



# **S N O W M A S S**

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## **C O L O R A D O**

### **Snowmass Ice Age Discovery**

*The Finest High-Elevation Ice Age Fossil Discovery in the World*



*Overlooking Ziegler Reservoir  
Photo Credit: Tamara Susa*

Snowmass Village, Colo., (Summer 2019) – More than 150,000 years ago, glaciers covered the area that would become Snowmass Village. The ancient site began as a carved-out pit of sediment left behind by the movement of massive glaciers. Slowly, over thousands of years, the massive Bull Glacier retreated and carved a bowl that would fill with melting glacier water and eventually become what is now Ziegler Reservoir in Snowmass Village.

In 2010, a construction crew unearthed a single tusk of a young female mammoth while digging at Ziegler Reservoir. The Denver Museum of Nature and Science took over the site and went on to find 5,000 bones of 10 mammals and over 26,000 small bones from small vertebrate animals– 40 species in all. The 10-month project became a race to uncover and carefully extricate these bones. Mammoths, mastodons, Ice Age camels, horses, sloths, and other species, as well as insects, plant life and more were found. The Snowmass paleontological site is the richest Ice Age ecosystem found at high altitude.

Guests can learn about the site of this important discovery during two daily free guided tours with an Aspen Center for Environmental Services (ACES) Naturalist. The two-hour round-trip tours are an easy/moderate hike with panoramic views showcasing where these incredible fossils were found.

Daily: June 15 - Sept 2, plus September 7/8, 14/15, 21/22, and 28/29.

Time: 10:00 a.m. Wildflower Hike on the Nature Trail

1:00 p.m. Ice Age Discovery Hike on the Snowmass Discovery Trail

Location: Meet the ACES Naturalists for these hikes at the Snowmass Ticket Pavilion on the Snowmass Mall.

For more information call (970) 922-2277 or visit [www.gosnowmass.com](http://www.gosnowmass.com)

**About Snowmass Village, Colorado** – A renowned winter playground and vibrant summer community just 9 miles from Aspen, Snowmass consistently ranks as one of the best ski areas in the world. For 2019, Ski Magazine named Aspen Snowmass the #1 “resort of the year” in the West. Snowmass offers guests incredible views of mountain vistas, in addition to 2.8 million adjacent acres of wilderness, open for activities and exploration. Snowmass offers a wide variety of outdoor activities, 30+ restaurants, 95 percent slopeside lodging, shopping, unique special events and music – all year round. For more information and a complete calendar of events and activities, please visit: [www.gosnowmass.com](http://www.gosnowmass.com).

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