



Russell Dale Guthrie

1936–2024

Dale Guthrie, a renowned vertebrate paleontologist, arctic ecologist, talented artist and teacher, served 62 years on the University of Alaska faculty. Dale contributed the concept of the Mammoth Steppe, a paleoenvironmental model of a cold steppe occupying the dry eastern segment, Beringia, of a circumpolar landscape during past glaciations. Dale's cutting-edge arctic and subarctic zoological and paleontological research uniquely documented extinct Quaternary fauna. 'Blue Babe' was an adult steppe bison bull.

Dale recovered the partially scavenged mummified remains of Blue Babe from frozen >55,000-year-old silt in a placer gold mine near Fairbanks. Dale's book *Frozen Fauna of the Mammoth Steppe: The Story of Blue Babe* received the Geological Society of America's Kirk Bryan Quaternary Geomorphology Award in 1992.

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