

Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine & Gold Fever Rock

August 18, 2004

Dear Friends

Cascading sun rays pierce sullen clouds. A pink and blue dawn sky trails the ridge line above Hauser Lake. Song birds fill the cavernous sky.

An oasis of lush vegetation contrasts against the sagebrush and tan buffalo grass bordering the Missouri River near Helena, Montana. The results of sapphire and gold mining at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine improved the otherwise dry terrain by pumping river water to use in the mining process. The water has allowed renewed growth in vegetation and habitat for birds and animals.



One customer remarked that the El Dorado pile of gravel we were washing through the trommel was not getting smaller. Actually, I think it is down by half. The other half of the pile is forming sand dunes before it whips into the face of the trommel operator. At the end of the day, Mike hoses off his head, dripping mud down his shirt.

A customer found a **7.61 carat blue sapphire and a 2 pennyweight gold nugget** in a Spokane Bar Monster Mine, Saturday! Another gold nugget was found in a Hobby Box. I think I should rename our mine to Spokane Bar Sapphire and Gold Mine. The price of gold is hovering around \$400 dollars an ounce and renewed interest worldwide has picked up. A customer called to tell me they found a 900 carat topaz in some raw gravel they took home. Russ found another topaz 271 carat and a smaller one on top of the Cactus Hill dig site this week.



We are getting every available day for mining before our college students go back to school the end of August. We are racking and stacking our winter supply of sapphire bags as fast as possible. Demand for the Monster Mines is outpacing supply as we continue to sell out. El Dorado material has been hot. Several customers have commented that it has been the best they have ever seen! Order soon while the stockpile lasts at www.sapphiremine.com. The drama of

the haul truck drivers driving the winding canyons and steep terrain to the El Dorado Sapphire Mine may not get repeated until next year.

Guaranteed Spokane Bar Monster Mines are now available for \$120 shipped UPS. The gravel is virgin material but enhanced to give a guarantee. There are some nice blue, treated sapphires added for more enjoyment.

Rick removed the old jig stand down by the creek. A spring flood took out all the pipes and washed out the foot bridge. We decided to move the small jig up to our trommel site. The old timbers came apart easily. Cass bucketed up the gravel that fell through the cracks over a twenty four year period of time. It is loaded with sapphires and gold. The gold sand is concentrated four feet thick.



I have decided to offer Hobby Boxes **and** Winter Garnet Gravel boxes for the \$10 special price with your order of any Spokane Bar Monster Mine, Guaranteed Spokane Bar Monster Mine or El Dorado Monster Mine through September 15th. Be sure and mention this special in your orders at www.sapphiremine.com. Regular prices for Hobby Boxes and Winter Garnet Gravel are \$25 each. A faceted garnet comes with the Winter Garnet Gravel but not the Hobby Box.

Sincerely,

Deb and Russ Thompson and staff at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine
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