

Chaffee County

Fourmile District

The Fourmile District is a little known district in the area of Fourmile Creek, northeast of Buena Vista. Henderson (1926) lists the Fourmile in his table of Colorado mining districts. Vanderwilt (1947) places the district in T13S, R78W. but states its exact location is "unknown." The map of Wood (1983) implies the district extends into Park County, overlapping with the Buffalo Peaks District, but shows a concentration of mines and claims in sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, and 18 of T13S, R78W. Those seven sections - all in Chaffee County - are what is used on our map.

Wood (1983) and Hedlund, et al (1983) describe gold-bearing quartz veins following northwest-trending faults in Precambrian granite along Fourmile Creek. They describe low to moderate potential for silver and gold in these veins for future development.

Production figures for 1935, 1936 and 1937 show that 78 tons of ore yielded 53.5 ounces of gold. In 1940, Vanderwilt reports that 67 tons of ore supplied 39 oz of gold, 336 oz of silver, 1000 pounds of copper, 1200 pounds of lead and 30,000 pounds of zinc.

References:

[Mineral Resource Data System \(MRDS\) - Online Spatial Data – Fourmile District](#)

Hedlund, D.C., Nolan, G.A. and Wood, R.H. II, 1983, Mineral Resource Potential of the Buffalo Peaks Wilderness Study Area, Lake, Park, and Chaffee Counties, Colorado; U.S. Geological Survey Misc. Field Studies Map MF 1628-A.

Henderson, Charles W. (1926) Mining in Colorado; U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 138.

Vanderwilt, John W., 1947, *Mineral Resources of Colorado*, State of Colorado Mineral Resources Board, Denver, CO.

Wood, Robert H. II, 1983, Mineral Investigation of the Buffalo Peaks Wilderness Study Area, Lake, Park, and Chaffee Counties, Colorado; U.S. Bureau of Mines Open File Report 98-83.