Jack Wade Creek

Public Gold Panning Area - Alaska



Recreational gold panning is allowed on nearly all BLM-managed public lands in the Fortymile region except on mining claims and developed recreation sites. However, it can be difficult to figure out whose land you are on. Access can also be challenging, given the area's few roads and trails. For these reasons the BLM established a public gold panning area along 3 miles (4.8 km) of Jack Wade Creek. The panning area is open to recreational gold panning from one-

quarter mile (0.4 km) upstream of the Walker Fork Campground at Milepost 82 to the mining claims near Milepost 85, easily accessible from the Taylor Highway (see map on back). No permits are required. Panning is not allowed on adjacent mining claims.

Jack Wade Creek has been mined almost continuously since Jack Anderson and Wade Nelson discovered gold there in 1895. Parts of a dredge that operated on the creek from 1936 to 1941 are on display next to the Chicken post office. While most of the creek's gold has already been recovered, you may be lucky enough to find 'colors' the others missed!

What Is Allowed

In the public gold panning area you may use:

- Gold pans
- Shovels
- · Picks
- Metal detectors
- Pry bars
- Manually fed rocker boxes and sluice boxes

What is **NOT** Allowed

The following are prohibited in the public gold panning area:

- Motorized equipment, including suction dredges, pumps, and earthmoving equipment
- Disturbing the Taylor Highway roadbed or shoulders
- Camping

With your cooperation, this panning area will offer its treasures to Fortymile visitors for years to come!



