



Discovery Road
Presents

"Out There"

Road to the Galaxy
UFOS, Bigfoot and the unknown

The Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area (MPNHA) and *Discovery Road* announce the release of *Out There!* An entertaining and factual documentary about the unknown world of UFOs and the strange Bigfoot sightings in the state of Utah.

"As we traveled down the road to the unknown, we quickly found out there were plenty of stories and lots of people who would tell us about their experience. These stories are told by real people, and they stand by their words." *Discovery Road* producer James Nelson said about the new episode. In a small roadside building just out of Roosevelt, Utah Leland Mecham has been carving leather pieces and tapping metal parts into place for more than half-a-century. The custom saddle maker has had an easygoing life with very few out of the ordinary occurrences. There is one incident, however, he will never forget.

“A neighbor called us. It was right around eleven o’clock at night, Ruth Ostler, she called, and said, ‘Lee I heard horses on the road. I think your horses are out!’ I said, ‘Oh man!’ It was black, dark, really dark. So, I got Jody up and said, ‘Let’s go find ‘em’. Only horse we had was my stallion, saddled him up, he jumped up behind me. Went looking for these horses. It was so black, dark you couldn’t see nothing.” Mecham said in an interview with *Discovery Road*.



SADDLE STORY OF UFO- Leland Mecham is seen outside of his northern Utah saddle shop. Mecham and his son Jody witnessed a UFO while on horseback near their ranch more than 50 years ago.

-photo courtesy of *Discovery Road*

Then they did see something. It was something they would never forget! While on camera for the *Discovery Road* interview and videotaping Mecham opened his eyes wide and gazed downward and then proceeded telling his story.

“Probably just a half-mile from our house, right along there. Jody was sitting behind me. His head about as high as my shoulders. But he said, ‘Dad, what’s that?’ He pointed and I turned around and looked. There was a big red object. There was a neighbor guy who lived a little more than a mile above our house. He had a two-story house. It wasn’t a very big house, but it was high. This object was on the other side of the house because we could see the house. That whole area up there was lit up just like day. You could see the individual cedars on the hills there,” Mecham says while drawing an arc in the air with his hands.



UTE RESERVATION—Ute tribe spiritual leader Larry Cesspooch points to an area on the northern Utah reservation where there have been sightings and reports of UFOs. Cesspooch gave *Discovery Road* a personal tour of the places known for unusual activity. -photo courtesy of *Discovery Road*.

“My name is Larry Cesspooch I’m a Ute tribal member. We’re here at the Ute Bottle Hollow reservoir. We’re up on top where we can see the whole reservation and we’re going to start here today to tell the story

about the relations with the extra-terrestrial people.” Larry Cesspooch said to *Discovery Road*.

Ute tribe spiritual leader Larry Cesspooch says there have been numerous UFO reports over many years on the reservation. He describes the activity as not unexpected.

“Yea, we considered them our brothers and sisters. Creator made everything. And also made those. Other worlds. This ranch down here is a portal where things come through. It’s on Ute land for a reason.” Cesspooch stated during the documentary.



FLYING SAUCER DECOR—In this Roosevelt, Utah home of former science teacher Junior Hicks you will find some flying saucer models, flashing lights and lots of strange and unusual stories. *Discovery Road* visited the home during the taping of *Out There*. -photo courtesy of *Discovery Road*.

In the family home of former science teacher Junior Hicks *Discovery Road* was treated to leftovers from his classroom and remnants of jeep

patrol days when he would drive people to sites where they had reported encounters with witnessed flying saucers.

“At that time, outside of the community if you talked about UFOs they’d think you are some kind of kook or some kind of weirdo. You’re crazy. They knew my dad took it seriously, they knew my dad believed in what they said, and he would write down every word they said. So, they felt very comfortable coming and talking to my dad.” Sherlyn Hicks Olsen said in the *Discovery Road* episode *Out There*.

Discovery Road also takes viewers deep into the back woods of Utah forests and throughout the Pacific Northwest for a peek at the Bigfoot phenomenon.



MISTER BIG FOOT-Idaho State University professor Jeff Meldrum shows juvenile Bigfoot footprint castings during an interview with *Discovery Road*. Meldrum is known worldwide for his research and study of Bigfoot. -photo courtesy of *Discovery Road*

At Idaho State University we learned that Bigfoot sightings are not confined to just a few places. Professor Jeff Meldrum told *Discovery*

Road his research points in nearly every direction. Including the state of Utah.

“Utah is no exception. The Uintas, the backside of the Wasatch Front, down to the rim of the Colorado Plateau. Boulder Mountain region. These are all areas with a remarkable history and the appropriate habitat. In fact one of the many writing projects I’m engrossed in at the moment is Big Foot in the American southwest. Focusing on the Four Corners area and taking in much of southern Utah.” Meldrum said. A visit to his laboratory is a bit like going to a Bigfoot Movie. He has hundreds of footprint casts of the creatures. Meldrum is constantly called on to unravel real sightings from fake ones. He’s a foremost authority on the mystery of Sasquatch.



BIGFOOT COLLECTION-A laboratory on the campus of Idaho State University houses more than 300 samples of Bigfoot footprint castings from around the world. The footprints are studied by professor Jeff Meldrum. -photo courtesy of *Discovery Road*

“UFOs and Bigfoot are part of the American West! We truly enjoyed finding out how science continually studies these things. This documentary has been fascinating, full of surprises and fun.” Nelson stated about the just released *Discovery Road* episode *Out There*.

Discovery Road is an award-winning ongoing documentary series broadcast each Saturday on the Utah Education Network (channel 9) at 6pm MST and on several local cable television stations in Utah and surrounding states.

The Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area (MPNHA) is a federally designated area of central and southern Utah running along the beautiful and historic U.S. Highway 89 — including the All-American Road Utah State Route 12, and Capitol Reef Scenic Byway Utah State Route 24, which both intersect with U.S. 89 and together form the MPNHA’s Boulder Loop. The area includes the counties of Sanpete, Sevier, Piute, Wayne, Garfield, and Kane.

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