

# Completing a fossicking notice or fossicking request

## Fossicking permit

All fossickers must hold a valid fossicking permit. Fossicking permits are free and can be granted for up to 5 years.

## Relevant land

Before you can determine whether you need to send a notice or a request for consent, you must first work out what the land tenure is and whether there are any granted mineral titles or applications for mineral titles on the land you wish to fossick on.

Details of mineral titles (granted or applications) and underlying land tenure can be obtained from STRIKE which is located on the Department's website <https://strike.nt.gov.au/>

## Which option do I need – notice or request?

Use the **fossicking notice** if you are fossicking on:

- Pastoral Land (where the area is not being used for pastoral activity or you are not fossicking within 2km of a homestead or 1km of a stockyard)
- A granted Exploration Licence or Exploration Licence in Retention where you are fossicking for gold

Use the **fossicking request** (for consent) if you are fossicking on:

- Pastoral Land where the area is being used for pastoral activity or if fossicking is within 2km of a homestead or 1km of a stockyard
- Granted or Application areas of a Mineral Lease, Extractive Mineral Permit or Extractive Mineral Lease
- Reserved Land (*Mineral Titles Act 2010*) if not a declared fossicking area
- Private Land, Aboriginal Land or Aboriginal Community Living Area
- A Park or Reserve

While it may be impossible to determine if any of these factors should be taken into account when providing a notice, by ensuring the pastoralist has as much notice as possible, they will then have an opportunity to consider your proposal and advise you if the activities are likely to conflict with planned pastoral activities.

They may also direct you to another area for your own safety, thus preventing you travelling unnecessary distances only to end up disappointed or frustrated. It is a matter of courtesy and safety that the pastoralist receives your notification and is aware of your intending visit prior to your arrival at the property. Many pastoral properties in the Territory are remote, and mail may only be received on a fortnightly or monthly basis. Please take this into account and plan ahead.

If you are unsure whether you need to issue a notice or request for consent, please contact the Pastoralist or Mineral Title holder before submitting the form.

Depending on the tenure of the land, multiple consents may need to be obtained. Refer to the Information Bulletin – Land Access at <https://fossicking.nt.gov.au/useful-information/information-bulletins/land-access>

## Date of proposed entry and duration of fossicking.

The proposed entry date should take into consideration a realistic time frame in which to dispatch the notice or request and to provide for return of written consent (if required). It is an offence to enter the land prior to this date unless agreed to by the specified person. Provide an estimate of the duration of the fossicking.

### **Landowner, occupier or mineral title holder's details**

It is up to the fossicker to source the required contact details of private landowners from telephone directories, the internet or via the Land Titles Office as the Department is unable to provide these details.

Mineral Title holder contact details can be obtained from STRIKE at <https://strike.nt.gov.au/>

Pastoral lease contact details are available from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. Email [pastoral.land@nt.gov.au](mailto:pastoral.land@nt.gov.au) with requests for contact information.

### **Fossicker details**

Include contact details of the primary fossicker in a group who will act as the main contact between the fossicking party and the landowner. For additional fossickers please include full names and addresses of all other members of the fossicking party on (attach a separate sheet if necessary).

The postal or email address should be a reliable communication mode which is accessed regularly and where the landowner/occupier or title holder can contact you and/or return their written consent.

### **Vehicle details**

Specify the make, model, colour and rego number/s. You must provide details of all vehicles that will be covered by this Fossicking Notice/Request.

### **Proposed area for fossicking activity**

Complete a detailed description or draw a map of the area where you intend to fossick, clearly indicating the location and any proposed camping sites.

Latitude/longitude of the area or grid references may be used, and this information can be obtained from STRIKE

### **Fossicking details**

Describe the nature of fossicking, including what equipment will be used. Include what type of mineral or stone you are intending to fossick for and the duration you intend to remain on the relevant land.

### **Minimum timeframe for giving notice or request for consent**

#### **A fossicking notice must be given:**

If the person intends to fossick for gold on an EL – at least 14 days before the person wishes to enter the land; and

In any other case – at least 7 days before the person wishes to enter the land.

#### **A fossicking request for consent must be given:**

To the landowner/ occupier or Mineral Title holder at least 14 days before the intended entry date onto the land.

### **Landowner, occupier or mineral title holder – consent granted section**

Once completed by the landowner/occupier or mineral title holder, this section serves as the written consent in response to a fossicking request. This completed consent form needs to be produced, if necessary, as proof that a fossicking request was given to the landowner/occupier or title holder.

## **Further information**

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