Mines and Mining field trip

The trip is scheduled for July 26-29 and our home base will be Challis Idaho. The trip will be lead by Elton Modroo a professional mineral explorer but now retired. We explore the mining legacy in the area around Challis Idaho. We also examine the Challis volcanic rocks and preserved fossil trees. There is camping and RV parking at the Challis hot springs or you can reserve a room in a Challis motel. The hot springs has showers and bathrooms available for campers. We will all be responsible for own food. SUV is recommended however if you do drive a two wheel drive to the hot springs then you may car pool from there. Email john@wyom.net to reserve a spot. There will be a limit of 30 participants.

Itinerary

July 26 Thursday night - arrive in Challis and setup camp in hot springs or check into motel. Reservations for Hot Springs can be made by phone. The hot springs is $27per night for two people in a campsite and includes all facilities.

1-208-879-4442

5025 Springs Rd, Challis, ID 83226
hotsprings@custertel.net

Other motels are also available in Challis but please make an early reservation since we will be there at peak time.
July 27 Friday - Leave at 9 am for the tour the Yankee Fork Gold Dredge which opens at 10 am. Cost 6$

July 28 Saturday - 9:00 am Look at the various ash fall tuff units from the road, down river (north) of Challis then travel up river and look at Bayhorse Ghost town, mine site and mill. Hike-scramble or view from the road a massive 20 ft wide Geode exposed above cliff band above the access road. Then travel to Malm Gulch and hike in to a series of petrified red woods contained in a Challis Ash Fall Tuff. Back to Challis Hot Springs.

July 29 Sunday - 9:00 am Travel up river to Clayton. Tour Clayton Mine Mill (Abandoned). Look at smelter site. Return to Jackson.
Charcoal ovens at Bayhorse

Bayhorse ghost town
Map from Jackson to Challis. Travel time is a little over 4 hours.

Bayhorse is between Challis and Clayton. Yankee Fork is between Clayton and Stanley.
Our trip leader is Elton R. Modroo P.G. Some of you have met him on previous field trips. When we were at the Heise volcano, he demonstrated the portable X-ray fluorescence instrument that he used in mineral exploration.

Elton’s biography:

Born in Marquette MI in 1951 (a true Yooper)

Graduated Lake Superior State University 1974 BS Geology-Earth Science

Graduated Oklahoma State University 1993, Hydrology-Ground Water Contamination

Registered professional geologist: Idaho and California.

25 years experience as an exploration field geologist-manager of mineral exploration programs for numerous mining-mineral exploration companies working throughout the US-Alaska and Central America. He was instrumental in finding and developing several precious metal deposits in Montana and Idaho.

23 years experience as an Environmental Hydro-Geologist-Scientist 4 with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, where he managed various CERCLA remediation efforts at numerous Industrial and Mine Sites in Central and Eastern Idaho. Oversaw several new mine development-permitting efforts in SE Idaho.

Retired in July 2016 and currently consulting geologist for gold exploration.

Member Idaho Falls Nordic Ski Patrol.