

DREDGING AND PANNING SPECIFICATIONS
on the
Routt National Forest

Please have a copy of your “Letter of Intent” with you when operating on the Routt National Forest.

Season of operation for dredging on the Routt National Forest is:

July 01 to September 10 on all streams. This is to protect trout spawning habitat.

High banking is defined as: Moving water from the stream channel via mechanical means to a location outside of the stream channel floor to process material for its gold content.” High banking **IS NOT** excavating into the stream bank.

Excavating into the stream bank to obtain material for its gold content **IS PROHIBITED**. Please stay within the boundaries of the stream channel floor, or when high banking, at least 100 feet outside of the stream channel floor.

If a hole is created while high banking away from the stream channel, please fill in the hole before you leave the Routt National Forest.

If stream levels are low late in the summer, gold dredgers and panners may be required to keep their operations 300 feet apart to minimize stream turbidity.

Use small portable suction dredges with a suction hose intake of **three (3) inches or less in diameter**.

Use small portable suction dredges powered by **10 horsepower or less engines**.

No activities using tracked or wheeled mechanized equipment (e.g., backhoe, dozer, bobcat, power rock saw, or trencher) or explosives can be authorized through a dredging letter of intent.

No activities, except hand panning, are allowed in any **Class I Water**. This also includes any surface waters located within the boundaries of congressionally designated wilderness areas as of January 01, 1999. This includes Mount Zirkel Wilderness, Sarvis Creek Wilderness, Flat Tops Wilderness, and Platte River Wilderness.