



# GRAND STAIRCASE ESCALANTE PARTNERS

*Committed to preserving and protecting the vast landscape of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations*



*Kanab Elementary Students Learn About Utah Dinosaurs*

## **Frontier Science School** Annual Budget: \$50,000

Launched in 2015, Partners curriculum-based education program is recognized as a “BLM Youth Program Superstar.” We serve local students, teachers and community members as well as visitors from all over the world through a variety of experiences.

This summer, FSS will host a Utah Master Naturalist course that will produce an elite group of volunteers called Community Partners. These well-educated and trained volunteers will help our staff to provide more capacity for our programs and events. Frontier Science School will also lead a special hike to Lower Calf Creek Falls this fall in an effort to engage and educate students who live in the area.  
[www.frontierscienceschool.org](http://www.frontierscienceschool.org)

## **Paleo Program** Annual Budget: \$53,000

Since the search for fossils on the Monument began a little over 15 years ago, more than 20 species of dinosaurs previously unknown to science have been discovered. These findings have revolutionized scientists understanding of our world millions of years ago. Once Monument paleontologists identify fossils, they are moved to the Paleo Lab for preparation and study. Partners funds a full-time Lab Manager who supervises a core group of volunteers that assist with this process.

Recent discoveries include a very interesting tyrannosaur site where a mass death occurred. The team is working hard to get to the bottom of the mystery!



*A Volunteer in the Paleo Lab*



*Visiting a Rock Art Site*

## **Site Stewards Program** Annual Budget: \$18,000

For the last 5 years, Partners has been managing dozens of volunteers referred to as Site Stewards. These dedicated adventurers often travel hundreds of miles to monitor important and sensitive archaeological and sometimes, paleontological sites, around the Monument. Their efforts are invaluable to BLM staff who are unable to spend much time doing this themselves. Partners Site Stewards are crucial in tracking the condition of sites, reporting any changes and when needed, providing education about how to visit with respect. This is increasingly important as we see more and more instances of vandalism.

## **Escalante River Watershed Partnership** Annual Budget: \$1,200,000

ERWP’s mission is to restore and maintain the natural and ecological condition of the Escalante River and its watershed and involve local communities in promoting and implementing sustainable land use and water use practices. Seven years into a Ten Year Action Plan, 3,640 acres of invasive species have been removed and hundreds of young people have been employed through Youth Conservation Corps. [www.escalanteriverwatershedpartnership.org](http://www.escalanteriverwatershedpartnership.org)



*Before and After Russian Olive Removal*