

Mini Sluice

Basically, the sluice needs to be about 3 feet long. (Mine is 42" because that's the length of aluminum I had at the time.)

The legs are two 1/2 inch square pieces of aluminum glass frame I scrounged at a scrap metal dealers junk pile. I drilled them and attached them to the hopper so they can fold up against the bottom of the sluice for carrying. I put a cross brace between them from a scrap of aluminum about 1/3 the way down the legs. You could put a chain from the bottom of the sluice to the legs to prevent them from collapsing but I haven't done that.

The way it works now is that one end is supported by the 5 gal pail and the other is supported by the legs and is adjusted for slope depending on the fineness of the concentrates. The cons should be screened to minus 12 mesh.

I like this unit because the Switchboard matting carries a slight negative charge in the rubber which helps the gold particles drop against it. This unit is ideal in areas where water is scarce because the water is recirculating in a closed system and you can pull up a stump and sit right down to work. I often put a small plastic margarine container on the end of the sluice and catch the tailings for a second pass before I toss them.

I was thinking about building an auto feeder to dump 15 to 20 lbs of cons into but I don't like carrying the extra weight to the places I end up in.

You can power the sluice for about 2 hours "off road" with a motorcycle battery (smaller than car type). You will need at least a 500 gallon per hour pump. A submersible pump would work OK too.

