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Nuggets of News and Knowledge

May 2019

Whether you are new to gold prospecting or an experienced old-timer, whether you have just started swinging a metal detector or have been digging targets for years, get the most out of treasure hunting with these nuggets of news and knowledge—tips, ideas, new products and more!



Where to Find Gold in a Stream

After you've found a goldbearing stream, the next step is to start sampling for gold there. But how do you know where to find gold in a streambed? Normal erosion. spring snowmelt, storms, and flash floods wash gold into waterways, and gold being heavy, settles naturally along the way— on the inside edges of bends in the stream, in whirlpools where two creeks join, in and around natural obstructions such as rock crevices and boulders, in the roots of plants and trees. Gold can also be found mixed with concentrated strata of fine



black or red sand. Black sands that are iron oxide are magnetic. Red sand is usually composed of tiny crushed garnets.

Also look for "hard-pack" or bedrock which is created at the bottom of waterways; gold nearly always concentrates at the bottom of hard-packed layers. Gold is about six times heavier, by volume, than the average weight of the sand, silt, and gravel that make up an average stream bed. During a storm, gold falls out of the turbulent water flow by dropping into cracks and holes. Then, rocks, gravel, sand and silt will drop out of the flow and form a layer along the bottom on top of the gold. This streambed material that lies on top of the gold will nearly always be hard-packed. Now it's time to start sampling!

6 Inch and 10 Inch Power Sluice Kits

Nugget of Knowledge

Beach Mining

When you consider the advantages of beach mining with a highbanker— easy access in all seasons, no big material to classify down, no digging in heavy cobbles and moving boulders, no worries about rattlesnakes or poison oak— you might want to give it a try. Of course any new environment means there will be a learning curve. Recovering 100 mesh gold from the beach requires a little extra attention to detail to prevent loss, so you'll need to readjust your equipment and process. High tide, not your watch, will dictate your schedule. The general principles you already know are the same, but also keep these tips in mind. And before you go, be sure to check your local laws mining permit.

 Slow down. Expect to process about 10 gallons of Looking for smaller pieces of equipment that won't break the bank? Consider a 6 inch or 10 inch power sluice set up kit. Made out of strong .080 gauge 5052 aircraft aluminum, the unique elongated 45 degree z-riffles are great for trapping gold. The riffle cage is also aluminum. In the bottom of the sluice



is ribbed black matting for fast gold ID, followed by expanded metal over miner's carpet. Can also be used with a recovery tub (not included) as a recirculating system. Kits include sluice, header box, stand with legs, flare, pump, and more. Find 6" power sluice set up kit here for \$234.98, or 10" power sluice set up kit is \$351.99 with FREE SHIPPING.

Convenient Panning Kits



Practice makes perfect in just about everything and it is no different when it comes to gold panning. Luckily you can practice in your kitchen or laundry sink so that when you head outdoors, you'll pretty much know how to pan for gold and already have your technique down. If you like to

have a variety of pans and accessories all in one place without a lot of planning and shopping, check out this wide variety of panning kits.

Snake Gaiters Help Keep You Safe



Be safe when in snake country! Affordable snake bite protection is available for adults and kids. Some years are worse than others when it comes to rattlesnake, copperhead and water moccasin encounters. Mild winters coupled with substantial spring rains and warming trends can lead to higher than average numbers of snake bite victims. The rain ups the insects, the insects up the rodents, the rodents up the reptiles. And when temperatures rise, snakes

seek shelter in shady areas under rocks, log piles, old mining equipment, in vegetation— exactly the types of places where gold prospectors and metal detectorists are hunting! Poisonous pit vipers can strike at a target up to two-thirds of their body length, so even walking in snake country can pose a problem if you accidentally step near or startle a snake. Don't take a chance! Razer Snake Gaiters help protect your lower legs. Kids Snake Chaps here.

material an hour. If you try to feed a highbanker faster or use bigger scoops you will likely lose gold. The most efficient way to locate the paying black sand layers is to use a post hole digger or earth auger. The pay layer is usually right on top of a golden brown sand layer that pushes up into the black or blue sand. Frequent storms can reconcentrate the black sands.

- Use about 25% of the water you would normally use. The ocean is the best water source and doesn't require much Jet Dry, if any. You may need to modify your spray bar to compensate for less water volume so you aren't fighting foam and bubbles.
- The beach is a level playing field, literally, so tip your box to a 9-degree angle and go from there. Most beach miners use battery-powered bilge pumps to run their beach sluices. A small gaspowered pump also will work. A Gold Cube or an automatic spiral wheel are both excellent pieces of fine gold recovery equipment to concentrate beach material.
- Do frequent clean-ups.

Sluice Setter



The

Sluice Setter Digital Pitch
Gauge is for gold miners who
realize the importance of
consistently getting the
correct pitch on their sluice
box. This varies based on the
water volume, water speed,
and amount and type of

History Nugget: Great Gold Rush in the Black Hills of South Dakota

Nearly all of South Dakota's goldbearing deposits are concentrated in one area— the 65 mile wide by 125 mile long Black Hills National Forest. In addition to gold, this scenic recreation area is filled with forests so thick they look black from a



distance (hence the name), rugged rock formations, cool caves, rushing rivers, and an abundance of national memorials and parks. The wildlife is plentiful, too—thousands of free-roaming buffalo, spry pronghorns, shaggy bighorn sheep, and even shy prairie dogs. Besides the outdoor beauty, this region is best known for the Black Hills Gold Rush of 1876, which began in July 1874.

Sent by the federal government to scout locations for military forts and to investigate rumors of gold ore, General George Armstrong Custer led his famous expedition into the Black Hills in July 1874. While camping on French Creek near present-day Custer City, Horatio Ross, a prospector along on the expedition, discovered gold. General Custer reported the find, and almost immediately the Black Hills Gold Rush was on!

The Black Hills Gold Rush should never have happened. In 1868, a treaty between the U.S. and the Sioux Nation called for the abandonment of military posts in Indian territory, and set aside the region for Native Americans only. The Black Hills, then and now, is considered sacred to the Lakota Sioux. But it took just one powerful word — Gold! — to change history forever. By the end of 1875, thousands of miners, cattle ranchers, railroaders, and businessmen had violated the treaty and settled in. Continued here...



There has never been a better time to get involved in the Modern Day Gold Rush! Visit <u>GoldRushTradingPost.com</u> today to find great prices on equipment and supplies that make gold prospecting, metal detecting, and rock hounding easier, faster, and much more fun! <u>FREE SHIPPING</u> in continental USA when you spend \$350!

material you run. Once you figure out what pitch keeps all the gold but doesn't clog up the box, you'll want to check the pitch every time you reset. Check out the Sluice Setter here.

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