



NSW & ACT Prospectors and Fossickers Association Inc.

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"Fights for fairer access to land in NSW and represents the interests of prospectors and fossickers"

Nundle - Fossicking Access to the Peel River.

NAPFA members have reported recent forum posts stating Fossicking on the Peel River between Nundle and Chaffey Dam is not allowed, and that all fossicking equipment will be confiscated.

NAPFA has confirmed with the NSW Resources Regulator today, 28th March 2024, that **this is simply not true**. The Regulator is not intending to shut down fossicking in the Peel River as alleged from fossicking pages of Facebook.

The Regulator did ask NAPFA to remind fossickers, that they must adhere to requirements of the **Mining Act 1992** and the **Mining Regulations 2016**. The Resources Regulator has published a guide to fossicking that clearly outlines activities that are not permitted.

[Fossicking: A guide to fossicking in NSW](#)

However there have been numerous ongoing complaints made to the Regulator against fossicking activities on the Peel River.

The main areas of concern relate to the use of power operated equipment (pumps to high bankers) and fossickers undertaking activities on land without permission. Fossickers can only access the river from public access points, unless they have gained permission from landholders.

The Resources Regulator is currently in contact with other agencies with the view of conducting joint inspections in the area to monitor fossicking in the Peel River.

There will be inspections given the level of complaints, and provided Fossickers are accessing the area and undertaking their activities legally they will have no problems. If you see another fossicker operating outside of the Regulations, please let them know, and help us to self-regulate our activities.

The best outcome is when authorities do conduct inspections, and do not find any issues, especially where there have been numerous complaints. An outcome of this nature will demonstrate that some complaints have no basis.

For further queries please email NAPFA at: member.enquiries@napfa.net

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