



Cheyenne Chapter

GPAA

P.O Box 234
Cheyenne, WY 82003
www.cheyenneGPAA.com



October 10, 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Douglas Creek Outing: 12-13
July 2008**

**Douglas Creek Outing: August
23rd and 24th**

CLUB STORE

Coffee mugs \$ 5.00
Green Embroidered T-shirt
\$16.00
Screen Printed T-shirts \$10.00
Mesh caps \$ 7.50
Embroidered caps \$12.00
Green gold pan \$10.00
Classifier \$10.00
Scoop \$ 7.00
1/2 oz. vial \$.35 ea. or 3/\$1.00
1 oz. vial \$.40 ea. or 3/\$1.00
Snuffer bottle \$ 3.00
KITS
Black pan, sand, vial, snuffer
\$15.00
Green pan, sand, vial, snuffer
\$17.00

The Store will be open at the next meeting. See George or Peggy Stumpf.

Websites of Interest

BLM online mining claims:
www.geocommunicator.gov

U.S. Forest Service, Medicine
Bow; www.fs.fed.us/r2/mbr

Denver Museum of Nature &
Science: www.dmns.org

June Minutes

Joe Still opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. with 42 in attendance including all club officers and 5 guests.

Welcome to the new members/guests, and a special thanks to Donald Nyp, who donated \$20 to the Club...we appreciate it very much! We hope you all enjoyed the meeting and made lots of new friends!

Joe reported on the excellent showing at the Cheyenne Rock & Gem Show, where our club had a booth. Thanks to those who volunteered to help out. The idea of offering the kids who panned for gold a choice between candy or a small piece of gold worked pretty well, and helped out with our supply of "salting" gold.

Joe reminded the club members of the June 21st Kid's Cowboy Festival at the Old West Museum in Frontier Park, and asked for some volunteers to help out with that. For those who will help out, or if you just want to stop by and watch the fun, parking is in the "C" Lot. We'll be setting up between 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. and will be there pretty much all day.

Changes to the Mining Law as proposed by the U.S. Forest Service were discussed. The National GPAA is aware and is already involved in this. More information is available at their website: www.goldprospectors.com/

Bob Morrison also spoke about some of the issues relating to the Letter of Intent for dredging on Forest Service land.

Don Wegner spoke about rule changes that have recently taken effect in the Medicine Bow National Forest. These changes effect both dredging and hand panning. Members are advised to visit the website at www.fs.fed.us/r2/mbr/ and click the link to "panning and dredging" in the right-hand sidebar. The rules as well as a downloadable Letter of Intent are available there.

Joe mentioned that the signs on the Crazy 8 claim (Lake Creek) are gone. If someone can

help out with replacing them, please let Joe know.

A new meeting place was discussed. Both the VFW Post 1881 and the American Legion Post 6 can accommodate us. We can bring in food/drinks at both places. The VFW would charge \$50 per month and the Legion would charge \$25 per month. We would be responsible for cleaning up afterwards. We would have to re-schedule our monthly meeting in November...the first Tuesday of November is Election Day, and the Legion is a polling place. This would only be the case in election years, of course. It was agreed that we should continue looking at some other places before making any decision, as there are still several other possibilities. Anyone who can help out with looking for a new meeting place, it would be appreciated. Keep in mind that we need a place that will allow us to hold our raffles (some won't allow this) and also to sell items from our store (some won't allow this either) so be sure to bring this up with whoever you talk to.

Reminder: The July Monthly Meeting will be held at the outing at Douglas Creek...we will NOT be meeting at Perkins as usual! We will have a pot-luck dinner at 5:00 pm on the 12th (Saturday) followed by our annual meeting starting at 6:30 pm.

In closing, Bob Morrison thanked the club members for being such a great group to work with. Bob served the Cheyenne Chapter GPAA in several capacities over many years, including being past President of the Club. The Club extends it's thanks to Bob and Louise Morrison for all you've done for us!

End

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Joseph Still

Treasurer: Don Ashley

Newsletter: Peter Somontes
psomontes@Yahoo.com

Ast. Claims Director: Larry Duvall

Activity Chairman: Bear Gibson

Vice President: Ken Siders

Secretary: Don Wagner

Claims Director: Lyle Shingleton
307-742-5038

Prizes/Raffles: Bob Bruce & John Eggleston

Store: George & Peggy Stumpf

Rock & Gem Show

The winners of the raffle that was held at the Rock & Gem show were announced. The winner of the hand operated sand pump (or chuck-sucker) was a young man whose name was not immediately available. The Sluice was won by Rich Richersen, and the gold nugget was won by Florence Frantz. Congrats to all!

Don Ashley reported that 647 tickets were sold to the above raffle, and after subtracting expenses the club came out \$342 to the good at the Rock & Gem Show. In addition, there were several sales from the club store, but the final numbers were not in on that just yet.

End

RAFFLE WINNERS!

Utility Knife - Carl Filter
Coin Set - Lyle Shingleton
Decorative Paddle - Carl Filter
6v Lantern - Joe Still
Waterproof Box - Lyle Shingleton
Pocket Knife w/sheath - Jim Motto
Thermos - Pete Somontes
16.5 grain nugget - Bear Gibson

50/50 Raffle

\$54 - Florence Frantz

Nametag Raffle

LED Cap Light - Pam Gibson

End

PROSPECTORS CACHE

Felix Paydirt Gourmet Gold. Club member John Eggleston is taking orders for the 2 LB bag of Felix Paydirt. John orders a case of 10 bags at a time and receives one free bag which the club uses as a raffle item. The bags are \$70 you would like to order a bag or two,

Contact John at 635-0229

Quartz epidote crystals hand dug from the Fox Park area. Each crystal has been hand dug, polished and mounted in either a pair of earrings or as a necklace. Buy separately or buy them as an earring/necklace set.

Assorted styles available. \$10-\$15.

Call Louise Morrison 632-7895,

Lmrr3964@aol.com

For Sale: White's Metal Detector w/power pack and case.

Call Bob or Louise Morrison, 307-632-7895

Wanted: 1 1/2" Proline Highbanker/Dredge combo.

FOR SALE: 852 Sluice, \$60.

Call Dallas Lake at 307-421-4507.

For Sale: 1850 Coleman generator, runs good. \$200

Dennis Renison at 307-632-8056

For Sale: LDMA membership, paid up, I can't work it anymore. \$2000 or best offer, you pay transfer fee.

Richard Medlock 632-0668

For Sale: 2007 Polaris 500 HO EFI Limited 4X4. Has only 270 miles. In excellent condition with some accessories.

Transferable warranty

Jim Motto 307-638-7929

For Sale: Whites MXT Metal Detector; Whites DD Gold Coil/MXT; Whites 12011 Pinpoint; Whites Headphones E Series. New in Box. Paid over \$1000, Sell all for \$850.

Lou Lopez 778-8434

Visit Yesterdays on Foxfarm Rd, Cheyenne.

To have your ad placed here Email Peter Somontes at psomontes@Yahoo.com or see me at the meeting.

Your ad will also be on the Chapter website.

NY Stock Exchange Closing prices as of 20 June..

Spot Prices

Metal	Bid	Ask
Silver	\$17.43	\$17.49
Gold	\$901.25	\$903.95
Palladium	\$472.00	\$480.00
Platinum	\$2053.50	\$2073.50

USFS Seeking Additional Comments

The Forest Service is seeking more comments from Small Miners on the proposed rules announced in March. The text of the request is on the next page.

Comments must be received by July 17, 2008.

As discussed last month by Don Wagner the new USFS rules concerning dredging and panning are available on the Forest Service website. The crux of the new rules are that the USFS **DOES NOT** see any difference between dredging and panning.

IF YOU PAN, SLUCE OR DREDGE FILE A LETTER OF INTENT WITH THE FOREST SERVICE JUST TO COVER YOURSELF.

Copies of the letter are available on the Forest Service website.

End

[Federal Register: June 17, 2008 (Volume 73, Number 117)]

[Proposed Rules]

[Page 34239-34240]

From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]

[DOCID:fr17jn08-16]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Forest Service

36 CFR Parts 223, 228, 261, 292, and 293

Regulatory Flexibility Act Assessment--Locatable Minerals Operations

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service published in the Federal Register a proposed rule to revise the regulations for locatable minerals operations conducted on National Forest System lands. The proposed rule considered impacts to small entities under Executive Order 13272 and the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (SBREFA). However, the proposed rule did not make available nor seek comment on the small entities flexibility assessment. This notice allows for review and seeks comment on the flexibility assessment.

DATES: Comments must be received, in writing, on or before July 17,2008.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Forest Service, USDA, Attn: Director, Minerals and Geology Management (MGM) Staff, (2810), Mail Stop 1126, Washington, DC 20250-1125; by electronic mail to 36cfr228a@fs.fed.us <mailto:36cfr228a@fs.fed.us>; by fax to (703) 605-1575.

If comments are sent by electronic mail or by fax, the public is requested not to send duplicate written comments via regular mail.

The public may inspect comments received on the proposed rule in the Office of the Director, MGM Staff, 5th Floor, Rosslyn Plaza Central, 1601 North Kent Street, Arlington, Virginia, on business days between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Those wishing to inspect comments are encouraged to call ahead at (703) 605-4646 to facilitate entry into the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike Doran, Minerals and Geology Management Staff,(208)373-4132.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The assessment follows.

Description of Small Entities Affected

The proposed rule (73 FR 15694, Mar. 25, 2008) would directly affect all exploration and mining companies. There are currently approximately 1,800 exploration and mining companies operating on the National Forests. Seventy-five percent of these companies are considered small business with less than 500 employees. The size of these 1,260 small businesses range from one person to 499 employees. Total production ranges from zero production for exploration companies to few thousand dollars per year for very small mining to several million dollars per year for the larger mining companies. Most mining companies require at least 20-25 percent profit to survive mining's volatile market.

Economic Impacts on Small Entities

Increased operating costs from the proposed rule to small exploration and mining companies is expected to be insignificant since the small entities are already working under the proposed rule through current direction and policy spelled out in the Forest Service manual and handbooks. The proposed rule codifies much of the existing direction and policy.

The most direct costs from the proposed regulations will come from how much time and money is spent on filling out and filing the required notice of intent, cessation of operations, or an operating plan. Table 1 records the 2007 annualized burden costs for an operator.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) published earnings information pertaining to locatable mineral operations. That information can be found in the Mineral Commodity Summaries 2007.

The USGS disclosed that the estimated "Average weekly earnings of production workers" for metal mining in 2006 was \$979. Based on 40 hours a week and on an 8-hour workday, the average hourly salary in the locatable mineral arena is about \$24.48. This rate is reflected in Table 1.

Table 1.--2007 Annualized Burden Costs

Annualized Information collection	Number of respondents	Response frequency	Hour burden per collection	Total burden hours	Costs @\$24.48/hour	Cost per respondent
Plan of operations.....	319	1	12	3,828	\$93,709	\$293.76
Notice of intent.....	1,396	1	2	2,792	20,318	14.55
Cessation of operations.....	3	1	1	3	73	24.33

Each year the Forest Service surveys the regional offices to get an estimate of how many Plans of Operations and Notices of Intents were received. The latest figures indicate that 320 Plans of Operations and 415 Notices of Intent were received in 2007. All of these plans and notices came from small entities.

Total estimated 2007 costs for small entities to comply with the information collection was \$114,100. The estimated additional information collection costs for the proposed bonded notice are reflected in Table 2.

Table 2.--2007 Annualized Burden Costs for a Bonded Notice (Proposed Rule)

Annualized Information collection	Number of respondents	Response frequency	Hour burden per collection	Total burden hours	Costs @\$24.48/hour	Cost per respondent
Bonded notice..	100	1	6	600	\$14,688	\$146.88

The field units provided an initial estimate of 100 exploration and mining companies that would use the bonded notice instead of a plan of operation. A six hour burden per bonded notice was assumed giving a total of 600 burden hours. Annualized costs to the small entities would be \$14,688.

The economic impact on an individual respondent would be \$114,100 + \$14,688 = \$128,788 divided by 1,260 small businesses = \$102.21.

Conclusion

The comments will be addressed in the final rule for locatable minerals operations. The Forest Service has determined that the proposed rule will have an impact on a substantial number of small businesses. However, the economic impact of the proposed rule will not be significant. Under the proposed rule small entities will have the option of filing a bonded notice rather than a plan of operation for short-term, low impact exploration proposals rather the longer plan of operations requiring more analysis and a longer approval time. The Forest Service expects the major impact from the proposed rule to be a reduction of paperwork burden for the small entities which should be beneficial to small exploration and mining companies.

The Forest Service hereby certifies that the proposed rule will not have significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities as defined by SBRFEA.

Dated: June 9, 2008.
 Charles L. Myers,
 Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.
 [FR Doc. E8-13446 Filed 6-16-08; 8:45 am]

MAP TO DOUGLAS CREEK OUTING

From Laramie take Hwy 230 west for 34 miles to Fox Park turnoff (Route 512), stay on 512 for 7 miles, take the left fork in the road and cross the bridge, the outing will be on the right side of the road in the meadow. Please bring a covered dish for our Potluck after the meeting Saturday.

