

## Use of this Atlas as an Aid to Gold Exploration:

1. **Remember:** Mining is intrinsically dangerous, dirty, difficult and uncomfortable.
2. This author, LVM, is available for consulting, with terms provided upon **written** request. Those who read this atlas thoroughly and learn to use it properly will find most questions answered herein, or a reference provided that will do so.
3. Before going into the field, users are strongly advised to acquire and study applicable maps, reports, etc., as may be listed herein, for areas of interest. The cross-references are specifically designed to ease acquisition of relevant information. USGS maps, reports, bulletins, etc., can be directly acquired from the USGS offices in Denver, CO and from Reston, VA, as well as from the innumerable authorized dealers. Reproductions of out-of-print USGS maps and documents can be special-ordered from the Reston, VA, office. The USGS and the various state geological surveys should be consulted about procedures for acquiring copies of their documents.
4. If not already shown on acquired maps, plot the correct locations on maps with appropriate symbols, mine names, etc. If unable to do this, users can acquire educational pamphlets from the USGS and from many state geological surveys. Alternatively, one could ask a higher-ranking Boy Scout (or Girl Scout) to demonstrate how to plot latitudes and longitudes on maps. Information provided within the glossary of this atlas may prove especially helpful.
5. Before going into the field, discover who owns the land of interest and acquire necessary permission, permits, etc., and research appropriate laws, regulations, etc., to avoid inadvertent violations. Remember: trespassing can be a criminal act! The US BLM and local courthouses can be especially helpful in determining ownership, etc. Ownership information presented herein is probably obsolete.
6. Acquire necessary tools and supplies. Especially recommended are: a light-weight Global Positioning System (**GPS**) unit to locate yourself by latitude and longitude; a shovel and rock hammer; a gold pan; a light-weight field manual for identifying minerals; and appropriate safety equipment (safety glasses, steel-toed boots, etc.). A fishing pole and bait are also clearly indispensable!
7. Remember that you, alone, are responsible for the consequences of your actions.
8. **Remember:** Mining is intrinsically dangerous, dirty, difficult and uncomfortable.