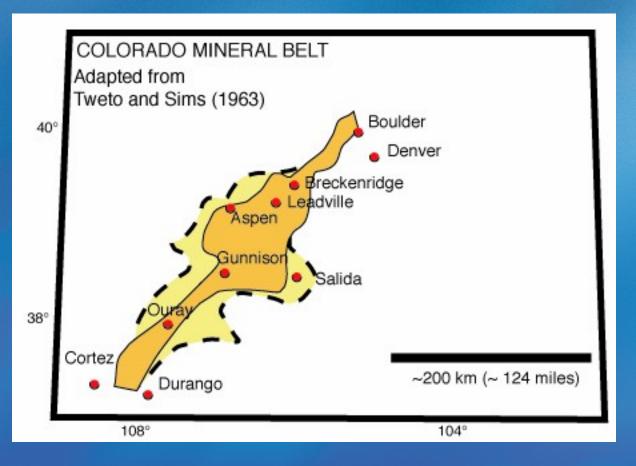
# **Gold Placer Mining in Colorado**

### Brian E. Walko February 11, 2016

## Outline

- Geologic History
- History of Colorado Gold Mining
- Placer vs. Lode Mining
- Placer Mining Methods & Tools
- Placer Prospecting & Claims
- How to Pan
- How to Sluice
- Prospecting Video

## **Geologic History**



Precambrian Shear Zones

### Laramide Orogeny

## Discovery – July 1858



Photo Courtesy of Colorado Historical Society

Lewis Ralston

Confluence Clear Creek
 & Ralston Creek

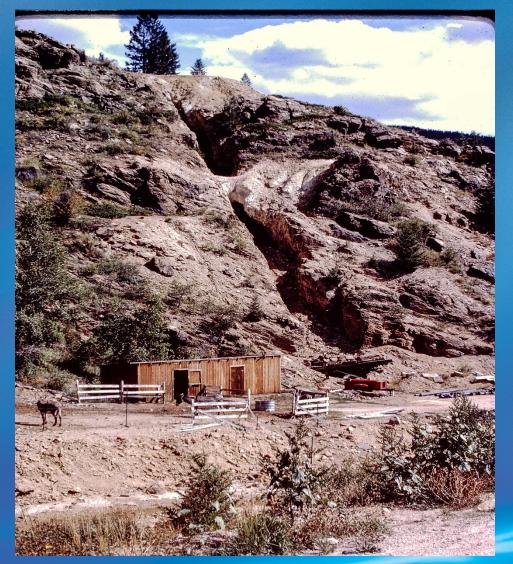
### Near present day Arvada

## Pikes Peak Gold Rush – 1859 - 1860



Photo Courtesy of Colorado Historical Society

## Clear Creek → Central City



Gregory Lode – The First Gold Vein in Colo 1859 Turned Central City into "Richest Square Mile on Earth"

## **Prospecting for Gold - Past**





Photos Courtesy of Colorado Historical Society

## **Prospecting for Gold - Past**

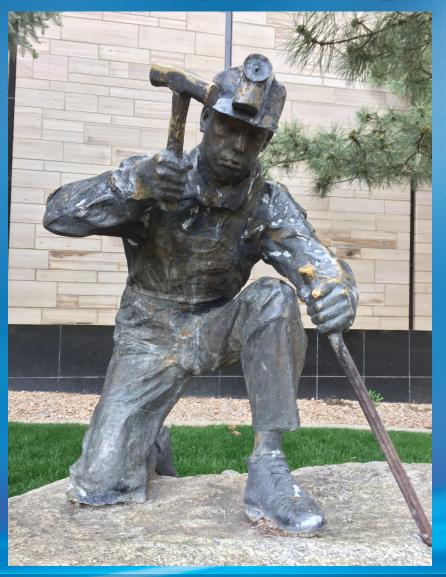


Photo Courtesy of Colorado Historical Society

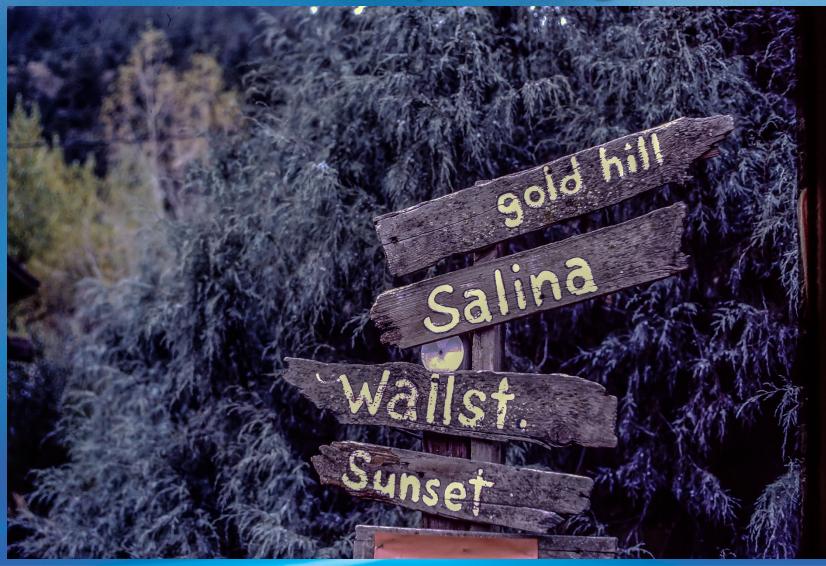
## **Prospecting for Gold - Present**



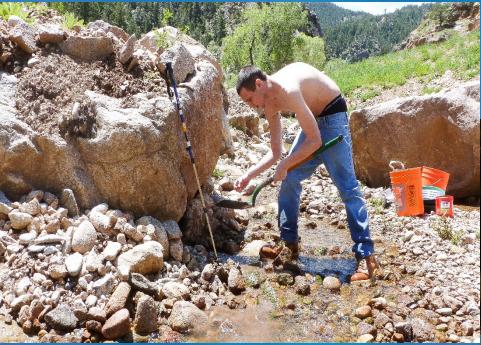
## **Boulder County Mining Heritage**



# **Boulder County Mining Towns**



## **Placer vs. Lode Mining**



### Placer

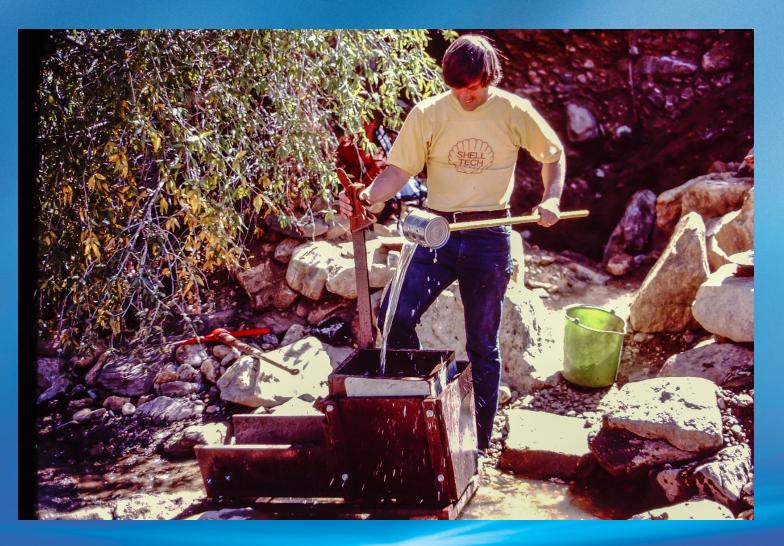




## **Placer Mining Methods - Panning**



## **Placer Mining Methods - Rocker**



## **Placer Mining Methods - Sluice**



## Placer Mining Methods - Dredge





## **Placer Mining Methods - Hydraulic**



Photo Courtesy of Colorado Historical Society

## Placer Mining Methods – Metal Detector



Photo Courtesy of Garrett Metal Detectors

## **Placer Tools**



#### GARRETT DELUXE GOLD PANNING KIT

This kit contains the patented 15 inch SuperSluice Gold Pan, the Gravity Trap 14" and 10 1/2" pans, a 1/2" mesh plastic classifier, the Gold Guzzler Bottle, and a book on panning techniques. The Garrett Gold Panning Is Easy book and video are included along with a pair of fine tipped tweezers with an attached magnifier and 2 plastic vials. All are nicely gift

boxed.

#G-1651400 **\$49.95** 





## **Prospecting for Placer Gold**

### Research: "Where gold has been found before"



# Prospecting – Mindat.org

115 entries listed. 93 valid minerals. 1 (TL) - type locality of valid minerals.

#### Localities in this Region





© mindat.org and the Hudson Institute of Mineralogy 1993-2016

## **Prospecting – Land**

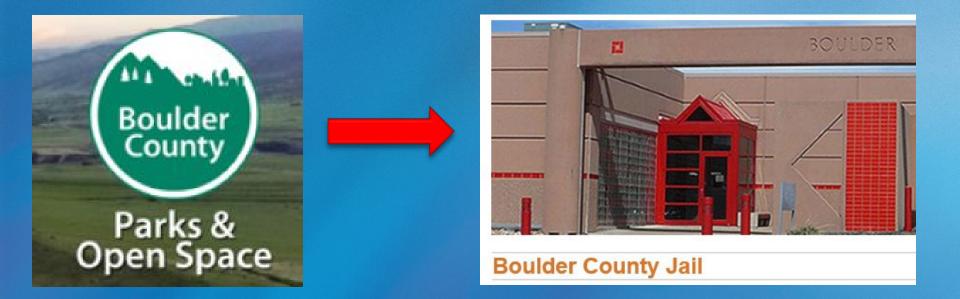
Public
BoCo Parks & Open Space
Private
Federal

## **Prospecting – Public Land**

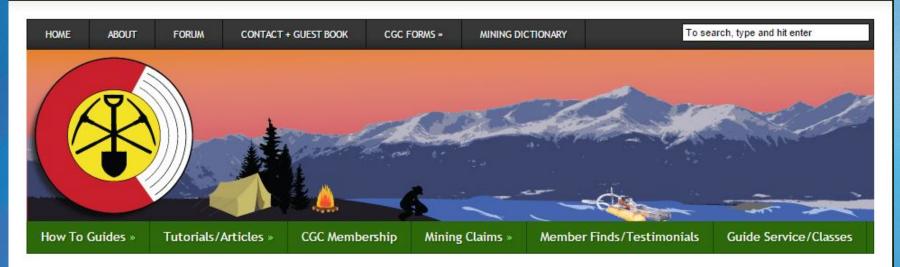
<u>Arapahoe Bar</u> - Panning and sluicing at Wheat Ridge, CO.
<u>Big Bend / Steele Street Open Space</u> – Panning Steele & 78<sup>th</sup> Adams County <u>Cache Creek</u> - Non-motorized mining in the BLM Cache Creek placer area.
<u>Clear Creek Canyon</u> - Recreational prospecting at Clear Creek Canyon Park.
<u>Fairplay Beach</u> - Panning at Fairplay, CO.
<u>Phoenix Gold Mine</u> (Fee) - Pan for gold at Trail Creek near Idaho Springs.



## Prospecting – BoCo Boulder County Parks & Open Space

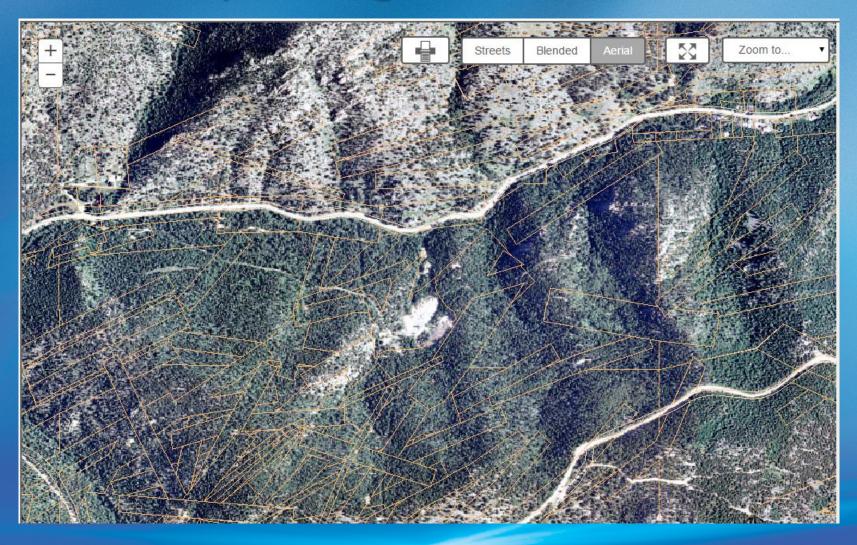


# Prospecting – Private Land Gold Clubs



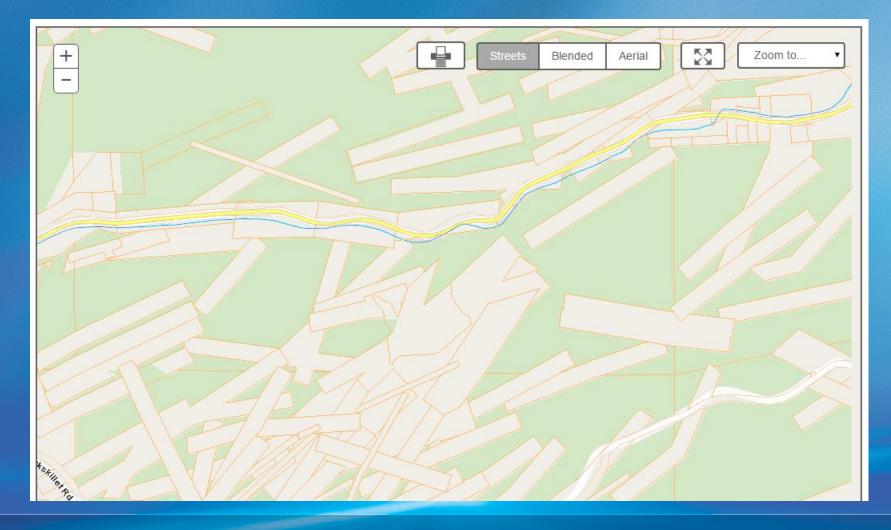
#### **CGC Membership**

## **Prospecting – Private Land**



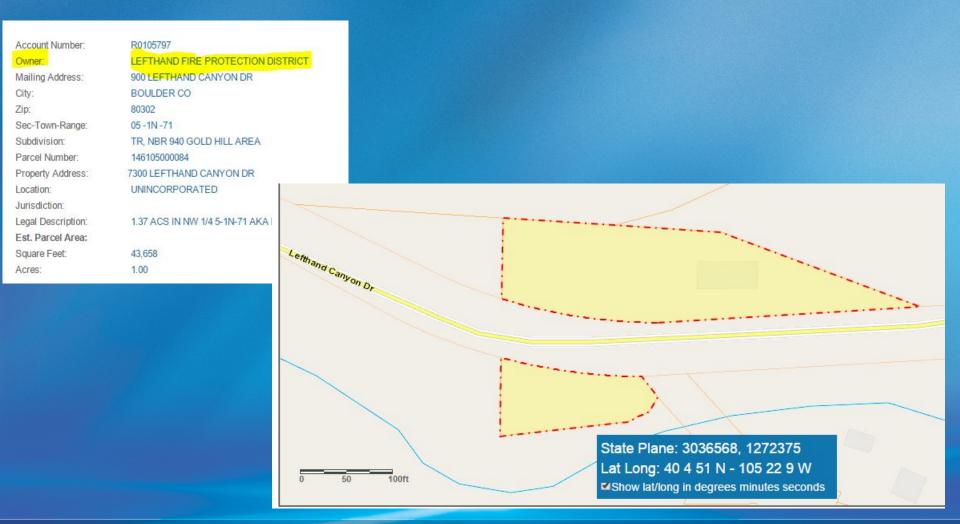
## **Prospecting – Private Land**

#### **Boulder County Assessor's Office Property Search**



## **Prospecting – Private Land**

**Boulder County Assessor's Office Property Search** 



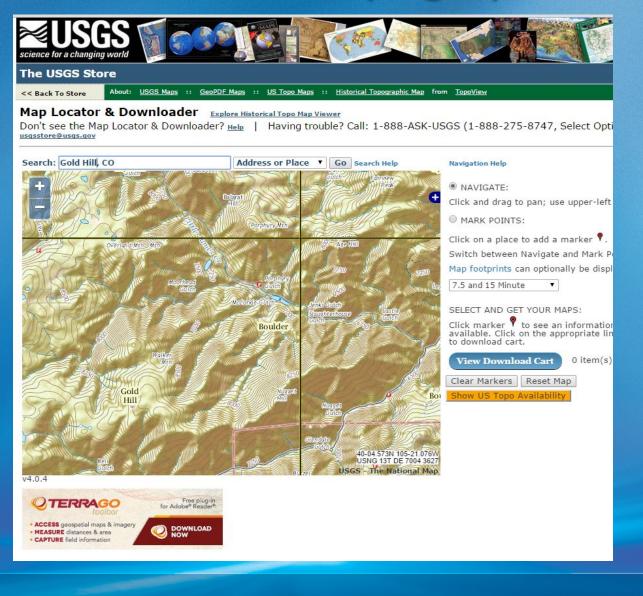
## **Prospecting – Federal Land**



#### NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

## **Claims Research – Topographic Maps**



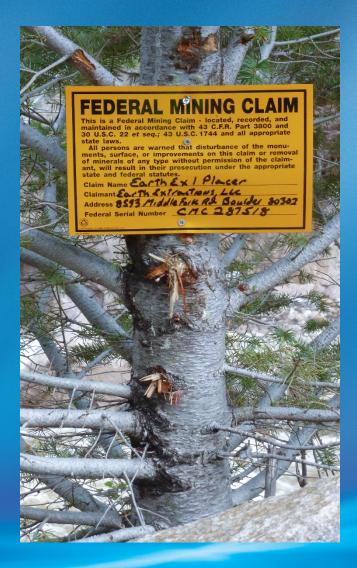
## Claims Research – Google Earth



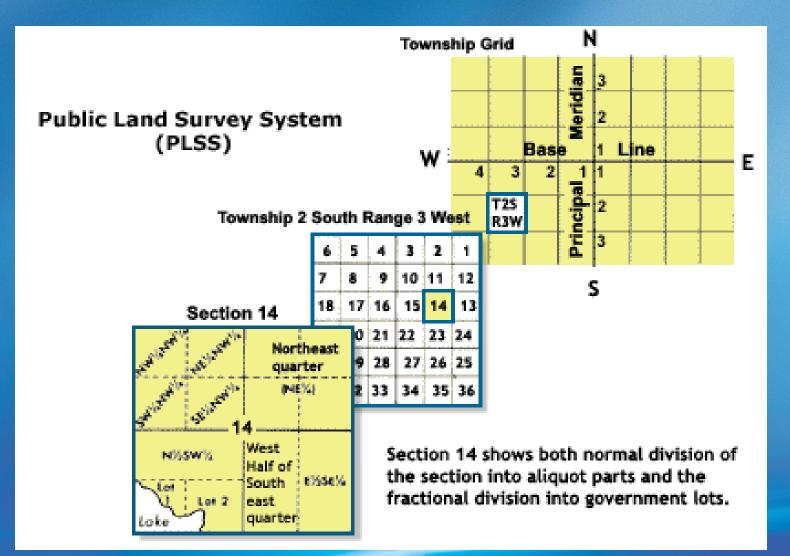
## Claims Research – Unclaimed?



## **Claims Research – Claimed**



## **Claims Research – PLSS**



## Claims Research – GeoCommunicator



### Claims Research – T1N R72W Sec 01



### Claims Research – LR2000



PUB MC GEO INDEX ()					
Please Set the Limits You Would Like to Filter On					
MANDATORY CRITERIA					
Set Admin State Limit(s) Selected: (CO) COLORADO					
Close       Meridian Township Range Section Limit(s) Selected: (06 0010N 0720W 001)         MTRS Format:       06 0010S 0980W 001         Meridian:       06 - 6TH PM V         Fraction       Direction         Township:       1         None       North         Range:       72         Section:       1         Add to MTR List       Clear Above Values         Image:       06 0010N 0720W 001         Image:       06 0010N 0720W 001					
Set Case Disposition Limit(s) Selected: (A) ACTIVE					

#### ACTIVE, CLOSED CLAIMS

#### Meridian Township Range: 06 0010N 0720W

Case

		Case							
SEC SUB DIV	Ser No	Type	Claim Name/Number	Claimant	Lead File	County	Loc Dt	Latest_	Closed
001 SE	CMC238317	LODE	CALAMBIA #11	COLUMBIA CITY GOLD	CMC238308		07/21/1990	1992	08/31/1993
SE	CMC238317	LODE	CALAMBIA #11	WALDNER DAVID	CMC238308		07/21/1990	1992	08/31/1993
SE	CMC238325	LODE	CALAMBIA #22	COLUMBIA CITY GOLD	CMC238308		07/21/1990	1992	08/31/1993
SE	CMC238325	LODE	CALAMBIA #22	WALDNER DAVID	CMC238308		07/21/1990	1992	08/31/1993
SE	CMC243443	PLACER	DONNA E	CRAVEN CORNELIE K	CMC243443		09/29/1992	1995	08/31/1995
SE	CMC247950	PLACER	DONNA E.	CRAVEN CORNELIE K	CMC247950		09/11/1995	2007	09/02/2008
SE	CMC271710	PLACER	DONNA E	CRAVEN CORNELIE K	CMC271710		09/25/2007	2012	09/04/2012
SE	CMC284998	PLACER	DONNA E	MARTINEK ANDREW B	CMC284998		03/12/2013	2016	
SW	CMC176123	LODE	RIP 1/29	ENERGETICS INC	CMC176100	450649;1169;0	06/04/1981	1988	07/16/1990
SW	CMC176124	LODE	RIP 1/31	ENERGETICS INC	CMC176100	450650;1169;0	06/04/1981	1988	07/16/1990
SW	CMC176125	LODE	RIP 1/33	ENERGETICS INC	CMC176100	450651;1169;0	06/04/1981	1988	07/16/1990
SW	CMC176126	LODE	RIP 1/35	ENERGETICS INC	CMC176100	450652;1169;0	06/04/1981	1988	07/16/1990
SW	CMC202686	LODE	EVENING STAR	REARDON MICHAEL P	CMC202681	594596;1283;0	12/07/1983	1986	08/31/1993
SW	CMC202687	LODE	FREDDIE	REARDON MICHAEL P	CMC202681	594597;1283;0	12/09/1983	1986	08/31/1993
SW	CMC202691	LODE	MORNING STAR	REARDON MICHAEL P	CMC202681	594601;1283;0	12/08/1983	1986	08/31/1993
SW	CMC202696	LODE	POLAR STAR	REARDON MICHAEL P	CMC202681	594606; 1283;0	12/07/1983	1986	08/31/1993
SW	CMC202698	LODE	TERRY	REARDON MICHAEL P	CMC202681	594608;1283;0	12/09/1983	1986	08/31/1993
SW	CMC210864	LODE	GOLD GULCH #2	BOULDER COUNTY	CMC210863	689054;1354;0	05/16/1985	2016	
SW	CMC210864	LODE	GOLD GULCH #2	COLORADO MILLING COMPANY LLC	CMC210863	689054;1354;0	05/16/1985	2016	
SW,SE	CMC176122	LODE	RIP 1/27	ENERGETICS INC	CMC176100	450648;1169;0	06/04/1981	1988	07/16/1990
SW,SE	CMC202688	LODE	GERTRUDE	REARDON MICHAEL P	CMC202681	594598;1283;0	12/09/1983	1986	08/31/1993

Run Time: 08:13 PM

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT MINING CLAIM GEOGRAPHIC INDEX REPORT

ACTIVE CLAIMS

Run Date: 01/27/2016 Page 1 of 1

#### Geo State: CO County: BOULDER BLM Resource Area: ROYAL GORGE FO Meridian Township Range: 06 0010N 0720W

			Case							
SEC	SUB DIV	Ser No	Туре	Claim Name/Number	Claimant	Lead File	County	Loc Dt	Latest	Closed
001	SE	CMC284998	PLACER	DONNA E	MARTINEK ANDREW B	CMC284998		03/12/2013	2016	
	SW	CMC210864	LODE	GOLD GULCH #2	BOULDER COUNTY	CMC210863	689054;1354;0	05/16/1985	2016	
	SW	CMC210864	LODE	GOLD GULCH #2	COLORADO MILLING COMPANY LLC	CMC210863	689054;1354;0	05/16/1985	2016	

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT MINING CLAIMS

Run Date/Time: 01/27/16 08:15 PM	(MASS) Serial Register Page		Page 1 o
01 10-21-1976;090 STAT0090;43U SC1744 Case Type 384201: PLACER CLAIM	Total Acres	Serial Number	
Claim Name: DONNA E Case Disposition: ACTIVE	2.441	CMC284998 Lead File Number CMC284998	
Required Maintenance Fee: \$155.00 Name & Address		Int Rel	
MARTINEK ANDREW B PO BOX 131 WARD, CO B0481-0131		CLAIMANT	
County / State	District		
BOULDER County, CO	FRONT RANGE DO		7

Mer Twp R	Twp Rng Sec		Subdivision					
06 0010N 0720N 001			SE					
Act Date	Code	Action Text	Action Remarks	Receipt Number				

Act Date	Code	Action Text	Action Remarks	Receipt Number
03/12/2013	403	LOCATION DATE		
03/26/2013	395	RECORDATION NOTICE RECD	1	2763890
08/28/2015	782	MAINTENANCE FEE PAYMENT	2016;\$155	3379687
09/02/2014	782	MAINTENANCE FEE PAYMENT	2015;\$155	3119874
08/16/2013	682	MAINTENANCE FEE/\$140	2014;\$140	2857232
03/26/2013	484	LOCATION YEAR / MAINTENAN	2013;\$140	2763890

### Claims Research – BoCo Recorder

Office of the Clerk & Recorder Recording Division 1750 33rd Street, Suite 201 Boulder, CO 80301

#### **Boulder County Recording Division Online Services**

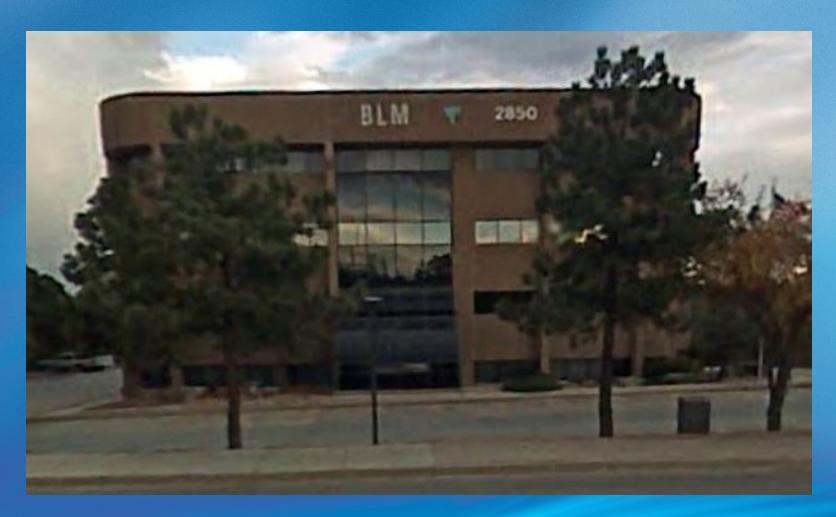
History: 03368245 PER REP DEED V Document Info Related Inst. Return Address aller! . Number of Pages: 2 1253 Consideration Amt.: \$40,000.00 Remarks: Notes: Name Information Grantor: CRAVEN CORY ESTATE CRAVEN CORNELIE KUYLAARS ESTATE RICHARDS ROBERTA A PER REP Grantee: MARTINEK ANDREW B Parcel #1: Address / Legal Description Legal Description: SEC 1 T 1N R 72W TR HONG KONG LODE #465 Page 1 of 2. LITTLE GIANT LODE 16620

Guest users please log in here

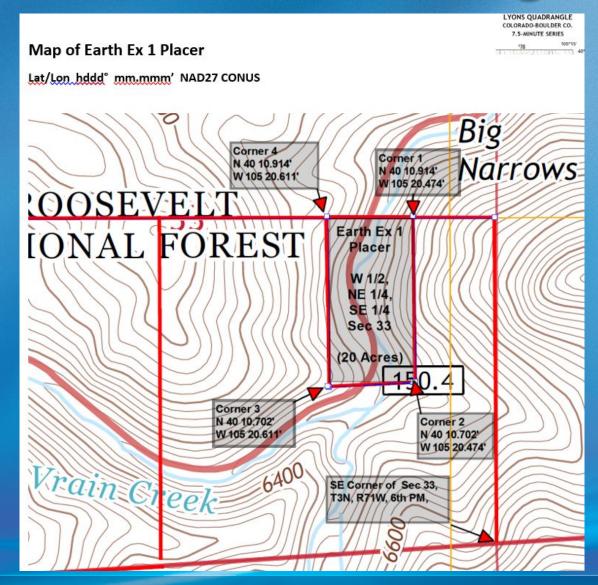
Boulder

County

#### Claims Research – BLM Office



### **Claims Research – Existing Claim**



### Where to Look for Placer Gold



### Where to Look – Gravel Bars



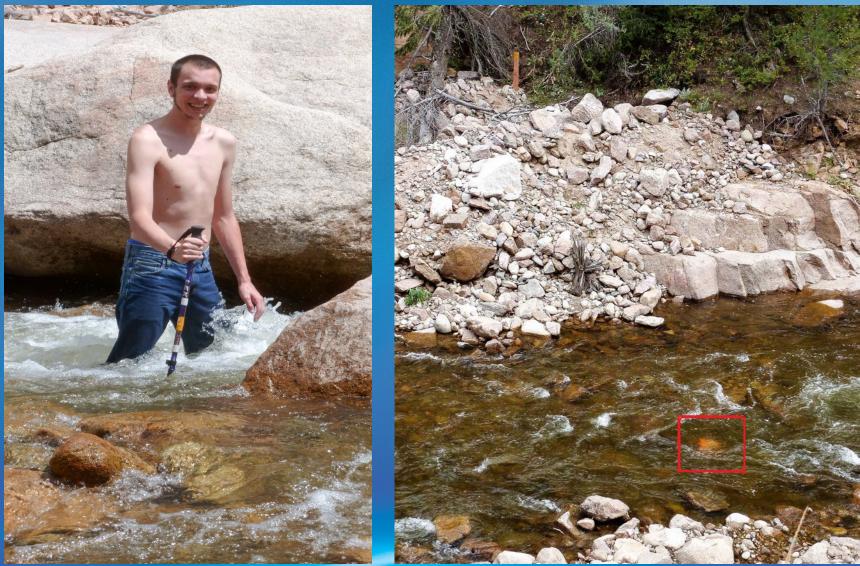
#### Where to Look – Ancient Gravel Bars



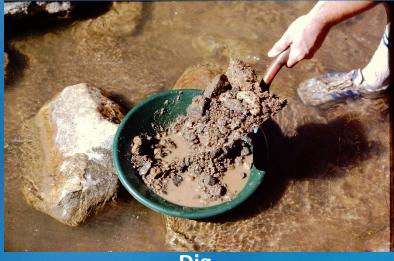
## Where to Look – Bedrock Cracks



## Caution!



### How to Pan



Dig



Agitate



Pluck



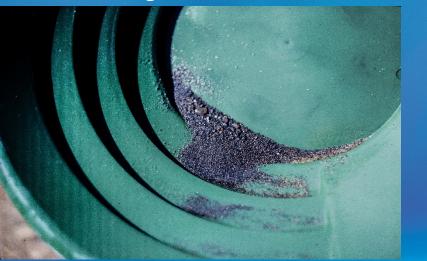
Wash

### How to Pan





Agitate





#### **Black Sand**

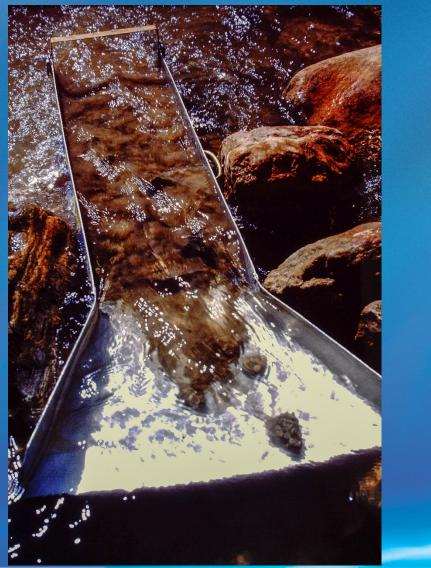


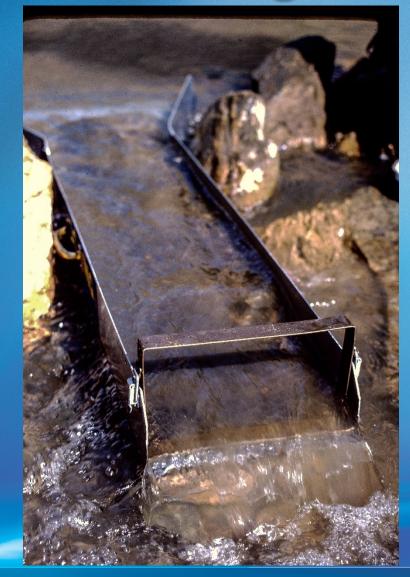
## How to Sluice - Setup





### How to Sluice - Processing





## How to Sluice - Cleanout





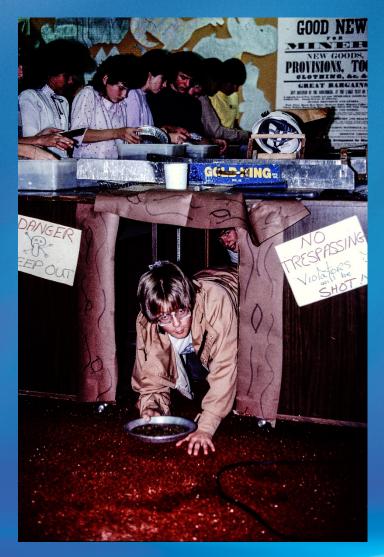




#### How to Sluice - Cleanout



#### Where Did the Gold Go?





### **Gold Prospecting Video**

# Thank you!



Photo Courtesy of Alaska Mining – GNU Free Documentation