

# MINING

Josephine County Fair 1987  
August 1987

Dear Friend;

This information on mining and related subjects in Josephine County has been provided by the following organizations. We hope you enjoy this material and keep a continued interest in mining.

At one time in our history, mining was the main stay of the economy. As miners, we would like to see more interest in this great industry. It has become an almost forgotten industry, yet many dollars are put into the County by miners both in equipment and daily necessities.

Thank you for your interest.

WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC.  
P.O. BOX 254  
ANDERSON, CA. 96007

JOSEPHINE COUNTY SOURDOUGHS  
P.O. BOX 1495  
GRANTS PASS, OR. 97526

LOWER GRAVE CREEK MINING ASSN  
12105 LOWER GRAVE CREEK  
WOLF CREEK, OR. 97497

GALICE-MT. RUBEN MINING DISTRICT  
663 GALICE CREEK RD.  
MERLIN, OR. 97532

WALDO MINING DISTRICT  
CAVE JUNCTION, OR. 97523

CITIZENS FOR NO PARK  
P.O. BOX 1495  
GRANTS PASS, OR. 97526

If you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to write to any of the above organizations. We will be more than happy to hear from you.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 4, 1987

NATIONAL SECURITY DECISION  
DIRECTIVE NUMBER 259

**U.S. CIVIL DEFENSE**

It is the policy of the United States to have a civil defense capability as an element of our overall national security posture.

**PRINCIPLES, CONCEPTS, AND OBJECTIVES**

The civil defense program will continue to support all-hazard integrated emergency management at State and local levels, to the extent that this is consistent with and contributes to preparedness of the Nation in the event of an attack, whether by nuclear or non-nuclear means.

The civil defense program must be clearly communicated to the American public.

The civil defense program will provide improved prospects for protection of the population and resources of the Nation in the event of nuclear attack and improved ability to deal with any occurrence, including natural, technological, or other emergency, which seriously degrades or seriously threatens the national security of the United States. The program will emphasize development of a civil defense infrastructure capable of rapid expansion in a national security emergency. The objective of the civil defense program will include:

- (1) Population protection capabilities, with the Federal Government providing guidance and assistance to enable State and local governments to develop the requisite plans, systems, and capabilities.
- (2) State and local government crisis management capabilities to effectively support the population in national security emergencies.
- (3) Information to promote a clear understanding by the public of threats including nuclear attack, which may affect their localities and on actions they should take to increase their chances of survival.
- (4) Information to assist U.S. business and industry in taking measures to protect their work forces and physical assets in national security emergencies.
- (5) Voluntary participation by citizens and institutions in community civil defense activities and emphasis on citizen protective actions.
- (6) Plans for sustaining survivors and for postattack recovery.
- (7) Plans which include provisions both for incremental or gradual mobilization of civil defense capabilities in a period of gradually increasing world tensions, and for a civil defense surge in an international crisis.

**IMPLEMENTATION**


The Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950, as amended (50 U.S.C. App. 2251 *et seq.*) provides that responsibility for civil defense is vested jointly in the Federal Government and the States and their political subdivisions. Accordingly, the U.S. civil defense program will be based on the following:

- (1) The Federal Government will focus on guidance to the public and to State and local governments to improve preparedness for national security emergencies. Financial assistance will be provided in cooperation with State and local governments.
- (2) The Federal Government will encourage States to develop agreements to furnish mutual aid in the event of an attack or disaster.
- (3) The States have the primary responsibility for developing their capabilities for peacetime emergencies and share responsibility for attack preparedness. They should support development of civil defense plans, systems, and capabilities for themselves and their political subdivisions. States will assure that where Federal civil defense funds and assistance are applied to natural and technological disaster preparedness, such use is consistent with, contributes to, and does not detract from attack preparedness.
- (4) Local governments have the primary responsibility for developing their capabilities for peacetime emergencies and share responsibility for attack preparedness. They should develop under State guidance the capability to provide protection for their citizens in all emergencies which may affect their communities.
- (5) Government at all levels should make information available to citizens on threats, including nuclear attack, which may affect their communities as a basis for individual and family plans and preparations to improve chances of survival.
- (6) The program will utilize to the maximum extent the existing facilities and resources of the Federal Government and, with their consent, the facilities of States and political subdivisions thereof, and of private sector organizations and agencies.

Federal funds and assistance for all elements of the civil defense program will be applied to develop capabilities required for attack preparedness and other disasters having national security implications.

Under the general policy guidance of the National Security Council, the Federal Emergency Management Agency will have overall responsibility for development and implementation of civil defense programs authorized and funded under the Civil Defense Act of 1950 as amended. The Federal Emergency Management Agency will emphasize coordination with State governments and their local political subdivisions, as well as with appropriate Federal departments and agencies which are responsible for civil defense concerns within their areas of substantive responsibility.

This NSDD supersedes both NSDD-26, SECRET, dated February 25, 1982 and the UNCLASSIFIED version dated March 16, 1982.





# WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC.

(NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)

## A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS THE WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC. finds the Wilderness act to be discriminatory to the western states and to the general public,

BE IT RESOLVED that the WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC.

- a. is opposed to any further wilderness withdrawals in the State of Nevada or any other western state.

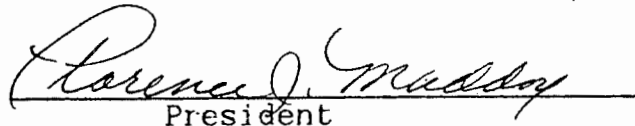
and further RESOLVED that

- b. all fifty states shall participate equally by setting aside equal acreage based upon present and existing wilderness areas in the western states.

It is not prudent or logical for the western states to carry the burden of the loss of tax base and other income and must be compensated for this loss.

Signed this 8 day of December, 1985 in the City of

Sacramento, California by:

  
President



# WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC.

(NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)

## A RESOLUTION OF THE WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC.

WE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC., upon evaluating the committee recommendations draft of the President's Commission on American Outdoors, find said draft to be negative and biased to the Multiple Use Concept now in effect. We are resolute to affirm:

WHEREAS We believe the President's Commission on American Outdoors did not have full expertise on the Multiple Use Concepts, and;

WHEREAS We believe the committee did not study the importance of economic enhancement to our country, and the over-all effect upon all our people, and;

WHEREAS We believe our Federal government should try to reduce the tendency of being involved in every aspect of life in our country and leave some sense of responsibility and initiative to the people, and;

THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED: The entire membership of the WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC. conforms to enjoin the President of the United States, Mr. Ronald Reagan, and the Congress of the United States to cease and desist acceding to this type of unnecessary and redundant study which only wastes tax dollars with no economic return.

Respectfully Submitted;

*Mac Montenegro, Pres*

Carolyn Tucker, Secretary



# WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC.

(NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)

## A RESOLUTION OF THE WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC.

WE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC., upon evaluating the committee recommendations draft of the President's Commission on American Outdoors, find said draft to be negative and biased to the Multiple Use Concept now in effect. We are resolute to affirm:

WHEREAS We believe the President's Commission on American Outdoors did not have full expertise on the Multiple Use Concepts, and;

WHEREAS We believe the committee did not study the importance of economic enhancement to our country, and the over-all effect upon all our people, and;

WHEREAS We believe our Federal government should try to reduce the tendency of being involved in every aspect of life in our country and leave some sense of responsibility and initiative to the people, and;

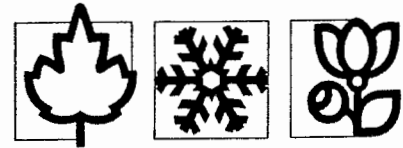
THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED: The entire membership of the WESTERN MINING COUNCIL, INC. conforms to enjoin the President of the United States, Mr. Ronald Reagan, and the Congress of the United States to cease and desist acceding to this type of unnecessary and redundant study which only wastes tax dollars with no economic return.

Respectfully Submitted;

*Mac Montenegro, Pres*

Carolyn Tucker, Secretary

# THE CHAMBER



## VISITOR and CONVENTION BUREAU

P.O. Box 970  
Grants Pass, OR 97526  
(503) 476-7717

### OUR HISTORY AT A GLANCE

By act of the Territorial Legislature, Josephine County became Oregon's 18th county on January 22, 1856, three years before Oregon became a state.

The only county in the state of Oregon named in honor of a woman, Josephine County derives its name directly from Josephine Rollins, who was the first white woman to settle for any length of time in this part of Oregon. Born in Illinois in 1883, her full name was Virginia Josephine Rollins. In 1850, Josephine and her father, Lloyd Rollins, became members of an emigrant train heading west which reached Oregon City, in October. The following spring in 1851, Josephine accompanied her father and a party of miners southward where upon reaching the Rogue River, they were told by Indians of gold in a creek to the west. Guided by the Indians, the party made its way to a point on a creek within a few miles of the present Illinois River where good placer ground was found. The creek, which is the location of the first gold strike in Southern Oregon, is still called Josephine Creek.

In 1852, sailors, who had deserted their ship near Crescent City, started for the newly discovered gold fields at Jacksonville, but found rich deposits at a location in the Illinois Valley some 25 miles south of present Grants Pass. This discovery at "Sailor Diggin's" immediately became an important mining center with a population of several thousand. The name was later changed to Waldo in honor of William Waldo, brother of Daniel Waldo, a prominent figure in early Oregon history. In 1858, many miners left for new discoveries on the Frazier River of British Columbia never to return again. The crumbling foundations of the last store are all that remain of the first county seat.

Sailor Diggin's had been designated as the first county seat "until a permanent location was established" by a vote of the people. On July 7, 1857, Kerbyville was selected to serve as the seat of government for Josephine County. In 1885, the voters cast a majority of their votes for Grants Pass as a "permanent location" for the county government.

The Indians who lived along the Rogue River have often been termed fierce. There were a number of linguistic groups comprising these tribes of Indians frequently referred to as "The Rogues" because of their willingness to fight for their rights. The true tribal classifications were Takelma and Shasta. After the final war of 1856, the Indians were moved to the Siletz and Grande Ronde Reservations on the Northern Oregon Coast.

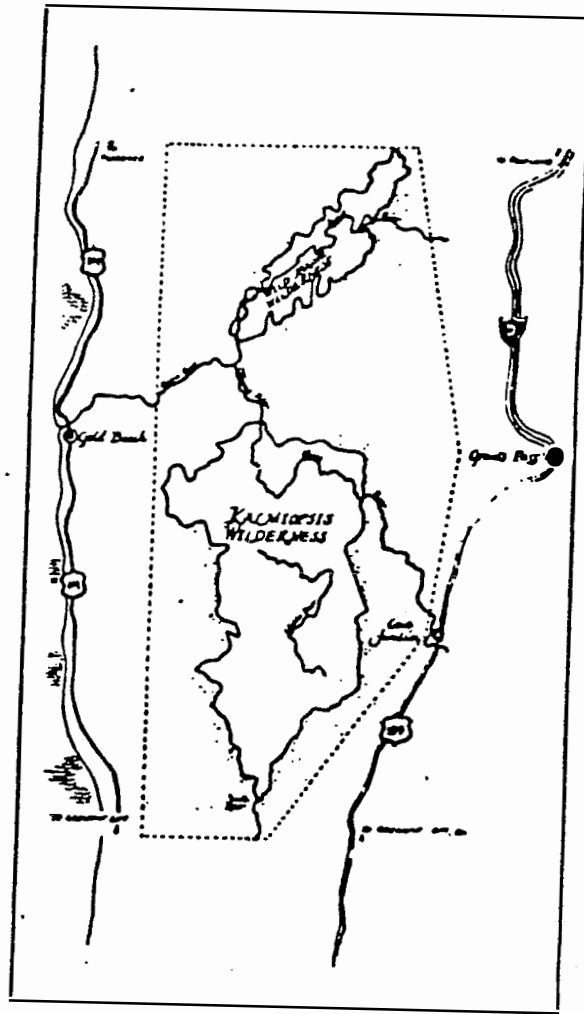
The Applegate wagon train of emigrants in 1846 made the first wagon tracks through the beautiful Rogue River Valley. The emigrants, of that time had but one destination in mind, the Willamette Valley, and failed to note the spectacular beauty which would one day provide Oregon's greatest tourist attractions. The trail followed by the Applegate party was on the south side of the Rogue River and crossed at Fort Vannoy about five miles west of present Grants Pass.

The Post Office was established March 22, 1865. A part of Jackson County at that time, Grants Pass remained only a stage station until the arrival of the railroad. In 1885, a row of townships along the west border of Jackson County was annexed to Josephine County to establish a rail head in Josephine County.

The Oregon-California Railroad line was completed to Grants Pass on Christmas Eve, 1883. The rapid growth of population in the county brought with it tradesmen of many types including miners, farmers, lumbermen, orchardists. Grants Pass became the trading center of the county. By the 1890's it could boast of having its own opera house, the Grants Pass Water, Light and Power Co., which generated power at a dam a few hundred feet west of the present Caveman Bridge; the Rogue River was spanned by the first of several bridges (at 5th street), and a fire department. The first church in Grants Pass was the Methodist, erected in 1887 on the site of the present building which was completed in 1980 under the leadership of Rev. T.L. Jones.

#### OUR NAME

Grants Pass served as a stagecoach stop in the 1860's and became a rail-head with the completion of the California-Oregon railroad (now the Southern Pacific) in 1884. The name was selected to honor Genreal U.S. Grant's success at Vicksburg and the Post office was established in 1865. Until after the turn of the century our name still retained the original spelling of Grant's Pass using an apostrophe.



The existing Wild Rogue and Kalmiopsis Wilderness areas and the Wild and Scenic River corridors of the Illinois, Rogue and Smith define the Park area. These 225,000 acres are already protected for their natural values. By including the largely undisturbed old growth forest which connects these designated area, a logical Park site can be drawn for further study.

# SISKIYOU NATIONAL PARK

Just who  
Needs it

Sponsored by  
Citizens

For NO Park



SISKIYOU NATIONAL PARK

JUST WHO NEEDS IT?

NOT-- the 3000<sup>+</sup> Southern Oregonians that will loose jobs because of timber cutbacks--loggers, mill workers, log haulers, lumber haulers, chip haulers, building construction workers.

NOT--the miners that will loose claims and livelihood when the park is closed to mineral entry.

NOT--Southern Oregonians that are on fixed incomes---their taxes are already higher than they can afford. Taxes will raise without O & C timber revenues.

NOT--our children--already faced with school closurers. Again timber money is needed

NOT-- the welfare department. It is already strained from a depressed economy.

NOT--people having private lands within the boundries of the proposed area. They stand to loose their homes and land

NOT-- hunters that have hunted deer, elk, bear, and coon in this area for years. National Park will be a game refuge no matter what is said otherwise.

IF IT IS NOT TO BE

IT IS UP TO ME!

We have a variety of tourist attractions in Southern Oregon. Why do some folks feel that the tourist dollars are better than the residents?

We have in this locality

THE OREGON CAVES NATIONAL MONUMENT  
JET BOAT TRIPS  
HIKING TRAILS  
HISTORIC LANDMARKS  
MUSEUMS  
KALMIOPSIS WILDERNESS  
CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK  
NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS  
SHAKSPEARIAN FESTIVAL  
OREGON COAST(two hours drive)  
SISKIYOU NATIONAL FOREST  
THE BEST FISHING IN THE NORTHWEST

just to name a few

Why isn't this enough for those that promote tourism? What about the people that live here? Why must we compete for our lands?

National Parks are great, but not when they deprive local people of their lands and livelihoods. It is time to take a closer look into this situation.

ASK TO VIEW THE VIDEO TAPE

"FOR THE GOOD OF ALL" IT SHOWS

JUST WHAT THE PARK SERVICE WILL

AND CAN DO ONCE THEY START TO

CREATE A NATIONAL PARK

IF IT IS NOT TO BE

IT IS UP TO ME!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP IN THIS EFFORT TO STOP MORE LAND CLOSURERS BY GOVERNMENT AND GROUPS THAT ARE LIVING FOR TOMORROW AND ARE ONLY INTERESTED IN PLANTS, WILDLIFE

PLEASE SEND YOUR SUPPORT TO:

Citizens For NO Park

P.O.Box 1495

Grants Pass, Or. 97526

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS  
ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS CRITICAL SITUATION OR TO VIEW THE VIDEO "FOR THE GOOD OF ALL"

CALL:

Randy Hinke 503 476-6045

OR WRITE TO ABOVE ADDRESS

Citizens For NO Park

BY THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL

Report To The Chairman, Subcommittee On  
Mines And Mining, House Committee On  
Interior And Insular Affairs Of The United States  
OF THE UNITED STATES

Mining On National Park  
Service Lands -- What Is At Stake?

The Department of the Interior recommended to the Congress in 1979 that mining claims on certain National Park Service lands be acquired for environmental protection. GAO found that these recommendations were based on vague and misleading environmental and cost data and, if implemented, could result in costs substantially in excess of the reported estimates.

GAO believes that the Congress should defer any action to acquire mining claims on these National Park Service lands. GAO recommends that the Department notify the Congress that it no longer supports these outstanding recommendations and submit more thorough analysis of the need and costs of acquiring these claims.

GAO also found that Interior did not fully analyze the mineral supply implications of its recommendations. Specifically, Interior failed to assess adequately the effects of acquiring the mining claims on the U.S. need for the minerals and the cost to replace them from other sources.

The National Park Service now states that current mining regulations have ensured that mining on these park lands is occurring in an environmentally acceptable manner. However, NPS had not considered less costly means of achieving the same results. This is particularly true for Death Valley National Monument, an area historically and currently important for mineral production.



Request for copies of GAO reports should be sent to:

U.S. General Accounting Office  
Document Handling and Information  
Services Facility  
P.O. Box 6015  
Gaithersburg, Md. 20760

Telephone (202) 275-6241

The first five copies of individual reports are free of charge. Additional copies of bound audit reports are \$3.25 each. Additional copies of unbound report (i.e., letter reports) and most other publications are \$1.00 each. There will be a 25% discount on all orders for 100 or more copies mailed to a single address. Sales orders must be prepaid on a cash, check, or money order basis. Check should be made out to the "Superintendent of Documents".

SEPTEMBER 24, 1981

## OUT OF THE PAST

\*The following are newspaper articles that appeared in the Grants Pass Daily Courier.

June 12, 1904

Word had been received here of a rich strike at the head of Sucker creek by two sons of David Briggs. The story goes that they had shot a deer and were trailing it by the blood when they ran onto a ledge of quartz spotted with gold. They took specimens home to their father and uncle, George Briggs, went immediately to the place and staked out claims. The rock is immensely rich and in a few hours they had pounded out several thousand dollars and there is now \$25,000 in sight.

June 20, 1904

The most wonderful gold discovery ever reported in Oregon was made a week ago Sunday by Ray Briggs by pure accident. The boy, who is 18 years of age, was hunting on a mountain near Thompson creek and stumbled onto a ledge of almost pure gold cropping out of the surface. The find was of such magnitude that the boy, miner that he is, could not realize that he had made a record breaking strike. He carefully gathered up a double handful of the best specimens and secured a chunk of quartz about the size of a candlebox, which he took home to his fathers placer mine. The rock was quickly crushed with a hand mortar and it yielded nearly \$800. The next morning found the Briggs families, David Briggs and two sons, George Briggs and Charles Howard and son at the place of the find and three claims were staked out. Then began active mining with a hand mortar and in tow hours they had secured \$2,000. By night rich quartz had been stacked up in piles. By thursday night they had mortared out \$25,000. An additional \$7,000 had been taken out Saturday. The gold is found in decomposed quartz, in some instances gold being in layers an inch or more in thickness and standing on edge with a layer of decomposed quartz sprinkled with chunks of gold alongside. Already prospectors are scouring the hills and a stampede is expected.

January 28, 1904

The biggest nugget ever taken out in this county came from Althouse. It was found in early days and old miners place its value at somewhere near \$3,000. Years ago Daniel Miller of Miller Creek on Missouri Flad, found a nugget valued at \$400. The largest piece taken from Oscar Creek weighed over \$400 but contained some quartz.

March 1, 1903

The estimate of gold output of Oregon for 1902 given out by the director of the mint was \$1,864,465. This is much below the actual output, as Josephine County alone produced \$1,070,000. Nearly all of Southern Oregon's gold output is sent direct to the mint at San Francisco and California gets the credit for production. Grave Creek produced approximately \$400,000; Briggs and Soldier Creeks, \$15,000; Mt. Reuben and Northern Josephine, \$200,000; Galice \$120,000; Williams, \$100,000; Althouse \$50,000; Grants Pass district, \$50,000.

May 7, 1903

There is gold in a county where the clean-up of an arastra will yield 96½ ounces of the yellow metal worth \$18.30 per ounce. That is the amount of the dust brought to Grants Pass by Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Siskron of "January First" located four miles from Holland. This amount of gold represents the putting of 21.1 tons of ore through the arastra providing the grade character of the pay streak.

In 1914

C.L. Mangum, Thomas E. Lacey and H. Jesse returned thursday afternoon from Silver Creek county, where they have been working the Old Glory mine. They shipped 33 sacks of high-grade ore and have more ready for shipment. This ore had to be packed on horse-back 20 miles, hauled by wagon 15 miles and shipped by freight over 500 miles to Tacoma, and must be high-grade in order to warrant the expense of shipment.

In 1914

With his grip weighed down with 11 1/2 pounds of pure gold, H.A. Corlis waded Monday by walking into the Courier office and coolly exhibiting the brick of precious metal. The gold was the result of a 10 day's run on the Corlis and Dean Dry Diggins mine a mile and a half below Galice. The property recently was sold to Martin and Daniels. Alaskan miners who are now operating it. The value of the egg-shaped gold brick was considered well over \$3,000.

In 1934

A nugget worth \$32.10 was sold to Pat Doneen, gold buyer, Tuesday by Mrs. L. Johnson, placer miner of Pickett Creek. Miners transacting business in Grants Pass Monday include Robert Wade of Little Applegate river, and J.W. Gabrielson of Louse Creek.

In 1944

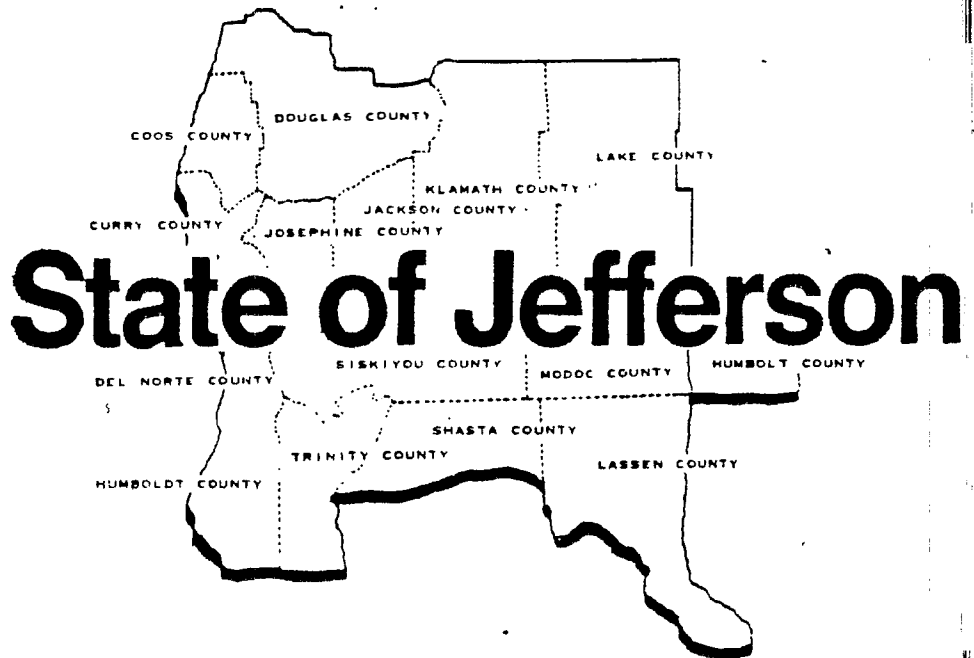
Two thousand tons of high-grade chrome ore will be shipped from the Metals Reserve stockpile here in the near future, D.C. Beyer, engineer in charge said today. It is the first shipment to go out this year from the stockpile. Approximately 15,000 tons of ore are now stockpiled here, it is reported. Some of the ore was mined during 1942, the majority in 1943. This is said to be the largest SMALL LOT stockpile of high-grade ore in the United States.

In 1923

Considerable excitement was caused this morning in Talent by the report that oil had been discovered on the Tim Burnett place near that city. The discovery was made in a well about 12 feet deep, which was being cleaned out. For some time the water has been unfit for household purposes, and steps taken to find out what was the matter. The water was reported covered with oil. An oil expert looked over the situation and as the result of his report, which was favorable, steps will be taken to develop the prospect.

In 1913

There is gold in a county where the clean-up of an arastra will yield 96 1/2 ounces of the yellow metal worth \$18.30 per ounce. That is the amount of the dust brought to Grants Pass by Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Siskron of JANUARY FIRST mine located four miles from Holland. This amount of gold represents the putting of 21.1 tons of ore through the arastra, proving the high-grade character of the pay streak.



*Have you ever considered what our forefathers saw in this breathtaking land of ours?*

*Plans for the "State of Jefferson" began even before Oregon achieved statehood, but were laid aside when the Indian Wars of the 1850's broke out. Settlers in southern Oregon & northern California felt a strong desire to organize a government which would be responsive to their unique, local interests and problems. In the late 1930's the Jefferson movement again became a popular cause.*

*On December 4, 1941, the Yreka courthouse was bursting with advocates of the "Jefferson" movement. Judge Childs, one of the movement's most vigorous leaders, was formally inaugurated as Governor. Handbills, windshield stickers, & a massive advertising campaign brought notoriety to the well laid plans of the movement. The inauguration, parade, & other events were filmed for release to movie theaters. The "State of Jefferson" campaign was well on its way & gaining momentum when the fateful attack on Pearl Harbor changed forever the course of history.*

*The area of the state of Jefferson provides a wider variety of outdoor splendor than any other state—the Pacific Ocean, the magnificent redwoods, fabulous fishing, hunting & trips into the scenic wilderness areas.*

*In the winter, fantastic skiing and snow-mobiling are available. Rafting & other river sports & activities, the par mutual race track, many senior citizen programs, excellent library facilities, and many other activities provide whatever kind of entertainment you're seeking.*

*The towns of Ashland & Jacksonville, among many others are sites of fascinating historical information—the excellent Shakespearean plays have become world famous. And don't forget Mount Shasta, the land of the provincial Big Foot.*

*We cannot help but ponder whether the movement to create "Jefferson" as the 49<sup>th</sup> state might have succeeded had it not been for the interruption of World War II. At the very least, "Jefferson's" citizens gained notoriety and sympathy toward local problems & concerns. Today, the people of this area remain proud of their heritage and principles, and the independent spirit of the "state of Jefferson" lives on in the hearts of its citizens.*

*The people here have warm hearts and a strong, independent spirit.*

*Enjoy the great "State of Jefferson"*

## GOLD PANNING

Your reward may be a few flecks of bright-chips (called color) in the bottom of the pan or it may be several lumps of odd shaped gold called nuggets; in either case, you are "hooked". You become a GOLD PANNER with an eye, wherever you go for possible deposits.

"A deposit" to the amateur may mean fine gold flecks caught in some moss or around the roots of trees -- it may mean a real Bonanza of nuggets on the downstream side of a large boulder.

All gold comes originally from ledges and crevices in the rocks and is washed down the mountain sites to the streams. Spring floods or heavy rains carry it downstream where it is caught and dropped (because of its weight) in destructions or in quiet water behind boulders or at the foot of a riffle or water fall. Almost all streams in Josephine County as well as those in Coos, Curry, Jackson and Douglas Counties are good sources of color.

Remember, if you trespass on private property or a posted claim, be sure to ask permission. Some real miners will be most helpful and will even help you locate a good place to pan; whereas, others guard their "diggin's" very jealously. Remember also that someone should be informed as to where you will be, never go alone; be watchful for tricks and snakes; avoid old mine tunnels.

YOUR EQUIPMENT: You will need a gold pan designed for the purpose with flaring sides and about 3 or 4 inches deep. General sizes are available from 6 to 24 inches in diameter -- pick the size that is easiest for you to handle, remembering that a large pan full of gravel can be quite heavy as you pan. Your pan must be "burnt" or "blued" before using

because it will have a film of grease or oil which must be removed or your gold will pick up a coating of oil and will "float" out of your pan. Heat it on your stove until it is a nice blue color and all oils are burned out. We suggest as additional equipment, a pair of tweezers, a small vial or two, a trowel, and a small pick or shovel.

Find a comfortable place to squat or sit at the edge of a quiet pool or slow moving spot on the stream, fill your pan about half-full of likely looking sand or gravel (as you become more adapted you may wish to start with more). Submerge the pan in the water and with your hands wash and turn the contents, letting the dirt wash away in the water. Pick out or scoop out the larger pieces of rock and gravel (or squeeze the moss and discard). Take the pan out of the water and shake it from side to side with a swirling motion causing the water to go around and around. This causes the heavier gold to sink to the bottom and you can then scoop more gravel off the top. With the pan at a slight angle downward, dip the front edge in the water and continue the side shake -- the gold will now fall to the bottom at the lower edge. Continue dipping, shaking, and removing sand until you have a very small amount left -- now you must be very careful so that you don't wash the gold from the pan. With practice, you can cause the sand to go to the opposite side of the pan from the gold. When you have removed as much sand as you safely can, you will have (if you are in "pay-dirt") a small stringer of black sand and gold. Pick the larger pieces out with your tweezers and place in the vial. The fine flecks of color you can pour right with the sand into another vial for further separating when you get home. GOOD LUCK!!!!

## PAY-DIRT

In Southern Oregon

for

rock hounds and  
amateur gold miners.



IF YOU LIKE THE OUT-OF-DOORS, have strong back, and aren't afraid of snakes or far-away places, you are probably a ROCKHOUND or a would be GOLD MINER.

THIS LEAFLET THEN, IS FOR YOU!

We can't pretend that it is a complete coverage of this area nor that it is written by experts, but we hope that you will find it a useful guide.

If you are a newcomer at this game of "rock" gathering, you'll need a rock hammer, sack, and boots, and will find the following to be mighty useful:

First Aid Kit	Shovel
Small-Army Pick	Probe
Rock sacks	Bucket
Rock Hammer	Chisels
2 lb Jack Hammer	Bar
Compass	Matches
Flashlight	Rope
Maps of the area to be visited	

REMEMBER: Someone should know where you will be; never go alone; be watchful for ticks and snakes; avoid old mine tunnels; respect other's diggings (if tools or clothing are left in a digging area, the owners intend to come back); ask permission before entering on private property.

You will find that the term "AGATW" is used and understood by most Rockhounds to include almost any of the Quartz family. These are the ones most often found in this general area. Brief descriptions of this group are:  
Agate: Transparent to translucent, might be banded, figured, or mossy, color varied.

Jasper: Opaque, plain, banded, figured, flowered or scenic color varied

Chalcedony: Translucent, waxlike luster, color pale blue or gray.

Opal: Transparent to opaque, plain, banded, figured, scenic, mossy and (uncommon in this area) the precious fiery variety.

Optical quartz: Transparent, water clear and free from inclusions of any kind.

Amethyst: Same as optical quartz, except it has a deep violet color.

Petrified Wood: Agatized, opalized, jasperized or sandstone-like.

Other "rocks" found in the area are: Californite, carnelian, chrysocolla, chrysoprase, garnet, gold, grossularite garnet, quartz crystals, idocrase, "Oregon Jade", jasper, malachite, nephrite, orbicular jasper, pyrite, rhodonite, serpentine, teredo petrified wood.

IN SOUTHWESTERN OREGON, ALMOST EVERY CREEK, RIVER, OR STREAM DESCENDING TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN INCLUDES ATTRACTIVE GEM STONE MINERALS AND PETRIFIED WOOD IN ITS GRAVEL BARS. Look for "Pay-Dirt" in the bed of a dry wash or a gravel bar of a flowing stream; where a stream or a dry-wash runs through an upland valley or small flat area; or eroded and worn down ridges of an ancient mountain system.

SOME GOOD LOCATIONS in Southeastern Oregon Counties are:

CURRY COUNTY: Brookings - Jade. Ocean beaches north and south of the mouths of the Chetco and Rogue Rivers - agate, californite (Idocrase), jasper. Rogue River gravels; (1) mouth of river near Wedderburn - grossularite garnet. (2) upstream from Gold Beach near Agness

agate, carnelian, chalcedony, grossularite garnet, gold, jasper, quartz crystals.

DOUGLAS COUNTY: North and South Umpqua Rivers gravels (especially 22 mi. E. of Roseburg) - agate, carnelian, chalcedony, jasper, petrified and silicified wood, teredo petrified wood, "Oregon Jade" (massive grossularite garnet).

JACKSON COUNTY: East of Ashland on Greensprings Mountain - Agate, agate nodules, carnelian, chalcedony, jasper. Big Butte area - agate.

Cedar Springs Mountain - malachite. 12 miles north of Medford at Table Rock Mountain - agate, petrified wood. Rogue River gravels, 4 miles East of Central Point to 15 miles East of Eagle Point (also in Butte Creek gravels) moss agate.

JOSEPHINE COUNTY: Cave Creek (area around Oregon Caves) - agate, chalcedony gold nuggets, jasper, petrified wood, rhodonite. Holland 1½ miles south along Althouse Creek - agate, garnet, gold, jasper, quartz crystals, serpentine. Waldo and Galice districts - gold, azurite, chrysocolla, malachite.

KLAMATH COUNTY: Crater Lake Park (immediately south) - "Crater Lake Flower" jasper.

Klamath River gravels - agate, chalcedony, jasper.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND LOCATIONS: The Rogue Gem and Geology Club has placed maps and other information in the Reference Section of the Josephine County Library, on 5th Street between "B" and "C" Streets.