



DO YOU NEED APPROVAL FROM DOGAMI?

I want to go beachcombing for agates or searching for sunstones on public lands. Do I need a permit or certificate from DOGAMI?

The answer is **NO** – Per Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 517.120(4), recreational mining is consistent with a hobby or casual use, including use on public lands* set aside for the purpose of recreational mining, including the use of pans, sluices, rocker boxes, and small dredges.

*Note: Examples include the Quartzville Recreation Corridor in Linn County and the BLM Sunstone Collection Area in Lake County.

I want to dig around on a quarter-acre of my property for limestone. Do I need a permit or certificate from DOGAMI?

The answer is **NO** – Per Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 632-033-0010(12), prospecting means activities conducted on or beneath the surface of the earth for the purpose of determining presence, location, extent, grade, or economic viability, but does not disturb more than one cumulative acre. Prospecting does not allow for the sale of extracted materials (production).

I want to conduct drilling and trenching in search of gold on my mining claim, and I have an approved Notice from BLM to disturb up to three acres. Do I need a permit or certificate from DOGAMI?

The answer is **YES** – you need an **Exploration Permit**. Per ORS 517.705(1), onshore exploration that disturbs more than one surface acre or involves drilling to greater than 50 feet requires a permit issued by DOGAMI. Per ORS 517.750(5), exploration means all activities conducted on or beneath the surface of the earth for the purpose of determining presence, location, extent, grade or economic viability of a deposit. Exploration does not allow for the sale of extracted materials (production).

I want to restart a 10-acre mine site that was previously abandoned and put it back into full production at approximately 8,000 cubic yards/year. Do I need a permit or certificate from DOGAMI?

The answer is **YES** – you need an **Operating Permit**. Per ORS 517.790(1), a landowner or operator may not allow or engage in surface mining without a valid operating permit from DOGAMI. Per ORS 517.750(16)(a), surface mining includes any part of the process of extraction of natural mineral deposits where more than 5,000 cubic yards of minerals are extracted or at least one acre of land is affected within a period of 12 consecutive calendar months.

I want to mine 1,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel from a half-acre of my property and sell it to my neighbors. Do I need a permit or certificate from DOGAMI?

The answer is **YES** – you need an **Exclusion Certificate**. Aside from yard/acre limitations of an operating permit, per ORS 517.753(1), surface mining that results in the extraction of 5,000 cubic yards or less of minerals or affects less than one acre of land within a period of 12 consecutive calendar months requires an exclusion certificate issued by DOGAMI.