

Gold Placer Mining, Thanksgiving Placer Claim, Ward, CO

Date: Saturday, August 13, 2022 **Time:** 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Leader: Brian Walko C: (303) 931-4283 Email: earthextractions@gmail.com

Meeting Location: The claim is in Lefthand Creek halfway between the intersection of Lefthand Canyon Drive/Overland Road and the town of Ward. Exact directions will be sent to the people who sign up.

Items of note: This trip is for people interested in learning the science and art of gold placer mining. Miners can keep all gold collected. If a significant find is made, please notify the trip leader for location and photographs. The creek is shallow and a short walk from the parking area.

Geology: The Thanksgiving Placer Claim is situated at the bottom the Gold Hill Mining District. Source gold deposits are quartz, pyritic and telluride gold veins. We will be working directly in the creek. The size of the placer gold is from pinhead to flour size flecks.



Tools needed: A gold pan, small shovel or trowel, rock hammer, tweezers/eye dropper and small collection vial. The FMC has 6 gold pans and classifying screens for club members to use.

Optional tools: 5 gallon bucket, classifying screen with ¼” openings, black sand collection container and sluice box. Per USFS regulations, no power equipment (electrical or gasoline) are allowed on the claim. The trip leader will have two sluice boxes for the group to share.

Recommend Clothing/Gear: Hat, clothing, gloves, sunscreen, mosquito/tick repellent, snack/lunch, and water. Miners can wet wade, use boots or fishing waders. A change of clothes and rain parka is also recommend. No bathroom facilities in the area.

Hazards: This is moose, bear, and mountain lion country. If lightning is in the area, the field trip will be stopped, and the trip leader will determine whether to continue.