



**Crown Estate  
Scotland**  
Oighreachd a' Chrùin Alba

## Policy statement: gold panning

Crown Estate Scotland manages the rights to gold and silver across most of Scotland. A map showing the few specific locations where gold and silver is not owned by Crown Estate Scotland is [here](#).

Because of the damage that gold panning causes, we do not grant permission for people to remove any gold.

It is an offence to remove gold found by recreational panning without permission from both the owner of the rights (e.g. Crown Estate Scotland) and the owner of the land (to gain access to the stream or river).

We understand that this policy may disappoint some. However, our intention is to help preserve the aquatic environments which are susceptible to damage.

To understand more about the damage that gold panning can cause, please follow the links below. Breaches of environmental and other legislation may result in prosecution or other action.

[SNH policy](#)

Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)

Please note that references to The Crown Estate on the external sites listed above, should be read as Crown Estate Scotland.