



# Wanaea Well Intervention Environment Plan Summary

Development Division

May 2019

Revision O

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Woodside Energy Ltd (Woodside), as Titleholder, under the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009* (Cth) (referred to as the Environment Regulations), proposes to undertake intervention activities on the Wanaea-03 (WA-03) and the Wanaea-11a (WA-11a) wells, hereafter referred to as the Petroleum Activities Program. The Wanaea Well Intervention Environmental Plan (EP) was accepted by National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) on 22 May, 2019.

This EP Summary has been prepared to meet the requirements of Regulations 11(3) and 11(4) under the Environment Regulations, as administered by NOPSEMA.

### 1.1 Defining the Activity

The Petroleum Activities Program to be undertaken involves conducting subsea interventions on the WA-03 and WA-11a wells. These activities are defined as petroleum activities within Regulation 4 of the Environment Regulations and as such an EP is required.

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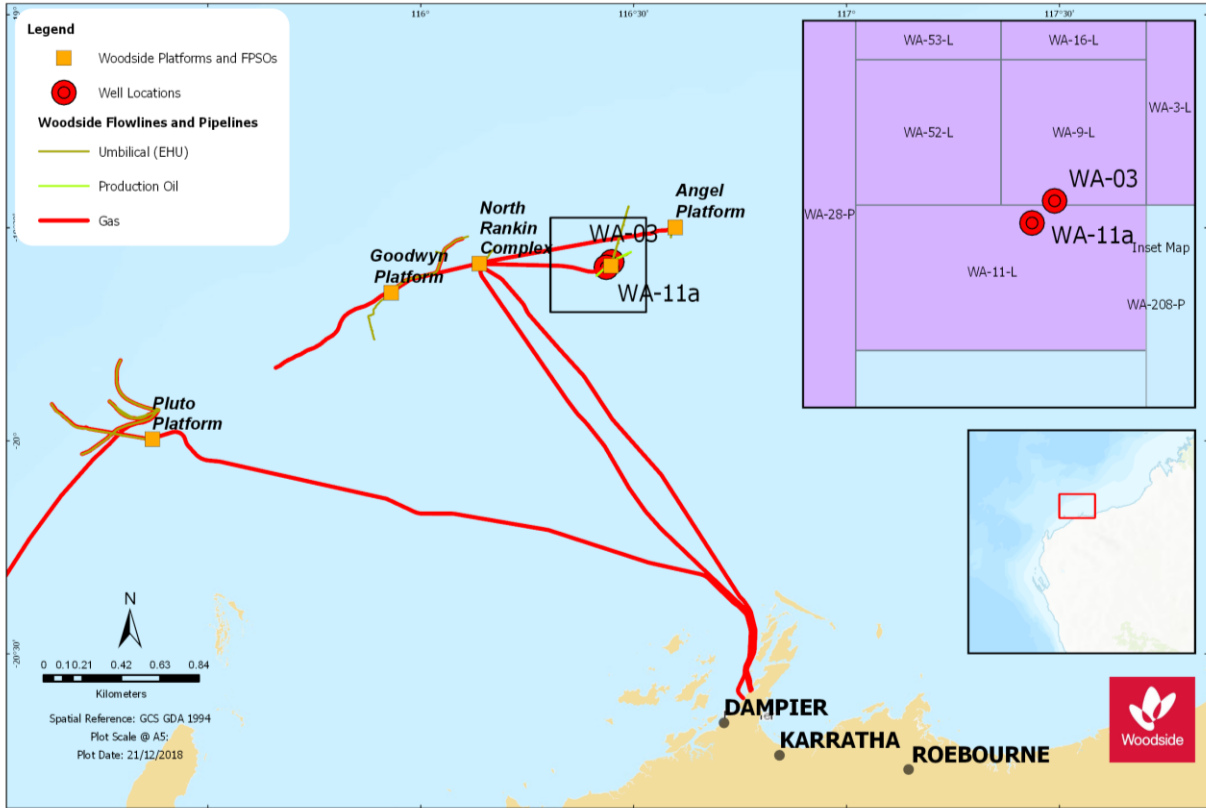
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## 2. LOCATION OF THE ACTIVITY

The proposed petroleum activities are located in Commonwealth waters on the North West Shelf (NWS) of Western Australia (WA), in Production Licence Areas WA-9 and WA-11, approximately 100 km north of Dampier, Western Australia (**Figure 2-1**).



**Figure 2-1: Location of the Petroleum Activities Program**

The coordinates and permit areas of the wells are presented in **Table 2-1**.

**Table 2-1: Approximate Location Details for the Petroleum Activities Program**

Activity	Water Depth (Approx. m Lowest Astronomical Tide)	Latitude	Longitude	Permit Area
Wanaea-03 well	81 m	19° 34' 41" S	116° 27' 0" E	WA-9-L
Wanaea-11a well	79 m	19° 35' 31" S	116° 26' 05" E	WA-11-L

### 2.1 Operational Area

The Operational Area defines the spatial boundary of the Petroleum Activities Program. The area includes (**Figure 2-2**):

- the Wanaea-03 subsea production well and associated manifold and an area of 500 m around the well

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- the Wanaea-11a subsea production well and associated manifold and an area of 500 m around the well.

Vessel related activities within the Operational Area will comply with the EP. Vessels supporting the petroleum activities when outside the Operational Area will adhere to all applicable maritime regulations and other requirements.

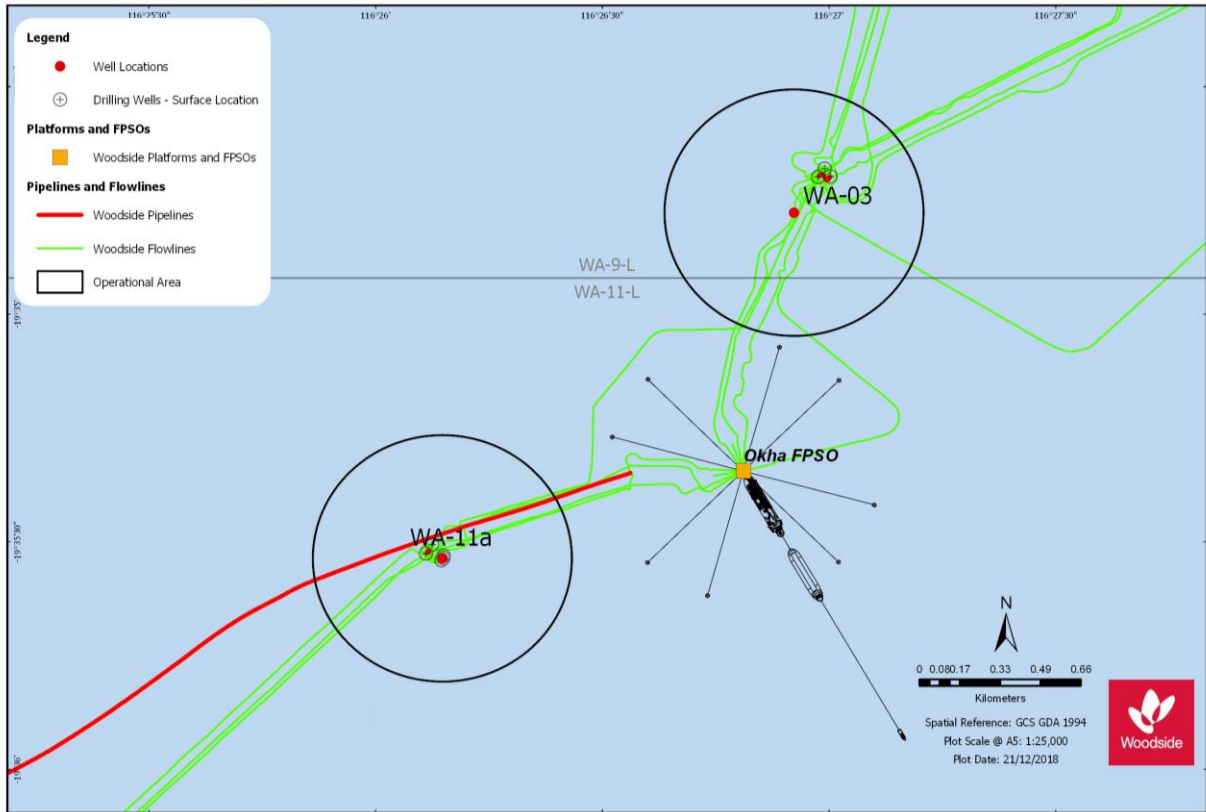


Figure 2-2: Wanaea-03 and Wanaea-11a Operational Areas

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### 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY

#### 3.1 Overview

The Petroleum Activities Program will involve well intervention activities on Wanaea-03 and Wanaea-11a, two gas lifted oil wells tied back to the Woodside Operated Okha Floating, Production, Storage and Offloading (FPSO). The interventions will be carried out from a Light Well Intervention Vessel (LWIV).

The WA-03 well is currently shut-in. An intervention is required to install two mechanical plugs to reinstate well integrity barriers in line with Woodside standards. No further production is anticipated from this well.

The WA-11a well is currently shut-in due to the identification of a tubing to annulus communication point located above the surface controlled subsurface valve (SCSSV). An intervention is planned to diagnose and repair the annulus leak through installation of a straddle. A successful repair will see this well returned to normal operation. Operation of the well following the intervention will be covered by the Okha Operations EP. Should the repair be found to be not feasible, or the repair unsuccessful, plugs may be installed in the well using a similar method for WA-03.

#### 3.2 Purpose of the Activity

Woodside proposes to conduct an intervention on the WA-03 and WA-11a wells, to remediate integrity issues.

#### 3.3 Timing of the Activities

The proposed Petroleum Activities Program is scheduled to occur from August to November 2019. It is expected to be completed within a total of 30 days. This includes up to 10 days for each well intervention and an additional contingency of 10 days to complete both wells. Timing and duration of these activities is subject to change due to project schedule requirements, vessel availability, unforeseen circumstances and weather.

This EP has risk assessed the well intervention activities year-round (all seasons), to provide operational flexibility for requirements and schedule changes, as well as vessel availability.

#### 3.4 Well Intervention

##### 3.4.1 WA-03 Intervention Scope

The purpose of the WA-03 intervention scope is to:

- reinstate a minimum of 2 well barriers to reservoir, in accordance with Woodside Engineering Standard – Well Barriers
- establish sufficient barriers to allow future removal of the Xmas Tree
- set well barriers to stop gas bubbles while providing integrity and reservoir isolation.

The following provides the expected sequence of operations for the WA-03 light well intervention (LWI).

##### A. Tree cap removal and Subsea Intervention Device (SID) Landout

1. ROV performs as-found survey, identifying any obstructions or hazards at location
2. ROV deployed to recover the Tree Cap with Tree Cap Running Tool (TCRT) and perform cleaning of Xmas Tree (XT) interface



3. the LWIV SID is deployed onto the XT and locked in place, transferring control of XT valves to the LWIV
4. barriers within the SID and XT are pressure and function tested.

#### **B. Well Kill**

1. a well kill pumping spread is then connected to the SID via a 2" umbilical. Up to 500 bbl of well kill fluids are pumped into the well at a rate of 6–8 bpm (well kill fluids will be comprised of a mix of NaCl brine, mixed with an oxy-scavenger (0.15 ppb), corrosion inhibitor (5 ppb) and biocide (0.2 ppb)).

#### **C. Establish Barriers in Lower Completion**

1. this stage involves the installation of two ISO 14310 V0 rated mechanical plugs installed in the lower completion via wireline and confirmation of plug integrity.

#### **D. Set Annulus Tubing Hanger Plugs (THP)**

1. in order to install the annulus plug, excess pressure must first be vented to reduce pressure from 2,600 psi to ~600 psi.
2. the annulus contains approximately 251.7 bbl of lean gas (gas lift system fluid) and ~75 bbl of diesel, these will be directed to the Okha FPSO.
3. a mechanical annulus THP will then be installed via wireline.

#### **E. Circulate VXT preservation fluid and test VXT barriers**

- circulate preservation fluids through VXT cavities back to LWIV via umbilical
  - close VXT valves and pressure/integrity test VXT cavities and barriers (e.g. PMV Inflow, Production Cavity, Annulus Cavity).
4. LWIV stack recovery
    - ROV to disconnect upper to lower package flying lead and umbilical
    - recover Upper SID (USID) and Lower SID (LSID) to parking frame on LWIV deck (each item to be lifted to 20 m, then vessel position in safe location before retrieval commences).
  5. install and test Tree Cap with TCRT. At this point the Okha FPSO will be in control of the XT Valves and well control
  6. recovery TCRT to LWIV, vessel demobilizes.

The completion of the activity will see the well remain with integrity barriers in place. Well integrity management and operation will then revert to the control from the Okha FPSO.

Should at any time the operations to restore integrity to the well fail or be otherwise deemed unfeasible, subsea equipment will be removed (if safe to do so) and control of the well handed back to the Okha FPSO. Alternate well integrity repair solutions are therefore not considered in the EP.

### **3.4.2 WA-11a Intervention Sequence of Operations**

The purpose of the intervention is to restore production in WA-11a by re-establishing tubing integrity. A leak in the production tubing between the tubing hanger and the SCSSV has been identified and a suitable tubing straddle solution is to be engineered and installed to isolate the leak area.

The following provides the expected sequence of operations for the WA-11a LWI. Further details on key components used in the intervention are outlined in further detail in the next section.

#### **A Tree cap removal and SID Landout**

1. ROV performs as-found survey, identifying any obstructions or hazards at location

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2. ROV deployed to recover the Tree Cap with TCRT and perform cleaning of XT interface
3. the SID is deployed onto the XT and locked in place
4. barriers within the SID and XT are then pressure and function tested.

### **B Leak Diagnosis**

1. run e-line logging tool into well
2. line up XT valves to the choke, and FPSO to restart production to stable, low flow-rate
3. perform e-line production logging over suspected leak area to detect leak zone
4. once leak area is identified, FPSO to stop production. Well to be shut in, isolated and tested via LWI system
5. install straddle over detected leak area
6. repeat e-line production logging (steps 1-3) with flowing well over straddle area to confirm straddle integrity
7. once leak area is confirmed as repaired, FPSO to stop production. Well to be shut in, isolated and tested via LWI system.

### **C Remove Valve Overrides, circulate VXT preservation fluid and test VXT barriers**

1. circulate preservation fluid and pressure test XT barriers
  - close VXT valves and pressure/integrity test VXT cavities and barriers (e.g. PMV Inflow, Production Cavity, Annulus Cavity).
2. LWIV stack recovery
  - ROV to disconnect upper to lower package flying lead & umbilical
  - recover USID and LSID to parking frame on LWIV deck.
3. install and test Tree Cap with TCRT. At this point the Okha FPSO will be in control of the XT Valves and well control
4. recovery TCRT to LWIV
5. vessel demobilises.

Once the TCRT is re-instated, operation and control of the well will revert to the Okha FPSO.

Should at any time the operations to restore integrity to the well fail or be otherwise deemed unfeasible, subsea equipment will be removed (if safe to do so) and control of the well handed back to the Okha FPSO. If the straddle repair solution fails or is deemed unfeasible, the well will be plugged using similar tools and methodology described for WA-03 in **Section 3.4.1**.

### **3.4.3 Light Well Intervention Stack**

The SID is designed to be deployed in sections or as a complete unit over the side of the vessel using the vessel crane. Once fully deployed the SID permits light well intervention into live or abandoned subsea wells for, including but not limited to, the following:

- real time production logging via smart e-line tools or with memory equipped sensors on dumb tools
- well diagnostics

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- down hole valve change out
- perforating, tube cutting or punching operations
- general downhole operations (setting/pulling plugs, etc)
- SST deployment or recovery.

The SID provides a pressure containing lubricator section that allows the deployment of wireline / electric line or slickline toolstrings subsea without the requirement of running a ridged riser system back to the surface. The SID interfaces to the Subsea Tree by means of a custom designed Tree Connector. The system is designed to ensure that there are a minimum of two well barriers in place during well intervention. The system is also designed to secure the well by shutting in additional barriers in the event of loss of communication or in the event of vessel drive/drift off through a manual or autonomous emergency shutdown (ESD) 3 level system.

### 3.4.4 Flush Return Kill (FRK) System

The FRK system provides a means of flushing the lubricator contents back to the hydrocarbon handling package on deck. This is done before returning the wire line mandrel to surface to ensure that no well bore fluid is released to the environment from dirty Toolstrings or lubricator bores. Additional function of the FRK system allows use of the pumps on the vessel to pressure test barriers, equalise pressure across valves and kill the well if required.

The FRK system in conjunction with the hydrocarbon handling system on the vessel provides well barrier and pressure control redundancy for surface and subsea systems combined and in isolation ensuring that all operational and ESD scenarios have a minimum of two independent verified, available barriers between pressure source and environment. This is further enhanced by strictly controlled operating procedures conducted by competent and qualified personnel.

Some of the components within the Flush, Return and Kill System and the well service pump are hired from specialist vendors on a project by project basis. Some of this equipment has been deemed to be a safety critical element. Accordingly, the hired equipment must meet agreed standards.

### 3.4.5 Hydrocarbons to surface

Hydrocarbons, in the form of hydrocarbon contaminated flushing returns, are handled on the vessel by a dedicated system consisting of a choke manifold, deck connection piping, separator and cold vent boom. The flushed lubricator fluids are transferred to surface through the FRK umbilical to the FRK reeler with the outlets connected directly to the choke manifold on deck.

The flushing, return and kill umbilicals have subsea and surface isolation valves which will be closed when the BOP valves or other well barriers are opened on the well and conversely the BOP valves or other well barriers will be closed when any of these outlet isolation valves are opened to bleed the lubricator back to surface. The volume flushed at any one time is limited to the volume of the SID lubricator.

During a lubricator flushing operation where the well is completely isolated and barriers tested from the direction of pressure before displacement of fluid, controlled circulation within the Lubricator with a known quantity of water glycol mix is carried out. The volume of the lubricator is 0.384 m<sup>3</sup> hence with the worst case of total lubricator volume stored as gas then bled back to surface at well pressure, the volume of stored gas brought to the surface and fed through the separator would be less than 0.4 m<sup>3</sup>.

During lubricator flushing operations if an ESD situation occurs then isolation barriers are automatically affected using accumulated pressure stored subsea after activation of the relevant ESD button.

Typically, International Bulk carriers (IBC) or tote tanks are used to contain the flushed lubricator fluids from the separator.

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### 3.5 Project Vessels

A LWIV and support vessel will be required to complete the activities associated with the Petroleum Activities Program.

All project vessels, will be subject to a Marine Assurance Inspection Audit (As per the Marine Offshore Vessel Assurance Procedure) and Offshore Vessel Inspection Database (OVID) inspection. These audits and inspections will assess compliance with the laws of the international shipping industry, which includes safety management requirements, and maritime legislation including International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 as modified by the Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL) and other International Maritime Organisation (IMO) standards. In the case of short term hire, vessel inspections may be replaced by a risk assessment as per Woodside's Marine Vessel Risk Evaluation Guidelines. This risk assessment considers a variety of vessel parameters including previous audit/inspection outcomes, the age of the vessel, and its incident record. The risk assessment also considers environmental factors such as credible spill scenarios for the vessel and the sensitivity of the area of operation. Description and assessment of vessel environmental impacts and risks, credible spill scenarios and environmental sensitivities for the activities within the scope of the EP are included.

#### 3.5.1 LWIV

The currently selected vessel to conduct Light Well Intervention Operations is the *Sapura Constructor* (SC). The SC is a 117 m length Subsea Support Vessel equipped with a saturation dive system, 2 x Work Class Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV), well intervention equipment, a helideck, moon pool and accommodation for 120 personnel. It may be necessary to select a different vessel for commercial or operational reason (e.g. preferred vessel becomes unavailable), in which case a vessel of similar specifications will be engaged.

#### 3.5.2 Supply Vessels

During the Petroleum Activities Program, the LWIV will be supported by various supply vessels. These vessels will be used to provide logistics support, such as the transfer of supplies and equipment. Due to the short duration of the activity, bunkering to the LWIV is not planned. There is no requirement for a stand-by vessel.

Any supply vessel is likely to be selected from the existing fleet of oil and gas support vessels located in the Dampier region. All supply vessels will be subject to a Marine Assurance Inspection Audit (As per the Marine Offshore Vessel Assurance Procedure) and OVID inspection.

#### 3.5.3 Remotely Operated Vehicles

The LWIV and support vessel will be equipped with a ROV system that is maintained and operated by a specialised contractor aboard the vessel. ROVs may be used prior to and during LWIV operations.

The ROV can be fitted with various tools and camera systems that can be used to capture permanent records (both still images and video) of the operations and immediate surrounding environment.

#### 3.5.4 Helicopters

During the Petroleum Activities Program, crew changes will be undertaken using helicopters as required. Helicopter operations within the Petroleum Activities Area are limited to helicopter take-off and landing on the LWIV helideck. No refuelling is planned.

#### 3.5.5 Vessel refuelling

Vessel refuelling is not planned to occur during intervention operations.

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### 3.5.6 Vessel emissions and discharges

The LWIV and support vessels will use diesel-powered generators for power generation.

The LWIV and support vessels will display navigational lighting and external lighting, as required for safe operations. Lighting levels will be determined primarily by operational safety and navigational requirements under relevant legislation, specifically the Navigation Act 2012. The LWIV and support vessels will be lit to maintain operational safety on a 24-hour basis.

Seawater is pumped on board and used as a heat exchange medium for the cooling of machinery engines on the LWIV and support vessels. The medium is subsequently discharged from the LWIV and support vessels to the sea surface at potentially a higher temperature. Alternatively, the LWIV and support vessels may utilise closed loop cooling systems.

Potable water, primarily for accommodation and associated domestic areas, may be generated on vessels using a reverse osmosis (RO) plant. This process will produce brine, which is diluted and discharged at the sea surface.

The LWIV and support vessels will also discharge deck drainage from open drainage areas, bilge water from closed drainage areas, putrescible waste and treated sewage and grey water. Solid hazardous and non-hazardous wastes generated during the Petroleum Activity Program (PAP) are disposed of onshore and transported by support vessels.

## 3.6 Project Fluids

### 3.6.1 Assessment of Project Fluids

All chemicals that may be operationally released or discharged to the marine environment by the Petroleum Activities Program are selected and approved in accordance with the Chemical Selection and Assessment Environment Guideline. This guideline is used to demonstrate that the potential impacts of the chemicals selected are acceptable, as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP) and consistent with the Environmental Performance Standards Procedure.

The chemical assessment process follows the principles outlined in the Offshore Chemical Notification Scheme (OCNS) which manages chemical use and discharge in the United Kingdom (UK) and the Netherlands. It applies the requirements of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Convention). The OSPAR Convention is widely accepted as best practice for chemical management.

Chemicals fall into the following assessment types:

- No further assessment: Chemicals with an HQ band of Gold or Silver or an OCNS ranking of E or D with no substitution or product warnings do not require further assessment. Such chemicals do not represent a significant impact on the environment under standard use scenarios and are therefore considered ALARP and acceptable.
- Further assessment/ALARP justification required: Some types of chemicals require further assessment to understand the environmental impacts of discharge into the marine environment, specifically:
  - chemicals with no OCNS ranking
  - chemicals with an HQ band of white, blue, orange, purple or an OCNS ranking of A, B or C, or
  - chemicals with an OCNS product or substitution warning.

If no environmental data is available for a chemical or if the environmental data does not meet the acceptability criteria outlined above, potential alternatives for the chemical will be investigated, with

preference for options with an HQ band of Gold or Silver, or are OCNS Group E or D with no substitution or product warnings.

If no more environmentally suitable alternatives are available, further risk reduction measures (e.g. controls related to use and discharge) will be considered for the specific context and implemented where relevant to ensure the risk is ALARP and acceptable.

Once the further assessment/ALARP justification has been completed concurrence from the relevant environment team lead or manager that the environmental risk as results of chemical use is ALARP and acceptable.

### 3.7 Contingent Activities

The following sections present contingencies that may be required, if operational or technical issues occur during the Petroleum Activities Program. These contingencies have been considered within the relevant impact assessment sections and do not represent significant additional risks or impacts but may generate additional volumes of fluids being operationally discharged.

#### 3.7.1 Marine Growth Removal

Prior to undertaking well intervention activities, it may be required to remove excess marine growth on subsea infrastructure. This may be carried out with an IMR vessel prior to the arrival of the LWI vessel. Marine growth removal is standard practice and usually undertaken with an ROV using either acid (typically sulphamic acid), water jetting or sand/abrasive blasting.

#### 3.7.2 Emergency Disconnect Sequence

An Emergency Disconnect Sequence (EDS) may be implemented if the LWIV is required to rapidly disengage from the well. This can be initiated manually, or autonomously on loss of power / communications.

EDS aims to leave the XT and SID in a secure condition but may result in a release of small volume of fluids during the enactment of the disconnect sequence. Valves on the BOP will automatically shear the tooling and shut-in the well upon enactment of the EDS, providing well integrity and sufficient barriers while the causal event is rectified.

Should the EDS sequence be activated once the cause of the shutdown has been eliminated the LWIV will return to the well and attempt to recommence operations. Integrity of barriers would be confirmed prior to activity recommencement. Should the wireline have been sheared during the EDS, there will be a need to insert a fishing tool to recover the sheared wire and recover any lost tooling, prior to the normal work sequence recommencing.

## 4. DESCRIPTION OF THE RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

The existing environment characteristics are described in terms of the Operational Area and Zone of Consequence (ZoC). The Operational Area is located within offshore waters approximately 121 km north of Dampier and the wider ZoC which has been identified by hydrocarbon spill modelling of the credible worst-case scenarios (loss of well containment and vessel collision described in **Appendix B: Control Mitigation measures for potential environmental impacts associated with SPILL response activities**). A summary of the key existing environment characteristics, in line with the process of identifying and describing the existing environment in relation to the 'nature and scale' of the activity is provided in **Table 4-1**.

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**Table 4-1: Summary of key existing environment characteristics**

	<b>Sensitive Receptor</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Physical Environment</b>	<b>IClimate and Meteorology</b>	<p><b>Operational Area and wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• dry tropical climate with hot summers and mild winters</li> <li>• most rainfall occurs during late summer and autumn</li> <li>• seasonal wind patterns with south-westerly winds characterising summer months and south easterly winds characterising winter. Winds during transition period between seasons typically more variable</li> <li>• tropical cyclones most likely to occur in the area during January to March, with an average of approximately one storm per month.</li> </ul>
		<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• locally generated wind surface currents are superimposed on geostrophic and tidal currents</li> <li>• geostrophic flow characterised by the southward flowing Indonesian Throughflow (ITF) and Leeuwin Currents, which strengthens in winter and weakens in summer;</li> <li>• Water quality is expected to reflect the offshore oceanic conditions of the Northwest Province and wider region</li> <li>• average surface water temperatures are relatively warm, ranging seasonally from approximately 22 to 30 °C</li> <li>• offshore waters are expected to be of high quality given the distance from shore and lack of terrigenous inputs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• water quality is regulated by the ITF, which plays a key role in initiating the Leeuwin Current and brings warm, low-nutrient, low-salinity water to the North West Marine Region (NWMR)</li> <li>• the ITF is the primary driver of the oceanographic and ecological processes in the North West Shelf Province (NWS Province)</li> <li>• variation in surface salinity throughout the year is minimal (35.2 and 35.7 practical salinity units (PSU))</li> <li>• during summer, the Leeuwin Current typically weakens, and the Ningaloo Current develops, facilitating upwelling of cold, nutrient-rich waters up onto the continental shelf</li> <li>• other areas of localised upwelling in the NWMR include the Exmouth Plateau, where these seabed topographical features force the surrounding deeper, cooler, nutrient rich waters up into the photic zone</li> <li>• turbidity is primarily influenced by sediment transport by oceanic swells and primary productivity.</li> </ul>
	<b>Bathymetry</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• located in waters approximately 79–81 m deep along the continental shelf</li> </ul>

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	Sensitive Receptor	Description
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>generally flat.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>numerous KEFs associated with bathymetric features in the wider ZoC.</li> </ul>
	<b>Marine Sediment</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>consists of fine sediments (from muds to sands) of high quality (low levels of contaminants).</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sediment character changes with depth and distance from shore, with sediments becoming progressively finer with increasing depth and distance, particularly beyond the continental shelf break.</li> </ul>
	<b>Air Quality</b>	There is limited air quality data for the Northwest Province. However, ambient air quality in the Operational Area and wider ZoC is expected to be of high quality.
<b>Habitats</b>	<b>Critical Habitat – EPBC Listed</b>	No Critical Habitats or Threatened Ecological Communities, as listed under the EPBC Act, are known to occur within the Operational Area. Refer to the relevant section for each protected species for a description of the critical habitats that may occur within the wider ZoC.
	<b>Marine Primary Producers</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>given the water depth (79 – 81 m), benthic primary producers will not occur within the Operational Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <p><u>Coral Reefs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>nearest coral habitat to the Operational Area will occur within the Glomar Shoal KEF to the east of the Operational Area</li> </ul> <p><u>Seagrass Beds/Macroalgae</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>macroalgae habitat known to occur within Glomar Shoal KEF.</li> </ul> <p><u>Mangroves</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>given the offshore setting, mangroves habitats will not occur within the ZoC.</li> </ul>
	<b>Lifecycle Stages 'Critical' Habitats</b>	Refer to Biologically Important Areas (BIAs) and species descriptions.
	<b>Other Communities/Habitat</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <p><u>Plankton</u></p>

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	Sensitive Receptor	Description
	s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>plankton communities in the Operational Area are likely to reflect the broader Northwest Marine Region.</li> </ul> <p><u>Pelagic and Demersal Fish Populations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fish communities in the Operational Area comprise small and large species pelagic fish, as well as demersal species associated with subsea infrastructure.</li> </ul> <p><u>Filter Feeders</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>filter feeders are generally located in areas with strong currents and hard substratum and have developed on subsea infrastructure in the Operational Area.</li> </ul> <p><u>Benthic Communities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sparse assemblage of epifauna and infauna in the proximity of the Operational Area, which included polychaetes and crustaceans.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <p><u>Plankton</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>offshore phytoplankton communities in the Northwest Province are characterised by smaller taxa (e.g. bacteria), while shelf waters are dominated by larger taxa (e.g. diatoms)</li> <li>peak primary productivity along the shelf edge of the Ningaloo Reef occurs in late summer/early autumn.</li> </ul> <p><u>Pelagic and Demersal Fish Populations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>key demersal fish biodiversity areas are likely to occur in other complex habitats, e.g. coral reefs</li> <li>relatively complex habitats (e.g. Glomar Shoal) support high demersal fish richness and abundance.</li> </ul> <p><u>Filter Feeders</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>filter feeder communities within the ZoC are expected to be associated with areas of hard substrate, including on subsea infrastructure, and within areas of the Glomar Shoal and Ancient Coastline at the 125 m Depth Contour KEFs where there is hard substrate for attachment.</li> </ul>
Protected Species	<b>Biologically Important Areas (BIAs)</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>foraging area for the wedge-tailed shearwater during its breeding season (August–April)</li> <li>whale shark foraging area off Ningaloo coast with seasonally high use (April–June).</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>distribution and migration area for the pygmy blue whale</li> </ul>

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Sensitive Receptor	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>interesting buffer for the flatback turtle.</li> </ul>
<b>Marine Mammals</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sei whale – there are no known key aggregation areas (resting, breeding or feeding) located within the Operational Area</li> <li>bryde's whale – tropical and temperate waters, with inshore and offshore morphologies / populations. May be seasonally present between December and June</li> <li>blue whale - there are no known key aggregation areas (resting, breeding or feeding) located within the Operational Area</li> <li>fin whale – there are no known key aggregation areas (resting, breeding or feeding) located within the Operational Area</li> <li>humpback whale – humpback whales may transit through the Operational Area during their northbound and southbound migrations (although typically occur inshore of the Operational Area), likely between June and September (including northbound and southbound migration)</li> <li>killer whale, orca – no recognised key localities, expected to rarely occur</li> <li>spotted bottlenose dolphin – spotted bottlenose dolphin prefers shallow coastal waters; therefore, their presence is likely to be a rare occurrence and limited to infrequent transiting of the Operational Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a range of migratory cetacean species occur, including dolphin species</li> <li>resident coastal populations of small cetacean species</li> <li>dugong known to occur in tropical coastal environments where seagrasses occur</li> <li>sperm whale – unlikely to occur in the Operational Area, but may occur in the wider ZoC.</li> </ul>
<b>Marine Turtles</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Operational Area does not contain any known critical habitat or BIAs for any species of marine turtle</li> <li>presence of the five species of threatened marine turtles (loggerhead, green, leatherback, hawksbill and flatback) within the Operational Area is likely to be infrequent and limited to individuals or small numbers transiting as they seasonally move in and out of key foraging, inter-nesting and nesting locations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>interesting buffer for the flatback turtle within the wider ZoC.</li> </ul>
<b>Seasnakes</b>	<b>Operational Area</b>

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Sensitive Receptor	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>given the offshore location and deeper water depths of the Operational Area, seasnake sightings will likely be infrequent and comprise few individuals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>seasnakes frequent the waters of the continental shelf and around offshore islands.</li> </ul>
<b>Fishes and Elasmobranchs</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool identified nine species of Threatened and/or Migratory sharks (narrow sawfish, grey nurse shark, white shark, shortfin mako, longfin mako, reef manta ray, giant manta ray, green sawfish and whale shark) that may occur in the Operational Area</li> <li>the Operational Area overlaps whale shark foraging BIA (although may constitute migration corridor for animals moving to and from annual aggregation off Ningaloo Coast).</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>grey nurse sharks are likely to be found in shallow waters of the wider ZoC</li> <li>sawfish may occur in shallow coastal habitats</li> <li>great white sharks, shortfin makos and longfin makos are all known to occur within the wider ZoC.</li> </ul>
<b>Birds</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ten species of threatened and/or migratory bird species (common sandpiper, common nobby, sharp-tailed sandpiper, red knot, pectoral sandpiper, streaked shearwater, lesser frigatebird, great frigatebird, eastern curlew and osprey) were identified as potentially occurring within the Operational Area.</li> <li>no critical habitat associated with these species has been identified within the Operational Area; and</li> <li>a BIA for wedge-tailed shearwater, during their breeding season, overlaps the Operational Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>no overlapping BIAs.</li> </ul>

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	Sensitive Receptor	Description
<b>Socio-economic</b>	<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>there are no known sites of Indigenous or European cultural or heritage significance within or in the vicinity of the Operational Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the closest recorded shipwreck to the Operational Area is McDermott Derrick Barge No. 20, approximately 79 km from the Operational Area</li> <li>no overlapping Heritage listed places.</li> </ul>
	<b>Ramsar Wetlands</b>	No Ramsar wetlands in Operational Area or wider ZoC.
	<b>Fisheries - Commercial</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <p>There are a number of Commonwealth and State fisheries designated management areas, however, only the State Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Fishery is expected to be active within the Operational Area:</p> <p><u>Commonwealth fisheries:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery</li> <li>Western Skipjack Tuna Fishery</li> <li>Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery.</li> </ul> <p><u>State fisheries:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Fishery</li> <li>Pilbara Crab Managed Fishery</li> <li>West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery</li> <li>Specimen Shell Fishery</li> <li>Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery</li> <li>Pearl Oyster Managed Fishery</li> <li>Marine Aquarium Fish Managed Fishery</li> <li>West Australian Abalone Fishery</li> <li>Mackerel Managed Fishery</li> <li>South West Coast Salmon Managed Fishery</li> </ul>

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Sensitive Receptor	Description
	<p>There are no aquaculture activities within or adjacent to the Operational Area.</p> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <p>A number of State and Commonwealth fisheries overlap the ZoC.</p>
<b>Fisheries - Traditional</b>	<p>There are no traditional, or customary fisheries within or adjacent to the offshore Operational Area. Traditional fisheries are typically restricted to shallow coastal waters and/or areas with structure such as reef. Ningaloo Coast, Barrow Island and Montebello Islands and the adjacent foreshores have a known history of fishing, when areas were occupied (as identified from historical records).</p>
<b>Tourism and Recreation</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>tourism activities in the Operational Area are not known due to water depths and distance offshore.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>recreational fishing is expected to occur throughout wider ZoC, primarily in continental shelf waters including Glomar Shoal.</li> </ul>
<b>Shipping</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>no shipping fairways overlap the Operational Area</li> <li>the nearest shipping fairway is approximately 43 km east of the Operational Area</li> <li>the coastal and offshore waters of the region support significant commercial shipping activity, the majority of which is associated with the mining and oil and gas industries; and</li> <li>major shipping routes are associated with entry to the ports of Barrow Island, Dampier, Onslow and Port Hedland.</li> </ul>
<b>Oil and Gas Infrastructure</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>no facilities overlap the Operational Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>numerous Petroleum Titles surrounding the Operational Area</li> <li>several facilities near the Operational Area, including Okha FPSO, Angel Platform, North Rankin Complex, Goodwyn Alpha Platform and Pluto Platform.</li> </ul>
<b>Defence</b>	<p>There are designated defence practice areas in the offshore marine waters off Ningaloo and the North West Cape, beyond the Operational Area and wider ZoC.</p>

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	Sensitive Receptor	Description
<b>Values and Sensitivities</b>	<b>Marine Protected Areas</b>	No Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) or Heritage Areas are located within the Operational Area, the Montebello Australian Marine Park (AMP) is located within the ZoC.
	<b>Key Ecological Features</b>	<p><b>Operational Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>no KEFs overlap the Operational Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wider ZoC</b></p> <p>A number of KEFs occur within the wider ZoC, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continental Slope Demersal Fish Communities</li> <li>Glomar Shoal KEF</li> <li>Ancient Coastline at 125 m Depth Contour KEF.</li> </ul>

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## 4.1 Species

A total of 57 EPBC Act listed species considered to be Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) (20 and 37 listed as threatened or migratory respectively) were identified as potentially occurring within the wider ZoC, and within the Operational Area. Note that a number of MNES that were not considered to be credibly impacted (e.g. terrestrial species within the wider ZoC) were identified by the EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool reports. These have been excluded from further consideration (Table 4-2).

A review of the Conservation Values Atlas identified that the following BIAs overlap spatially with the Operational Area:

- foraging area for the wedge-tailed shearwater during its breeding season (August–April)
- foraging area for the whale shark, peaking during May-June.

In addition to those above, an interesting buffer BIA for flatback turtles (18 km south-east of the Operational Area), green turtle interesting buffer BIA, hawksbill turtle interesting buffer BIA and migration BIA for pygmy blue whales, overlap the wider ZoC. Additional information on BIAs is provided in the species-specific summaries provided below.

**Table 4-2 Threatened and Migratory Marine Species under the EPBC Act Potentially Occurring within the Operational Area**

Species Name	Common Name	Threatened Status	Migratory Status	Ops. Area / ZoC
<b>Mammals</b>				
<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Sei Whale	Vulnerable	Migratory	Ops Area
<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>	Bryde's Whale	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Blue Whale	Endangered	Migratory	
<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Fin Whale	Vulnerable	Migratory	
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Humpback Whale	Vulnerable	Migratory	
<i>Orcinus orca</i>	Killer Whale, Orca	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Tursiops aduncus</i> (Arafura/Timor Sea populations)	Spotted Bottlenose Dolphin (Arafura/Timor Sea populations)	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>	Antarctic Minke Whale, Dark-shoulder Minke Whale	N/A	Migratory	ZoC
<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	Sperm Whale	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Dugong dugon</i>	Dugong	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Sousa chinensis</i>	Indo-Pacific Jumpback Dolphin	N/A	Migratory	
<b>Reptiles</b>				
<i>Caretta</i>	Loggerhead Turtle	Endangered	Migratory	Ops. Area
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green Turtle	Vulnerable	Migratory	
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth	Endangered	Migratory	
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	Hawksbill Turtle	Vulnerable	Migratory	

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Species Name	Common Name	Threatened Status	Migratory Status	Ops. Area / ZoC
<i>Natator depressus</i>	Flatback Turtle	Vulnerable	Migratory	
<i>Aipysurus apraefrontalis</i>	Short-nosed seasnake	Critically endangered	N/A	ZoC
<b>Sharks and Rays</b>				
<i>Anoxypristis cuspidata</i>	Narrow Sawfish, Knifetooth Sawfish	N/A	Migratory	Ops Area
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	White Shark, Great White Shark	Vulnerable	Migratory	
<i>Carcharias Taurus (west coast population)</i>	Grey Nurse Shark (west coast population)	Vulnerable	N/A	
<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	Shortfin Mako, Mako Shark	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Isurus paucus</i>	Longfin Mako	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Manta alfredi</i>	Reef Manta Ray, Coastal Manta Ray, Inshore Manta Ray, Prince Alfred's Ray, Resident Manta Ray	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Manta birostris</i>	Giant Manta Ray, Chevron Manta Ray, Pacific Manta Ray, Pelagic Manta Ray, Oceanic Manta Ray	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Pristis zijsron</i>	Green Sawfish, Dindagubba, Narrowsnout Sawfish	Vulnerable	Migratory	
<i>Rhincodon typus</i>	Whale Shark	Vulnerable	Migratory	
<i>Pristis clavate</i>	Dwarf Sawfish, Queensland Sawfish	Vulnerable	Migratory	
<b>Birds</b>				
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper	N/A	Migratory	Ops. Area
<i>Anous stolidus</i>	Common Noddy	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red knot, knot	Endangered	Migratory	
<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Pectoral Sandpiper	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Calonectris leucomelas</i>	Streaked Shearwater	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Fregata ariel</i>	Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Fregata minor</i>	Great Frigatebird, Greater Frigatebird	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew	Critically endangered	Migratory	
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	N/A	Migratory	
<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Curlew Sandpiper	Critically endangered	Migratory	ZoC

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Species Name	Common Name	Threatened Status	Migratory Status	Ops. Area / ZoC
<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Southern Giant-Petrel	Endangered	Migratory	
<i>Sternula nereis nereis</i>	Australian Fairy Tern	Vulnerable	N/A	

### Seabirds

The Operational Area may be occasionally visited by migratory and oceanic birds but does not contain any emergent land that could be utilised as roosting or nesting habitat and contains no known critical habitats (including feeding) for any species. Several species of birds considered to be MNES were identified as potentially occurring within the Operational Area including the common sandpiper, common noddy, flesh-footed shearwater, sharp-tailed sandpiper, red knot, curlew sandpiper, pectoral sandpiper, lesser frigatebird, southern giant petrel, far eastern curlew, osprey, soft-plumaged petrel, and Australian fairy tern.

A BIA for the migratory wedge-tailed shearwater overlaps the Operational Area. This BIA is related to breeding of the wedge-tailed shearwater, which occurs in the Pilbara between mid-August and April. The Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) report did not identify wedge-tailed shearwaters within the Operational Area.

Based on the results of two survey cruises and other unpublished records, Dunlop et al. (1988) recorded the occurrence of 18 species of seabirds over the NWS. These included a number of species of petrel, shearwater, tropicbird, frigatebird, booby and tern, as well as the silver gull.

Migratory shorebirds may be present in, or fly through the region between July and December, and again between March and April as they complete migrations between Australia and offshore locations (Bamford et al. 2008). No Ramsar wetlands were identified within the Operational Area or ZoC.

### Marine Mammals

Blue whales were identified as potentially occurring within the Operational Area and wider ZoC. The pygmy blue whale migration BIA off the coast of Western Australia lies approximately 56 km north of the Operational Area at the closest point (beyond the wider ZoC). Based on pygmy blue whale migration timing, the species may occur in the wider ZoC between April and August (north-bound migration) and October to January (south-bound migration).

The humpback whale migration lies approximately 33 km south (within wider ZoC) from the Operational Area at its closest point. The species undertakes regular seasonal migrations between feeding grounds in Antarctic waters and breeding and calving grounds off the west Kimberley coastline, particularly Camden Sound (Jenner et al. 2001).

Noise logger deployment conducted near Woodside’s Goodwyn Alpha facility (54 km west of the Operational Area) detected humpback whales present at the end of September, likely migrating south, and from June to mid-August in deeper water, nearer to the continental shelf, likely migrating north (RPS Environment and Planning 2012). The southward migration of cow/calf pairs is slightly later during October (extending into November and December). During the southbound migration, it is likely that most individuals, particularly cow/calf pairs, stay closer to the coast than the northern migratory path. Humpback whales may occur within the Operational Area and wider ZoC during these migration periods.

There is the potential that additional species of cetaceans, including sei whale, Bryde’s whale, fin whale, sperm whale, Antarctic Minke whale, killer whale, spotted bottlenose dolphin and indo-pacific humpback dolphin to infrequently transit the Operational Area.

The dugong may be present in the wider ZoC, although was not identified as occurring within the Operational Area. Dugong distribution is correlated with seagrass habitats in which dugong feed,

although water temperature has also been correlated with dugong movements and distribution (Preen 2004, Preen et al. 1997). Dugongs are known to migrate between seagrass habitats (hundreds of kilometres) (Sheppard et al. 2006). Dugongs may occur along the Ningaloo Coast and around islands of the Pilbara Coast, beyond the wider ZoC. The Operational Area or wider ZoC does not encompass dugong BIAs.

### Marine Reptiles

Five of the six marine turtle species recorded for the NWMR have the potential to occur within the Operational Area; the loggerhead turtle, green turtle, leatherback turtle, hawksbill turtle and the flatback turtle. Four of the turtle species (green, loggerhead, flatback and hawksbill) have significant nesting rookeries on beaches along the mainland coast and islands (including the Montebello/Barrow/Lowendal Islands, Muiron Islands, North West Cape and Dampier Archipelago), beyond the wider ZoC. No turtle critical habitats<sup>1</sup> or BIAs overlap the Operational Area, and a number of BIAs/critical habitats<sup>2</sup> have been identified in the wider ZoC, including:

- green turtle: Internesting habitat (the nearest of which is approximately 98 km from the Operational Area at the closest point)
- hawksbill turtle: Internesting buffer (approximately 104 km from Operational Area at closest point)
- flatback turtle: Internesting buffer (approximately 18 km from Operational Area at closest point).

Fifteen species of sea snakes were identified as potentially occurring within the wider ZoC. No threatened EPBC Act listed seasnake species were identified as potentially occurring within the Operational Area. Given the water depth of the Operational Area, sea snake sightings will be infrequent and likely comprise few individuals within the Operational Area.

### Sharks, Rays and Fishes

The whale shark was identified as potentially occurring within the Operational Area and a foraging BIA for whale sharks that overlaps the Operational Area. Though the BIA has been defined as a foraging area for whale sharks, it is more likely to be a migration pathway with whale sharks undertaking opportunistic foraging. It is expected that whale sharks may traverse through the Operational Area during their migrations to and from Ningaloo Reef. However, it is expected that whale shark presence within the area would be of a relatively short duration and not in significant numbers given the main aggregations are recorded in coastal waters, particularly the Ningaloo Reef edge (Department of Conservation and Land Management 2005).

Several shark/ray species including the great white, grey nurse shark, shortfin mako, longfin mako, reef manta ray, giant manta ray, narrow sawfish and green sawfish may be present within the Operational Area, for short durations when individuals transit the area.

Of the fish species identified as potentially occurring within the Operational Area, 35 are species of pipefish and seahorse. However, bycatch data indicates they are uncommon in deeper continental shelf waters (50–200 m) and therefore, are unlikely to occur within the Operational Area. Within the wider ZoC, seahorses and pipefish may be encountered in a wide variety of shallow habitats, including seagrass meadows, reefs and sandy substrates.

## 4.2 Socio-Economic and Cultural

There are no known sites of Indigenous or European cultural heritage significance within the vicinity of the Operational Area.

<sup>1</sup> Critical habitat identified in the Recovery Plan for Marine Turtles in Australia 2017–2027 (Commonwealth of Australia 2017)

A search of the National Shipwreck Database indicated that there are no known shipwrecks recorded within the Operational Area. There are three shipwrecks within 100 km of the Operational Area recorded in the National Shipwreck Database, the nearest are the McDermott Derrick Barge No 20 and the McCormack, both lie approximately 79 km from the Operational Area at the closest point.

There are no heritage listed sites within the Operational Area or ZoC.

No Ramsar wetlands overlap the Operational Area or wider ZoC.

A number of Commonwealth and State fisheries are located within the Operational Area and wider ZoC including the following:

- North – West Slope Trawl Fishery
- Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery
- Western Skipjack Tuna Fishery
- Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery.

State fisheries designated management areas within the Operational Area or ZoC include the following:

- Mackerel Managed Fishery
- Marine Aquarium Fish Managed Fishery
- Nickol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery
- Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery
- Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Fishery
- Pilbara Crab Managed Fishery
- Pearl Oyster Managed Fishery
- South West Coast Salmon Managed Fishery
- Specimen Shell Fishery
- West Australian Abalone Fishery
- West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery.

There are no aquaculture operations within or adjacent to the Operational Area as these operations are typically restricted to shallow coastal waters.

There are no traditional or customary fisheries within the Operational Area, as these are typically restricted to shallow coastal waters and/or areas with structure such as reef.

## **Tourism and Recreation**

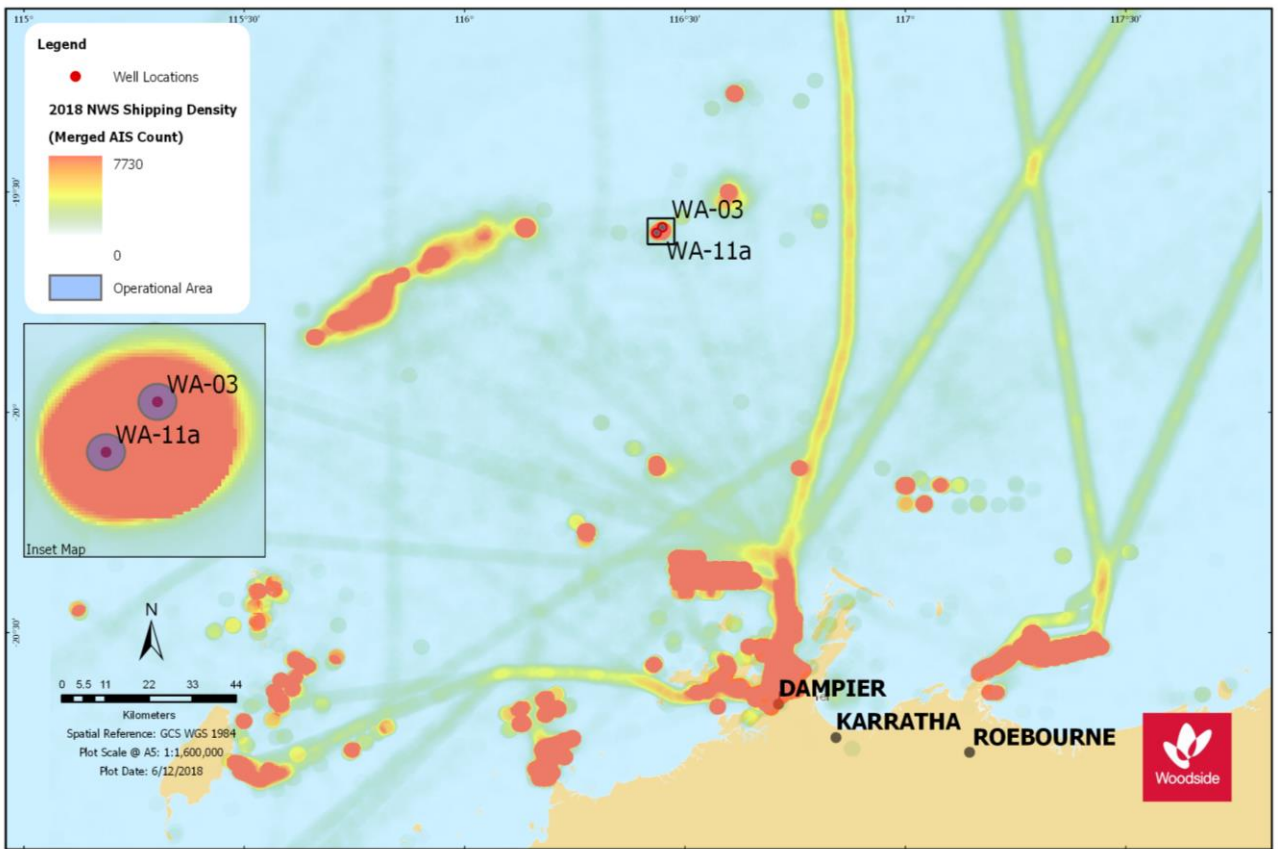
No tourist activities take place specifically within the Operational Area; however, it is acknowledged that there are growing tourism and recreational sectors in Western Australia and these sectors have expanded over the last couple of decades. Growth and the potential for further expansion in tourism and recreational activities is recognised for the Pilbara and Gascoyne regions, with the development of regional centres and a workforce associated with the resources sector (SGS Economics and Planning 2012). Some recreational fishing has historically taken place at Glomar Shoal (13 km east of the Operational Area) and Rankin Bank (approximately 86 km west of the Operational Area). However, due to the distance from access nodes such as boat ramps at Dampier and Port Hedland (approximately 121 km and 240 km from the Operational Area at the closest point respectively)

recreational fishing effort is expected to be restricted to relatively large vessels and hence is considered to be low.

**Shipping**

The NWMR supports significant commercial shipping activity, the majority of which is associated with the mining and oil and gas industries. The high shipping densities associated with the Operational Area as shown in **Figure 4-1**, correspond with the Okha FPSO and associated ancillary vessels. As discussed below, other areas of high shipping density are typically associated with shipping lanes and ports, as well as vessels moving between existing oil and gas infrastructure.

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) has introduced a network of marine fairways across the NWMR of WA to reduce the risk of vessel collisions with offshore infrastructure. The fairways are not mandatory but AMSA strongly recommends commercial vessels remain within the fairway when transiting the region. None of these fairways intersect with the Operational Area; the nearest fairway is approximately 43 km north-west of the Operational Area at the closest point (**Figure 4-1**).



**Figure 4-1: Vessel density map in the vicinity of Operational Area from 2018, derived from AMSA satellite tracking system data (vessels include cargo, LNG tanker, passenger, support and other vessels)**

**Oil and Gas Infrastructure**

The Operational Area is located within an area of established oil and gas operations in the broader NWMR. Several facilities (FPSOs and platforms) are currently in operation in the vicinity of the Operational Area, with the Okha FPSO within 1.1 to 1.2 km of the Operational Areas.

## Defence

There are designated defence practice areas in the offshore marine waters off Ningaloo and the North West Cape, beyond the Operational Area and ZoC.

### 4.3 Values and Sensitivities

The offshore environment of the NWMR contains environmental assets (such as habitat and species) of high value or sensitivity and the associated resident, temporary or migratory marine life including species such as marine mammals, turtles and birds.

Many sensitive receptor locations are protected as part of Commonwealth and State managed areas and have been allocated conservation objectives (IUCN Protected Area Category) based on the Australian IUCN reserve management principles in Schedule 8 of the EPBC Regulations 2000

No Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) or Heritage Areas are located within the Operational Area, the Montebello AMP is located within the ZoC (**Table 4-2 and Figure 4-2**).

The Montebello AMP is adjacent to the Montebello Islands Marine Park/Barrow Island Marine Park/Barrow Island Marine Management Area, providing a contiguous marine park covering both State and Commonwealth Waters. One of the major conservation values within the Montebello AMP include BIAs for a range of MNES, as well as ecological communities in the NWS Province, historic shipwrecks, social values, foraging areas, migratory pathways, shallow shelf environments, seafloor habitats, and one KEF for the region. The entire Montebello AMP, an area of 341,300 ha, is designated a multiple use zone (IUCN Category IV), allowing for long-term protection and maintenance of the AMP in conjunction with sustainable use, including oil and gas exploration activities.

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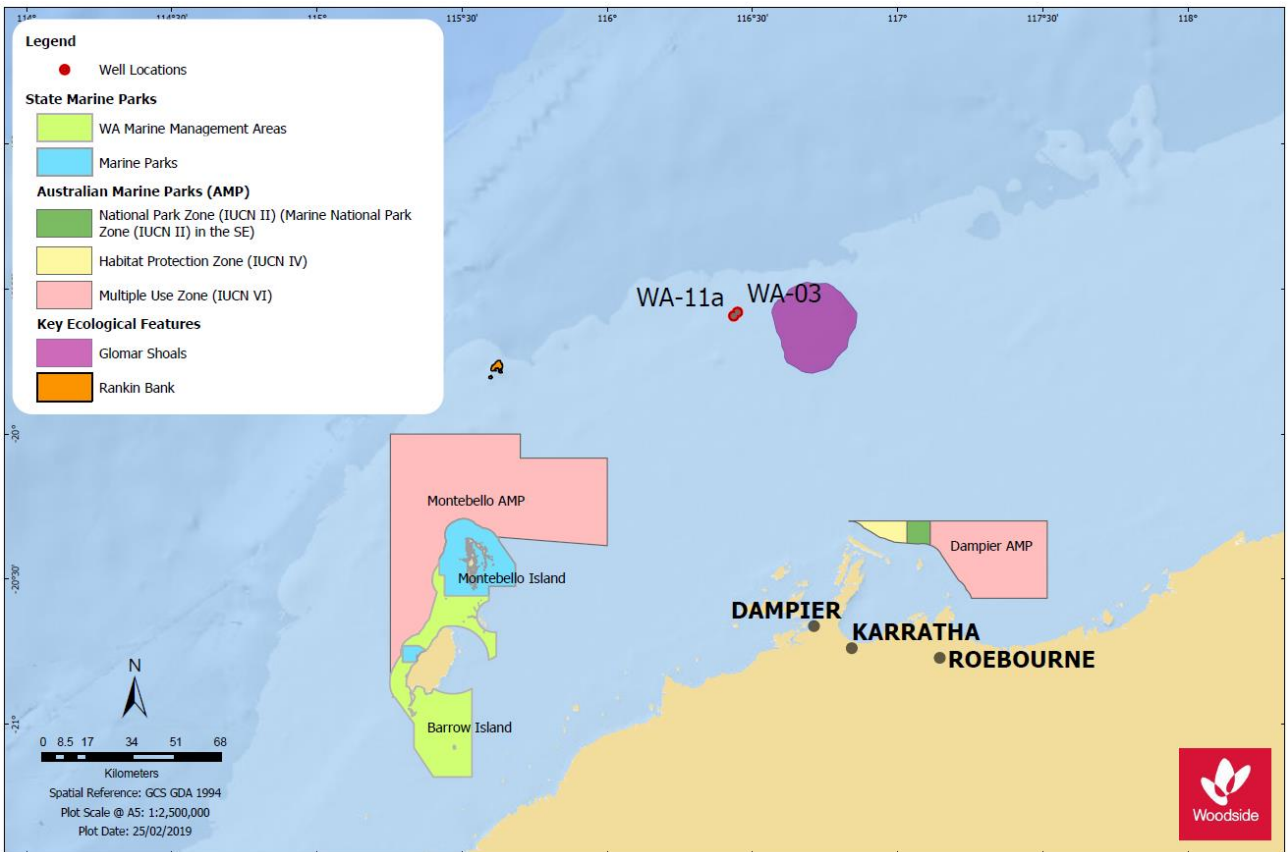
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**Figure 4-2: Established and proposed Commonwealth and State Marine Protected Areas in Relation to the Operational Area**

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**Table 4-2** : Summary of Established and Proposed Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Other Sensitive Locations in the Region Relating to the Operational Area

	Distance from Operational Area to Values / Sensitivity boundaries (km)	International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Protected Area Category*
<b>Australian Marine Parks (AMPs) (formerly Commonwealth Marine Reserves)</b>		
Montebello	71	VI
<b>State Marine Parks and Nature Reserves</b>		
None overlapping the Operational Area or ZoC		
<b>Fish Habitat Protection Areas</b>		
None overlapping the Operational Area or ZoC		
<b>Nature Reserves</b>		
None overlapping the Operational Area or ZoC		
<b>Heritage</b>		
<b>National Heritage Places</b>		
None overlapping the Operational Area or ZoC		
<b>Key Ecological Features</b>		
Ancient Coastline at 125 m Depth Contour	15	Not applicable
Glomar Shoals	13	Not applicable
Continental Slope Demersal Fish Communities	100	Not applicable

\*Conservation objectives for IUCN categories in Table 4-2 include:

- IA: Strict nature reserve – protected from all but light human use
- II: National park – protects ecosystems and natural values, but facilitate human visitation
- IV: Habitat / species management area – conservation of a particular species, taxonomic group or habitat; and
- VI: Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources – allow human use but prohibits large scale development

†Modelling indicated shoreline accumulation above impact threshold only (i.e. no surface, entrained or dissolved hydrocarbons above impact thresholds)

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## 5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND RISKS

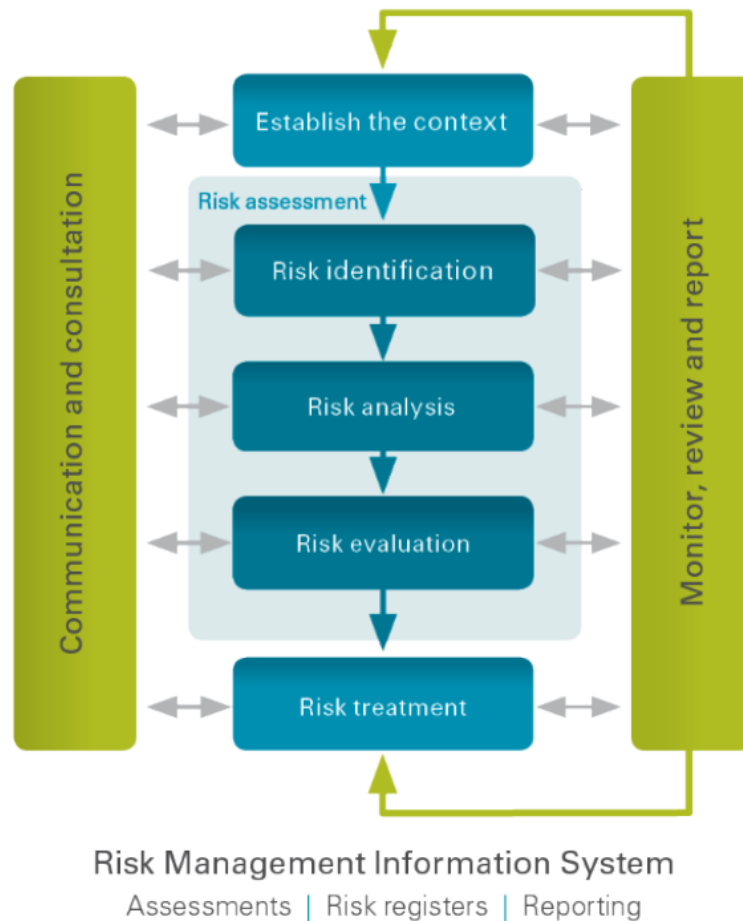
### 5.1 Risk and Impact Identification and Evaluation

Woodside undertook an environmental risk assessment to identify the potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the Petroleum Activities Program, and the control measures to manage the identified environmental impacts and risks to as ALARP and an acceptable level. This risk assessment and evaluation was undertaken using Woodside’s Risk Management Framework.

Environmental impacts and risks include those directly and indirectly associated with the Petroleum Activities Program, and includes potential emergency and accidental events. Planned activities have the potential for inherent environmental impacts. An environmental risk is an unplanned event with the potential for impact (termed risk ‘consequence’).

Herein, potential impact from planned activities are termed ‘impacts’, and ‘risks’ are associated with unplanned events with the potential for impact (should the risk be realised), with such impact termed potential ‘consequence’.

The key steps of Woodside’s Risk Management Framework are shown in **Figure 5-1**. A summary of each step and how it is applied to the proposed Program is provided below.



**Figure 5-1: Key steps in Woodside’s Risk Management Framework**

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### 5.1.1 Establish the Context

The objective of a risk assessment is to assess identified risks and apply appropriate control measures to eliminate, control or mitigate the risk to ALARP and to determine if the risk is acceptable.

Hazard identification workshops aligned with NOPSEMA's Hazard Identification Guidance Note were undertaken by multidisciplinary teams made up of relevant personnel with sufficient breadth of knowledge, training and experience to reasonably assure that risks and associated impacts were identified and assessed.

### 5.1.2 Impact and Risk Identification

An Environmental Hazard Identification (ENVID) was undertaken by multidisciplinary teams consisting of relevant engineering and environmental personnel with sufficient breadth of knowledge, training and experience to reasonably assure that risks were identified and their potential environmental impacts assessed.

Impacts and risks were identified during the ENVID for both planned (routine and non-routine) activities and unplanned (accidents/incidents/emergency conditions) events.

### 5.1.3 Risk Analysis

Risk analysis further develops the understanding of a risk by defining the impacts and assessing appropriate controls. Risk analysis considered previous risk assessments for similar activities, review of relevant studies, review of past performance, external stakeholder consultation feedback and review of the existing environment.

The following key steps were undertaken for each identified risk during the risk assessment:

- identification of decision type in accordance with the decision support framework
- identification of appropriate control measures (preventative and mitigation) aligned with the decision type
- assessment of the risk rating.

#### 5.1.3.1 Decision Support Framework

To support the risk assessment process and Woodside's determination of acceptability, Woodside's HSE risk management procedures include the use of decision support framework based on principles set out in the Guidance on Risk Related Decision Making (Oil and Gas UK, 2014). This concept has been applied during the ENVID or equivalent preceding processes during historical design decisions to determine the level of supporting evidence that may be required to draw sound conclusions regarding risk level and whether the risk is acceptable and ALARP. This is to confirm:

- activities do not pose an unacceptable environmental risk
- appropriate focus is placed on activities where the risk is anticipated to be acceptable and demonstrated to be ALARP
- appropriate effort is applied to the management of risks based on the uncertainty of the risk, the complexity and risk rating.

The framework provides appropriate tools, commensurate to the level of uncertainty or novelty associated with the risk/impact (referred to as the decision type A, B or C). The decision type is selected based on an informed discussion around the uncertainty of the risk/impact, and documented in ENVID worksheets.

This framework enables Woodside to appropriately understand a risk, determine if the risk or impact is acceptable and can be demonstrated to be ALARP.

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### **Decision Type A**

Decision Type A are well understood and established practice, they generally consider recognised good industry practice which is often embodied in legislation, codes and standards and use professional judgment.

### **Decision Type B**

Decision Type B typically involves greater uncertainty and complexity (and can include potential higher order impacts/risks). These risks may deviate from established practice or have some lifecycle implications and therefore require further engineering risk assessment in order to support the decision and ensure that the risk is ALARP. Engineering risk assessment tools may include:

- risk-based tools such as cost based analysis or modelling
- consequence modelling
- reliability analysis
- company values.

### **Decision Type C**

Decision Type C typically has significant risks related to environmental performance. Such risks or impacts typically involve greater complexity and uncertainty, therefore requiring adoption of the precautionary approach. For risks this may result in significant environmental impact; significant project risk/exposure or may elicit negative stakeholder concerns. For these risks or impacts, in addition to Decision Type A and B tools, company and societal values need to be considered by undertaking broader internal and external stakeholder consultation as part of the assessment process.

#### **5.1.3.2 Identification of Control Measures**

Woodside applies a hierarchy of control measures when considering Good Practice and Professional Judgement. The hierarchy of control is applied in order of importance as follows; elimination, substitution, engineering control measures, administrative control measures and mitigation of consequences/impacts.

#### **5.1.3.3 Risk Rating Process**

The current risk rating process is undertaken to assign a level of risk to each impact measured in terms of consequence and likelihood. The assigned risk level is the current risk (i.e. risk with controls in place) and is therefore determined following the identification of the decision type and appropriate control measures.

The risk rating process considers the environmental impacts and where applicable, the reputational and brand, legal/compliance and social and cultural impacts of the risk. The risk ratings are assigned using the Woodside Risk Matrix (refer to **Figure 5-2**).

The risk rating process is performed using the following steps:

#### **Select the Consequence Level**

Determine the most credible impacts associated with the selected event assuming some controls (prevention and mitigation) have failed (refer to **Table 5-1**). Where more than one impact applies (i.e. environmental and legal/compliance), the consequence level for the highest severity impact is selected.

**Table 5-1: Woodside Risk Matrix (environment and social and cultural) consequence descriptions**

Environment	Social & Cultural	Consequence Level
Catastrophic, long-term impact (> 50 years) on highly valued ecosystems, species, habitat or physical or biological attributes	Catastrophic, long-term impact (>20 years) to a community, social infrastructure or highly valued areas/items of international cultural significance	A
Major, long term impact (10-50 years) on highly valued ecosystems, species, habitat or physical or biological attributes	Major, long-term impact (5-20 years) to a community, social infrastructure or highly valued areas/items of national cultural significance	B
Moderate, medium-term impact (2-10 years) on ecosystems, species, habitat or physical or biological attributes	Moderate, medium term Impact (2-5 years) to a community, social infrastructure or highly valued areas/items of national cultural significance	C
Minor, short-term impact (1-2 years) on species, habitat (but not affecting ecosystems function), physical or biological attributes	Minor, short-term impact (1-2 years) to a community or highly valued areas/items of cultural significance	D
Slight, short-term impact (<1 year) on species, habitat (but not affecting ecosystems function), physical or biological attributes	Slight, short-term impact (<1 year) to a community or areas/items of cultural significance	E
No lasting effect (<1 month). Localised impact not significant to environmental receptors	No lasting effect (<1 month). Localised impact not significant to areas/items of cultural significance	F

**Select the Likelihood Level**

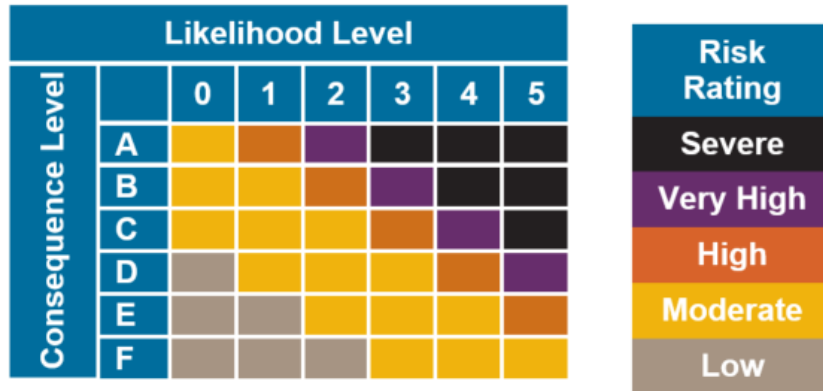
Select the likelihood level from the description that best fits the chance of the selected consequence actually occurring, assuming reasonable effectiveness of the prevention and mitigation controls (refer to Table 5-2).

**Table 5-2: Woodside risk matrix likelihood levels**

Likelihood Description						
Frequency	1 in 100,000–1,000,000 years	1 in 10,000–100,000 years	1 in 1,000–10,000 years	1 in 100–1,000 years	1 in 10-100 years	>1 in 10 years
Experience	<b>Remote:</b> Unheard of in the industry	<b>Highly Unlikely:</b> Has occurred once or twice in the industry	<b>Unlikely:</b> Has occurred many times in the industry but not at Woodside	<b>Possible:</b> Has occurred once or twice in Woodside or may possibly occur	<b>Likely:</b> Has occurred frequently at Woodside or is likely to occur	<b>Highly Likely:</b> Has occurred frequently at the location or is expected to occur
Likelihood Level	0	1	2	3	4	5

**Calculate the Risk Rating**

A likelihood and risk rating is only applied to environmental risks using the Woodside Risk Matrix. This risk level is used as an input into the risk evaluation process and ultimately for the prioritisation of further risk reduction measures. Once each risk is treated to ALARP, the risk rating articulates the ALARP baseline risk as an output of the ENVID studies.



**Figure 5-2: Woodside risk matrix: risk level**

The ENVID (undertaken in accordance with the methodology described above) identified four sources of environmental risk, comprising three planned, which are all assessed as having a low current risk rating, and one unplanned sources of risk, which is assessed as having a low current risk rating.

The risk analysis and evaluation for the Petroleum Activities Program indicate that all of the current environmental risks and impacts associated with the activity are reduced to ALARP and are of an acceptable level (refer to **Figure 5-2: Woodside risk matrix: risk level**).

**5.1.4 Impact and Risk evaluation**

Environmental risks, as opposed to safety risks, cover a wider range of issues, differing species, persistence, reversibility, resilience, cumulative effects and variability in severity. The degree of environmental risk and the corresponding threshold for whether a risk/impact has been has been adapted to include principles of ecological sustainability (given as an objective in the Environment Regulations and defined in the EPBC Act), the Precautionary Principle and the corresponding environmental risk threshold decision-making principles used to determine acceptability.

**5.1.4.1 Demonstration of ALARP**

Descriptions have been provided below (**Table 5-3**) to articulate how Woodside demonstrates different risks, impacts and Decision Types identified within the EP are ALARP.

**Table 5-3: Summary of Woodside’s criteria for ALARP demonstration**

Risk	Impact	Decision Type
<b>Low and Moderate (below C level consequence)</b>	<b>Negligible, Slight or Minor</b>	<b>A</b>
Woodside demonstrates these Risks, Impacts and Decision Types are reduced to ALARP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• if controls identified meet legislative requirements, industry codes and standards, applicable company requirements and industry guidelines</li> <li>• further effort towards impact/risk reduction (beyond employing opportunistic measures) is not reasonably practicable without sacrifices grossly disproportionate to the benefit gained.</li> </ul>		
<b>High, Very High or Severe (C+ consequence risks)</b>	<b>Moderate and above</b>	<b>B and C</b>
Woodside demonstrates these higher order Risks, Impacts and Decision Types are reduced to ALARP (where it can be demonstrated using good industry practice and risk based analysis) that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• legislative requirements, applicable company requirements and industry codes and standards are met</li> </ul>		

- societal concerns are accounted for
- the alternative control measures are grossly disproportionate to the benefit gained.

### 5.1.4.2 Demonstration of Acceptability

Descriptions have been provided below (**Table 5-4**) to articulate how Woodside demonstrates how different risks, impacts and Decision Types identified within the EP are Acceptable.

**Table 5-4: Summary of Woodside’s criteria for Acceptability**

1. Risk	2. Impact	3. Decision Type
<i>Low and Moderate (below C level consequence)</i>	<i>Negligible, Slight or Minor</i>	<b>A</b>
Woodside demonstrates these Risks, Impacts and Decision Types are 'Broadly Acceptable', if they meet legislative requirements, industry codes and standards, applicable company requirements and industry guidelines. Further effort towards risk reduction (beyond employing opportunistic measures) is not reasonably practicable without sacrifices grossly disproportionate to the benefit gained.		
<i>High, Very High or Severe (C+ consequence risks)</i>	<i>Moderate and above</i>	<b>B and C</b>
Woodside demonstrates these higher order Risks, Impacts and Decision are 'Acceptable if ALARP' can be demonstrated using good industry practice and risk based analysis, if legislative requirements are met and societal concerns are accounted for and the alternative control measures are grossly disproportionate to the benefit gained. In undertaking this process for moderate and high current risks, Woodside evaluates the following criteria: Principles of Ecological Sustainable Development (ESD) as defined under the EPBC Act; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• internal context - the proposed controls and consequence/ risk level are consistent with Woodside policies, procedures and standards</li> <li>• external context – consideration of the environment consequence</li> <li>• stakeholder acceptability</li> <li>• other requirements – the proposed controls and consequence/ risk level are consistent with national and international industry standards, laws and policies.</li> </ul> Additionally, Very High and Severe risks require 'Escalated Investigation' and mitigation to reduce the risk to a lower and more acceptable level. If after further investigation the risk remains in the Very High or Severe category, the risk requires appropriate business engagement in accordance with Woodside’s Risk Management Procedure to accept the risk. This includes due consideration of regulatory requirements.		

## 5.2 Hydrocarbon Spill Risk Assessment Methodology

Quantitative hydrocarbon spill modelling was undertaken using a three-dimensional hydrocarbon spill trajectory and weathering model which is designed to simulate the transport, spreading and weathering of specific hydrocarbon types under the influence of changing meteorological and oceanographic forces.

### 5.2.1 ZoC and Hydrocarbon Contact Thresholds

The outputs of the quantitative hydrocarbon spill modelling are used to assess the environmental risk, if a credible hydrocarbon spill scenario occurred, solely in terms of delineating which areas of the marine environment could be exposed to hydrocarbon levels exceeding hydrocarbon threshold concentrations. All areas where hydrocarbon levels are exceeded are evaluated in the impact assessment. As the weathering of different fates of hydrocarbons (surface, accumulated, entrained and dissolved) differs due to the influence of the metocean mechanism of transportation, the locations potentially affected by each fate will differ.

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Appearance (following Bonn visibility descriptors)	Mass per area (g/m <sup>2</sup> )	Thickness (µm)	Volume per area (L/km <sup>2</sup> )
Discontinuous true oil colours	50 to 200	50 to 200	50,000 to 200,000
Dull metallic colours	5 to 50	5 to 50	5,000 to 50,000
Rainbow sheen	0.30 to 5.00	0.30 to 5.00	300 to 5,000
Silver sheen	0.04 to 0.30	0.04 to 0.30	40 to 300

### 5.2.3 Dissolved Aromatic Hydrocarbon Threshold Concentrations

The threshold concentration value for dissolved hydrocarbons has been established with reference to ecotoxicological testing undertaken by Woodside, on the crude oil that is produced at the Okha FPSO from the Cossack reservoir (ESA, 2013). As such, ecotoxicological testing results for Cossack crude have been used to inform the selection of the dissolved hydrocarbon impact threshold, as this is expected to be the most similar to the Wanaea/Cossack crude, of the hydrocarbons for which ecotoxicology data is available. A summary of the hydrocarbon characteristics is provided in **Table 5-7**.

**Table 5-7: Characteristics of the hydrocarbon types used in the modelling scenarios**

Hydrocarbon Type	Initial Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Viscosity (cP @ 20°C)	Component boiling point percentage of total (°C)				Aromatic (%) of whole oil <380°C BP
			Volatiles <180°C	Semi volatiles 180–265°C	Low Volatility (%) 265–380°C	Residual (%) >380°C	
			Non-Persistent			Persistent	
Marine diesel	0.837	4.0	6.0	34.6	54.4	5.0	3.0
Wanaea / Cossack Crude	0.7875	1.4	33.4	25.3	15.9	25.4	14.5
Cossack crude (light crude)	0.7875	1.4	46.0	20	21.0	13	5.0

The ecotox testing focuses on the TPH concentration of the water accommodated fraction (WAF) of the hydrocarbon and includes the carbon chains C6 to C36. Typically, C4 to C10 compounds are volatile (BP <180 °C), C11 to C15 compounds are semi-volatile (BP 180–265 °C), C16 to C20 compounds have low volatility (265–380 °C) and C21 compounds and above are residual (BP >380 °C).

The purpose of the threshold is to inform the assessment of the potential for toxicity impacts to sensitive marine biota. The ecotoxicity tests were undertaken on a broad range of taxa of ecological relevance for which accepted standard test protocols are well established. These ecotoxicology tests are focused on the early life stages of test organisms, when organisms are typically at their most sensitive. The ecotoxicology tests were conducted on seven mainly tropical-subtropical species representatives from six major taxonomic groups.



The laboratory-based ecotoxicology tests used a range of WAF concentrations to expose the different test organisms. For each ecotoxicity test, samples of the WAF were analysed to determine the TPH concentration of the solution.

**Table 5-8** presents the results of No observed effect concentration (NOECs) for the condensate WAFs tested. The range of NOECs for the organisms tested ranged from 407 ppb to 6895 ppb. These results are consistent with other condensate ecotoxicological testing undertaken by Woodside. Based on these ecotoxicology tests, a dissolved aromatic hydrocarbon threshold of 500 ppb has been adopted. This 500 ppb threshold is well below the NOEC values for five out of the seven sensitive organisms tested. Two tests with a NOEC below the set threshold where the amphipod acute toxicity test (*Melita plumulosa*) and the sea urchin fertilisation test (*Heliocidaris tuberculata*). Although these tests indicated acute and chronic effects at dissolved aromatic concentrations less than 500 ppb (NOC 407 and 413) toxicity tests results for all other organisms found no observable effects at concentrations well above the 500 ppb. It is considered reasonable that the 500 ppb thresholds remains applicable and appropriate for delineating chronic and acute effects.

**Table 5-8: Summary of total recoverable hydrocarbons NOECs for key life-histories of different biota based on toxicity tests for WAF of Cossack (Okha) crude oil**

Biota and Life Stage	Exposure duration	NOEC – TRH concentration of unweathered crude showing no direct biological effect (ppb)
Sea urchin fertilisation	1 hour	407 ppb
Sea urchin larval development	72 hours	2496 ppb
Milk oyster larval development	48 hours	1197 ppb
Micro-algal growth test	72 hours	1554 ppb
Amphipod acute toxicity test	96 hours	413 ppb
Copepod acute toxicity test	48 hours	860 ppb
Larval fish imbalance test	96 hours	6895 ppb
Kelp germination test	72 hours	682 ppb

Source: ESA 2009

#### 5.2.4 Entrained Hydrocarbon Threshold Concentrations

The spill modelling outputs are used to define the ZoC by defining the spatial variability of entrained hydrocarbons above a set concentration threshold contacting sensitive receptors (expressed in ppb).

Entrained hydrocarbons present a number of possible mechanisms for toxic exposure to marine organisms. The entrained hydrocarbon droplets may contain soluble compounds, hence have the potential for generating elevated concentrations of dissolved aromatic hydrocarbons (e.g. if mixed by breaking waves against a shoreline). Physical and chemical effects of the entrained hydrocarbon droplets have also been demonstrated through direct contact with organisms, for example through physical coating of gills and body surfaces, and accidental ingestion (National Research Council, 2005).

The threshold concentration of entrained hydrocarbons that could result in a biological impact cannot be determined directly using available ecotoxicity data for WAF of oil hydrocarbons (**Table 5-8**). However, it is likely these data specific to dissolved oil hydrocarbon represents a worst-case scenario. This is owing to the fact that entrained oil hydrocarbons are less biologically available to organisms

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through absorption into their tissues than dissolved hydrocarbons. It is therefore expected that the entrained threshold concentration of 500 ppb will represent a potential impact substantially lower than the NOEC concentrations presented in **Table 5-8**.

### **5.2.5 Accumulated Hydrocarbon Threshold Concentrations**

Owens and Sergy (1994) define accumulated hydrocarbon <100 g/m<sup>2</sup> to have an appearance of a stain on shorelines. French-McCay (2009) defines accumulated hydrocarbons ≥100 g/m<sup>2</sup> to be the threshold that could impact the survival and reproductive capacity of benthic epifaunal invertebrates living in intertidal habitat.

## **5.3 Potential Environment Risks Not Included Within the Scope of the Environment Plan**

The ENVID identified a number of sources of environmental risk/impact as a result of the Petroleum Activity Program, that were assessed as not being applicable (not credible) within or outside the Operational Area, and therefore determined to not form part of this EP. This is described in the following section for information only.

### ***Shallow/Near-shore Activities***

The Petroleum Activities Program is located in water depths of approximately 80 m and at a distance approximately 95 km from nearest landfall (this being the islands of the Dampier Archipelago), consequently, risks associated with shallow/near-shore activities such as anchoring and vessel grounding were assessed as not credible.

### ***Helicopter Interference with Other Users***

Aerial interference with other users is not considered credible as the Operational Area is more than 130 km from Defence Military Training Areas and there are no other identified users of the airspace over the Operational Area, e.g. Royal Australian Air Force.

## 6. ENVIRONMENTAL RISK AND IMPACTS SUMMARY

**Table 6-1** presents a summary of the sources of impact/risk, analysis and evaluation for the Petroleum Activities program.

The risks identified during the ENVID (including decision type, current risk level, acceptability of risk and tools used in the demonstration of acceptability and ALARP) have been divided into two broad categories:

- planned (routine and non-routine) activities
- unplanned events (accidents, incidents or emergency situations).

Within these categories, impact assessment groupings are based on stressor type e.g. emissions, physical presence etc. In all cases the worst credible consequence was assumed.

The analysis and evaluation for the Petroleum Activities Program indicate that all of the current environmental risks and impacts associated with the activity are reduced to ALARP and are of an acceptable level.

A detailed description of credible environmental risks and potential impacts together with a summary of control measures have been presented in **Appendix A: Environmental Impacts and Risks**.

**Table 6-1: Environmental Risk and Impacts Register Summary**

Aspect	Appendix Reference	Source of Risk	Key Potential Environmental Impacts (Refer to relevant EP section for details)	Current Risk Rating				Acceptability of Risk
				Consequence	Potential Consequence level of impact <sup>2</sup>	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	
<b>Planned Activities (Routine and Non-routine)</b>								
Physical presence	A	Presence of LWIV and support vessels causing interference with or displacement to third party vessels (commercial shipping and commercial / recreational fishing).	Isolated social impact potentially resulting from interference with other sea users (e.g. commercial and recreational fishing, and shipping).	F	Social and Cultural – Slight, short-term impact (<1 year) to a community or area/items of cultural significance.	-	-	Broadly acceptable
Routine acoustic emissions	A	Generation of acoustic signals from: - project vessels during normal operations - generation of noise from helicopter transfers.	Generation of noise from project vessels and helicopters during normal operations	F	Environment – No lasting effect (<1 month) localised impact not significant to environmental receptors (e.g. protected species).	-	-	Broadly acceptable
Routine and non-routine discharges	A	Routine discharges from project vessels of: - sewage - grey water - putrescible waste - bilge water - deck drainage - cooling water or brine.	Localised and temporary effects to water quality and marine biota in offshore waters.	F	Environment – No lasting effect (<1 month) localised impact not significant to environmental receptors (e.g. water quality).	-	-	Broadly acceptable
	A	Routine and non-routine discharge of: - hydraulic control fluid - BOP control fluids - sulphamic acid - well kill brine.	Localised and temporary effects to water quality and marine biota in offshore waters.	E	Environment – slight, short term local impact (<1 Year) on species, habitat (But not affecting ecosystems function), physical or biological attributes.	-	-	Broadly acceptable
Routine and Non-routine atmospheric emissions	A	Exhaust emissions from internal combustion engines and incinerators on project vessels.	Localised and temporary reduction in air quality.	F	Environment – No lasting effect (<1 month) localised impact not significant to environmental receptors (e.g. air quality).	-	-	Broadly acceptable
		Venting off of hydrocarbon gas during well intervention	Localised and temporary reduction in air quality.	F	Environment – No lasting effect (<1 month) localised impact not significant to environmental receptors (e.g. air quality).	-	-	Broadly acceptable
Routine light emissions	A	External lighting on project vessels.	Localised and temporary behavioural disturbance to marine fauna.	F	Environment – No lasting effect (<1 month) localised impact not significant to environmental receptors (e.g. species).	-	-	Broadly acceptable
<b>Unplanned Activities (Accidents/Incidents)</b>								
Accidental hydrocarbon release	A	Loss of hydrocarbons to marine environment due to dropped objects on flowlines.	Potential significant impacts to the marine environment, including disruption to marine fauna (including protected species), and potential short-term interference with or displacement of other sea users	C	Environment – Moderate, medium-term impact (2–10 years) on ecosystems, species, habitat or physical or biological attributes.	2	M	Acceptable if ALARP

Aspect	Appendix Reference	Source of Risk	Key Potential Environmental Impacts (Refer to relevant EP section for details)	Current Risk Rating			Acceptability of Risk	
				Consequence	Potential Consequence level of impact <sup>2</sup>	Likelihood		Current Risk Rating
	<b>A</b>	Loss of hydrocarbons to marine environment due to loss of well containment as a result of intervention activities.	Potential significant impacts to the marine environment, including disruption to marine fauna (including protected species), and potential short-term interference with or displacement of other sea users	C	Environment – Moderate, medium-term impact (2–10 years) on ecosystems, species, habitat or physical or biological attributes.	1	M	Acceptable if ALARP
	<b>A</b>	Loss of hydrocarbons to marine environment due to a vessel collision (e.g. support vessels or other marine users).	Potential significant impacts to the marine environment, including disruption to marine fauna (including protected species), and potential short-term interference with or displacement of other sea users	C	Environment – Moderate, medium-term impact (2–10 years) on ecosystems, species, habitat or physical or biological attributes.	2	M	Acceptable if ALARP
Unplanned discharges	<b>A</b>	Accidental discharge to the ocean of hydrocarbons/chemicals from LWIV or support vessel deck activities and equipment (e.g. cranes) including subsea ROV hydraulic leaks.	Localised and temporary effects to water quality and marine biota in offshore waters.	E	Environment – Slight, short term local impact (<1 year) on species, habitat (but not affecting ecosystems function), physical and biological attributes.	2	M	Broadly acceptable
	<b>A</b>	Accidental loss of hazardous or non-hazardous wastes/ equipment to the marine environment (excludes sewage, grey water, putrescible waste and bilge water).	Localised and temporary effects to water quality and marine biota in offshore waters.	F	Environment – No lasting effect (<1 month) localised impact not significant to environmental receptors (e.g. water quality).	2	L	Broadly acceptable
Physical presence	<b>A</b>	Accidental collision between project vessels and threatened and migratory whale species.	Minor and temporary disruption to marine fauna, including protected species.	E	Environment – Slight, short term local impact (<1 year) on species, habitat (But not affecting ecosystems function), physical or biological attributes.	1	L	Broadly acceptable
	<b>A</b>	Dropped objects resulting in seabed disturbance.	Localised short-term damage of benthic subsea habitats in the immediate location of the dropped object.	F	Environment – No lasting effect (<1 month) localised impact not significant to environmental receptors (e.g. benthic habitats).	2	L	Broadly acceptable
	<b>A</b>	Accidental introduction of Invasive Marine Species.	Potential for minor impact to marine ecosystem.	F	Environment – No lasting effect (<1 month) localised impact not significant to environmental receptors (e.g. benthic habitats).	0	L	Broadly acceptable

## 7. ONGOING MONITORING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

The Petroleum Activities Program will be managed in compliance with the Wanaea Well Interventions EP accepted by NOPSEMA under the Environment Regulations, other relevant environmental legislation and Woodside's Management System (e.g. Woodside Environment Policy).

The objective of the EP is to identify, mitigate and manage potentially adverse environmental impacts associated with the Petroleum Activities Program, during both planned and unplanned operations, to ALARP and an acceptable level.

For each environmental aspect (risk) and associated environmental impacts (identified and assessed in the Environmental Risk Assessment of the EP) a specific environmental performance outcome, environmental performance standards and measurement criteria have been developed. The performance standards are control measures (available in **Appendix A**) that will be implemented (consistent with the performance standards) to achieve the environmental performance outcomes. The specific measurement criteria provide the evidence base to demonstrate that the performance standards (control measures) and outcomes are achieved.

The implementation strategy detailed in the Wanaea Well Interventions EP identifies the roles/responsibilities and training/competency requirements for all personnel (Woodside and its contractors) in relation to implementing controls, managing non-conformance, emergency response and meeting monitoring, auditing, and reporting requirements during the activity.

The tools and systems collect, as a minimum, the data (evidence) referred to in the measurement criteria. The collection of this data (and assessment against the measurement criteria) forms part of the permanent record of compliance maintained by Woodside and the basis for demonstrating that the environmental performance outcomes and standards are met, which is then summarised in a series of routine reporting documents.

Monitoring of environmental performance is undertaken as part of the following:

- daily reports which include leading indicator compliance
- use of LWIV contractor's risk identification program that requires personnel on the LWIV to record and submit safety and environment risk observation cards on a routine basis (frequency varies with LWIV contractor)
- collection of evidence of compliance with the controls detailed in the EP relevant to offshore activities by the Woodside Offshore HSE Adviser (or equivalent) (other compliance evidence is collected onshore)
- environmental discharge reports that record volumes of planned and unplanned discharges downhole (in the well), to ocean and atmosphere
- monitoring of progress against the Developments function scorecard for key performance indicators
- internal auditing and assurance program.

Woodside employees and contractors are required to report all environmental incidents and non-conformance with environmental performance outcomes and standards in the EP. Incidents will be reported using an Incident and Hazard Report Form, which includes details of the event, immediate action taken to control the situation, and corrective actions to prevent reoccurrence. An internal computerised database is used for the recording and reporting of these incidents. Incident corrective actions are monitored to ensure they are closed out in a timely manner.

## 7.1 Environment Plan Revisions and Management of Change

Woodside's Commonwealth Environmental Approvals Procedure provides guidance on the Environment Regulations that may trigger a revision and resubmission of the EP to NOPSEMA. The procedure also provides guidance on what constitutes a significant new risk or increase in risk. A risk assessment will be conducted in accordance with the Environmental Risk Management Methodology to determine the significance of any potential new environmental impacts or risks not provided for in this EP. Risk assessment outcomes are reviewed in compliance with Regulation 17 of the Environment Regulations.

Minor changes where a review of the activity and the environmental risks and impacts of the activity do not trigger a requirement for a revision, under Regulation 17 of the Environment Regulations, will be considered a 'minor revision'. Minor administrative changes to this EP, where an assessment of the environmental risks and impacts is not required (e.g. document references, phone numbers, etc.), will also be considered a 'minor revision'. Minor revisions as defined above will be made to this EP using Woodside's document control process. Minor revisions will be tracked in an Management of Change (MOC) register to ensure visibility of cumulative risks changes, as well as enable internal EP updates/reissuing as required. This document will be made available to NOPSEMA during regulator environment inspections.

In accordance with the requirements of Regulation 19 of the Environment Regulations, Woodside will also submit a proposed revision to this EP to NOPSEMA at least 14 days before the end of each period of 5 years commencing on the day on which the original and subsequent revisions of the EP is accepted under Regulation 11 of the Environment Regulations.

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## 8. OIL POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE ARRANGEMENTS

Woodside's Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (OPEP) for the Petroleum Activities Program has the following components:

- Oil Pollution Emergency Arrangements (Australia)
- Wanaea LWIV Oil Pollution First Strike Plan
- Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Mitigation Assessment for Wanaea LWIV.

### 8.1 Woodside Oil Pollution Emergency Arrangements (Australia)

This document outlines the emergency and crisis management incident command structure (ICS) and Woodside's response arrangements to competently respond to and escalate a hydrocarbon spill event. The document interfaces externally with Commonwealth, State and industry response plans and internally with Woodside's ICS.

Woodside's Oil Pollution Emergency Arrangements (Australia) details the following support arrangements:

- access to MODU to drill intervention well via Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with other industry participants
- master services agreement with Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre (AMOSC) for the supply of experienced personnel and equipment
- access to Wild Well Control's capping stack, SFRT equipment and experienced personnel for the rapid deployment and installation of a capping stack, where feasible (may require well intervention prior to deployment)
- other support services such as 24/7 hydrocarbon spill trajectory modelling and satellite monitoring services as well as aerial, marine, logistics and waste management support
- Mutual Aid Agreements with other oil and gas operators in the region for the provision of assistance in a hydrocarbon spill response.

### 8.2 Wanaea LWIV Oil Pollution First Strike Plan

The Wanaea LWIV Oil Pollution First Strike Plan is an activity-specific document which provides details on the tasks required to mobilise a first strike response for the first 24 hours of a hydrocarbon spill event. These tasks include key response actions and regulatory notifications. The intent of the document is to provide immediate oil spill response guidance to the Incident Management Team until a full Incident Action Plan specific to the oil spill event is developed.

The activity vessels will have Ship Oil Pollution Emergency Plans (SOPEPs) in accordance with the requirements of International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) 73/78 Annex I. These plans outline responsibilities, specify procedures and identify resources available in the event of a hydrocarbon or chemical spill from vessel activities. The Wanaea LWIV Oil Pollution First Strike Plan is intended to work in conjunction with the SOPEPs.

Woodside's oil spill arrangements are tested by conducting periodic exercises. These exercises are conducted to test the response arrangements outlined in the Wanaea LWIV Oil Pollution First Strike Plan and to ensure that personnel are familiar with spill response procedures, in particular, individual roles and responsibilities and reporting requirements.



### 8.3 Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Mitigation Assessment

Woodside has developed an oil spill preparedness and response position in order to demonstrate that risks and impacts associated with loss of hydrocarbons from the Petroleum Activities Program would be mitigated and managed to ALARP and would be of an acceptable level.

The following oil spill response strategies were evaluated and subsequently pre-selected for a significant oil spill event (level 2 or 3 under the National Plan) from the Petroleum Activities Program:

Monitor and Evaluate (Operational Monitoring) – Operational Monitoring commences immediately following a spill and includes the gathering and evaluation of data to inform the oil spill response planning and operations. It includes fate and trajectory modelling, spill tracking, weather updates and field observations. Woodside would implement the following operational monitoring plans to satisfy the requirements of this strategy. The following operational monitoring programs are available for implementation:

- predictive modelling of hydrocarbons to assess resources at risk
- surveillance and reconnaissance to detect hydrocarbons and resources at risk
- monitoring of hydrocarbon presence, properties, behaviour and weathering in water
- pre-emptive assessment of sensitive receptors at risk
- monitoring of contaminated resources and the effectiveness of response and clean-up operations.

Source control - A loss of well control is the identified worst-case spill scenario. Woodside's primary mitigation strategy is to minimise the volume of hydrocarbons released. Woodside plans to deploy the following response options specific to a loss of well control event:

- well intervention - BOP intervention / ROV survey, top kill / mud kill
- SFRT - Debris clearance/removal, Subsea dispersant injection
- relief well drilling.

Wildlife response - An oiled wildlife response would be undertaken in accordance with Woodside's Health, Safety, Environment and Quality Policy and values and recognition of societal expectations. The response would involve reconnaissance from vessels, aircraft and shoreline surveys as well as the capture, transport, rehabilitation and release of oiled wildlife.

Scientific monitoring - A scientific monitoring program (SMP) would be activated following a Level 2 or 3 hydrocarbon release, or any release event with the potential to contact sensitive environmental receptors. This would consider receptors at risk (ecological and socio-economic) for the entire predicted ZoC and in particular, the identified Pre-emptive Baseline Areas (PBAs) in the event of a loss of well control from the PAP drilling activities (refer to response planning assumptions). The SMP would be informed by the operational monitoring programs, but differs from the operational monitoring program in being a long-term program independent of, and not directing, the operational oil spill response. Key objectives of the Woodside oil spill scientific monitoring program are:

- assess the extent, severity and persistence of the environmental impacts from the spill event
- monitor subsequent recovery of impacted key species, habitats and ecosystems.

Waste management - Waste management is considered a support strategy to the response strategies examined above.

## 9. CONSULTATION

In support of this EP, Woodside conducted a stakeholder assessment and engaged with relevant stakeholders to inform decision-making and planning for the Petroleum Activities Program in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 11A and 14(9) of the Environment Regulations.

Woodside conducted an assessment to identify relevant stakeholders, based on the location of the proposed activities and potential environmental and social impacts. A consultation fact sheet was sent to all stakeholders identified through the stakeholder assessment process prior to commencement of activities with NOPSEMA for assessment and acceptance. Woodside provided information about the Petroleum Activities Program to the relevant stakeholders listed in **Table 9-1**. Woodside considers relevant stakeholders for routine operations as those that undertake normal business or lifestyle activities in the vicinity of the existing Petroleum Activities Program (or their nominated representative) or have a State or Commonwealth regulatory role.

**Table 9-1: Relevant Stakeholder Identified for the Petroleum Activities Program**

Organisation	Relevance
Department of Industry, Innovation and Science	Department of relevant Commonwealth Minister
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety ( <i>formerly Department of Mines and Petroleum</i> )	Department of relevant State Minister
Australian Maritime Authority	Maritime safety
Australian Hydrographic Office	Maritime safety
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development ( <i>formerly Department of Fisheries (WA)</i> )	Fisheries management
Commonwealth Fisheries Association	Commercial fisheries (Commonwealth)
Western Australian Fishing Industry Council	Commercial fisheries (State)
Department of Transport	Hydrocarbon spill preparedness (Western Australian waters)
Director of National Parks	Management of Australian Marine Parks and conservation zones
Quadrant North West	Adjacent titleholder
Western Australian Fisheries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mackerel Fishery</li> <li>- Pearl Oyster</li> <li>- Specimen Shell</li> <li>- Marine Aquarium Fish</li> <li>- Onslow Prawn</li> <li>- Pilbara Fish Trawl</li> <li>- Pilbara Fish Trap</li> <li>- Pilbara Line fishery</li> </ul>	Commercial fisheries – State
Commonwealth Fisheries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- North West Slope Fishery</li> <li>- Western Skipjack Fishery</li> </ul>	Commercial fisheries – Commonwealth

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- Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	
- Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	

Consultation activities conducted for the proposed EP builds upon Woodside’s extensive and ongoing stakeholder consultation for its offshore petroleum activities in the region.

Woodside consultation arrangements typically provide stakeholders up to 30 days (unless otherwise agreed) to review and respond to proposed activities where stakeholders are potentially affected. Woodside considers this consultation period an adequate timeframe in which stakeholders can assess potential consequences of the proposed activities and provide feedback to Woodside as is commensurate with government public review records.

## 9.1 Ongoing Consultation

In support of this EP, Woodside has sought to:

- ensure all relevant stakeholders are identified and communicated to in a timely and effective manner
- develop communications in response to stakeholder needs and feedback
- analyse stakeholder feedback to inform decision-making and planning.

Prior to commencement of this activity, identified relevant stakeholders were emailed a Consultation Information Sheet (fact sheet), which is also published on Woodside’s website. Communication with specific stakeholders has been tailored to individual requirements. For example, fishing and other marine stakeholders were provided with activity maps that overlay relevant State and Commonwealth fishing zones.

Feedback gathered during the pre-activity consultation informs Woodside’s engagement requirements for ongoing consultation during the activity. Ongoing consultation is used to inform stakeholders on specific activity timing, duration, location and other information relevant to the activity and stakeholder needs.

Woodside uses email notifications to keep relevant stakeholders informed of intermittent activities. Woodside maintains an email database of fishery licence holders contacts to provide details about specific activity timing, duration, location and other relevant information such as vessels and exclusion zones. Woodside also provides the same advice via email to the Australian Hydrographic Services, AMSA and industry bodies, such as WAFIC; who then can cascade advice to other marine users. Consideration of whether stakeholder engagement is required for an intermittent activity, such as maintenance or project activities, will be given prior to the commencement of that activity. If engagement is required, it will be undertaken in a format that is relevant given stakeholder needs.

If a change requiring further engagement occurs, Woodside undertakes an assessment to identify new relevant stakeholders or a potential change to level of relevance for previously identified stakeholders. Previously identified and new relevant stakeholders will be notified of the updated scope.

## 9.2 Non-Routine Events

The following are stakeholders that have been identified as interested in the Petroleum Activities Program:

- Australian Conservation Foundation
- Australian Customs Service - Border Protection Command
- Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA)
- Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre (AMOSOC)
- Australian Maritime Safety Authority (marine pollution)

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- Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA)
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- Department of Defence
- International Fund for Animal Welfare
- Pearl Producers Association
- Recfishwest
- Wilderness Society
- World Wildlife Foundation.

Consultation activities conducted for the proposed EP builds upon Woodside's extensive and ongoing stakeholder consultation for its offshore petroleum activities in the region.

Woodside consultation arrangements typically provide stakeholders up to 30 days (unless otherwise agreed) to review and respond to proposed activities where stakeholders are potentially affected. Woodside considers this consultation period an adequate timeframe in which stakeholders can assess potential consequences of the proposed activities and provide feedback to Woodside as is commensurate with government public review records.

## 10. TITLEHOLDER NOMINATED LIAISON PERSON

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

Term	Description / Definition
µm	Micrometre
AFMA	Australian Fisheries Management Authority
AHS	Australian Hydrographic Service
AHV	Ancho Handling Vessels
ALARP	As Low As Reasonably Practicable
AMOSC	Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
APPEA	Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association
BIA	Biologically Important Area
BOP	Blow-out Preventer
CAN	Conductor Anchor Node
CFA	Commonwealth Fisheries Association
cm	Centimetre
CPF	Central Processing Facility
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DEWHA	Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
DSEWPaC	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
DST	Drill Stem Testing
EDS	Emergency Disconnect Sequence
ENVID	Environmental hazard Identification
EP	Environment Plan
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999.</i>
ESD	Ecologically Sustainable Development
FLNG	Floating liquefied natural gas
FPSO	Floating Production, Storage and Offtake vessel
g/m <sup>2</sup>	Grams per square metre
H&S	Health and Safety
HQ	Hazard Quotient
ICS	Incident Command Structure
IFAW	International Fund for Animal Welfare
ISV	Installation support vessel
ITF	Indonesian Throughflow
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KEF	Key Ecological Feature

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km	Kilometre
kPa	Kilopascal
L	Litres
L/km <sup>2</sup>	Litres per square kilometre
LAO	Linear Alpha Olefin
LARS	Launch and Recovery Systems
LAT	Lowest Astronomical Tide
LOC	Loss of containment
m	Metres
m <sup>3</sup>	Cubic metres
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
MODU	Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
NOEC	No-observed-effect concentrations
NOPSEMA	National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority
NOPTA	National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator
NRC	North Rankin Complex
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
NWBM	Non-water Based Muds
NWMR	North-west Marine Region
NWS	Northwest Shelf Province
OCNS	Offshore Chemical Notification Scheme
OPGGs Act	<i>Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act</i>
OSPAR	Oslo and Paris Commission for the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic
PAA	Petroleum Activities Area
PIC	Person In Charge
PLONOR	Pose Little or No. Risk to the Environment
ppb	Parts Per Billion
PTW	Permit to Work
RMR	Riserless mud recovery
RO	Reverse Osmosis
ROV	Remotely Operated Vehicle
SCE	Solids Control Equipment
SFRT	Subsea First Response Toolkit
SMP	Scientific Monitoring Program

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SOPEP	Ship Oil Pollution Emergency Plans
SVP	Senior Vice President
SWMR	South-west Marine Region
TD	Total Depth
TPH	Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
UK	United Kingdom
VP	Vice President
VSP	Vertical Seismic Profiling
WA	Western Australia
WA DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum WA DMP
WAF	Water Accommodated Fractions
WAFIC	Western Australian Fishing Industry Council
WBM	Water Based Mud
WOMP	Well Operations Management Plan
Woodside	Woodside Burrup Pty Ltd (note references to Woodside may also be references to Woodside Petroleum Ltd or its applicable subsidiaries.
ZoC	Zone of Consequence

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## APPENDIX A: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND RISKS

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**PLANNED ACTIVITIES (ROUTINE AND NON-ROUTINE)**

**Physical Presence: Interference with or Displacement of Other Marine Users**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Impact	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Presence of LWIV and support vessels causing interference with or displacement to third party vessels (commercial shipping and commercial / recreational fishing)							X	A	F	-	-	LC S GP PJ	Broadly acceptable	EPO 1

**Description of Source of Impact**

**Presence of project vessels**

In order to undertake well intervention, a LWIV will be on station above the wells within the Operational Areas. Well intervention, for both wells, is expected to require 20 days to complete with a total of 30 days for the two wells, (including 10 days contingency).

Support vessels will support the Petroleum Activities Program throughout the activity, with approximately 1-2 trips per week.

The presence of the LWIV and support vessel movements could present a navigational hazard to shipping and commercial fishing activities in the Operational Area.

**Impact Assessment**

**Potential Impacts to Socio-economic Environment**

**Interference with commercial shipping**

The presence of project vessels could potentially cause temporary disruption to commercial shipping. Consultation with AMSA confirms that vessel traffic may be encountered within the Operational Area, however, it is noted that no shipping fairways intersect the Operational Areas. The nearest shipping fairway designated by AMSA lies approximately 43 km east of the Operational Areas. Additionally, tracking data provided by AMSA indicates that most of traffic in the Operational Area will be vessels associated with existing oil and gas infrastructure. Well interventions are a relatively short duration activity (approximately 10 days for each well); in the context of the duration of the Petroleum Activities Program; the potential for disruption of other users from the activity is expected to be limited.

There may be commercial vessels infrequently in the area. The use of the shipping fairways is strongly recommended by AMSA, but is not mandatory, and shipping vessels still have to adhere to the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972, as implemented under Australian laws and regulations. The potential impacts could include short-term displacement of vessels as they make slight course alteration to avoid project vessels. Therefore, the potential impact is considered to be low.

**Displacement of commercial and recreational fishing activity**

A number of Commonwealth and State managed fisheries overlap the Operational Areas:

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- Commonwealth
  - Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery
  - Western Skipjack Fishery
  - Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery.
- State
  - Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Fishery
  - Pilbara Crab Managed Fishery
  - Specimen Shell Fishery
  - Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery
  - Pearl Oyster Managed Fishery
  - Marine Aquarium Managed Fishery
  - West Australian Abalone Fishery
  - Mackerel Managed Fishery
  - South West Coast Salmon Managed Fishery
  - West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery.

This overlap of the Operational Areas with commercial fishing activity may exclude fishers from the area, resulting in a perceived loss of catch and potential for loss of equipment.

Of the fisheries managed areas that overlap the Operational Area, none were identified as having significant activity in the vicinity of the Operational Areas. Additionally, consultation in relation to the Petroleum Activities Program indicated no claims or objections were raised by participants in fisheries that overlap the Operational Areas.

The Okha FPSO commenced operations in 2006 and is marked on standard nautical charts. Given the period in which the facility has been in operation and its location is marked on nautical charts, commercial fishers are reasonably expected to be aware of the existing facility and associated infrastructure.

Potential impacts to commercial fishing activities within the Operational Areas are considered localised displacement/avoidance by commercial trawling and line fishery vessels within the immediate vicinity of the Operational Areas. However, there was no direct response from fisheries licence holders during the stakeholder consultation period, and as such the potential impact is considered to be localised and of no lasting effect. A response was received from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) in relation to interference with fisheries licence holders, DPIRD requested Woodside to consider the Pilbara Line Fishery (PLF) in addition to fisheries identified by Woodside, Woodside engaged with Pilbara line Fishery on 4 February 2019, no concerns have been raised by the Pilbara Line Fishery. Additionally DPIRD also requested impacts to spawning be reduced, however as spawning periods list by the Department cover a 12 month period, it is not possible to avoid all spawning periods listed, however due to the short duration of the activity and distance from any demersal fish habitat, the EP has not identified any risks to fish spawning or habitats as a result of the activity.

Recreational fishing and nature-based tourism in the region is concentrated in shallow coastal waters, particularly those in proximity to access nodes such as boat ramps. Recreational fishing effort in the Operational Areas is expected to be minimal to nil, given the water depth (approximately 80 m), lack of reef habitat hosting sought-after demersal species, and distance offshore (121 km from Dampier). Additionally, consultation in relation to the Petroleum Activities Program indicated no claims or objections were raised by recreational fishers. No tourism has been documented in the Operational Areas since commencement of Okha FPSO operation in 2006. As such, no impacts to recreational fishing and tourism are expected during the Petroleum Activities Program.

#### **Summary of Potential Impacts to Environmental Value(s)**

Vessel-based activities for the Petroleum Activities Program will lead to a small increase in the overall vessel traffic in the Operational Areas with a peak period expected to be for no more than 30 days, however, vessels associated with other oil and gas activities are not expected in the Operational Area, and no cumulative impacts from the interference with or displacement of third party vessels are expected.

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Given the adopted controls, it is considered that the physical presence of project vessels will not result in a potential impact greater than isolated and short-term impact to shipping and commercial/recreational fishing.

#### Summary of Control Measures

- Marine Order 30 (Prevention of Collisions) 2016
- Marine Order 21 (Safety of navigation and emergency procedures) 2012
- establishment of a 500 m safety exclusion zone around LWIV and communicated to marine users
- notify AHS before commencement of well intervention
- notify AMSA Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) before commencement of well intervention
- Simultaneous Operations Plan (SIMOP) Plan prepared to manage vessel interactions within Petroleum Activity Program.

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**Physical Presence: Routine Acoustic Emissions**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Impact	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Generation of noise from project vessels during normal operations.					X			A	F	-	-	P G	Broadly acceptable	N/A
Generation of noise from helicopter transfers					X			A	F	-	-	P G	Broadly acceptable	N/A
Description of Source of Impact														
<p>Project vessels will generate noise both in the air and underwater, due to the operation of thruster engines, propeller cavitation, on-board machinery etc. These noises will contribute to and have the potential to exceed ambient noise levels which range from around 90 dB re 1 µPa [root square mean sound pressure level (rms SPL)] under very calm, low wind conditions, to 120 dB re 1µPa (rms SPL) under windy conditions.</p> <p><b>Project Vessel Noise</b></p> <p>The LWIV and support vessels may maintain DP for varying duration during the Petroleum Activities Program, depending on the activity the vessel is undertaking. The LWIV and support vessels will utilise DP to hold station during the Petroleum Activities Program. Additionally, the routine operations of LWIV during well interventions will produce low intensity noise (e.g. machinery noise).</p> <p>McCauley (1998) measured underwater broadband noise equivalent to approximately 182 dB re 1 µPa at 1 m (rms SPL) from a support vessel holding station in the Timor Sea; it is expected that similar noise levels will be generated by the intervention vessel and activity support vessels used for this Petroleum Activities Program.</p> <p>Note that all project vessels are required to comply with EPBC Regulation 2000 – Part 8 Interacting with Cetaceans to reduce the likelihood of collisions with cetaceans. Implementing this control may incidentally reduce the noise generated by vessels in proximity to cetaceans as vessels will be travelling slower; slower vessel speeds may reduce underwater noise from machinery noise (main engines) and propeller cavitation.</p> <p><b>Helicopter Noise</b></p> <p>Helicopter engines and rotor blades are recognised as a source of noise emissions, which may constitute a source of environmental risk resulting in behavioural disturbance to marine fauna. Activities relevant to the Operational Areas will relate to the landing and take-off of helicopters on the LWIV helideck. During these critical stages of helicopter operations, safety takes precedence. Helicopter flights are at their lowest (i.e. closest point to the sea surface) during these periods of take-off and landing from helidecks, which constitutes a relatively short phase of routine flight operations.</p> <p>Helicopter noise is emitted to the atmosphere during routine helicopter flights. Noise levels for typical helicopters used in offshore operations (Eurocopter Super Puma AS332) at 150 m separation distance have been measured at up to a maximum of 90.6 dB (BMT Asia Pacific 2005).</p>														
Impact Assessment														
Potential Impacts to Species														

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### **Underwater Noise**

The Operational Areas of the Petroleum Activities Program is located in continental shelf waters approximately 80 m deep. The fauna associated with this area will be predominantly pelagic species of fish, with migratory species such as cetaceans present in the area seasonally.

Elevated underwater noise can affect marine fauna, including cetaceans, fish, sharks and rays in three main ways (Richardson et al. 1995):

- (1) by causing direct physical effects on hearing or other organs (injury)
- (2) by masking or interfering with other biologically important sounds (including vocal communication, echolocation, signals and sounds produced by predators or prey)
- (3) through disturbance leading to behavioural changes or displacement from important areas.

The thresholds of recommended root square mean sound pressure level (rms SPL) that could result in behavioural response for cetaceans is expected to be:

- 120 dB (rms SPL) for continuous noise sources
- 160 dB RMS SPL for impulsive noise sources.

These thresholds are consistent with the levels presented by Southall *et al.* (2007). More permanent injury would be expected to occur at 230 dB re 1  $\mu$ Pa (PK) (Southall et al. 2007).

### **Project Vessel Noise Impacts**

Noise generated by the LWIV and support vessels likely to be used for this Petroleum Activities Program does not exceed permanent injury threshold levels, and therefore permanent injury to protected species is not anticipated. However, noise generated by the LWIV and support vessels may exceed thresholds that could result in a behavioural response. Listed threatened and listed migratory species that could be potentially impacted by noise and vibration may be present within the Operational Areas and primarily include cetaceans. The Operational Areas do not overlap with any BIAs for cetaceans. The following BIAs are however in close proximity (~30 to 50 km):

- Humpback whales (migration BIA): seasonally present June to September
- Pygmy blue whales (migration BIA: seasonally present April to May (northbound) and November to December (southbound)).

The likelihood of these species being present within the Operational Areas is increased during the seasonal periods described above. However, even with an increased likelihood of interaction, the potential impacts are considered to be minor given the noise levels associated with routine operations of project vessels. Woodside has undertaken long-term monitoring of humpback whale abundance off North West Cape, which has indicated the majority of seasonally present migrating humpback whales occur south of the Operational Areas (RPS Environment and Planning 2010c). Interactions between blue / humpback whales and vessels typically results in avoidance behaviour, with whales generally moving away from vessels (Bauer 1986, Stamation et al. 2010). It is reasonable to expect that fauna may demonstrate avoidance or attraction behaviour to the noise generated by the Petroleum Activities Program. For example, when transiting through the area, cetaceans may deviate from their migration corridor, but continue on their migration pathway. Note that the Operational Areas are surrounded by open water, with no restrictions (e.g. shallow waters, embayments) to an animal's ability to avoid the Operational Areas. Therefore, any avoidance or attraction behaviours displayed are expected to be localised and temporary.

Predicted noise levels from project vessels are not considered to be ecologically significant at a population level.

The fauna associated with the Operational Areas will be predominantly pelagic species of fish with migratory species such as marine turtles, whale sharks and cetaceans transiting through the Operational Areas. Therefore, potential impacts from vessel noise are likely to be restricted to temporary avoidance behaviour to individuals transiting through the Operational Area, and are therefore, considered low.

### **Helicopter Noise Impacts**

Helicopter noise is emitted to the atmosphere during routine helicopter flights. Noise levels for typical helicopters used in offshore operations (Eurocopter Super Puma AS332) at 150 m separation distance have been measured at up to a maximum of 90.6 dB (BMT Asia Pacific 2005). Unconstrained point source noise in the atmosphere (such as helicopter noise) spreads spherically (Truax 1978), with noise received at the sea surface decreasing with increasing distance from the aircraft (Nowacek et al. 2007). Based on spherical geometric spreading (and not considering transmission loss from atmospheric absorption), the sound level is

expected to decrease by 6 dB for every doubling of the distance from the source (Truax 1978). Using this model, a maximum sound level of approximately 90 dB at 150 m would be reduced to approximate 76 dB directly below a helicopter travelling at an altitude of 500 m.

Water has a very high acoustic impedance contrast compared to air, and the sea surface is a strong reflector of noise energy (i.e. very little noise energy generated above the sea surface crosses into and propagates below the sea surface (and vice versa) – the majority of the noise energy is reflected). The angle at which the sound path meets the surface influences the transmission of noise energy from the atmosphere through the sea surface; angles  $\pm > 13^\circ$  from vertical being almost entirely reflected (Richardson et al. 1995). Given this, and the typical characteristics of helicopter flights within the Operational Areas (duration, frequency, altitude and air speed), the opportunity for underwater noise levels that may result in behavioural disturbance to marine fauna is considered negligible. Note that helicopter noise during approach, landing and take-off is more likely to propagate through the sea surface due to the reduced air speed and lower altitude. However, helicopter noise during approach, landing and take-off will be mingled with underwater noise generated by the facility hosting the helipad (e.g. thruster noise from vessels, machinery noise from LWIV etc.). Additionally, approach, landing and take-off are relatively short phases of the flight, resulting in little opportunity for underwater noise to be generated.

Helicopter surveys of humpback whales in Antarctic waters noted behavioural responses attributed to the presence of the helicopter on three occasions out of a total of 221 animal sightings, all of which occurred with a separation of  $< 500$  m between the helicopter and the animal (Scheidat et al. 2011). Given the standard flight profile of a helicopter transfer and the predominantly seasonal presence of whales within the Operational Area, interactions between helicopters and cetaceans resulting in behavioural impacts are considered to be highly unlikely. In the highly unlikely event that cetaceans are disturbed by helicopters, responses are expected to consist of short-term behavioural responses, such as increased swimming speed; the consequence of such disturbance is considered to have no lasting effect.

A response was received from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) in relation to acoustic emissions; DPIRD requested Woodside to identify seabed disturbance and underwater noise and develop mitigation strategies to reduce impacts. As underwater noise will predominately be limited to the presence of a single vessel for approximately 20 days, and due to the low acoustic source levels associated with the vessel operations there is not likely to be any interaction or potential impacts to fish hearing, feeding or spawning.

#### Summary of Potential Impacts to Environmental Values(s)

It is considered that noise generated by project vessels and helicopters will not result in a potential impact greater than localised impacts with no lasting effect, not significant to marine fauna. (i.e. Environment Impact - F).

#### Summary of Control Measures

The potential impacts and risks from routine noise emissions are deemed to be ALARP in its current impact state. No reasonable additional/alternative controls were identified that would further reduce the impacts and risks without grossly disproportionate sacrifice.

**Routine Discharges: Project Vessels**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Impact	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Routine discharge of sewage, grey water and putrescible wastes to marine environment from project vessels			X					A	F	-	-	LC S PJ	Broadly acceptable	EP O 2
Routine discharge of deck and bilge water to marine environment from project vessels			X					A	F	-	-	LC S PJ	Broadly acceptable	
Routine discharge of cooling water or brine to the marine environment from project vessels			X					A	F	-	-	LC S PJ	Broadly acceptable	

**Description of Source of Impact**

The project vessels are expected to routinely generate/discharge the following:

- Small volumes (typically 15 m<sup>3</sup> per project vessel per day) of treated sewage, grey water and putrescible wastes to the marine environment
- Routine/periodic discharge of relatively small volumes of bilge water. Bilge tanks on project vessels receive fluids from many parts of the vessel. Bilge water can contain water, oil, detergents, solvents, chemicals, particles and other liquids, solids or chemicals
- Variable water discharge from project vessel decks directly overboard or via deck drainage systems. Water sources could include rainfall events and/or from deck activities such as cleaning/wash-down of equipment/decks
- Cooling water from machinery engines and brine water produced during the desalination process of reverse osmosis to produce potable water on board project vessels.

Environmental risk relating to the disposal/discharges above regulated levels or incorrect disposal/discharge of waste would be unplanned (non-routine/accidental) and are addressed in.

**Impact Assessment**

**Potential Impacts to Water Quality**

No significant impacts from the planned (routine and non-routine) discharges that are listed above are anticipated because of the minor quantities involved, short duration of the activity, the expected localised mixing zone and high level of dilution into the open water marine environment of the Operational Areas. The Operational Areas are located more than 12 nm from land, which is beyond the distance required by Marine Order 96 (Marine pollution prevention – sewage) 2009 and Marine Order 95 (Marine pollution prevention – garbage) 2013 at which untreated sewage may be discharged.

**Summary of Potential Impacts to Environmental Value(s)**

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Given the adopted controls, it is considered that routine or non-routine discharges described will not result in a potential impact greater than localised contamination not significant to environmental receptors, with no lasting effect. (i.e. Environment Impact - F).

**Summary of Control Measures**

- Marine Orders 95 – pollution prevention – Garbage (as appropriate to vessel class)
- Marine Orders 96 - pollution prevention – sewage (as appropriate to vessel class)
- Marine Orders 91 – oil (as relevant to vessel class).

**Routine and Non-Routine Discharges: Well Intervention Activities**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Impact	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Routine and non-routine discharges to the marine environment from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>subsea control fluids</li> <li>well kill brine</li> <li>sulphamic acid.</li> </ul>			X			X		A	E	-	-	GP PJ	Broadly acceptable	EPO 3
Description of Source of Impact														
<p>During the Petroleum Activities Program, small volumes of control fluids or other chemicals may be discharged intermittently and for short durations as a result of planned activities. This includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>subsea control fluids used to actuate valves in open loop control systems</li> <li>sulphamic acid used to remove marine growth from subsea infrastructure</li> <li>well kill brine as a contingent activity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Subsea control fluids.</b></p> <p>Subsea control fluid, typically HW443 or HW525, is used to control SID and XT valves remotely from the LWIV. Control fluid is supplied to valves via an open-loop system, designed to release control fluid during operation (e.g. upon valve actuation) of up to 1 m<sup>3</sup>/day use during the PAP. Hydraulic control fluid is also used onboard the ROV. During certain tasks, for example when changing tools, small releases (100ml to 1L) of fluid may be released to the ocean.</p> <p><b>Marine Growth Removal</b></p> <p>Marine growth removal from subsea infrastructure may also be required which will lead to small planned discharges. Marine growth removal, from an ROV, typically involves the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>water jetting using high pressure water to remove marine growth</li> <li>use of brushes attached to ROV</li> <li>use of acid (typically sulphamic acid) to dissolve calcium deposits</li> <li>use of sand/abrasive blasting using staurolite products (naturally occurring mineral).</li> </ul> <p><b>Well kill brine</b></p> <p>Well kill brine (including corrosion inhibitors) will be used to kill wells during intervention activities. Residual hydrocarbons within wells may contaminate the brine. The intent is that all brine will be pumped to the reservoir and left in the well. Discharge of well kill brine may also occur due to an unplanned event such as a hose rupture or an emergency disconnect.</p> <p>All chemicals that may be released or discharged to the marine environment during the Petroleum Activities Program are assessed as per Woodside Chemical Selection and Assessment Guideline. This guideline is used to demonstrate that the potential impacts of the chemicals that may be released are acceptable and ALARP.</p> <p><b>Grease</b></p> <p>Standard operation of the SID will lead to small volumes of non-toxic grease being released to the environment from grease injection head.</p>														

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<b>Impact Assessment</b>
<p><b>Potential Impacts to Marine Sediment, Water Quality and Species</b></p> <p>The release of minor fluid discharges may reduce local water quality through contamination of the water column, resulting in potential adverse effects to marine biota as a result of hydrocarbon and chemical toxicity. The discharges present a risk to the marine environment due to the contaminants within them.</p> <p>Potential impacts to sensitive receptors may be attributable to dissolved hydrocarbons and suspended oil droplets and nutrients, as well as low residual concentrations of a small number of chemicals such as corrosion and scale inhibitors and biocides. Hydrocarbons however are considered the constituent of most concern to marine fauna, particularly polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).</p> <p>Marine growth removal chemicals, the minor discharge of control fluid from subsea valves (e.g. BOP and XT), corrosion inhibitors and small quantities of hydrocarbons may decrease the water quality in the immediate area of the release; however, the impacts are expected to be slight, temporary, and localised due to rapid dilution in the open ocean environment.</p> <p>A foraging BIA for whale sharks and wedge-tailed shearwaters is within the Operational Area and as such these species may be encountered within the Operational Area. Marine fauna may be affected if they come in direct contact with a release (i.e. by traversing the immediate discharge area), however given the very small expected release quantities it is not likely. Given the small volumes that represent the worst credible releases, water depth of release and the dilution of any such discharge, the likelihood of ecological impacts to these marine fauna is considered to be highly unlikely.</p> <p>No impacts to commercial or recreational fisheries or KEFs are expected.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summary of Potential Impacts to Environmental Value(s)</b></p> <p>Given the adopted controls, it is considered that routine or non-routine discharges described will not result in a potential impact greater than slight, short term local impact on species, habitat (but not affecting ecosystem function), physical or biological attributes (i.e. Environment Impact - E).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summary of Control Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all chemicals used and discharged will be approved (i.e. assessed, ALARP and acceptable)</li> <li>• no planned discharge of well kill brine to the environment.</li> </ul>

**Routine and Non-Routine Atmospheric Emissions**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Impact	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Exhaust emissions from internal combustion engines and incinerators on project vessels				X				A	F	-	-	LC S GP	Broadly Acceptable	EPO 4
Venting off of hydrocarbon gas during well intervention			X	X				A	F	-	-	LC S GP	Broadly Acceptable	EP O5
Description of Source of Impact														
<p><b>Internal combustion engines and incinerators</b></p> <p>Atmospheric emissions will be generated by the project vessels from internal combustion engines (including all equipment and generators) and incineration activities (including onboard incinerators) during the Petroleum Activities Program. Emissions will include SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, particulates and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).</p> <p><b>Release of hydrocarbon gas during well intervention</b></p> <p>During well intervention activities, hydrocarbon gas may be accidentally released from the well or subsea infrastructure. In the event that gas is released from the well, the gas may bubble to the sea surface (if released at the seabed). As part of planned operations, small quantities of gas (&lt;1 m<sup>3</sup>) will be vented to atmosphere, via the LWIV, while flushing the lubricator.</p>														
Impact Assessment														
<p><b>Potential Impacts to Air Quality (incl. Odour)</b></p> <p>Fuel combustion has the potential to result in localised, temporary reduction in air quality. Potential impacts include a localised reduction in air quality, generation of dark smoke and contribution to greenhouse gas emissions. Given the short duration and exposed location of project vessels (which will lead to the rapid dispersion of the low volumes of atmospheric emissions), the potential impacts are expected to be localised and minor.</p> <p>Any release of hydrocarbon gases, may result in a short-lived localised gas plume and a minor contribution to greenhouse gas emissions. There is potential for human health effects for workers in the immediate vicinity of atmospheric emissions and this is considered in the vessel's safety case. However, the closest sensitive residential receptor is the Dampier Archipelago approximately 95 km south-east of the Operational Area; therefore, any risks associated with off-site human health effects are negligible beyond the immediate zone of release and dispersion.</p> <p>Given the short duration and isolated location of the Petroleum Activities Program (which will lead to the rapid dispersion of the low volumes of atmospheric emissions) the potential impacts are expected to be localised and minor.</p>														
Summary of Potential Impacts to environmental values(s)														
<p>Given the adopted controls, it is considered that the release of a small volume of greenhouse gases will not result in a potential impact greater than a temporary decrease in local air quality no lasting effect and no</p>														

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significant impact to environmental receptors. (i.e. Environment Impact - F).

**Summary of Control Measures**

- Marine Order 97 (Marine Pollution Prevention – Air Pollution)
- OPGGS (Resource Management and Administration) Regulations 2011: Accepted Well Operations Management Plan (WOMP)
- Woodside Engineering Standards Well Barriers.

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**Routine Light Emissions**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Impact	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
External light emissions on-board project vessels (LWIV and support vessel)						X		A	F	-	-	PJ	Broadly acceptable	N/A

**Description of Source of Impact**

Project vessels will routinely use external lighting to facilitate navigation and safe operations at night throughout the Petroleum Activities Program. External light emissions from project vessels are typically managed to maintain good night vision for crew members. Lighting on project vessels will also be used to communicate activities to other marine users (i.e. navigation / warning lights). Lighting is required for the safe operation of project vessels, and cannot reasonably be eliminated. Note that flaring, which is a relatively bright light source, will not occur during the activity.

External lighting is located on the external decks of project vessels, with most external lighting directed towards working areas such as the main decks, pipe rack etc. These areas are typically lower than 20 m above sea level for the project vessels whilst in the Operational Areas. The distance to the horizon at which components of the project vessels will be directly visible can be estimated using the formula below:

$$horizon\ distance = 3.57 \times \sqrt{height}$$

Where horizon distance is the distance to the horizon at sea level in kilometres and height is the height above sea level of the light source in metres. Using this formula, the approximate distances at which the highest lit component of all project vessels will be visible at sea level is approximately 16 km (~20 m above sea level).

**Impact Assessment**

**Potential Impacts Species**

Light emissions can affect fauna in two main ways:

- **Behaviour:** many organisms are adapted to natural levels of lighting and the natural changes associated with the day and night cycle as well as the night time phase of the moon. Artificial lighting has the potential to create a constant level of light at night that can override these natural levels and cycles
- **Orientation:** organisms such as marine turtles and birds may also use lighting from natural sources to orient themselves in a certain direction at night. In instances where an artificial light source is brighter than a natural source, the artificial light may act to override natural cues leading to disorientation.

The fauna within the Operational Areas are predominantly pelagic fish and zooplankton, with a low abundance of transient species such as marine turtles, whale sharks and large whales within the Operational Areas. Additionally, there is no known critical habitat within the Operational Areas for EPBC listed species. Given the fauna expected to occur within the Operational Area, impacts from light emissions are considered to be remote.

**Marine Turtles - Hatchlings**

Light emissions reaching turtle nesting beaches is widely considered detrimental owing to interference with important nocturnal activities including the choice of nesting sites and orientation/navigation to the sea by post-nesting females and hatchlings (Lorne and Salmon 2007, Salmon 2003, Tuxbury and Salmon 2005). Hatchling turtles use light as a visual cue to orientate themselves towards the sea during the post-hatching

dash after emerging from the nest, orientating themselves towards the relatively bright horizon above the sea and away from the relatively dark dunes (Salmon et al. 1995b, Salmon and Witherington 1995). Artificial light from coastal developments has been identified as potentially disorientating hatchling turtles during the post-hatching movements, with hatchling turtles orientated towards artificial light sources away from the sea (Lorne and Salmon 2007, Salmon 2003, Tuxbury and Salmon 2005). Turtles disorientated by artificial lighting may take longer, or fail, to reach the sea, potentially resulting in increased mortality through dehydration, predation or exhaustion (Salmon and Witherington 1995).

Once hatchling turtles reach the sea, the primary cue for hatchling turtle orientation is water movement, with hatchlings swimming directly towards oncoming waves (Lohmann et al. 1990, Lohmann and Lohmann 1992). Hatchling and adult turtles may also use the Earth's magnetic field for larger scale navigation (Lohmann and Lohmann 1996). As such, hatchling turtles are only likely to be disorientated by artificial light between leaving the nest and reaching the sea.

Several islands in the vicinity of the Operational Areas are known to host turtle nesting beaches, including:

- Dampier Archipelago (approximately 100 km from the Operational Areas)
- Montebello Island Group (approximately 127 km from the Operational Area)
- Lowendal Island Group (approximately 145 km from the Operational Area)
- Barrow Island (approximately 157 km from the Operational Area).

Given the nature of the light emitted from project vessels and the distance to the nearest landfall (and nearest significant rookeries), artificial light is not expected to be directly visible to hatchling turtles. Disorientation of hatchling turtles in response to artificial lighting from project vessels is not considered credible.

**Marine Turtles - Adults**

Artificial lighting may affect the location that turtles emerge to the beach, the success of nest construction, whether nesting is abandoned, and even the seaward return of adults (Salmon et al. 1995b, 1995a, Salmon and Witherington 1995). Such lighting is typically from residential and industrial development overlapping the coastline, rather than offshore from nesting beaches. The Operational Areas does not contain any known critical habitat for any species of marine turtle nor do any BIAs for turtles overlap the Operational Areas. It is acknowledged that marine turtles may be present transiting the Operational Areas in low densities; given the water depth (approximately 80 m) turtles are unlikely to be foraging within the Operational Area.

**Other Marine Fauna**

The risk associated with collision from seabirds attracted to the light is considered to be low given there is no critical habitat for these species within the Operational Areas and slow moving speeds associated with activity support vessels. Seabirds may be attracted to project vessels operating at night, including foraging wedge-tailed shearwaters (for which a foraging BIA overlaps the Operational Area); however, this is not expected to result in impacts to seabird beyond a temporary change in behaviour.

Demersal fish communities in the Ancient Coastline at 125 m Depth Contour KEF (10 km north-west of the Operational Area) are highly unlikely to be affected by artificial lighting given the distance and water depth (approximately 80 m). Lighting from the presence of project vessels may result in the localised aggregation of fish below the vessel. These aggregations of fish are considered localised and temporary and any long term changes to fish species composition or abundance is considered remote.

**Summary of Potential Impacts to environmental values(s)**

Light emissions from project vessels will not result in an impact greater than a localised and temporary disturbance to fauna in the vicinity of the Operational Areas with no lasting effect (i.e. Environment Impact – F).

**Summary of Control Measures**

The potential impacts and risks from routine light emissions are deemed to be ALARP in its current impact state. No reasonable additional/alternative controls were identified that would further reduce the impacts and risks without grossly disproportionate sacrifice.

**UNPLANNED ACTIVITIES (ACCIDENTS / INCIDENTS / EMERGENCY SITUATIONS)**

**Accidental Hydrocarbon Release: Dropped Objects on Flowlines**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Risk	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Loss of hydrocarbons to marine environment due to a subsea flowline loss of containment.			X			X			C	2	M	GP PJ	Acceptable if ALARP	EP O 6

**Description of Source of Risk**

During the Petroleum Activities Program, the LWIV and activity support vessels may be operating in the vicinity of live subsea infrastructure. Consequently, there is the potential for a dropped object (during lifting) or loss of control of a suspended load to impact subsea infrastructure. A dropped object analysis was undertaken, for both WA-03 and WA-11a, which identified (based on the dropped object cone) that the worst case credible scenario was a loss of containment from the Lambert Hermes flowline from lifting activities at WA-03.

The worst credible subsea loss of containment is defined as loss of the entire inventory of the 8” Lambert Hermes flowline (488 m<sup>3</sup>). This scenario is based on an instantaneous large borehole release (complete rupture of the flowline) and assumes that only the inventory of the flow line is released due to activation of the ESD, thus limiting further release of hydrocarbons supplied from the wellheads.

**Quantitative Spill Risk Assessment**

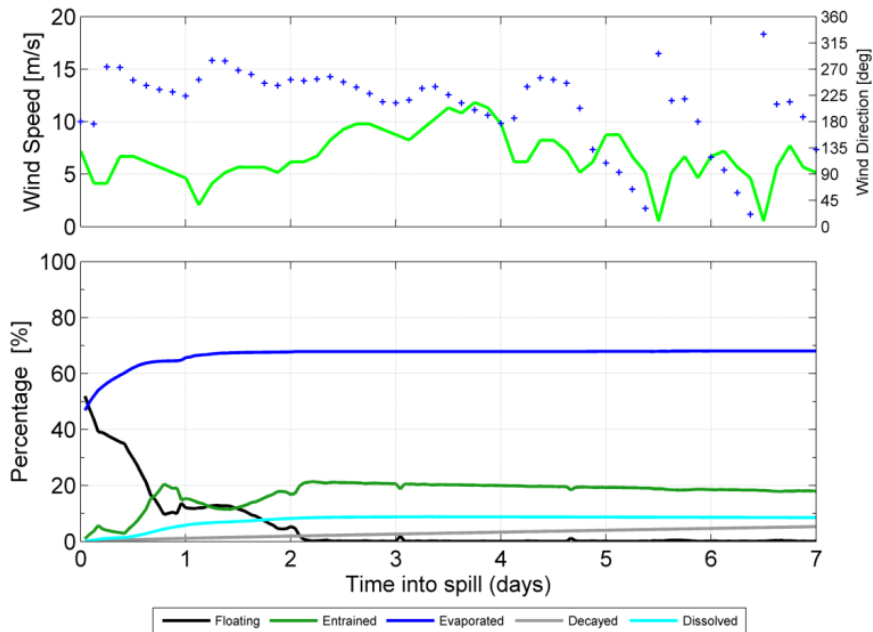
Modelling undertaken for the Okha facility (Presented in the Okha Operations Environment Plan) subsea flowline loss of containment (773 m<sup>3</sup> instantaneous release from both the 8” Lambert-Hermes flowline and 6” dual purpose flowline production line flowline at 95 m water depth) was to assess the risk of a spill from the Lambert Hermes flowline. This is considered suitable for the risk assessment of a 488 m<sup>3</sup> release for the following reasons. The scenario in the Okha EP considers the rupture of the LH 8” and 6” flowlines. There is no longer a risk of oil being released from the dual purpose 6” LH flowline, as this was converted to gas lift (containing dry gas) only in 2015. Furthermore, the water cut of wells producing into this flowline has increased since modelling was last completed, decreasing the amount of oil that might be release. Therefore the release volume is inherently conservative.

Modelling was undertaken over all seasons to address year-round operations. This is considered to provide a conservative estimate of the ZoC and the potential impacts from the identified worst-case credible release volume for a subsea flowline loss of containment.

**Hydrocarbon Characteristics**

Cossack crude was selected as the hydrocarbon type for the release scenario. It is considered consistent with a worst-case release due to the persistent nature of the hydrocarbon.

Weathering processes under realistic variable wind conditions are illustrated in the example mass balance weathering graph for a discrete spill of 50 m<sup>3</sup> of Cossack crude released at the surface (**Figure 12-1**). The graph demonstrates that approximately 65% of the released hydrocarbons would be expected to evaporate within the first 24 hours. Approximately 15% is expected to entrain after 24 hours, with approximately 10% expected to dissolve in 48, resulting in very little floating hydrocarbons on the surface after the first five days of release.



**Figure 12-1: Proportional mass balance plot representing the weathering of 50 m<sup>3</sup> from a surface spill of Cossack light crude**

**Subsea Plume Dynamics**

The loss of hydrocarbons from the flexible flowline will result in a buoyant plume of hydrocarbons, which has been modelled using the OILMAP-Deep numerical model. An instantaneous flowline rupture will result in a rapid highly turbulent release and is expected to result in small droplet size with 10% less than 37.5 µm and 90% ranging in size from 37.5 to 200 µm. The expected behaviour of this spill following release is for the oil to gradually rise towards the surface, with a majority of the oil having the potential to surface and become floating under suitable conditions. The smaller droplets may remain entrained by turbulence. The tendency of the crude oil to rise to the sea surface will promote weathering of the oil due to evaporation.

**Likelihood**

In accordance with the Woodside Risk Matrix, given prevention and mitigation measures in place (i.e. design, inspection and maintenance) and the dropped object analysis undertaken, the likelihood has been taken as 1 (Highly Unlikely). Woodside has also considered industry data for pipeline release frequencies in informing the likelihood assessment (PARLOC 2012).

**Consequence**

The spatial extent and fate (incl. weathering) of the spilled hydrocarbon were considered during the impact assessment for a worst-case subsea loss of containment (presented in the following section). These considerations were informed primarily by the outputs from the modelling studies undertaken by RPS, available information on environmental sensitivities that may credibly be impacted in the event of a worst-case spill and relevant literature and studies considering the effects of hydrocarbon exposure.

**Impact Assessment**

**Potential Impacts Overview**

Surface Hydrocarbons

Floating oil would form down current of the release location with the trajectory dependent on prevailing wind and current conditions at the time. The modelling indicates locations within reach of surface hydrocarbon concentrations above the 10 g/m<sup>2</sup> threshold concentration are confined to offshore areas up to as far as approximately 15 km.

Entrained Hydrocarbons

The modelling indicates locations within reach of entrained oil concentrations above the 500 ppb threshold concentration are confined to offshore areas extending up to approximately 40 km.

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Dissolved Aromatics Hydrocarbons

There were no predicted instances where the 500 ppb threshold concentration was reached.

Accumulated Hydrocarbons

No sensitive receptors were predicted to be contacted by accumulated hydrocarbons ( $\geq 100 \text{ g/m}^2$ ).

The credible worst-case hydrocarbon spill scenario that may arise from loss of hydrocarbons from the flexible flowline identifies that the spill remains offshore and contacts the Ancient Coastline at 125 m depth contour KEF and the Glomar Shoal KEF. The biological consequences of such a spill on identified open water sensitive receptors relate to the potential for minor impacts to megafauna, plankton and fish populations (surface and water column biota) that are within the spill affected area

**Summary of potential impacts to protected species**

Setting	Receptor Group
Offshore	<p><b>Cetaceans</b></p> <p>Marine mammals that have direct physical contact with surface, entrained or dissolved aromatic hydrocarbons may suffer surface fouling or ingestion of hydrocarbons and inhalation of toxic vapours. This may result in the irritation of sensitive membranes such as the eyes, mouth, digestive and respiratory tracts and organs, impairment of the immune system or neurological damage (Helm et al., 2015). If prey (fish and plankton) are contaminated, this can result in the absorption of toxic components of the hydrocarbons (PAHs).</p> <p>A range of cetaceans were identified as potentially occurring within the Operational Area and wider ZoC. In the event of a loss of subsea containment surface and entrained hydrocarbons exceeding environmental impact threshold concentrations may drift across habitat for oceanic cetacean species. Suitable habitat for oceanic toothed whales (e.g. sperm whales) is broadly distributed throughout the region and as such, impacts are unlikely to affect an entire population. Physical contact with hydrocarbons to these species is likely to have biological consequences however due to the localised natures of the spill, extending up to 40 km from the release location, no impacts to the overall population viability is expected.</p> <p><b>Marine Turtles</b></p> <p>Adult sea turtles exhibit no avoidance behaviour when they encounter hydrocarbon spills (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2010). Contact with entrained (or floating) hydrocarbon can result in hydrocarbon adherence to body surfaces (Gagnon and Rawson, 2010) causing irritation of mucous membranes in the nose, throat and eyes leading to inflammation and infection (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2010). Given the modelling results indicated concentrations of floating hydrocarbons are localised around the release location, the potential for contact with this hydrocarbon phase is very low.</p> <p>Due to the absence of potential nesting habitat and offshore location, the Operational area is unlikely to represent important habitat for marine turtles. It is, however, acknowledged that marine turtles may be present within the ZoC, and the ZoC would overlap with the BIAs, in particular, the interesting BIAs for flatback turtles which extend for ~80 km from known nesting locations. It is noted that the Petroleum Activities Program may coincide with nesting season for marine turtles in the region.</p> <p>In the event of a loss of subsea containment, there is potential that surface and entrained hydrocarbons exceeding environmental impact threshold concentrations will be present in offshore waters. Therefore, a hydrocarbon spill may impact on individuals, but is unlikely to reduce overall population viability.</p> <p>Potential impacts to nesting and interesting marine turtles are not expected based on modelling results (e.g. no shoreline contact).</p> <p><b>Sharks and Rays</b></p> <p>Hydrocarbon contact may affect whale sharks through ingestion (entrained/dissolved hydrocarbons), particularly if feeding. Impacts to sharks and rays may occur through direct contact with hydrocarbons and contaminate the tissues and internal organs either through direct contact or via the food chain (consumption of prey).</p> <p>A whale shark foraging BIA overlaps the ZoC, therefore whale sharks may transit offshore</p>

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	<p>open waters when migrating to and from Ningaloo Reef, where they aggregate for feeding from March to July. Whale sharks are versatile feeders, filtering large amounts of water over their gills, catching planktonic and nektonic organisms (Jarman and Wilson 2004). Therefore, individual whale sharks that have direct contact with hydrocarbons within the spill affected area may be impacted.</p> <p>In the offshore environment, it is probable that pelagic shark species are able to detect and avoid surface waters underneath hydrocarbon spills by swimming into deeper water or away from the affected areas. Therefore, any impact on sharks and rays is predicted to be minor and localised.</p> <p><b>Seasnakes</b></p> <p>Impacts to seasnakes from direct contact with hydrocarbons are likely to result in similar physical effects to those recorded for marine turtles and may include potential damage to the dermis and irritation to mucus membranes of the eyes, nose and throat (International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation, 2011a). They may also be impacted when they return to the surface to breathe and inhale the toxic vapours associated with the hydrocarbons, resulting in damage to their respiratory system. Given modelling indicated floating hydrocarbons are localised around the release location, the potential for seasnakes to be exposed to floating hydrocarbons is considered to be very low.</p> <p>In general, seasnakes frequent the waters of the continental shelf area around offshore islands and potentially submerged shoals (water depths &lt;100 m; see Submerged Shoals below). It is acknowledged that seasnakes may be present in the Operational Area and wider ZoC; however, their abundance is not expected to be high in the deep water and offshore environment. Therefore, a hydrocarbon spill may have a minor disruption to individuals however it is not considered to be a threat to overall population viability.</p> <p><b>Seabirds and Migratory Shorebirds</b></p> <p>Seabirds and migratory birds are particularly vulnerable to contact with floating hydrocarbons, which may mat feathers. This may lead to hypothermia from loss of insulation and ingestion of hydrocarbons when preening to remove hydrocarbons; both impacts may result in mortality (Hassan and Javed, 2011). The credible loss of subsea containment scenario results in highly localised floating hydrocarbons centred around the release location; hence, the potential for seabird exposure to floating hydrocarbons is considered to be low.</p> <p>Offshore waters are potential foraging grounds for seabirds associated with the coastal roosting and nesting habitat, which includes the numerous islands along the Pilbara coast. There was one BIAs for seabirds and migratory shorebirds that was identified to overlap with the wider ZoC. Given the relatively low likelihood of encounters between seabirds and floating hydrocarbons, impacts to seabirds in offshore waters are expected to consist of ecosystem-scale effects, such as reduced prey abundance. Impacts from a loss of subsea containment to prey such as small pelagic fish (prey for the birds) are not expected to be significant; hence, subsequent impacts to a significant portion of seabirds are not expected.</p>
Submerged Shoals	<p><b>Marine Turtles</b></p> <p>There is the potential for marine turtles to be present at submerged shoals such as Glomar Shoal. Glomar Shoal, at times, may be foraging habitat for marine turtles, given the coral and filter feeding biota associated with these areas. However, these areas are not known foraging locations. Tagging studies of green turtles did not indicate any overlap of the tracked post-nesting migratory routes and the Operational Area. It is, however, acknowledged that individual marine turtles may be present at Glomar Shoal and the surrounding areas. Therefore, a hydrocarbon spill may have a minor disruption to a portion of the population (see offshore description above); however, there is no threat to overall population viability.</p> <p><b>Seasnakes</b></p> <p>There is the potential for seasnakes to be present at Glomar Shoal. The potential impacts of exposure are as discussed previously in Offshore – Seasnakes.</p> <p>A hydrocarbon spill may have a minor disruption to individuals however there is no threat to overall population viability.</p>

	<p><b>Sharks and Rays</b></p> <p>There is the potential for resident shark and ray populations to be impacted directly from hydrocarbon contact or indirectly through contaminated prey or loss of habitat. Spill model results indicate potential impacts to the benthic communities of Glomar Shoal, which may host shark and ray populations. Sharks and rays present at the submerged shoals may be exposed to fresh, unweathered hydrocarbons, which may have greater potential for toxic impacts. Any direct impacts are expected to be sub-lethal however no impacts at the population level.</p> <p>Pelagic sharks and rays are expected to move away from areas affected by spilled hydrocarbons. Impacts to such species are expected to be limited to behavioural responses/displacement. Shark and ray species that have associations with submerged shoals may not move in response to such habitat being contacted by spilled hydrocarbons. Such species may be more susceptible to a reduction in habitat quality resulting from a hydrocarbon spill. Impacts to sharks and rays at Glomar Shoal are likely to be localised as they are comparable to other Australian reefs and the NWMR submerged shoals and banks. It is expected that there will be no impacts at the population level.</p>
<b>Summary of potential impacts to other species</b>	
<b>Setting</b>	<b>Receptor Group</b>
All Settings	<p><b>Pelagic and Demersal Fish</b></p> <p>Fish mortalities are rarely observed to occur as a result of hydrocarbon spills (International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation, 2011b). This has generally been attributed to the possibility that pelagic fish are able to detect and avoid surface waters underneath hydrocarbon spills by swimming into deeper water or away from the affected areas. Fish that have been exposed to dissolved aromatic hydrocarbons are capable of eliminating the toxicants once placed in clean water, hence individuals exposed to a spill are likely to recover (King et al., 1996). Where fish mortalities have been recorded, the spills (resulting from the groundings of the tankers Amoco Cadiz in 1978 and the Florida in 1969) have occurred in sheltered bays.</p> <p>Fish are perhaps most susceptible to the effects of spilled oil in their early life stages, particularly during egg and planktonic larval stages, which can become entrained in spilled oil. Contact with oil droplets can mechanically damage feeding and breathing apparatus of embryos and larvae (Fodrie and Heck, 2011). The toxic hydrocarbons in water can result in genetic damage, physical deformities and altered developmental timing for larvae and eggs exposed to even low concentrations over prolonged timeframes (days to weeks) (Fodrie and Heck, 2011). More subtle, chronic effects on the life history of fish as a result of exposure of early life stages to hydrocarbons include disruption to complex behaviour such as predator avoidance, reproductive and social behaviour (Hjermann et al., 2007). PAHs have also been linked to increased mortality and stunted growth rates of early life history (pre-settlement) of reef fishes, as well as behavioural impacts that may increase predation of post-settlement larvae (Johansen et al., 2017). However, the effect of a hydrocarbon spill on a population of fish in an area with fish larvae and/or eggs, and the extent to which any of the adverse impacts may occur, depends greatly on prevailing oceanographic and ecological conditions at the time of the spill and its contact with fish eggs or larvae.</p> <p>Demersal fish species are associated with the both Glomar Shoal and Ancient coastline at 125 m depth contour KEFs which overlap the ZoC and provide habitat for demersal fish species. Fish associated with these features may be exposed to dissolved and entrained hydrocarbons above impact thresholds.</p> <p>Mortality and sub lethal effects may impact populations located close to the release location and within the ZoC for entrained hydrocarbons (≥500 ppb). Additionally, if prey (infauna and epifauna) surrounding the release location and within the ZoC is contaminated, this can result in the absorption of toxic components of the hydrocarbons (PAHs) potentially impacting fish populations that feed on these. These impacts may result in localised medium/long term impacts on demersal fish habitat, e.g. seafloor.</p>

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Summary of potential impacts to marine primary producers	
Setting	Receptor Group
Submerged Shoals	The waters overlying Glomar Shoal has the potential to be exposed to entrained hydrocarbons above threshold concentrations (>500 ppb). This exposure at or above entrained thresholds is predicted based on modelling resulting in potential biological impacts including sub-lethal stress and, in some instances, total or partial mortality of sensitive benthic organisms such as corals and the early life stages of resident fish and invertebrate species.
	<p><b>Open Water</b></p> <p>Productivity/Upwelling: Glomar Shoal is an area associated with sporadic upwelling and associated primary productivity events. Spill model results predict entrained hydrocarbons (at or above the 500-ppb threshold) may reach Glomar Shoal. Therefore, impacts to plankton communities may result in short-term changes in plankton community composition but recovery would occur (see offshore description above). Hydrocarbon contact during the spawning seasons for resident shoal community benthos and fish (meroplankton), particularly exposure to in-water toxicity effects to biota, may result in the loss of a discrete cohort population but would not affect the longer-term viability of resident populations. Therefore, any impacts to resident shoal community benthos and fish (meroplankton) are likely to be localised at the shoals and temporary.</p>
	<p><b>Filter Feeders</b></p> <p>Hydrocarbon exposure to offshore filter-feeding communities may occur depending on the depth of the entrained hydrocarbons. Exposure to entrained hydrocarbons (<math>\geq 500</math> ppb) has potential to result in lethal or sub-lethal toxic effects. Sub-lethal impacts, including mucus production and polyp retraction, have been recorded for gorgonians exposed to hydrocarbon (White et al. 2012).</p>

Summary of potential impacts to other habitats and communities	
Setting	Receptor Group
Offshore	<p><b>Benthic Fauna Communities</b></p> <p>In the event of a loss of well containment at the seabed, the stochastic spill model predicted hydrocarbons droplets would be entrained in a gas plume, transporting them to the water column and sea surface. As a result, the low sensitivity benthic communities associated with the unconsolidated, soft sediment habitat and any epifauna (filter feeders) are not expected to be exposed to released hydrocarbons. A localised area relating to the hydrocarbon plume at the point of release is predicted, which would result in a small area of seabed and associated epifauna and infauna exposed to hydrocarbons.</p>
	<p><b>Open Water – Productivity/Upwelling</b></p> <p>Primary production by plankton (supported by sporadic upwelling events in the offshore waters of the NWS) is an important component of the primary marine food web. Planktonic communities are generally mixed including phytoplankton (cyanobacteria and other microalgae) and secondary consuming zooplankton, such as crustaceans (e.g. copepods), and the eggs and larvae of fish and invertebrates (meroplankton). Exposure to hydrocarbons in the water column can result in changes in species composition with declines or increases in one or more species or taxonomic groups (Batten et al. 1998). Phytoplankton may also experience decreased rates of photosynthesis (Tomajka 1985). For zooplankton, direct effects of contamination may include toxicity, suffocation, changes in behaviour, or environmental changes that make them more susceptible to predation. Impacts on plankton communities are likely to occur in areas where entrained or dissolved aromatic hydrocarbon threshold concentrations are exceeded, but communities are expected to recover relatively quickly (within weeks or months). This is due to high population turnover with copious production within short generation times that also buffers the potential for long-term (i.e. years) population declines (International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation, 2011a). Therefore, impacts on exposed planktonic communities present in the ZoC are likely to be short-term.</p>

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Key Ecological Features	<p><b>Key Ecological Features</b></p> <p>Potentially impacted by the hydrocarbon spill from a loss of well containment event are the following KEFs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glomar Shoal</li> <li>• Ancient coastline at 125 m depth contour.</li> </ul> <p>Although these KEFs are primarily defined by seabed geomorphological features, they are described to identify the potential for increased biological productivity and, therefore, ecological significance.</p> <p>The consequences of a hydrocarbon spill from a loss of well containment may impact the values of the KEFs affected (for the values of each KEF). Potential impacts include: the contamination of sediments, impacts to benthic fauna/habitats and associated impacts to demersal fish populations and reduced biodiversity as described above and below. Most of the KEFs within the ZoC have relatively broad-scale distributions and are unlikely to be significantly impacted.</p>
<b>Summary of potential impacts to water quality</b>	
<b>Setting</b>	<b>Aspect</b>
Offshore	<p><b>Open Water – Water Quality</b></p> <p>Water quality would be affected due to hydrocarbon contamination which is described in terms of the biological effect concentrations. These are defined by the ZoC descriptions for entrained and dissolved hydrocarbon fates and their predicted extent. Furthermore, water quality is predicted to have minor long term and/or significant short term hydrocarbon contamination above background and/or national/international quality standards.</p>
Submerged Shoals	<p><b>Open Water – Water Quality</b></p> <p>The submerged Glomar Shoal has the potential to be exposed to entrained hydrocarbons at or greater than 500 ppb. The waters surrounding this permanently submerged habitat, would show a reduction in quality due to hydrocarbon contamination above background and/or national/international quality standards.</p>
<b>Summary of potential impacts to marine sediment quality</b>	
<b>Setting</b>	<b>Receptor Group</b>
Offshore	<p><b>Marine Sediment Quality</b></p> <p>In the event of a major hydrocarbon release at the seabed, modelling indicates that a pressurised release of condensate would atomise into droplets that would be rapidly transported into the water column to the surface. As a result the extent of potential impacts to the seabed area at and surrounding the release site would be confined to a localised footprint. Marine sediment quality would be reduced (contamination above national/international quality standards) as a consequence of hydrocarbon contamination for a small area within the immediate release site for a long to medium term.</p>
Submerged Shoals	<p><b>Marine Sediment Quality</b></p> <p>There is potential for the reduction of marine sediment quality due to contact and adherence of entrained hydrocarbons with seabed sediments of the submerged shoals. If this was to occur, marine sediment quality would be reduced (contamination above national/international quality standards) as a consequence of hydrocarbon contamination for a small area within the immediate release site for a long to medium term. However, given the nature of the hydrocarbon, contact with submerged shoals is considered unlikely.</p>
<b>Summary of potential impacts to socio-economic values</b>	
<b>Setting</b>	<b>Receptor Group</b>
Offshore	<p><b>Fisheries – Commercial</b></p> <p>Spill scenarios modelled are unlikely to cause significant direct impacts on the target species of Commonwealth and offshore State fisheries within the defined ZoC. Further details are</p>

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	<p>provided below (impact assessment relating to spawning is discussed above under ‘Summary of potential impacts to other habitats and communities’).</p> <p>Fish exposure to hydrocarbon can result in ‘tainting’ of their tissues. Even very low levels of hydrocarbons can impart a taint or ‘off’ flavour or smell in seafood. Tainting is reversible through the process of depuration which removes hydrocarbons from tissues by metabolic processes, although it is dependent upon the magnitude of the hydrocarbon contamination. Fish have a high capacity to metabolise these hydrocarbons while crustaceans (such as prawns) have a reduced ability (Yender <i>et al.</i>, 2002). Seafood safety is a major concern associated with spill incidents. Therefore, actual or potential contamination of seafood can affect commercial and recreational fishing, and can impact seafood markets long after any actual risk to seafood from a spill has subsided (Yender <i>et al.</i>, 2002). A major spill would result in the establishment of a Petroleum Safety Zone around the spill affected area. There would be a temporary prohibition on fishing activities for a period of time and subsequent potential for economic impacts to affected commercial fishing operators. Additionally, hydrocarbon can foul fishing equipment such as traps and trawl nets, requiring cleaning or replacement.</p>
	<p><b>Tourism including Recreational Activities</b></p> <p>Recreational fishers predominantly target tropical species, such as emperor, snapper, grouper, mackerel, trevally and other game fish. Recreational angling activities include shore-based fishing, private boat and charter boat fishing, with the peak in activity between April and October (Smallwood <i>et al.</i>, 2011). Limited recreational fishing takes place in the offshore waters of the PAA due to the distance from shore; however, fishing may take place at Rankin Bank and Glomar Shoals. Impacts on species that are recreationally fished are described above and under ‘Summary of potential impacts to other species’ above.</p> <p>A major loss of hydrocarbon from the Petroleum Activities Program may lead to exclusion of marine nature-based tourist activities, resulting in a loss of revenue for operators.</p>
	<p><b>Offshore Oil and Gas Infrastructure</b></p> <p>In the unlikely event of a major spill, surface hydrocarbons may affect production from existing petroleum facilities (platforms and FPSOs). For example, facility water intakes for cooling and fire hydrants could be shut off which could in turn lead to the temporary cessation of production activities. Spill exclusion zones established to manage the spill could also prohibit activity support vessel access as well as tankers approaching facilities on the NWS. The impact on ongoing operations of regional production facilities would be determined by the nature and scale of the spill and metocean conditions. Furthermore, decisions on the operation of production facilities in the event of a spill would be based primarily on health and safety considerations. The closest oil and gas operation is the Okha FPSO, 1.1 km from the closest Operational Area. Other nearby facilities includes the Angel Platform (18 km) and the North Rankin Complex (31 km). All are operated by Woodside. Operation of these facilities is likely to be affected in the event of a worst-case loss of well containment.</p>
<p>Submerged shoals</p>	<p><b>Tourism and Recreation</b></p> <p>In the unlikely event of a major spill, a temporary prohibition on charter boat recreational fishing trips and any other marine nature-based tourism trips to Rankin Bank and Rowley Shoals may be put into effect, depending on the trajectory of the plume, resulting in a loss of revenue for operators.</p>
<p><b>Summary of potential impacts to environmental values(s)</b></p>	
<p>In the unlikely event of a major hydrocarbon spill due to a loss of subsea containment, the ZoC is localised offshore however it may overlap with including the sensitive marine environments and associated receptors of Glomar Shoal.</p> <p>The overall environmental consequence is defined as C ‘Moderate, medium-term impacts (2-10 years) on ecosystem, species, habitat, physical or biological attributes. The likelihood of the event is defined as a ‘2’ Highly Unlikely’ resulting in a risk ranking of Moderate.</p>	

### Summary of Control Measures

- the LWIV work procedures for lifts, bulk transfers and cargo loading
- LWIV and activity support vessels inductions include control measures and training for crew in dropped object prevention
- in the event of a subsea loss of containment a number of safety and environment critical element (SCE) mitigation controls are provided for in Woodside's current Okha FPSO Facility Operations Environment Plan. These SCEs prevent the escalation or mitigate the effects of a subsea loss of containment
- mitigation – hydrocarbon spill response.

**Accidental Hydrocarbon Release: Loss of Well Integrity**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Risk	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Loss of hydrocarbons to marine environment due to loss of well integrity.		X	X		X	X	X	C	C	1	M	GP PJ	Acceptable if ALARP	EP O 7

**Description of Source of Risk**

**Background**

A loss of well containment can lead to an uncontrolled release of reservoir hydrocarbons or other well fluids to the environment. Woodside has identified a well blowout (subsurface release from a subsea intervention device) as the scenario with the worst case credible environmental outcome as a result of loss of well barrier integrity. A blowout is an event where formation fluid flows out of the well or between formation layers after all the predefined technical well barriers (e.g. the BOP) or activation of the same have failed. The risk of blowout is only applicable to the Wanaea 11a well. A well blowout from the WA03 well was not considered credible as the well will not naturally release hydrocarbons to the seabed at ambient conditions without the aid of artificial lift.

A well blowout from WA11a involving full removal of the XT is not considered credible, because no activities within the scope of this PAP have been identified as credibly being able to cause this event. Beyond the scope of this activity, the operation of the WA03 and WA11a wells are covered under the Okha EP. This plan considers the risks associated with the full wellhead or XT removal of either of these wells.

**Industry Experience**

The Scandpower 2013 report presents recommended frequencies of blowouts and well releases to be applied as basis values in risk analysis of well operations of North Sea Standard. The frequencies are mainly based on data from the areas of US GoM OCS (US GoM) and North Sea (Norwegian and British sector). The frequencies are established based on a methodology established by the steering committee for the SINTEF Offshore Blowout Database. Woodside’s standards employed in intervention are well aligned to the North Sea standards.

The data demonstrates the very low likelihood of releases caused by intervention work:

- Probability of a blow-out from a well intervention is 4.11 X 10e-6 (0.0000411, or 0.004%), an order of magnitude lower than the same risk occurring from an operational well and two orders of magnitude lower than drilling activities (SINTEF 2013 <http://dmslink/?dmsn=9132486>)

In accordance with the Woodside Risk Matrix, a blowout event from the PAP has been defined as a ‘highly unlikely’ event as it ‘has occurred once or twice in the industry’ (experience based likelihood).

North Sea standards of well design, operation and intervention are considered to be aligned with those applied by Woodside, as outlined in the Okha WOMP.

**Credible Scenario – Loss of Well Containment during Intervention**

The Petroleum Activities Program consist of subsea intervention (wireline) operations from a light well intervention vessel. A loss of well integrity leading to well blowout can only occur during intervention on the WA11a well.

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The worst case credible scenario, a well blowout, could occur in the following circumstance:

- during wireline operations on WA11, the casing repair straddle and running tool (total length of 14 m) become stuck across the production tree valve and LSID ram cavities
- troubleshooting the stuck tool from the LWIV is unsuccessful
- the wireline cable is then sheared at rope socket and retrieved to surface (while trying to retrieve straddle)
- the LWIV is unable to remotely operate the 7 3/8" Shear Seal Ram in the USID
- the ROV is unable to manually operate the 7 3/8" Shear Seal Ram in the USID
- a leak then develops across the check valve in the grease injection head – the diameter of which is 3/16".

Should this sequence of events occur, the SCSSCV will then be closed, attempted first remotely and if that fails, manually via activation with the ROV which is planned to present at the intervention location at all times during the PAP. This event would lead to a release of approximately 194 bbls of well fluids, including 21.5 bbl of crude oil (the remainder being water). Should the SCSSCV then fail to operate, there would be no barrier remaining between the reservoir and environment leading to the well blowout scenario, considered as the worst case scenario for in-well operations. Oil Spill Response Mitigation Options (Section Reference) would then be implemented.

It is only considered credible that a well blowout could occur while the SID remains in place. The means flow from the reservoir would be constricted and could only be released to the ocean via an opening at the check valve located at the top of the SID.

When calculating the worst case spill duration, Woodside uses a 77 day base case as this was the time taken to drill a relief well and kill the Montara loss of well control incident in 2009. This is considered conservative for the WA11a well given the shallow water depth and low reservoir pressures and multiple redundant pressure control barriers that are in place as part of existing well infrastructure and the SID that will be utilised as part of this PAP.

**Hydrocarbon Characteristics**

Wanaea crude is the hydrocarbon type used for modelling for the release scenario as this is the hydrocarbon that would be released in the event of the worst case loss of well containment (**Table 12-1**). The actual fate of released oil in the marine environment will depend greatly on the amount of oil that reaches the surface, either through the initial release or by rising after discharge in the water column.

**Table 12-1: Cossack/Wanaea crude characteristics**

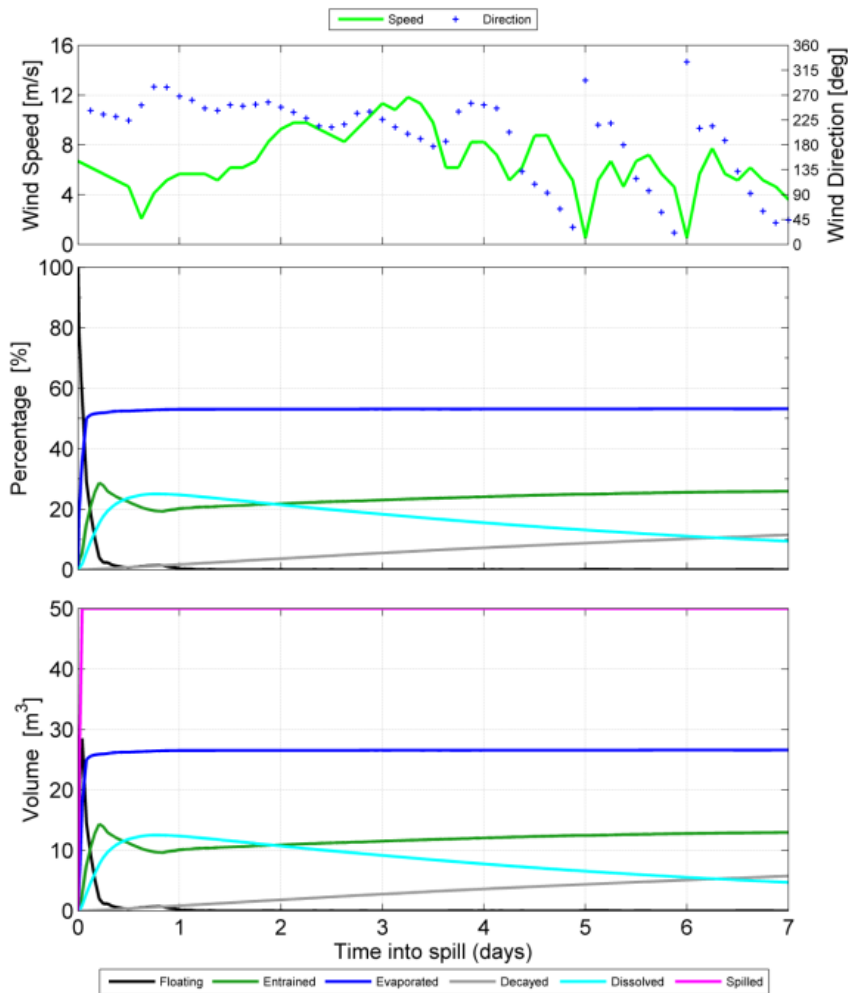
Oil Type	Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Viscosity (cP)	Component	Volatile (%)	Semi-Volatile (%)	Low Volatility (%)	Residual (%)	Aromatics (%)
			Boiling point (°C)	<180 C4 to C10	180-265 C11 to C15	265-380 C16 to C20	>380 >C20	Of whole oil <380 BP
Wanaea Crude	0.7875 at 15 °C	1.40 at 20 °C	% of total	33.4	25.3	15.9	25.4	14.5
			% aromatics	8.6	2.8	3.1		

A series of model weather tests were conducted to illustrate the potential behaviour of Wanaea/Cossack Crude when exposed to idealised and representative environmental conditions: one case is indicative of cumulative weathering rates under calm conditions that would not generate entrainment, while the second case may represent conditions that could cause a minor degree of entrainment. Both scenarios provide examples of potential behaviour during periods of a spill event, once the oil reaches the surface (RPS APASA 2019).

**Table 12-2: Summary of modelled credible scenario – loss of well containment during intervention**

	Loss of well containment
Total discharge at Seabed	2,194 m <sup>3</sup>
Water Depth	81 m
Fluid	Wanaea Crude

Weathering processes under realistic variable wind conditions are illustrated in the example mass balance weathering graph for a discrete spill of Wanaea crude instantaneous release at the surface at a discharge rate of 50 m<sup>3</sup>/hr (**Figure 12-2**). The graph demonstrates that just under 60% of the released hydrocarbons that reach the surface would be expected to evaporate within the first 24 hours. Under variable wind conditions, the winds generate significant entrainment events resulting in very little oil mass predicted to persist on the sea surface (<1% after 7 days).



**Figure 12-2: Proportional mass balance plot (middle) and volume (bottom) representing the weathering of 50 m<sup>3</sup> from a surface spill of Wanaea light crude**

Subsea Plume Dynamics

The well blowout subsea release that has been modelled forecasts the size of the hydrocarbon droplets that would be released from the well as determined by the OILMAP-Deep model. **Table 12-3** shows a summary of the results of the OILMAP Deep modelling for the well blowout.

**Table 12-3: Range of assumed inputs and range of calculated outputs, by OILMAP-Deep model for the surface/subsea well loss of containment (crude)**

	Variable	Cossack Crude
Assumed discharge	Release Depth (m)	81
	Hydrocarbon temp (C°)	82
	Gas:Oil ratio (m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> )	229
	Hydrocarbon flow rate (m <sup>3</sup> /day) [bbl/d]	28.14 [177]
	Diameter of exit hole (m)	0.025
Calculated gas plume dynamics	Plume diameter (m)	9.2
	Plume Trapping height (m ASB)	38.5
Calculated droplet size distribution	droplets of size 121 µm	21.4%
	droplets of size 283 µm	31.1%
	droplets of size 372µm	24.7%
	droplets of size 490 µm	15.1%
	droplets of size 700 µm	7.7%

The loss of containment model calculated that the low discharge velocity and turbulence generated by the expanding gas plume will generate moderately-sized oil droplets (diameter ranging from 120-700 µm). These droplets will be subject to mixing due to turbulence generated by the lateral displacement of the rising plume, as well as vertical mixing induced by wind and breaking waves. The largest droplets have the potential to reach the surface around 1-2 hours after release in the absence of turbulence or strong stratification of the water column. Floating slicks are likely to be formed under typical wind conditions.

**Impact Assessment**

**Potential Impacts Overview**

**Zone of Consequence**

Surface Hydrocarbons

Modelling results indicate, at the surface threshold of 10 g/m<sup>2</sup>, floating oil is forecast to potentially occur up to 4 km from the release location.

Entrained Hydrocarbons

Transport of entrained hydrocarbons reflects the prevailing current regime in the area. Entrained hydrocarbon concentrations above impact thresholds may occur up to 26 km from the release location.

Dissolved Hydrocarbons

Dissolved hydrocarbon concentrations above impact thresholds may occur up to 4 km from the release location.

**Consequence Assessment Summary**

The credible worst-case hydrocarbon spill scenario that may arise from loss of well integrity identifies that the spill remains offshore and may contact the Ancient coastline at 125 m depth contour KEF and the Glomar Shoal KEF. However, the entrained hydrocarbon ZoC is >18 km from the 40 m isobath at Glomar Shoal. The biological consequences of such a spill on identified open water sensitive receptors relate to the potential for minor impacts to megafauna, plankton and fish populations (surface and water column biota) that are within the spill affected area. Refer to previous risk description for **Accidental Hydrocarbon Release: Dropped Objects on Flowlines**, for a description of potential impacts on these receptors.

**Summary of Control Measures**



- well barrier management to be conducted in accordance with an Accepted WOMP
- subsea LWI package and wireline specification and function testing is undertaken in accordance with internal Woodside Standards and international requirements:
  - Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) Standards
  - Woodside Engineering Standard Riserless Well Intervention Equipment
  - Woodside Engineering Manual – Well Control Manual
  - Norsok Standard D-002.
- all intervention operations to be undertaken in accordance with Woodside’s ISSOW Permit to Work (PTW) system
- in the event of a loss of well integrity a number of safety and environment critical element (SCE) mitigation controls are provided for in Woodside’s current Okha FPSO Facility Operations Environment Plan. These SCEs prevent the escalation or mitigate the effects of a well loss of containment
- mitigation – hydrocarbon spill response.

**Accidental Hydrocarbon Release: Vessel Collision**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Risk	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Loss of hydrocarbons to marine environment due to a vessel collision (e.g. support vessels or other marine users).			X		X	X	X	A	C	2	M	LCS GP PJ	Broadly Acceptable	EPO 8

**Description of Source of Risk**

**Background**

The LWIV has a total marine diesel capacity of approximately 1,300 m<sup>3</sup> that is distributed through a number of isolated tanks. The largest tank is expected to be 165 m<sup>3</sup>. The marine diesel storage capacity of a support vessel can also be in the order of 1,000 m<sup>3</sup> (total) that is distributed through multiple isolated tanks typically located mid-ships and can range in typical size from 22 to 105 m<sup>3</sup>.

In the unlikely event of a vessel collision involving the LWIV during the Petroleum Activities Program, the vessels will have the capability to pump fuel from a ruptured tank to a tank with spare volume in order to reduce the potential volume of fuel released to the environment.

This temporary presence of the project vessels in the area will result in a navigational hazard for commercial shipping within the immediate area. This navigational hazard could result in a third-party vessel colliding with the LWIV.

**Industry Experience**

Registered vessels or foreign flag vessels in Australian waters are required to report collision events to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB), AMSA or Australian Search and Rescue (AusSAR).

From a review of the ATSB marine safety and investigation reports, one vessel collision occurred in 2011-12 that resulted in a spill of 25-30 L of oil into the marine environment as a result of a collision between a tug and support vessel off Barrow Island. Two other vessel collisions occurred in 2010, one in the port of Dampier, where a support vessel collided with a barge being towed. Minor damage was reported and no significant injury to personnel or pollution occurred. The second 2010 vessel collision involved a vessel under pilot control in port connected with a vessel alongside a wharf causing it to sink. No reported pollution resulted from the sunken vessel. These incidents demonstrate the likelihood of only minor volumes of hydrocarbons being released during the highly unlikely event of a vessel collision occurring.

From 2010 to 2011, the ATSB's annual publication defines the individual safety action factors identified in marine accidents and incidents: 42% related to navigation action (ATSB 2011). Of those, 15% related to poor communication and 42% related to poor monitoring, checking and documentation. The majority of these related to the grounding instances.

**Credible Scenario**

For a vessel collision to result in the worst-case scenario of a hydrocarbon spill potentially impacting an environmental receptor, several factors must align as follows:

- the identified causes of vessel interaction must result in a collision
- the collision must have enough force to penetrate the vessel hull

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- the collision must be in the exact location of the fuel tank
- the fuel tank must be full, or at least of volume which is higher than the point of penetration.

The probability of the chain of events described above aligning, to result in a breach of fuel tanks resulting in a spill that could potentially affect the marine environment is considered remote. Given the offshore location, vessel grounding is not considered a credible risk.

The environmental risk analysis and evaluation undertaken identified and assessed a range of potential scenarios that could result in a loss of vessel structural integrity resulting in damage to fuel storage tank(s) and a loss of marine diesel to the marine environment (**Table 5-9**). The scenarios considered damage to single and multiple fuel storage tanks in the support vessel and LWIV due to dropped objects and various combinations of vessel to LWIV collisions. It is highly unlikely that the full volume of the largest storage tank on a support vessel or LWIV would be lost.

A collision between the support vessel or LWIV with a third-party vessel (i.e. commercial shipping, other petroleum related vessels and commercial fishing vessels) was also considered. This was assessed as being credible but highly unlikely given the standard vessel operations and equipment in place to prevent collision at sea, the short duration of operations.

A vessel collision with the LWIV and another vessel is assumed to result in the loss, in the worst case, of the full inventory of a single diesel fuel tank, 165 m<sup>3</sup>. Modelling of a 500 m<sup>3</sup> diesel spill was undertaken 45 km from the closest Operational Area and was used as an analogue. This was considered suitable for the risk assessment as the volume is 3-times larger, therefore making the assessment inherently conservative.

**Table 5 9: Summary of credible hydrocarbon spill scenario as a result of vessel collision**

Scenario	Hydrocarbon Volumes	Preventative and Mitigation Controls	Credibility
Breach of LWIV fuel tanks due to collision with third party vessel, including commercial shipping and fishing.	Currently identified LWIV has multiple isolated tanks, largest volume of a single tank is likely to be <165 m <sup>3</sup> .	Tank locations midship (not bow or stern). Pumps available to remove inventory from penetrated tank. Navigation & trader systems	<b>Credible</b> LWIV – third party vessel collision could potentially result in the release of a fuel tank.
Breach of support vessel fuel tanks due to other vessel collision including commercial shipping/fisheries.	Activity support vessel has multiple marine diesel tanks typically ranging between 22–105 m <sup>3</sup> each.	Typically, double wall, tanks which are located midship (not bow or stern). Vessels are not anchored and steam at low speeds when relocating within the Permit Area or providing stand-by cover. Normal maritime procedures would apply during such vessel movements.	<b>Credible</b> Activity support vessel – other vessel collision could potentially result in the release from a fuel tank.
Loss of well control due to third party vessel (e.g. large bulk carrier) collision with LWIV activities during intervention activities.	Loss of containment of reservoir fluids – see <b>Loss of Well Integrity</b> for estimated volumes.	Refer to <b>Loss of Well Integrity</b> for preventative and mitigation controls.	<b>Credible</b> Vessel is only connected via wireline or downline. Intervention is riserless and vessel drive off does not result in LOC from well.

Spill modelling was undertaken by RPS-APASA, on behalf of Woodside, to determine the fate of hydrocarbon released from a ruptured vessel fuel tank, based on the assumptions in **Table 5-10**. Modelling considered metocean conditions throughout the year; this was done to inform the determination of consequence of a fuel tank rupture during intervention at any time of the year.

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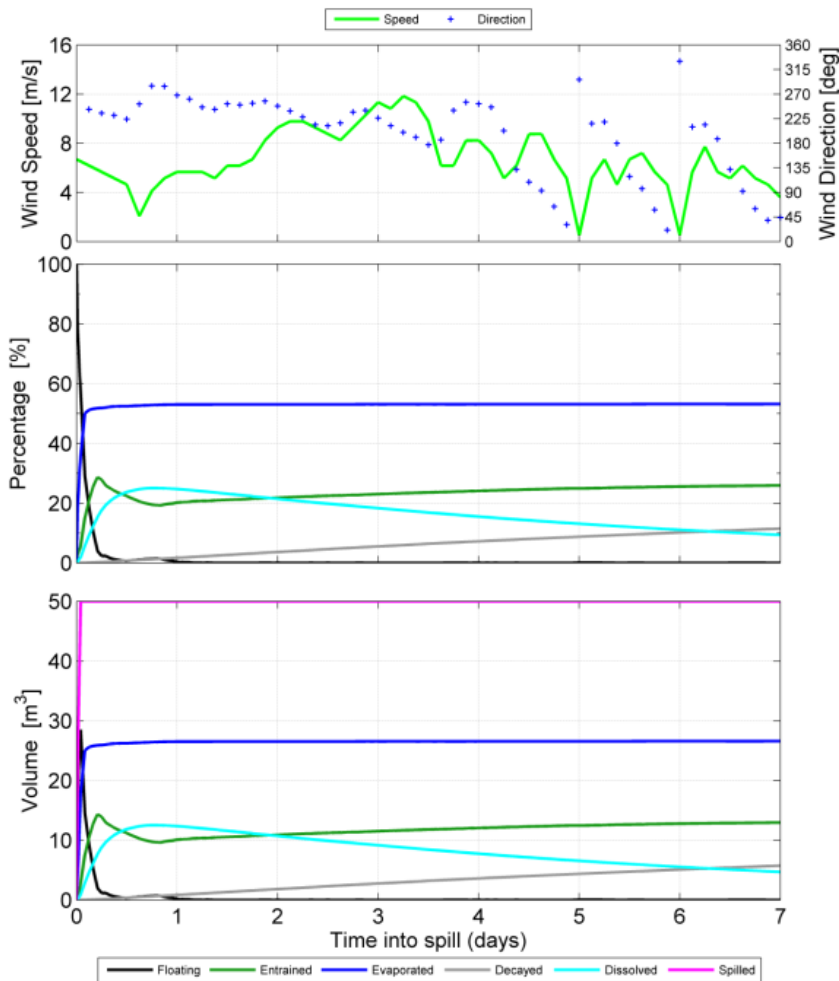
**Table 5-10: Summary of modelled credible scenario – loss of well containment during intervention**

Fuel tank rupture	
Total discharge at Surface	500 m <sup>3</sup>
Depth of discharge (m below MSL)	Surface
Duration of spill (hrs)	Instantaneous
Fluid	Marine Diesel

**Hydrocarbon Characteristics**

Marine diesel is a mixture of both volatile and persistent hydrocarbons. Predicted weathering of marine diesel, based on typical conditions in the region, indicates that approximately 50% by mass would be expected to evaporate over the first day or two (**Figure 5-5**). After this time the majority of the remaining hydrocarbon is entrained into the upper water column. In calm conditions entrained hydrocarbons are likely to resurface. Up to 95% of the spill volume is expected to evaporate over time (**Figure 5-5**). The remaining 5% is persistent and will reduce in concentration through degradation and dissolution.

Given the environmental conditions experienced in the Operational Area, marine diesel is expected to undergo rapid spreading and this, together with evaporative loss, is likely to result in a rapid dissipation of the spill. Marine diesel distillates tend not to form emulsions at the temperatures found in the region.



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**Figure 12-3: Proportional mass balance plot representing weathering of a surface spill of marine diesel as a one-off release (50 m<sup>3</sup> over 1 hr) and subject to variable wind at 27 °C water temperature and 25 °C air temperature.**

Impact Assessment
<p><b>Summary of Potential Impacts to environmental values(s)</b></p> <p><b>Zone of Consequence</b></p> <p><u>Floating Hydrocarbons</u> Modelling results indicate, at the surface 10 g/m<sup>2</sup> threshold of floating oil is forecast to potentially occur up to ~42 km from the release location. Using the modelling results as an analogue for the WA03 and WA11 well locations, no sensitive receptors were predicted to be contacted by floating hydrocarbons (10 g/m<sup>2</sup>).</p> <p><u>Entrained Hydrocarbons</u> Transport of entrained hydrocarbons reflects the prevailing current regime in the area. Entrained hydrocarbon concentrations above impact thresholds may occur up to 166 km from the release location. The most likely direction of drift is south-westerly, reflecting the prevailing current patterns. Results also indicate that entrained oil may also drift towards the northeast and offshore.</p> <p><u>Dissolved Aromatic Hydrocarbons</u> No dissolved hydrocarbons above impact thresholds are expected to occur.</p> <p><b>Accumulated Hydrocarbons</b> There are no accumulated hydrocarbons, above thresholds, predicted by the modelling.</p> <p><b>Consequence Assessment Summary</b> The credible worst-case hydrocarbon spill scenario that may arise from a rupture fuel tank identifies that the spill remains offshore and entrained hydrocarbons may contact the green turtle internesting BIA, hawksbill turtle internesting BIA Montebello Islands MP, Ancient coastline at 125 m depth contour KEF, Glomar Shoal KEF and Rankin Bank. Floating hydrocarbons are not predicted to contact the coastline or inshore islands such as the Montebello Islands and / or Barrow Island, or the Dampier Archipelago due to the prevailing offshore current regime.</p> <p>The biological consequences of such a spill on identified open water sensitive receptors relate to the potential for minor impacts to megafauna, plankton and fish populations (surface and water column biota) that are within the spill affected area. Refer to previous risk description for <b>Accidental Hydrocarbon Release: Dropped Objects on Flowlines</b>, for a description of potential impacts on these receptors.</p>
Summary of Control Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marine Order 30 (Prevention of Collisions) 2016</li> <li>• Marine Order 21 (Safety of navigation and emergency procedures) 2012</li> <li>• establishment of a 500 m safety exclusion zone around LWIV and communicated to marine users</li> <li>• notify AHS before commencement of well intervention</li> <li>• notify AMSA Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) before commencement of well intervention</li> <li>• SIMOPs Plan prepared to manage vessel interactions within Petroleum Activity Program.</li> </ul>

**Unplanned Discharges: Loss of Chemicals / Hydrocarbons from Project Vessels**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Risk	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Accidental discharge to the ocean of non-well based hydrocarbons or chemicals from LWIV or support vessel deck activities and equipment (e.g. cranes) including subsea leaks.			X		X	X			E	2	M	LCS GP	Broadly Acceptable	EPO 9

**Description of Source of Risk**

Unplanned discharges may arise from accidental spills from onboard the activity vessels or from hoses or equipment used subsea being utilised to conduct the intervention activity.

**Deck spills**

Deck spills can result from spills from temporarily stored hydrocarbons/chemicals or equipment. LWIV and support vessels typically store hydrocarbon/chemicals in various volumes (20 L, 205 L; up to 4,000L). Storage areas are typically set up with effective primary and secondary bunding to contain any deck spills. This excludes losses from permanent onboard storage tanks (i.e. fuel or oil tanks).

Releases from equipment are predominantly from the failure of hydraulic hoses, which can either be located within bunded areas or outside of bunded or deck areas (e.g. over water on cranes).

**ROV**

The ROV hydraulic fluid is supplied through hoses containing approximately 20 L of fluid. Hydraulic lines to the ROV arms and other tooling may become caught resulting in minor leaks to the marine environment. Small volume hydraulic leaks may occur from equipment operating via hydraulic controls subsea (subsea control fluid). Woodside’s operational experience demonstrates that spills are most likely to originate from hydraulic hoses and have been less than 100 L, with an average volume <10 L.

**Downline Failure**

Well kill brine (including corrosion inhibitors) will be used to kill wells prior to suspension. Residual hydrocarbons within wells may contaminate the brine. Brine is injected into the well via a 2” downline, typically pumped at rates of up to 1 m<sup>3</sup>/minute.

Subsea control fluids are typically HW525 or HW443, which may have a dye added to aid in leak detection. This is supplied to the SID via the control umbilical, typically pumped at rates of up to 1m<sup>3</sup>/hour.

An umbilical may also be used to supply other chemicals to the SID, typically containing a mix of fluids such as MEG, methanol and dye. These fluids would be used for pressure testing and hydrate control. These are supplied at low flow rates up to rates up to 0.08 m<sup>3</sup>/min. Maximum inventory on the LWIV will depend on requirements identified during detailed design.

The only time a discharge of these chemicals would occur would be in the event of an umbilical/downline rupture, which could be caused by event such as a hose failure or an emergency disconnect. The worst case discharge during this scenario would be the loss of 4 m<sup>3</sup> of brine, or less than 1 m<sup>3</sup> of other fluids (e.g. subsea control fluid or inhibition chemicals).

**Other unplanned releases**

Other sources of unplanned discharges that may arise during the PAP may include:

- leaks of chemicals or fluids from the SID, including lubricator, stuffing box and hose or fitting failure

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- loss of chemicals or other fluids contained onboard vessel holding tanks
- stuffing box leak/under pressure
- draining of lubricator contents
- failures of hydraulic hoses used on the LWIV on equipment such as deck cranes or the Intervention Compensation System (ICS)
- loss of subsea control fluid or well kill brine from downline failure during intervention operations
- windblown lubricant dripping from cable/on deck
- lubricant used to lubricate hole.

The expected volume of loss associated with any of these releases is expected to be <10 L.

**Impact Assessment**

**Potential Impacts to water quality, other habitats and communities and protected species**

Accidental spills of hydrocarbons or chemicals from the LWIV and support vessels will decrease the water quality in the immediate area of the spill; however, the impacts are expected to be temporary and very localised due to dispersion and dilution in the open ocean environment.

MEG is miscible in water and are considered to pose little or no risk to the environment (PLONOR). A maximum credible spill of MEG is expected to mix with the receiving environment with no lasting environmental impact.

The accidental releases of chemicals (e.g. brine, inhibitors, dyes) may decrease the water quality in the immediate area of the release; however, the consequence is expected to be temporary and localised due to the open ocean mixing environment, Operational Area distance from sensitive receptors and relatively low credible release volumes. Depending on the chemical released, the toxicity and/or potential to bioaccumulate may potentially result in impacts to sediment quality, pelagic fish or other marine species in the vicinity of the discharge.

The risk of an accidental chemical release is unlikely to result in consequences greater than a slight, short-term impact on species and water quality.

**Summary of Potential Impacts to environmental values(s)**

Given the adopted controls, it is considered that other hydrocarbon/chemical spills to the marine environment will not result in a potential impact greater than slight, short term local impacts on species, habitat (but not affecting ecosystems function), physical and biological attributes (i.e. Environment Impact - E).

**Summary of Control Measures**

- Marine Order 91 (Marine pollution prevention – oil)
- all chemicals used and discharged will be approved (i.e. assessed, ALARP and acceptable).
- Environmental Performance Standards Procedure details expectations on chemical storage and handling to prevent spills.

**Unplanned Discharges: Loss of Solid Hazardous and Non-hazardous Wastes/Equipment**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Risk	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Accidental loss of hazardous or non-hazardous wastes/ equipment to the marine environment (excludes sewage, grey water, putrescible waste and bilge water).			X		X	X		A	F	2	L	LCS GP	Broadly acceptable	EPO 10
Description of Source of Risk														
<p>The project vessels will generate a variety of solid wastes including packaging and domestic wastes such as aluminium cans, bottles, paper and cardboard. Hence, there is the potential for solid wastes to be lost overboard to the marine environment. Wastes on-board are managed in accordance with the on-board waste management plan. Based on industry experience, waste items lost overboard are typically wind-blown rubbish such as container lids, cardboard etc. Such losses typically have occurred during back loading activities, periods of adverse weather and incorrect waste storage.</p>														
Impact Assessment														
Potential Impacts to water quality, other habitats and communities and protected species														
<p>The potential impacts of solid wastes accidentally discharged to the marine environment include direct pollution and contamination of the environment and secondary impacts relating to potential contact of marine fauna with wastes, resulting in entanglement or ingestion and leading to injury and death of individual animals. The temporary or permanent loss of waste materials into the marine environment is not likely to have a significant environmental impact, based on the location of the Operational Area, the types, size and frequency of wastes that could occur and species present.</p>														
Summary of Potential Impacts to environmental values(s)														
<p>Given the adopted controls, it is considered that the accidental discharge of solid waste described will result in localised impacts not significant to environmental receptors (i.e. Environment Impact - F).</p>														
Summary of Control Measures														
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marine Orders 95 – pollution prevention – Garbage</li> <li>• project environment management plan includes consideration of correct waste management</li> <li>• recovery of hazardous solid wastes lost overboard where safe and practicable to do so.</li> </ul>														

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**Unplanned Discharged: Vessel Collision with Marine Fauna**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Risk	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Accidental collision between project vessels and threatened and migratory whale species.						X		A	E	1	L	LC S GP	Broadly Acceptable	EPO 11

**Description of Source of Risk**

The LWIV and Project vessels operating in and around the Operational Areas may present a potential hazard to cetaceans (e.g. humpback whales, pygmy blue whales) and other protected marine fauna such as whale sharks and marine reptiles. Vessel movements can result in collisions between the vessel (hull and propellers) and marine fauna, potentially resulting in superficial injury, serious injury that may affect life functions (e.g. movement and reproduction) and mortality. The factors that contribute to the frequency and severity of impacts due to collisions vary greatly due to vessel type, vessel operation (specific activity, speed), physical environment (e.g. water depth) and the type of animal potentially present and their behaviours. Support vessels are typically stationary or moving at low speeds when supporting well intervention activities.

**Impact Assessment**

**Potential Impacts to protected species**

The likelihood of vessel/whale collision being lethal is influenced by vessel speed; the greater the speed at impact, the greater the risk of mortality (Jensen and Silber 2004, Laist et al. 2001). Vanderlaan and Taggart (2007) found that the chance of lethal injury to a large whale as a result of a vessel strike increases from about 20% at 8.6 knots to 80% at 15 knots.

LWIV and support vessels within the Operational Area are likely to be travelling less than 8 knots (and will often be stationary); therefore, the chance of a vessel collision with protected species resulting in lethal outcome is considered unlikely, as marine fauna have the opportunity to move away from Project vessels. No known key aggregation areas (resting, breeding or feeding) are located within or immediately adjacent to the Operational Area. Although, the Operational Area does not overlap with the migration BIA for pygmy blue whales or humpback whales, the overlap with the distribution BIA for pygmy blue whales, and the close proximity of the Operational Area to the humpback whale migration BIA, it is possible that these species will occur in the vicinity of the Operational Area at various times during the year, with increased numbers during peak periods.

According to the data of Vanderlaan and Taggart (2007), it is estimated that the risk is less than 10% at a speed of 4 knots. Vessel-whale collisions at this speed are uncommon and, based on reported data contained in the US National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration database (Jensen and Silber 2004) there are only two known instances of collisions when the vessel was travelling at less than 6 knots, both of these were from whale watching vessels that were deliberately placed amongst whales. Given the duration of activities within the Operational Area and the slow speeds at which project vessels operate, collisions with cetaceans such as pygmy blue and humpback whales are considered very unlikely.

Whale sharks are at risk from vessel strikes when feeding at the surface or in shallow waters (where there is limited option to dive). Whale sharks may traverse offshore NWS waters including the Operational Areas

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during their migrations to and from Ningaloo Reef and the Operational Area overlaps with the foraging BIA for this species. However, it is expected that whale shark presence within the Operational Area would not comprise significant numbers given there is no main aggregation area within the vicinity of the Operational Area, and their presence would be transitory and of a short duration.

Marine mammals and fish are at risk of mortality through being caught in thrusters during station keeping operations (dynamic positioning). The risk of marine life getting caught in operating thrusters is unlikely, given the low presence of individuals, combined with the avoidance behaviour commonly displayed during dynamic positioning operations.

The Operational Area does not overlap any marine turtle BIAs or critical habitat, combined with the absence of potential foraging habitat (e.g. reef habitat or shallow shoals), it is considered that the Operational Area is unlikely to represent important habitat for marine turtles, although individuals may transit the area.

It is unlikely, that vessel movement associated with the Petroleum Activities Program will have a significant impact on marine fauna populations given (1) the low presence of transiting individuals, (2) avoidance behaviour commonly displayed by cetaceans, whale sharks and turtles and (3) low operating speed of the support vessels (generally less than 8 knots or stationary, unless operating in an emergency).

#### Summary of Potential Impacts to environmental values(s)

Given the adopted controls, it is considered that a collision, were it to occur, will not result in a potential impact greater than minor, temporary disruption to a small proportion of the population and no impact on critical habitat or activity.

#### Summary of Control Measures

- Regulations 2000 – Part 8 Division 8.1 Interacting with cetaceans, and Woodside Marine Charterers Instructions.

**Physical Presence: Disturbance to Seabed from Dropped Objects**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Risk	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Dropped objects resulting in seabed disturbance.					X			A	F	2	L	GP	Broadly acceptable	EP O 12
Description of Source of Risk														
<p>There is the potential for objects to be dropped overboard from the LWIV and Project vessels to the marine environment. Objects that have been dropped during previous offshore projects include small numbers of personnel protective gear (e.g. glasses, gloves, hard hats), small tools (e.g. spanners) and hardware fixtures (e.g. riser hose clamp). The spatial extent in which dropped objects can occur is restricted to the Operational Area.</p>														
Impact Assessment														
Potential Impacts to Other Benthic Communities														
<p>In the unlikely event of loss of equipment or materials to the marine environment, potential environmental effects would be limited to localised physical impacts on benthic communities. As a result of recovery of any dropped objects this impact will be temporary in nature, however, if the object cannot be recovered due to health and safety, operational constraints and other factors (locating dropped objects at depth) then the impact will be long term. Any disturbance would be confined to the Operational Area, within which the seabed is flat with no areas of hard substrate or outcrops. The seabed composition in the vicinity of the Okha FPSO is characterised by deep (&gt;5 m) soft silty sediment. Which are widely represented throughout the region.</p> <p>The temporary or permanent loss of dropped objects into the marine environment is not likely to have a significant environmental impact, as the benthic communities associated with the Operational Area are of low sensitivity and are broadly represented throughout the NWMR.</p>														
Summary of Potential Impacts to environmental values(s)														
<p>Given the adopted controls and the predicted small footprint of a dropped object, it is considered that a dropped object will not result in a potential impact greater than localised short-term damage of benthic subsea habitats.</p>														
Summary of Control Measures														
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>recovery of hazardous solid wastes lost overboard where safe and practicable to do so</li> <li>the LWIV work procedures for lifts, bulk transfers and cargo loading</li> <li>LWIV and activity support vessels inductions include control measures and training for crew in dropped object prevention.</li> </ul>														

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**Physical Presence: Accidental Introduction of Invasive Marine Species**

Impacts and Risks Evaluation Summary														
Source of Risk	Environmental Value Potentially Impacted							Evaluation						
	Soil and Groundwater	Marine Sediment	Water Quality	Air Quality (incl Odour)	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-Economic	Decision Type	Consequence	Likelihood	Current Risk Rating	ALARP Tools	Acceptability	Outcome
Accidental introduction of invasive marine species (IMS).					X	X	X	A	F	0	L	LCS GP PJ	Broadly Acceptable	EP O 13

**Description of Source of Risk**

**Vessels**

During the Petroleum Activities Program, vessels will be transiting to and from the Operational Areas; potentially including traffic mobilising from beyond Australian waters. These project vessels may include the LWIV and Project vessels.

All vessels are subject to some level of marine fouling. Organisms attach to the vessel hull, particularly in areas where organisms can find a good attachment surfaces (e.g. seams, strainers and unpainted surfaces) or where turbulence is lowest (e.g. niches, sea chests, etc.). Commercial vessels typically maintain anti-fouling coatings to reduce the build-up of fouling organisms. Organisms can also be drawn into ballast tanks during onboarding of ballast water as cargo is loaded or to balance vessels under load.

During the Petroleum Activities Program, the following project vessel activities have the potential to lead to the introduction of Invasive Marine Species (IMS):

- vessel to vessel interactions within the Operational Area
- vessel interactions with subsea infrastructure.

**Impact Assessment**

**Potential Impacts to Ecosystems/Habitats, Species and Socio-economic Values**

Non-indigenous Marine Species (NIMS) are species that have been introduced into a region beyond their natural biogeographic range and have the ability to survive, reproduce and establish founder populations, resulting in impacts to social/cultural, human health, economic and/or environmental values. NIMS are species that have the ability to survive, reproduce and establish founder populations. However, not all NIMS introduced into an area will thrive or cause demonstrable impacts and the majority of NIMS around the world are relatively benign and few have spread widely beyond sheltered ports and harbours.

Potential IMS have historically been introduced and translocated around Australia by a variety of natural and human means including biofouling and ballast water. Potential IMS vary from one region to another depending on various environmental factors such as water temperature, salinity, nutrient levels and habitat type, which dictate their survival and invasive capabilities. IMS typically require hard substrate in the photic zone; therefore, requiring shallow waters, to become established.

Potential IMS are those that are:

- not native to the region
- are likely to survive and establish in the region

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- can spread by human mediated or natural means.

Potential IMS vary from one region to another depending on various environmental factors such as water temperature, salinity, nutrient levels and habitat type. These factors dictate their survival and invasive capabilities.

Once introduced, IMS may predate on local species (which had previously not been subject to this kind of predation and therefore not have evolved protective measures against the attack), they may outcompete indigenous species for food, space or light and can also interbreed with local species, creating hybrids such that the endemic species is lost. These changes to the local marine environment result in changes to the natural ecosystem.

IMS have also proven economically damaging to areas where they have been introduced and established. Such impacts include direct damage to assets (fouling of vessel hulls and infrastructure) and depletion of commercially harvested marine life (e.g. shellfish stocks). IMS have proven particularly difficult to eradicate from areas once established. If the introduction is detected early, eradication may be effective but is likely to be expensive, disruptive and, depending on the method of eradication, harmful to other local marine life.

While LWIV and Project vessels have the potential to introduce IMS into the Operational Area, the deep offshore open waters of the Operational Area (80 m), away from shorelines and/or critical habitat, more than 12 nm from shore, mean the Operational Area is not conducive to the settlement and establishment of IMS. Given this, the likelihood of IMS being introduced and establishing viable populations is low.

**Summary of Potential Impacts to Environmental Values(s)**

Given the adopted controls and the remote likelihood of the introduction, establishment and impact of an IMS occurring within the Operational Area, IMS is considered to only present a slight potential impact to marine ecosystems or habitats.

IMS Introduction Location	Credibility of Introduction	Consequence of Introduction	Likelihood
Introduced to operational area and establishment on the seafloor or subsea structures	<b>Not Credible</b> The deep offshore open waters of the Operational Areas, away from shorelines and/or critical habitat, more than 12 nm from a shore and in waters greater than 80 m deep are not conducive to the settlement and establishment of IMS.		
Introduced to operational area and establishment on a project vessel (i.e. LWIV, activity support vessels)	<b>Credible</b> There is potential for the transfer of marine pests between project vessels within the operational area.	<b>Reputation and Brand – D<sup>2</sup></b> If IMS were to establish on a project vessel (i.e. LWIV, activity support vessels) this would potentially result in fouling of intakes (depending on the pest introduced), transfer of pests to other support vessels would likely result in the quarantine of the vessel until eradication could occur (through cleaning and treatment of infected areas), which would be costly to undertake.  Such introduction would be expected to have minor impact to Woodside’s reputation and brand, particularly with Woodside’s contractors and would likely have a reputational impact on future proposals.	<b>Remote (0)</b> Interactions between project vessel will be limited during the Petroleum Activity Program, with 500 m safety exclusion zones being adhered to around the LWIV, and interactions limited short periods of time There is also no direct contact (i.e. they are not tied up alongside) during these activities.  Spread of marine pests via ballast water or spawning in these open ocean environments is also considered remote.
Transfer between project vessels and by extension	<b>Not Credible</b>		

<sup>2</sup> Note – the translocation of IMS from an “infected” project vessel to shallower environments via natural dispersion is not considered credible given the distances of the operational area from nearshore environments (ie 12nm/50 water depth).

<p>from project vessels to other marine environments beyond the operational area (i.e. transfer of IMS from LWIV to an activity support vessel and then to another environment).</p>	<p>This risk is considered so remote that it is not credible for the purposes of the activity. The transfer of a marine pest between project vessels was already considered remote given the offshore open ocean environment (i.e. transfer pathway discussed above). For a marine pest to then establish into a mature spawning population on the new project vessel (which would have been through Woodside's IMS process) and then transfer to another environment is not considered credible (i.e. beyond the Woodside risk matrix). Project vessels will be located in an offshore, open ocean, deep environment, where IMS survival is implausible. Furthermore, this marine pest once transferred would need to survive on a new vessel with good vessel hygiene (i.e. has been through Woodside's risk assessment process) and survive the transport back from the operational area to shore. In the event it was to survive this trip, it would then need to establish a viable population in nearshore waters.</p> <p>It is also noted that Woodside has been conducting marine vessel movements between offshore activities and ports (such as Dampier) for a long period of time, and no IMS has been detected in these ports.</p>
<b>Summary of Control Measures</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• all project vessels will undertake ballast water exchange or treat ballast water using an approved ballast water treatment system</li><li>• Woodside's IMS risk assessment process will be applied to project vessels which enter the Operational Areas.</li></ul>	

## **APPENDIX B: CONTROL MITIGATION MEASURES FOR POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH SPILL RESPONSE ACTIVITIES**

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Response activities can introduce new impacts and risks. Therefore, it is necessary to complete an environmental risk assessment process to ensure impacts and risks from response activities have been considered, practical control measures are in place to minimise impacts and risks to ALARP. A simplified assessment process has been used to complete this task which covers the identification, analysis, evaluation and treatment of impacts and risks introduced by responding to the event.

**Identification of impacts and risks from implementing response strategies**

Each of the control measures can modify the impacts and risks identified in the EP. These impacts and risks have been previously assessed within the scope of the EP. Refer to the EP for details regarding how these risks are being managed. They are not discussed further in this document.

- atmospheric emissions
- routine and non-routine discharges
- physical presence, proximity to other vessels (shipping and fisheries)
- routine acoustic emissions vessels
- lighting for night work/navigational safety
- invasive marine species
- collision with marine fauna
- disturbance to seabed.

Additional impacts and risks associated with the control measures not included within the scope of the EP but discussed below include:

- additional drilling impacts from relief well drilling
- additional stress or injury caused to wildlife.

**Analysis of impacts and risks from implementing response strategies**

Table B-1 compares the adopted control measures for this activity against the environmental values that can be affected when they are implemented.

**Table B1 Analysis of risks and impacts**

Adopted response Strategies	Environmental Value						
	Soil and groundwater	Marine sediment quality	Water quality	Air Quality	Ecosystems/Habitat	Species	Socio-economic
Monitor and Evaluate							
Source Control		X	X		X		
Oiled Wildlife						X	
Scientific Monitoring							

**Evaluation of impacts and risks from implementing response strategies**

**Drill cuttings and Drilling Fluids Environmental Impact Assessment for Relief Well Drilling**



The identified effects associated with the discharge of drill cuttings and fluids during a relief well drilling activity include a localised reduction in water and seabed sediment quality, and potential localised changes to benthic biota (habitats and communities). A number of direct and indirect ecological effect pathways are identified for drill cuttings and drilling fluids as follows:

- temporary increase in total suspended solids (TSS) in the water column
- attenuation of light penetration as an indirect consequence of the elevation of TSS and the rate of sedimentation
- sediment deposition to the seabed leading to the alteration of the physico-chemical composition of sediments, and burial and potential smothering effects to sessile benthic biota
- potential contamination and toxicity effects to benthic and in-water biota from drilling fluids

Effects from the discharge of cuttings range from the complete burial of benthic biota in the immediate vicinity of the well site due to sediment deposition, smothering effects from raised sedimentation concentrations as a result of elevated Total Suspended Solids (TSS), changes to the physico-chemical properties of the seabed sediments (particle size distribution and potential for reduction in oxygen levels within the surface sediments due to organic matter degradation by aerobic bacteria) and subsequent changes to the composition of infauna communities to minor sediment loading above background and no associated ecological effects. Predicted impacts are generally confined to within a few hundred metres of the discharge point (International Association of Oil and Gas Producers 2016) (ie within the ZoC for a hydrocarbon spill event).

The discharge of drill cuttings and unrecoverable fluids from relief well drilling is expected to increase turbidity and TSS levels in the water column, leading to an increased sedimentation rate above ambient levels associated with the settlement of suspended sediment particles in close proximity to the seabed or below sea surface, depending on location of discharge. Cuttings with retained (unrecoverable) drilling fluids are discharged below the water line at the MODU location, resulting in drill cuttings and drilling fluids rapidly diluting, as they disperse and settle through the water column. The dispersion and fate of the cuttings is determined by particle size and density of the retained (unrecoverable) drilling fluids, therefore, the sediment particles will primarily settle in proximity to the well locations with potential for localised spread downstream (depending on the speed of currents throughout the water column and seabed) (IOGP 2016). The finer particles will remain in suspension and will be transported further before settling on the seabed.

These conclusions were supported by discharge modelling which was undertaken by Woodside in support of the Greater Enfield Development Environment Plan (Woodside Doc # V1000RF1400289174). Modelling results indicating that the TSS plume of suspended cuttings will typically disperse to the south-west while oscillating with the tide and diminish rapidly with increasing distance from the well locations. Maximum TSS concentrations predicted for 100 m; 250 m and 1 km distances from the wellsite were 7, 5 and 1 mg/L, respectively. Furthermore, water column concentrations below 10 mg/L remain within 235 m of the discharge location for each modelled well. For all well discharge locations (outside of direct discharge sites), TSS concentration did not exceed 10 mg/l. Nelson et al. (2016) identified <10 mg/L as a no effect or sub-lethal minimal effect concentration. The low sensitivity of the deepwater benthic communities/habitats within and in the vicinity of relief well locations, combined with the relatively low toxicity of Water Based Muds (WBM) and Non-Water Based Muds (NWBMs), no bulk discharges of NWBM and the highly localised nature and scale of predicted physical impacts to seabed biota indicate that any localised impact would likely be of a slight magnitude (especially when considering the broader consequence of the LOC event a relief well drilling activity would be responding too).

#### **Additional stress or injury caused to wildlife**

Additional stress or injury to wildlife could be caused through the following phases of a response:

- capturing wildlife
- transporting wildlife
- stabilisation of wildlife
- cleaning and rinsing of oiled wildlife
- rehabilitation (e.g. diet, cage size, housing density)
- release of treated wildlife.

Inefficient capture techniques have the potential to cause undue stress, exhaustion or injury to wildlife, additionally pre-emptive capture could cause undue stress and impacts to wildlife when there are uncertainties in the forecast trajectory of the spill. During the transportation and stabilisation phases there is the potential for additional thermoregulation stress on captured wildlife. Additionally, during the cleaning process, it is important personnel undertaking the tasks are familiar with the relevant techniques to ensure that further injury and the removal of water proofing feathers are managed and mitigated. Finally, during the release phase it's important that wildlife is not released back into a contaminated environment.

### **Treatment of impacts and risks from implementing response strategies**

In respect of the impacts and risks assessed the following treatment measures have been adopted. It must be recognised that this environmental assessment is seeking to identify how to maintain the level of impact and risks at levels that are ALARP rather than exploring further impact and risk reduction. It is for this reason that the treatment measures identified in this assessment will be captured in Operational Plans, Tactical Response Plans, and/or First Strike Response Plans.

### **Drill cuttings and Drilling Fluids Environmental Impact Assessment for Relief Well Drilling**

Relief well activities will be conducted to regain control of the well. The environmental effects associated with drilling the relief well are very low in comparison to any ongoing release of hydrocarbons to the environment. Control measures used to reduce impacts and risks from these activities will be implemented as they would be for any other drilling activities Woodside were to undertake.

**Additional stress or injury caused to wildlife** Operations conducted with advice from the DBCA Oiled Wildlife Advisor and in accordance with the processes and methodologies described in the WA Oiled Wildlife Response Plan (OWRP) and the relevant regional plan.

## **APPENDIX C: SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK AND WOODSIDE'S RESPONSE**

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### Relevant Stakeholder feedback for the Petroleum Activities Program

Organisation	Method	Feedback	Woodside assessment	Woodside's response
Department of Industry, Innovation and Science	Email with Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.	<b>Feedback summary:</b> No response at the closing time for stakeholder feedback on 17 January 2019.	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> Woodside will continue to accept feedback from all stakeholders during the assessment of this EP and throughout the duration of the accepted EP.
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety	Email with Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.	<b>Date:</b> 18 January 2019 <b>Feedback summary:</b> The Department acknowledged Woodside's advice and had no feedback to provide on the activity. The Department sought additional information on whether the Wanaea-03 leak was internal to the well or if the well was leaking externally. <b>Date:</b> 12 February 2019 <b>Feedback summary:</b> The Department acknowledged Woodside's response and had no further comment. The Department also requested advice from Woodside on commencement and cessation of the activity.	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> Woodside emailed DMIRS on 12 February 2019 providing additional information on the leak, which was last observed in 21014, adding that the weep and remediation requirements were outlined in a NOPSEMA-accepted WOMP.  Woodside also notes the Department's request to be advised upon commencement and cessation of the activity.

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Organisation	Method	Feedback	Woodside assessment	Woodside's response
<p>Australian Maritime Safety Authority</p>	<p>Email with vessel traffic map and Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.</p>	<p><b>Date:</b> 20 December 2019  <b>Feedback summary:</b>                      AMSA thanked Woodside for its advice and provided for interest a vessel traffic plot of the area, noting that there would be much support craft activity within the Wanaea and Okha FPSO charted cautionary area throughout the duration of Woodside's activities.                      AMSA requested that for each activity, the Subsea Support vessel should notify AMSA's Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) through rccaus@amsa.gov.au (Phone: 1800 641 792 or +61 2 6230 6811) for promulgation of radio-navigation warnings 24-48 hours before operations commence.                      AMSA confirmed that the JRCC will require the vessel details (including name, callsign and Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI)), satellite communications details (including INMARSAT-C and satellite telephone), area of operation, requested clearance from other vessels</p>	<p>The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.</p>	<p><b>Response/Action:</b>                      Support vessels to notify AMSA's Joint Rescue Coordination Centre for promulgation of radio-navigation warnings 24-48 hours before operations commence in line with requirements requested by AMSA.</p>

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Organisation	Method	Feedback	Woodside assessment	Woodside's response
		and advice when operations start and end.		
Australian Hydrographic Office	Email with Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.	<p><b>Date:</b> 19 December 2018</p> <p><b>Feedback summary:</b> AHO acknowledged it had received Woodside's advice and it would register, assess, prioritise and validate data in preparation for updating its Navigational Charting products.</p>	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> No further action.
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	Email with State fisheries map and Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.	<p><b>Date:</b> 8 January 2019</p> <p><b>Feedback summary:</b> Department acknowledged Woodside's advice and provided by letter the following feedback: Consider Pilbara Line fishery in addition to fisheries identified by Woodside Maintain ongoing consultation with WAFIC, Recfishwest and directly to fishers. Include specific start and end dates of activities, and spatial extent (including exclusion zones) Identify risks to seabed disturbance and underwater noise and develop mitigation strategies to reduce impacts Request for remediation not to occur during spawning periods</p>	<p>Woodside acknowledged and addressed the stakeholder's feedback by: Engaging Pilbara Line Fishery licence holders by way of email and mail on 4 February 2019. A letter to the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development on 21 February 2019, addressing all feedback items, these being: Fishing activities in the region Remediation activities Biosecurity Oil pollution emergency plans Expectation/Purpose/Implementation</p>	<b>Response/Action:</b> No further action.

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Organisation	Method	Feedback	Woodside assessment	Woodside's response
		<p>key species in the North Coast Bioregion</p> <p>Minimise the risk for translocating marine pests into or within WA waters</p> <p>Report suspected or confirmed presence of marine pests or disease within 24 hours to the Department, and ensure vessel and asset operators and personnel are aware of the reporting requirements</p> <p>Ensure oil pollution emergency plans outlined in the EP are reviewed to mitigate impacts on spawning grounds and nursery areas for key species in the area</p> <p>Request Woodside collect baseline marine data to compare against and post-spill monitoring data and that this data is made available to the Department upon request</p> <p>All feedback provided by the Department and Woodside's associated mitigation strategies are specifically identified in the EP</p> <p>Department's advice is valid for the activity, but reserves the right for further consultation in the event of significant or relevant changes</p>		

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Organisation	Method	Feedback	Woodside assessment	Woodside's response
		affecting fisheries management		
Commonwealth Fisheries Association	Email with Commonwealth fisheries map and Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.	<b>Feedback summary:</b> No response at the closing time for stakeholder feedback on 17 January 2019.	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> Woodside will continue to accept feedback from all stakeholders during the assessment of this EP and throughout the duration of the accepted EP.
Western Australian Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC)	Email with State fisheries map and Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.	<b>Date:</b> 18 December 2018 <b>Feedback summary:</b> WAFIC acknowledged Woodside's advice and sought further advice if the 500 m exclusion zones were in place during the remediation activities and would be removed following the completion of activities for ongoing open access.	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> Woodside advised by email on 19 December 2018 that the exclusion zone would apply only around the remediation vessel and only when it is in the field. No ongoing exclusion zones will be in place with regard to this activity once it is completed. Notices will also be issued as part of notice to mariners from AHS in advance of the vessel being there.
Department of Transport	Email with Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.	<b>Date:</b> 2 January 2019 <b>Feedback summary:</b> The Department requested that it be consulted in line with the Department of Transport Offshore Petroleum Industry	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> Email on 4 January 2019 acknowledging request and for Guidance Note to be shared with relevant Woodside staff.

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Organisation	Method	Feedback	Woodside assessment	Woodside's response
		Guidance Note – Marine Oil Pollution: Response and Consultation Arrangements (September 2018) as it appeared there was a risk of a spill impacting State waters from the proposed activities.		
Director of National Parks	Email with Information Sheet sent on 11 February 2019	<b>Feedback summary:</b> No response at the closing time for stakeholder feedback at time of EP submission.	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> Woodside will continue to accept feedback from all stakeholders during the assessment of this EP and throughout the duration of the accepted EP.
Quadrant North West	Email with titleholder map and Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.	<b>Date:</b> 2 January 2019 <b>Feedback summary:</b> Santos (formerly Quadrant) was not aware of any planned activities in neighbouring permits in 2019. Santos requested an update prior to commencement and to identify any update to activities in WA-208-P, WA-48-R and WA-1-P.	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> Woodside advised by email on 2 January that it committed to ongoing consultation with Santos.
Western Australian Fisheries - Mackerel Fishery - Pearl Oyster - Specimen Shell - Marine Aquarium Fish	Letter with State fisheries map and Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.	<b>Feedback summary:</b> No response at the closing time for stakeholder feedback on 17 January 2019.	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> Woodside will continue to accept feedback from all stakeholders during the assessment of this EP and throughout the duration of the accepted EP.

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Organisation	Method	Feedback	Woodside assessment	Woodside's response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Onslow Prawn</li> <li>- Pilbara Fish Trawl</li> <li>- Pilbara Fish Trap</li> </ul>				
Western Australian Fisheries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pilbara Line Fishery</li> </ul>	Emails and letter with State fisheries map and Information Sheet following advice from DPIRD on fishery engagement sent on 4 February 2019, providing additional time for provision of feedback.	<b>Feedback summary:</b> No response at the updated closing time for stakeholder feedback on 4 February 2019.	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> Woodside will continue to accept feedback from all stakeholders during the assessment of this EP and throughout the duration of the accepted EP.
Commonwealth Fisheries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- North West Slope Fishery</li> <li>- Western Skipjack Fishery</li> <li>- Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery</li> <li>- Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery</li> </ul>	Email sent to Commonwealth Fisheries Association with Commonwealth fisheries map and Information Sheet sent on 18 December 2018.	<b>Feedback summary:</b> No response at the closing time for stakeholder feedback on 17 January 2019.	The stakeholder raised no claims or objections.	<b>Response/Action:</b> Woodside will continue to accept feedback from all stakeholders during the assessment of this EP and throughout the duration of the accepted EP.

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