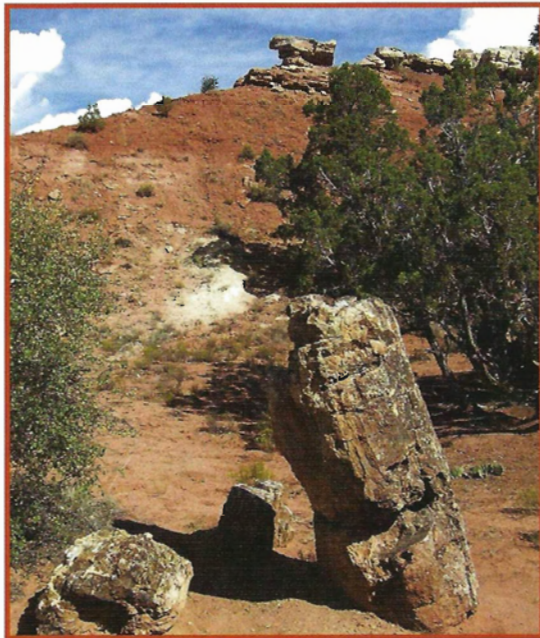
STATE PARK

ESCALANTE PETRIFIED FOREST

Escalante Petrified Forest State Park is located in beautiful southern Utah, just 44 miles east of Bryce Canyon National Park. Hike along park nature trails through a petrified forest and camp along the shores of Wide Hollow Reservoir. View fossils, petrified wood and fossilized dinosaur bones in the visitor center.

PARK HISTORY

Escalante Petrified Forest State Park was established in 1963 with land purchased from the USDI Bureau of Land Management. Wide Hollow Reservoir was constructed in 1954, and reconstructed in 2010. Its water is used by the town of Escalante for irrigation. Additional land was purchased in 1972 to include part of the Wide Hollow Reservoir shoreline.



THINGS TO DO

Two established trails wind through vast deposits of some of the most beautiful petrified wood found anywhere, with some pieces measuring nearly five feet long! Please wear sturdy walking shoes and sunscreen, and carry plenty of drinking water.

Petrified Forest Trail: This one-mile loop is a moderate to strenuous hike, which climbs 200 feet to the top of the mesa behind the visitor center.

Trail of Sleeping Rainbows: This .75-mile extension off the one-mile Petrified Forest Trail has the highest concentrations of petrified wood, but it is very strenuous. Use extreme caution.

Please do not remove any petrified wood from the park – some say the wood is haunted and removing a piece brings the taker nothing but bad luck.

Wide Hollow Reservoir offers great fishing for rainbow trout, largemouth bass, and bluegill. Take a swim or lounge on sunny shores, and watch for many species of bird and waterfowl.

Camp and picnic in a modern, 22-unit campground complete with tables, firepits, barbecue grills, culinary water, restrooms with hot showers, and sanitary disposal station. A group campsite is also available.

PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Explore the desert environment, which is typical of the Upper Sonoran life zone. Trees are mostly pinyon and juniper with stands of cottonwoods along the lakeshore. Many species of wildflowers share the park with small rodents, lizards, waterfowl, birds, deer, and coyotes. Escalante Petrified Forest State Park is listed in the Utah Wildlife Viewing Guide as one of the few wetland bird viewing sites in southern Utah.



SIGHTSEEING

Escalante and the surrounding area are veritable wonderlands of scenic beauty. Set up base camp at the park, and be within a few miles of the high-mountain lakes and forests of Boulder Mountain, remote canyons of the Escalante River, and slickrock desert country of the famous Hole-in-the-Rock crossing at Lake Powell. Plan a visit to nearby Anasazi State Park Museum in Boulder.

THE PETRIFIED FOREST STEP BACK IN TIME

Climb to the 200-foot high mesa top, which was once the bottom of an ancient flood plain. Approximately 135 to 155 million years ago, trees up to 100 feet tall were uprooted and buried in mud during periods of flooding.

Groundwater permeated the buried trees over millions of years. Because they were in an oxygen-free environment, the trees did not decay. Instead, through a complex process, silica solution in the groundwater replaced organic material in the tree, leaving the cell structure intact. Due to erosion, this fallen forest of petrified trees is now exposed.

THE COLORS - The beautiful and varied colors of petrified wood are caused by the presence of other minerals that enter the wood during the petrifying process. Iron oxides produce orange, red, and yellow, while manganese oxides create blues, blacks, and purples.



Park Guidelines

Please observe these park regulations to ensure a safe and pleasant visit:

Fires – Campfires may be built in specified areas. Most developed campsites provide fire pits and barbecue grills. Firewood is not generally available in state parks. Picnickers and campers should bring appropriate fuel. Gathering firewood or kindling in the park is strictly prohibited.

Pets – Pets are allowed at Escalante, but should be on a maximum six-foot leash. Service dogs are the only animals admitted into park buildings. Pets are not allowed on developed beaches or in the lake. Please clean up after pets promptly.

Plants and Animals – All plants, animals, minerals, fossils and other natural features in state parks are protected. It is unlawful to remove, alter or destroy them.

Fireworks – Unless authorized by the park manager, explosives, fireworks and firecrackers are prohibited.

Vandalism – Please help keep our parks beautiful. It is unlawful to mutilate or deface any natural or constructed feature. Do not carve on rocks.

Speed Limit – Speed limit on state park roads is 15 mph unless otherwise posted. The campground speed limit is 5 mph.

Wastewater – It is unlawful to dump or drain wastewater from campers or trailers onto the ground. Utility sinks and sanitary disposal station are provided.

Quiet Hours – 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Generator Hours – 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Generators may run at two-hour on/off intervals.