



Reward is one of six areas of Designated Fossicking Land on the central Queensland sapphire fields where recreational and tourist fossicking is possible under simple Fossickers Licences. However, certain types of commercial mining tenures are also allowed in these areas. Five Fossicking Areas have also been established to allow fossicking away from competition from commercial miners. Generally the Designated Fossicking Land encompasses deeper wash, but patches of ground suitable for shallow hand excavation occur in places. Another brochure describes the general background to the fields.

Reward is a discrete area relatively remote from the main area of mining and infrastructure of the gemfields around Sapphire and Rubyvale, and its undeveloped open bushland setting is attractive to fossickers.

Access and roads

Turn off the Capricorn Highway at Anakie and take the sealed road to for 18km to Rubyvale township. Head southwest along the unsealed Keilambete Road for 1km to the signposted *Reward* road on the left, then for another 4.3 km to the entrance of *Reward* on its eastern boundary (Sign 52). The track leads west through the 'Reward' diggings, to eventually rejoin Keilambete Road. At a further 1km on this road (Sign 54) a second track leads to the south to cross Retreat Creek before heading west to the 'Washpool' diggings.

Alternatively for 'Washpool' stay on the Keilambete Road from Ruyvale. Other tracks leading from Sapphire to the southeast may require 4wd vehicles.

Water

There are no local water supplies and water needs to be carried from the public supply at Sapphire. Holes

in Retreat Creek near the 'Washpool' track crossing may contain water suitable for washing gravel.

Requirements

Fossicking requires a Fossickers Licence under the Fossicking Act 1994. Individual, family, club, educational organisation and commercial tour operator licences can be obtained for periods between one and twelve months, with fees varying accordingly. They can be obtained from the Mining Registrar at Emerald, selected local businesses, or the Department's other offices throughout the State. Hand tools only are permitted.

Camping

Camping is allowed for a maximum period of 3 months. A camping permit is required, which can be obtained for the payment of a small fee from the Emerald, Rockhampton, Mackay and Brisbane offices of the Department or the local businesses that issue the Fossickers Licences. No facilities exist in the area except for a solar telephone. *Reward* is relatively remote, and visitors must be self-sufficient.

Sapphire occurrence

Wash around the 'Reward' diggings in the eastern part of the area is relatively deep and generally unsuitable for fossickers, although there may be some shallower material between there and the main road to the northwest.

The most popular area for fossickers is the 'Washpool' diggings near the western boundary, where the wash is shallow.

Code of Conduct

•Use only safe working practices. Holes deeper than 2m or undermined overhangs **are not permitted**.

•Workings should be left in a safe, tidy condition so as not to endanger other persons or stock.

•Dismantle any structures upon vacating a campsite.

•**Remove all rubbish** and bury human waste at least 20cm deep.

•Do not interfere with any vegetation, stock or wildlife.

Shooting is prohibited.

•Minimise inconvenience to others by limiting noise and control pets at all times.

•Be careful with campfires, particularly in dry times. Clear a 2m space around them.

Fossickers must be aware that fossicking or camping are not permitted on any of the residential Miners Homestead Perpetual Leases etc, or Mining Claims which are present in the area without the permission of the holders.

Details of these can be obtained from the Mining Registrar. Extensive areas are held under mining claims around the 'Reward' diggings.

For further information:

The Mining Registrar

Clerana Centre

29-31 Clermont Street

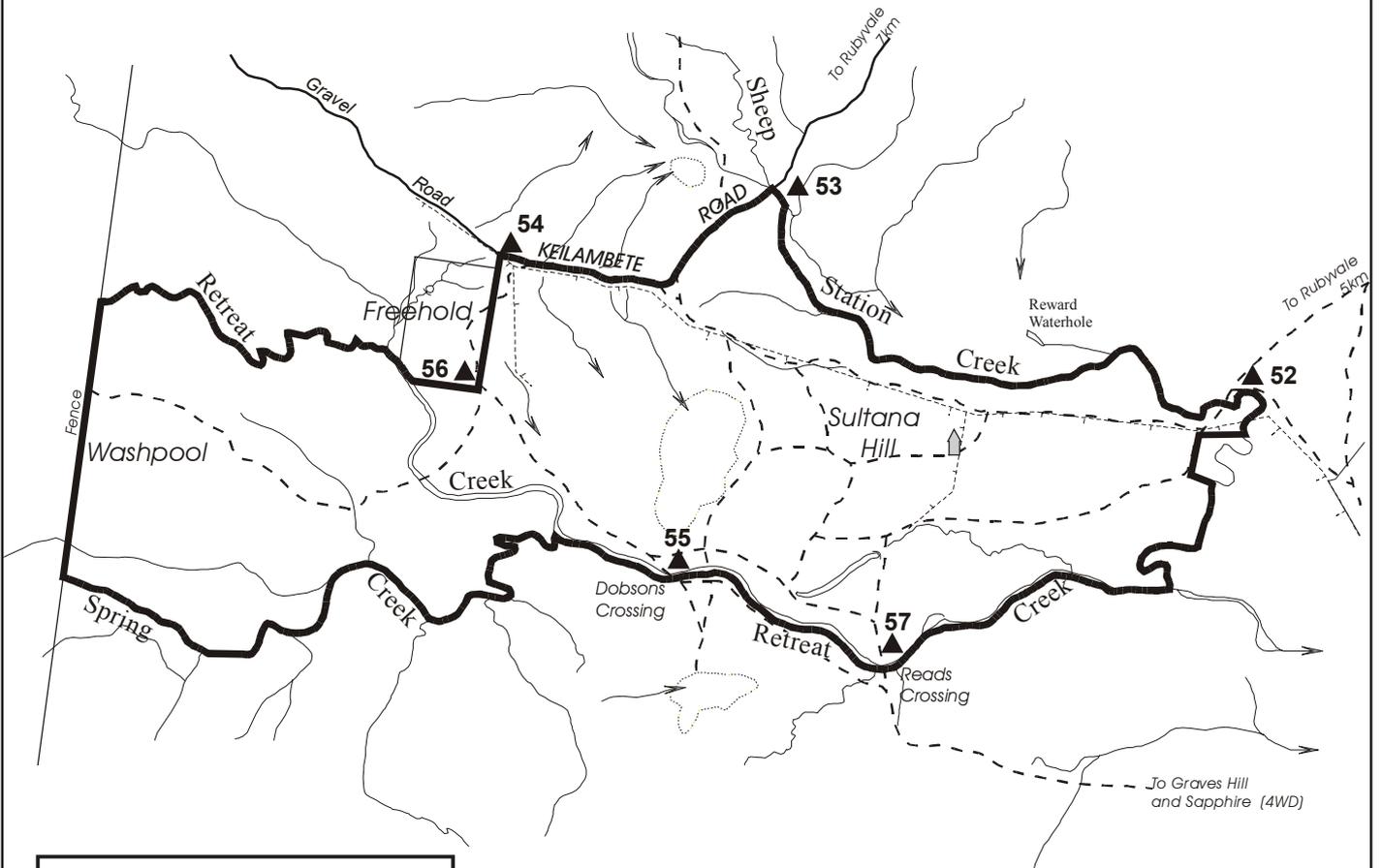
Emerald Qld 4720

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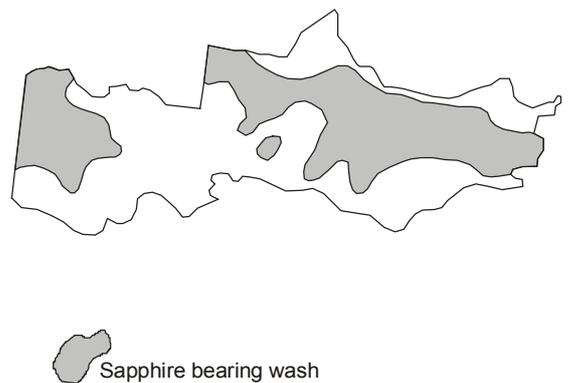
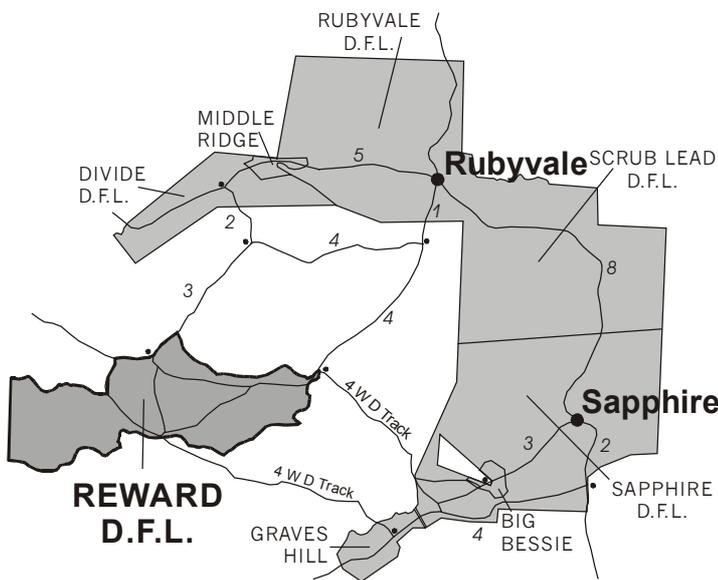
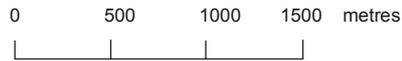
REWARD DESIGNATED FOSSICKING LAND



LEGEND

- Boundary
- Numbered entrance sign
- Telephone line
- Telephone Box

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• 4 • Distance in kilometres