### NorthWest Gold Prospectors Association



# Gold Facts



Eagle City Mining Company, Ltd.

Eagle City Park

Gold is most commonly found and or mined in one of two kinds of deposits; Placer and Lode. Placer deposits are areas of free gold that have settled in pockets after being disturbed and moved by many years weather facilitated erosion. Lode is gold found in veins buried deep underground in quartz deposits. Placer gold is mined using panning, sluicing, or dredging. Lode is mined using conventional "deep shaft" hardrock.

### **Placer Mining**

**Panning:** Using a pan in the stream to separate gold from other minerals and materials.

Sluicing: Long wood boxes are built to run water laden with gravel over a series of sieves and riffles to separate the gold from the other minerals and materials. Other variations common in the miners camps were the "Long Tom" and "Rocking the Cradle.

**Dredging:** Placer miners can be seen today on Gold Country rivers using gas-powered dredges to vacuum sand and gravels from pockets on the river bottom. Gold is then separated in a modern version of the "Sluice Box".

Hydraulic Mining: Outlawed since 1884, Hydraulic Mining though extremely productive was very destructive. Entire hillsides were washed away with highly pressurized water sending tons of mud down into the rivers below.

#### **Lode Mining**

Hardrock Mining: Is the countries most profitable and longest lasting method of mining. Gold bearing quartz is mined in vertical or inclined shafts deep beneath the earth's surface.

## What is Gold?

Gold (Au) is said to be so rare that the world pours more steel in an hour than it has poured gold since time began.

- Gold is one of the world's most precious metals.
- One ounce of gold is about the size of a sugar cube.
- All of the gold in the world could be compressed into an 18-yard cube, which is about 1/10 the mass of the Washington Monument.
- It is recorded that only 181,881 tons of gold have been taken from the earth since recorded history (to 2011), leaving far more yet to be discovered.
- A one-ounce gold nugget is more rare to find than a five-carat diamond.
- The amount of gold nuggets being found in the world is less than one percent.
- Even though gold is rare, it is far easier to find than winning a major state lottery.
- Because of its rarity, a gold nugget can be worth three to four times the value of the gold it contains.
- An authentic gold nugget has long been considered a gemstone because of its rarity and beauty.
- Gold is so heavy that one cubic foot of it weighs half a

Gold is six to seven times heavier than other materials that equal its size.

- The largest gold nugget found in the U.S. weighed 195 pounds; it came from California.
- Gold can be hammered so thin that sunlight can shine through it.
- A single ounce of gold can be drawn into a wire 60 miles long.
- Gold can be hammered into sheets so thin that a pile of them an inch high would contain more than 200,000 separate sheets.
- In every cubic mile of sea water there is 25 tons of gold! That's a total of about 10 billion tons of gold in the oceans; however, there's no known way to economically recover it.
- Gold is considered one of the most important metals in jewelry making.
- Gold is so soft it is seldom used in its pure form.
- Jewelry that is marked 10K is made of 10 parts gold, and 14 parts other metals.
- The hardness of pure gold (on moh's scale) is 2-1/2 to 3; the melting point is 2,063 degrees Fahrenheit, specific gravity is 19.32 and tensile strength is 19,000psi.

- The United States government banned private ownership of gold, which lasted 41 years; then lifted it on December 31, 1974.
- Gold reached an all-time high price of \$1,970.90 per ounce in 2011.
- South Africa is the largest producing gold country in the world today.
- An ounce of gold is based on troy weight--20 pennyweights or 480 grains. A troy pound of gold is 12 troy ounc-
- Gold is chemically liquefied and injected into the muscles of thousands of rheumatoid arthritis victims in the U.S., and it is said that the treatment is successful in seven out of ten cases.
- Gold is used in window glass and astronaut helmets to reflect infrared rays while allowing sunlight to pass through, and at the same time keeping it cool.
- Gold is inactive chemically and is not affected by air, heat, moisture and ordinary solvents.
- The largest gold mine in the U.S. is the Homestake Mining Company in Lead, South Dakota.

### **HOW TO PAN FOR GOLD**

You will need a gold pan, a 12 or 15 inch steel pan is preferred.

Darken the pan by placing it over a burner or in a campfire. This will make the flakes of gold more noticeable.

If you prefer plastic pans, be sure to wash it with mild soap and warm water to remove any oil deposited during manufacturing.

- \* Look for gravel bars in the middle of rivers or streams
- \* Look for gravel bars around heavy water run off
- \* On the downstream side of large boulders or tree roots in streams
- \* In cracks above the water-line, along the edge of the stream
- \* In streaks of gravel that settle above stream beds and follow the bottom of stream channels

Place your pan under water, keeping the pan under water at all times, filling the pan nearly full. Throw away the large stones and break up lumps of mud and clay.

Hold the pan level with both hands and rotate the pan with swirling motions. As you rotate the pan the heavier gold loosens from the sand, gravel and settles to the bottom. Tilt the pan downward to let the dirty water, sand and gravel wash over the edge of the pan.

Continue to raise and lower the lip of the pan so the water will flow over it and remove more of the lighter material.

Continue this process until nothing but gold and heavier minerals are left in the pan. Carefully inspect the black sand for nuggets or tiny specks of gold or other precious minerals.

### EAGLE CITY PARK

Eagle City Park is a 35 acre privately owned recreational gold prospecting / mining park located in the Coeur d'Alene National Forest at the old townsite of Eagle City. We are 26 miles from I-90 between the historic towns of Prichard and Murray in North Idaho. Eagle City was the site of the first gold rush in the Coeur d'Alene's and still holds the imagination of those who visit.

(Take I-90 to Kingston (Exit 43), then take the Coeur d'Alene River Road to Thompson Falls / Prichard Creek Road (Mile Post 23), take Thompson Falls / Prichard Creek Road (2.6 miles) to Eagle Creek Road, take Eagle Creek Road (1/2 mile) to Eagle City Park entrance on left side of road. Look for red pump house with prospector on wall.

Visitors and members can enjoy a wide range of activities including:
Gold Panning \* Sluicing \* Sniping \* Metal Detecting
\* Outdoor Recreation \* Relaxing

And best of all "You Keep All The Gold You Find"

The Park promotes the hobby of recreational gold prospecting / small scale mining and is the home-base for the NorthWest Gold Prospectors Association. We have 2000 feet of gold bearing gravel in and along

Eagle Creek and numerous mining claims in the area. Lifetime memberships are available at affordable prices and terms. Non-park member fee is \$10 per day per family. Special rates are available for organizations/club/group outings. Treat your company employees, clients, out of town family / friends to this unique outdoor experience.

Contact: Eagle City Mining Company, Ltd. 16405 N Ramsey Road Rathdrum, ID 83858 Phone: (208)699-8128 bob@goldfeverminingsupply.com

Join the NorthWest Gold Prospectors Association and take part in an exciting outdoor adventure that will create years of great memories for you and your family! We meet at 7pm on the second Wednesday of the month at the Rathdrum Senior Center, located at 8037 W Montana Street in Rathdrum Idaho. Monthly hands-on outings are held the weekend after the meeting from May thru October. Come JOIN the FUN!



### **Troy Weight**

(How gold is sold/traded)

**24 Grain** = 1 Pennyweight

**20 Pennyweight** = 1 Ounce (troy)

**12 Ounce (troy)**= 1 Pound (troy)

Pure Gold (AU) = 24 Karat or 1000 Fine

NorthWest Gold Prospectors Assn.

PO Box 2307

Post Falls, ID 83877

(208)262-6518

www.nwgoldprospectors.org

For more information contact: info@nwgoldprospectors.org

or

bob@goldfever mining supply.com



Eagle City Mining Company, Ltd. 16405 N Ramsey Road Rathdrum, ID 83858 (208)699-8128

www.goldfeverminingsupply.com