



The Prospector's Quill

VOLUME XLIII, ISSUE III

MARCH 2017

NUGGETS

- Almost 40% of all the gold ever mined in history came from South Africa over just the last 130 years. It still holds the world's 3rd largest unmined reserves, behind Australia and Russia.
- The world produced more steel every hour in the year 2015 than all the gold mined in human history!
- Gold is the most ductile of all elements. Just one gram can be stretched into a wire 540 feet long at the diameter of a human hair!

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US Forest Service Minerals Policy Review

Introduction by Andrew C. Hawkins and reprinted from the US Forest Service web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/geology/minerals.html>

As prospecting season approaches, we must remember that some GPOC claims are on US Forest Service (USFS) public lands. For those seasoned prospectors among us, you know that we are both prospectors and shepherds of the land—we must return our public lands to their native state once we extract values (i.e. gold and other precious metals) from the Earth.

To that end, let's review the US Forest Service definition of minerals and the policy on minerals and geology. Our public lands are available for us to prospect (as long as they are not already under claim!). We should take advantage of that respectfully and regularly. Get out there and enjoy...and bring home some of that yeller gold! The US Forest Service defines a mineral as: "a naturally occurring substance (as ore, petroleum, or water) obtained usually from the ground".

The USFS Minerals Management program guides us as prospectors in being land shepherds. The USFS "chief goals are to restore ecosystems and watersheds affected by past mining practices; to provide the geologic expertise and scientific information necessary for sustained forest management and for watershed health and restoration; to manage and protect paleontological resources; and to manage the vast and diverse mineral resources of the national forest in a fashion that ensures sustained ecosystems and maintains healthy watersheds. Exploration, development, and production of mineral and energy resources and reclamation of activities are part of the Forest Service ecosystem management responsibility. The Forest Service will administer its minerals program to provide commodities for current and future generations commensurate with

the need to sustain the long term health and biological diversity of ecosystems."

The Federal Government's policy for minerals resource management is expressed in the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970, "foster and encourage private enterprise in the development of economically sound and stable industries, and in the orderly and economic development of domestic resources to help assure satisfaction of industrial, security, and environmental needs." Within this context, the National Forests and Grasslands have an essential role in contributing to an adequate and stable supply of mineral and energy resources while continuing to sustain the land's productivity for other uses and its capability to support biodiversity goals.

OBJECTIVES. Exploration, development, and production of mineral and >>> Page 4



Upcoming Events for Prospectors and Rockhounds

Contributed by Steven Wade Veach

- Fri., Apr. 14, 6:45 p.m., North Jeffco Gem & Mineral Club Silent Auction. APEX Community Center, 6842 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada. Setup at 5:30, auction begins at 6:45. All are invited.
- Fri.-Sat.-Sun., Apr. 14-17, Colorado Mineral and Fossil Spring Show, Crowne Plaza Hotel - Airport, 15500 E. 40th Ave. Denver, CO. See <http://www.rockygems.com/>

colorado-mineral-fossil-spring-show-2017.html .

- Sat., May 13, Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, Silent Auction. Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood CO, 12:00-4:00
- (setup begins at 10:30 a.m., auction begins at 12:00, verbal auction 1:00, all tables will close by 3:00 p.m., checkout follows).
- Fri.-Sat.-Sun., June 2-4, Pikes Peak Gem & Mineral Show, sponsored by the Colorado

Springs Mineralogical Society. At Mortgage Solutions

- Financial Expo Center, 3650 N. Nevada Ave., Colorado Springs.
- Fri.-Mon., July 21-24, Gold and Silver Deposits in Colorado, a symposium cosponsored by the Friends of the Colorado School of Mines Geology
- Museum and DREGS (Denver Region Exploration Geologists Society). "The event will feature two days of talks (July 22 - 23) and two days of field

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The Gold Prospectors of Colorado (GPOC) was founded around 1974 as a non-profit organization for recreational gold prospectors in the Colorado area. Our membership at any given time has grown to over 600 members and continues to grow across the Front Range, the nation, and even the world!



♠ GPOC Outings & Events Planner ♠

In response to feedback from our members, we are adding a rolling three-month planning calendar to each issue of the Quill. Now you can see and plan for events months in advance—and make requests to the Planning Committee for outings and events in YOUR club! Also check the next page and the GPOC web site at www.gpoc.club for more info on events including location and start times.

MARCH 2017						
WE ALL WANT A POT O' GOLD!						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 GPOC Board Meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8 GPOC Gen. Member Meeting	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 	17 	18 WMMI Family Day: Science
19	20 1st Day: SPRING	21	22 GPOC Planning Comm.	23	24	25 New Member Orientation & Claims Comm.
26 New Member Outing	27	28	29	30	31	


APRIL 2017

SEARCH THE EARTH EVERY DAY FOR THAT YELLER GOLD!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 POWER SEA- SON STARTS
2	3	4	5	6 GPOC Board Meeting	7	8
9	10	11	12 GPOC Gen. Member Meet- ing	13	14	15
16 Easter	17 	18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day 
23/30	24	25	26 GPOC Plan- ning Comm.	27	28	

MAY 2017

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES SO THAT WE MAY BE FREE.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 GPOC @ School: Aspen Valley Ranch, Woodland Park	4 GPOC Board Meeting	5	6
7	8	9	10 GPOC Gen. Member Meeting	11	12 GPOC @ School: Prairie Heights Ele- mentary, Fountain	13 GPOC Let's Go Gold Panning!
14 Mom's Day	15	16	17	18	19	20
GPOC Let's Go Gold Panning!						
21	22	23	24 GPOC Planning Comm.	25	26	27 GPOC Claims Comm. Territory Days
28 Territory Days	29 Memorial Day Territory Days		31			

- **GPOC** Board Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month at **7 pm**, Gold Hill Police Station, 955 Moreno Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO, (access from W. Moreno Ave.). GPOC Members only.
- **GPOC** Gen Membership meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at **7 pm**, Elks Lodge, 3400 N. Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs, CO. The General Public is welcome!
- **GPOC** Planning Committee Meeting. **7 pm** at Denny's on Academy Blvd. & I25, CO Springs. GPOC Members Only.
- GPOC Claims Committee Meetings are held at WMMI at 10am, the last Saturday of the month. GPOC Members Only.
- **GPOC New Member Orientations** are held on Saturdays indicated at 10am @ WMMI. March and June are also followed by a GPOC Power Class—where you can study the GPOC Rules, Ethics, and Regulations—and earn discounts on Power Permits.
- **GPOC New Member Outings** are held the Sunday after New member Orientations. Meet @ 9am in the Cabela's parking lot, off the Ridgeway Parkway exit off I-25, south side of Denver

MORE INSIDE!



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energy resources and reclamation of activities are part of the Forest Service ecosystem management responsibility. The Forest Service will administer its minerals program to provide commodities for current and future generations commensurate with the need to sustain the long term health and biological diversity of ecosystems. Accordingly, the Forest Service will strive to:

- Ensure that exploration, development, and production of mineral and energy resources are conducted in an environmentally sensitive manner and that these activities are integrated with the planning and management of other resources using the principles of ecosystem management.
- Facilitate the orderly exploration, development, and production of mineral and energy resources within the National Forest System on lands open to these activities or on withdrawn lands consistent with valid existing rights.

- Maintain opportunities to access mineral and energy resources which are important to sustain viable rural economies and to contribute to the national defense and economic growth.
- Ensure that lands disturbed by mineral and energy activities, both past and present, are reclaimed using the best scientific knowledge and principles and returned to other productive uses.

POLICY. The Forest Service will administer its minerals program within the overall context of the principles of ecosystem management. Accordingly, the Forest Service will:

- Ensure that mineral-related activities are in accordance with our legal and regulatory authority.
- Coordinate and cooperate with other Federal and State agencies having authority and expertise in mineral-related activities.

- Coordinate and cooperate in a collaborative manner with interested public, industry, and community representatives. Foster partnerships with industry to increase knowledge of development potential of the mineral estate.

- Ensure the integration of mineral resource programs and activities with the planning and management of renewable resources through the land and resource management planning process, recognizing that mineral development may occur concurrently or sequentially with other resource uses.

- Maintain an effective professional, technical, and managerial work force that is knowledgeable of (a) the geologic characteristics of mineral deposits, (b) the techniques of mineral exploration and development, (c) the principles of ecosystem management, and (d) mineral laws, regulations, policy, and guidance.



Highway 285
between Salida and Buena Vista
in gorgeous central Colorado
719.539.2019



The Rock Doc
at Prospectors Village

Books, maps, advice, encouragement
all available

We'll feed your desire for great mineral hunting adventures

Madness

Mineral

Let us introduce you to

(Yeah right)

CURED OF GOLD FEVER?

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