

## Mineral County

### Wagon Wheel Gap District

The Wagon Wheel Gap District is a small district near Creede that comprised one of the four major fluorspar districts of Colorado (Dunn, 2003). Aurand (1920) described the deposits as a vein within Tertiary rhyolite tuff. The one mine was the American Fluorspar Company Mine. Descriptions of the minerals can be found on mindat.org, in Lunt (1915), Larsen and Wells (1916), and Korzeb (1992).

Production began in 1911 and the American Fluorspar Company Mine was worked intermittently until 1950 (Dunn, Ibis). The mill remains adjacent to the hot springs resort.

Minerals listed in the district (mindat.org; Korzeb, 1992) include:

Baryte	Creedite (TL)	'Halloysite'
Beidellite	Fluorite	Hematite
Calcite	Gearsutite	Pyrite
Covellite	Gypsum	Quartz var: Chalcedony

#### References:

- Aurand, H.A. 1920. Fluorspar Deposits of Colorado. Colorado Geological Survey Bulletin 18.
- Dunn, Lisa. 2003. Colorado Mining Districts: A Reference. Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colorado.
- Korzeb, S.L. 1992. The Wagon Wheel Gap Fluorspar Mine, Mineral County, Colorado. Mineralogical Record, vol. 24, pp. 23-29.
- Larsen, E.S. and Wells, R.C. 1916. Some Minerals from the Fluorite-Barite Vein near Wagon Wheel Gap, Colorado. National Academy of Science Vol. 2, p. 360.
- Lunt, H.F. 1915. A Fluorspar Mine in Colorado. Min. and Science Press, pp. 925-926.

[www.mindat.org](http://www.mindat.org), accessed Jan 2016.