OREGON RESEARCH PILOT / SNAPSHOT 2026-10-05

Historical mineral records Baker County, Oregon

A source-backed starting point for reading the historical record. USGS stopped systematically updating this database in 2011.

HISTORICAL RECORDS	RECORDS LISTING GOLD	COMMODITY NAMES
1,618	**1,077**	**48**

What this pilot contains

A county-clipped USGS Mineral Resources Data System (MRDS) snapshot, with mineral filters, approximate record locations, historical status, database update dates, source links and bibliographies. Gold records may also list other minerals. Counts are records, not distinct mines or discoveries.

How to use the records

Use the records to identify places and reports worth researching. Verify the original reports and current land records before planning fieldwork.

Read the limits before the dots

This pilot contains no satellite-derived target zones, independently checked assays, measured grades, underground depths, resource tonnages or gold-ounce estimates. It does not establish present-day mine status, ownership, claim availability or permission to enter.

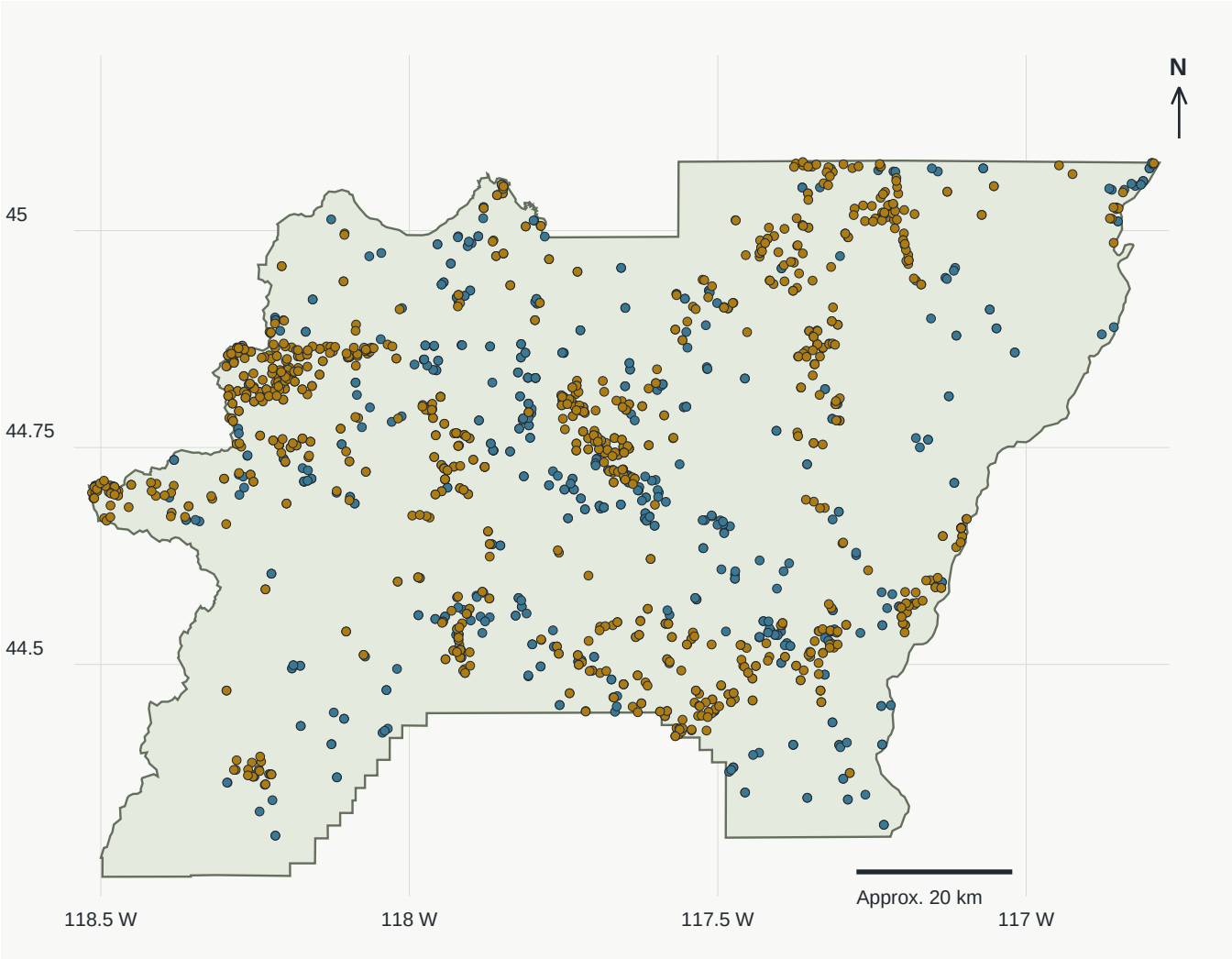
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01 / THE COUNTY SNAPSHOT

Historical records on the map

Gold dots: records listing gold. Blue dots: other mineral records. Multiple records can overlap at the same location.



USGS MRDS downloaded 2026-10-05. County outline: the atlas's bundled US Census TIGERweb boundary. Coordinates are shown as WGS84 and are approximate; the original datum of MRDS source coordinates varies by record. This is an overview, not a navigation or parcel-boundary map.

A blank area means no record in this snapshot. It does not show the absence of minerals. Dense dots may reflect reporting history or duplicate site descriptions; density is not a probability of finding gold.

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02 / FOLLOW THE SOURCE

Examples to research

Ten alphabetically distributed examples from the gold-record subset, selected for readability. These are not ranked targets or recommendations to visit. Record IDs link to USGS.

USGS RECORD / NAME	RECORDED DEPOSIT TYPE	APPROX. LAT / LON
10032540 **Afterthought Claims**	Vein	44.94152 -118.10660
10009225 **Chloride Mine**	Not recorded	44.86652 -118.13437
10032763 **East Eagle**	Vein	45.00347 -117.35324
10032597 **Gold Occurrence**	Not recorded	44.97069 -117.85937
10176874 **Granite Mountain Veins**	Not recorded	45.01986 -117.21682
10200892 **Little Hill Mine**	Not recorded	44.52296 -117.30571
10033315 **Ora Marmo**	Vein	44.41736 -117.56880
10152514 **Shamrock**	Not recorded	44.79516 -117.97324
10152290 **Unnamed Prospect**	Not recorded	44.49296 -117.70352
10216129 **Zimmerman Prospect**	Not recorded	44.78406 -117.96164

How to read a record

Open its source link and bibliography. Check whether the description concerns placer material, a vein or another deposit type. A database update date is an editing date, not evidence of a recent site visit. Historic production, if present in the source, is not a measure of remaining gold.

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03 / READ THIS BEFORE YOU RELY ON IT

How current is this data?

USGS states that, as of 2011, it ceased systematic updates to the Mineral Resources Data System (MRDS). Records here are a historical snapshot, not a current inventory. [2]

WHAT THE RECORDS ARE	WHAT THEY ARE NOT
Historical USGS descriptions of mineral sites, prospects and occurrences, with source citations.	A list of open ground, active mines or claims you can stake.
Approximate point locations. Some MRDS coordinates are coarse or imprecise, so a dot can sit well away from the real workings.	A survey position. Never navigate or stake from a dot; verify with the original report and current BLM and county records.
Several records can describe the same site, and records can overlap at one point.	A count of unique mines or discoveries.
A record of what was reported in the source, including its recorded commodities and deposit type.	Evidence of grade, tonnage, remaining gold or a place where gold will be found.

Before any fieldwork

Check current land status and access (federal, state, private and existing claims), read the original source reports, and confirm records with the relevant agency. Gold Monster provides educational information; nothing in this guide says a site is open, safe, accessible or productive.

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04 / PROVENANCE & REFERENCES

Sources you can check

Downloaded 2026-10-05. Inclusion is based on point coordinates inside the bundled Baker County outline. The downloader checks completeness and unique MRDS IDs, then retains geological fields and citations. Different IDs may describe the same site.

1. USGS MRDS source service and records

https://energy.usgs.gov/arcgis/rest/services/MRData/Mineral_Resource_Data_System/MapServer/3
Historical source for this guide; individual record links are on page 3. The full interactive layer is a member atlas feature.

2. USGS: Mineral Resources Data System

https://mrdata.usgs.gov/mrds/
USGS statement that systematic updates ceased in 2011. Check USGS terms of use before reusing the data.

3. DOGAMI: Mineral Information Layer for Oregon, release 4

https://www.oregon.gov/dogami/pubs/Pages/dds/p-MILO-4.aspx
A State of Oregon source worth checking alongside MRDS; its records are not included in this guide.

Snapshot checks

1,618 mapped records; 1,077 list gold. Reproducibility details, query source, counts and SHA-256 hashes are stored in the manifest that accompanies the member atlas layer. USGS warns that MRDS may not reflect current operations, ownership, production or resources, and ceased systematic updates in 2011.

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