

DREGS 2015 Spring Field Trip
Canon City - Westcliffe - Silver Cliff - Rosita Hills
May 16-17, 2015

DREGS is planning a two-day field excursion to visit precious and base metal occurrences of interest from Canon City to the Hardscrabble District of Silver Cliff, CO. Attendees would assemble on the first day at 10AM in Canon City at the old prison parking lot. Our first field stop will be at the Dawson gold prospect just southwest of town. At Dawson gold and copper are of probable exhalative origin, hosted in high-grade-metamorphosed volcanic rocks which are intruded by a K-spar-rich granitic mass of Silver Plume Granite age. Dawson has a drilled resource of about 120,000 ounces Au at a grade of 0.3-0.5 opt in a vein-like configuration that would be mined by underground methods. From Dawson the group will proceed up the Arkansas River valley to Cotopaxi and examine a skarnified massive sulfide occurrence with gahnite (a zinc spinel). We will then continue on to Westcliffe to dine and spend the night.

The second day of the excursion will focus on mineral deposits and points of geological interest in the White Hills immediately north of Silver Cliff. After breakfast and a morning view from the east of the spectacular snow-capped Sangre de Cristo Range, we will examine manganiferous silver occurrences north of Silver Cliff. The group will then drive a short distance to the northwest to the Kate silver prospect, drilled initially by CoCa Mines and later by Tenneco. Resources stand at 4.16 million tons grading 2.68 opt Ag at a 1.0 opt Ag cutoff grade. Near Kate we will examine a quarry that exposes the obsidian horizon stratigraphically below the silver-mineralized rhyolite. The obsidian layer has spectacular giant rhyolite spherules. The excursion will proceed to the Bull Domingo breccia pipe in the Blue Mountains (also called Bull Domingo Hills). The trip will end in the Rosita Hills east of Silver Cliff where base and precious metal-bearing veins and breccias will be examined.

At the May DREGS meeting a sign-up sheet will be passed around for the field excursion. In case you would like to take part in the trip but will not attend the May DREGS meeting, please indicate so to Steve Zahony at e-mail: szahony@comcast.net. Please bring your own lunch for the first day. Motel reservations will be made by DREGS for the overnight stay in Westcliffe but it will be the responsibility of each participant to pay for the motel, dinner, and drinks. There will be a charge of \$15 to DREGS members for the excursion which will include a boxed lunch for the second day and a field trip guide. If you are not a DREGS member there will be an additional charge of \$20 for membership in the Society.

Gunnison Mining & Minerals Symposium
July 10-13, 2015

Sponsored by: Friends of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum, Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum, and Denver Region Exploration Geologists' Society.

Explore and learn more about the geology, mineralogy, and mining history of the Gunnison basin and the surrounding mountains. There will be an evening reception with a presentation on the mining history of Gunnison County on the first day followed by a day of presentations, and two days with three field trips each with collecting opportunities to: 1.) the lithium-rich Brown Derby pegmatite mine, 2.) the mine dumps of the epithermal Vulcan- Good Hope gold mine followed by a visit to the Powderhorn carbonatite complex, and 3.) a trip to one of the Proterozoic Gold Mines in the Gunnison Greenstone Belt followed by a visit to the Crystal Hill open pit gold mine in nearby Saguache County. The Symposium will be hosted at Western State University campus. Lodging and eating accommodations will be available on campus at favorable prices. Dates of the Symposium coincide with Cattlemen weekend in Gunnison with entertainment for family members not attending the Symposium. Registration and accommodations will be announced later by DREGS and on site: <https://www.facebook.com/LikCSMGeoMuseum>

Photos from Silver Cliff Field Trip 2015



Dawson Creek Photo - Past President Steve Zahony at Dawson Creek Au Deposit.



Heading Cotopaxi - Below workings at Cotopaxi.



Cu Oxides Cotopaxi - Cu oxides from meta-base metal mineralization - Cotopaxi.



Spherulites - Mega spherulites at Kate silver deposit - Silver Cliff.