

## Product Review:

# Wyoming Sight Drifter



Once in a while an idea comes along that is so simple and pure that you can't believe it took so long for someone to come up with it. Such is the case with a little device I was handed recently.

As a long time gunsmith, I have put a lot of sights in and out of dovetails (no doubt thousands of them); and I typically just use one of my brass or plastic punches to drift them in or out with a little 2 ounce hammer. I can't remember how long I have been using a hammer, but I would guess probably over 50 years. I'm good enough with a hammer that I don't even have to look at where I am going to hit. The hammer is just an extension of my hand and it is no harder to hit the end of a punch I am not looking at than it is to touch the end of my nose with my finger tip. I suppose it is safe to say that the average gun nut may not be quite that experienced with a hammer and punch, which is where the *Wyoming*

*Sight Drifter* comes in handy. I must admit though, that it is not just for the less experienced. Since I have had it on my work bench giving it a month long test, I have found myself using it more and more often instead of reaching for the hammer and punch I have used for so long.

The *Wyoming Sight Drifter* is a simple device that consists of a brass punch on one end and a hammer piece on the other connected by a spring. In use, you simply hold the brass nose of the punch end against the sight then grasp the hammer end and pull on it stretching the spring in the middle.... then let go of the hammer end and let the spring drive the hammer against the punch and watch the sight move. The further you stretch the spring, the harder it whacks the sight.

In practice, I have seen the drifter work about as well as my little hammer; it will move about what my 2 ounce hammer will move. I've run into a sight or two that I couldn't move with the drifter but then I couldn't get them loose with my little hammer

either and I had to go to the press to push them out.

This little device is so handy it should probably be in every shooting box and on every work bench. It is not much larger than an ink pen so it doesn't take up much room, but when a small striker is needed it could really save the day.

I see so many possibilities for other options after using it for a while. I've been envisioning this little rig with an assortment of interchangeable tips so I could have plastic, brass, or even steel punch tips. This might be the perfect answer for those pins you hate to try to knock out of expensive rifles for fear the punch will slip when you hit it crooked with a hammer. You could simply hold the punch in place with one hand so it would not bounce nor slip and give it a pop. Hmm, something to ponder there, Steve...

Check out the ad for the *Wyoming Sight Drifter* on page 11 and give Steve Anderson a call (307) 421-2127. You'll be glad you did. ~