The **fish fossils** come from the Green River Formation in SW Wyoming. Specifically we have collected them at Warfield Quarry, which is on private land near Kemmerer, Wyoming where collecting is permitted, near the Fossil Butte National Monument, where collecting is forbidden. During the early/middle Eocene era, about 50 million years ago, this part of the country was much wetter and warm year round, somewhat like parts of the US Southeast. During this period there was a system of lakes that extended to over 60,000 square miles covering parts of Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado. The lake bottom sediments that remain now sit in the high Wyoming desert – they are massive in thickness (several thousand feet) and contain not only amazing numbers of fossil fish, but also crocodiles, and even a 3-toed horse. There are even fossil giant sequoias nearby in central Wyoming.

The **tiny crab fossils** come from lower Arroyo Seco Canyon near Greenfield, California, just off route 101 Salinas Valley. They appear in the “Monterey Shale”, part of the Monterey Formation, which is an extensive body of sedimentary rock that was deposited on the Continental shelf during the middle Miocene, about 12 million years ago, along much of the central, north central, and southern California coast. At that time the central California shoreline sat just west of Fresno (the Salinas Valley was under many meters of water). The spectacular Santa Lucia Range (rising close to 5,000 feet within a mile of the coast!) between the Big Sur coast and Salinas Valley had not yet begun its uplift. Less than a mile west of t fossil crab spot along Arroyo Seco road, there is also a rich deposit of fossils mollusks (snails, clams, etc.), which, appear to be completely separated from the fossil crab deposits.

The **trilobite fossils** (4 species are represented) come from the Wheeler Shale, within the House Range (where the shale is about 500 feet thick), in the west central Utah desert country, 52 miles west of Delta, Utah. We have collected them at the U-DIG private fossil quarry there. The Wheeler Shale represents a fine grained deposit in shallow tropical ocean waters from the Cambrian era (500-570 million years ago), when north America was much smaller and straddled the equator, with a shoreline passing through western Utah and eastern and central Nevada, down through the Mojave desert, where Cambrian trilobites are also found. This was long before the plate movements that created California and the present west coast landforms.