



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"

Clarification of the closure of Blue Hills quarry area and updates on Sapphire bend access at Oberon.

NAPFA members have enquired about the closure of the Blue Hills Quarry and Sapphire bend access in Vulcan State Forest near Oberon following recent forum posts stating the closure is permanent.

NAPFA have confirmed with the Forestry Corporation,

The closure is only temporary, and this is for two reasons.

Firstly, the whole area is closed to both the public and Fossickers due to logging in the area, which is normal practice for safety.

Secondly, the quarry is normally closed to the public, as are most quarries under forestry control, however fossickers are allowed access using their permit. Currently there is a temporary closure to fossickers for safety assessments and to update their management plan to manage some issues.

Forestry has noted some practices that are unsafe and not meeting requirements as well as digging under and destabilising plantation trees. The area will be closed until these issues are rectified.

Forestry is completing this during the logging closure to avoid any later (secondary) closure. NAPFA appreciate Forestry's initiative to complete both tasks together, minimising the impacts to Fossickers.

For full details see the link to the Forestry statement below:

[Forestry corporation NSW - Fossicking-sites-near-oberon](#)

For further queries please email NAPFA at:
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