

Explanations for the 10th Annual Nevada Day Treasure Hunt

Clue No. 1

Leap into the great outdoors
Climb a mountain, fish a stream
Ten years of treasure clues
Will take you to your dream

(Opening clue pays tribute to the 2011 Nevada Day theme – Enjoying Nevada’s Great Outdoors – and to the 10th year of the Nevada Day Treasure Hunt. It is the first hint that the treasure will be found in an outdoor recreational area.)

Clue No. 2

Copper, Grand and Kings
Just to name a few
An echo of the past
Not of something new

(Names a few well-known canyons in and outside the Treasure Hunt search area and hints that the treasure will be found in or near a canyon with some historical significance. Later in the hunt, it will become clear that the hiding spot is on a trail leading to Luther Canyon. In the late 1800s, this canyon became known as Horse Thief Canyon because John and Lute Olds stole horses from settlers, drove them through the canyon and resold them on the other side.)

Clue No. 3

A good cook was Tom
Though he was not the last
Use him as a starting point
Before opportunity has passed

(Refers to the Tom Cooke trail, one of the most popular hiking trails in Reno. The clue tells hunters to use the trail as a starting point in their quest, but it is not the only or the last trail that should be considered.)

Clue No. 4

What a grand view
On a global scale
39 and 120
Embrace the holy grail

(Refers to map coordinates 39 latitude and 120 longitude, which in Western Nevada is the point where the Nevada-California border abruptly angles toward the southeast. The treasure is hidden in one of the quadrants that these two coordinates create. The clue also includes another, more subtle hint. The name of one of the trails in the system where the treasure is hidden is Grand View Loop.)

Clue No. 5

In Illinois I debated
Kansas and Nebraska I authorized
In Nevada I'm commemorated
And Missouri was not compromised

(Narrows the search area to Douglas County by referring to Illinois Senator Stephen Douglas for whom the county was named. Douglas authored the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 and famously debated its merits with Abraham Lincoln in Peoria, Illinois. The Missouri Compromise was repealed upon passage of the Act.)