

# **Appendix E**

**BLM/FS**

**Recreational Placering Information**

**Within the**

**AHRA**

**This appendix is a copy of the BLM/USFS Recreational Placering Information within the AHRA. It was jointly developed by the FS and BLM and is provided to the public as an informational sheet. This is the operational guidance for recreational rockhounding, metal detecting, panning, dredging or sluicing on public lands along the Arkansas River corridor and its tributaries for the recreation area.**



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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Royal Gorge Resource Area  
3170 East Main Street  
Cañon City, CO 81212

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
Pike and San Isabel National Forest  
Comanche and Cimarron National Grasslands  
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## RECREATIONAL PLACERING INFORMATION SHEET FOR OPERATIONS CONDUCTED IN THE PIKE AND SAN ISABEL NATIONAL FOREST OR THE BLM ROYAL GORGE RESOURCE AREA

Rockhounding, metal detecting, panning, dredging or sluicing have become very popular activities on public lands administered by the USFS and BLM in southeastern Colorado. For the purposes of this information sheet, we will collectively refer to these activities as "recreational placering". The public land management agencies in southeastern Colorado have agreed to a consistent policy and process that is both efficient and easy to understand. However, even this process has requirements which must be met. In general, you will find that operations with increased potential for surface disturbance require more agency oversight and operator documentation. We hope this information sheet and packet help you better understand how to enjoy whatever recreational placer activity you pursue while assuring the wise use of your public lands. This information does not apply to private property, you must have the permission of the surface owner to operate on these lands.

**\* Where can recreational placering be done in this area?** The Recreational Placering Map that accompanies this information sheet gives a general description of the lands covered by this policy. It includes the Pike and San Isabel National Forest (map identifies individual Ranger Districts) and the BLM Royal Gorge Resource Area. This map is of such a small scale that it only provides information on lands which are open or closed to recreational placering and the responsible office. We encourage you to obtain BLM or USFS maps of larger scale for more detailed information.

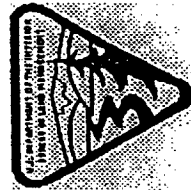
**\* What are the areas where recreational placering is NOT allowed?** Recreational placering operations are **NOT** allowed in lands designated as Wilderness. For BLM Wilderness Study Areas, a Plan of Operations must be submitted and approved prior to the conduct of any surface disturbing recreational placer operations. These areas are identified on the Recreational Placering Map. **Withdrawn lands** are areas closed to the location of mining claims, however they may or may not be available for recreational placer operations. Please contact the appropriate USFS/BLM office for more information.

**\* What is recreational placering and how are activities defined? How do I get started?** The attached Recreational Placering Table identifies several types of recreational placer activities and provides information on what type of actions are necessary prior to beginning work. Please contact any USFS or BLM office should you have additional questions after reviewing the table. In many cases no notification to the USFS and/or BLM is necessary and you may begin work immediately. We do however, encourage you to contact either agency with any questions you may have.

**\* What mitigation measures need to be met? Do I need a Section 404 permit from the Army Corp of Engineers?** The attached Recreational Placer Form includes mitigation measures applicable to each agency. These requirements are quite similar between agencies but, may vary based on the type of operation involved and its location. Information on section 404 requirements may be obtained from the appropriate Army Corp of Engineers office.

**\* Do I need to submit anything to the USFS or BLM?** Use the Recreational Placering Table to determine what; if anything; you may need to provide. For motorized placer operations, the agencies recommend that you complete and submit the "Recreational Placer Notification" that is included. Should you prefer not use this form, you still must provide the needed information in whatever format you decide. This information will help the BLM and/or USFS assess the level of impacts associated with your proposed operation. This form would also serve as a Notice of Intent under both agencies surface management regulations.

**\* How do I get information on recreational placering and what is the process for handling motorized operations?** Interested individuals should contact the USFS or BLM by phone or in person and request information. You will be provided with this packet of information which includes; this information sheet, the Recreational Placering Map, and a Recreational Placering Notification format including general conditions. The individual(s) determines what actions are needed based on what activities he or she plans and provides the appropriate information to the USFS or BLM office. The Recreational Placering Notification, if necessary, is filled out and sent to the agency responsible for activities in the particular area. This notification is reviewed to determine the level of impact and the individual is notified within 15 days whether (a) to proceed, or (b) additional information or documentation requirements are necessary.



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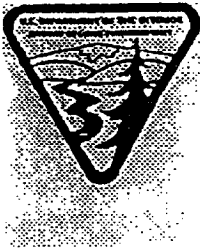


**GUIDELINES AND GENERAL PROCEDURES  
 FOR RECREATIONAL PLACER OPERATIONS ON  
 PUBLIC LANDS ADMINISTERED BY THE  
 PIKE & SAN ISABEL FOREST OR ROYAL GORGE RESOURCE AREA**

The following information should be used as a guide for understanding the different types of activities involved with recreational placer and the various requirements or restrictions concerning these activities. The attached map provides information concerning land status, agency boundaries and office locations/addresses. Persons conducting recreational activities must respect the rights of existing mining claimants. Contact the BLM concerning the presence or absence of mining claims in your area of interest.

**NON-MOTORIZED PLACER ACTIVITIES**

Activity	Description	Needed Action by Individual	Activity Allowed on.....
Rockhounding	The collection of small amounts of rock, minerals, etc. for personnel use. Quantities limited to 50 lbs/day to a total of 250 lbs./person/year.	No permits are necessary. Specific information may be obtained from any USFS/BLM office.	All public and national forest system lands in the RGRA or P&SINF, <u>except</u> for USFS Wilderness Areas. Contact local BLM/USFS office concerning Withdrawn lands.
Metal Detecting	Use of hand held metal detecting devices in the search for native metals.	No permits are necessary. Contact BLM or USFS office concerning <u>use of metal detection equipment in the search for coins, treasure, historic items....</u>	All public and national forest system lands in the RGRA or P&SINF, <u>except</u> for USFS Wilderness Areas. Contact local BLM/USFS office concerning Withdrawn lands.
Panning/ Sluicing	The use of hand held, non-motorized implements for the separation of minerals (ie gold, garnet, etc) from native materials.	No permits are necessary. Operators may want to consult with BLM concerning the presence of mining claims in the area.	All public and national forest system lands in the RGRA or P&SINF, <u>except</u> for USFS Wilderness Area. Contact local BLM/USFS office concerning Withdrawn lands.
<b>MOTORIZED PLACER ACTIVITIES</b>			
Recreational Placer Notification Necessary			
Motorized Placer Operations	The conduct of any operations which may involve motorized equipment (ie- dredging, highbanking, trommel, etc).	Written notification to the appropriate USFS/BLM office. Use of attached format is encouraged. Notification should be submitted 15 days in advance of operations. No operations may begin pending response from USFS/BLM.	All public and national forest system lands in the RGRA or P&SINF, <u>except</u> for USFS Wilderness Areas, BLM Wilderness Study Areas, and Wild & Scenic Rivers. Contact local BLM/USFS office concerning Withdrawn lands.



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## BLM AND USFS PERSONNEL FOR INFORMATION ON RECREATIONAL PLACER MINING

### BLM Office

### Office Contact

Royal Gorge Resource Area  
 3170 East Main St.  
 Canon City, CO 81212  
 (719) 269-8500

Charlie Fair or Kevin Andersen

### USFS Office

### Contact

### USFS Office

### Contact

South Park Ranger Dist.  
 320 Highway 285, Box 219  
 Fairplay, CO 80440  
 (719) 836-2031

Clint Kyhl

Salida Ranger Dist.  
 325 W. Rainbow Blvd.  
 Salida, CO 81201  
 (719) 539-3591

Mike Sugaski

Leadville Ranger Dist.  
 2015 N. Poplar  
 Leadville, CO 80461  
 (719) 486-0749

Leonard Newton

Pikes Peak Ranger Dist.  
 601 S. Weber Street  
 Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
 (719) 636-1602

Tim Grantham

San Carlos Ranger Dist.  
 3170 East Main St.  
 Canon City, CO 81212  
 (719) 269-8500

Dave Crumley

South Platte Ranger Dist.  
 19316 Goddard Ranch Ct.  
 Morrison, CO 80465  
 (303) 275-5624

Steve Priest

P&SINF Supervisors Office  
 1920 Valley Dr.  
 Pueblo, CO 81008  
 (719) 545-8737

Ken Marler

### US Army Corp of Engineers

#### Arkansas River Drainage

Albuquerque District  
 Southern Colorado Project Office  
 720 N. Main St., Suite 205  
 Pueblo, CO 81003-3046  
 (719) 543-9459

#### Platte River Drainage

Omaha District  
 Tri Lakes Project Office  
 9307 Colorado Highway 121  
 Littleton, CO 80123-6901  
 (303) 979-4120





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**RECREATIONAL PLACER NOTIFICATION FOR  
 MOTORIZED PLACER OPERATIONS  
 IN THE ROYAL GORGE RESOURCE AREA OR  
 THE PIKE & SAN ISABEL NATIONAL FOREST**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

OPERATION TYPE: (ONE OR MORE MAY BE IDENTIFIED)

DREDGE \_\_\_\_\_ HIGHBANKER \_\_\_\_\_ SLUICE \_\_\_\_\_  
 DRY WASHER \_\_\_\_\_ TROMMEL/SCREEN \_\_\_\_\_  
 OTHER (ATTACH DESCRIPTION) \_\_\_\_\_

**EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS:**

INTAKE HOSE DIAMETER \_\_\_\_\_  
 ENGINE SIZE (HP): \_\_\_\_\_  
 RATED CAPACITY OF EQUIPMENT (CUBIC YARDS/HOUR) \_\_\_\_\_

ANTICIPATED START DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ANTICIPATED END DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION OF OPERATION(S) (IDENTIFY BELOW ALL AREAS YOU PROPOSE TO WORK IN)  
 (INCLUDE LOCATION ON A MAP OF MINIMUM SCALE 1/4 IN. = 1 MI.)

TWP. \_\_\_\_\_ RGE. \_\_\_\_\_ SEC(S) \_\_\_\_\_ 1/4 SEC \_\_\_\_\_

TWP. \_\_\_\_\_ RGE. \_\_\_\_\_ SEC(S) \_\_\_\_\_ 1/4 SEC \_\_\_\_\_

TWP. \_\_\_\_\_ RGE. \_\_\_\_\_ SEC(S) \_\_\_\_\_ 1/4 SEC \_\_\_\_\_

**CLAIM INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)**

CLAIM NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CMC NUMBER CMC- \_\_\_\_\_

CLAIM NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CMC NUMBER CMC- \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE ACCESS: (WILL USE EXISTING ROADS & TRAILS, WILL CONSTRUCT, OFFROAD, VEHICLE TYPE, ETC.) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

OPERATOR SIGNATURE

DATE

(attach additional pages if necessary)

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR RECREATIONAL PLACER OPERATIONS**

- (1) All materials too large in size to be moved by hand or hand held implements shall remain undisturbed.
- (2) All refueling of motorized equipment shall take place out of the waterway or adjacent wetlands with no fueling conducted closer than 20 feet from such areas.
- (3) All water based activities shall be conducted to prevent undercutting of banks.
- (4) Access shall be restricted to existing roads and trails. Motorized vehicles are restricted to a minimum distance of 20 feet from all waterways, riparian areas or wetland sites.
- (5) Operations shall not be located within 200 feet of a public water supply intake, fish hatchery intake, irrigation diversion structure or 100 feet of a bridge support without the written approval of the entity responsible for the structure.
- (6) No activity under this notification shall jeopardize the continued existence or habitat of a threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation.
- (7) No activity under this notification may adversely affect historic properties which are listed on, or determined eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places. All potential properties shall be left intact and immediately reported to the USFS or BLM.
- (8) All excavations occurring out of the water shall have materials replaced upon completion of operations. No sites shall be left open in excess of 14 days.
- (9) The applicant is responsible for obtaining and compliance with all necessary federal, state and/or local requirements.
- (10) No operations of any type are to occur on an existing mining claim without the permission of or authorization from the claim owner(s).
- (11) Camping is limited to 14 consecutive days at any one site.
- (12) Operations shall not disturb in excess of 2 cubic yards of material per day.
- (13) Anchorage systems shall not span the stream or interfere with the passage of water craft.

### **SPECIAL CONDITIONS:(ADDITIONAL SPECIAL CONDITIONS MAY BE NEEDED BASED ON ACTIVITY/LOCATION)**

- (1) All non-water based operations are allowed only in the Point Bar Special Area, or on mining claim(s).
- (2) No riparian vegetation or wetland areas are to be damaged or impacted by operations conducted under this notification.
- (3) Water based operations are prohibited in waterways containing brown trout between 1 October and 31 March. In addition, dredging in streams designated by the Colorado Division of Wildlife as "Gold Medal Streams" and/or "Wild Trout Water" is prohibited between 1 October and 30 June.