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Sent: Saturday, October 9, 2021 7:50 PM
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Subject: Postcard

Our destination today was Florissant Fossil Bed National Monument. This park's primary feature is a scattered collection of petrified tree stumps that are tied together by a 1-mile walking trail.

The one is called "The Big Stump". It is shown below.



The others are short and weedy or encumbered by metal braces. They are not shown anywhere.

The park expanse is part of an ancient seabed, if we are to believe the informational displays along the trail. Those outnumbered the stumps and after 2 or 3 we stopped reading. I imagine there was even more information in the Visitor Center and perhaps some fossilized sea creatures but the Visitor Center was closed for our safety.

Fortunately the pit toilets were still accessible, although perhaps less safe.



We figured our Nation Parks pass should cover us.

Most of the park looked like this: Lots of widely spaced ponderosa, some grassland or meadow. And fortunately a number of aspen groves.



There are more trails. After the stump adventure we hiked a loop to Boulder Creek. At the tip of the loop there is a pile of boulders and a stand of aspens and a foot-wide stream we presumed to be the creek.





We sat on boulders. We ate trail mix. We left.

The aspens had paved the return leg with yellow.



But there was no Oz. Just the parking lot.

In order to ramp up the excitement we visited the Florissant Pioneer Cemetery.



Not much going on here either. But their aspens were better.



D&S