



BLM Guidelines for Casual Use (Recreational) Mining



Gold Panning:

- Gold panning **is allowed** on public land. No permits are required.

Metal Detecting:

- Metal detecting **is allowed** on public land. No permits are required.

Gold Sluicing:

- Gold sluicing **is allowed** on public land ***provided*** no new sediment is introduced to the water, thus the water is kept clean. No permits are required.
- High banking is allowed on public land ***except in the Forks of Butte Creek Special Recreation Area.***
- Mechanized or motorized equipment, including pumps and motorized high bankers may **NOT** be used in areas withdrawn from the mining law, including Clear Creek and Forks of Butte Creek Recreation Area. Check with the BLM before you mine.

Gold Dredging:

- Gold dredging **is currently illegal** on all lands and waters in the state of California.

Rules that apply to ALL recreational mining activities listed above:

- ✓ Obey all posted signs.
- ✓ Do not remove or disturb vegetation, including roots.
- ✓ Fill in all holes that have been dug on land or in the water.
- ✓ Use only hand tools
- ✓ Minimize disturbance of sediment and avoid addition of new sediment into waterways.
- ✓ Be mindful of fish and other aquatic life.
- ✓ **Do not conduct any activities on another person's mining claim.** Mining claims will be marked or designated in some way (signs, posts, rock stacks, etc.).
- ✓ Do not significantly alter a streambed or other aquatic habitat or divert or obstruct a waterway without completing the Streambed Alteration Agreement process with the Department of Fish and Game.
- ✓ Remember to pack out what you pack in, including all litter.

For further information:

- ❖ Bureau of Land Management, Redding Field Office: (530) 224-2100
- ❖ Bureau of Land Management, State Office (Sacramento): (916) 978-4400
- ❖ California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Redding Office: (530) 225-2300
- ❖ U.S. Forest Service, Redding Office: (530) 226-2500