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gorgon gas development gorgon and jansz wellhead decommissioning environment plan

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Approvals

	Name	Signature	Date
Author:	Dylan Benson HSE Advisor		
Checked:	Shannon Dolbel HSE Regulatory Approvals Advisor		
Approved:	Shane Waldeck HSE Regulatory Affairs Team Lead		
Approved:	Brendon Dawson Legal Counsel		
Approved:	Ian Nott Wells Manager		

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1 environment plan summary

This *Gorgon and Jansz Wellhead Decommissioning Environment Plan Summary* (Table 1-1) has been prepared from material provided in this Environment Plan (EP), and as required by regulation 11(4) of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009 (Commonwealth [Cth]) (OPGGS(E)R).

Table 1-1: Environment Plan summary

Regulation	EP summary material requirement	Relevant section of the EP
11(4)(a)(i)	the location of the activity	Section 2.3, Section 4.1.1
11(4)(a)(ii)	a description of the receiving environment	Section 5
11(4)(a)(iii)	a description of the activity	Section 4
11(4)(a)(iv)	details of environmental impacts and risks	Section 8
11(4)(a)(v)	a summary of the control measures for the activity	Section 8
11(4)(a)(vi)	a summary of the arrangements for ongoing monitoring of the titleholder's environmental performance	Section 9
11(4)(a)(vii)	a summary of the response arrangements in the oil pollution emergency plan	Section 9.3.7
11(4)(a)(viii)	details of consultation already undertaken, and plans for ongoing consultation	Section 7
11(4)(a)(ix)	details of the titleholder's nominated liaison person for the activity	Section 2.4

^ *An evaluation (Section 9.3.7) determined that there is no credible spill risks associated with the petroleum activity, and as such there is no oil pollution emergency plan (OPEP) associated with this EP.*

2 introduction

2.1 Overview

In 2009 petroleum titles WA-36-L, WA-37-L, WA-38-L, WA-39-L, and WA-40-L were transferred to the Gorgon Joint Venturers, and Chevron Australia Pty Ltd (CAPL) became the nominated titleholder. Some of these titles included legacy appraisal wells that had previously been managed by West Australian Petroleum (WAPET), Mobil Exploration and Producing Australia Pty Ltd (MEPA), ExxonMobil, or CAPL. All legacy wells were plugged and abandoned, with wellheads left in situ during well abandonment by the previous operators (refer to Section 2.2 and Section 4.2.1).

Section 572(3) of the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* (Cth) (OPGGS Act) requires a titleholder to remove all property that is within the title area and is neither used nor to be used in connection with the operations authorised by the title. The removal of all property and the plugging and abandonment of wells is considered the 'base case' requirement under the OPGGS Act (DISER 2022). Titleholders may deviate from the base case requirement to remove property if it can be demonstrated that an alternative decommissioning approach delivers equal or better environmental outcomes compared to complete property removal, and meets all applicable requirements under the OPGGS Act and regulations, including well integrity and safety-related matters, and other applicable laws (DISER 2022).

This EP has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the OPGGS Act and OPGGS(E)R as administered and for regulatory acceptance by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environment Management Authority (NOPSEMA). An assessment of decommissioning approaches for the legacy wells within scope of this EP has been undertaken (Section 3). This options assessment determined that leaving the wellheads in situ provides an equal or better environmental outcome compared to the base case.

This EP demonstrates that leaving the wellheads in situ delivers equal or better environmental outcomes and meets all regulatory requirements. The EP documents the assessment and management of potential environmental impacts and risks associated with legacy wellheads remaining in situ within Commonwealth waters including that impacts and risks associated with leaving the wellheads in situ are as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP).

Deviations from the property removal requirement of section 572(3) may be agreed to by NOPSEMA through permissioning documents (NOPSEMA 2020). Acceptance of an EP is the instrument approved under the OPGGS(E)R that enlivens section 572 (7) of the OPGGS Act. As the alternative of leaving the wellheads in situ provides an equal or better environmental outcome compared with the complete removal base case, and the impacts and risks associated with leaving the wellheads in situ has been demonstrated to be ALARP and acceptable, CAPL are seeking a deviation to the section 572(3) of the OPGGS Act via the acceptance of this EP to leave the wellheads in situ.

2.2 Scope

In 2022 CAPL completed an investigation to determine the presence of any non-operated subsea assets within the Gorgon Joint Ventures petroleum titles[1]. This

[1] As per Section 3.6.4 of the NOPSEMA-accepted *Gorgon and Jansz Feed Gas Pipeline and Wells Operations (Commonwealth Water) Environment Plan* (CAPL 2022).

investigation identified five non-operated assets, of which all were previous plugged and abandoned appraisal wells, with abandonment undertaken consistent and compliant with permissioning documents in place at the time.

This EP addresses leaving the following wellheads in situ within Commonwealth waters (the 'petroleum activity'):

- North Gorgon-2 (within WA-37-L)
- Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4 (within WA-36-L).

The following activities are excluded from the scope of this EP:

- wellhead in situ decommissioning at Io-2 (within WA-40-L), which was covered under the NOPSEMA-accepted 2013-2016 Exmouth Plateau / Greater Gorgon Deepwater Drilling Program Environment Plan (CAPL 2018)2.

This EP closes out the legacy non-operated assets within Gorgon Joint Ventures petroleum titles.

2.3 Location

The North Gorgon-2 well is located within production licence WA-37-L, ~135 km off the northwest coast of Western Australia (WA), and ~70 km northwest of Barrow Island (Figure 2-1, Table 2-1). North Gorgon-2 is located ~7 km north of the nearest operational wells within the Gorgon gas field.

The Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4 wells are located within production licence WA-36-L, ~200–220 km off the northwest coast of WA, ~130–150 km northwest of Barrow Island, and in water depths of ~1,300–1,350 m (Figure 2-1, Table 2-1). The Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4 wells are ~20 km northwest, ~1 km northeast, and ~0.1 km northwest, respectively, of the nearest operational wells within the Jansz–Io gas field.

Table 2-1: Coordinates and water depths of legacy wells

Well	Petroleum title	Latitude	Longitude	Approximate water depth
North Gorgon-2	WA-37-L	-20.347092	114.854914	247 m
Jansz-2	WA-36-L	-19.718611	114.381944	1,347 m
Jansz-3	WA-36-L	-19.820182	114.577508	1,340 m
Jansz-4	WA-36-L	-19.852478	114.514175	1,313 m

Coordinates provided in WGS84. Water depths with reference to mean sea level (MSL).

[2] Activities under this EP have been completed and the notification of completion has been accepted by NOPSEMA as per the requirements of Regulation 25A of the OPGGS(E)R.

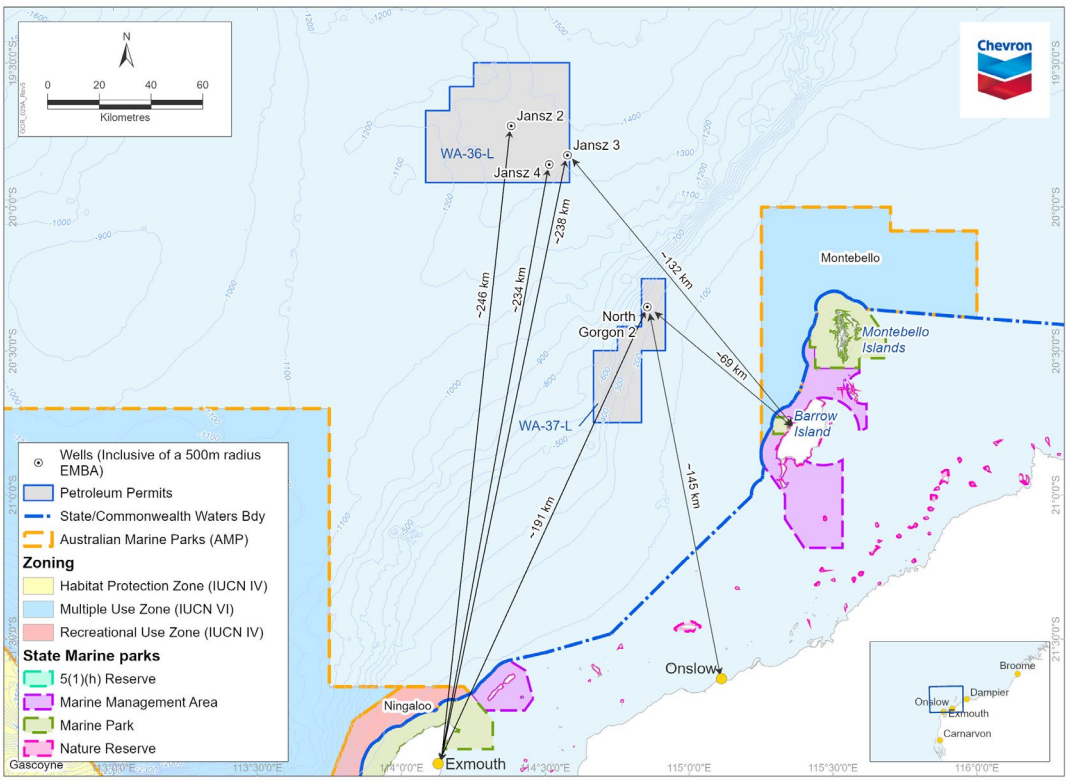


Figure 2-1: Location of North Gorgon-2, Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4,

2.4 Titleholder details

CAPL is the nominated titleholder of production licences WA-36-L and WA-37-L on behalf of the titleholder companies listed in Table 2-2. The contact details for the titleholders' nominated liaison person for this EP are listed in Table 2-3.

Regulation 15(3) of the OPGGS(E)R requires that CAPL notifies NOPSEMA of a change in the titleholder, a change to the titleholder's nominated liaison person, or a change in the contact details for either the titleholder or the nominated liaison person.

Regulation 286A of the OPGGS Act requires notification is provided to NOPSEMA and the National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator (NOPTA) if there is a change to one of the registered titleholders or contact details for the registered titleholders; this notification is to occur within 30 days of such a change.

Table 2-2: Titleholder details

Titles	Detail	Titleholders	Nominated titleholder	Address
WA-36-L	Production Licence	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd Mobil Australia Resources Company Pty Limited Shell Australia Pty Ltd Osaka Gas Gorgon Pty Ltd Tokyo Gas Gorgon Pty Ltd JERA Gorgon Pty Ltd	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd (ACN: 086 197 757)	250 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000
WA-37-L	Production Licence			

Table 2-3: Titleholders' nominated liaison person

Position	HSE Regulatory Affairs Team Lead
Company	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd
ACN	086 197 757
Business Address	1 The Esplanade, Perth WA 6000
Telephone	+61 8 9216 4000
Email	ABUEnvPlanInfo@chevron.com

2.5 Environmental management framework

CAPL's operations are managed in accordance with Chevron Corporation's Operational Excellence Management System (OEMS), which is described in Section 9.

2.5.1 Environmental policy

CAPL's commitment to environmental management in all aspects of operations is documented in Chevron Corporation's Operational Excellence (OE) Policy 530 (Appendix 1).

2.5.2 Relevant requirements

In accordance with regulation 13(4) of the OPGGS(E)R, the legislative requirements that apply to the petroleum activity and are relevant to the environmental management of the activity are provided in Table 2-4. No other (non-legislative) requirements relevant to the environmental management of the activity were identified.

Table 2-4: Commonwealth legislative requirements

Legislation	Description	Requirements relevant to the risks associated with the petroleum activity	Demonstration of how requirements are met
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) EPBC Regulations 2000	Provides for the protection and management of nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities, and heritage places	This EP must describe matters protected under Part 3 of the EPBC Act and assess any impacts and risks to these protected matters	Section 5, and Section 8
Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981	This act addresses Australia's obligations under the London Protocol and regulates the loading and dumping of waste at sea and the placement of artificial reefs within Australian Waters	Consultation with DCCEEW has confirmed that a sea dumping permit will be required for the wellheads to remain in situ on the seabed. CAPL will fulfil all obligations under the *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981* by applying for a sea	Section 7

Legislation	Description	Requirements relevant to the risks associated with the petroleum activity	Demonstration of how requirements are met
		dumping permit(s) for the wellheads	
OPGGS Act OPGGS(E)R	The OPGGS(E)R under the OPGGS Act requires a titleholder to have an accepted EP in place prior to commencement of a petroleum activity. The regulations ensure petroleum activities are undertaken in an ecologically sustainable manner in accordance with an EP	An EP for a petroleum activity must be accepted by NOPSEMA before activities commence	This EP
Underwater Cultural Heritage Act 2018	Provides protection for shipwrecks, sunken aircraft and other cultural heritage sites in Australian waters	Identification of the presence of protected cultural heritage sites and assessment of any impacts and risks to these sites	Section 5, and Section 8

3 decommissioning options assessment

3.1 Requirements

Under section 270(3)(c) of the OPGGS Act, before a title can be surrendered, all property brought into a title area must be removed or arrangements that are satisfactory to NOPSEMA must be made in relation to the property.
Section 572(3) of the OPGGS Act requires a titleholder to remove all property that is within the title area and is neither used nor to be used in connection with the operations authorised by the title. Titleholders may deviate from the base case requirement to remove property if it can be demonstrated that an alternative decommissioning approach delivers equal or better environmental outcomes compared to complete property removal.

The Offshore Petroleum Decommissioning Guideline (DISER 2022) clarifies that the base case is complete removal of all equipment and property. Options other than complete removal may be considered, however the titleholder must demonstrate that the alternative decommissioning approach delivers equal or better environmental outcomes compared to complete removal and meets all applicable requirements under the OPGGS Act and regulations, including well integrity and safety related matters, and other applicable laws.

3.2 Infrastructure overview

Infrastructure remaining on or above the seabed is summarised in Table 3-1. The wellheads and corrosion caps (where present) are comprised of mild steel. Mild steel is mainly comprised of iron (~98%) with small amounts of other elements (Table 3-2). The weight of steel comprising each wellhead is estimated to be up to ~8,500 kg. Surface coatings and paints are expected to have been used on the wellheads for corrosion protection and are likely to be zinc-oxide based, given the age of the wellheads. Approximately 5–6 kg of surface coatings and paints is estimated per wellhead. Small amounts (~0.75 kg per wellhead) of elastomeric materials such as Teflon and Viton are expected to have been used in seal componentry. Each wellhead and associated infrastructure covers an area of ~ 3 m x3 m.

In relation to the three Jansz wells, no chemicals or hazardous materials remain within the well or casing annulus above permanent cement plug barriers. For these wells, the fluids in the well above the cement plugs is seawater (or inhibited seawater). For the North Gorgon-2 well the fluid in the well above the cement plugs is water-based mud. The fluids in the casing annulus above the cement plug for all wells is freshwater. There is no credible risk of fluids below the permanent cement plug barriers being released to the marine environment.

Table 3-1: Wellheads and associated infrastructure

Infrastructure	North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3	Jansz-4
Wellhead	In place	In place	In place	In place
Wellhead corrosion cap	In place	N/A	N/A	In place
Guide base	In place	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mud mat	N/A	In place	In place	In place
Shallowest feature	~3.1 m above mudline (corrosion cap)	~3.5 m above mudline (wellhead)	~3.6 m above mudline (wellhead)	~4.0 m above mudline (corrosion cap)

Table 3-2: Typical content of mild steel

Element	Content (% weight)
Iron	~98
Carbon	<0.2
Manganese	0.3–1.6
Phosphorus	0.03–0.04
Sulfur	0.03–0.05
Nickel	0–0.01
Copper	0–0.55

Source: (Xometry 2022)

3.3 Options assessment process

3.3.1 Identify feasible options

CAPL undertook a decommissioning options assessment for the North Gorgon-2, Jansz-2, Jansz-2, and Jansz-4 wellheads to determine if an alternative decommissioning approach would provide equal or better environmental outcomes compared to complete removal of the wellheads and associated infrastructure.

CAPL identified the following decommissioning options:

- removal of all property (base case)
- leave property in situ (alternative)
- leave property in situ with a cover (alternative).

In relation to the leave property in situ with a cover alternative, this option is technically feasible, and the benefit associated with the installation of a cover (e.g. over-trawl structure, wellhead cap, rock dumping etc.) on the wellhead is the potential reduction in snagging and navigational hazard risks. However, the installation of a cover may only reduce and not remove the navigational hazard posed by the wellhead, and could potentially increase these risks due to the resulting increased profile above seabed. As each wellhead will remain marked on nautical charts and because commercial fishing effort at each wellhead location is low and an increase in fishing effort is not projected in the near term, any wellhead cover was considered to potentially provide only incidental benefit or potentially increase navigational hazard risk. It was determined that this alternative would not be of greater benefit than the in situ alternative. Therefore, this decommissioning alternative is not evaluated further.

The two remaining options (i.e. base case, and the leave property in situ alternative) were considered feasible, and as such a qualitative comparative assessment has been undertaken by CAPL to identify the impacts and risks associated with each.

3.3.2 Assessment criteria

The decommissioning options assessment process was based on evaluations of: environment and social, technical feasibility, health and safety, and economical criteria.

The criteria and specific sub-criteria used for the options assessment are detailed in Table 3-3.

Table 3-3: Options assessment criteria

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Description
Environment and social	Seabed disturbance	Qualitative evaluation of the extent of disturbance to seabed and risk to cultural heritage values
	Changes to water or sediment quality	Qualitative evaluation of potential changes to water or sediment quality
	Air emissions	Qualitative evaluation of air emissions associated with offshore operations
	Light emissions	Qualitative evaluation of light emissions associated with offshore operations
	Underwater sound	Qualitative evaluation of underwater sound associated with offshore operations
	Planned discharges	Qualitative evaluation of planned discharges associated with offshore operations
	Unplanned interaction with marine fauna	Qualitative evaluation of unplanned interaction with marine fauna associated with offshore operations and risk to cultural heritage values
	Unplanned release (minor loss of containment [LOC])	Qualitative evaluation of unplanned release (minor LOC) associated with vessel and support activities
	Introduced marine species (IMS)	Qualitative evaluation of the risk of an introduction of IMS associated with offshore operations
	Unplanned release of waste (hazardous or non-hazardous) from a vessel	Qualitative evaluation of unplanned release of hazardous or non-hazardous waste (including the dropped objects) associated with offshore operations
	Unplanned hydrocarbon release (from an emergency event)	Qualitative evaluation of unplanned hydrocarbon release from an emergency event (e.g. vessel collision, loss of well integrity) associated with offshore operations and risk to cultural heritage values
	Ecological benefit or enhancement	Qualitative evaluation of any potential benefit from not disturbing a habitat that may have established on the infrastructure while in situ
	Release of contaminants to marine environment from wellhead infrastructure	Qualitative evaluation of the release of contaminants to marine environment from long-term presence of the wellhead infrastructure remaining in situ and degrading over time
	Risk to other marine users (from physical presence of infrastructure)	Qualitative evaluation of the potential displacement of commercial fisheries or affecting their catch volume due to long-term presence of the wellhead infrastructure (i.e. risk of interaction with infrastructure)
Technical feasibility	Engineering and execution complexity	The extent to which the option requires the use of proven technology. The ability to recover from unplanned excursions and complete the planned option
Health and safety	Health and safety risk to project personnel	Health and safety risks to company-related personnel associated with offshore operations

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Description
	Risk to other marine users (from physical presence of infrastructure)	Health and safety risks to marine users such as commercial vessels, fishers, and members of the public
Economics	Cost	Operational costs

For each of the above criteria and sub-criteria, relative rankings (i.e. most preferred to least preferred) were developed to provide a decision matrix for the assessment (Table 3-4).

Timeframes relevant to the impact or risk were considered as follows:

- short-term—impact or risk during execution of decommissioning operations (such as when vessels are in the field)
- long-term—impact or risk beyond short-term, which may occur following the completion of decommissioning option activity, until infrastructure has been determined to be completely degraded.

3.4 Options assessment

The evaluation of the two decommissioning approaches against each of the sub-criteria is presented in Table 3-5.

Table 3-4: Decision matrix for decommissioning options assessment

Activity phase	Sub-criteria	Preference Ranking		
		Most	Mid	Least
Environment and social				
During execution	Seabed disturbance	• none or minor disturbance to seabed • no impact or low risk to cultural activities, connections, or obligations • no impact or low risk to community livelihoods, property, or cultural assets	• moderate disturbance to seabed • low to moderate impact or moderate risk to cultural activities, connections, or obligations • low to moderate impact or moderate risk to community livelihoods, property, or cultural assets	• extensive disturbance to seabed • high impact or risk to cultural activities, connections, or obligations • high impact or risk to community livelihoods, property, or cultural assets
	Changes to water or sediment quality	• low impact or risk to water quality and/or sediment quality • potential for localised and short-term effects	• moderate impact or risk to water quality and/or sediment quality • potential for localised and long-term, or widespread and short-term effects	• high impact or risk to water quality and/or sediment quality • potential effects widespread and long-term effects
	Air emissions	• no or low volume of emissions, corresponding with short campaign duration (no or low number of days)	• moderate volume of emissions, corresponding with moderate campaign duration (weeks)	• high volume of emissions, corresponding with moderate campaign duration (months)
	Light emissions	• no or low risk associated with artificial light emissions • potential for localised and short-term effects to marine fauna	• moderate risk associated with artificial light emissions • potential for localised and long-term, or widespread and short-term effects to marine fauna	• high risk associated with artificial light emissions • potential effects widespread and long-term effects to marine fauna
	Underwater sound	• no or low risk of underwater sound emissions	• moderate risk of underwater sound emissions	• high risk of underwater sound emissions • potential effects widespread and long-term effects to marine fauna

Activity phase	Sub-criteria	Preference Ranking		
		Most	Mid	Least
		• potential for localised and short-term effects to marine fauna	• potential for localised and long-term, or widespread and short-term effects to marine fauna	
	Planned discharges	• no or low risk associated with planned discharges • potential for localised and short-term effects	• moderate risk associated with planned discharges • potential for localised and long-term, or widespread and short-term effects	• high risk associated with planned discharges • potential effects widespread and long-term effects
	Unplanned interaction with marine fauna	• no or low risk of marine fauna interaction that could result in injury or death of a protected species	• moderate risk of marine fauna interaction that could result in injury or death of a protected species	• high risk of marine fauna interaction that could result in injury or death of a protected species
	Unplanned release (minor LOC)	• no or low risk associated with release of hazardous or non-hazardous materials (including dropped objects, etc.)	• moderate risk associated with release of hazardous or non-hazardous materials (including dropped objects, etc.)	• high risk associated with release of hazardous or non-hazardous materials (including dropped objects, etc.)
	IMS	• no or low risk of introduction of IMS	• moderate risk of introduction of IMS	• high risk of introduction of IMS
	Unplanned release of waste (hazardous or non-hazardous) from a vessel	• no or low risk associated with release of hazardous or non-hazardous solid waste from a vessel; or potential for an unplanned release that results in localized and short-term effects	• moderate risk associated with release of hazardous or non-hazardous solid waste from a vessel; or potential for an unplanned release that results in localised and long-term, or widespread and short-term effects	• high risk associated with release of hazardous or non-hazardous materials solid waste from a vessel; or potential for an unplanned release that results in widespread and long-term effects
	Unplanned hydrocarbon release (from an emergency event)	• no or low likelihood of an unplanned release, or • potential for an unplanned release that results in localized and short-term effects	• moderate likelihood of an unplanned release, or • potential for an unplanned release that results in localised and long-term, or widespread and short-term effects	• high likelihood of an unplanned release, or • potential for an unplanned release that results in widespread and long-term effects • high risk to cultural activities, connections, or obligations

Activity phase	Sub-criteria	Preference Ranking		
		Most	Mid	Least
		• no or low risk to cultural activities, connections, or obligations • no or low risk to community livelihoods, property, or cultural assets	• moderate risk to cultural activities, connections, or obligations • moderate risk to community livelihoods, property, or cultural assets	• high risk to community livelihoods, property, or cultural assets
Post execution	Ecological benefit or enhancement	• retention of habitat that provides moderate to high level of benefit to the local marine ecology	• retention of habitat that provides minor level of benefit to the local marine ecology	• no or limited retention of habitat
	Seabed disturbance	• none or minor disturbance to seabed	• moderate disturbance to seabed	• extensive disturbance to seabed
	Release of contaminants to marine environment from wellhead infrastructure	• infrastructure left in situ has potential to release contaminants to marine environments that result in no or limited environmental impact	• infrastructure left in situ has potential to release contaminants to marine environments that result in moderate environmental impact	• infrastructure left in situ has potential to release contaminants to marine environments that result in moderate to high environmental impact
	Risk to other marine users (from physical presence of infrastructure)	• infrastructure fully removed, or remaining infrastructure presents no or low material effect on current or future commercial fisheries (catch effort and volume) • no or low potential for interaction with commercial fishers	• access to area for current and future commercial fisheries remains, but some infrastructure remaining in situ which presents a moderate impact on catch effort and volume • moderate potential for interaction with commercial fishers	• remaining infrastructure prevents access to the area to current or future commercial fisheries, with high impact on catch effort and volume
Technical feasibility				
During execution	Engineering and execution complexity	• scope is clearly defined • methodology is well proven and commonly used	• some scope uncertainty • methodology is well proven and commonly used	• scope is uncertain • complex or unproven execution methodology

Activity phase	Sub-criteria	Preference Ranking		
		Most	**Mid**	**Least**
		• integrity of infrastructure is known and is not compromised • high level of technical maturity of tools and equipment • low level of technical risk • ability to recover from unplanned events and complete activity	• integrity of some infrastructure is unknown and/or compromised • moderate level of technical maturity of tools and equipment • moderate level of technical risk • some potential to recover from unplanned events and complete activity	• integrity of infrastructure unknown and/or compromised • low level of technical maturity of tools and equipment • high level of technical risk • no ability to recover from unplanned events and complete activity
Health and safety				
During execution	Safety risk to project personnel	• no or low level of personnel exposure hours • personnel not exposed to high or moderate risk activities	• moderate level of personnel exposure hours • personnel exposed to moderate risk activities	• high level of personnel exposure hours • personnel exposed to high-risk activities
Post execution	Risk to other marine users (from physical presence of infrastructure)	• infrastructure fully removed, or remaining infrastructure presents no material health and safety risk to identified other marine users	• some infrastructure left in situ- which presents a moderate level of health and safety risk to identified other marine users • risk reduction measures potentially required	• large volume of infrastructure remains in situ which presents a high level of health and safety risk to identified other marine users • risk reduction measures are not available
Economics				
During execution	Cost	• low financial cost to implement option	• moderate financial cost to implement option	• high financial cost to implement option

Table 3-5: Decommissioning options assessment

Activity Phase	Sub-criteria	Removal of all property (base case)	Leave property in situ (alternative)
Environmental and Social risks			
During Execution	Seabed Disturbance	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		Wellhead removal would result in localised seabed disturbance from the cutting activities, lifting and removal of the wellhead, and lifting and removal of guide bases and/or mud mats. Based on CAPL's understanding of cultural and heritage values in the offshore marine environment, and specifically within the vicinity of the wellheads, seabed disturbance from wellhead removal is not anticipated to present a credible risk, and has not been evaluated further.	As there would be no activities, there is no seabed disturbance associated with this alternative. Consequently, there are no impacts or risks to the marine environment or cultural or heritage values.
	Changes to water or sediment quality	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		Wellhead removal would result in localised changes to water quality due to the resuspension of sediment into the water column during the lifting of infrastructure from the seabed. Wellhead cutting will generate small volumes of metal swarf, cement cuttings, grit, and flocculent, that would be released to the marine environment.	As there would be no activities, there are no impacts or risks to the environment associated with changes to water or sediment quality during execution.
	Air emissions	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		As wellhead removal would require vessel operations, it would introduce the air emissions from the combustion of marine fuel. It is estimated that field operations would require approximately two days per well site (i.e. campaign for all four wellheads to be removed would be approximately 8 days, plus mobilisation and demobilisation times).	As there would be no activities, there are no impacts or risks to the environment associated with air emissions during execution.
	Light emissions	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		As wellhead removal would require vessel operations, it would introduce artificial light emissions due to the requirement for navigation and safe operational lighting at night. Given the short duration of activities and distance offshore, this has the potential for incidental effects to marine fauna.	As there would be no activities, there are no impacts or risks to the environment associated with artificial light emissions during execution.

Activity Phase	Sub-criteria	Removal of all property (base case)	Leave property in situ (alternative)
	Underwater sound	**Preference ranking – Most preferred**	**Preference ranking – Most preferred**
		As wellhead removal would require vessel operations and for the Jansz wells would require use of a rig, it would introduce the underwater sound emissions for the support vessel &/or rig which would use dynamic positioning. A single vessel or rig on dynamic positioning is considered to represent a potential for localised and short-term effects to marine fauna, but is unlikely to result in any longer-term impact to individuals or populations.	As there would be no activities, there are no impacts or risks to the environment associated with underwater sound emissions during execution.
	Planned discharges	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		As wellhead removal would require vessel operations, it would introduce routine vessel discharges (e.g., sewage, cooling water, etc.). It is estimated that field operations would require approximately 2 days per well site (i.e. campaign for all four wellheads to be removed would be approximately 8 days, plus mobilisation and demobilisation times). Wellhead cutting will generate small volumes of metal swarf, cement cuttings, grit, and flocculent, that would be released to the marine environment.	As there would be no activities, there are no impacts or risks to the environment associated with planned discharges during execution.
	Unplanned interaction with marine fauna	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		As wellhead removal would require vessel operations, it would introduce the risk of marine fauna interactions. The wellheads are located within the Pygmy Blue Whale migration Biologically Important Area (BIA). Given the vessels will be stationary during removal activities at each well location, this reduces the risk of unplanned interactions (which typically occur between vessels moving at higher speeds).	As there would be no activities, there are no impacts or risks to the environment associated with risk of unplanned interaction with marine fauna during execution.
	Unplanned release (minor LOC)	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		As wellhead removal would require vessel and equipment (e.g., lifting) operations, it would introduce the risk of a loss	As there would be no activities, there are no impacts or risks to the environment associated with unplanned

Activity Phase	Sub-criteria	Removal of all property (base case)	Leave property in situ (alternative)
		of containment from ROV hydraulic leaks, and from the use, handling and storage of hazardous materials.	releases resulting from loss of containment during execution.
	IMS	**Preference ranking - Mid**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		As wellhead removal would require a vessel it would introduce the risk of introducing IMS to the marine environment, IMS has the potential to result in the displacement of, or compete with, native species. Once established, some IMS can be difficult to eradicate.	As there would be no activities, there are no impacts or risks to the environment associated with risk of introduction of IMS with during execution.
	Unplanned release of waste (hazardous or non-hazardous) from a vessel	**Preference ranking -Mid**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		As wellhead removal would require vessel operations it introduces the risk of unplanned release of wastes. The potential impacts of solid wastes accidentally discharged to the marine environment includes 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 wellhead itself if dropped during retrieval could result in seabed disturbance.	As there would be no activities, there are no impacts or risks to the environment associated with unplanned releases of waste during execution.
	Unplanned hydrocarbon release (from an emergency event)	**Preference ranking - Mid**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		As wellhead removal would require vessel operations for the Gorgon well and rig and vessel operations for the Jansz wells, it would introduce the risk of an emergency event from vessel collision and the unplanned release of marine fuel. In the unlikely event of a spill resulting from an emergency event, given environmental conditions experienced in the surface waters and water column above the wellheads, marine diesel would be expected to undergo rapid spreading and this, together with evaporative loss, would likely result in a rapid dissipation of the spill. Hydrocarbon spills have the potential to impact marine fauna, marine and coastal habitats, socio-cultural receptors and protected places. Surface hydrocarbons can result in smothering of emergent features (such as emergent reefs, sandy beaches and	As there would be no activities, there are no impacts or risks to the environment (including cultural activities, connections and obligations), or community livelihoods, property, or cultural assets, associated with unplanned releases resulting from emergency events during execution.

Activity Phase	Sub-criteria	Removal of all property (base case)	Leave property in situ (alternative)
		mangrove habitats) resulting in toxic impacts. Although, a release from this activity is expected to be small in volume, thus any exposure to emergent habitats would be limited. Additionally, given the distance from shore of the wellheads (closest ~69 km) and the volume of release, no residual hydrocarbons are expected to reach the shore. Surface hydrocarbons can also affect marine fauna that may be present within the area of the surface slick. Entrained and dissolved hydrocarbons can cause toxic impacts (depending on concentration and duration of exposure) to receptors in the water column, such as marine fauna. The wellhead locations do not occur within any protected areas but do overlap the migration BIA for the protected Pygmy Blue Whale. Given the offshore location of the EMBA (~69 km from the mainland; Figure 2-1), limited volumes of release, and subsequent exposures, a significant adverse change to cultural values attributed to the offshore marine area is not predicted to occur.	
Post Execution	Ecological benefit or enhancement	**Preference ranking - Least preferred**	**Preference ranking - Least preferred**
		No retention of (artificial) hard substrate habitat. The wellheads have been in situ for over 10 years, and it is likely that some colonisation of benthic habitat may have occurred, noting that due to the size of the infrastructure, this is only expected to provide limited benefit to local marine ecological systems.	The wellheads and associated infrastructure remaining in situ would provide a hard substrate suitable for colonisation by benthic flora and fauna. However, given the water depths (water depths (~247 m at North Gorgon-2 and >1,300 m for the Jansz wells), and size of the infrastructure, this is only expected to provide limited benefit to local marine ecological systems.
	Seabed disturbance	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		All property removed, there are no impacts or risks to the environment associated with seabed disturbance resulting during post-execution.	Natural sediment movements (erosion / accretion) may be altered by the presence of the wellheads section however given the small size of the wellheads, any change to the seabed is anticipated to be extremely localised and not result in detrimental impacts to benthic habitats.
		Preference ranking - Most preferred	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**

Activity Phase	Sub-criteria	Removal of all property (base case)	Leave property in situ (alternative)
	Release of contaminants to marine environment (water and sediment) from wellhead infrastructure	No risk of release of contaminants to marine environment from infrastructure (as fully removed) post execution.	As the wellheads and associated infrastructure are comprised of steel, they will corrode over time releasing trace amounts of metals to the water surrounding the wellheads. Over long time scales, corrosion of wellhead structures may contribute to an increase in breakdown products (mostly iron compounds) in the sediments surrounding the wellheads. Iron, the main constituent of wellheads is not considered a significant contaminant in the marine environment and is only toxic to marine organisms at extremely high concentrations (Grimwood and Dixon 1997) All iron oxides are included on the OSPAR PLONOR list (Substances Used and Discharged Offshore which Are Considered to Pose Little or No Risk to the Environment). Surface coatings and paints comprised of zinc oxide will also degrade and release slowly over time as the wellhead corrodes. The wellheads are likely to include a small amount of plastic and rubber within seal componentry anticipated to be <750 g per wellhead. As the wellhead degrades over time low volumes of plastic and rubber located internal of the wellhead will be released. Corrosion of the steel is likely to be a relatively slow process, about 0.06 mm/year (Melchers and Tan 2022), reducing the rate of potential discharge. Given the low toxicity of iron, the slow release rate of the corrosion, low quantities of surface coatings, plastic and rubber, and that dilution will occur due to the open ocean environment, any impacts to benthic habitats and water quality will be localised and are considered as negligible impacts. Impacts to protected fauna species are not anticipated.
	Risk to other marine users (from physical presence of infrastructure)	**Preference ranking -Most preferred**	**Preference ranking - Mid**
		No risk to other marine users (as infrastructure fully removed) post execution.	Leaving the wellheads in situ results in an ongoing presence on the seabed (between 3.1 and 4 m). There is relatively low occurrence of trawl fishing within the vicinity of the wellheads. The EMBA of the wellheads

Activity Phase	Sub-criteria	Removal of all property (base case)	Leave property in situ (alternative)
			overlaps one Commonwealth managed commercial trawl fishery, the North West Slope Trawl Fishery. Regular fishing effort has not been recorded by this fishery within the EMBA (only one year of effort in the last ten years was recorded for the Jansz wells and one year of effort in the last ten years for the North Gorgon-2 well) out of the 2012-2021 period, therefore there is a low exposure risk. Infrastructure remaining in situ is considered to present no material effect on the viability of commercial fishery operations within the area. No comments were received from commercial fishers during consultation, supporting the conclusion that the wellhead locations do not represent important areas for the overlapping fisheries. Additionally, the wellheads have been in situ for over 10 years and no incidents of equipment damage or displacement from fishing areas has occurred. Findings from an independent study by the Australian Maritime College undertaken for Woodside associated with a wellhead proposed to be decommissioned in situ detailed that given wellheads are to be marked on navigational charts, including those used on global positioning system (GPS) plotters for fishing/navigation, and given the electric equipment and associated training present onboard a trawl vessel, the possibility of interaction occurring through poor navigation is considered to be negligible (AMC 2022). The study created a simulation 'interaction event' with scale models of the wellhead and trawl net in a flume tank facility. The results of the study identified that the most credible outcome should a trawl net interact with the wellhead was damage or loss of the net and subsequent catch loss. This was due to the presence of the permanent guide base which extends outwards about 1 m and creates a gap above the seabed that has the potential to catch and trap a trawl net. The study detailed that once the trawler has come to standstill, provided the skipper adheres to hook-up

Activity Phase	Sub-criteria	Removal of all property (base case)	Leave property in situ (alternative)
			guidelines issued by AMSA, the risk of harm to the vessel and crew would remain very low. Given the water depth of the wellheads location, the small area they occupy, low fishing effort and that they will be marked on navigational charts, the risk of displacement of fisheries, impacting catch volume over the long-term is not considered credible and the potential of interaction that results in damage to fishing equipment is remote.
Technical feasibility			
During Execution	Engineering and execution complexity	**Preference ranking - Least Preferred** The water depth at the wellheads is beyond the maximum operating depth for air diving, therefore operations to remove the wellhead would require use of a ROV. Guide bases and mudmats are present on each of the wellheads, therefore external cutting would require cutting tools to be positioned external of the wellhead to sever the wellhead, conductor and internal casing strings. In order to mount a diamond wire saw the guide base / mudmats would need to be removed or the substrate below would need to be removed by dredging below to allow access. Due to the constraints associated with external cutting, internal cutting would be the likely methodology used to remove the wellheads. The AXE high-pressure abrasive water jet cutter is considered the most suitable cutting method for wellheads with internal access capability. This method uses a system of high pressure water entrained with grit and flocculant pumped via an umbilical from a vessel to a subsea cutting tool that is inserted into the inner well casing. While use of an abrasive water jet cutter is feasible where an internal cut can be achieved, their use is generally restricted to within water depths shallower than ~400 m due to requirement for high pressure jetting. As such, this cutting method could be used at North Gorgon-2, but is not considered feasible for the Jansz-2, Jansz-3 or Jansz-4 wells.	**Preference ranking - Most preferred** As there would be no activities, there are no risks associated with engineering and execution complexity.

Activity Phase	Sub-criteria	Removal of all property (base case)	Leave property in situ (alternative)
		Internal mechanical cutting uses mechanical cutting knives that are inserted into the inner well casing and rotated. This method is considered suitable for wells with up to three casing strings where an internal cut can be achieved, and can be used in all water depths. Internal mechanical cutting is widely employed through the industry for similar activities. The wellheads are legacy assets, and as such the condition of the wellhead is unknown. This unknown condition introduces technical risks despite the cutting methods being known and/or commonly used. For example, where present, the condition of the wellhead temporary cap, internal housing, and latching mechanism are all unknown which presents a risk to internal cutting (mechanical or water jet) operations. Therefore, based on the age of the wellheads and the uncertainty of the wellhead condition, removal by internal cutting (mechanical or water jet) is considered to have a high level of complexity and potential to be unsuccessful.	
Health and safety risks			
During Execution	Risk to project personnel	**Preference ranking - Mid**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		Wellhead removal would require field-based operations, and as such would introduce health and safety risks to personnel. Wellhead removal would include risks associated with vessel operations, lifting equipment, cutting tools, and manual handling. It is estimated that field operations would require approximately two days per well site.	As there would be no activities, there are no risks associated with personnel safety during execution.
Post Execution	Risk to other marine users (from physical presence of infrastructure)	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**	**Preference ranking - Most preferred**
		Wellhead and associated infrastructure would be fully removed, therefore no risk to other marine users.	Given the water depths (~247 m at North Gorgon-2 and >1,300 m for the Jansz wells), the wellhead and associated infrastructure remaining in situ is not considered to present a credible navigation hazard, and therefore does not represent a material health or safety risk to other marine users.
Economics			

Activity Phase	Sub-criteria	Removal of all property (base case)	Leave property in situ (alternative)
During Execution	Cost	**Preference ranking - Not ranked**	**Preference ranking - Not ranked**
		Based upon the assumption of a vessel or rig in the vicinity of the field i.e. activity undertaken as part of a broader campaign with shared mobilisation and demobilization costs, it is estimated that removal of the wellheads will cost between $1.6 and 2.7 million per well. This is assuming operations are successful. There would also be additional costs associated with the waste management (recycling or disposal) of the infrastructure once returned to shore.	As there would be no activities there are no financial cost during execution.

Note: Option analyses are coloured grey where consistent with the Offshore Decommissioning Guidelines, it is not an environmental, social or safety criteria.

3.5 Options assessment evaluation summary and recommendation

3.5.1 Short-term impact or risks during execution – Environment and Social

Removal

The wellhead removal activity would pose increased environmental risks associated with the removal campaign. Short-term risks and impacts associated with removal include those arising from vessel use (e.g. vessel discharges, underwater sound emissions, light emissions) and the wellhead removal itself (e.g. seabed disturbance, planned discharge of cutting grit / metal swarf), as well as a number of low and moderate risk events (e.g. vessel collision, minor LOC, unplanned release of waste, marine fauna collision and the introduction of NIS). The increased environmental risks associated with the removal campaign has the potential to increase the risk to cultural activities, connections and obligations and to community livelihoods, property and cultural assets based on known cultural and heritage values, though, the likelihood of the risk is low. Therefore the removal option was assessed as having a lower preference ranking.

Leave In situ

The leave in situ option poses no short-term environmental risks and impacts since no activity would occur. Therefore the leave in situ option was assessed as having a higher preference ranking.

Summary

Leave in situ represents a better environmental option in the short-term as it eliminates the impacts associated with removal including those arising from vessel use and the wellhead removal itself, as well as a number of low and moderate risk events.

3.5.2 Long-term – environmental impact or risk beyond campaign – Environmental and Social

Removal

The removal option poses no long-term environmental impacts and risks since the wellheads would no longer be present.

Leave in situ

The wellheads are comprised predominantly of steel, which is non-toxic, small quantities of surface coatings, plastic and rubber. Corrosion of the steel in the open ocean is anticipated to occur at a slow rate about 0.06 mm/year (Melchers and Tan 2022). This will result in a localised increase in the iron content of the seabed, however, given iron's low toxicity, coupled with the ongoing dilution due to ocean currents and sedimentation of the seabed as a result of natural forces, impacts in the long-term are expected to be negligible. The volume of plastic and rubber within each wellhead is a negligible quantity (~750 g per wellhead). The breakdown and release of these materials will occur at a slow rate over a long-term timeframe limiting the concentration of these materials in the EMBA at any particular time, and therefore it is unlikely to pose a substantive environmental risk.

The long-term presence of each wellhead presents a potential risk of interaction with commercial fisheries in the future. There is a low occurrence of trawl fishing within the vicinity of the wellheads which have been in situ for up to 28 years (North Gorgon-2) with no incidents of equipment damage. No material effect on

the viability of commercial fishery operations is anticipated. Given the water depths of the wellheads, the small area that each wellhead occupies, the low fishing effort and that wellheads will remain marked on navigation charts, impact is considered negligible and the risk low.

Summary

Removal of the wellheads removes the impacts or risks associated with material degradation and interaction with commercial fishers, however as these long-term impacts and risks are negligible, the leave in situ and removal alternatives are considered to provide similar outcomes.

3.5.3 Short-term –impact or risk during removal campaign – other criteria

Removal

Removal of the wellheads introduces health and safety risks associated with operational activities during the removal campaign and therefore is assessed as having a lower preference ranking compared to the in situ alternative where no execution activities are required.

Removal of the wellheads may be technically feasible, however there are associated risks given the age of the wellheads and unknown condition of the wellheads and therefore the removal option was assessed as having a lower preference ranking.

Although cost is not identified as a criteria within the DISER Offshore Decommissioning Guideline, cost can be a relevant factor when determining whether the application of a control is proportionate to the reduction in risk and the benefit gained. In considering cost to remove the wellheads in order to eliminate the long-term risk and impacts associated with the ongoing presence of the wellheads, the cost to implement the base case decommissioning approach is considered to be grossly disproportionate to any risk reduction achieved which is considered to be a negligible reduction due to ongoing risk being negligible or low.

In situ

In relation to the short-term, the leave in situ option poses no health and safety or technical impacts and risks since no activity would occur therefore the in situ option was assessed as having a higher preference ranking.

Summary

Leave in situ represents a better outcome from a health and safety and technical feasibility perspective when considering the short-term as it eliminates risks associated with a removal campaign including those arising from vessel and equipment use.

3.5.4 Long-term –impact or risk beyond removal campaign – other criteria

Removal

In relation to the long-term, the removal option poses no health and safety risks since the wellheads would be removed.

In situ

The long-term presence of the wellheads is not considered to present a credible navigation hazard, and therefore does not represent a credible health or safety risk to other marine users.

Summary

Removal and leave in situ alternatives are considered to provide similar outcomes given that long-term presence of the wellheads is not considered to present a credible navigation hazard, or safety risk to other marine users. Additionally, given the distance between the wellheads (>3.3 km minimum) and the localised impacts from the wellheads, cumulative impacts are not anticipated.

3.5.5 Recommendation

The decommissioning options assessment demonstrated, that in comparison to the base case, the leave property in situ approach:

- delivers equal or better environmental outcomes
- eliminates any potential cultural heritage risks by minimising seabed disturbance
- delivers better health and safety outcomes.

Environmental, social and safety risks associated with removal are demonstrated to be disproportionately high to the low environmental benefits obtained from removing the wellheads.

A direct comparison of environmental impacts and risk is difficult due to the temporal divergence (short-term vs long-term). However, CAPL considers the consequence of the short-term impacts and risks to be greater compared to the consequence of the long-term impacts and risks. The long-term impacts and risks associated with the leave in situ option (alteration of marine habitats, degradation of wellhead materials, unplanned interactions with other marine users) are considered to be negligible/low and are not expected to change over time. The consequences from the risks associated with the base case alternative could be relatively significant. On this basis CAPL considers that the environmental outcomes of leaving the wellheads in situ are equal or better than the removal option.

In situ decommissioning for the North Gorgon-2, Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4 wellheads and associated infrastructure by way of leaving the wellheads and associated infrastructure in situ is proposed. CAPL considers that this approach is consistent with the OPPGS Act and the Offshore Decommissioning Guidelines (DISER 2022) which states in Section 3.15 that options other than complete removal may be considered, however the titleholder must demonstrate that the alternative decommissioning approach delivers equal or better environmental outcomes compared to complete removal and meets all applicable requirements under the OPGGS Act and regulations, including well integrity and safety related matters, and other applicable laws.

As the alternative of leaving the wellheads in situ provides an equal or better environmental outcomes compared with the complete removal base case, and the impacts and risks associated with leaving the wellheads in situ has been demonstrated to be ALARP and acceptable, CAPL are seeking a deviation to the requirement in section 572(3) of the *OPGGS Act* via the acceptance of this EP to leave the wellheads and associated infrastructure in situ and consistent with section 572(7) of the OPGGS Act.

4 description of the petroleum activity

4.1 Overview

This section provides a description of the petroleum activity as required under regulation 13(1) of the OPGGS(E)R. The description of the petroleum activity is presented in Section 4.2, with additional contextual information provided in Sections 4.2.1 and 4.2.2.

4.1.1 Environment that May Be Affected

The location of the wellheads is described in Section 2.3 (with coordinates and approximate water depth shown in Table 2-1). As there are no operational activities proposed associated with the petroleum activity, there is no operational area. For the purpose of this Environment Plan, the environment that may be affected (EMBA) has been defined (refer to Section 5.1).

4.1.2 Timing

There are no field activities within scope of this EP. The petroleum activity ends upon acceptance of the EP by NOPSEMA, and on submission and acceptance of the notifications and reporting as required under regulation 26C (environmental performance), regulation 29 (end of activity), and regulation 25A (end of EP) of the OPGGS(E)R (refer to Section 9.4).

4.2 Wellhead decommissioning

The petroleum activity comprises permanently leaving the wellheads and associated infrastructure in situ on the seabed. A description of the abandoned wells and associated infrastructure is provided in Section 4.2.2.

No field activities, or other operations are proposed for this scope.

4.2.1 History

North Gorgon-2 was drilled and suspended by WAPET within WA-2-R (now WA-37-L) in 1994. WAPET installed two permanent cement plug barriers as per the approved plan for the well suspension under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1982.* The wellhead was left in place for future well completion, which did not eventuate. CAPL subsequently applied to NOPSEMA to consider the well abandoned. On 14 October 2020 NOPSEMA wrote to CAPL advising that they were reasonably satisfied with the process undertaken in abandoning the well (refer to Appendix 4).

Jansz-2 was drilled, plugged, and abandoned by MEPA within exploration permit WA-268-P (now WA-36-L) in 2002. MEPA installed two permanent cement plugs as per the approved plan to plug and abandon the well under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1982*. The wellhead was left in place following two failed attempts to cut the cemented casing strings. MEPA submitted a management of change (MoC) to leave the wellhead in situ to Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR). A subsequent request was made following the campaign on 27 November 2002 seeking dispensation from the requirement to remove the wellhead. On 2 December 2002 DMPR granted approval on the understanding that MEPA would remain responsible for the wellhead and Jansz-2 wellbore (refer to Appendix 4).

Jansz-3 was drilled, plugged, and abandoned by MEPA, within exploration permit WA-268-P (now WA-37-L) in 2003. MEPA installed two permanent cement plugs

as per the approved plan to plug and abandon the well under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1982.* The wellhead was left in situ consistent with the Environment Plan that was in place for the activity (WA-268-P/WA-18-R Appraisal Drilling Program 2002/2003 Environment Plan dated 1 April 2003). The Environment Plan Compliance Audit compliance report submitted to DOIR on 24 July 2003 stated, “Approval was received to leave the wellhead on the seafloor.” On 3 July 2003 MEPA requested approval of the process to abandon the Jansz-3 well which included that the wellhead would not be recovered. On 4 July 2003 DMPR granted approval for the abandonment on the understanding that MEPA would remain responsible for the wellhead and Jansz-3 wellbore (refer to Appendix 4).

Jansz-4 was drilled and suspended by ExxonMobil, within exploration permit WA-268-P (now WA-37-L) in 2009. ExxonMobil installed one permanent and one temporary cement plug as per the approved plan to suspend the well under the *Offshore Petroleum Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*. The wellhead was left in place for future well completion, which did not eventuate. The two cement plugs were also approved to be sufficient for abandonment, and an application to abandon the Jansz-4 well was submitted on the 18 May 2009 to the Department of Mines and Petroleum. On 20 May 2009 the Department of Mines and Petroleum granted approval for the method of abandonment (refer to Appendix 4).

4.2.2 Infrastructure

Indicative schematics of the abandoned wells are provided in Figure 4-1 to Figure 4-4.

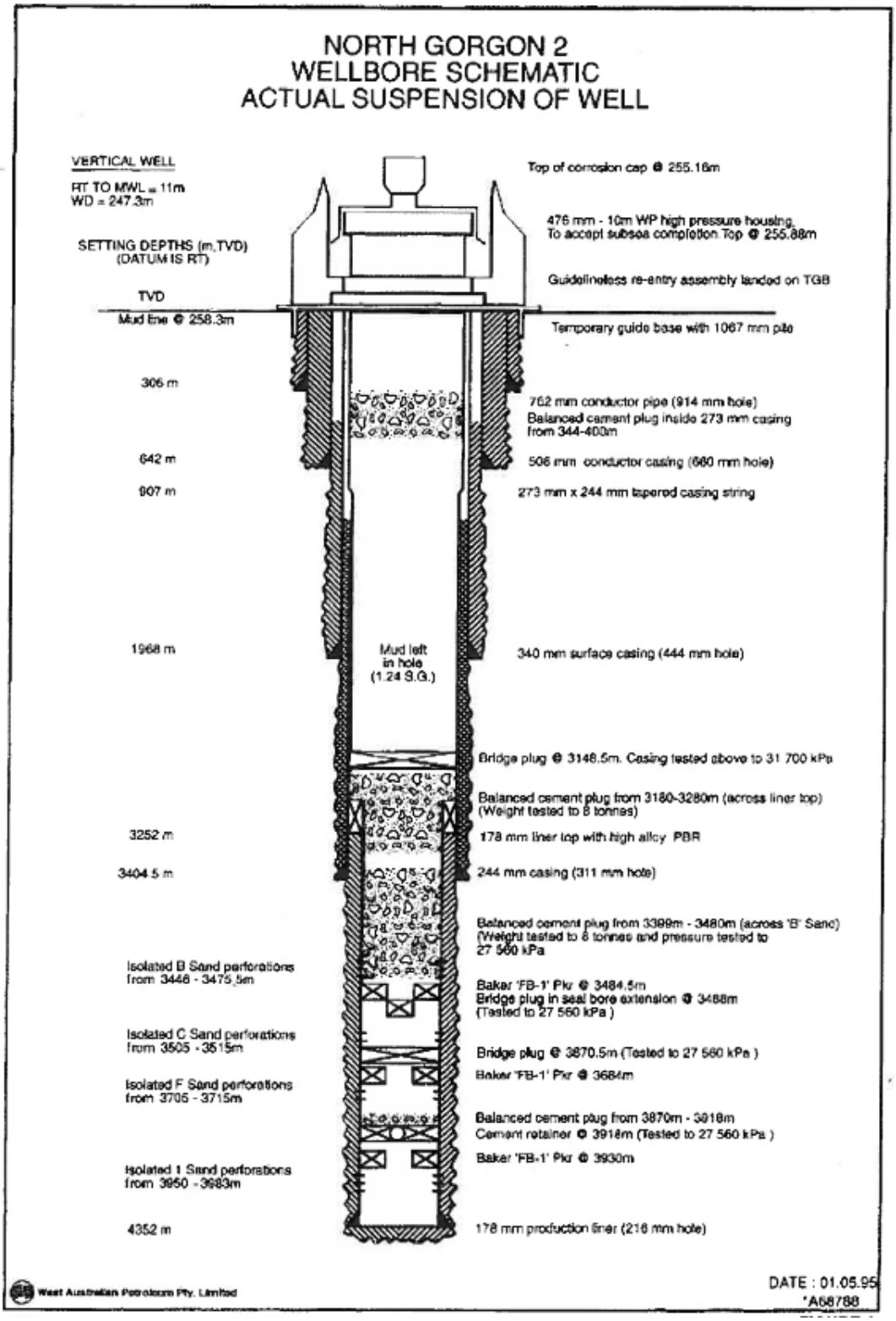


Figure 4-1: North Gorgon-2 well suspension schematic

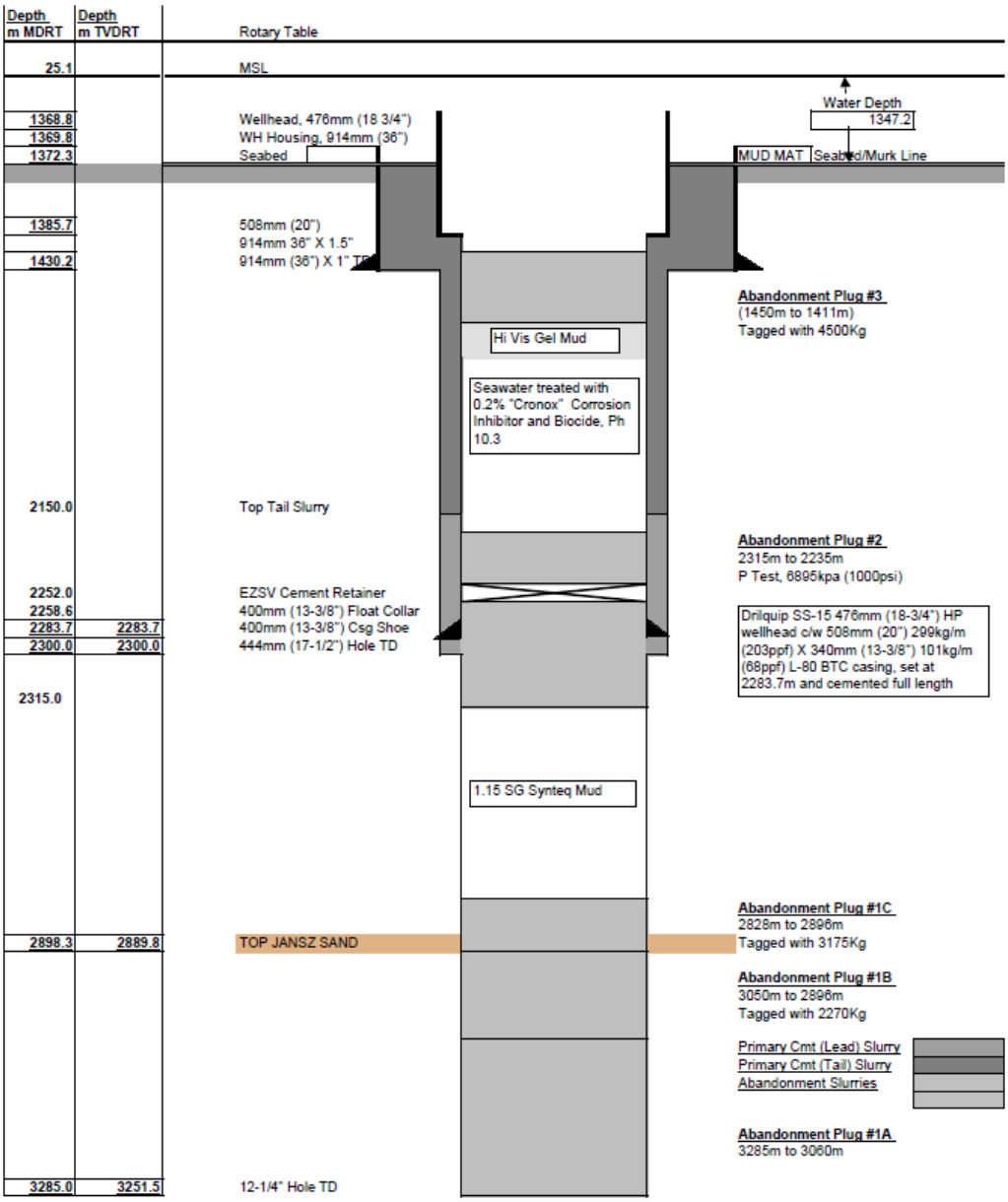


Figure 4-2: Jansz-2 well abandonment schematic

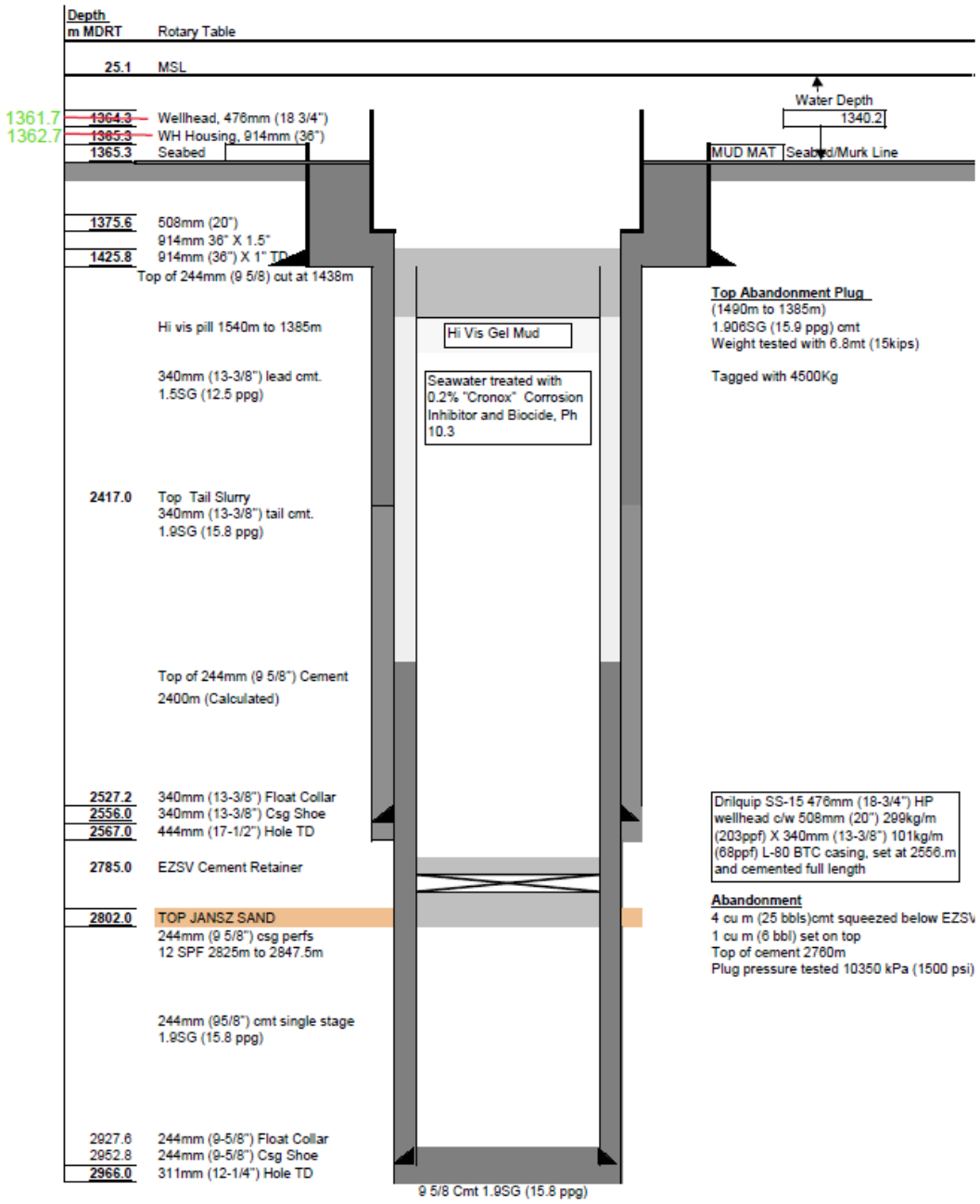


Figure 4-3: Jansz-3 well abandonment schematic

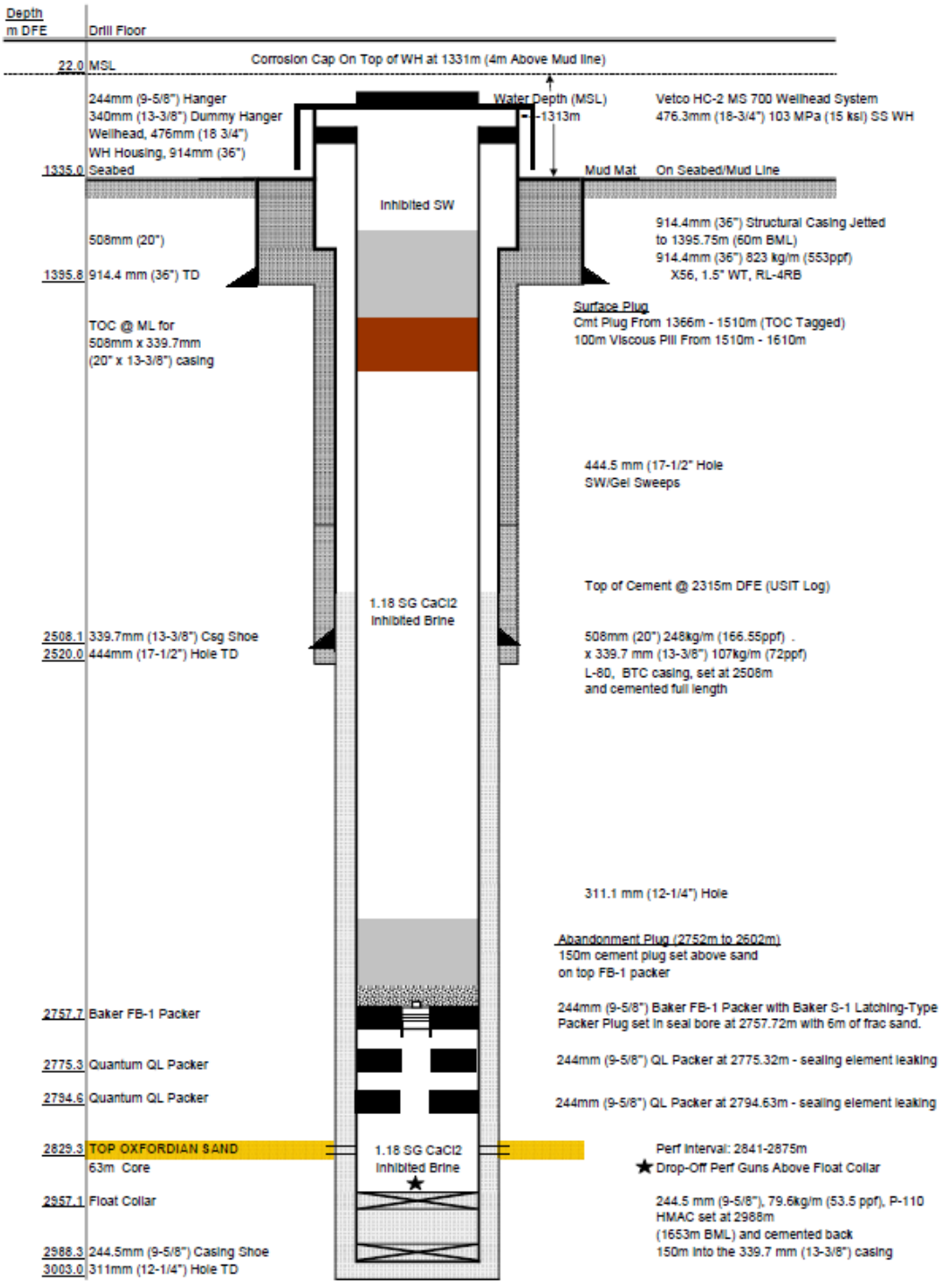


Figure 4-4: Jansz-4 well abandonment schematic

5 description of the environment

5.1 Environment that may be affected

The environment that may be affected (EMBA) by the petroleum activity within scope of this EP has been defined as an area where a change to environmental receptors may potentially occur as a result planned activities or unplanned events.

For the purposes of this EP, the EMBA is defined as a 500 m radius around each wellhead (Figure 2-1), and is relevant to the impact and risk assessments for all planned activities and unplanned events, as the exposure area associated with these impacts and risks is conservatively considered to occur within this spatial extent.

5.2 Ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities

5.2.1 Benthic communities and habitats

Benthic communities are biological communities that inhabit the seabed and are important for primary or secondary production. Benthic habitats are areas of seabed that do or can support these communities. Benthic communities play important roles in maintaining the integrity of marine ecosystems and the supply of ecological services. There is strong evidence that benthic communities are important for the maintenance of biological diversity by providing structurally complex and diverse habitat, refuge for vulnerable life stages and a varied and increased food supply (EPA 2016).

The EMBA occurs within the North-west Marine Region (NWMR), which is typically characterised by shallow-water tropical marine ecosystems and high species richness (DSEWPC 2012, DEWHA 2008).

Benthic habitat data from previous surveys undertaken for the Gorgon Gas Development indicate that at ~200 m water depth in the Gorgon gas field, the seabed comprises soft bioturbated sediments. The benthos in this area is well below the photic zone so there are no marine macrophytes (CAPL 2005). Given the similarities in location and depth, this is considered likely to be representative of the benthic habitat within the vicinity of the North Gorgon-2.

Benthic habitats surveys in deeper waters (558–714 m water depth) along the Jansz pipeline route found the substrate comprised soft sediments—sand, silt, and mud (RPS 2009). These habitat types are widespread in the region and are not considered to be of regional significance due to their ubiquity and the sparseness of biota supported (RPS 2009). While the Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4 wells are located in deeper waters (1,313–1,347 m), it is expected that these habitats are also likely comprised of soft sediments.

Based on CSIRO's marine benthic substrate database (CSIRO 2015), the predominant seafloor sediment type within the EMBA varies between the four wells. The benthic substrate around North Gorgon-2 is described as calcareous gravel, sand and silt, the benthic substrate around Jansz-2 is described as mud and calcareous clay, and the substrate around the Jansz-3 and Jansz-4 wells is described as calcareous ooze.

Listed threatened ecological communities (TECs) are a matter of national environmental significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act, and a particular value and sensitivity under the OPGGS(E)R. There are no known TECs within the EMBA.

5.2.2 Marine fauna

Listed threatened or migratory species are MNES under the EPBC Act, and a particular value and sensitivity under the OPGGS(E)R. The following sections identify the presence of these species within the EMBA.

5.2.2.1 Marine mammals

Based on searches of the protected matters database (Appendix 3) (DCCEEW 2022), the threatened and/or migratory marine mammal species shown in Table 5-1 may be present within the EMBA. Biologically important areas (BIAs) associated with marine mammal species that intersect with the EMBA are listed in Table 5-2.

Table 5-1: Presence of listed threatened and/or migratory marine mammals

Common name	EMBA			
	North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3	Jansz-4
Cetaceans (whales)				
Antarctic Minke Whale *(Migratory)*	✓			✓
Blue Whale *(Endangered, migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bryde's Whale *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fin Whale *(Vulnerable, migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Humpback Whale *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sei Whale *(Vulnerable, migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sperm Whale *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cetaceans (dolphins)				
Killer Whale *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spotted Bottlenose Dolphin *(Migratory)*	✓			

Table 5-2: Presence of BIAs for marine mammals

Common name	BIA behaviour	Seasonal presence	EMBA			
			North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3	Jansz-4
Pygmy Blue Whale	Migration	Northern migration (enter Perth canyon January to May; pass Exmouth April to August; continue north to Indonesia); Southern migration (follow WA coastline from October to late December)	✓	✓	✓	✓

5.2.2.2 Reptiles

Based on searches of the protected matters database(Appendix 3) (DCCEEW 2022), the threatened and/or migratory marine reptile species shown in Table 5-3 may be present within the EMBA. There are no habitat critical to the survival of a species or BIAs for marine reptiles that intersect with the EMBA.

Table 5-3: Presence of listed threatened and/or migratory marine reptiles

Common name	EMBA			
	North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3	Jansz-4
Turtles				
Flatback Turtle *(Vulnerable, Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Green Turtle *(Vulnerable, Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hawksbill Turtle *(Vulnerable, Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Leatherback Turtle *(Endangered, Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Loggerhead Turtle *(Endangered, Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓

5.2.2.3 Fishes, including sharks and rays

Based on searches of the protected matters database(Appendix 3) (DCCEEW 2022), the threatened and/or migratory fish species shown in Table 5-4 may be present within the EMBA. There are no BIAs for fish species that intersect with the EMBA.

Table 5-4: Presence of listed threatened and/or migratory fishes

Common name	EMBA			
	North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3	Jansz-4
Fish				
Southern Bluefin Tuna *(Conservation Dependent)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sharks				
Freshwater Sawfish *(Vulnerable, Migratory)*	✓			
Green Sawfish *(Vulnerable, Migratory)*	✓			
Grey Nurse Shark (west coast population) *(Vulnerable, Migratory)*	✓			
Longfin Mako *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Narrow Sawfish *(Migratory)*	✓			
Oceanic Whitetip Shark *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scalloped Hammerhead *(Conservation Dependent)*	✓			
Shortfin Mako *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whale Shark *(Vulnerable, Migratory)*	✓			
White Shark *(Vulnerable, Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rays				
Giant Manta Ray *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓

Common name	EMBA			
	North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3	Jansz-4
Reef Manta Ray *(Migratory)*	✓			

5.2.2.4 Seabirds and shorebirds

Based on searches of the protected matters database(Appendix 3) (DCCEEW 2022), the threatened and/or migratory seabird and shorebird species shown in Table 5-5 may be present within the EMBA. BIAs associated with seabird or shorebird species that intersect with the EMBA are listed in Table 5-6.

Table 5-5: Presence of listed threatened and/or migratory seabirds and shorebirds

Common name	EMBA			
	North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3	Jansz-4
Seabird				
Christmas Island White-Tailed Tropicbird *(Endangered)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Noddy *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lesser Frigatebird *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Southern Giant Petrel *(Endangered, Migratory)*	✓			✓
Streaked Shearwater *(Migratory)*	✓			
White-tailed Tropicbird *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shorebird				
Australian Fairy Tern *(Vulnerable)*	✓		✓	✓
Common Sandpiper *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Curlew Sandpiper *(Critically Endangered, Migratory)*	✓			
Eastern Curlew *(Critically Endangered, Migratory)*	✓			
Pectoral Sandpiper *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red Knot *(Endangered, Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *(Migratory)*	✓	✓	✓	✓

Table 5-6: Presence of BIAs for seabirds and shorebirds

Common name	BIA behaviour	Seasonal presence	EMBA			
			North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3	Jansz-4
Wedge-tailed Shearwater	Breeding	Mid-August to April (Pilbara) or mid-May (Shark Bay)	✓			

5.2.3 Marine environmental quality

The term ‘environmental quality’ refers to the level of contaminants, or changes to the physical or chemical properties relative to a natural state (EPA 2016).

5.2.3.1 Water quality

Marine water quality within the EMBA is expected to be representative of typically pristine and high-water quality found in offshore waters.

The North West Shelf (NWS) is characterized by a relatively clear water column; however these waters sometimes have naturally higher levels of turbidity as a result of local current-induced resuspension of fine sediments (Chevron Australia 2010).

Previous water quality data indicated that the coastal waters of the NWS (based on sampling from around the Dampier Archipelago ~170 km east of the EMBA) generally have very low levels of anthropogenic contamination (Wenziker, et al. 2006). The Wenziker et al (2006) study found no detectable levels of organic chemicals in the waters of the Dampier Archipelago. However, natural oil seeps are known to occur on the NWS (Chevron Australia 2010). While this study is based on sampling outside the EMBA, it is expected that these low levels of contamination would continue into the offshore region (unless within the immediate vicinity of an offshore point source).

5.2.3.2 Sediments quality

Marine sediment quality within the EMBA is expected to be representative of typically pristine and high-sediment quality found in offshore waters.

Previous sediment quality data for Pilbara coastal waters (DEC 2006) indicated no detectable hydrocarbons, and with metal concentrations typically below the relevant ISQG-low guidelines. While this study is based on sampling outside the EMBA, it is expected that these low levels of contamination would continue into the offshore region (unless within the immediate vicinity of an offshore point source).

5.2.3.3 Air quality

Air quality within the EMBA is expected to be representative of typically pristine and high quality found in offshore areas.

CSIRO's Pilbara regional air quality study indicated that ambient atmospheric concentrations of CO, O_3, SO_2, $PM_{2.5}$, and NO_2 (as measured at the Dampier/Karratha and Boodarie regional industrial areas) were very low and well below National Environment Protection Measure (NEPM) for Ambient Air Quality standards (Chevron Australia 2010, Physick 2001). While this study is based on sampling outside the EMBA, it is expected that these low levels of contamination would continue into the offshore region (unless within the immediate vicinity of an offshore point source).

5.2.4 People and communities

People and communities, and specifically their social, economic, and cultural features, are included within the definition of environment within the OPGGS(E)R. People and communities have been identified and described to the extent that they are directly affected, or are affected by, the existing physical and biological environments.

The NWMR supports a range of economic, social, and cultural activities. At present, industries within the NWMR include petroleum exploration and production, commercial and recreational fishing, tourism, ports and shipping (DSEWPC 2012). These uses of the NWMR make an important economic and

social contribution to settlements along the coast (DSEWPC 2012). Industry activities present with the EMBA are identified and described in Section 5.3.

5.2.4.1 Heritage

Heritage includes places, values, traditions, events, and experiences that capture where we have come from, where we are now, and gives context to where we are headed as a community (DCCEEW 2021).

Where known heritage sites and/or artefacts are formally protected under specific heritage legislations, these are described within Section 5.5. The following sections summarise other known heritage values identified within the EMBA.

5.2.4.1.1 First Nations cultural activities, connections, and obligations

The land adjacent to the NWMR has been inhabited by First Nations people for at least 50,000 years, and they continue to use the NWMR and adjacent coastal resources, and have an ongoing connection to these areas (DSEWPC 2012).

The term ‘country’ refers to more than just a geographical area, and includes values, places, resources, stories, and cultural obligations associated with that geographical area (Smyth 2007). For First Nations peoples the term ‘country’ includes both land and sea and the coastal areas are connected with the traditional country of group or clan. There are several coastal language groups or clans in northwest WA. Based on engagement with First Nations groups, CAPL understands that Mardudhunera and Yaburara people (represented by the Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC for native title rights and interests) have connections to Barrow and/or Montebello Islands. Based on engagement with First Nations groups, CAPL understands that Thalanyji (represented by the Buurabalayji Thalanyjii Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC for native title rights and interests) have connection to the following areas:

- Montebello Islands
- Barrow Island
- Thevenard Island
- Mackerel Islands
- Direction Island
- Airlie Island
- Weld Island
- North and South Islands
- Ashburton Island
- Twin Island
- any island or atoll proximate to the above islands
- a general radius of 150km from Onslow.

First Nations people in northwest WA continue to rely on coastal and marine environments and resources of the region for their cultural identity, health and wellbeing, and their domestic and commercial economies (Smyth 2007). Their commitment to their sea country is demonstrated through their native title claims and their many initiatives to regain their role as managers of the cultural and natural values of northwest WA (Smyth 2007).

First Nations peoples of northwest WA engage in a diverse range of marine resource use activities, including hunting, egg collecting, fishing and gathering

shellfish. Activities also continue on lands and waters where they have a ceremonial and spiritual connections (Smyth 2007).

Consultation with First Nations groups in the Pilbara has identified that it is believed that the serpent which created the rivers and inland springs is now in its resting place off the Pilbara coast; and as such, if the sea is protected, then the serpent is also being protected.

5.2.4.1.2 European heritage

Early European exploration of the NWMR and adjacent coast occurred in the 1600s; however it was concluded at the time that resources and conditions were not appropriate for settlement (DSEWPC 2012). British colonisation did not begin in the Pilbara until 1860s, with pastoralism as the first major industry, followed by small ports and service centers (DSEWPC 2012). The pearling industry began in the late-1800s, and remains a significant contributor to the economy of northwest WA (DSEWPC 2012). Similarly, small fishing fleets were common from the 1860s onwards, and the commercial fishing industry also remains a significant economic input for northwest WA, particularly from prawn and demersal finfish fisheries (DSEWPC 2012). Petroleum discovery and development commenced from the 1950s, with both onshore and offshore discoveries (DSEWPC 2012).

The marine and coastal industries that still exist and operate within the NWMR are further described in Section 5.3.

5.2.5 Commonwealth marine area

The Commonwealth marine area is a MNES under the EPBC Act, and a particular value and sensitivity under the OPGGS(E)R. The EMBA for this activity occurs within waters off WA that are part of the NWMR.

The NWMR comprises the Commonwealth waters and seabed from the WA—Northern Territory border south to Kalbarri (DSEWPC 2012). The NWMR is characterised by shallow-water tropical marine ecosystems with high species richness. Most of the region's species are tropical and are also found in other parts of the Indian and western Pacific oceans (DSEWPC 2012).The region is a tropical carbonate margin that comprises an extensive area of shelf, slope, and abyssal plain/deep ocean floor, as well as complex areas of bathymetry such as plateau, terraces and major canyons (Harris, et al. 2005). The region experiences a tropical monsoonal climate towards the northern extent of the region, transitioning to tropical arid and subtropical arid within the central and southern areas of the region (DSEWPC 2012).

Conservation values of the Commonwealth marine area include:

- protected species and/or their habitat (Section 5.2.2)
- protected places including Australian Marine Parks (Section 5.4.1) and heritage places (Section 5.5)
- KEFs (Section 5.2.5.1).

5.2.5.1 Key ecological features

KEFs are elements of the Commonwealth marine environment that are considered to be of regional importance for a region's biodiversity or its ecosystem function and integrity. KEFs are not MNES and have no legal status in their own right; however, they may be considered as components of the Commonwealth marine area.

KEFs meet one or more of these criteria (DCCEEW N.D.):

- a species, group of species, or a community with a regionally important ecological role (e.g., a predator, or prey that affects a large biomass or number of other marine species)
- a species, group of species, or a community that is nationally or regionally important for biodiversity
- an area or habitat that is nationally or regionally important for:
  - enhanced or high productivity (such as predictable upwellings—an upwelling occurs when cold nutrient-rich waters from the bottom of the ocean rise to the surface)
  - aggregations of marine life (such as feeding, resting, breeding or nursery areas)
  - biodiversity and endemism (species that only occur in a specific area)
- a unique sea floor feature, with known or presumed ecological properties of regional significance.

KEFs have been identified by the Australian Government on the basis of advice from scientists about the ecological processes and characteristics of the area (DCCEEW N.D.).

The presence of KEFs within the EMBA, and a description of the KEFs values, are shown in Table 5-7 and Figure 5-1.

Table 5-7: Presence of KEFs

Key ecological feature	EMBA			
	North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3a	Jansz-4l
Continental slope demersal fish communities	✓			
The diversity of demersal fish assemblages on the continental slope in the Timor Province, the Northwest Transition and the Northwest Province is high compared to elsewhere along the Australian continental slope. The slope of the Timor Province and the Northwest Transition also contains more than 500 species of demersal fish of which 64 are considered endemic (Last, et al. 2005). The Timor Province and Northwest Transition bioregions are the second-richest areas for demersal fish across the entire continental slope. The demersal fish species occupy two distinct demersal community types (biomes) associated with the upper slope (water depth of 225–500 m) and the mid-slope (750–1000 m). Although poorly known, it is suggested that the demersal-slope communities rely on bacteria and detritus-based systems comprised of infauna and epifauna, which in turn become prey for a range of teleost fish, molluscs and crustaceans (Brewer, et al. 2007). Higher-order consumers may include carnivorous fish, deepwater sharks, large squid and toothed whales (Brewer, et al. 2007). Pelagic production is phytoplankton based, with hot spots around oceanic reefs and islands (Brewer, et al. 2007). **Values:** High levels of endemism.				

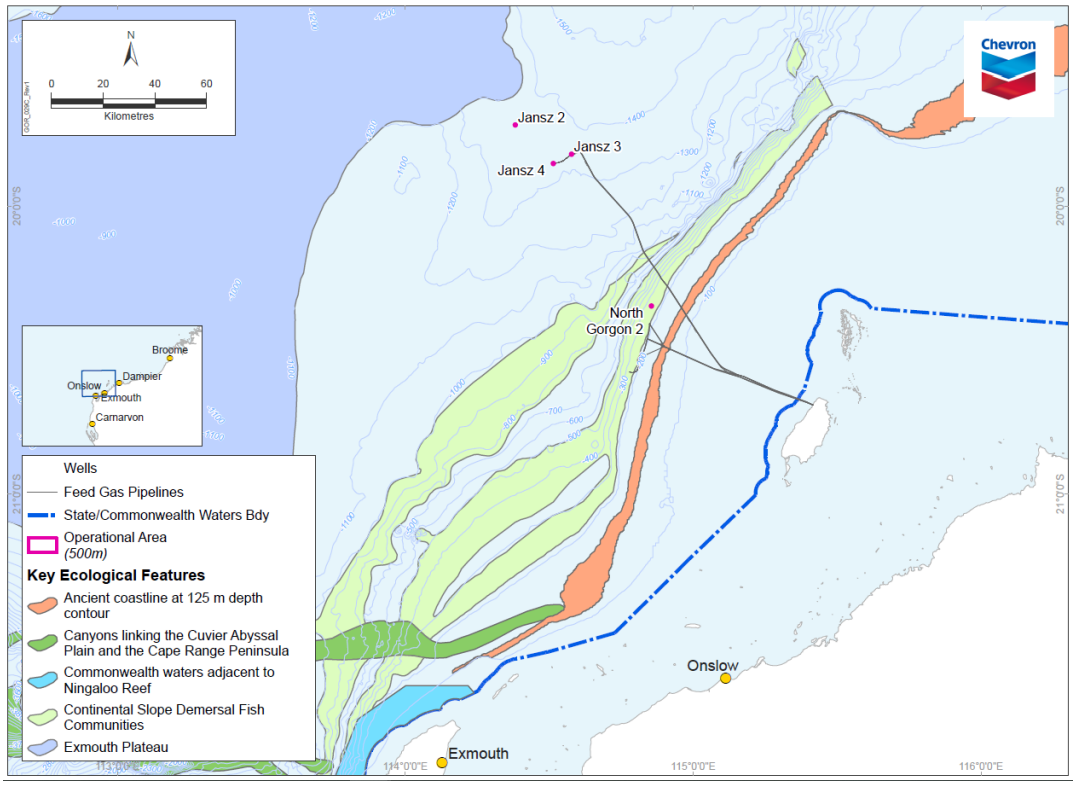


Figure 5-1: Key ecological features within the vicinity of the EMBA

5.3 Natural and physical resources

Natural and physical resources are described as substances occurring in nature which can be exploited for economic gain, and may include such resources as fishing stocks, petroleum reservoirs, or values of the Commonwealth marine area. Marine and coastal industries have been developed based on natural and physical resources, and where these industries may interest with the EMBA they have been identified and described in the following sections.

5.3.1 Commercial fisheries

5.3.1.1 Commonwealth-managed fisheries

The Commonwealth-managed commercial fisheries with fishery management areas that intersect the EMBA, and that have fishing effort recorded during 2015–2020 (ABARES 2021) are listed in Table 5-8 and shown in Figure 5-2.

Table 5-8: Presence of recent fishing effort recorded over the 2015–2022 period within Commonwealth-managed commercial fisheries

Fishery	EMBA			
	North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3	Jansz-4
North-west Slope Trawl Fishery	✓	✓	✓	✓

The North West Slope Trawl Fishery use bottom (or demersal) trawl methods to target deep-water prawn and scampi typically in depths of 350–600 m. The primary species landed in the North West Slope Trawl Fishery is the Australian scampi (*Metanephrops australiensis*), with smaller quantities of velvet scampi *(M. velutinus)* and Boschma's scampi (*M. boschmai*). A quantity of prawns is also

harvested each season, and squids are becoming an increasingly significant component of the catch. Mixed snappers (*Lutjanidae*) and redspot emperor (*Lethrinus lentjan*) have historically been an important component of the North West Slope Trawl Fishery catch. Fishing for scampi occurs over soft, muddy sediments or sandy habitats, using demersal trawl gear on the continental slope.

While the North West Slope Trawl Fishery was active within its management area and did record fishing effort during years 2011-2020, active fishing effort only occurred during 2015 (specifically within a 60 nm block intersecting the Jansz wells, and during 2020 (specifically within a 60 nm block intersecting the North Gorgon-2 well) (ABARES 2021). Relative fishing intensity data is not available for this fishery due to low vessel numbers and confidentiality. The North West Slope Trawl Fishery use bottom (or demersal) trawl methods to target deep-water prawn and scampi that live on or near the seafloor.

The Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery is active within waters in the Great Australian Bight and south-eastern Australia (i.e. not within the EMBA); however, the spawning grounds for Southern Bluefin Tuna are located in the north-east Indian Ocean (ABARES 2021). This indicative spawning area extends into the EMBA for the Jansz wells.

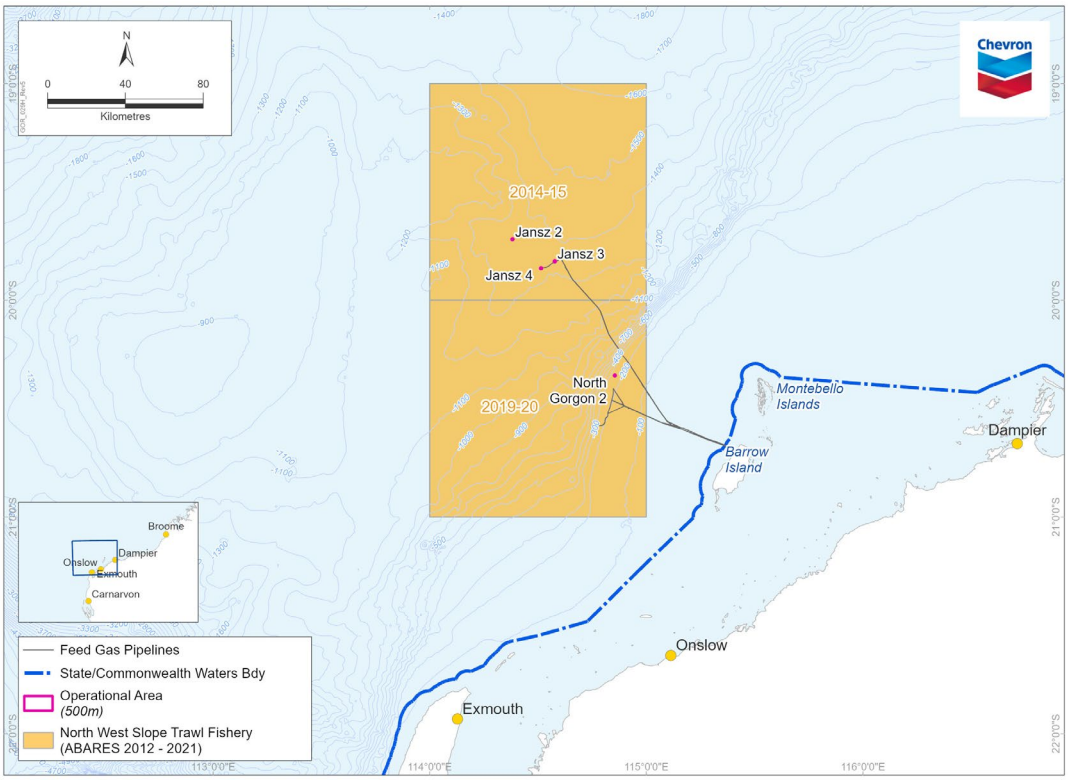


Figure 5-2: Recorded fishing effort (2012–2021) for the North-west Slope Trawl Fishery within the vicinity of the EMBA

5.3.1.2 State-managed fisheries

The State-managed commercial fisheries with fishery management areas that intersect the EMBA, and that have fishing effort recorded over a 10-year period (2012–2021) (DPIRD 2022) are listed in Table 5-9.

Table 5-9: Presence of fishing effort recorded over the 2012–2021 period within State-managed commercial fisheries

Fishery	EMBA			
	North Gorgon-2	Jansz-2	Jansz-3	Jansz-4
North coast bioregion				
Pilbara Line Fishery	✓	✓	✓	✓

The fishery with fishing effort recorded within the EMBA was the Pilbara Line Fishery described below.

The Pilbara Line Fishery (line fishing methods) operates on an exemption basis which restricts vessels to operating within a nominated 5-month block period each year (typically May- September). The Pilbara Line Managed Fishery catch is made up around 45-50 different fish species. The main species targeted by the fisheries are bluespotted emperor (*Lethrinus punctulatus*), red emperor (*Lutjanus sebae*) and rankin cod (*Epinephelus multinotatus)*, as well as some deeper offshore species such as ruby snapper and eightbar grouper. The total catch of the Fishery in 2020/2021 was 167 t, increasing in ~6% of the total catch during the last years.

For the 2021 fishing year, the bulk of the catch within the Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Fishery was landed by the trawl sector (which does not occur within the EMBA); with smaller contributions from the trap (20%) and line (6%) sectors (Newman, et al. 2021).

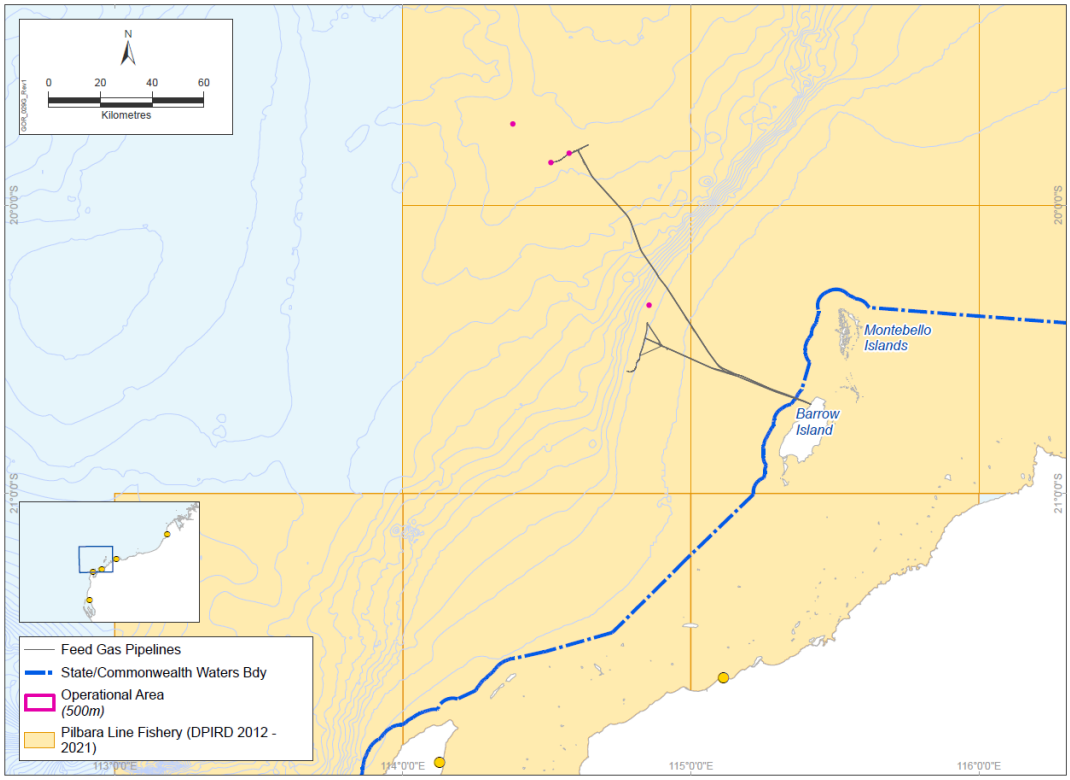


Figure 5-3: Recorded fishing effort (2012–2021) for the Pilbara Line Fishery within the vicinity of the EMBA

5.3.2 Recreational fisheries

Recreational fishing is one of the most popular activities in WA with an estimated third of the population fishing recreationally (DPIRD 2020). The WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) conducts state-wide recreational fishing surveys every two years, with the first survey completed in 2011. The 2020–2021 survey report (Ryan, Lai and Smallwood 2022) identified that most boat-based recreational fishing effort occurred in nearshore habitat (46%) for North-Coast, followed by inshore demersal habitats (32% for North Coast). Most fishing effort was attributed to line fishing (87% for North-Coast).

No Tour Operator fishing efforts recorded over a 2010-year period (2012–2021) (DPIRD 2022) were identified within the EMBA.

As such, no recreational fishing is expected to occur within the EMBA.

5.3.3 Traditional fisheries

Customary fishing applies to person who has a traditional connection with the area being fished, and is fishing for personal, domestic, ceremonial, educational or non-commercial needs (DPIRD 2015). A Customary Fishing Policy has been incorporated into the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (WA), which allows for customary fishing by applicable persons to occur within a sustainable fisheries management framework. Customary fishing does not apply to other species of marine fauna (e.g. crocodile, turtle, or dugong).

Under amendments made in 2012 to the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) Aboriginal people can undertake customary activities which includes hunting (except in marine sanctuary zones or marine nature reserves) for dugong, turtle, or crocodiles in WA.

As described in Section 5.2.4.1.1, ongoing use of marine and coastal resources, including fish, is expected to occur in NWMR and adjacent coastal waters. However, it is expected that much of this activity will occur within shallow coastal waters and therefore would not intersect with the EMBA.

The EMBA does not intersect with the MoU Box that allows for traditional Indonesian fishers within Australian waters. The MoU Box is managed via a bilateral agreement between Australian and Indonesian governments.

5.3.4 Commercial shipping

AMSA collects vessel traffic data from a variety of sources, including satellite shipborne automated identification system (AIS) data, across Australia's Search and Rescue region. This data has been used to develop Figure 5-4, which shows recent vessel traffic (August 2021) within the vicinity of the EMBA.

The EMBA is located to the south-east and north-west of the nearest NWS shipping fairways (Figure 5-4). Commercial vessels transiting the NWS are expected to remain within the fairways and therefore will not typically coincide with the EMBA.

The only vessel traffic expected within the direct vicinity of the EMBA is likely to comprise offshore support vessels associated with the Gorgon Project.

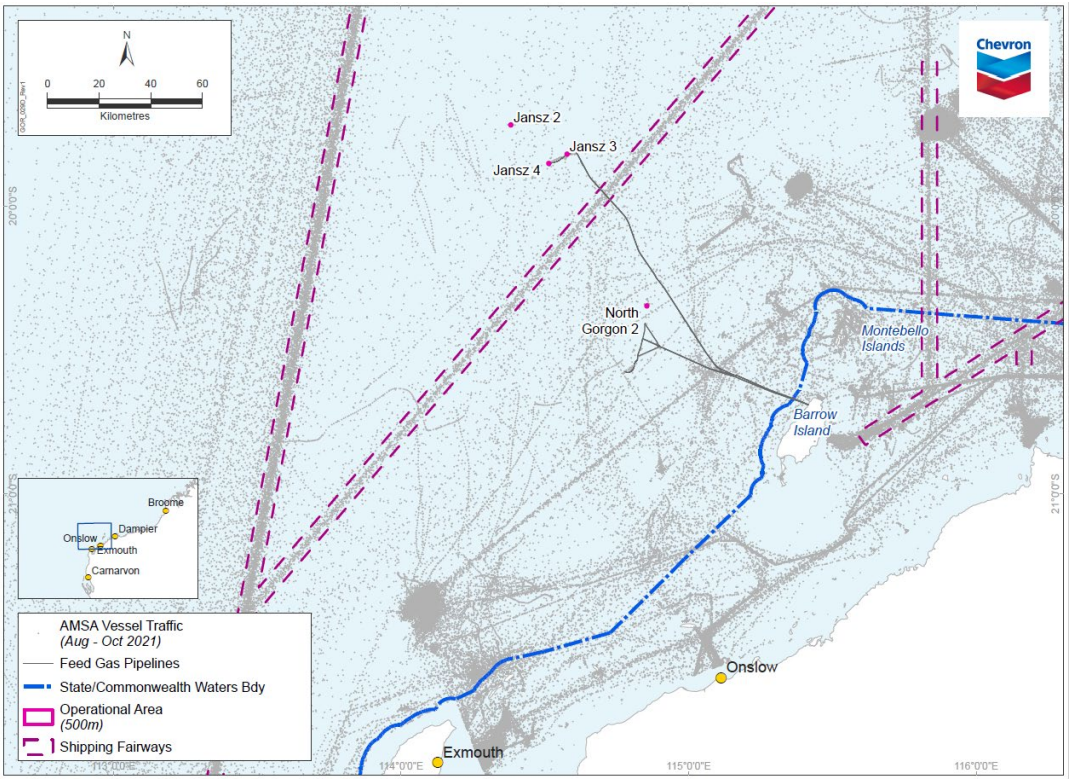


Figure 5-4: Vessel traffic within the vicinity of the EMBA

5.3.5 Tourism and recreation

Tourism is an important industry for WA, directly employing 56,300 people and indirectly employing a further 22,100 (Tourism Research Australia 2022). Charter fishing, diving, snorkelling, wildlife watching, and cruising are some of the commercial tourism activities in and adjacent to the NWMR (DSEWPC 2012). With the exception of offshore charter fishing (Section 5.3.2), most marine tourism activities occur in the shallower State waters (DSEWPC 2012).

The EMBA occurs offshore and does not have any interface with nearshore waters or the coast, and as such any tourism or recreational activities that are expected to occur within the EMBA will be limited.

5.3.6 Other marine and coastal industries

The Northern Carnarvon Basin is one of the most heavily explored and developed petroleum basins in Australia. The Northern Carnarvon, Browse and Bonaparte basins together comprise most of Australia's natural gas reserves (DEWHA 2008). The Carnarvon Basin supports >95% of WA's oil and gas production, and accounts for ~63% of Australia's total production of crude oil, condensate, and natural gas (DEWHA 2008).

The WA-36-L and WA-37-L petroleum titles are associated with the Gorgon Gas Development. As described in Section 2.3, North Gorgon-2 is located ~7 km north of the nearest operational wells within the Gorgon gas field, and Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4 wells are ~20 km northwest, ~1 km northeast, and ~0.1 km northwest, respectively, of the nearest operational wells within the Jansz–Io gas field.

5.4 Qualities and characteristics of locations, places, and areas

The qualities and characteristics of the protected places present within the EMBA are described in the following sections.

5.4.1 Australian Marine Parks

There are currently no Australian Marine Parks (AMPs) within the EMBA, with the nearest AMP being the Montebello Reserve located ~40 km to the east of the North Gorgon-2.

5.4.2 State marine protected areas

There are no state marine protected areas within the EMBA, the nearest marine protected area is the Barrow Island Marine Management Area located ~58 km to the south-east of the North Gorgon-2 well.

5.5 Heritage value of places

Listed World Heritage properties, and National Heritage places, are MNES under the EPBC Act, and a particular value and sensitivity under the OPGGS(E)R. There are no World Heritage properties, National Heritage places, or Commonwealth Heritage places within the EMBA.

Historic shipwrecks and sunken aircrafts (>75 years old) and other underwater heritage artefacts and sites are protected under the *Underwater Cultural Heritage Act 2018* (Cth). The Australasian Underwater Cultural Heritage Database (DCCEEW 2021) does not identify any historic shipwrecks or sunken aircrafts within the EMBA.

6 environmental impact and risk assessment methodology

This section provides a description of the methods used to identify and evaluate the environmental impacts and risks associated with the petroleum activity (as described in Section 4) noting that the activity is an inactivity in the sense that field activities are not to occur and noting that there are no potential emergency conditions associated with the petroleum activity. These methods support the environmental impact and risk assessment as required under regulation 13(5) of the OPGGS(E)R.

The impact and risk assessment for this EP was undertaken in accordance with the CAPL's *ABU Operational Excellence (OE) Risk Management Process* (CAPL 2020) and using Chevron Corporation's Integrated Risk Prioritization Matrix (Table 6-1). This approach generally aligns with the processes outlined in ISO 31000:2018 *Risk management – Principles and guidelines* (AS/NZS 2018) and the HB 203:2012 *Managing environment-related risk* (AS/NZS 2012).

The impact and risk assessment process and evaluation involved consulting with environmental, health, safety, wells, and engineering personnel. The impacts and risks considered and covered in this EP were identified and informed by:

- expertise and experience of CAPL personnel
- relevant persons consultation (Section 7).

6.1 Identification and description of the petroleum activity

All components of the petroleum activity and potential emergency conditions relevant to the scope of this EP are described and evaluated during the impact and risk assessment. The petroleum activity is described in detail in Section 4.

6.2 Identification of particular values and sensitivities

The presence of environmental values and sensitivities within the EMBA is documented in Section 5. In accordance with regulation 13(3) of the OPGGS(E)R, the particular values and sensitivities include the following:

- the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property within the meaning of the EPBC Act
- the national heritage values of a National Heritage place within the meaning of the EPBC Act
- the ecological character of a declared Ramsar wetland within the meaning of the EPBC Act
- the presence of a listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological community within the meaning of the EPBC Act
- the presence of a listed migratory species within the meaning of the EPBC Act
- any values and sensitivities that exist in, or in relation to, part or all of:
  - a Commonwealth marine area within the meaning of the EPBC Act
  - Commonwealth land within the meaning of the EPBC Act.

Because many protected, rare, or endangered fauna have the potential to transit through the EMBA, CAPL considers that the habitat and/or temporal area that supports protected and endangered fauna (including areas defined as BIAs for these species) is considered part of the particular value or sensitivity.

Environmental values and sensitivities are also considered to be associated with each of the receptor groups identified and described throughout Section 5 (i.e. in addition to those particular values and sensitivities as identified under the OPGGS(E)R). All relevant environmental values and sensitivities have been taken into consideration during consultation process (and identification in functions, interests, or activities; Section 7), and the impact and risk assessment (Section 8).

6.3 Identification of relevant aspects

CAPL defines an aspect as an element of CAPL's activities, products, or services related to an operation that has the potential to interact with the environment at present or later (e.g., wastewater discharge, greenhouse gas emissions, legacy environmental obligations).

After describing the petroleum activity, an assessment was carried out to identify potential interactions between the petroleum activity and the receiving environment. The outcomes of relevant persons consultation also contributed to this scoping process.

Note: Potential interactions with safety, health, and assets is outside the scope of this EP.

Environmental aspects categorised for use in the impact and risk assessment of this petroleum activity include:

- physical presence
- seabed disturbance
- indirect discharges.

6.4 Identification of relevant environmental impacts and risks

Potential impacts and risks arising from the aspects were then identified during a scoping exercise and then evaluated in detail.

6.5 Evaluation of impacts and risks

6.5.1 Consequence

After identifying the aspects, and associated potential impacts and risks, the potential consequences were evaluated using the Integrated Risk Prioritization Matrix (Table 6-1). The consequence level is determined by considering:

- the spatial scale or extent of potential interactions within the receiving environment
- the nature of the receiving environment (within the spatial extent), including proximity to sensitive receptors, relative importance, and sensitivity or resilience to change
- the impact mechanisms (cause and effect) of the aspect within the receiving environment (e.g., persistence, toxicity, mobility, bioaccumulation potential)
- the duration and frequency of potential effects and time for recovery
- the potential degree of change relative to the existing environment or to acceptability criteria.

For aspects that have the potential to cause both impacts and risks, the highest level consequence was carried through the remainder of the assessment to ensure the most conservative analysis is presented.

Table 6-1: Chevron Corporation's Integrated Risk Prioritization Matrix

Likelihood Descriptions	Expected to occur	Likely	1	6	5	4	3	2	1
	Conditions may allow to occur	Occasional	2	7	6	5	4	3	2
	Exceptional conditions may allow to occur	Seldom	3	8	7	6	5	4	3
	Reasonable to expect will not occur	Unlikely	4	9	8	7	6	5	4
	Has occurred once or twice in the industry	Remote	5	10	9	8	7	6	5
	Rare or unheard of	Rare	6	10	10	9	8	7	6
Consequence Descriptions				6	5	4	3	2	1
				Incidental	Minor	Moderate	Major	Severe	Catastrophic
				Limited environmental impact	Localised, short-term environmental impact	Localised, long-term environmental impact	Short-term, widespread environmental impact	Long-term widespread environmental impact	Persistent landscape-scale environmental impact

6.5.2 Control measures and ALARP

The process for identifying control measures depends on the 'as low as reasonably practicable' (ALARP) decision context set for that particular aspect. Regardless of the process, control measures are assigned in accordance with the defined environmental performance outcomes, with the objective to eliminate, prevent, reduce, or mitigate consequences associated with each identified environmental impact and risk.

The OPGGS(E)R defines a control measure as a system, an item of equipment, a person or a procedure, that is used as a basis for managing environmental impacts and risk.

6.5.2.1 ALARP decision context

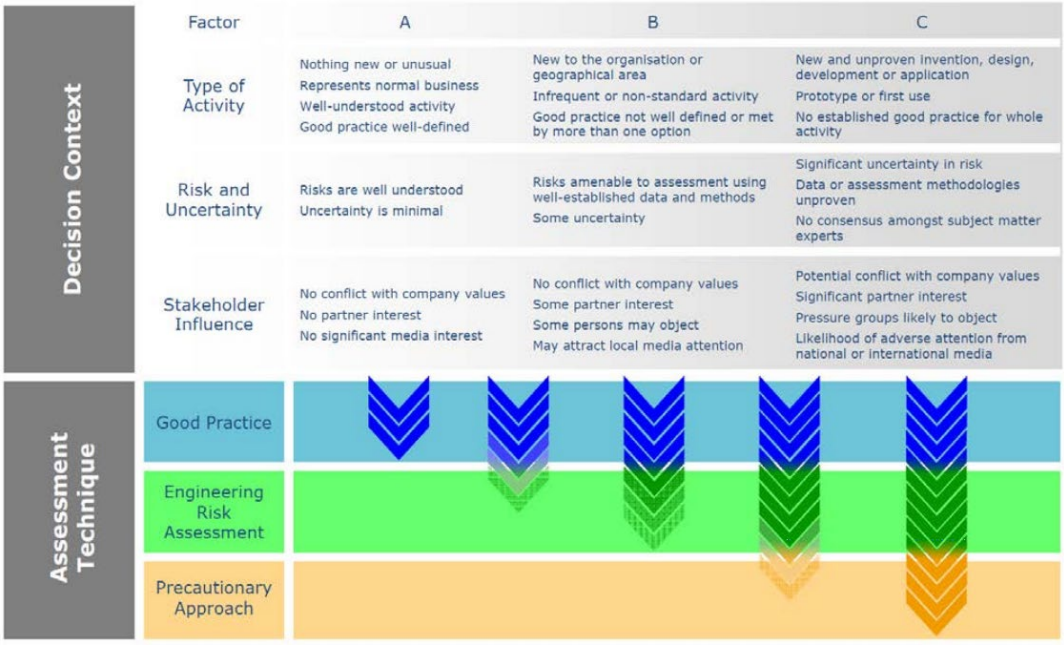
In alignment with NOPSEMA's ALARP guidance note (NOPSEMA 2022), CAPL has adapted the approach developed by Oil and Gas UK (OGUK) (OGUK 2014) for use in an environmental context to determine the assessment technique required to demonstrate that impacts and risks are ALARP. Specifically, the framework considers the magnitude of impacts and risks along with these guiding factors:

- activity type
- risk and uncertainty
- stakeholder influence.

A Type A decision (Figure 6-1) is made for lower-order impacts and risks (Table 6-3) where they are relatively well understood, activities are well-practised, and there is no significant stakeholder interest. However, if good practice is not sufficiently well defined, additional assessment may be required. In addition, where an aspect associated with the activity is listed as either a key threat to a protected matter under a document made or implemented under the EPBC Act (such as recovery plans, conservation management plans, or a conservation advice), or identified as an aspect of concern to a listed conservation value under an EPBC Act marine bioregional plan, and can result in a credible impact or risk to these sensitivities, additional control consideration will be undertaken.

A Type B decision (Figure 6-1) is made for higher-order impacts and risks (Table 6-3) if there is greater uncertainty or complexity around the activity, and there are relevant concerns from stakeholders. In this instance, established good practice is not considered sufficient and further assessment is required to support the decision and ensure the risk is ALARP.

A Type C decision (Figure 6-1) typically involves sufficient complexity, higher-order impact and risks (Table 6-3), uncertainty, or stakeholder interest to require a precautionary approach. In this case, relevant good practice still has to be met, additional assessment is required, and the precautionary approach must be considered for those controls that only have a marginal cost benefit.



Source: (OGUK 2014)

Figure 6-1: ALARP decision support framework

In accordance with the regulatory requirement to demonstrate that environmental impacts and risks are ALARP, CAPL has considered the above decision context in determining the level of assessment required. This is applied to each aspect described in Section 7. The assessment techniques considered include:

- good practice
- engineering risk assessment
- precautionary approach.

6.5.2.2 Good practice

OGUK (2014) defines 'good practice' as:

> *The recognised risk management practices and measures that are used by competent organisations to manage well-understood hazards arising from their activities.*

Good practice can also be used as the generic term for those measures that are recognised as satisfying the law. For this EP, sources of good practice include:

- requirements from Australian legislation and regulations
- relevant Commonwealth government policies
- relevant Commonwealth government guidance
- relevant industry standards
- relevant international conventions.

If the ALARP technique is determined to be good practice, further assessment (an engineering risk assessment) is not required to identify additional controls. However, additional controls that provide a suitable environmental benefit for an insignificant cost have been identified.

6.5.2.3 Engineering risk assessment

All impacts and risks that require further assessment are subject to an engineering risk assessment. Based on the various approaches recommended by OGUK (2014), CAPL believes the methodology most suited to this activity is a comparative assessment of risks, costs, and environmental benefit. A cost–benefit analysis should show the balance between the risk benefit (or environmental benefit) and the cost of implementing the identified measure, with differentiation required such that the benefit of the risk-reduction measure can be seen and the reason for the benefit understood.

6.5.2.4 Precautionary approach

After considering all available engineering and scientific evidence, OGUK (2014) state that if the assessment is insufficient, inconclusive, or uncertain, then a precautionary approach to hazard management is needed. A precautionary approach will mean that uncertain analysis is replaced by conservative assumptions that will result in control measures being more likely to be implemented.

That is, environmental considerations are expected to take precedence over economic considerations, meaning that a control measure that may reduce environmental impact is more likely to be implemented. In this decision context, the decision could have significant economic consequences to an organisation.

6.5.3 Likelihood

For environmental impacts (where there is a planned emission or discharge resulting in a known change to the environment) likelihood is not considered.

For risks where the aspect or event may lead to environmental impacts under certain circumstances, the likelihood (probability) of the defined consequence occurring is determined. The likelihood is considered on the assumption that all control measures are in place. The likelihood of a consequence occurring was identified using one of the six likelihood categories shown in Table 6-1.

6.5.4 Quantification of the level of risk

The Integrated Risk Prioritization Matrix (Table 6-1) was applied during an environmental risk assessment workshop. This matrix uses consequence and likelihood rankings of 1 to 6, which when combined, result in a risk level between 1 (highest risk) and 10 (lowest risk). Risk assessment outcomes are based solely on assessment of risk to the environment (as defined under the OPGGS(E)R).

6.6 Impact and risk acceptance criteria

NOPSEMA provides guidance on demonstrating that impacts and risks will be of an ‘acceptable level’ (NOPSEMA 2021). This guidance indicates that an acceptable level is the level of impact or risk to the environment that may be considered broadly acceptable with regard to all relevant considerations, including:

- principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD)
- legislative and other requirements (including laws, policies, standards, conventions)

- matters protected under Part 3 of the EPBC Act, consistent with relevant policies, guidelines, threatened species recovery plans, management plans, management principles etc.
- internal context (titleholder policy, culture, processes, standards and systems)
- external context (existing environment, relevant persons consultation).

6.6.1 Principles of ESD and precautionary principle

The principles of ESD are considered in Table 6-2 in relation to acceptability evaluations.

Under the EPBC Act, the Minister must also take into account the precautionary principle in determining whether or not to approve the taking of an action. The precautionary principle (section 391(2) of the EPBC Act) is that lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing a measure to prevent degradation of the environment where there may be threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage.

Table 6-2: Principles of ESD in relation to petroleum activity acceptability evaluations

Principles of ESD	How they have been applied
(a) decision-making processes should effectively integrate both long-term and short-term economic, environmental, social, and equitable considerations	CAPL's impact and risk assessment process integrates long-term and short-term economic, environmental, social, and equitable considerations. This is demonstrated through the Integrated Risk Prioritization Matrix (Table 6-1), which includes provision for understanding the long-term and short-term impacts associated with its activities, and the ALARP process, which balances the economic cost against environmental benefit. As this principle is inherently met by applying the EP assessment process, it is not considered separately for each evaluation.
(b) if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation	Consider if there is serious or irreversible environmental damage (i.e. consequence level between Major [3] and Catastrophic [1]). If so, assess whether there is significant uncertainty associated with the aspect.
(c) the principle of inter-generational equity – that the present generation should ensure that the health, diversity, and productivity of the environment is maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations	The risk assessment methodology ensures that impacts and risks are reduced to levels that are considered ALARP. If the impacts and risk are determined to be serious or irreversible, the precautionary principle is implemented to ensure that risks are managed to ensure that the environment is maintained for the benefit of future generations.
(d) the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity should be a fundamental consideration in decision-making	Evaluate if there is the potential to affect biological diversity and ecological integrity.
(e) improved valuation, pricing, and incentive mechanisms should be promoted	Not considered relevant for petroleum activity acceptability demonstrations.

6.6.2 Defining an acceptable level of impact and risk

In alignment with NOPSEMA's ALARP guidance note (NOPSEMA 2022), CAPL has applied the approach that lower-order environmental impacts or risks (Table 6-3) assessed as Decision Context A are 'broadly acceptable', while higher-order environmental impacts or risks determined to be Decision Context B or C require further evaluation against a defined acceptable level because they are not inherently 'broadly acceptable'. However, in alignment with NOPSEMA's decision making guidance (NOPSEMA 2021) even where the impact or risk is evaluated as being a lower-order impact or risk, but the aspect associated with the activity is listed as a threat to a protected matter under a document made or implemented under the EPBC Act, or identified as an aspect of concern to a listed conservation value under an EPBC Act Marine Bioregional Plans, and can result in a credible impact or risk, CAPL will define an acceptable level of impact and risk in accordance with a document made or implemented under the EPBC Act.

Table 6-3: CAPL definition of lower-order and higher-order impacts and risks

Magnitude	Impact	Risk	Decision context
Lower-order	Consequence Level: 4–6	Risk Level: 7–10	A
Higher-order	Consequence Level: 1–3	Risk Level: 1–6	B or C

CAPL will consider these types of documents when defining the acceptable level of impact or risk:

- bioregional plans
- AMP plans
- conservation advice
- recovery plans
- government guidelines.

The objectives of the documents are identified and, having regard for the described activity, CAPL will set an acceptable level of impact that aligns with these objectives. Where the impact arising from the activity is inconsistent with the defined level (or objectives of the relevant documents), it is unacceptable.

6.6.3 Summary of acceptance criteria

Table 6-4 outlines the criteria that CAPL used to demonstrate that impacts and risks from each identified aspect are acceptable.

Table 6-4: Acceptability criteria

Criteria	Test
Principles of ESD	Is there the potential to affect biological diversity and ecological integrity? Do activities have the potential to result in permanent/irreversible, medium-large scale, and/or moderate-high intensity environmental damage?
	If yes: Is there significant scientific uncertainty associated with the aspect?
	If yes: Are there additional measures to prevent degradation of the environment from this aspect?

Criteria	Test
Relevant environmental legislation and other requirements	Confirm that impact and risk management is consistent with relevant Australian environmental management laws and other regulatory / statutory requirements.
Internal context	Confirm that all good practice control measures were identified for this aspect through CAPL's management systems, and that impact and risk management is consistent with company policy, culture, and standards.
External context	What objections and claims regarding this aspect were made, and how were they considered / addressed?
Defined acceptable level	Is the impact and risk broadly acceptable (i.e. Decision Context A)?
	If no: For higher-order environmental impacts and risks (Decision Context B or C), what is the defined level of impact, and does the activity meet this level?

6.7 Environmental performance outcomes, standards, and measurement criteria

Environmental performance outcomes, performance standards, and measurement criteria were defined to address the environmental impacts and risks identified during the risk assessment.

CAPL is committed to conducting activities associated with the petroleum activity in an environmentally responsible manner and aims to implement best practice environmental management as part of a program of continual improvement to reduce impacts and risks to ALARP. CAPL defines environmental performance outcomes, standards, and measurement criteria that relate to the management of the identified environmental risks as:

- **Environmental performance outcomes**—a measurable level of performance required for the management of environmental aspects of an activity to ensure that environmental impacts and risks will be of an acceptable level
- **Environmental performance standards**—a statement of the performance required of a control measure
  - These statements will consider the effectiveness of the control measures, and, in accordance with NOPSEMA's decision making guidance (NOPSEMA 2021), effectiveness will be considered with regards to the controls' functionality, availability, reliability, survivability, independence, and compatibility with other control measures
- **Measurement criteria**—compliance and assurance statement or records that detail how CAPL enacts the outlined performance standard; these are used to determine whether the environmental performance outcomes and standards were met and whether the implementation strategy was complied with. If no practicable quantitative target exists, a qualitative criterion is set.

7 relevant persons consultation

This section provides a description of the methods used, and outcomes of, consultation with relevant authorities, persons, or organisations (a *relevant person*) undertaken during the preparation of this EP, as required under regulation 11A of the OPGGS(E)R.

Ongoing consultation, as required under regulation 14(9) of the OPGGS(E)R, is described in Section 9.3.3.1.

7.1 Purpose

Regulation 11A of the OPGGS(E)R enables the titleholder to properly understand all the environmental impacts and risks of the petroleum activity, and to refine or change the control measures by taking into account the information acquired from relevant persons through consultations. Recent judicial consideration of regulation 11A assists in understanding the purpose of the consultation required under the provision:

> *"Regulation 11A, like most statutory consultation provisions, imposes an obligation that must be capable of practicable and reasonable discharge by the person upon whom it is imposed. Consultation is a "real world" activity, with specific purposes. Here, its purpose is to ensure that the titleholder has ascertained, understood and addressed all the environmental impacts and risks that might arise from its proposed activity. Consultation facilitates this outcome because it gives the titleholder an opportunity to receive information that it might not otherwise have received from others affected by its proposed activity. Consultation enables the titleholder to better understand how others with an objective stake in the environment in which it proposes to pursue the activity perceive those environmental impacts and risks. As the Regulations expressly contemplate, it enables the titleholder to refine or change the measures it proposes to address those impacts and risks by taking into account the information acquired through the consultations. Objectively, the scheme intends that this is likely to improve the minimisation of environmental impacts and risks from the activity."* [3]

The consultation process should also inform the titleholder's understanding of the environment, including (amongst other things) people and communities, the heritage value of places, and their social and cultural features which may be affected by a titleholder's proposed activities (NOPSEMA 2022).

Regulation 11A establishes a duty on titleholders to carry out consultation in the course of preparing an EP, and this obligation must be discharged completed prior to submitting an EP to NOPSEMA (NOPSEMA 2022). The purpose of consultation is also to:

- identify the social and cultural features of communities within the ecosystem
- inform the control measures to eliminate, reduce and mitigate impacts and risks to those socio-cultural values and sensitivities in response to relevant persons concerns
- to inform NOPSEMA of relevant persons' identities, the nature of the consultation, and the control measures adopted ((Federal Court of Australia 2022) at paragraphs 55–57).

[3] Paragraph 89 of *Santos NA Barossa Pty Ltd v Tipakalippa* [2022] FCAFC 193 (Federal Court of Australia 2022)

7.2 Consultation design

The consultation design for preparation of this EP was undertaken in accordance with CAPL's *Stakeholder Engagement and Issues Management Process: ABU Standardised OE Process* (CAPL 2019) and further guided by:

- NOPSEMA's *Environment plan decision making* guideline (NOPSEMA 2021)
- NOPSEMA's *Environment plan content requirements* guidance note (NOPSEMA 2020)
- NOPSEMA's *Consultation in the course of preparing an environment plan* guideline (NOPSEMA 2022).
- NOPSEMA's *Consultation with Commonwealth agencies with responsibilities in the marine area* guideline (NOPSEMA 2022)
- NOPSEMA's *Petroleum activities and Australian Marine Parks* guidance note (NOPSEMA 2020) and Park Australia's draft *Petroleum Activities - Director of National Parks consultation guide* (Parks Australia 2023)
- Full Court of the Federal Court of Australia's decision in *Santos NA Barossa Pty Ltd v Tipakalippa* [2022] FCAFC 193 (Federal Court of Australia 2022)
- Commonwealth of Australia's *Engage Early—Guidance for proponents on best practice Indigenous engagement for environmental assessments under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)* (DoE 2016)
- Government of Western Australia's *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021—Consultation Guidelines* (Government of Western Australia 2023)
- Relevant requirements under Part 6 (managing activities that may harm Aboriginal cultural heritage) of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021* (WA), including section 101 (consultation about proposed activities) and section 113 (notice of intention to carry out tier 2 activity)
- WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) Guideline for the Development of Petroleum, Geothermal and Pipeline Environment Plans in Western Australia (DMIRS 2022)
- Australian Fisheries Management Authority's (AFMA*) Petroleum industry consultation with the commercial fishing industry* (AFMA 2023)
- Western Australian Fishing Industry Council's (WAFIC) *Oil & Gas Consultation Approach for Unplanned Events* (WAFIC 2023)
- DPIRDs *Guidance statement for oil and gas industry consultation with the Department of Fisheries* (DoF 2013)
- WA Department of Transport's (DoT) *Offshore Petroleum Industry Guidance Note – Marine Oil Pollution: Response and Consultation Arrangements* (DoT 2020).

The consultation design is reviewed on a case-by-case basis to incorporate any feedback from relevant persons regarding the type of information or method of engagement that is preferred to ensure that the purpose of the consultation is achieved.

7.2.1 Relevant person

In accordance with regulation 11A(1) of the OPGGS(E)R, a relevant person is defined as:

- regulation 11A(1)(a)—each department or agency of the Commonwealth to which the activities to be carried out under the EP, or the revision of the EP, may be relevant
- regulation 11A(1)(b)—each department or agency of a State or the Northern Territory to which the activities to be carried out under the EP, or the revision of the EP, may be relevant
- regulation 11A(1)(c)—the department of the responsible State Minister, or the responsible Northern Territory Minister
- regulation 11A(1)(d)—a person or organisation whose functions, interests, or activities may be affected by the activities to be carried out under the EP, or the revision of the EP
- regulation 11A(1)(e)—any other person or organisation that the titleholder considers relevant.

Following the direction given by the Full Court of the Federal Court in *Santos NA Barossa Pty Ltd v Tipakalippa* [2022] FCAFC 193 (Federal Court of Australia 2022), and subsequent NOPSEMA guidance (NOPSEMA 2020)), it is clear that the phrase "functions, interests or activities" stated in regulation 11A(1)(d) should be broadly construed[4]on the basis that a broad construction best promotes the objects of the OPGGS(E)R. In *Santos NA Barossa Pty Ltd v Tipakalippa*, the Court construed the following terms used in regulation 11A(1)(d) as follows:

- **functions**—a power or duty to do something[5]
- **interests**—in accordance with the accepted concept of "interest" in other areas of public administrative law, and including "any interest possessed by an individual whether or not the interest amounts to a legal right or is a proprietary or financial interest or relates to reputation"[6]
- **activities**—broadly and is broader than the definition of 'activity' in regulation 4 of the OPGGS(E)R and is likely directed to what the relevant person is already doing[7].

Persons or organisations are considered relevant persons under regulation 11(1)(d) of the OPGGS(E)R if their functions, interests or activities may be affected by the petroleum activity to be carried out under the EP. CAPL's approach has been to take a broad interpretation of "function, interest, and activity" and screen in relevant persons.

Where interests are held communally, CAPL has made a decisional choice to consult with representative bodies ((Federal Court of Australia 2022) at paragraphs 96–102) and has sought to do so through meetings ((Federal Court of Australia 2022) at paragraph 104). CAPL has sought to provide sufficient information to individuals who are relevant persons by providing information to

[4] Paragraph 51 of *Santos NA Barossa Pty Ltd v Tipakalippa* [2022] FCAFC 193 (Federal Court of Australia 2022).

[5] Paragraph 60 of *Santos NA Barossa Pty Ltd v Tipakalippa* [2022] FCAFC 193 (Federal Court of Australia 2022).

[6] Paragraphs 63 and 65 of *Santos NA Barossa Pty Ltd v Tipakalippa* [2022] FCAFC 193 (Federal Court of Australia 2022).

[7] Paragraphs 58 and 59 of *Santos NA Barossa Pty Ltd v Tipakalippa* [2022] FCAFC 193 (Federal Court of Australia 2022).

representative bodies for dissemination with members and by attending meetings with group members ((Federal Court of Australia 2022) at paragraph 47) and CAPL has also sought to identify those representative body organisations themselves as relevant persons ((Federal Court of Australia 2022) at paragraph 48). As documented in the summary of consultation (Appendix d), CAPL has asked these representative bodies if there are persons or knowledge holders outside of the individuals they represent who may be relevant persons for the purposes of consultation to endeavour to make all necessary efforts to identify relevant persons.

7.2.2 Sufficient information

Under regulation 11A(2) of the OPGGS(E)R and NOPSEMA's guidelines (NOPSEMA 2021, NOPSEMA 2022), for the purpose of consultation, the titleholder must provide each relevant person with sufficient information to enable them to make an informed assessment of the possible consequences of the petroleum activity on their functions, interests, or activities.

The base level of information provided to all relevant persons includes:

- maps of the proposed petroleum activity location and the associated EMBA
- a summary of the petroleum activity, including indicative schedule and duration
- a summary of the potential impacts and risks as identified by CAPL
- a preliminary assessment of how the potential impacts and risks may impact the environmental and socio-cultural values and sensitivities
- a summary of the proposed control measures that CAPL has adopted to reduce the predicted consequence and/or likelihood of the potential impact or risk.

This base level of information is the minimum required for relevant persons to make an informed assessment of the potential consequences to the persons' functions, interest, or activity because it informs the relevant person of:

- the activity (including spatial and timing information that may intersect with their function, interest, or activity)
- the impacts and risks of the petroleum activity (including the spatial extent of the EMBA and intersection with BIAs) to allow an assessment of how that may impact or create a risk to the relevant persons' functions, interests, or activities
- the control measures to reduce the impacts or risks of the petroleum activity to environmental and socio-cultural values and sensitivities.

Additional information may be provided to reflect the information requested through co-design of consultation, to better enable them to provide feedback related to potential interactions with their function, interest, or activity, or in response to their objection or claim. This includes verbal information and answers to questions during consultation discussions.

The following is a summary of materials released as part of the consultation for this EP:

- CAPL issued an initial factsheet to identified relevant persons in May 2022 and again between February to March 2023, this factsheet included information

about the proposed petroleum activity, potential impacts and risks, control measures, and included maps showing EMBA

- CAPL released information regarding the gorgon and jansz wellhead in situ decommissioning to the Online Consultation Hub (https://australia.chevron.com/our-businesses/upcoming-activities) on 3 February 2023 and emailed the link to relevant persons; the Online Consultation Hub contains all the base level of information as described above
- CAPL published notices in The Australian and The West Australian on 3 February 2023 in the Pilbara News, Mid-West Times, and Northwest Telegraph on 8 February 2023, in Business News on 13 February 2023, and National Indigenous Times on 23 February 2023
- CAPL published a LinkedIn post on 24 February 2023 with a link to the Online Consultation Hub that has information regarding gorgon and jansz wellhead in situ decommissioning CAPL developed posters, presentation materials, and handouts for use and distribution in face-to-face meetings
- CAPL attended various face-to-face meetings with relevant persons (see Appendix 4)
- CAPL held an information session in the town of Onslow outlining its planned activities, including Gorgon and Jansz wellhead in situ decommissioning, on 14 March 2023.

A copy of the consultation material is included in Appendix 4. A summary of the consultation strategy and information provided to each category of relevant persons is included in Table 7-1.

Table 7-1 Consultation strategy and information provided to relevant persons

Category of persons or organisations	Consultation strategy and information provided
Commercial fishery licence holders and/or representative bodies	• initial correspondence with WAFIC to provide base level information on the petroleum activity and link to the CAPL Online Consultation Hub • follow up correspondence with WAFIC to confirm the commercial fishery licence holders to be consulted • in consultation with WAFIC, determine the level of consultation required and whether tailored consultation material needs to be developed • provision of consultation material to WAFIC for distribution to relevant commercial fishery licence holders • WAFIC provides any input received to CAPL, and CAPL provides information to respond to commercial fishery licence holders; any input received is considered in the development of the EP • where a commercial fishery that is not represented by WAFIC has been determined as relevant, the representative body is provided consultation material and feedback is requested • after a reasonable period has been provided to consider the consultation information (as outlined in Section 7.2.3), CAPL will confirm with WAFIC or the relevant industry body (as required) whether further consultation is required • ongoing consultation with follow up correspondence, phone calls and meetings as required.

Category of persons or organisations	Consultation strategy and information provided
First Nations people and/or representative bodies	• initial correspondence with relevant First Nations representative bodies to request a meeting with the board, Elders, and other relevant persons • provision of base level information on the petroleum activity and link to the CAPL Online Consultation Hub as a precursor to face-to-face meetings • initial face-to-face meeting held using bespoke consultation material, including posters, presentations and verbal discussions. CAPL attendees include Senior Management, Subject Matter Experts and Community Engagement and Partnerships Advisors. Key objectives of the initial meeting include: • purpose of consultation is to enhance Environment Plans through relevant person input – co-design of the consultation strategy going forward – determine if there are additional relevant persons or knowledge holders not present at the meeting who should be informed and consulted with – provide an explanation of the proposed activity – ensure relevant persons are aware of the potential impacts and risks associated with the activity (including the EMBA) – explain the process for providing input – determine the adequacy of consultation material provided and confirm if any additional information is required for relevant persons to provide input – confirmation of CAPL's commitment to ongoing consultation and relationship building • follow up emails, phone calls and meetings, as required, to ensure the functions, interests and activities of First Nations peoples' have been identified and to gain an understanding of cultural values and sensitivities in the EMBA; any input received is considered in the development of the EP • site visits on country with First Nations people may be conducted as required • after a reasonable period has been provided to consider the consultation information (as outlined in Section 7.2.3), CAPL provides the First Nations people and/or representative bodies a summary of consultation undertaken to date and requests agreement on the summary • ongoing consultation with follow up correspondence, phone calls and meetings as required.
ENGOs Government departments or agencies Other petroleum titleholders / commercial industries Tourism and recreation operators WA World Heritage advisory committees Self-identified and other relevant persons	• provision of base level information on the petroleum activity and link to the CAPL Online Consultation Hub via email with a request for input and an offer to meet face-to-face • where consultation guidance material is available (as outlined in Section 7.2.2), CAPL tailors its consultation to meet the requirements of the guidance material • local community / town meetings may be held using presentations, posters and verbal discussions as required • any input received is responded to and considered in the development of the EP • after a reasonable period has been provided to consider the consultation information (as outlined in Section 7.2.3), CAPL will determine whether further consultation is required • ongoing consultation with follow up correspondence, phone calls and meetings as required.

7.2.3 Reasonable period

Under regulation 11A(3) of the OPGGS(E)R and NOPSEMA's guidelines (NOPSEMA 2021, NOPSEMA 2022), relevant persons must be provided with a reasonable period for the consultation to occur, allowing the relevant person to make an informed assessment of the possible consequences of the proposed petroleum activity on their functions, interests, or activities and respond to the titleholder. "Reasonable period" was not defined by the Full Federal Court in *Tipakalippa* (Federal Court of Australia 2022), however, consistent with the Court's analysis in the "NTA authorities" section of the judgment, CAPL has sought to identify existing guidelines and practices to help inform what a "reasonable period" may constitute for the relevant person.

Guidance on consultation with Commonwealth departments or agencies indicates that agencies will provide an initial response to consultation requests within 10 business days (NOPSEMA 2023) or up to eight weeks (NOPSEMA 2023).

Available guidance regarding consultation with State departments or agencies indicates a reasonable period for standard activities is no less than 20 business days (DoF 2013), and up to six weeks (DoT 2020).

Guidance taken from the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021—Consultation Guidelines* (Government of Western Australia 2023) suggests that up to 12 weeks may be a reasonable period of time to allow identification, contact, and response, from First Nations peoples (subject to any alternative timeframe being agreed through co-design of consultation).

CAPL provided all relevant persons an initial period following the issue of consultation materials to respond. Where no response was received, CAPL followed up with each relevant person (via phone, email, or in person) to enquire if there was any clarifications or additional information required to aid their assessment of any interactions with their functions, interests, or activities.

7.2.4 Sensitive information

Regulation 11(A)(3) of the OPGGS(E)R requires that "[t]he titleholder must tell each relevant person the titleholder consults that:

a) the relevant person may request that particular information the relevant person provides in the consultation not be published; and

b) information subject to such a request is not to be published under this Part".

Under regulation 9(8) of the OPGGS(E)R "[a]ll sensitive information (if any) in an environment plan, and the full text of any response by a relevant person to consultation under regulation 11A in the course of preparation of the plan, must be contained in the sensitive information part of the plan and not anywhere else in the plan".

In accordance with regulations 9(8) of the OPGGS(E)R, the full text of all responses received from relevant persons, as well as sensitive information, are included in the sensitive information report provided separately to NOPSEMA to preserve the privacy of those persons or organisations consulted. Specifically, the sensitive information includes records and responses considered to contain personal information (as defined by the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth)) or information given by a relevant person in consultation under regulation 11A of the OPGGS(E)R in the course of preparing this EP that relevant persons requested not to be published.

7.2.5 Identification of Relevant Persons

In accordance with NOPSEMA's guideline for consultation: (NOPSEMA 2023), titleholders must identify who is a relevant person and the rationale used to determine that identification as a relevant person.

Identifying relevant persons requires an assessment of:

- the petroleum activity (Section 4)
- the environment in which the petroleum activity is being undertaken, including:
  - environmental, socio-economic, and cultural values and sensitivities of the environment
  - the spatial extent of the EMBA
  - any intersection between the EMBA and BIAs
- the possible environmental impacts and risks of the petroleum activity and the possible consequences on the functions, interests, activities of relevant persons.

The process undertaken by CAPL for the identification of relevant persons:

- identified what types of authorities, persons, or organisations may be relevant to the values and sensitivities present within the EMBA
- reviewed the functions, interests, or activities of the types of organisations or individuals identified, and determined if the functions, interests, or activities of organisations or individuals may be affected by the petroleum activity through multiple lines of evidence:
- existing industry guidance e.g. (NOPSEMA 2023, NOPSEMA 2023, AFMA 2023, WAFIC 2023, DoF 2013, DoT 2020)
- CAPL's previous consultation history for activities on the NWS
- advice from representative industry and/or community bodies
- online searches
- review of publicly available databases or registers (e.g. access and use authorisations within AMPs, DPIRD's register of fishery licence holders).

The outcomes of this process are detailed in Table 7-2, which lists the relevant persons that were identified for this EP, and CAPL's reasoning for determining their inclusion.

Table 7-2: Potential authority, persons, or organisations that have functions, interests, or activities that are associated with environmental values or sensitivities present within the EMBA

Environmental aspect (and aspect source)	Values and sensitivities	Function, interest, or activity	Potential impact or risk	Intersection	Category of persons or organisations
Physical presence – other marine users • physical presence of wellhead on the seabed	Commercial fishing	Interest and activity – Commercial fishing	Potential for unplanned interactions with other marine users may result in: Disruption of fishing activities or entanglement of trawl fishing gear on subsea infrastructure or equipment	The potential for unplanned interactions between other marine users and the in-situ wellheads is limited to where these users interact with the seabed. One Commonwealth managed commercial trawl fishery (North West Slope Trawl Fishery) has a management area that overlaps with the EMBA. The entire fishery has a small number of active permits and vessels and does not regularly record fishing effort within the EMBA. The wellheads have been in place within the EMBA since 1994 (North Gorgon-2) and 2003–2009, and to date, no incidences of commercial fishing activities interacting with the infrastructure has been communicated to CAPL.	Commercial fishing industry Government departments or agencies
Seabed disturbance • physical presence of wellhead on the seabed.	Benthic habitats and communities Cultural values	Interest and activity – Environmental conservation Cultural connections	Seabed disturbance may result in: • alternation of marine habitats • changes to cultural heritage values	The continued presence of the wellheads and associated infrastructure may cause localised alteration of natural sediment movements but is not expected to affect ecosystem function or connectivity of communities. The continued presence of infrastructure may maintain a localised benthic community. No protected underwater cultural heritage sites or artefacts have been identified within the EMBA. Notwithstanding it is acknowledged	Government departments and agencies First Nations people and/or representative bodies ENGOs

Environmental aspect (and aspect source)	Values and sensitivities	Function, interest, or activity	Potential impact or risk	Intersection	Category of persons or organisations
				that that relevant persons may hold interests relating to marine environmental quality, benthic habitats and communities and cultural values, in particular with respect to the protection of sea country.	
Indirect Discharges • Corrosion of the wellhead and associated infrastructure	Marine environmental quality Marine fauna Benthic habitats and communities	Interest and activity – Environmental conservation	Leaving the wellhead in situ has the potential to result in: • release of contaminants (mostly iron) to the water and sediment surrounding the wellhead • release of contaminants leading to toxicity effects on marine habitats and fauna	The wellheads are predominantly comprised of iron which will corrode over time, releasing trace amounts of metals to the water surrounding the wellhead. Over long time scales, corrosion of wellhead structures may contribute to an increase in breakdown products (mostly iron compounds) in the sediments surrounding the wellhead. Breakdown and release of corrosion products will result in localised and negligible impacts to marine sediment, benthic habitats and water quality given the low toxicity of iron, the slow release rate of the corrosion, low quantities of surface coatings, plastic and rubber, and that dilution will occur due to the open ocean environment. No impacts or lasting effects are expected to the values and sensitivities identified in Section 4. The functions and activities of relevant persons are not expected to be impacted by indirect discharges.	Government departments or agencies First nations people and/or representative bodies ENGOs Commercial fishery licence holders and/or representative bodies Other petroleum holders Research organisations Tourism and recreation operators

7.2.5.1 Self Identification

As part of the consultation process (Figure 7-1) CAPL publicly advertised upcoming petroleum activities (refer to Section 7.2.2), to allow for any authorities, persons, or organisations that have not already been identified through the identification process to review information about the petroleum activity, self-identify as a relevant person, and register as a relevant person with CAPL.

This self-identification pathway was included in the consultation process to facilitate a sufficiently broad capture of ascertainable persons and allow for feedback that CAPL may not have otherwise received.

Where an authority, person, or organisation does self-identify, CAPL conducted an assessment of the merits and claims and a response was progressed (as per the process in Section 7.3.6).

7.3 Consultation Process

The consultation undertaken during the preparation of this EP used the following process (Figure 7-1):

- described the petroleum activity
- identified environmental aspects
- defined the EMBA and identified environmental values and sensitivities
- evaluated environmental impacts and risks and demonstrated these are reduced to ALARP and acceptable levels
- identified functions, interests, or activities that may be affected
- identified relevant persons
- undertook consultation, including provision of sufficient information to enable relevant persons to understand how this activity may affect their functions, interests, or activities
- requested input from all relevant persons with the intent of identifying opportunities to better manage the activity and enhance the EP for the activity
- considered all input provided and assessed the merit of any objections or claims raised by the relevant persons
- provided a response to the objection or claim, and ensured the response was captured in the EP.

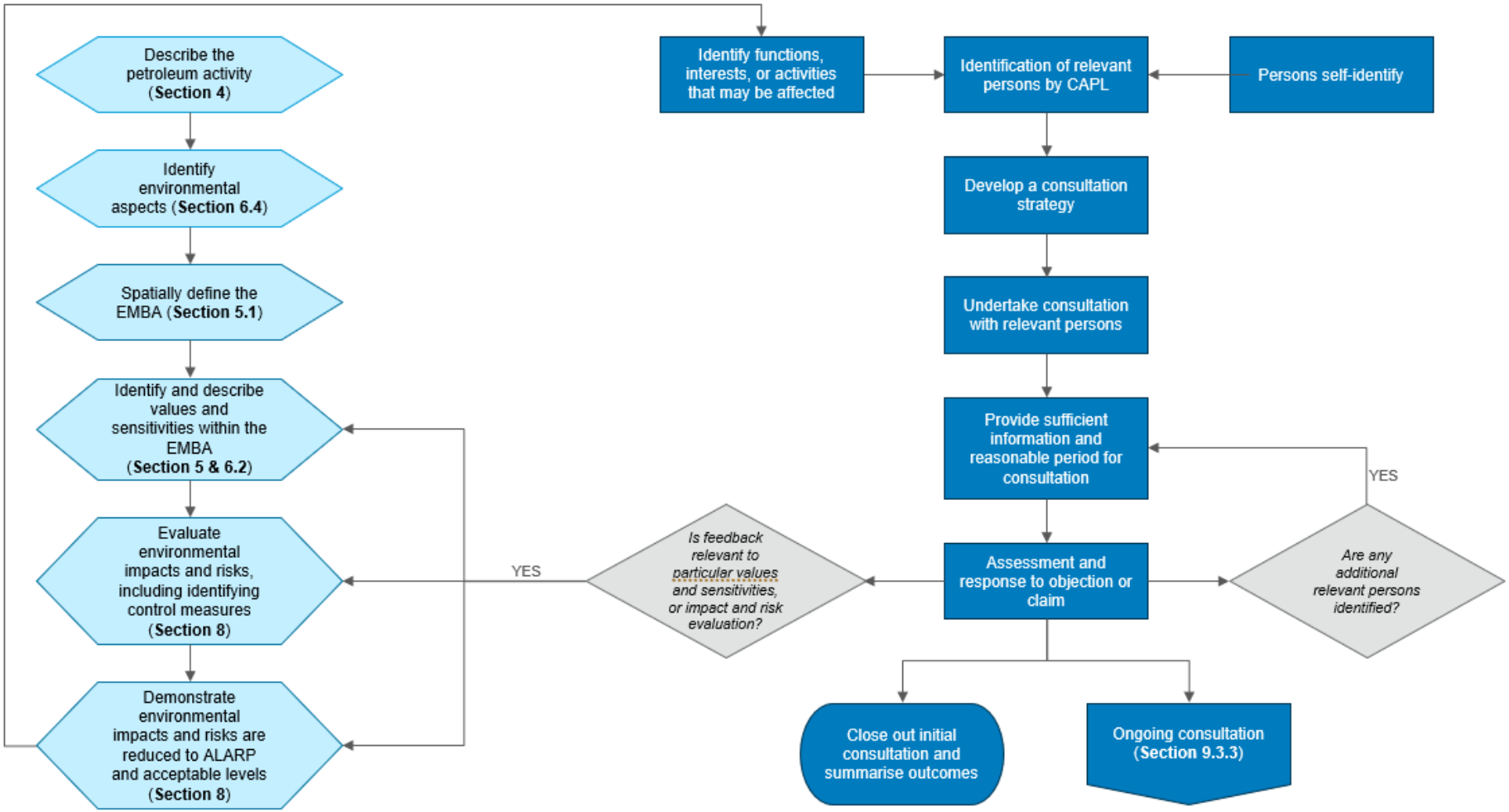


Figure 7-1: Relevant persons consultation process

7.3.1 Relevant persons under regulation 11A(a) and (b)

In accordance with the OPGGS(E)R, relevant persons include the Commonwealth and State departments or agencies to which activities under this EP may be relevant (Section 7.2.1).

CAPL determined relevant persons under these regulations by considering:

- the spatial extent of the EMBA
- the environmental aspects, and potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the petroleum activity
- the responsibilities of the Commonwealth or State department or agency, which was determined by:
  - CAPL's previous consultation history for petroleum activities on the NWS
  - online searches
  - published guidance, including NOPSEMA's *Consultation with Commonwealth agencies with responsibilities in the marine area* guideline (NOPSEMA 2023).

The Commonwealth and State departments or agencies that were identified as a relevant person for consultation during the preparation of this EP are presented in Table 7-4.

7.3.2 Relevant persons under regulation 11A(c)

In accordance with the OPGGS(E)R, the department or agency of the responsible State Minister is a relevant person (Section 7.2.1).

The petroleum activity within scope of this EP occurs in Commonwealth waters, off the coast of WA. As such, the Department of Mines, Industry, Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) has been identified as a relevant person for consultation during the preparation of this EP (Table 7-4).

7.3.3 Relevant persons under regulation 11A(d)

In accordance with the OPGGS(E)R, relevant persons include a person or organisation whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by the activities under this EP (Section 7.2.1).

The persons or organisations that were identified as a relevant person for consultation during the preparation of this EP are presented in Table 7-4.

Table 7-3: Considerations for determining relevance of a person or organisation

Category of persons or organisations	Considerations for identifying a relevant person
Commercial fishery licence holders and/or representative bodies	Commonwealth commercial fisheries: • fishery management area intersects with the EMBA, and a record of recent active fishing effort (based on annual ABARES data) occurring within the EMBA • fishing method, preferred locations or water depths, fishing season • key target species, distribution, and behaviour • potential for temporal and/or spatial interaction between petroleum activity and the commercial fishery State commercial fisheries:

Category of persons or organisations	Considerations for identifying a relevant person
	• guidance from WAFIC (WAFIC 2023) regarding separate consultation strategies for unplanned events such as oil spills, where the titleholder can demonstrate likelihood of an event is "extremely low" • fishery management area intersects with the EMBA, and a record of recent active fishing effort (based on DPIRD FishCube data) occurring within the EMBA • fishing method, preferred locations or water depths, fishing season • key target species, distribution, and behaviour • potential for temporal and/or spatial interaction between petroleum activity and the commercial fishery Peak industry bodies: • where a fishery has been determined as relevant, the representative body is also considered relevant.
ENGOs	• CAPL's operating experience in the NWS and pre-existing knowledge of local ENGOs • intersection between the spatial extent of the EMBA and/or values and sensitivities of the environment and the ENGO's interests
First Nations people and/or representative bodies	First Nations people utilise the coast and marine areas for their cultural identity, health and wellbeing, and their domestic and commercial economies. Therefore, the activities under the EP may be relevant to First Nations people who have an enduring cultural and spiritual connection to the sea. First Nations people or groups were identified through: • Native Title claims or determinations intersecting with, or within the vicinity of the EMBA • where an AMP is present within the EMBA, a review of any identified First Nations people or groups • review of Native Title determinations to determine cultural and/or spiritual link with BIAs Representative bodies: • CAPL's operating experience in the NWS and previous interactions with First Nations representative bodies • where a group has been determined as relevant, the representative body is also considered relevant.
Local government departments or agencies	• local government boundary intersects with the EMBA
Other petroleum titleholders	• CAPL's operating experience in the NWS and pre-existing knowledge of other petroleum operators • other Commonwealth (based on spatial data from NOPTA) petroleum titles that intersect with the EMBA, and with current or proposed activities occurring (based on publicly available EPs from NOPSEMA's EP submission website) within the EMBA • other State (based on spatial data from DMIRS) petroleum titles that intersect with the EMBA, and with current or proposed activities occurring (based on publicly available EP summaries from DMIRS EARS database) within the EMBA • potential for temporal and/or spatial interaction between petroleum activity and the operator of another petroleum title
Tourism and recreation operators	Tourism and recreation operators: • CAPL's operating experience in the NWS and pre-existing knowledge of local tour and recreational operators

Category of persons or organisations	Considerations for identifying a relevant person
	• a record of recent active tour operator fishing effort (based on DPIRD FishCube data) occurring within the EMBA • where an AMP is present within the EMBA, a review of the 'authorisations issued' from Parks Australia (Parks Australia 2023) • potential for temporal and/or spatial interaction between petroleum activity and the tourism/recreational operator Peak industry bodies: • where a tourism or recreational operator has been determined as relevant, the representative body is also considered relevant.
WA World Heritage advisory committees	• World Heritage area intersects with the EMBA, and an Australian World Heritage advisory committee exists

7.3.4 Relevant persons under regulation 11A(e)

In accordance with the OPGGS(E)R, relevant persons may include any other person or organisation that CAPL considers relevant.

Where a person or organisation on this list does not already become a relevant person under regulation 11(A)(d) (using the process as described in Section 7.3.3), CAPL may voluntarily opt to include them in the consultation for the petroleum activity as part of wider and ongoing engagement with their broad stakeholder base.

7.3.5 Conclusion on relevant persons identified

As a result of application of the methodology and identification, the relevant persons identified for the purposes of regulation 11A of the OPGGS(E)R are listed in Table 7-4. CAPL is confident that it has used multiple lines of evidence to identify all relevant persons.

Table 7-4: Relevant persons identified for consultation during preparation of this Gorgon and Jansz wellhead decommissioning environment plan

Relevant person	Rationale
Commonwealth department or agencies (regulation 11A(1)(a))	
Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA)	As identified in NOPSEMA's consultation guideline (NOPSEMA 2023) AFMA is a relevant agency for consultation where an activity can impact or has the potential to impact on fisheries resources in AFMA managed fisheries. Commonwealth fishery management areas have been identified as overlapping with the EMBA (Section 4.1.1). Therefore, the activities under the EP may be relevant to the AFMA.
Australian Hydrographic Office (AHO)	As identified in NOPSEMA's consultation guideline (NOPSEMA 2023) AHO is a relevant agency for consultation when nautical products or other maritime safety information is required to be updated. This EP seeks acceptance to decommission infrastructure on the seabed in situ and the interaction of this infrastructure with other marine users is an identified risk. Therefore, the activities under the EP may be relevant to the AHO.
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)	As identified in NOPSEMA's consultation guideline (NOPSEMA 2023) DAFF is a relevant agency for consultation where an activity has the potential to impact on fishing operations and/or fishing habitats in Commonwealth waters. Commonwealth and State managed fisheries have been identified as overlapping with the EMBA (Section 4.1.1). Therefore, the activities under the EP may be relevant to DAFF.
Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water (DCCEEW)	As identified in NOPSEMA's consultation guideline (NOPSEMA 2023) DCCEEW is a relevant agency for consultation where an activity proposes to leave infrastructure partially or wholly in situ in Australian waters. This EP seeks acceptance to decommission infrastructure on the seabed in situ, therefore, the activities under the EP may be relevant to DCCEEW. As identified in NOPSEMA's consultation guideline (NOPSEMA 2023) DCCEEW is a relevant agency for consultation where an activity has the potential to directly or indirectly adversely impact on protected underwater cultural heritage. Although the EMBA for this EP does not overlap with underwater cultural heritage sites (shipwrecks) (Section 5.5) the activities under the EP may be relevant to the DCCEEW.
State or Northern Territory departments or agencies (regulation 11A(1)(b))	
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)	DPIRD's responsibility is to conserve, sustainably develop and share the use of WA's aquatic resources and their ecosystems. As identified in their Regulatory Compliance Approach (DPIRD 2022), DPIRD considers that it is a relevant person where a petroleum activity may potentially affect commercially and recreationally important fish species, their prey and habitats, and the business activities of the fishers who harvest these resources in State or Commonwealth waters. State managed fisheries have been identified as overlapping with the EMBA (Section 5.3.1). Therefore, the activities under the EP may be relevant to DPIRD.
Department of Water and Environment (DWER)	DWER supports Western Australia's community, economy and environment by managing and regulating the state's environment and water resources on behalf of the Minister for the Environment. Therefore, the activities under this EP may be relevant to DWER.
Department of the responsible State or Northern Territory Minister (regulation 11A(1)(c))	

Relevant person	Rationale
Department of Mines, Industry, Regulation and Safety (DMIRS)	DMIRS is the department of the responsible State Minister. Therefore, they are considered a relevant person as per Regulation 11A(1)(c) of the OPGGS(E)R.
Person or organisation whose functions, interests, or activities may be affected by the petroleum activity (regulation 11A(1)(d))	
First Nations people and/or representative bodies	
Nganhurra Thanardi Garrbu Aboriginal Corporation	The Nganhurra Thanardi Garrbu Aboriginal Corporation (NTGAC) was registered in 2019 to represent, protect and support the interests of the Baiyungu, Thalanyji and Yinggarda People. The Baiyungu, Thalanyji and Yinggarda People's functions, interests and activities extend to offshore areas including the EMBA. Therefore, the activities under the EP may be relevant to this PBC and the Baiyungu, Thalanyji and Yinggarda People.
Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation Registered Native Title Body Corporate	Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC was registered in 2018 to hold and manage the native title rights and interests for the Mardudhunera and Yaburara people. The Mardudhunera and Yaburara People's functions, interests and activities extend to offshore areas including the EMBA. Therefore, the activities under the EP may be relevant to this PBC and the Mardudhunera and Yaburara people.
Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation (BTAC)	The Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation was registered in 2008 to represent, protect and support the interests of the Thalanyji People. The Thalanyji and People's functions, interests and activities extend to offshore areas including the EMBA Note that CAPL has consulted NTGAC which also represents the Thalanyji People.
Commercial fishery licence holders and/or representative bodies	
Commonwealth Fisheries Association	These organisations are peak bodies representing the commercial fishers within Commonwealth or State-managed commercial fisheries. Commonwealth and State managed fisheries have been identified within the EMBA (Section 5.3.1). As such, these organisations have functions, interests, or activities, that may be affected by the activities to be carried out under the EP.
Western Australian Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC)	
ENGOs	
Australian Marine Conservation Society	ENGOs are organisations concerned about public welfare, people and the environment. Several environmental receptors intersect with the EMBA (Section 5). Therefore, NGOs may be considered relevant persons under regulation 11A(1)(d) of the OPGGS(E)R.
Cape Conservation Group	
Protect Ningaloo	
Other	

Relevant person	Rationale
Any other person or organisation that the titleholder considers relevant (regulation 11A(1)(e))	
Commonwealth department or agencies	
Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)	As identified in NOPSEMA's consultation guideline (NOPSEMA 2023) AMSA is a relevant agency for consultation where a proposed activity may impact on the safe navigation of commercial shipping in Australian waters. Although the EMBA for this EP intersects with shipping routes (Section 5.3.4) interaction with the wellheads and commercial shipping is not expected given the depth of the wellheads. Under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the AMSA in consultation.
Department of Defence (DoD)	As identified in NOPSEMA's consultation guideline (NOPSEMA 2023) DoD is a relevant agency for consultation where: • a proposed activity may impact DoD training and operational requirements; • a proposed activity encroaches on known training areas and/or restricted airspace • there is a risk of unexploded ordnance in the area where the activity is taking place. The activity associated with this EP is an inactivity with no in field operations occurring. Under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the DoD in consultation.
State department or agencies	
Department of Transport (DoT) - Maritime Environmental Emergency Response (MEER) - Marine Pollution	DoT (MEER) is the hazard management agency for marine oil pollution and maritime transport emergencies in Western Australian waters. The MEER's role is to develop marine oil spill response capabilities, provide resources and support during response operations, training programs, assist in the development of oil spill contingency plans and raise community awareness about the impact of oil spills. MEER considers that it is a relevant person if activities have the potential to cause a marine oil pollution incident in State waters (DoT 2020). Although there is no credible risk of unplanned hydrocarbon release associated with this EP, under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the DoT MEER in consultation.
Department of Transport (DoT) – Navigational Safety / Maritime	DoT Navigational Safety are responsible for delivering services to ensure Western Australian waterways can be used safely and to grow the State economy with the development and management of coastal infrastructure. Responsibilities include maritime planning. Although the activity associated with this EP is not in State Waters, under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the DoT Navigational Safety in consultation.
Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH)	The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage is the department of the Government of Western Australia responsible for planning and managing all land use and heritage considerations within the State of Western Australia. Under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the DPLH in consultation.
First Nations people and/or representative bodies	
Baiyungu Aboriginal Corporation (BAC)	The Baiyungu Aboriginal Corporation was registered to represent, protect and support the interests of the Baiyungu People. No Native Title determination currently exists within the EMBA however, under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL

Relevant person	Rationale
	selected to include the BAC in consultation. Note that CAPL has consulted NTGAC which also represents the Baiyungu People.
Ngarluma Registered Native Title Body Corporate (NRNTBC)	The Ngarluma Registered Native Title Body Corporate was registered in 2005 to represent, protect and support the interests of the Ngarluma and Yindjibarndi People. No Native Title determination currently exists within the EMBA however, under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the NRNTBC in consultation.
Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation Ltd (NYFL)	The Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation Ltd. Is the Traditional Owner organisation that delivers social and economic outcomes for its members and broader community. No Native Title determination currently exists within the EMBA, however, under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the NYFL in consultation.
Commercial fishery licence holders and/or representative bodies	
Australian Council of Prawn Fisheries	Australian Council of Prawn Fisheries is made up of industry bodies and companies that deal with wild prawns or the prawn industry. Commercial prawn fisheries operate outside the boundary of EMBA, however under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the council in consultation.
Northern Prawn Fishery	Northern Prawn Fishery targets prawns in northern Australian waters. The Northern Prawn Fishery operates outside the boundary the EMBA, however under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the fishery in consultation.
Tourism and recreation operators	
Recfishwest	This organisation is the peak body representing the State-managed recreational fisheries. No recreational fishing is expected to occur within the EMBA (Section 5.3.2) however under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the Recfishwest in consultation.
Local government departments or agencies	
Onslow Chamber of Commerce and Industry	The Onslow Chamber of Commerce, Shire of Ashburton and Shire of Exmouth provide local government and related services within the Pilbara and Gascoyne regions. The EMBA for this EP is located in the NWMR. Under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include these organisations in consultation.
Shire of Ashburton	
Shire of Exmouth	
WA World Heritage advisory committees	
Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Advisory Committee (NCWHAC)	The NCWHAC provides advice to the Commonwealth and State Environment Ministers on the protection, conservation and management specific to Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area. The EMBA for this EP does not intersect with Ningaloo Coast World and National heritage area, however under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include the NCWHAC in consultation.
Other petroleum titleholders	

Relevant person	Rationale
Santos	Petroleum operations have been identified to occur outside of the spatial extent of the EMBA. Under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include other petroleum titleholders in consultation.
Woodside	
Other	
Member for Pilbara	The EMBA for this EP intersects Commonwealth waters in the NWMR, and therefore under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include this organization in consultation.
Member of Legislative Authority – North West Central	
Member of Mining and Pastoral Region	
Minister for Environment WA	The Minister of the Environment is tasked with the protecting the natural environment and promoting conservation. The EMBA for this EP is located in Commonwealth waters therefore under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include this organization in consultation.
Exmouth Gulf Taskforce	The Exmouth Gulf Taskforce provides high level advice to the Minister for Environment on the environmental management of the Exmouth Gulf and its surrounds, to help preserve the region's unique environmental, cultural and social values. The EMBA for this EP is located in Commonwealth waters in the NWMR, and therefore under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include this organization in consultation.
Gascoyne Junction Community Resource Centre	The EMBA for this EP is located in Commonwealth in the NWMR waters in the NWMR, and therefore under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include this organization in consultation.
WA Coastal and Marine Community Network	The EMBA for this EP is located in Commonwealth waters in the NWMR, and therefore under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include this organization in consultation.
WA Marine Science Institute	The Western Australian Marine Science Institution (WAMSI) is a collaboration of state and federal government and academic science organisations working together to provide independent marine research for the benefit of the environment, the community and the Blue Economy. The EMBA for this EP is located in Commonwealth waters in the NWMR, and therefore under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include this organization in consultation.

Relevant person	Rationale
Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS)	AIMS is a marine science agency that undertakes offshore research which supports the sustainable use and protection of the ocean. Under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include this organization in consultation.
Western Australian Museum	The Western Australian Museum is the State's premier cultural organisation, housing WA's scientific and cultural collection. The EMBA for this EP is located in Commonwealth waters in the NWMR and therefore under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include this organization in consultation.
Wilderness Society	ENGOs are organisations concerned about public welfare, people and the environment. The EMBA for this EP is located in Commonwealth waters in the NWMR, and therefore under regulation 11(A)(1)(e) CAPL selected to include this organization in consultation.
Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society	
International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)	
Greenpeace	
Conservation Council of Western Australia	
Australian Conservation Foundation	

7.3.6 Assessment and response

CAPL has assessed the merits of all objections and claims regarding the consequences of the petroleum activity on a relevant persons functions, interests, or activities received during the consultation period that relate to the petroleum activity, consistent with regulation 16(b)(ii) of the OPGGS(E)R. This was done by evaluating appropriate evidence, including evidence provided by the relevant person submitting the objection or claim, and identifying potential impacts or risks on the totality of the values and sensitivities that could be affected by the petroleum activity. Potentially adverse impacts of the petroleum activity may need to be mitigated through the application of appropriate control measures. CAPL considers all input received from relevant persons with the intent of identifying opportunities to better manage its activities and enhance its EPs.

Claims or objections not directly related to the petroleum activity (such as statements of fundamental objection to the oil and gas industry) are not considered to have merit under the OPGGS(E)R because they are not relevant to the petroleum activity itself, or the impacts and risks of the petroleum activity. However, the consultation report summarises these statements and explains why they have not been considered in preparing the EP.

A summary of the outcomes of consultation undertaken with relevant persons during the preparation of this EP is provided in Appendix 4. The table provides a description of the matters, objections or claims, assessment of the merits of the objection or claim, how CAPL responded to the relevant person, and where or how any changes resulting from the consultation were incorporated into the EP.

A record of all consultation undertaken specifically for this petroleum activity is included in the engagement log, which is provided to NOPSEMA in the sensitive information report.

7.3.7 Summary information

Regulation 16 of the OPGGS(E)R requires that an EP contain:

- a report on all consultations under regulation 11A of any relevant person by the titleholder, that contains:
  - a summary of each response made by a relevant person
  - an assessment of the merits of any objection or claim about the adverse impact of each activity to which the EP relates
  - a statement of the titleholder's response, or proposed response, if any, to each objection or claim
  - a copy of the full text of any response by a relevant person.

Regulation 10A(g)(ii) of the OPGGS(E)R requires that the EP demonstrates that "the measures (if any) that the titleholder has adopted, or proposes to adopt, because of the consultations are appropriate".

A summary of each response, CAPL's assessment of the merits of any objection or claim, and CAPL's response to each objection or claim is provided within the EP in Section 7.3.6. The consultation summary also describes what (if any) changes to the EP, including control measures, were made in response to each objection or claim.

7.3.8 Conclusion on consultation

CAPL has provided sufficient information and reasonable time to enable these relevant persons to make an informed assessment of the possible impacts and risks of the petroleum activity on their functions, interests or activities, and sufficient time to provide relevant feedback for CAPL to assess relevant persons claims and action the assessment and response. CAPL commits to ongoing consultation with relevant persons as outlined in Section 9.3.3.1.

8 environmental impact and risk assessment and management strategy

This section provides an evaluation of the impacts and risks associated with the petroleum activity appropriate to the nature and scale of each impact and risk, details the control measures that are used to reduce the risks to ALARP and to an acceptable level, and identifies the associated environmental performance outcomes, performance standards, and measurement criteria, as required under regulations 13(5), 13(6) and 13(7) of the OPGGS(E)R.

Table 8-1 summarises the impacts and risks that were identified and evaluated for this activity.

Table 8-1: Summary of impact and risk evaluation

Section	Aspect	Impact	Risk			Decision context	ALARP	Acceptable
		C^	C^	L	R			
8.1	Physical presence—other marine users	–	6	4	9	A	Yes	Yes
8.2	Seabed disturbance	6	5	4	10	A	Yes	Yes
8.3	Indirect discharges		6	4	9	A	Yes	Yes
8.4	Unplanned release	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

C = consequence, L = likelihood, R = risk

^ For aspects identified causing both impacts and risks, the highest-level consequence was evaluated in detail to ensure that justification is provided to support the highest consequence level for the aspect.

8.1 Physical presence—other marine users

Source

Activities identified as having the potential to result in an interaction with marine users are:

- physical presence of wellhead and associated infrastructure on the seabed.

Potential impacts and risks

Impacts	C	Risks	C
N/A	–	Unplanned interactions with other marine users may result in: • disruption of fishing activities • entanglement of trawl fishing gear on subsea infrastructure or equipment	6

Consequence evaluation

The EMBA consists of a 500 m radius buffer around each well, with actual infrastructure contained within an ~ 3 m x 3 m area centered on each wellhead. There are currently no exclusion zones around the North Gorgon-2, Jansz-2, Jansz-3, or Jansz-4 wellheads, and this is not intended to change.[8]

The potential for unplanned interactions between other marine users with the in situ wellheads is limited to where these users interact with the seabed. Marine users that have the potential to

[8] Previous consultation with WAFIC has specifically requested that an exclusion zone or petroleum safety zone (PSZ) not be put in place around the wellhead to ensure that commercial fishers are able to access the area (CAPL 2021).

Source
interact with the subsea infrastructure are limited to commercial fisheries that utilise trawling fishing methods. The potential risks to trawling vessels from subsea infrastructure includes disruption to fishing efforts caused by the need for vessels to avoid the infrastructure and physical damage to trawling gear that contacts the subsea infrastructure. As identified in Section 5.3.1.1, one Commonwealth managed commercial trawl fishery (North West Slope Trawl Fishery) has a management area that overlaps with the EMBA. The water depth of the Jansz-2, Jansz-3 and Jansz-4 wellheads exceed the typical depth trawled by this fishery (350-600m) and the water depth of the North Gorgon-2 wellhead is shallower than the typical depth trawled. Therefore, it is unlikely that a large amount of fishing effort recorded in the 60 nm grid square overlapping the EMBA occurred within the EMBA themselves. The EMBAs occupy a very small portion of the North West Slope Trawl Fishery overall (overall area is 394,507 km², where total area of the four wellhead EMBAs is 3.14 km² (noting that the wellheads comprise a significantly smaller area within the EMBA). The extent to which the four wellheads and associated subsea infrastructure overlaps this trawl fishery management area is 0.0008 %. Fishing activity within the Commonwealth trawl fisheries is restricted to waters >200 m water depth. The entire fishery has a small number of active permits and vessels (e.g., seven permits with four vessels were active during the 2018-2019 season (CAPL 2022), and does not regularly record fishing effort within the EMBAs (e.g., one year in the last ten years for the Jansz wells [2015] and North Gorgon-2 well [2020], out of the 2012-2021 period; Section 5.3.1.1). Therefore, should displacement occur, it would be confined to a negligible portion of the overall fishery and would have no lasting effect to the operation and commercial viability of this fishery. The wellheads and associated infrastructure have been in place within the EMBA since 1994 (North Gorgon-2) and 2003–2009 (Jansz wells), and to date, no incidences of commercial fishing activities interacting with the infrastructure has been communicated to CAPL. Consequently, the continued presence of the wellheads and subsea infrastructure is not expected to result in an impact to commercial trawl fishing operations (via loss of catches or damage to fishing equipment). Any deviation required by trawling vessels around the subsea infrastructure is not expected to impact on the functions, interests, or activities of other marine users. No feedback or objections were received from the commercial fishing industry during relevant persons consultation. Trawl vessels are equipped with navigational equipment such as echo sounders and GPS plotters which detect seabed obstacles and show the vessels position relative to marked seabed infrastructure and allow trawlers to plan their routes to safety avoid the obstacle. A review of the historical fishing vessel incident data from AMSA Monthly Domestic Vessel Incident Reporting Database (two year data set) (AMSA n.d.) and Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) Marine Safety Investigations Reports (1982-2021) (ATSB n.d.) indicates that there are no reported fishing vessel incidents confirmed as related to offshore oil and gas infrastructure in Australia. Outside of Australia, historically, wellheads are recorded to have caused fewer snag incidents in commercial fisheries, compared to pipelines and marine debris from oil and gas operations, which accounted for more than 50% of incidents in the UK between 1989 and 2016 (Rouse, Hayes and Wilding 2020). In comparison, production infrastructure, which includes wellheads, were involved in 4% of incidents over the same period (Rouse, Hayes and Wilding 2020). Overall, the likelihood of interactions between trawl equipment and oil and gas infrastructure is reducing over time, as a result of an increase in communication between the oil and gas industry and improvement in fishery GPS equipment (Rouse, Hayes and Wilding 2020). An independent study by the Australian Maritime College undertaken for Woodside associated with a wellhead proposed to be decommissioned in situ detailed that with mitigation measures in place the possibility of interaction occurring through poor navigation is considered to be negligible (AMC 2022). These mitigation measures included marking wellheads on navigational charts (including those used on global positioning system (GPS) plotters for fishing/navigation), and the electric equipment and associated training present onboard a trawl vessel. The physical presence of the wellheads and associated infrastructure permanently left in situ on the seabed is expected to cause limited risks to other marine users. Therefore, CAPL has ranked the potential consequence to other marine users from physical presence as Incidental (6).

Source	
ALARP decision context justification	
The presence of subsea infrastructure is commonplace nationally and internationally. The wellheads have been abandoned for over 10 years, and each comprise a relatively small (~9 m^2) footprint. The control measures to manage the risks associated with unplanned interactions with other marine users are well defined and understood by the industry. During relevant persons consultation, no objections or claims were raised regarding disruption to other marine users arising from the petroleum activity. The risks arising from the physical presence of the wellheads and associated infrastructure to other marine users are considered lower-order risks in accordance with Table 6-3. As such, CAPL applied ALARP Decision Context A for this aspect.	
Good practice control measures	
Control measure	**Description**
Maritime safety information	Under the Navigation Act 2012, AHS is responsible for maintaining and disseminating hydrographic and other nautical information and nautical publications. Specifically, subsea infrastructure is identified as a potential subsea hazard to commercial shipping activities (such as fisheries) and thus locations are included on appropriate marine charts.
Sea dumping permit	Consultation with DCCEEW has confirmed that a sea dumping permit will be required for the wellheads to remain in situ on the seabed. CAPL will fulfil all obligations under the *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981* by applying for a sea dumping permit(s) for the wellheads and will be subject to comply with all conditions of the permit.
Likelihood and risk level summary	
Likelihood	Due to the limited trawl fishing effort within the EMBA, standard use of GPS equipment on trawl fishing vessels, and that there have been no known incidents in the during the period the wellheads have already been in place, the likelihood of interaction with other marine users is considered low. As such, CAPL consider the likelihood of the consequence occurring is Unlikely (4).
Risk level	Very low (9)
Determination of acceptability	
Principles of ESD	The options assessment undertaken is aligned with the Offshore Petroleum Decommissioning Guideline (DISER 2022) and considered environmental, social and safety criteria both short and long-term to evaluate each decommissioning alternative. This approach is consistent with the ESD principle ‘a’ which requires that ‘decision-making processes should effectively integrate both long-term and short-term economic, environmental, social, and equitable considerations’ The risks associated with this aspect are assessed as incidental and highly localised, which is not considered to have the potential to affect intergenerational equity. Unplanned interactions with other marine users from leaving wellheads in situ will not result in impacts to the “health, diversity and productivity of the environment” over generational timeframes.
Relevant environmental legislation and other requirements	Legislation and other requirements considered relevant for this aspect include: • Navigation Act 2012 (Cth) • Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981 (Cth) • Guideline: Offshore petroleum decommissioning (DISER 2022).
Internal context	No CAPL management processes or procedures were deemed relevant for this aspect.

Source		
External context	During relevant persons consultation, no objections or claims were raised regarding interaction with other marine users arising from the activity.	
Defined acceptable level	These risks are inherently acceptable as they are considered lower-order risks in accordance with Table 6-3. In addition, the potential risks evaluated for this aspect are not inconsistent with any relevant recovery or conservation management plan, conservation advice, or bioregional plan.	
Environmental performance outcome	**Environmental performance standard**	**Measurement criteria**
Reduce disruption to other marine users from the permanent presence of wellheads in situ on the seabed	**Maritime safety information** Coordinates for the wellheads provided to the Australian Hydrographical Service **(AHS)**	Records confirm coordinates for wellheads provided to AHS.
	Sea dumping permit As sea dumping permits are a regulatory requirement managed under the *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981* (Cth), no EPS has been developed for this requirement.	

8.2 Seabed disturbance

Source			
Activities identified as having the potential to result in seabed disturbance are: • physical presence of wellhead and associated infrastructure on the seabed.			
Potential impacts and risks			
Impacts	**C**	**Risks**	**C**
Seabed disturbance may result in: • alternation of marine habitats.	6	Seabed disturbance may result in: • changes to cultural heritage values.	5
Consequence evaluation			

Alternation of marine habitats

The EMBA consists of a 500 m radius buffer around each well, with actual infrastructure contained within an ~ 3 m x 3 m area centered on each wellhead. This indicative seabed disturbance area represents ~0.001% of the EMBA.

As described in Section 5.2.1, marine habitats in the vicinity of the North Gorgon-2, Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4 wells are soft sediments. Natural sediment movements (erosion / accretion) may be altered by the presence of the wellheads. Studies of erosion/accretion around subsea structures (e.g. shipwrecks, artificial reefs) indicate indirect impacts may be limited to within 20 m of the structure (Smiley 2006; Lewis and Pagano 2016). Given the small size of each wellhead, this is considered a reasonable, if not conservative, potentially affected area. Given the limited spatial extent and that the marine habitats primarily consist of homogeneous soft sediments that are featureless, no lasting effects to environmental receptors are expected.

Physical presence of anthropogenic structures on the seabed is known to provide hard substrate that becomes colonised with fouling organisms and may support increased fish communities (Van Der Stap, Coolen and Lindeboom 2016). In some circumstances, these areas may in turn also support foraging by marine megafauna (Arnould, et al. 2015).

Analysis of habitats on wellheads and associated infrastructure in water depths of 78–825 m on the North West Shelf indicates that the presence of fish assemblages and colonising invertebrate habitats were strongly influenced by depth, age and height of the structures (McLean, et al. 2018). Wellheads at water depths between 135–175 m showed an abundance of reef dependent and transient pelagic species, while the number of species declined markedly in water depths of >350 m (McLean, et al. 2018). A similar decline in the abundance of invertebrates (e.g., ascidians, black/octocorals, sponges) was also observed with increasing water depths (McLean, et al. 2018).

Source
Given the water depth at North Gorgon-2 (~247 m), the wellhead may provide a limited area of hard substrate for colonisation by benthic invertebrates, however, it is unlikely to provide suitable complexity of habitat at a depth suitable to support fish assemblages of any significance. Similarly, given the depth of the Jansz wells (>1,300 m), these are highly unlikely to support either benthic habitat and fish assemblages. Any potential impacts from the wellheads remaining in situ are highly localised and concentrated around the individual wellhead locations. Considering these localised impacts, the small impact areas relative to the surrounding ocean, and the slow rate of impacts over time, the cumulative impacts of the four wellheads is not considered significantly different to only one well. The continued presence of the wellheads and associated infrastructure is not expected to affect ecosystem function or connectivity of communities. However, it is noted that this continued presence of infrastructure may maintain a localised benthic community. Therefore, CAPL has ranked the potential consequence to the alteration of marine habitats as Incidental (6).
Changes to cultural heritage values There are no World, National, or Commonwealth heritage listed places or sites within the EMBA (Section 5.5) and no protected underwater cultural heritage sites or artefacts have been identified within the EMBA (Section 5.5). At the time of writing, CAPL understands, through consultation with the relevant First Nations groups, that there are no known artefacts or specific sites of cultural value associated with the seabed within the EMBA. CAPL consider that there is a potential for artefacts and/or places of cultural value to be associated with areas of previously emergent land and/or coast to be present, such as the seabed within (and landward of) the ancient coastline at 125 m depth contour KEF. As the EMBA for all four wellheads occurs in waters seaward of this ancient coastline at 125 m depth contour KEF, it is not expected that any sites of cultural value associated with the seabed exist within the EMBA. Therefore, no impacts to seabed-based cultural heritage (e.g. shipwrecks or archaeology) are expected and no further evaluation has been undertaken. Indirect impacts to intangible cultural values are not expected to occur. Given the relatively small footprint associated with the EMBA (500 m radius around each well), a significant adverse change to cultural values attributed to the offshore marine area is not predicted to occur. As such, CAPL has ranked the consequence as Minor (5).
ALARP decision context justification
The presence of subsea infrastructure is commonplace nationally and internationally. The wellheads have been abandoned for between 15 and 28 years, and each comprise a relatively small (~9 m^2) footprint. During relevant persons consultation, no objections or claims were raised regarding seabed disturbance arising from the petroleum activity. The impacts and risks arising from seabed disturbance due to the wellheads and associated infrastructure are considered lower-order impacts and risks in accordance with Table 6-3. As such, CAPL applied ALARP Decision Context A for this aspect.
Good practice control measures

Control measure	Description
Sea dumping permit	Consultation with DCCEEW has confirmed that a sea dumping permit will be required for the wellheads to remain in situ on the seabed. CAPL will fulfil all obligations under the Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981 by applying for a sea dumping permit(s) for the wellheads and will be subject to comply with all conditions of the permit.
Likelihood and risk level summary	
Likelihood	Although no heritage values have been identified within the EMBA, there is the potential for unknown or un-discovered cultural heritage artefacts or values to be present. Their presence is unlikely, given the small footprint of the EMBA and distance from the ancient coastline that is located within shallower waters. The inactivity will not result in any direct disturbance to the EMBA, thus the likelihood of indirect impacts that area will be low.

Source		
	As such, CAPL consider the likelihood of changes to cultural heritage values associated with the inactivity occurring is Rare (6).	
Risk level	Very low (10)	
Determination of acceptability		
Principles of ESD	The potential impact associated with this aspect is incidental and highly localised short-term effects that are not expected to affect biological diversity and ecological integrity long-term. The consequence associated with this aspect is Incidental (6). Therefore, no further evaluation against the Principles of ESD is required.	
Relevant environmental legislation and other requirements	Legislation and other requirements considered relevant for this aspect include: • *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981* (Cth) • Guideline: Offshore petroleum decommissioning (DISER 2022).	
Internal context	No CAPL management processes or procedures were deemed relevant for this aspect.	
External context	During relevant persons consultation, no objections or claims were raised regarding seabed disturbance arising from the activity.	
Defined acceptable level	These impacts and risks are inherently acceptable as they are considered lower-order impacts and risks in accordance with Table 6-3. In addition, the potential risks evaluated for this aspect are not inconsistent with any relevant recovery or conservation management plan, conservation advice, or bioregional plan.	
Environmental performance outcome	**Environmental performance standard**	**Measurement criteria**
No long-term impacts to marine habitats from the permanent presence of wellheads in situ on the seabed	**Sea dumping permit** As sea dumping permits are a regulatory requirement managed under the *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981* (Cth), no EPS has been developed for this requirement.	

8.3 Indirect discharges

Source			
Activities identified as having the potential to result in water quality impacts and seabed disturbance via contamination are: • corrosion of the wellheads and associated infrastructure			
Potential impacts and risks			
Impacts	**C**	**Risks**	**C**
N/A		Leaving the wellhead and associated infrastructure in situ has the potential to result in: • release of contaminants (mostly iron) to the water and sediment surrounding the wellhead • release of contaminants leading to toxicity effects on marine habitats and fauna	6
Consequence evaluation			
As the wellheads and associated infrastructure will remain in situ, over time, they will corrode and result in the release of trace amounts of contaminants to the water column and surrounding			

Source
sediment. The release has the potential to adversely impact water quality and marine sediment in a localised area. The wellheads are ~3.1–4.0 m high and comprise of up to ~8,500 kg of mild steel each. Mild steel is mainly comprised or iron (~98%) and also contains small amounts of other elements as per Table 3-2. A small volume of surface coatings, plastic and rubber componentry will also degrade and may be released over time. Deterioration of the wellheads will result in a much smaller footprint than the EMBAs due to the passive nature of corrosion of the structure. Marine corrosion studies have shown that for metal structures such as wellheads, corrosion is likely to be a slow process. Melchers (2005) describes a rate of ~0.2 mm/year where there is exposure to strong water currents. More recently, Melchers and Tan (2022) describe that for long-term marine immersion, corrosion of steel in nominally unpolluted seawater at 20˚C and 10˚C average seawater temperatures occurs at a rate of 0.06-0.07 mm/y for approximately the first 100 years and after 100 years the rate declines. Corrosion of the wellheads is anticipated to occur at a similar, slow rate resulting in the gradual release of trace amounts of metals. Seafloor currents at the water depth of the wellheads are typically low speed in the range from 0.05 to 0.45 m/s (Chevron 2014). Over an extended timeframe where slow corrosion occurs, the well infrastructure is likely to collapse in place, resting on the seabed and particles of material may fall to the seafloor in the immediate vicinity. Based on the rate of corrosion anticipated, it is estimated that the structure will fully degrade and become incorporated into and covered by seabed sediments over time. A radius of ~20 m around the wellhead has been conservatively estimated as the likely limit of area of the seabed that may be impacted by deterioration of each wellhead. Over long-time scales, corrosion of the wellheads may contribute to an increase in breakdown products (mostly iron compounds) in the water column and surrounding sediments. The rust products in marine corrosion are, in the main, oxides and hydroxides of iron, with the corrosion process returning metal to its original mineral state (Melchers and Tan 2022). Iron compounds, the main constituent of the wellheads, generally have no to very low toxicity to marine organisms (Svobodova, et al. 1993). Iron is not considered a significant contaminant in the marine environment and is only toxic to marine organisms at extremely high concentrations (Grimwood and Dixon 1997). Small amounts of alloying elements in steels, including carbon, manganese, molybdenum, phosphorous, sulfur and chromium oxidize slowly in seawater (Melchers and Tan 2022). Any potential toxicity of these small amounts dissolved in large volumes of seawater over the very long time periods involved in their dissolution can be considered to render any potential effect essentially negligible (Melchers and Tan 2022). There is insufficient data to define a trigger level for iron in Australian marine waters (ANZG 2018). As an interim indicative working level, the Canadian guideline trigger level for iron is 300 µg/L in marine water (CCREM 1987). The increase in metal concentrations in water around the wellheads resulting from corrosion is not expected to exceed marine water environmental level of concern trigger levels due to high water exchange from ocean currents diluting potential suspended metals and dissolved metal concentrations surrounding the wellheads. Any build up in the sediments surrounding the structures through ongoing deposition would be counteracted by gradual dissipation as a result of local sediment movements preventing long-term high concentration metal exposure to potential receptors. As such, any impacts to marine sediments, benthic habitats, and water quality will be localised and negligible. No impacts are expected to protected species that may occur at the depth of the wellheads. Surface coatings on the well infrastructure, which are likely to be zinc-oxide based paints will also break down. Zinc-oxide component of protective coatings can be up to 90% and therefore up to ~ 3 to 5 kg may be released per wellhead. As the structure degrades, the zinc coating is likely to break down over time and become mixed with the seabed sediments. The paints and surface coatings currently exist as a dried, insoluble layer on the external surfaces of the wellheads. This significantly limits the bioavailability of the paints/surface coatings and their constituents, as uptake of soluble chemicals through the gill is the primary method of uptake for toxicants of concern in marine environments. Leaching of metals from the protective coating over a long time period into the water column is anticipated to be negligible and would be rapidly dispersed by ocean currents. For the three wells in deeper water (Jansz-2, 3 and 4) distribution into the immediate vicinity of the wellhead will have a negligible impact on the marine environment as the deep water area of the wellhead locations consists of soft substrate which typically supports a low abundance and diversity of benthic communities. In shallower waters, such as those at the North Gorgon-2 well (247 m water depth), marine growth which has likely colonised the wellhead creates encrusting calcium carbonate exoskeletons, or secrete hard adhesive layers. This layer of marine growth acts as an additional barrier which insulates the paint and its components from the

Source
external marine environment. The low rate of degradation, combined with the relatively small volumes of surface coatings remaining in situ, means the concentrations in the EMBA's are expected to be low with negligible localised impacts. Up to 750 g of Viton or Teflon (a fluoropolymer elastomer and synthetic rubber compound) may also be present in each wellhead. Degradation of the steel wellheads over time may expose these components and result in the gradual, progressive release of the Viton or Teflon as these materials slowly become exposed to seawater. Plastics are generally known to break down in seawater over long periods of time (hundreds to thousands of years); therefore, these components are also expected to slowly break down into various particle sizes. Leaching of contaminants from these components over a long time period into the water column is anticipated to be negligible and would be rapidly dispersed by ocean currents. The low rate of degradation, combined with the very small volumes of Viton or Teflon remaining in situ, means the concentrations of plastics in the EMBA's are expected to be low with negligible localised impacts. The Threat Abatement Plan for the Impacts of Marine Debris on the Vertebrate Wildlife of Australia's Coasts and Oceans (Commonwealth of Australia 2018) includes an objective to understand the scale of impacts from marine plastic and microplastic on key species, ecological communities and locations. The discharge of negligible quantities of plastic is therefore an applicable discharge under this plan. Given the quantity of plastic material potentially released is very small, the contribution of material from the wellheads as a threat to marine turtles and other vertebrate wildlife is considered to be insignificant in the context of other sources of microplastics in the ocean. The small volume present will release at a slow rate which will occur over a long-term timeframe limiting the concentration of plastics in the EMBAs at any particular time. It is determined that leaving the wellheads in situ is not inconsistent with the objectives and actions within these plans. Any potential impacts from the wellheads remaining in situ are highly localised and concentrated around the individual wellhead locations. Considering these localised impacts, the small impact areas relative to the surrounding ocean, and the slow rate of impacts over time, the cumulative impacts of the four wellheads is not considered significantly different to only one well. Additionally, given the distance between the wellheads (>3.3 km minimum) and the localised impacts from the wellheads, the release of breakdown products as the wellheads corrode are not expected to interact with each other to result in any cumulative impact. Given the low toxicity of iron, small quantities of other materials, the slow release rate which will occur over a long-term timeframe, rapid dilution in the open ocean environment, that each wellhead will eventually collapse and in time be buried in sediment and that any potential for exposure is limited to the immediate vicinity of each wellhead, impacts to water quality, marine sediment and benthic habitats will be localised with no impacts or lasting effects expected to the values and sensitivities identified in Section 4. Therefore, Chevron has ranked the potential consequence as **Incidental (6).**
ALARP decision context justification
The presence of subsea infrastructure is commonplace nationally and internationally. The wellheads have been abandoned for between 15 and 28 years, and each comprise a relatively small (~9 m^2) footprint. During relevant persons consultation, no objections or claims were raised regarding corrosion of the wellheads arising from the petroleum activity. The impacts and risks arising from corrosion of the wellheads and associated infrastructure are considered lower-order impacts and risks in accordance with Table 6-3. As such, CAPL applied ALARP Decision Context A for this aspect.
Good practice control measures

Control measure	Description
None identified	No controls have been applied for these risks as indirect discharges from the breakdown of steel and other products is a lower-order risk; with any exposure from corrosion being confined to the immediate vicinity of the wellhead.

Likelihood and risk level summary	
Likelihood	Due to the slow corrosion, resulting in only trace amounts of materials being released over an extended timeframe, low toxicity of the majority of breakdown products, and the rapid dispersion that will occur in open water, the likelihood of corrosion of the wellheads and

Source		
	associated infrastructure resulting in indirect effects to marine habitats and fauna is considered low. As such, CAPL consider the likelihood of the consequence occurring is Unlikely (4).	
Risk level	Very low (9)	
Determination of acceptability		
Principles of ESD	The potential risks associated with this aspect is limited to a highly localised change in water and sediment quality, which is not considered as having the potential to affect biological diversity and ecological integrity. Accordingly, the consequence associated with this aspect is Incidental (6). Therefore, no further evaluation against the Principles of ESD is required.	
Relevant environmental legislation and other requirements	Legislation and other requirements considered relevant for this aspect include: • *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981* (Cth) • Guideline: Offshore petroleum decommissioning (DISER 2022) • Threat Abatement Plan for the impacts of marine debris on the vertebrate wildlife of Australia's coasts and oceans (Commonwealth of Australia 2018). With the exception of a sea dumping permit which is captured as an EPS, no additional specific actions have been identified relevant to these activities.	
Internal context	No CAPL management processes or procedures were deemed relevant for this aspect.	
External context	During relevant persons consultation, no objections or claims were raised regarding seabed disturbance arising from the activity.	
Defined acceptable level	These impacts and risks are inherently acceptable as they are considered lower-order impacts and risks in accordance with Table 6-3. In addition, the potential risks evaluated for this aspect are not inconsistent with any relevant recovery or conservation management plan, conservation advice, or bioregional plan.	
Environmental performance outcome	**Environmental performance standard**	**Measurement criteria**
No long-term impacts to marine habitats from the permanent presence of wellheads in situ on the seabed	**Sea dumping permit** As sea dumping permits are a regulatory requirement managed under the *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981* (Cth), no EPS has been developed for this requirement.	

8.4 Unplanned release

An evaluation of all unplanned release scenarios associated with leaving the wellheads and associated infrastructure in situ identified two potential types of events:

- loss of well control
- release of fluid contained in wellbore.

As shown in Table 8-2, the evaluation determined that there is no credible unplanned release scenario associated with the activities under this EP.

Table 8-2: Unplanned release evaluation

Event type	Evaluation
Loss of well control	As described in Section 4.2.1, the four wells have been accepted as abandoned by the designated authority. Figure 4-1 to Figure 4-4 show the abandonment schematics, including the well barriers. Each well has two separate internal cement plugs within the wellbore, as well as annular cement barriers, thus effectively isolating reservoir sands. These barriers were designed and installed to prevent any unplanned release associated with flow of hydrocarbons to the environment. The lateral force exerted by trawling activities would not be sufficient to cause well control issues. In addition, the wells have been abandoned for over 10 years with no incidents to date. Therefore, regardless of if trawl fishers operate in the area, it is not considered credible that interaction with the wellhead from trawling would exert enough force to affect well integrity and result in a loss of containment.
Release of fluid contained in wellbore	As described in Section 4.2.1, the four wells have been accepted as abandoned by the designated authority. As described in Section 3.2 the fluids in the well above the cement plugs for the three Jansz wells is seawater (or inhibited seawater) and is water-based mud for the North Gorgon-2 well. The fluids in the casing annulus above the cement plug is freshwater. There, there is no credible risk of fluids below these plugs being released to the marine environment.

9 implementation strategy

This section provides a description of the implementation strategy as required under regulation 14 of the OPGGS(E)R. The implementation strategy identifies the systems, practices, and procedures used to ensure the environmental impacts and risks of the petroleum activity are continuously reduced to ALARP and the environmental performance outcomes and standards detailed in Section 7 are achieved.

Some aspects of this implementation strategy may not be relevant because of the inactivity based nature of this EP, however the decommissioning end state is managed consistently with the CAPL's OEMS.

9.1 Operational Excellence Management System

CAPL's operations are managed in accordance with Chevron Corporation's OEMS, which is a comprehensive management framework that supports the corporate commitment to protect the safety and health of people and the environment. The OEMS aligns with ISO 14001:2015 *Environmental management systems - Requirements with guidance for use* (AS/NZS 2015) and meets the requirements of the OPGGS(E)R.

OE systematically manages workforce safety and health, process safety, reliability, and integrity, environment, efficiency, security, and stakeholders to meet the OE objectives and ensure safe operations of CAPL facilities and projects. The OEMS comprises the following key components (Figure 9-1):

- **leadership and OE culture**—through the OEMS, CAPL leaders engage employees and contractors to build and sustain the OE culture and deliver OE performance
- **management system cycle** (MSC)—by applying the MSC, CAPL leaders make risk-based and data-driven decisions, prioritise activities, and direct improvements
- **focus areas and OE expectations** (including common expectations)—focus areas are categories of OE risks and include workforce safety and health, process safety reliability and integrity, environment, efficiency, security, and stakeholder engagement; OE expectations guide the design, management, and assurance of the presence and effectiveness of safeguards.

The OEMS outlines the process for identifying, establishing, and maintaining safeguards and to provide assurance that they are in place, functioning as intended, and are in accordance with legal and OE requirements. The risk management process (Figure 9-1) assesses and identifies safeguards, which are the hardware and human actions designed to directly prevent or mitigate an incident or impact associated with the project, personnel, and the environment. The assurance process (Figure 9-1) provides the verification and validation that the safeguards are in place and functioning as intended.

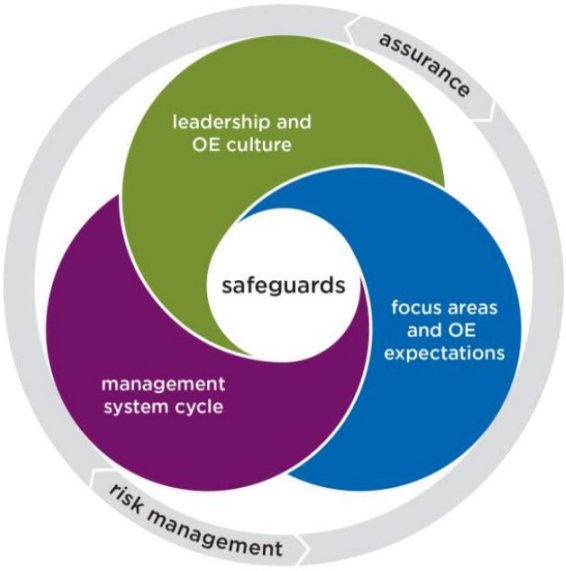


Figure 9-1: Overview of Chevron Corporation's OEMS

9.2 Leadership and OE culture

CAPL leaders demonstrate and are accountable for the consistent and rigorous application of the OEMS to drive performance and manage risks. The actions and visibility of leaders reinforce CAPL's commitment to place the highest priority on the safety and health of its workforce, and on the protection of communities, the environment, and its assets.

9.2.1 Roles and accountability

CAPL leaders have the overall accountability for the implementation of the OEMS.

9.2.1.1 Chain of command (petroleum activity)

As required under regulation 14(4) of the OPGGS(E)R, a clear chain of command for implementing the petroleum activity is outlined in Figure 9-2.

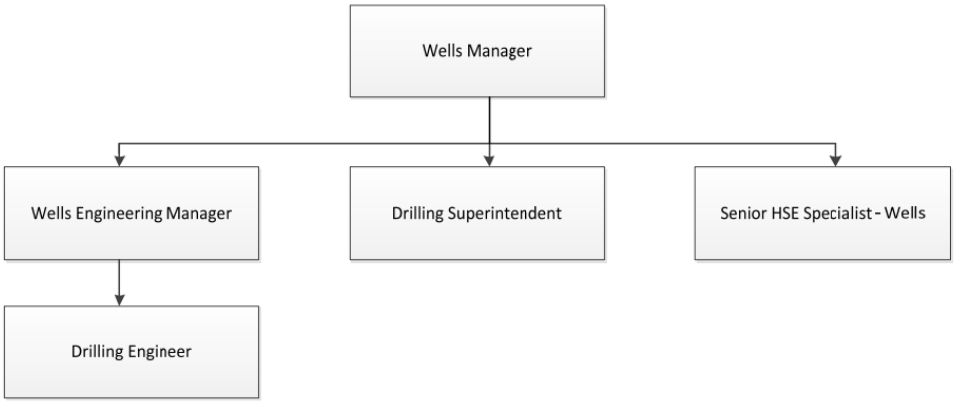


Figure 9-2: Chain of command—petroleum activity

9.2.1.2 Roles and responsibilities (petroleum activity)

The roles and responsibilities of key CAPL and contractor personnel for implementing task-specific control measures as detailed in Section 7, and are summarised in Table 9-1.

Table 9-1: Key roles and responsibilities—petroleum activity

Role	Responsibilities
Wells Manager	• overall responsibility for implementing, managing, and reviewing this EP Ensure that: • environmental incident reporting is completed in accordance with Section 9.4.2 • routine environmental reporting is undertaken in accordance with Section 9.4.3.
Drilling Superintendent	Ensure that: • all personnel are made aware of their requirements under this EP • notifications are conducted in accordance with Section 9.3.3.1 • impacts and risks are continually reduced to ALARP and an acceptable level by implementing this EP in accordance with Section 7 • any management of change (MoC) is conducted in accordance with Section 9.3.1.2, and notify the Wells Manager and HSE Specialist of any scope changes where relevant • all incidents, including breaches of environmental performance standards, are reported to the Wells Manager
Senior HSE Specialist	Ensure that: • all personnel are made aware of their requirements under this EP • ongoing consultation is conducted in accordance with Section 9.3.3.1 • impacts and risks are continually reduced to ALARP and an acceptable level by implementing this EP in accordance with Section 7 • all changes to this EP are subject to a MoC assessment as described in Section 9.3.1.2 • compliance with this EP is verified in accordance with Section 9.3.5 • assist with review, investigation, and reporting of environmental incidents (as required) • environmental reporting is undertaken in accordance with Section 9.4.3 • this EP is reviewed in accordance with Section 9.5.

9.2.1.3 Training and competency (petroleum activity)

In accordance with regulation 14(5) of the OPGGS(E)R, each employee responsible for implementing task-specific control measures during operational activities must be aware of their specific responsibilities as detailed in this EP. People who hold responsibilities relating to implementing this EP are hired by CAPL on the basis of their particular qualifications, experience, and competency.

As there are no field activities (Section 4.2), there are no inductions or training requirements associated with the implementation of the petroleum activity.

9.3 Focus areas and OE expectations

The OE expectations are organised into six focus areas (Figure 9-3). The OE expectations provide guidance to design, operate, maintain, improve, and assure the presence and effectiveness of safeguards. Common expectations also apply and support the OE expectations and focus areas Figure 9-3.

Figure 9-3: Focus areas and common expectations

The focus areas and common expectations relevant to this EP, and their key processes that demonstrate how CAPL is effective in reducing environmental impacts and risks to ALARP and an acceptable level, are listed in Table 9-2. Each of these focus areas and common expectations are described in further detail in the following subsections.

Table 9-2: Relevant focus areas and common expectations

Focus area or common expectation	Key processes
Focus area	
Process safety, reliability and integrity	• *OE Information Management: ABU Standardised OE Process* (CAPL 2016) • *Management of Change for Facilities and Operations: ABU Standardised OE Process* (CAPL 2015)
Environment	• *Environmental Stewardship: ABU Standardised OE Process* (CAPL 2015)
Stakeholders	• *Stakeholder Engagement and Issues Management: ABU Standardised OE Process* (CAPL 2019)
Common expectation	
Risk management	• *ABU OE Risk Management Process* (CAPL 2020)
Assurance	• *OE Assurance Corporate Process* (CAPL 2018) • *OE Corporate Standard Incident Investigation* (Chevron 2020) • *OE Data Reporting Standard* (Chevron 2021)
Incident investigation and reporting	• *Incident Investigation and Reporting (II&R) Execution Manual* (CAPL 2021)
Emergency management	• *Emergency Management OE Process* (CAPL 2018)

9.3.1 Process safety, reliability, and integrity

9.3.1.1 OE information management

Under the OEMS, records (including compliance records to demonstrate environmental performance and compliance with commitments in this EP) will be retained in accordance with regulation 27 of the OPGGS(E)R.

The OE information management process (CAPL 2016) explains how critical information related to HSE, reliability, efficiency, and process safety is to be identified, developed, assessed, and maintained so that the workforce has access

to, and is using, the most current information. This document describes key roles, responsibilities, and competencies associated with the process, and includes measurement and verification activities.

9.3.1.2 Management of change

MoC expectations are to manage proposed changes to design, equipment, operations and products before they are implemented. In conjunction with the risk management process (Section 9.3.4), the *Management of Change for Facilities and Operations* process (CAPL 2015) is followed to document and assess the impact of changes to activities described in this EP. These changes will be addressed to determine if there is potential for any new or increased environmental impact or risk not already provided for in this EP. If these changes do not trigger the requirement for submission of a revised EP under the OPGGS(E)R, as detailed below, this EP will be revised, and changes recorded in the EP without resubmission.

In accordance with regulation 17 of the OPGGS(E)R this EP must be revised and resubmitted to NOPSEMA in the following circumstances:

- before commencing a new activity, or any significantly modification or new stage of the activity, not provided for in this EP
- if a change in the titleholder results in a change in the manner in which the impacts and risks of the activity are managed
- as soon as practicable after the occurrence of any significant new environmental impact or risk, or significant increase in an existing environmental impact or risk, that is not provided for in this EP
- as soon as practicable after the occurrence of a series of new environmental impacts or risks, or a series of increases in existing environmental impacts or risks, occur which, taken together, amount to the occurrence of a significant new environmental impact or risk, or a significant increase in an existing environmental impact or risk, not provided for in this EP.

9.3.2 Environment

The environment focus area provides CAPL's framework for the protection of the environment and community health using a risk-based approach that addresses potential environmental impacts.

The environmental stewardship process (CAPL 2015) is designed to identify, assess, and manage potentially significant environmental impacts in a consistent manner and continually improve environmental performance. The objectives of the process are to:

- provide a consistent approach to environmental stewardship
- reduce the potential for environmental impacts
- support continual improvement in environmental performance throughout the lifecycle of Chevron's assets.

9.3.3 Stakeholders

Stakeholder engagement expectations are to manage social, political, and reputational risks to CAPL (and Chevron), address potential business impacts, and generate business value by:

- identifying, assessing, and prioritising issues
- building and maintaining relationships with external stakeholders, including governments and the communities where CAPL operates
- developing and executing issue management and stakeholder engagement plans, tracking engagements and issues, and validating the effectiveness of plans.

The *Stakeholder Engagement and Issues Management Process* (CAPL 2019) details an integrated approach for engaging stakeholders and managing external stakeholder issues. This process describes key roles and responsibilities for stakeholder engagement, establishes measurement and verification activities designed to monitor the effectiveness of the stakeholder engagement process and to promote continual improvement.

9.3.3.1 Ongoing consultation with relevant persons

In accordance with regulation 14(9) of the OPGGS(E)R, CAPL will undertake ongoing consultation for this petroleum activity with relevant authorities and other relevant interested persons or organisations for this petroleum activity as described in Table 9-3.

Through co-design of consultation, CAPL will agree processes for ongoing consultation with relevant persons. This may include consultation on the ongoing environmental performance of the petroleum activity and review of applicable control measures with the relevant persons. Engagement agreements, information on grants and social benefit investments (e.g. funding for ranger programs and training opportunities to support CAPL's activities), and consultation plans with relevant persons are included in the sensitive information report. Records for ongoing consultation with relevant persons will be recorded and maintained in CAPL's online tracking engagements system.

Any objections or claims arising from ongoing consultation that have merit and have the potential to result in changes to the description of environment, impact or risk assessment, or control measures, will be subject to CAPL's Management of Change (MoC) process, in accordance with Section 9.3.1.2.

If a new relevant person is identified during the in-force period of the EP, CAPL will provide sufficient information to that relevant person (as described in Section 7.2.1) and will assess the merits of the objections or claims of that relevant person in accordance with Section 7.3.6 and CAPL's MoC process (Section 9.3.1.2). Notifications and ongoing consultation is summarised in Table 9-3.

Table 9-3: Notifications and ongoing consultation

Stakeholder	Notification or ongoing consultation requirement	Timing	Frequency
Notifications			
AHO	Provide information to enable promulgation of Notice to Mariners Notify AHO via datacentre@hydro.gov.au	Post NOPSEMA acceptance of this EP	Once

9.3.4 Risk management

The risk management process (CAPL 2020) assesses and identifies safeguards, which are the hardware and human actions designed to directly prevent or mitigate an incident or event and is designed to be consistent with the environmental risk management requirements of ISO 14001 *Environmental Management System* (AS/NZS 2015) and ISO 31000:2018 *Risk management – Principles and guidelines* (AS/NZS 2018).

This risk management process is summarised in Section 5.5 of this EP. Additional risk assessments must be undertaken if the MoC process (Section 9.3.1.2) is triggered. Risk assessments are undertaken in accordance with this process.

The *ABU OE Risk Management Process* (CAPL 2020) and the *Management of Change for Facilities and Operations* process (CAPL 2015) are the key systems CAPL use to ensure, that in accordance with regulation 14(3)(a) of the OPGGS(E)R, the impacts and risks of the petroleum activity continue to be identified and reduced to ALARP.

9.3.5 Assurance

Within the OEMS, assurance is a common expectation that supports the OE objective of each focus area. The *ABU OE Assurance Process* (CAPL 2018) enables CAPL to deliver assurance that safeguards are established and functioning; it details:

- a framework for managing verification activities that assure that CAPL complies with applicable legal and OEMS requirements
- a process to identify, report and resolve noncompliance
- the minimum qualifications and organisational capability to execute this process.

To support the implementation of the *ABU OE Assurance Process* (CAPL 2018), CAPL have developed an ABU integrated assurance system (Figure 9-4), which integrates and leverages assurance activities across the various levels of CAPL business through to the corporate level—to provide confidence that safeguards are in place and functioning as intended. This integrated assurance system includes:

- asset / facility / function assurance: ongoing, routine, planned verifications of safeguards specific for the asset / facility (e.g. HSE inspections, audits, asset integrity inspections, preventive maintenance, emergency drills and exercises, compliance reviews, performance reviews)
- ABU OEMS assurance: implemented through the established system-based assurances within the OEMS and ABU OE processes (e.g. assessments, reviews, audits, inspections, workshops, engagements) that support the CAPL assets and major capital project assurance plans and identify and respond to the systemic deterioration of safeguards and progress areas for improvement
- external assurance: assurance activities undertaken by third-party entities (e.g. regulatory inspections, joint venture partner reviews)
- corporate and functional assurance: assurance activities of CAPL functional groups (e.g. drilling and completions, HSE, FE) and OEMS focus areas to address OEMS requirements, safeguards and areas for improvement.

Environmental performance standards in the EP will undergo a compliance review and evidence will be gathered for each environmental performance standard to support the end of activity environmental report. Assurance related to the petroleum activity described in this EP will be summarised in the end of activity report submitted to NOPSEMA (Section 9.4.3).

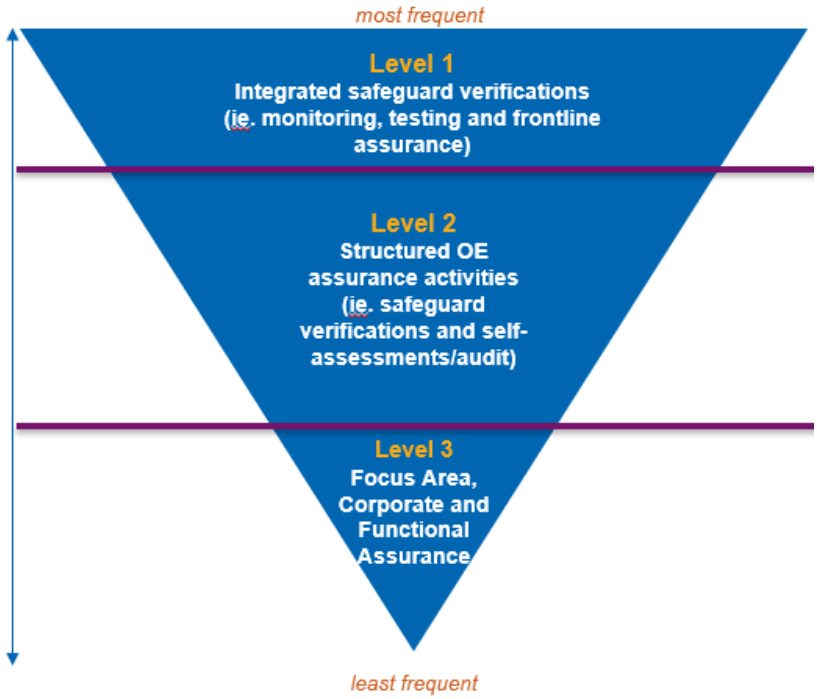


Figure 9-4: ABU integrated assurance system

9.3.5.1 Managing instances of non-conformance

The reporting, investigation, and tracking of non-conformances resulting in citation or enforcement are managed via Chevron's *OE Corporate Standard Incident Investigation* (Chevron 2020) and *OE Data Reporting Standard* (Chevron 2021).

EP audit findings and corrective actions are recorded and tracked in a CAPL compliance assurance database for timely closure of actions. Audit findings that identify a breach of an environmental performance outcome or environmental performance standard will be reported in accordance with Section 9.4.2.

Any suggested changes to activities or control measures arising from audit findings or instances of noncompliance will be subject to a MoC process in accordance with Section 9.3.1.2.

9.3.6 Incident investigation and reporting

Incident investigation and reporting (II&R) expectations are to identify, report, record and investigate incidents, analyse trends, correct deficiencies, and share and adopt relevant lessons learned.

The *Incident Investigation and Reporting (II&R) Execution Manual* (CAPL 2021) defines the requirements to report, classify, record, and investigate incidents and near misses, including but not limited to injury, occupational illness, environmental impact, reliability, business disruption, and community concern.

The II&R process includes these requirements:

- training for employees and contractors to recognise and report events
- internal and external notification of events
- investigating incidents at the probable level of consequence, with the rigor of investigation based upon learning opportunity and incident severity
- allocating an incident management sponsor for selected investigations
- sharing alerts, lessons learned, and bulletins
- tracking recommended actions to closure
- analysing event trends.

Events that meet the required criteria are recorded in the CAPL incident management system (IMS). The system holds records of the associated investigation results. The lessons learned from selected investigations are shared to reduce the likelihood of future comparable events.

Specific incident reporting requirements for this EP are detailed in Section 9.4.2.

9.3.7 Emergency management

The *Emergency Management OE Process* (CAPL 2018) is CAPL's system for emergency management. The process ensures CAPL is prepared to respond immediately and effectively to all emergencies involving contractor- or CAPL-owned or -operated assets as defined in their scope of work.

The emergency management process (CAPL 2018) comprises nine key elements.

- emergency scenarios, including worst case, have been identified; these scenarios are based on the findings from risk assessments of significant safety, health and environmental hazards and other sources (e.g. historical incidents)
- emergency response plans are developed and maintained to address emergency scenarios
- a reliability program is in place for inspection, testing and preventative maintenance of critical emergency response equipment and systems supporting emergency response plans
- an incident management system (IMS) is in place capable of immediately and effectively managing all emergencies
- a training and exercise program, including minimum training and exercise requirements, has been developed to establish and maintain emergency response capability
- crisis management plans have been developed to address a potential crisis or significant event
- business continuity plans have been developed in conformance with the *Business Continuity Planning Corporate OE Process* (CAPL 2018).

Regulation 14(8) of the OPGGS(E)R requires that the implementation strategy for an EP must contain an OPEP. There are no credible hydrocarbon spill risks for the petroleum activity (Section 8.3), and therefore no OPEP is provided for this EP.

9.4 Environmental monitoring and reporting

9.4.1 Environmental monitoring

Regulation 14(7) of the OPGGS(E)R requires that the implementation strategy provides for sufficient monitoring of, and maintaining a quantitative record of, emissions and discharges such that this record can be used to assess whether the environmental performance outcomes and standards in the EP are being met.

There are no emissions of discharges associated with the petroleum activity, and therefore there is no environmental monitoring required.

9.4.2 Incident reporting

Environmental incidents will be reported by CAPL in accordance with Table 9-4.

Table 9-4: Incident reporting

Recordable Incident reporting – regulation 26B	
Legislative definition of 'recordable incident': *'Recordable incident, for an activity, means a breach of an environmental performance outcome or environmental performance standard, in the environment plan that applies to the activity, that is not a reportable incident'* Recordable incidents are breaches of the environmental performance outcomes and standards described in Section 7.	
Reporting requirements	**Report to / Timing**
Written notification to NOPSEMA by the 15th of each month As a minimum, the written incident report must describe: • the incidents and all material facts and circumstances concerning the incidents • any actions taken to avoid or mitigate any adverse environmental impacts • any corrective actions already taken, or that may be taken, to prevent a repeat of similar incidents. If no recordable incidents occur during the reporting month, a 'nil report' will be submitted.	Submit written report to NOPSEMA by the 15th of each month
Reportable Incident reporting – regulations 26, 26A, and 26AA	
Legislative definition of 'reportable incident': *'Reportable incident, for an activity means an incident relating to an activity that has caused, or has the potential to cause, moderate to significant environmental damage'.* Therefore, in alignment with Chevron Corporation's Integrated Risk Prioritization Matrix (Table 6-1), 'reportable incidents' under this EP include those events (not planned activities) that have been risk assessed within Section 7 as having a consequence level between Moderate (4) and Catastrophic (1). In accordance with this definition, there are no reportable incidents with the potential to cause moderate to significant environmental damage identified under this EP. Incident reporting is assessed on a case-by-case basis to determine if they trigger a reportable incident as defined by the OPGGS(E)R and this EP.	
Reporting requirements	**Report to**

Verbal or written notification must be undertaken within two hours of the incident or as soon as practicable. This information is required: • the incident and all material facts and circumstances known at the time • any actions taken to avoid or mitigate any adverse environmental impacts.	Report verbally to NOPSEMA within two hours or as soon as practicable and provide written record of notification by email. Phone: (08) 6461 7090 Email: submissions@nopsema.gov.au
Verbal notifications must be followed by a written report as soon as practicable, and not later than three days following the incident. At a minimum, the written incident report will include: • the incident and all material facts and circumstances • actions taken to avoid or mitigate any adverse environmental impacts • any corrective actions already taken, or that may be taken, to prevent a recurrence. If the initial notification of the reportable incident was verbal, this information must be included in the written report.	Written report to be provided to: • NOPSEMA: submissions@nopsema.gov.au • National Offshore Petroleum Titles Authority: info@nopta.gov.au

9.4.3 Routine environmental reporting

Regulation 26C of the OPGGS(E)R requires environmental performance reporting for the activity described in this EP, as summarised in Table 9-5. Routine notifications required by regulations 29 and 30 of the OPGGS(E)R are also included in Table 9-5.

Table 9-5: Routine external reporting or notification requirements

Reporting requirement	Description	Reporting to	Timing
Environmental performance reporting	A report detailing environmental performance of the activity detailed in this EP	NOPSEMA submissions@nopsema.gov.au Phone: +61 8 6461 7090	Within three months of completion of activities
Notification of start of activity	CAPL must complete Form FM1405 and submit to NOPSEMA at least 10 days before activity commencement	NOPSEMA submissions@nopsema.gov.au or: https://securefile.nopsema.gov.au/filedrop/submissions	Once prior to activity commencement
Notification of conclusion of activity	CAPL must complete Form FM1405 and submit to NOPSEMA within 10 days of activity completion	NOPSEMA submissions@nopsema.gov.au or: https://securefile.nopsema.gov.au/filedrop/submissions	Once following completion of activity

9.5 Environment Plan review

If required, any revisions and/or resubmission of this EP to NOPSEMA, in accordance with regulation 17 of the OPGGS(E)R, will be undertaken in accordance with the OEMS, and particularly the MoC process (Section 9.3.1.2).

10 abbreviations and definitions

Table 10-1 defines the acronyms and abbreviations used in this document.

Table 10-1: Abbreviations and definitions

Acronym or abbreviation	Definition
ABARES	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences
ABU	Australian Business Unit
ACN	Australian Company Number
AFMA	Australian Fisheries Management Authority
AHO	Australian Hydrographic Office
AIS	automated identification system
ALARP	as low as reasonably practicable
AMP	Australian Marine Park
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
APPEA	Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association
ATSB	Australian Transport Safety Bureau
BIA	Biologically important area
CAPL	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd
Cth	Commonwealth
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DISER	Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
EMBA	Environment that May Be Affected
EP	Environment Plan
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
ESD	ecologically sustainable development
GPS	Global positioning system
HSE	Health, Safety and Environment
ID	identification
II&R	Incident investigation and reporting
IMS	incident management system
KEF	Key Ecological feature
MEPA	Mobil Exploration and Producing Australia Pty Ltd
MNES	matters of national environmental significance
MSC	management system cycle

Acronym or abbreviation	Definition
MSL	mean sea level
N/A	not Available
NOPSEMA	National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environment Management Authority
NOPTA	National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator
NWMR	North West Marine Region
OE	Chevron Corporation's Operational Excellence
OEMS	Operational Excellence Management System
OGUK	Oil and Gas UK
OPEP	Oil pollution emergency plan
OPGGS Act	Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse gas Storage Act 2006
OPGGS(E)R)	Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009
TEC	threatened ecological community
UK	United Kingdom
WA	Western Australia
WAFIC	Western Australian Fishing Industry Council
WAPET	West Australian Petroleum

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Appendix a operational excellence—policy 530

policy 530

operational excellence: achieving world-class performance

It is the policy of Chevron Corporation to protect the safety and health of people and the environment, and to conduct our operations reliably and efficiently. The Operational Excellence Management System (OEMS) is the way Chevron systematically manages workforce safety and health, process safety, reliability and integrity, environment, efficiency, security, and stakeholder engagement and issues. OEMS puts into action our Chevron Way value of Protecting People and the Environment, which places the highest priority on the safety and health of our workforce and the protection of communities, the environment and our assets. Compliance with the law is a foundation for the OEMS.

Our OEMS is a risk-based system used to understand and mitigate risks and maintain and assure safeguards. OEMS consists of three parts:

leadership and OE culture

Leadership is the largest single factor for success in OE. Leaders are accountable not only for achieving results, but achieving them in the right way. Leaders must demonstrate consistent and rigorous application of OE to drive performance and meet OE objectives.

focus areas and OE expectations

Chevron manages risks to our employees, contractors, the communities where we operate, the environment and our assets through focus areas and OE expectations that guide the design, management and assurance of safeguards.

management system cycle

Chevron takes a systematic approach to set and align objectives; identify, prioritize and close gaps; strengthen safeguards and improve OE results.

We will assess and take steps to manage OE risks within the following framework of focus areas and OE expectations:

Workforce Safety and Health: We provide a safe and healthy workplace for our employees and contractors. Our highest priorities are to eliminate fatalities and prevent serious injuries and illnesses.

Process Safety, Reliability and Integrity: We manage the integrity of operating systems through design principles and engineering and operating practices to prevent and mitigate process safety incidents. We execute reliability programs so that equipment, components and systems perform their required functions across the full asset lifecycle.

Environment: We protect the environment through responsible design, development, operations and asset retirement.

Efficiency: We use energy and resources efficiently to continually improve and drive value.

Security: We protect personnel, facilities, information, systems, business operations and our reputation. We proactively identify security risks, develop personnel and sustainable programs to mitigate those risks, and continually evaluate the effectiveness of these efforts.

Stakeholders: We engage stakeholders to foster trust, build relationships, and promote two-way dialogue to manage potential impacts and create business opportunities. We work with our stakeholders in a socially responsible and ethical manner, consistent with our respect for human rights, to create a safer, more inclusive business environment. We also work with our partners to responsibly manage Chevron's non-operated joint venture partnerships and third-party aviation and marine activities.

There are specific OE expectations which need to be met under each focus area. Additional expectations apply to all focus areas and address legal, regulatory and OE compliance; risk management; assurance; competency; learning; human performance; technology; product stewardship; contractor OE management; incident investigation and reporting; and emergency management.

Through disciplined application of the OEMS, we integrate OE processes, standards, procedures and behaviours into our daily operations. While leaders are responsible for managing the OEMS and enabling OE performance, every individual in Chevron's workforce is accountable for complying with the principles of 'Do it safely or not at all' and 'There is always time to do it right'.

Line management has the primary responsibility for complying with this policy and applicable legal requirements within their respective functions and authority limits. Line management will communicate this policy to their respective employees and will establish policies, processes, programs and standards consistent with expectations of the OEMS.

Employees are responsible for understanding the risks that they manage and the safeguards that need to be in place to mitigate those risks. Employees are responsible for taking action consistent with all Company policies, and laws applicable to their assigned duties and responsibilities. Accordingly, employees who are unsure of the legal or regulatory implications of their actions are responsible for seeking management or supervisory guidance.

Mark Hatfield
Managing Director, Australasia Business Unit

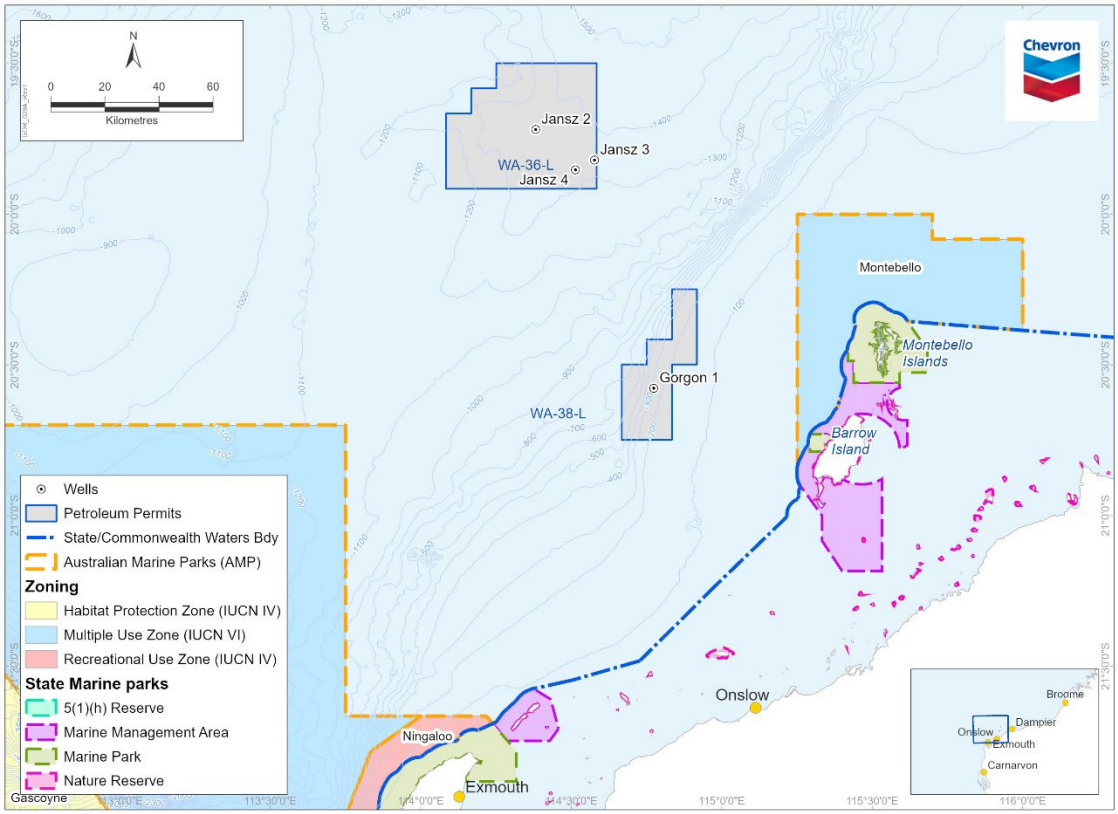
the human energy company™

Appendix b relevant persons consultation—fact sheets

gorgon and jansz wellhead decommissioning

environment plan stakeholder consultation

September 2022



overview

In 2009, petroleum titles WA-36-L, WA-37-L, WA-38-L, WA-39-L and WA-40-L were transferred to the Gorgon Joint Venturers, and Chevron Australia Pty Ltd (Chevron Australia) became the nominated titleholder.

Section 572 of the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* (OPGGS Act) requires a titleholder to remove all property that is within the title area that is neither used nor to be used in connection with the operations authorised by the title. In accordance with the Australian Government's Offshore Petroleum Decommissioning Guideline and NOPSEMA's policy on Section 572, in situ decommissioning options can be proposed if the option achieves equal or better environmental, safety and well integrity outcomes

In 2022, Chevron Australia completed a review to determine the presence of any non-operated subsea assets within the Gorgon Joint Venture's petroleum titles. This investigation identified five non-operated assets, all of which were previously plugged and abandoned appraisal wells with wellheads left in situ.

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Chevron Australia is currently developing an Environment Plan to demonstrate how obligations under section 572 of the OPGGS Act will be met for the Gorgon Joint Venturers' petroleum titles. Four wells (North Gorgon-2, Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4) are the subject of this Environment Plan. Chevron Australia are proposing to leave the four wellheads in situ. The decommissioning of a fifth well, Io-2 with the wellhead in situ was accepted by NOPSEMA in 2018 (and is therefore not subject to any further assessment).

location and water depth

The North Gorgon-2 well is located within production licence WA-37-L and ~70 km northwest of Barrow Island. The Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4 wells are located within production licence WA-36-L and are located ~130–150 km northwest of Barrow Island.

Each wellhead extends ~4 m above the seabed and covers an area of ~9 m².

Well	Latitude (WGS84)	Longitude (WGS84)	Water depth
North Gorgon-2	-20.3471°	114.8549°	258 m
Jansz-2	-19.7186°	114.3819°	1,347 m
Jansz-3	-19.8202°	114.5775°	1,340 m
Jansz-4	-19.8525°	114.5142°	1,313 m

activity summary

No field activity is proposed under this Environment Plan. The Environment Plan is a decommissioning assessment for the wellheads to remain in situ.

exclusion zone

There are currently no exclusion zones around the North Gorgon-2, Jansz-2, Jansz-3, or Jansz-4 wellheads, and this is not intended to change because of this Environment Plan.

approvals process

Petroleum activities in Commonwealth waters are regulated by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA). Before a petroleum activity can take place, Chevron Australia must develop an Environment Plan which will be assessed by NOPSEMA in accordance with the requirements of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations (2009).

The Environment Plan will describe the environment in which the petroleum activity takes place, an assessment of the potential environmental impacts and risks arising from the activity, and the identification of control measures to manage environmental impacts and risks to as low as reasonably practicable and acceptable levels.

The Environment Plan is also required to describe how relevant stakeholders, whose interests, functions, or activities may be affected, have been identified, engaged and consulted. The Environment Plan must include how feedback has been considered and addressed.

commercial fishing

Chevron Australia recognises the commercial fishing sector is an important and relevant stakeholder group whose members may be affected by leaving the wellheads in situ.

Chevron Australia is committed to engaging early and working proactively with the commercial fishing sector and will provide responses to any stakeholders that identify an interest in our planned activities.

implications for stakeholders

Chevron Australia defines an aspect as an element of an activity that has the potential to interact with the environment. Relevant potential impacts and risks are identified for each of these aspects and evaluated in detail within the Environment Plan. Control measures are assigned to each aspect to eliminate, prevent, reduce, or mitigate consequences associated with each identified environmental impact and risk.

The aspects and the proposed control measures to be implemented for leaving the wellheads in situ at North Gorgon-2, Jansz-2, Jansz-3, and Jansz-4 are summarised in the following table.

Further details will be provided in the Environment Plan and will incorporate feedback generated during the consultation process.

Aspect	Proposed control measures
Physical presence	• Coordinates for the wellheads to remain in situ will be provided to the Australian Hydrographical Office • Chevron Australia will comply with the requirements of the *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981.*

providing feedback

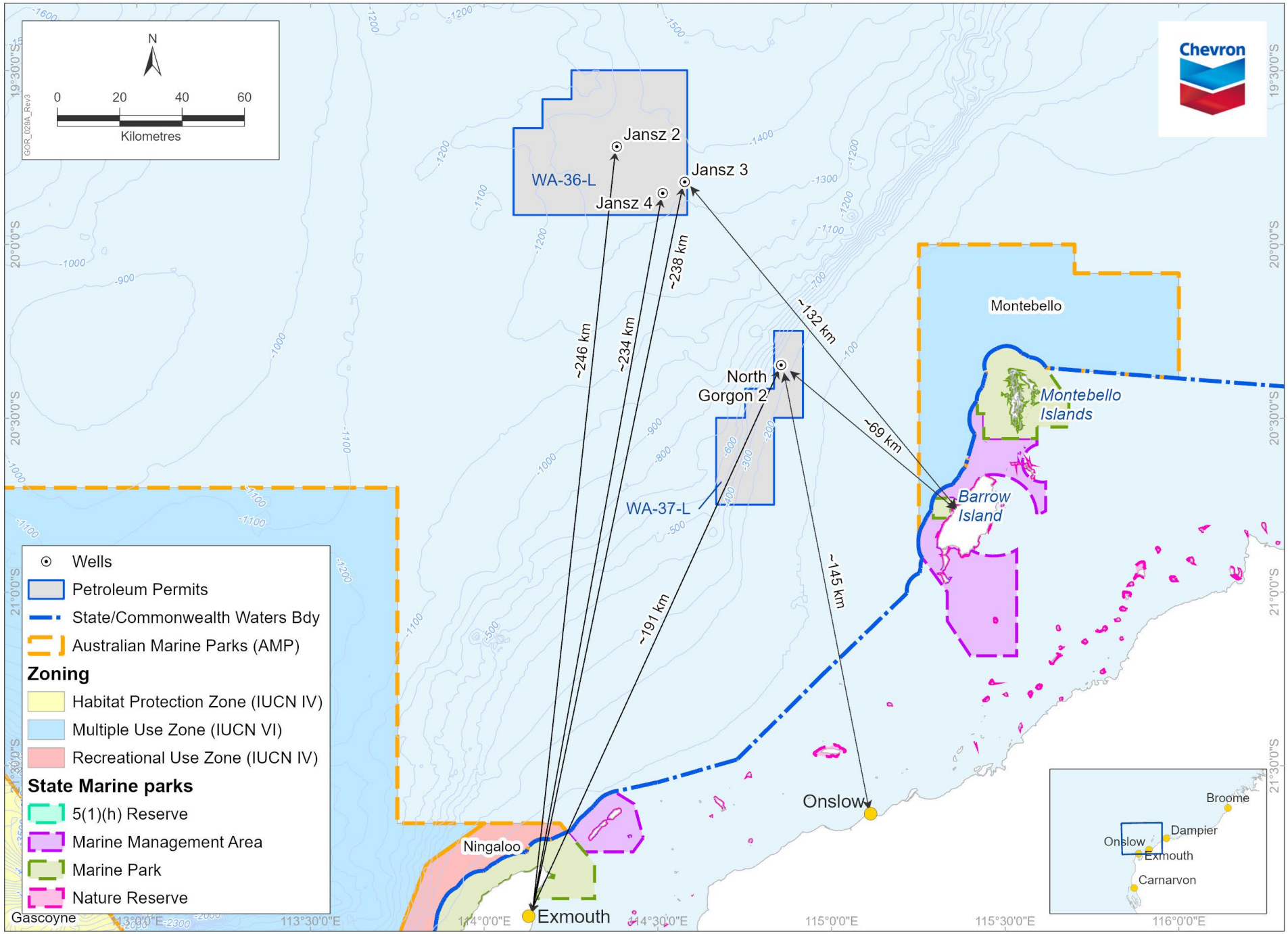
Feedback from stakeholders on potential or perceived impacts associated with Chevron Australia's activities will be carefully considered and assessed.

Please note that stakeholder feedback and Chevron Australia's response will be included in the Environment Plan.

If feedback is identified as sensitive by a stakeholder, Chevron Australia will make this known to NOPSEMA, in order for the information to remain confidential.

Feedback can be directed to:

Jeff Hunter
HSE Regulatory Affairs Advisor
abuenvplaninfo@chevron.com
(08) 9216 4525


N
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Kilometres
GOR_029A_Rev3
Chevron
Jansz 2
Jansz 3
Jansz 4
WA-36-L
WA-37-L
North Gorgon 2
~246 km
~234 km
~238 km
~132 km
~69 km
~145 km
~191 km
Montebello
Montebello Islands
Barrow Island
Onslow
Ningaloo
Exmouth
Gascoyne
Broome
Dampier
Onslow
Exmouth
Carnarvon
Wells
Petroleum Permits
State/Commonwealth Waters Bdy
Australian Marine Parks (AMP)
Zoning
Habitat Protection Zone (IUCN IV)
Multiple Use Zone (IUCN VI)
Recreational Use Zone (IUCN IV)
State Marine parks
5(1)(h) Reserve
Marine Management Area
Marine Park
Nature Reserve
19°30'0"S
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Appendix c protected matters search reports

Australian Government
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

This report provides general guidance on matters of national environmental significance and other matters protected by the EPBC Act in the area you have selected. Please see the caveat for interpretation of information provided here.

Report created: 20-Jul-2022

Summary

Matters of National Environment Significance

This part of the report summarises the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area you nominated. Further information is available in the detail part of the report, which can be accessed by scrolling or following the links below. If you are proposing to undertake an activity that may have a significant impact on one or more matters of national environmental significance then you should consider the Administrative Guidelines on Significance.

World Heritage Properties:	None
National Heritage Places:	None
Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar	None
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:	None
Commonwealth Marine Area:	1
Listed Threatened Ecological Communities:	None
Listed Threatened Species:	21
Listed Migratory Species:	35

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the

The EPBC Act protects the environment on Commonwealth land, the environment from the actions taken on Commonwealth land, and the environment from actions taken by Commonwealth agencies. As heritage values of a place are part of the 'environment', these aspects of the EPBC Act protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place. Information on the new heritage laws can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage

A permit may be required for activities in or on a Commonwealth area that may affect a member of a listed threatened species or ecological community, a member of a listed migratory species, whales and other cetaceans, or a member of a listed marine species.

Commonwealth Lands:	None
Commonwealth Heritage Places:	None
Listed Marine Species:	55
Whales and Other Cetaceans:	26
Critical Habitats:	None
Commonwealth Reserves Terrestrial:	None
Australian Marine Parks:	None
Habitat Critical to the Survival of Marine Turtles:	1

Extra Information

This part of the report provides information that may also be relevant to the area you have

State and Territory Reserves:	None
Regional Forest Agreements:	None
Nationally Important Wetlands:	None
EPBC Act Referrals:	14
Key Ecological Features (Marine):	1
Biologically Important Areas:	5
Bioregional Assessments:	None
Geological and Bioregional Assessments:	None

Details

Matters of National Environmental Significance

Commonwealth Marine Area [Resource Information]

Approval is required for a proposed activity that is located within the Commonwealth Marine Area which has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment. Approval may be required for a proposed action taken outside a Commonwealth Marine Area but which has, may have or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment in the Commonwealth Marine Area.

Feature Name
EEZ and Territorial Sea

Listed Threatened Species [Resource Information]

Status of Conservation Dependent and Extinct are not MNES under the EPBC Act.
Number is the current name ID.

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
BIRD		
Calidris canutus Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Macronectes giganteus Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel [1060]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Numenius madagascariensis Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew [847]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus fulvus Christmas Island White-tailed Tropicbird, Golden Bosunbird [26021]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Sternula nereis nereis Australian Fairy Tern [82950]	Vulnerable	Foraging, feeding or related behaviour likely to occur within area
FISH		

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
[Thunnus maccoyii](#) Southern Bluefin Tuna [69402]	Conservation Dependent	Breeding known to occur within area
MAMMAL		
[Balaenoptera borealis](#) Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
[Balaenoptera musculus](#) Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area
[Balaenoptera physalus](#) Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
REPTILE		
[Caretta caretta](#) Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
[Chelonia mydas](#) Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
[Dermochelys coriacea](#) Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
[Eretmochelys imbricata](#) Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
[Natator depressus](#) Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Congregation or aggregation known to occur within area
SHARK		
[Carcharias taurus (west coast population)](#) Grey Nurse Shark (west coast population) [68752]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Carcharodon carcharias](#) White Shark, Great White Shark [64470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Pristis pristis		
Freshwater Sawfish, Largetooth Sawfish, River Sawfish, Leichhardt's Sawfish, Northern Sawfish [60756]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Pristis zijsron		
Green Sawfish, Dindagubba, Narrowsnout Sawfish [68442]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Rhincodon typus		
Whale Shark [66680]	Vulnerable	Foraging, feeding or related behaviour known to occur within area
Sphyrna lewini		
Scalloped Hammerhead [85267]	Conservation Dependent	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Listed Migratory Species		[Resource Information]
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Migratory Marine Birds		
Anous stolidus		
Common Noddy [825]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calonectris leucomelas		
Streaked Shearwater [1077]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Fregata ariel		
Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird [1012]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Macronectes giganteus		
Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel [1060]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus		
White-tailed Tropicbird [1014]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Marine Species		
Anoxypristis cuspidata		
Narrow Sawfish, Knifetooth Sawfish [68448]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Balaenoptera bonaerensis Antarctic Minke Whale, Dark-shoulder Minke Whale [67812]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera borealis Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera edeni Bryde's Whale [35]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera musculus Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area
Balaenoptera physalus Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Carcharhinus longimanus Oceanic Whitetip Shark [84108]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Carcharodon carcharias White Shark, Great White Shark [64470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Caretta caretta Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Chelonia mydas Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Dermochelys coriacea Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Eretmochelys imbricata Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Isurus oxyrinchus Shortfin Mako, Mako Shark [79073]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Isurus paucus Longfin Mako [82947]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Megaptera novaeangliae Humpback Whale [38]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Mobula alfredi as Manta alfredi Reef Manta Ray, Coastal Manta Ray [90033]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Mobula birostris as Manta birostris Giant Manta Ray [90034]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Natator depressus Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Congregation or aggregation known to occur within area
Orcinus orca Killer Whale, Orca [46]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Physeter macrocephalus Sperm Whale [59]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Pristis pristis Freshwater Sawfish, Largetooth Sawfish, River Sawfish, Leichhardt's Sawfish, Northern Sawfish [60756]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Pristis zijsron Green Sawfish, Dindagubba, Narrowsnout Sawfish [68442]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Rhincodon typus Whale Shark [66680]	Vulnerable	Foraging, feeding or related behaviour known to occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Tursiops aduncus (Arafura/Timor Sea populations)		
Spotted Bottlenose Dolphin (Arafura/Timor Sea populations) [78900]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Wetlands Species		
Actitis hypoleucos		
Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris acuminata		
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris canutus		
Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris ferruginea		
Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris melanotos		
Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Numenius madagascariensis		
Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew [847]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

Listed Marine Species		[Resource Information]
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Bird		
Actitis hypoleucos		
Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Anous stolidus		
Common Noddy [825]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris canutus Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area
Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area
Calonectris leucomelas Streaked Shearwater [1077]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Fregata ariel Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird [1012]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Macronectes giganteus Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel [1060]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Numenius madagascariensis Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew [847]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus White-tailed Tropicbird [1014]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus fulvus Christmas Island White-tailed Tropicbird, Golden Bosunbird [26021]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Fish		

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Acentronura larsonae Helen's Pygmy Pipehorse [66186]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Bulbonaricus brauni Braun's Pughead Pipefish, Pug-headed Pipefish [66189]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Campichthys tricarinatus Three-keel Pipefish [66192]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Choeroichthys brachysoma Pacific Short-bodied Pipefish, Short-bodied Pipefish [66194]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Choeroichthys latispinosus Muiron Island Pipefish [66196]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Choeroichthys suillus Pig-snouted Pipefish [66198]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Doryrhamphus dactyliophorus Banded Pipefish, Ringed Pipefish [66210]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Doryrhamphus janssi Cleaner Pipefish, Janss' Pipefish [66212]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Doryrhamphus multiannulatus Many-banded Pipefish [66717]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Doryrhamphus negrosensis Flagtail Pipefish, Masthead Island Pipefish [66213]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Festucalex scalaris Ladder Pipefish [66216]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Filicampus tigris Tiger Pipefish [66217]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Halicampus brocki Brock's Pipefish [66219]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Halicampus grayi Mud Pipefish, Gray's Pipefish [66221]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Halicampus nitidus Glittering Pipefish [66224]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Halicampus spinirostris Spiny-snout Pipefish [66225]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Haliichthys taeniophorus Ribboned Pipehorse, Ribboned Seadragon [66226]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Hippichthys penicillus Beady Pipefish, Steep-nosed Pipefish [66231]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Hippocampus angustus Western Spiny Seahorse, Narrow-bellied Seahorse [66234]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Hippocampus histrix Spiny Seahorse, Thorny Seahorse [66236]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Hippocampus kuda Spotted Seahorse, Yellow Seahorse [66237]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Hippocampus planifrons Flat-face Seahorse [66238]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Hippocampus trimaculatus Three-spot Seahorse, Low-crowned Seahorse, Flat-faced Seahorse [66720]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Micrognathus micronotopterus Tidepool Pipefish [66255]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phoxocampus belcheri Black Rock Pipefish [66719]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Solegnathus hardwickii Pallid Pipehorse, Hardwick's Pipehorse [66272]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Solegnathus lettiensis Gunther's Pipehorse, Indonesian Pipefish [66273]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Solenostomus cyanopterus Robust Ghostpipefish, Blue-finned Ghost Pipefish, [66183]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Syngnathoides biaculeatus Double-end Pipehorse, Double-ended Pipehorse, Alligator Pipefish [66279]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Trachyrhamphus bicoarctatus Bentstick Pipefish, Bend Stick Pipefish, Short-tailed Pipefish [66280]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Trachyrhamphus longirostris Straightstick Pipefish, Long-nosed Pipefish, Straight Stick Pipefish [66281]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Reptile		
Aipysurus laevis Olive Seasnake [1120]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Caretta caretta Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Chelonia mydas Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Dermochelys coriacea Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Disteira kingii Spectacled Seasnake [1123]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Disteira major Olive-headed Seasnake [1124]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Ephalophis greyi North-western Mangrove Seasnake [1127]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Eretmochelys imbricata Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Hydrophis elegans Elegant Seasnake [1104]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Leioselasma czeblukovi as Hydrophis czeblukovi Fine-spined Seasnake, Geometrical Seasnake [87374]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Natator depressus Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Congregation or aggregation known to occur within area
Pelamis platurus Yellow-bellied Seasnake [1091]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Whales and Other Cetaceans		[Resource Information]
Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Mammal		

Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
[Balaenoptera acutorostrata](#) Minke Whale [33]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Balaenoptera bonaerensis](#) Antarctic Minke Whale, Dark-shoulder Minke Whale [67812]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
[Balaenoptera borealis](#) Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
[Balaenoptera edeni](#) Bryde's Whale [35]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
[Balaenoptera musculus](#) Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area
[Balaenoptera physalus](#) Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
[Delphinus delphis](#) Common Dolphin, Short-beaked Common Dolphin [60]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Feresa attenuata](#) Pygmy Killer Whale [61]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Globicephala macrorhynchus](#) Short-finned Pilot Whale [62]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Grampus griseus](#) Risso's Dolphin, Grampus [64]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Kogia breviceps](#) Pygmy Sperm Whale [57]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Kogia sima as Kogia simus Dwarf Sperm Whale [85043]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Lagenodelphis hosei Fraser's Dolphin, Sarawak Dolphin [41]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Megaptera novaeangliae Humpback Whale [38]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Mesoplodon densirostris Blainville's Beaked Whale, Dense-beaked Whale [74]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Orcinus orca Killer Whale, Orca [46]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Peponocephala electra Melon-headed Whale [47]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Physeter macrocephalus Sperm Whale [59]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Pseudorca crassidens False Killer Whale [48]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Stenella attenuata Spotted Dolphin, Pantropical Spotted Dolphin [51]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Stenella coeruleoalba Striped Dolphin, Euphrosyne Dolphin [52]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Stenella longirostris Long-snouted Spinner Dolphin [29]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Steno bredanensis		
Rough-toothed Dolphin [30]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Tursiops aduncus (Arafura/Timor Sea populations)		
Spotted Bottlenose Dolphin (Arafura/Timor Sea populations) [78900]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Tursiops truncatus s. str.		
Bottlenose Dolphin [68417]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Ziphius cavirostris		
Cuvier's Beaked Whale, Goose-beaked Whale [56]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Habitat Critical to the Survival of Marine Turtles		
Scientific Name	Behaviour	Presence
Aug - Sep		
Natator depressus		
Flatback Turtle [59257]	Nesting	Known to occur

Extra Information

EPBC Act Referrals			[Resource Information]
Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status
Controlled action			
Construct and operate LNG & domestic gas plant including onshore and offshore facilities - Wheatston	2008/4469	Controlled Action	Post-Approval
Equus Gas Fields Development Project, Carnarvon Basin	2012/6301	Controlled Action	Completed
Gorgon Gas Development	2003/1294	Controlled Action	Post-Approval
Gorgon Gas Development 4th Train Proposal	2011/5942	Controlled Action	Post-Approval
Not controlled action (particular manner)			
3D Marine Seismic Survey in Permit Areas WA-15-R, WA-18-R, WA-205-P, WA-253-P, WA-267-P and WA-268-P	2003/1271	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval

Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status
Not controlled action (particular manner)			
3D seismic survey	2006/2715	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Aperio 3D Marine Seismic Survey, WA	2012/6648	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
CGGVERITAS 2010 2D Seismic Survey	2010/5714	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Deep Water Northwest Shelf 2D Seismic Survey	2007/3260	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Draeck 3D Marine Seismic Survey, WA-205-P	2006/3067	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Drilling 35-40 offshore exploration wells in deep water	2008/4461	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Harmony 3D Marine Seismic Survey	2012/6699	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Triton 3D Marine Seismic Survey, WA-2-R and WA-3-R	2006/2609	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Westralia SPAN Marine Seismic Survey, WA & NT	2012/6463	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval

Key Ecological Features [Resource Information]

Key Ecological Features are the parts of the marine ecosystem that are considered to be important for the biodiversity or ecosystem functioning and integrity of the Commonwealth Marine Area.

Name	Region
Continental Slope Demersal Fish Communities	North-west

Biologically Important Areas

Scientific Name	Behaviour	Presence

Scientific Name	Behaviour	Presence
Marine Turtles		
Natator depressus Flatback Turtle [59257]	Internesting buffer	Known to occur
Seabirds		
Ardenna pacifica Wedge-tailed Shearwater [84292]	Breeding	Known to occur
Sharks		
Rhincodon typus Whale Shark [66680]	Foraging	Known to occur
Whales		
Balaenoptera musculus brevicauda Pygmy Blue Whale [81317]	Distribution	Known to occur
Balaenoptera musculus brevicauda Pygmy Blue Whale [81317]	Migration	Known to occur

Caveat

1 PURPOSE

This report is designed to assist in identifying the location of matters of national environmental significance (MNES) and other matters protected by the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) which may be relevant in determining obligations and requirements under the EPBC Act.

The report contains the mapped locations of:

- World and National Heritage properties;
- Wetlands of International and National Importance;
- Commonwealth and State/Territory reserves;
- distribution of listed threatened, migratory and marine species;
- listed threatened ecological communities; and
- other information that may be useful as an indicator of potential habitat value.

2 DISCLAIMER

This report is not intended to be exhaustive and should only be relied upon as a general guide as mapped data is not available for all species or ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act (see below). Persons seeking to use the information contained in this report to inform the referral of a proposed action under the EPBC Act should consider the limitations noted below and whether additional information is required to determine the existence and location of MNES and other protected matters.

Where data are available to inform the mapping of protected species, the presence type (e.g. known, likely or may occur) that can be determined from the data is indicated in general terms. It is the responsibility of any person using or relying on the information in this report to ensure that it is suitable for the circumstances of any proposed use. The Commonwealth cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of any use of the report or any part thereof. To the maximum extent allowed under governing law, the Commonwealth will not be liable for any loss or damage that may be occasioned directly or indirectly through the use of, or reliance

3 DATA SOURCES

Threatened ecological communities

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are generated based on information contained in recovery plans, State vegetation maps and remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

Threatened, migratory and marine species

Threatened, migratory and marine species distributions have been discerned through a variety of methods. Where distributions are well known and if time permits, distributions are inferred from either thematic spatial data (i.e. vegetation, soils, geology, elevation, aspect, terrain, etc.) together with point locations and described habitat; or modelled (MAXENT or BIOCLIM habitat modelling) using

Where little information is available for a species or large number of maps are required in a short time-frame, maps are derived either from 0.04 or 0.02 decimal degree cells; by an automated process using polygon capture techniques (static two kilometre grid cells, alpha-hull and convex hull); or captured manually or by using topographic features (national park boundaries, islands, etc.).

In the early stages of the distribution mapping process (1999-early 2000s) distributions were defined by degree blocks, 100K or 250K map sheets to rapidly create distribution maps. More detailed distribution mapping methods are used to update these distributions

4 LIMITATIONS

The following species and ecological communities have not been mapped and do not appear in this report:

- threatened species listed as extinct or considered vagrants;
- some recently listed species and ecological communities;
- some listed migratory and listed marine species, which are not listed as threatened species; and
- migratory species that are very widespread, vagrant, or only occur in Australia in small numbers.

The following groups have been mapped, but may not cover the complete distribution of the species:

- listed migratory and/or listed marine seabirds, which are not listed as threatened, have only been mapped for recorded
- seals which have only been mapped for breeding sites near the Australian continent

The breeding sites may be important for the protection of the Commonwealth Marine environment.

Refer to the metadata for the feature group (using the Resource Information link) for the currency of the information.

Acknowledgements

This database has been compiled from a range of data sources. The department acknowledges the following custodians who have contributed valuable data and advice:

-Office of Environment and Heritage, New South Wales
-Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Victoria
-Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania
-Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, South Australia
-Department of Land and Resource Management, Northern Territory
-Department of Environmental and Heritage Protection, Queensland
-Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia
-Environment and Planning Directorate, ACT
-Birdlife Australia
-Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme
-Australian National Wildlife Collection
-Natural history museums of Australia
-Museum Victoria
-Australian Museum
-South Australian Museum
-Queensland Museum
-Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums
-Queensland Herbarium
-National Herbarium of NSW
-Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium of Victoria
-Tasmanian Herbarium
-State Herbarium of South Australia
-Northern Territory Herbarium
-Western Australian Herbarium
-Australian National Herbarium, Canberra
-University of New England
-Ocean Biogeographic Information System
-Australian Government, Department of Defence
Forestry Corporation, NSW
-Geoscience Australia
-CSIRO
-Australian Tropical Herbarium, Cairns
-eBird Australia
-Australian Government – Australian Antarctic Data Centre
-Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory
-Australian Government National Environmental Science Program
-Australian Institute of Marine Science
-Reef Life Survey Australia
-American Museum of Natural History
-Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk, Tasmania
-Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania
-Other groups and individuals

The Department is extremely grateful to the many organisations and individuals who provided expert advice and information on numerous draft distributions.

Please feel free to provide feedback via the Contact Us page.

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Department of Agriculture Water and the Environment
GPO Box 858
Canberra City ACT 2601 Australia
+61 2 6274 1111

Australian Government
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

This report provides general guidance on matters of national environmental significance and other matters protected by the EPBC Act in the area you have selected. Please see the caveat for interpretation of information provided here.

Report created: 20-Jul-2022

Summary

Matters of National Environment Significance

This part of the report summarises the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area you nominated. Further information is available in the detail part of the report, which can be accessed by scrolling or following the links below. If you are proposing to undertake an activity that may have a significant impact on one or more matters of national environmental significance then you should consider the Administrative Guidelines on Significance.

World Heritage Properties:	None
National Heritage Places:	None
Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar	None
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:	None
Commonwealth Marine Area:	1
Listed Threatened Ecological Communities:	None
Listed Threatened Species:	12
Listed Migratory Species:	24

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the

The EPBC Act protects the environment on Commonwealth land, the environment from the actions taken on Commonwealth land, and the environment from actions taken by Commonwealth agencies. As heritage values of a place are part of the 'environment', these aspects of the EPBC Act protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place. Information on the new heritage laws can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage

A permit may be required for activities in or on a Commonwealth area that may affect a member of a listed threatened species or ecological community, a member of a listed migratory species, whales and other cetaceans, or a member of a listed marine species.

Commonwealth Lands:	None
Commonwealth Heritage Places:	None
Listed Marine Species:	16
Whales and Other Cetaceans:	23
Critical Habitats:	None
Commonwealth Reserves Terrestrial:	None
Australian Marine Parks:	None
Habitat Critical to the Survival of Marine Turtles:	None

Extra Information

This part of the report provides information that may also be relevant to the area you have

State and Territory Reserves:	None
Regional Forest Agreements:	None
Nationally Important Wetlands:	None
EPBC Act Referrals:	10
Key Ecological Features (Marine):	1
Biologically Important Areas:	2
Bioregional Assessments:	None
Geological and Bioregional Assessments:	None

Details

Matters of National Environmental Significance

Commonwealth Marine Area [Resource Information]

Approval is required for a proposed activity that is located within the Commonwealth Marine Area which has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment. Approval may be required for a proposed action taken outside a Commonwealth Marine Area but which has, may have or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment in the Commonwealth Marine Area.

Feature Name
EEZ and Territorial Sea

Listed Threatened Species [Resource Information]

Status of Conservation Dependent and Extinct are not MNES under the EPBC Act.
Number is the current name ID.

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
BIRD		
Calidris canutus Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus fulvus Christmas Island White-tailed Tropicbird, Golden Bosunbird [26021]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
FISH		
Thunnus maccoyii Southern Bluefin Tuna [69402]	Conservation Dependent	Breeding known to occur within area
MAMMAL		
Balaenoptera borealis Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera musculus Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area
Balaenoptera physalus Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
REPTILE		

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Caretta caretta Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Chelonia mydas Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Dermochelys coriacea Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Eretmochelys imbricata Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Natator depressus Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
SHARK		
Carcharodon carcharias White Shark, Great White Shark [64470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area

Listed Migratory Species		[Resource Information]
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Migratory Marine Birds		
Anous stolidus Common Noddy [825]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Fregata ariel Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird [1012]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus White-tailed Tropicbird [1014]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Marine Species		
Balaenoptera borealis Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Balaenoptera edeni Bryde's Whale [35]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera musculus Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area
Balaenoptera physalus Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Carcharhinus longimanus Oceanic Whitetip Shark [84108]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Carcharodon carcharias White Shark, Great White Shark [64470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Caretta caretta Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Chelonia mydas Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Dermochelys coriacea Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Eretmochelys imbricata Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Isurus oxyrinchus Shortfin Mako, Mako Shark [79073]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Isurus paucus Longfin Mako [82947]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Megaptera novaeangliae Humpback Whale [38]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Mobula birostris as Manta birostris Giant Manta Ray [90034]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Natator depressus Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Orcinus orca Killer Whale, Orca [46]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Physeter macrocephalus Sperm Whale [59]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Wetlands Species		
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris canutus Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

Listed Marine Species		[Resource Information]
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Bird		

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Anous stolidus Common Noddy [825]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris canutus Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area
Fregata ariel Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird [1012]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus White-tailed Tropicbird [1014]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus fulvus Christmas Island White-tailed Tropicbird, Golden Bosunbird [26021]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Reptile		
Aipysurus laevis Olive Seasnake [1120]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Caretta caretta Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Chelonia mydas Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Dermochelys coriacea Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Eretmochelys imbricata Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Hydrophis elegans Elegant Seasnake [1104]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Natator depressus Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Pelamis platurus Yellow-bellied Seasnake [1091]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Whales and Other Cetaceans		[Resource Information]
Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Mammal		
Balaenoptera borealis Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera edeni Bryde's Whale [35]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera musculus Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area
Balaenoptera physalus Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Delphinus delphis Common Dolphin, Short-beaked Common Dolphin [60]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Feresa attenuata Pygmy Killer Whale [61]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Globicephala macrorhynchus Short-finned Pilot Whale [62]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Grampus griseus Risso's Dolphin, Grampus [64]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Kogia breviceps Pygmy Sperm Whale [57]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Kogia sima as Kogia simus Dwarf Sperm Whale [85043]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Lagenodelphis hosei Fraser's Dolphin, Sarawak Dolphin [41]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Megaptera novaeangliae Humpback Whale [38]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Mesoplodon densirostris Blainville's Beaked Whale, Dense-beaked Whale [74]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Orcinus orca Killer Whale, Orca [46]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Peponocephala electra Melon-headed Whale [47]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Physeter macrocephalus Sperm Whale [59]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Pseudorca crassidens False Killer Whale [48]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Stenella attenuata Spotted Dolphin, Pantropical Spotted Dolphin [51]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Stenella coeruleoalba Striped Dolphin, Euphrosyne Dolphin [52]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Stenella longirostris Long-snouted Spinner Dolphin [29]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
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Ziphius cavirostris Cuvier's Beaked Whale, Goose-beaked Whale [56]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Extra Information

EPBC Act Referrals			[Resource Information]
Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status
Controlled action			
Develop Jansz-Io deepwater gas field in Permit Areas WA-18-R, WA-25-R and WA-26-	2005/2184	Controlled Action	Post-Approval
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Gorgon Gas Development 4th Train Proposal	2011/5942	Controlled Action	Post-Approval
Not controlled action			
Bollinger 2D Seismic Survey 200km North of North West Cape	2004/1868	Not Controlled Action	Completed

Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status
Not controlled action			
WA			
Jansz-2 and 3 Appraisal Wells	2002/754	Not Controlled Action	Completed
Project Highclere Geophysical Survey	2021/9023	Not Controlled Action	Completed
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3D Marine Seismic Survey in Permit Areas WA-15-R, WA-18-R, WA-205-P, WA-253-P, WA-267-P and WA-268-P	2003/1271	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
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Drilling 35-40 offshore exploration wells in deep water	2008/4461	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Westralia SPAN Marine Seismic Survey, WA & NT	2012/6463	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval

Key Ecological Features [Resource Information]

Key Ecological Features are the parts of the marine ecosystem that are considered to be important for the biodiversity or ecosystem functioning and integrity of the Commonwealth Marine Area.

Name	Region
Exmouth Plateau	North-west

Biologically Important Areas

Scientific Name	Behaviour	Presence
Whales		
Balaenoptera musculus brevicauda		
Pygmy Blue Whale [81317]	Distribution	Known to occur
Balaenoptera musculus brevicauda		
Pygmy Blue Whale [81317]	Migration	Known to occur

Caveat

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This report is designed to assist in identifying the location of matters of national environmental significance (MNES) and other matters protected by the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) which may be relevant in determining obligations and requirements under the EPBC Act.

The report contains the mapped locations of:

- World and National Heritage properties;
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- distribution of listed threatened, migratory and marine species;
- listed threatened ecological communities; and
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Where data are available to inform the mapping of protected species, the presence type (e.g. known, likely or may occur) that can be determined from the data is indicated in general terms. It is the responsibility of any person using or relying on the information in this report to ensure that it is suitable for the circumstances of any proposed use. The Commonwealth cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of any use of the report or any part thereof. To the maximum extent allowed under governing law, the Commonwealth will not be liable for any loss or damage that may be occasioned directly or indirectly through the use of, or reliance

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For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are generated based on information contained in recovery plans, State vegetation maps and remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

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The breeding sites may be important for the protection of the Commonwealth Marine environment.

Refer to the metadata for the feature group (using the Resource Information link) for the currency of the information.

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Department of Agriculture Water and the Environment
GPO Box 858
Canberra City ACT 2601 Australia
+61 2 6274 1111

Australian Government
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

This report provides general guidance on matters of national environmental significance and other matters protected by the EPBC Act in the area you have selected. Please see the caveat for interpretation of information provided here.

Report created: 20-Jul-2022

Summary

Matters of National Environment Significance

This part of the report summarises the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area you nominated. Further information is available in the detail part of the report, which can be accessed by scrolling or following the links below. If you are proposing to undertake an activity that may have a significant impact on one or more matters of national environmental significance then you should consider the Administrative Guidelines on Significance.

World Heritage Properties:	None
National Heritage Places:	None
Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar	None
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:	None
Commonwealth Marine Area:	1
Listed Threatened Ecological Communities:	None
Listed Threatened Species:	13
Listed Migratory Species:	24

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the

The EPBC Act protects the environment on Commonwealth land, the environment from the actions taken on Commonwealth land, and the environment from actions taken by Commonwealth agencies. As heritage values of a place are part of the 'environment', these aspects of the EPBC Act protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place. Information on the new heritage laws can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage

A permit may be required for activities in or on a Commonwealth area that may affect a member of a listed threatened species or ecological community, a member of a listed migratory species, whales and other cetaceans, or a member of a listed marine species.

Commonwealth Lands:	None
Commonwealth Heritage Places:	None
Listed Marine Species:	16
Whales and Other Cetaceans:	23
Critical Habitats:	None
Commonwealth Reserves Terrestrial:	None
Australian Marine Parks:	None
Habitat Critical to the Survival of Marine Turtles:	None

Extra Information

This part of the report provides information that may also be relevant to the area you have

State and Territory Reserves:	None
Regional Forest Agreements:	None
Nationally Important Wetlands:	None
EPBC Act Referrals:	11
Key Ecological Features (Marine):	None
Biologically Important Areas:	2
Bioregional Assessments:	None
Geological and Bioregional Assessments:	None

Details

Matters of National Environmental Significance

Commonwealth Marine Area [Resource Information]

Approval is required for a proposed activity that is located within the Commonwealth Marine Area which has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment. Approval may be required for a proposed action taken outside a Commonwealth Marine Area but which has, may have or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment in the Commonwealth Marine Area.

Feature Name
EEZ and Territorial Sea

Listed Threatened Species [Resource Information]

Status of Conservation Dependent and Extinct are not MNES under the EPBC Act.
Number is the current name ID.

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
BIRD		
Calidris canutus		
Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus fulvus		
Christmas Island White-tailed Tropicbird, Golden Bosunbird [26021]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Sternula nereis nereis		
Australian Fairy Tern [82950]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
FISH		
Thunnus maccoyii		
Southern Bluefin Tuna [69402]	Conservation Dependent	Breeding known to occur within area
MAMMAL		
Balaenoptera borealis		
Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera musculus		
Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Balaenoptera physalus		
Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
REPTILE		
Caretta caretta		
Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Chelonia mydas		
Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Dermochelys coriacea		
Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Eretmochelys imbricata		
Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Natator depressus		
Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
SHARK		
Carcharodon carcharias		
White Shark, Great White Shark [64470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area

Listed Migratory Species		[Resource Information]
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Migratory Marine Birds		
Anous stolidus		
Common Noddy [825]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Fregata ariel		
Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird [1012]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus		
White-tailed Tropicbird [1014]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Marine Species		

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Balaenoptera borealis Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera edeni Bryde's Whale [35]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera musculus Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area
Balaenoptera physalus Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Carcharhinus longimanus Oceanic Whitetip Shark [84108]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Carcharodon carcharias White Shark, Great White Shark [64470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Caretta caretta Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Chelonia mydas Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Dermochelys coriacea Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Eretmochelys imbricata Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Isurus oxyrinchus Shortfin Mako, Mako Shark [79073]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Isurus paucus Longfin Mako [82947]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Megaptera novaeangliae Humpback Whale [38]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Mobula birostris as Manta birostris Giant Manta Ray [90034]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Natator depressus Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Orcinus orca Killer Whale, Orca [46]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Physeter macrocephalus Sperm Whale [59]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Wetlands Species		
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris canutus Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

Listed Marine Species		[Resource Information]
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Bird		
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Anous stolidus Common Noddy [825]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris canutus Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area
Fregata ariel Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird [1012]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus White-tailed Tropicbird [1014]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus fulvus Christmas Island White-tailed Tropicbird, Golden Bosunbird [26021]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Reptile		
Aipysurus laevis Olive Seasnake [1120]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Caretta caretta Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Chelonia mydas Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Dermochelys coriacea Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Eretmochelys imbricata Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Hydrophis elegans Elegant Seasnake [1104]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Natator depressus Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Pelamis platurus Yellow-bellied Seasnake [1091]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Whales and Other Cetaceans		[Resource Information]
Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Mammal		
Balaenoptera borealis Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera edeni Bryde's Whale [35]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera musculus Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area

Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Balaenoptera physalus Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Delphinus delphis Common Dolphin, Short-beaked Common Dolphin [60]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
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Aperio 3D Marine Seismic Survey, WA	2012/6648	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
CGGVERITAS 2010 2D Seismic Survey	2010/5714	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
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-University of New England
-Ocean Biogeographic Information System
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Summary

Matters of National Environment Significance

This part of the report summarises the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area you nominated. Further information is available in the detail part of the report, which can be accessed by scrolling or following the links below. If you are proposing to undertake an activity that may have a significant impact on one or more matters of national environmental significance then you should consider the Administrative Guidelines on Significance.

World Heritage Properties:	None
National Heritage Places:	None
Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar	None
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:	None
Commonwealth Marine Area:	1
Listed Threatened Ecological Communities:	None
Listed Threatened Species:	14
Listed Migratory Species:	26

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the

The EPBC Act protects the environment on Commonwealth land, the environment from the actions taken on Commonwealth land, and the environment from actions taken by Commonwealth agencies. As heritage values of a place are part of the 'environment', these aspects of the EPBC Act protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place. Information on the new heritage laws can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage

A permit may be required for activities in or on a Commonwealth area that may affect a member of a listed threatened species or ecological community, a member of a listed migratory species, whales and other cetaceans, or a member of a listed marine species.

Commonwealth Lands:	None
Commonwealth Heritage Places:	None
Listed Marine Species:	21
Whales and Other Cetaceans:	25
Critical Habitats:	None
Commonwealth Reserves Terrestrial:	None
Australian Marine Parks:	None
Habitat Critical to the Survival of Marine Turtles:	None

Extra Information

This part of the report provides information that may also be relevant to the area you have

State and Territory Reserves:	None
Regional Forest Agreements:	None
Nationally Important Wetlands:	None
EPBC Act Referrals:	9
Key Ecological Features (Marine):	None
Biologically Important Areas:	2
Bioregional Assessments:	None
Geological and Bioregional Assessments:	None

Details

Matters of National Environmental Significance

Commonwealth Marine Area [Resource Information]

Approval is required for a proposed activity that is located within the Commonwealth Marine Area which has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment. Approval may be required for a proposed action taken outside a Commonwealth Marine Area but which has, may have or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment in the Commonwealth Marine Area.

Feature Name
EEZ and Territorial Sea

Listed Threatened Species [Resource Information]

Status of Conservation Dependent and Extinct are not MNES under the EPBC Act.
Number is the current name ID.

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
BIRD		
Calidris canutus		
Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Macronectes giganteus		
Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel [1060]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus fulvus		
Christmas Island White-tailed Tropicbird, Golden Bosunbird [26021]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Sternula nereis nereis		
Australian Fairy Tern [82950]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
FISH		
Thunnus maccoyii		
Southern Bluefin Tuna [69402]	Conservation Dependent	Breeding known to occur within area
MAMMAL		
Balaenoptera borealis		
Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Balaenoptera musculus		
Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area
Balaenoptera physalus		
Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
REPTILE		
Caretta caretta		
Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Chelonia mydas		
Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Dermochelys coriacea		
Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Eretmochelys imbricata		
Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Natator depressus		
Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
SHARK		
Carcharodon carcharias		
White Shark, Great White Shark [64470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area

Listed Migratory Species		[Resource Information]
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Migratory Marine Birds		
Anous stolidus		
Common Noddy [825]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Fregata ariel		
Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird [1012]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Macronectes giganteus		
Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel [1060]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phaethon lepturus		
White-tailed Tropicbird [1014]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Marine Species		
Balaenoptera bonaerensis		
Antarctic Minke Whale, Dark-shoulder Minke Whale [67812]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera borealis		
Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera edeni		
Bryde's Whale [35]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera musculus		
Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area
Balaenoptera physalus		
Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Carcharhinus longimanus		
Oceanic Whitetip Shark [84108]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Carcharodon carcharias		
White Shark, Great White Shark [64470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Caretta caretta		
Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Chelonia mydas		
Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Dermochelys coriacea Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Eretmochelys imbricata Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Isurus oxyrinchus Shortfin Mako, Mako Shark [79073]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Isurus paucus Longfin Mako [82947]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Megaptera novaeangliae Humpback Whale [38]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Mobula birostris as Manta birostris Giant Manta Ray [90034]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Natator depressus Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Orcinus orca Killer Whale, Orca [46]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Physeter macrocephalus Sperm Whale [59]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Wetlands Species		
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Calidris canutus Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

Listed Marine Species		[Resource Information]
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Bird		
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Anous stolidus Common Noddy [825]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris canutus Red Knot, Knot [855]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area
Fregata ariel Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird [1012]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Macronectes giganteus Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel [1060]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
[Phaethon lepturus](#) White-tailed Tropicbird [1014]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Phaethon lepturus fulvus](#) Christmas Island White-tailed Tropicbird, Golden Bosunbird [26021]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Reptile		
[Aipysurus laevis](#) Olive Seasnake [1120]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Caretta caretta](#) Loggerhead Turtle [1763]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Chelonia mydas](#) Green Turtle [1765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Dermochelys coriacea](#) Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth [1768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Disteira kingii](#) Spectacled Seasnake [1123]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Disteira major](#) Olive-headed Seasnake [1124]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Ephalophis greyi](#) North-western Mangrove Seasnake [1127]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Eretmochelys imbricata](#) Hawksbill Turtle [1766]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
[Hydrophis elegans](#) Elegant Seasnake [1104]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
Leioselasma czeblukovi as Hydrophis czeblukovi		
Fine-spined Seasnake, Geometrical Seasnake [87374]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Natator depressus		
Flatback Turtle [59257]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Pelamis platurus		
Yellow-bellied Seasnake [1091]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Whales and Other Cetaceans		[Resource Information]
Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Mammal		
Balaenoptera acutorostrata		
Minke Whale [33]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Balaenoptera bonaerensis		
Antarctic Minke Whale, Dark-shoulder Minke Whale [67812]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera borealis		
Sei Whale [34]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera edeni		
Bryde's Whale [35]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Balaenoptera musculus		
Blue Whale [36]	Endangered	Migration route known to occur within area
Balaenoptera physalus		
Fin Whale [37]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Delphinus delphis		
Common Dolphin, Short-beaked Common Dolphin [60]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Feresa attenuata Pygmy Killer Whale [61]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Globicephala macrorhynchus Short-finned Pilot Whale [62]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Grampus griseus Risso's Dolphin, Grampus [64]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Kogia breviceps Pygmy Sperm Whale [57]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Kogia sima as Kogia simus Dwarf Sperm Whale [85043]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Lagenodelphis hosei Fraser's Dolphin, Sarawak Dolphin [41]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Megaptera novaeangliae Humpback Whale [38]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Mesoplodon densirostris Blainville's Beaked Whale, Dense-beaked Whale [74]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Orcinus orca Killer Whale, Orca [46]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Peponocephala electra Melon-headed Whale [47]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Physeter macrocephalus Sperm Whale [59]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Current Scientific Name	Status	Type of Presence
Pseudorca crassidens False Killer Whale [48]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Stenella attenuata Spotted Dolphin, Pantropical Spotted Dolphin [51]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Stenella coeruleoalba Striped Dolphin, Euphrosyne Dolphin [52]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Stenella longirostris Long-snouted Spinner Dolphin [29]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Steno bredanensis Rough-toothed Dolphin [30]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Tursiops truncatus s. str. Bottlenose Dolphin [68417]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Ziphius cavirostris Cuvier's Beaked Whale, Goose-beaked Whale [56]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Extra Information

EPBC Act Referrals			[Resource Information]
Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status
Controlled action			
Develop Jansz-Io deepwater gas field in Permit Areas WA-18-R, WA-25-R and WA-26-	2005/2184	Controlled Action	Post-Approval
Equus Gas Fields Development Project, Carnarvon Basin	2012/6301	Controlled Action	Completed
Gorgon Gas Development 4th Train Proposal	2011/5942	Controlled Action	Post-Approval
Not controlled action			
Project Highclere Geophysical Survey	2021/9023	Not Controlled Action	Completed

Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status
Not controlled action			
Not controlled action (particular manner)			
3D Marine Seismic Survey in Permit Areas WA-15-R, WA-18-R, WA-205-P, WA-253-P, WA-267-P and WA-268-P	2003/1271	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
CGGVERITAS 2010 2D Seismic Survey	2010/5714	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Deep Water Northwest Shelf 2D Seismic Survey	2007/3260	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Drilling 35-40 offshore exploration wells in deep water	2008/4461	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval
Westralia SPAN Marine Seismic Survey, WA & NT	2012/6463	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval

Biologically Important Areas		
Scientific Name	Behaviour	Presence
Whales		
Balaenoptera musculus brevicauda Pygmy Blue Whale [81317]	Distribution	Known to occur
Balaenoptera musculus brevicauda Pygmy Blue Whale [81317]	Migration	Known to occur

Caveat

1 PURPOSE

This report is designed to assist in identifying the location of matters of national environmental significance (MNES) and other matters protected by the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) which may be relevant in determining obligations and requirements under the EPBC Act.

The report contains the mapped locations of:

- World and National Heritage properties;
- Wetlands of International and National Importance;
- Commonwealth and State/Territory reserves;
- distribution of listed threatened, migratory and marine species;
- listed threatened ecological communities; and
- other information that may be useful as an indicator of potential habitat value.

2 DISCLAIMER

This report is not intended to be exhaustive and should only be relied upon as a general guide as mapped data is not available for all species or ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act (see below). Persons seeking to use the information contained in this report to inform the referral of a proposed action under the EPBC Act should consider the limitations noted below and whether additional information is required to determine the existence and location of MNES and other protected matters.

Where data are available to inform the mapping of protected species, the presence type (e.g. known, likely or may occur) that can be determined from the data is indicated in general terms. It is the responsibility of any person using or relying on the information in this report to ensure that it is suitable for the circumstances of any proposed use. The Commonwealth cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of any use of the report or any part thereof. To the maximum extent allowed under governing law, the Commonwealth will not be liable for any loss or damage that may be occasioned directly or indirectly through the use of, or reliance

3 DATA SOURCES

Threatened ecological communities

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are generated based on information contained in recovery plans, State vegetation maps and remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

Threatened, migratory and marine species

Threatened, migratory and marine species distributions have been discerned through a variety of methods. Where distributions are well known and if time permits, distributions are inferred from either thematic spatial data (i.e. vegetation, soils, geology, elevation, aspect, terrain, etc.) together with point locations and described habitat; or modelled (MAXENT or BIOCLIM habitat modelling) using

Where little information is available for a species or large number of maps are required in a short time-frame, maps are derived either from 0.04 or 0.02 decimal degree cells; by an automated process using polygon capture techniques (static two kilometre grid cells, alpha-hull and convex hull); or captured manually or by using topographic features (national park boundaries, islands, etc.).

In the early stages of the distribution mapping process (1999-early 2000s) distributions were defined by degree blocks, 100K or 250K map sheets to rapidly create distribution maps. More detailed distribution mapping methods are used to update these distributions

4 LIMITATIONS

The following species and ecological communities have not been mapped and do not appear in this report:

- threatened species listed as extinct or considered vagrants;
- some recently listed species and ecological communities;
- some listed migratory and listed marine species, which are not listed as threatened species; and
- migratory species that are very widespread, vagrant, or only occur in Australia in small numbers.

The following groups have been mapped, but may not cover the complete distribution of the species:

- listed migratory and/or listed marine seabirds, which are not listed as threatened, have only been mapped for recorded
- seals which have only been mapped for breeding sites near the Australian continent

The breeding sites may be important for the protection of the Commonwealth Marine environment.

Refer to the metadata for the feature group (using the Resource Information link) for the currency of the information.

Acknowledgements

This database has been compiled from a range of data sources. The department acknowledges the following custodians who have contributed valuable data and advice:

-Office of Environment and Heritage, New South Wales
-Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Victoria
-Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania
-Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, South Australia
-Department of Land and Resource Management, Northern Territory
-Department of Environmental and Heritage Protection, Queensland
-Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia
-Environment and Planning Directorate, ACT
-Birdlife Australia
-Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme
-Australian National Wildlife Collection
-Natural history museums of Australia
-Museum Victoria
-Australian Museum
-South Australian Museum
-Queensland Museum
-Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums
-Queensland Herbarium
-National Herbarium of NSW
-Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium of Victoria
-Tasmanian Herbarium
-State Herbarium of South Australia
-Northern Territory Herbarium
-Western Australian Herbarium
-Australian National Herbarium, Canberra
-University of New England
-Ocean Biogeographic Information System
-Australian Government, Department of Defence
Forestry Corporation, NSW
-Geoscience Australia
-CSIRO
-Australian Tropical Herbarium, Cairns
-eBird Australia
-Australian Government – Australian Antarctic Data Centre
-Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory
-Australian Government National Environmental Science Program
-Australian Institute of Marine Science
-Reef Life Survey Australia
-American Museum of Natural History
-Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk, Tasmania
-Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania
-Other groups and individuals

The Department is extremely grateful to the many organisations and individuals who provided expert advice and information on numerous draft distributions.

Please feel free to provide feedback via the Contact Us page.

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Department of Agriculture Water and the Environment
GPO Box 858
Canberra City ACT 2601 Australia
+61 2 6274 1111

Appendix d consultation

Table D-1: Summary of relevant persons objections/claims and titleholder response

Relevant Person	Interaction Date	Record ID	Method	Summary	Assessment of Objection/Claim	Changes made to EP in response to consultation
Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF)	31/03/2023	CN-000163	Email	CAPL used webform to request the contact email in order to supply Environment Plan information to the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF). CAPL responded to the email sent by ACF and advised that the ACF had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified ACF that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address ACF's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Australian Council of Prawn Fisheries (ACPF) Ltd.	04/05/2023	CN-000388	Email	CAPL advised the Australian Council of Prawn Fisheries (ACPF) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the ACPF that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address ACPF's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA)	23/09/2022	CN-000153	Email	CAPL advised that AFMA had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and notified AFMA that they welcome meaningful feedback. AFMA acknowledged receipt of email and had no specific comment on the proposal to decommission the four exploration wellheads	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, AFMA has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity CAPL reached out to the additional contacts provided by AFMA.	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address AFMA's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.

Relevant Person	Interaction Date	Record ID	Method	Summary	Assessment of Objection/Claim	Changes made to EP in response to consultation
				in the Gorgon and Jansz-Io gas fields. AFMA encouraged CAPL to consult all operators who have entitlements to fish within the proposed area.	CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (Section 8.3.4.1)	
	15/02/2023	CN-000214	Email	CAPL sent a follow up email to AFMA advising they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified AFMA that they welcome meaningful feedback. AFMA provided other relevant industry associations CAPL should consult with, CAPL confirmed they have been engaging with WAFIC closely and subsequently have reach out to the Northern Prawn Fishery and Commonwealth Fishery Association (CFA).		
Australian Hydrographic Office (AHO)	23/09/2022	CN-000145	Email	CAPL advised that the AHO had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity notified the AHO that they welcome meaningful feedback. AHO acknowledged receipt of the information sheet and email. AHO notified CAPL that the information and data provided will be registered, assessed, prioritised and validated in preparation for updating Navigational Charting products.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, AHO has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (Section 8.3.4.1)	As referenced in Section 8.1, CAPL will provide coordinates for any suspended wells to the AHO. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address AHO's functions, interests or activities. No additional EP controls are required.
	08/05/2023	CN-000416	Email	CAPL sent a follow up email advising AHO that they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the AHO that they welcome meaningful feedback.		

Relevant Person	Interaction Date	Record ID	Method	Summary	Assessment of Objection/Claim	Changes made to EP in response to consultation
				AHO acknowledged receipt of email and notified CAPL that the data supplied will now be registered, assessed, prioritised and validated in preparation for updating our Navigational Charting products.		
Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS)	04/05/2023	CN-000387	Email	CAPL advised AIMS that they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified AIMS that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address AIMS's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Australian Marine Conservation Society (AMCS)	10/02/2023	CN-000226	Email	CAPL advised the Australian Marine Conservation Society (AMCS) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the AMCS that they welcome meaningful feedback. CAPL followed up with AMCS to ensure they received the formal notification regarding CAPL's activity.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, AMCS has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address AMCS's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	27/03/2023	OC-000160	Phone	CAPL called AMCS to confirm receipt of formal notifications for CAPL's Environment Plan and proposed activity. AMCS confirmed they will reach out to CAPL if they have any comments or concerns.		

Relevant Person	Interaction Date	Record ID	Method	Summary	Assessment of Objection/Claim	Changes made to EP in response to consultation
Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)	23/09/2022	CN-000150	Email	CAPL advised that AMSA had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and notified AMSA that they welcome meaningful feedback. AMSA attached a PDF with six months of vessel traffic data over the area of interest. AMSA noted that the field is north of a charted shipping fairway and the Jansz-Io gas field lies to the south of the same charted shipping fairway. AMSA requested that CAPL notify AMSA's Response Centre (ARC) for promulgation of radio-navigation warnings 24-48 hours before operations commence. AMSA also noted that the AHO must be contacted no less than four working weeks before operations commence for the promulgation of related notices to mariners. CAPL confirmed that there will be no physical activities at the wellhead sites, i.e. no vessel movements of any kind.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, AMSA has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity CAPL provided the shapefiles of the operational area for the activity as per AMSA's request. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	As referenced in Section 8.3.4, CAPL will notify AMSA's JRCC at least 24–48 hours before commencement of activity. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address AMSA's functions, interests or activities. No additional EP controls are required.
	15/02/2023	CN-000537	Email	CAPL sent a follow up email to AMSA advising that they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified AMSA that they welcome meaningful feedback. AMSA requested the ArcGIS shapefiles of the activity so AMSA GIS team can map the area and overlay their AIS data. CAPL provided the requested data.		
Australian Southern Bluefin Tuna Industry Association (ASBTIA)	19/05/2022	OC-000071	Email	CAPL requested information as to who the correct person is to send information to at Australian Southern Bluefin Tuna Association (ASBTIA). ASBTIA requested they be removed from the ongoing consultation due to them not having a direct interest in the location of the activity.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, ASBTIA has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity ASBTIA has requested to be removed from CAPL's ongoing consultation.	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address ASBTIA's functions, interests or activities. No additional EP controls are required.

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				ASBTIA expect that all activities are done in a responsible manner so as to prevent accidental discharge of hydrocarbons or chemicals into the marine environment and that any potential oil spill or loss of well control be appropriately and rapidly dealt with.	CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
	10/03/2023	CN-000404	Email	CAPL re-engaged ASBTIA with the updated and additional information regarding the activity and seeked confirmation that ASBTIA would still like to be removed from the consultation list. No response was received.		
Baiyungu Aboriginal Corporation	09/02/2023	CN-000321	Email	CAPL advised that the Baiyungu Aboriginal Corporation (BAC) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified BAC that they welcome meaningful feedback.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, BAC has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. BAC have requested to be included in ongoing consultation and in the event of an emergency they be included in the notification to relevant persons. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation including working with traditional owners on a broader understanding of sea country and underwater cultural heritage. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	As referenced in Section 7.1, CAPL will provide BAC ongoing consultation of the activity milestones as per their request. CAPL will also notify BAC in the event of an emergency as per their request. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address BAC's functions, interests or activities. No additional EP controls are required.
	22/02/2023	OC-000323	Email	CAPL advised that they are interested in speaking to a representative of BAC about CAPL's activities.		
	13/03/2023	OC-000322	Email	CAPL engaged with BAC to express their gratitude for BAC's continued partnership. CAPL also confirmed attendance to present to the Directors of Baiyungu.		
	15/03/2023	OC-000232	Email	CAPL and BAC organised a meeting for CAPL to present on the upcoming activities along with exploring possible opportunities for the Traditional Owners in regards to ranger programs, protection areas and other programs that may have impacts on country. A meeting was organised.		
	30/03/2023	OC-000245	Face-to-face	CAPL met with the BAC Board of Directors at Cardabia Station to present the details of CAPL's upcoming offshore activities and the identified risks and impacts.		

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				CAPL requested advice as to whether additional relevant persons not present at the meeting should be informed and consulted with. CAPL sought feedback on areas of significance and cultural values including sea country and underwater cultural heritage. Protecting land and sea country is a significant focus of the BAC and they are interested in collaborating with CAPL to protect it.		
	04/04/2023	OC-000242	Phone	BAC enquired if CAPL have engaged Nganhurra Thanardi Garrbu Aboriginal Corporation (NTGAC), CAPL confirmed they have a meeting with NTGAC organised for September. CAPL reiterated their interest to meet with the Baiyungu board again and to maintain momentum on discussions.		
	02/05/2023	OC-000357	Email	CAPL contacted BAC to confirm they have no specific objections and claims regarding the activity. CAPL reiterated with BAC that this has not just been a one-off engagement and CAPL are committed to ongoing consultation.		
	09/05/2023	OC-000421	Phone	CAPL contacted BAC to confirm they have no specific objections and claims regarding the activity. BAC confirmed that there were no issues or objections with respect to the Environment Plan and look forward to ongoing consultations and discussions.		
	10/05/2023	OC-000525	Email	CAPL advised BAC of the completion of the consultation timeframe regarding CAPL Environment Plans, and provided the following summary: The Baiyungu coastal area, sea country, and adjacent islands are highly valuable to the		

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				Baiyungu people. Impact on these areas from a planned or unplanned event may cause harm to the cultural landscape, individuals, and the community. Based on the current activity proposal, BAC, as representatives for the Baiyungu people has not expressed objections to the planned activities discussed in the consultation process. BAC requests CAPL to formalise continued engagement and support in relation to the Environment Plans and related activities to assist in properly performing its duties in advocating for and protecting rights and interests on Baiyungu country, including to inform emergency response planning. CAPL sent through a summary of engagements with BAC for confirmation. BAC advised CAPL that it is not their role to provide a formal response and advised CAPL to engage with NTGAC.		
	21/06/2023	OC-000562	Virtual Meeting	CAPL met with BAC to discuss ongoing consulting and relationship. BAC advised that they support opportunities to continue to build the relationship between CAPL and BAC and were grateful for receipt of information on the Chevron Community Spirit Grant. BAC advised CAPL that it may wish to also engage with the DBCA who in partnership with Baiyungu people have joint management of the Ningaloo Coast. BAC supported CAPL approach of continuing to engage with NTGAC and BAC on the Engagement Plan.		
Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation (BTAC)	07/09/2022	OC-000477	Phone	CAPL provided an initial conversation about the new Environment Plan consultation requirements. Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation (BTAC) agreed to	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, BTAC has provided no further	As referenced in Section 8.3.4, CAPL will provide BTAC ongoing consultation of the activity milestones as per their request.

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				meet when CAPL had further information to share.	objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. BTAC have requested to be included in ongoing consultation and in the event of an emergency they be included in the notification to relevant persons. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation including working with traditional owners on a broader understanding of sea country and underwater cultural heritage. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL will also notify BTAC in the event of an emergency as per their request. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address BTAC's functions, interests or activities. No additional EP controls are required.
	23/09/2022	CN-000501	Email	CAPL advised relevant persons, they have been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and advised that CAPL welcome meaningful feedback.		
	11/11/2022	OC-000478	Email	CAPL emailed BTAC to request a meeting to discuss the upcoming activities CAPL have and the Environment Plan consultation requirement and develop a mutually agreed consultation process. A meeting was organised.		
	17/11/2022	OC-000479	Email	CAPL sent a follow-up email to BTAC requesting a meeting to discuss the upcoming offshore activities and Environment Plan consultation requirements along with a request to map a path forward in regard to co-design consultation. A meeting was confirmed.		
	13/12/2022	OC-000480	Face-to-face	CAPL met with BTAC to discuss cultural heritage planning for 2023. During the meeting CAPL raised the need to meet and develop a consultation approach for Environment Plans. All parties agreed to meet in January 2023 to discuss further.		
	13/01/2023	OC-000249	Face-to-face	CAPL met with the Chair of the BTAC to present an overview of the consultation process for CAPL's upcoming offshore activities. CAPL sought feedback on areas of significance and cultural values including sea country and underwater cultural heritage. CAPL requested advice as to whether additional relevant persons not present at the meeting should be informed and		

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				consulted with. BTAC provided details of other relevant persons in neighbouring PBCs.		
	03/02/2023	OC-000481	Face-to-face	CAPL met with BTAC and provided an overview of the proposed activities and directed BTAC to CAPL's public website for detailed information, including project overviews, potential impacts, and risks. CAPL requested to work with BTAC to co-design the consultation process.		
		CN-000484	Email	CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified BTAC that they welcome meaningful feedback. CAPL corresponded with RFF Australia (representing BTAC) in relation to the CAPL's Environment Plan consultation process. RFF and CAPL agreed to develop a 'consultation agreement' and both parties began drafting the agreement in parallel. CAPL provided details on how they have been engaging with other PBCs by engaging with the CEO, then the board. CAPL reiterated they would like to organise a meeting with BTAC for CAPL to present an overview of the upcoming activity.		
	27/02/2023	OB-000482	Email	Response from BTAC stating Thalanyji people consider themselves Relevant Persons in relation to CAPL's planned activities. The letter requests further engagement with CAPL to understand the projects in order to protect Thalanyji interests and in ongoing consultation through an agreed framework. BTAC also requests support from CAPL, to enable BTAC to work with its members and supporting anthropological / ethnographic team to define and articulate Thalanyji values on Sea Country in a manner that could be more		

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				clearly understood by the offshore sector, government, and the community.		
	30/03/2023	OC-000538	Email	RFF Australia reached out to CAPL to discuss CAPL's upcoming activities and to organise a meeting.		
	12/04/2023	OC-000483	Face-to-face	CAPL and RFF - representing BTAC's interests, met up to discuss the next steps in relation to BTAC providing feedback on CAPLs Environment Plan consultation. BTAC requested the draft statements or principles specifically tailored to BTAC or the Thalanyji people and for a summary of consultation.		
	13/04/2023	OC-000486	Email	Correspondence between CAPL and RFF Australia (representing BTAC) summarising the points of consultation and engagement between CAPL and BTAC, as well as feedback provided by BTAC, that CAPL propose to include in the Environment Plans submission to NOPSEMA. • CAPL first engaged BTAC in November 2022, on the new Commonwealth Environment Plan consultation requirements. CAPL shared the draft consultation process and timeline for feedback. CAPL had several subsequent conversations with BTAC staff and the BTAC Chair in January 2023, to understand their view on the new requirements, and requested the opportunity to co-design the consultation process. • On 3 February 2023, CAPL notified BTAC of the commencement of the consultation period and provided information on our upcoming offshore activities which may intersect with Thalanyji interests. The twelve-week consultation period is due to conclude on 5 May 2023. • A letter was sent to CAPL from BTAC on Monday 27 February confirming the		

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				Thalanyji community holds interests and values within the Environmental Area that might be affected (EMBA). The letter sought ongoing consultation with BTAC, and support by CAPL to that end, in relation to its Environment Plans and related activities – and requested formalisation of ongoing consultation under a framework to be jointly developed and agreed. • CAPL provided a written response on 10 March 2023 that provided in-principle support for a consultation framework with BTAC. CAPL's response recommended that ongoing consultation under a formalised framework occur in parallel with immediate consultation specific to approval of proposed Environment Plans. • On the 3 March 2023, CAPL and BTAC met to further discuss the Commonwealth Environmental Plan consultation process. During the meeting, the parties discussed CAPL's approach to consultation where BTAC was again invited to provide input on the consultation method and timeline. CAPL representatives also provided an overview of where information can be found about the proposed activities, including the activities overview, risk, and impact assessments. Based on these discussions, CAPL understand that: • The Thalanyji coastal area, sea country, and adjacent islands are highly valuable to the Thalanyji people. Impact on these areas from a planned or unplanned event may cause harm to the cultural landscape, individuals, and the community. • BTAC requests CAPL to formalise continued engagement and support in relation to the Environment Plans and related activities to assist it properly		

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				perform its duties in advocating for and protecting rights and interests in Thalanyji country, including so emergency response plans are well informed. • BTAC expects that CAPL will provide an annual update, or as otherwise requested, to the BTAC board or common law holders of CAPL's activities in the EMBA. • BTAC can at any time make direct representations to NOPSEMA about the nature of BTAC's interests and values and how they may be affected by CAPL's activities.		
	24/05/2023	OC-000555	Face-to-Face	CAPL met with BTAC to finalise BTAC's formal response to consultation. BTAC agreed to suggested changes by CAPL and requested a final copy.		
	26/05/2023	OC-000556	Email	CAPL sent an email to BTAC with the final copy of the engagement summary.		
	13/07/2023	OC-000581	Face-to-Face	CAPL met with BTAC to continue discussions around EP consultations and OPP, and progress latest version of the engagement plan.		
	13/07/2023	OC-000582	Email	BTAC followed up with CAPL by email following there morning meeting outlining the take away actions for BTAC. - BTAC to forward standard HPA - BTAC to forward negotiation protocol. We're currently settling a Costs Acceptance Letter internally and will forward this to you in near future. - BTAC to re-check with board re Elders for forthcoming trip to Barrow Island to discuss WA Oil decommissioning (ie it's for on-country engagement purposes, not a heritage survey). - BTAC to provide further comment on latest draft engagement plan received yesterday.		

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				- CAPL to forward schedule of proposed forward activities (2 year horizon) on country / seeking input or engagement. CAPL responded with their own actions and agreed outcomes. - continue to work on engagement plan - Cultural Heritage Agreement for Barrow Island - Underwater Cultural Heritage - Northern Seed initiative - Turtle Monitoring on BWI Both organisations were happy to discuss and continue engagement.		
Cape Conservation Group	10/02/2023	CN-000158	Email	CAPL advised the Cape Conservation Group had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified Cape Conservation Group that they welcome meaningful feedback.	Cape Conservation Group has expressed their views of not willing to participate in CAPL's consultation process regarding the activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Cape Conservation Group's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	17/02/2023	OC-000306	Phone	CAPL spoke with Cape Conservation Group about CAPL's want to engage with them in Exmouth and discuss preferred methods of communication. Cape Conservation group confirmed they would share CAPL's details.		
	11/05/2023	OC-000527	Email	CAPL reached out to the Cape Conservation Group to see if they had any feedback on the activity and confirmed that the Cape Conservation Group has not expressed specific concerns or objections to the planned activity. The Cape Conservation Group advised CAPL of their views and informed CAPL of their decision not to participate in the consultation process. CAPL responded to Cape Conservation Group acknowledging their views and that CAPL will be happy to arrange a meeting to discuss CAPL's activities at any time.		

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Commonwealth Fisheries Association (CFA)	31/10/2022	CN-000500	Email	CAPL advised the relevant persons, they have been identified as a relevant person that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and advised that CAPL welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address CFA's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	14/03/2023	CN-000192	Email	CAPL sent a follow up email to CFA advising that they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the CFA that they welcome meaningful feedback.		
Conservation Council of WA (CCWA)	10/02/2023	CN-000225	Email	CAPL advised that the Conservation Council of Western Australia (CCWA) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the CCWA that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address CCWA's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	27/03/2023	CN-000159	Phone	CAPL contacted CCWA to confirm receipt of formal notification. CCWA confirmed that they would forward on to the appropriate representatives.		

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	11/05/2023	OC-000532	Email	CAPL reached out to the CCWA to provide any feedback they may have on the activity. CAPL confirmed that the CCWA has not expressed specific concerns or objections to the planned activity. CCWA advised CAPL of their intention and interest in providing feedback on the Environment Plans and activities. CAPL informed CCWA that consultation had been finalised but, if they could provide their feedback as soon as possible, CAPL would possibly be able to consider the feedback and include it in the Environment Plans. CAPL welcomed the opportunity to meet with CCWA to discuss ongoing consultation for future activities. CAPL followed up with CCWA to see if they have any feedback they would like to provide. No response was received.	the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)	31/10/2022	CN-000500	Email	CAPL advised the relevant persons, they have been identified as a relevant person that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and advised that CAPL welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	15/02/2023	CN-000215	Email	CAPL sent a follow up email to DAFF advising that they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the DAFF that they welcome meaningful feedback.		
Department of Climate Change, energy, the Environment and Water – DCCEEW	16/05/2023	CN-000547	Email	CAPL advised DCCEEW that they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, DCCEEW has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity.	As referenced in Section 8.3.4, CAPL will notify DCCEEW before commencing the activity.

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				the activity and advised that they welcome meaningful feedback. DCCEEW advised CAPL of the requirements regarding Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH) and its importance to Aboriginal Corporations and people. CAPL acknowledged the email and informed DCCEEW that they are aware and understand the importance of UCH and have been engaging accordingly to ensure they meet the requirements and engage with the appropriate corporations.	DCCEEW have requested to be included in ongoing consultation. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address DCCEEW functions, interests or activities. No additional EP controls are required.
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water - Sea Dumping Permit	23/09/2022	CN-000502	Email	CAPL advised the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) have been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and advised DCCEEW that they welcome meaningful feedback. DCCEW responded requesting a meeting with CAPL to discuss the proposal to decommission 4 exploration wellheads in the Gorgon and Jansz-lo gas fields. CAPL responded that based on previous discussions we understand from the Department that in situ abandonment permits are required for these wellheads which were all installed after 1981. We intend to apply for a permit(s) following submission of the EP. The Department were happy with CAPL's response and were happy for CAPL to reach out at a time when CAPL will submit a sea dumping permit.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address the DCCEEW functions, interests or activities. No changes required.

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Department of Defence (DoD)	14/02/2023	CN-000220	Email	CAPL advised that The Department of Defence (DoD) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the DoD that they welcome meaningful feedback.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, DoD has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	As referenced in Section 8.3.4, CAPL will notify the AHO no less than four weeks before commencing activity. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address DoD's functions, interests or activities. No additional EP controls are required.
	16/03/2023	OC-000368	Email	Department of Defence replied to CAPL's consultation that the activity areas are located in the North-West Exercise Area (NWXA) and restricted airspace. CAPL was advised that unexploded ordnance (UXO) may be present on and in the seafloor. CAPL must, therefore, inform itself as to the risks associated with conducting activities in the area. The Department of Defence requested CAPL continue liaison with the Australian Hydrographic Service (AHS) for Notices to Mariners (NOTMAR) three weeks prior to the actual commencement of activities where applicable (not in situ wellheads). CAPL acknowledged receipt of DoD response. CAPL understands that the activity areas are located in the North-West Exercise Area (NWXA) and have checked where known unexploded ordnance (UXO) are using the UXO map UXO Map (whereisuxo.org.au) and there are no known UXOs present within the proposed operational area's for the activities consulted on, however CAPL note that there may be UXOs present on and in the sea floor. CAPL confirmed they will contact the Australian Hydrographic Service 3-weeks prior to any activities occurring.		

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				CAPL requested further clarification and understanding of where the restricted airspace is within the vicinity of the activity areas. DoD responded providing a map of restricted airspace.		
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (WA DMIRS)	31/10/2022	CN-000500	Email	CAPL advised the relevant persons, they have been identified as a relevant person that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and advised that CAPL welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address DMIRS functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	09/05/2023	CN-000510	Email	CAPL sent a follow up advising DMIRS that they have been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and advised DMIRS that CAPL welcome meaningful feedback.		
Department of Planning, Lands, and Heritage (DPLH)	23/09/2022	CN-000143	Email	CAPL provided the information sheet to leave the Gorgon and Jansz wellheads in-situ. Department of Planning, Land and Heritage acknowledge receipt of email.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address DPLH functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	31/10/2022	CN-000500	Email	CAPL advised the relevant persons, they have been identified as a relevant person that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and advised that CAPL welcome meaningful feedback.		
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (WA DPIRD): Fisheries	23/09/2022	CN-000142	Email	CAPL advised Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) that they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks.	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address DPIRD's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.

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				CAPL provided an overview of the activity in a factsheet. CAPL notified DPIRD that they welcome meaningful feedback. A automatic reply was sent from DIPIRD.	CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
	31/10/2022	CN-000500	Email	CAPL advised the relevant persons, they have been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and advised that CAPL welcome meaningful feedback.		
	08/05/2023	CN-000453	Email	CAPL sent a follow up advising DPIRD that they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified DPIRD that they welcome meaningful feedback.		
Department of Transport (DoT) - Maritime Environmental Emergency Response (MEER) - Marine Pollution (formerly OSRC Unit)	15/02/2023	CN-000168	Email	CAPL advised DoT that they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the Department of Transport that they welcome meaningful feedback. DoT notified CAPL that if there is a risk of a spill impacting State waters from the proposed activities (where applicable) that DoT Oil Spill Response Unit is consulted as outlined in the Department of Transport Offshore Petroleum Industry Guidance Note – Marine Oil Pollution: Response and Consultation Arrangements (July 2020).	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, DoT - Maritime Environmental Emergency Response has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. Department of Transport (DoT) - Maritime Environmental Emergency Response have requested to be consulted in the event of an emergency. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address DoT Maritime Environmental Emergency Response's functions, interests or activities. No additional EP controls are required.

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Department of Transport (DoT) - Navigational Safety	31/10/2022	CN-000500	Email	CAPL advised the relevant persons, they have been identified as a relevant person that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and advised that CAPL welcome meaningful feedback.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, DoT – Navigational Safety has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. Department of Transport (DoT) - Navigational Safety have requested to be included in ongoing consultation. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	As referenced in Section 8.3.4 and detailed in, CAPL will provide Department of Transport (DoT) - Navigational Safety ongoing consultation of the activity milestones as per their request. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address DoT Navigational Safety's functions, interests or activities. No additional EP controls are required.
	23/03/2023	CN-000127	Email	CAPL sent a follow up email to DoT advising they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified DoT Navigational Safety that they welcome meaningful feedback. DoT acknowledged receipt of email and would like to be involved in consultation regarding the activity in State Waters.		
Department of Water & Environmental Regulation (DWER)	15/02/2023	CN-000210	Email	CAPL advised that DWER had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified DWER that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address DWER's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Environmental Protection Authority	08/05/2023	CN-000431	Email	CAPL advised that the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks.	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address EPA's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.

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				the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the EPA that they welcome meaningful feedback.	CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
Exmouth Gulf Task Force - DWER	13/02/2023	CN-000069	Email	CAPL advised that the Exmouth Gulf Task Force had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the Exmouth Gulf Task Force that they welcome meaningful feedback. Exmouth Gulf Task Force acknowledged receipt of email and that the Exmouth Gulf Taskforce will consider this at the next meeting.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Exmouth Gulf Task Force's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Greenpeace	10/02/2023	CN-000224	Email	CAPL advised that Greenpeace had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified Greenpeace that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Greenpeace's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.

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International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) - Oceania	10/02/2023	CN-000377	Email	CAPL advised that the International Fund for Animal Welfare had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the International Fund for Animal Welfare that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address International Fund for Animal Welfare's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Member for Pilbara	08/02/2023	CN-000122	Email	CAPL advised the Member for Pilbara had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the Member for Pilbara that they welcome meaningful feedback. A meeting was organised.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, the Member for Pilbara has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address the Member for Pilbara's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	20/02/2023	OC-000257	Virtual Meeting	CAPL met with the Member of the Pilbara. The Member of the Pilbara showed support for CAPL's activities and a keen interest in employment opportunities in the Pilbara.		
	11/05/2023	OC-000506	Email	CAPL thanked the Member of Pilbara for their engagement and support in 2023. CAPL asked if there had been any comments or feedback from the community with respect to CAPL activities and reiterated the opportunity to catch up in the near future to provide the Member of Pilbara with an overview of the extent of CAPL's consultations and how CAPL will continue to build relationships in the Pilbara.		

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Member of Legislative Authority - North West Central	08/02/2023	CN-000240	Email	CAPL advised that Member of Legislative Authority (MLA) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the MLA that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address the Member of Legislative Authority's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	10/05/2023	OC-000513	Email	CAPL sent a follow up email to the MLA regarding CAPL's upcoming activities as a relevant person with interests and functions in the region. No response was received from the MLA, CAPL informed the MLA that if they have any input on the proposed activities to please contact CAPL.		
Member of Mining and Pastoral Region	19/12/2022	OC-000406	Email	CAPL advised the Representative from the Member for Mining and Pastoral Region had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL requested to organise a meeting to discuss the activity and agree on communication protocols for consultation. A meeting was organised.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, the Member of Mining and Pastoral Region has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address the Member of Mining and Pastoral Region's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	08/02/2023	CN-000408	Email	CAPL sent a follow up email advising that the Representative from the Member of Mining and Pastoral Region had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the Representative from the Member of Mining and Pastoral Region that they welcome meaningful feedback.		
	09/02/2023	OC-000298	Virtual Meeting	CAPL met with a representative from the Members for Mining and Pastoral Region to provide an overview of CAPL's new approach to consultation along with an		

Relevant Person	Interaction Date	Record ID	Method	Summary	Assessment of Objection/Claim	Changes made to EP in response to consultation
				update on CAPL's Environment Plans. The Members for Mining and Pastoral Region provided advice on local relevant persons that CAPL should be engaging. CAPL reached out to the additional contacts advised by the representative from the Members for Mining and Pastoral Region.		
	16/02/2023	OC-000407	Email	CAPL thanked the representative from the Member for Mining and Pastoral Region for the opportunity to speak about CAPL's Environment Plans and to contact CAPL if they have additional questions about the information shared.		
	11/05/2023	OC-000507	Email	CAPL thanked the Member of Mining and Pastoral Region for their engagement and support in 2023. CAPL asked if there had been any comments or feedback from the community with respect to CAPL activities and reiterated the opportunity to catch up in the near future to provide the Member of Pilbara with an overview of the extent of CAPL's consultations and how CAPL will continue to build relationships in the Pilbara.		
Member of the Public	24/02/2023	CN-000488	Phone	The member of the public called the CAPL 1800 phone number. CAPL returned the call in the afternoon of the 24 February 2023. The member of the public said the newspaper ad told her to call CAPL and the member of the public did not have any specific concerns related to CAPL's proposed activities.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, the Member of the Public has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address the Member of the Public's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Minister for Environment (WA)	13/02/2023	CN-000511	Email	CAPL advised that the Minister for Environment had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, Minister for Environment has provided	As detailed in Section 8.3.4, CAPL will provide a pre-start and completion notification to the

Relevant Person	Interaction Date	Record ID	Method	Summary	Assessment of Objection/Claim	Changes made to EP in response to consultation
				activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the Minister for Environment that they welcome meaningful feedback.	no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	Department of Water, Environment and Regulation and also Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction as per the Minister of Environment's request. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address the Minister for Environment's functions, interests or activities. No additional EP controls are required.
	10/05/2023	OC-000514	Email	CAPL reached out to the Minister of Environment to provide any feedback they may have on the activity. CAPL informed the Minister of Environment that if they have any questions or would like further details on how CAPL has engaged Traditional Owners, Community and Industry through the consultation process to please reach out. The Minister of Environment responded that they request future consultation of planned activities is copied to DWER and DBCA.		
Nganhurra Thanardi Garrbu Aboriginal Corporation	30/09/2022	CN-000504	Email	CAPL advised Nganhurra Thanardi Garrbu Aboriginal Corporation (NTGAC) have been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and advised NTGAC that they welcome meaningful feedback. NTGAC acknowledged receipt of email and voiced the potential impacts of the decommissioning of exploration wells on the Exmouth Gulf and Ningaloo Marine Park over which Baiyungu people hold Native Title are significant. Given the highly technical nature of the planned activities and the significance of the area it would be appropriate for CAPL to present its plans to the NTGAC Board at a Board meeting. CAPL confirmed that there is no field activity proposed under this Environment Plan. The Environment Plan is a decommissioning assessment for the wellheads to remain in place; as they were previously plugged, in	NTGAC representative advised CAPL that the deadline date stated was not communicated to NTGAC and that it would be difficult to give a response on the Environment Plans in three days. NTGAC stated that they are currently under work pressures and deadlines that require substantial attention at this time. NTGAC informed CAPL of their intention to receive environmental advice on the plans for preparation of NTGACs consideration. This will take some time in order to make informed responses to CAPL. NTGAC specified that this response does not mean that NTGAC does not have concerns or objections to the planned activities. NTGAC	As referenced in Section 8.3.4, CAPL will provide NTGAC ongoing consultation of the activity milestones as per their request. CAPL will also notify NTGAC in the event of an emergency as per their request. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address NTGAC's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.

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				accordance with regulatory standards. CAPL proposed dates and time to meet with the board. NTGAC noted a number of pressing items presented themselves ahead of the December 2022 meeting and as a result NTGAC had to postpone the board meeting with CAPL until 2023.	require further consultation regarding these plans. NTGAC provided CAPL with a proposed summary of consultation for CAPL's activity that has been agreed upon NTGAC's board "CAPL has made an initial presentation to NTGAC and informed it of a list of activities which CAPL requires feedback on. NTGAC is considering CAPL's information for the activities and will provide feedback in due course." CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation including working with traditional owners on a broader understanding of sea country and underwater cultural heritage and will continue to provide further information in consultation with NTGAC. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
	03/02/2023	CN-000319	Email	CAPL advised that the NTGAC had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified NTGAC that they welcome meaningful feedback. A representative for NTGAC contacted CAPL to identify prerequisites to consultation prior to the board meeting with NTGAC. CAPL responded to the request and outlined the overview of CAPL's goals for continued future consultation.		
	28/02/2023	OC-000320	Email	CAPL originally engaged NTGAC regarding the Gorgon and Jansz wellhead decommissioning activity. NTGAC contacted CAPL to request additional information. NTGAC offered CAPL to present an overview of their upcoming activities to their board. CAPL engaged with NTGAC with information responding to NTGACs queries and confirmed that they would present to the NTGAC board of Directors. A confirmation of meeting date and attendance ensued.		
	09/03/2023	OC-000563	Face-to-face	CAPL met with NTGAC Board in Carnarvon to present its Environment Plans and discuss unplanned risks and impacts and identify feedback on areas of significance and cultural values including sea country and underwater cultural heritage.		

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				CAPL spent considerable time explaining the approvals process and offered support to NTGAC to engage an independent environmental specialist to review the information sheets for our activities. CAPL requested advice as to whether additional relevant persons not present at the meeting should be informed and consulted with. CAPL requested advice from NTGAC Board on whether there were cultural values and sensitivities within the EMBA that could be impacted in the case of an event. CAPL also requested advice from NTGAC Board as to whether there were other Relevant Persons that CAPL should contact as part of this process. CAPL offered to spend more time with NTGAC Board if necessary to both help to build the relationship but to also understand values and sensitivities.		
	13/03/2023	OC-000564	Email	CAPL wrote to NTGAC thanking them for their time and opportunity to present at the NTGAC Board Meeting in Carnarvon on the 9th of March 2023. CAPL reiterated NOPSEMA process and key timeframes for submission, as well as information that CAPL required as part of the consultation process.		
	03/04/2023	OC-000317	Email	CAPL contacted NTGAC to discuss if any objections or claims were raised after their presentation to the Board. CAPL welcomed the opportunity to discuss any further queries and attend future board meetings. NTGAC advised that the board were agreeable to future consultation and meetings with CAPL.		

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		OC-000318	Email	NTGAC contacted CAPL to request further information about the Environment Plans and upcoming activities. CAPL responded and provided the requested information.		
	04/04/2023	OC-000243	Email	CAPL accepted invitation from the NTGAC board to meet with the board on September 5 in Exmouth.		
	09/05/2023	OC-000419	Phone	CAPL attempted to call NTGAC. There was no answer so CAPL left a message to call back.		
		OB-000541	Email	CAPL advised NTGAC that they had tried to contact them by phone and left a voicemail regarding their last communication in April. CAPL informed NTGAC that they are looking to finalise the Environment plans and noted that they had not received any feedback from NTGAC. CAPL acknowledged the heavy workload NTGAC is facing and wanted to reiterate their intentions to develop a communication protocol with NTGAC moving forward at NTGAC's convenience. CAPL acknowledged the importance of coastal areas, sea country and adjacent Islands as highly valuable to the NTGAC and other Aboriginal Corporations and understand the impact on these areas from planned or unplanned events which may cause harm to the cultural landscape, individuals, and community. CAPL informed NTGAC of their commitment to developing a relationship and participating in ongoing consultations with NTGAC about the activities that are completed offshore. CAPL informed NTGAC that no planned activities will impact the Native Title. CAPL confirmed their attendance for the Board meeting scheduled in September and		

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				reiterated their intentions to further discuss and update the Board on the status of the submitted Environment Plans and commencement of activities. CAPL offered to discuss any issues further at NTGACs convenience.		
	12/06/2023	OC-000576	Email	YMAC presented their draft consultation framework to CAPL. CAPL thanked YMAC/NTGAC for their time and acknowledged that CAPL are currently collaborating with a number of other PBC's to develop a plan around developing and managing our relationship and opportunities for collaboration so look forward to being able to do this with NTGAC as well. These plans are progressing well and we hope to finalise a number of them in the coming weeks. CAPL provided initial thoughts and feedback: - CAPL would like to build a relationship, we do not want to visit NTGAC when we need something. CAPL understand NTGAC are limited with time, however, CAPL would like to be able to discuss opportunities to meet NTGAC outside of consultations so that we can build and develop our relationship. The discussions with other PBC's are focused on creating what we are referring to as an "Engagement Plan" where we build events and activities in throughout the year. - CAPL's position on creating an Engagement Plan is that it is an opportunity for us to build a long term, enduring relationship based on trust and understanding. CAPL would like to be in a position where we can sit down with NTGAC to show our planned activities, i.e., occurring over the next 12-18 months, that require consultation, so that we can effectively plan future engagements with NTGAC. Through this process and as NTGAC's fluency for offshore activities increase, it might mean		

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				that there are other ways for us to engage, which could possibly take pressure off your board meetings or enable information to be more easily shared with members. - CAPL understand that the draft is generalised in nature, hence it is meant for many different proponents, however our consultation framework will need to be developed on the basis that our planned activities are offshore and there are no proposed activities or operations on the NTGAC determination. From a consultation perspective, CAPL's focus is on sharing how we prevent and mitigate unplanned risks and impacts on the draft consultation guideline.		
	13/06/2023	OC-000575	Email	CAPL reached out to NTGAC to confirm when they are expecting to engage an environmental specialist to review CAPL's offshore activity information sheet. NTGAC confirmed they have engaged an environmental specialist and YMAC confirmed the proposed consultation framework will be placed on hold pending the outcome of the review from the environmental specialist. CAPL reiterated they would like to build a relationship with NTGAC based on co-design that shapes how CAPL present information to NTGAC going forward and would be grateful if the proceed with the environmental specialist could continue in parallel with CAPL's continued consultation.		
	21/06/2023	OC-000565	Phone	CAPL contacted NTGAC via YMAC Legal Representative, responding to correspondence received from YMAC in relation to the development of a framework for ongoing consultation. YMAC requested CAPL provide initial feedback on the draft provided.		

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				CAPL confirmed desire to meet with NTGAC and YMAC to develop a framework for consultation.		
	30/06/2023	OC-000572	Phone	CAPL had phone discussion with NTGAC with respect to developing engagement framework for ongoing consultation and relationship development.		
	06/07/2023	OC-000578	Face-to-face	CAPL and NTGAC discussed the engagement plan for continued consultation. CAPL also requested t engage more broadly than just at the NTGAC board meeting.		
Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC	14/12/2022	OC-000342	Email	CAPL engaged with NAC as an opportunity to consult on upcoming activities as a relevant person. NAC and CAPL organised a meeting to discuss and gather a more in depth understanding of the activities.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, NAC has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation including working with traditional owners on a broader understanding of sea country and underwater cultural heritage. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	As referenced in Section 8.3.4, CAPL will provide NAC in ongoing consultation of the activity milestones as per their request. CAPL will also notify NAC in the event of an emergency as per their request. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address NAC's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	02/02/2023	OC-000340	Face-to-face	CAPL met with NAC as an identified relevant person and provided an overview of their activities. NAC suggested CAPL present to their board in February and to reconnect when they are next back in the region.		
	03/02/2023	CN-000343	Email	CAPL advised that the NAC had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified NAC that they welcome meaningful feedback.		
	10/02/2023	OC-000345	Email	CAPL engaged with NAC to set up a meeting to present activities to the NAC board.		
	10/03/2023	OC-000344	Email	CAPL attempted to contact NAC and receive feedback from previous meeting.		
	29/03/2023	OC-000346	Email	CAPL informed NAC of their travel plans and presentation to the board. NAC confirmed time and date and gave CAPL additional		

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				information for CAPLs process and procedures.		
	04/04/2023	OC-000241	Phone	CAPL contacted NAC to confirm attendance at the Board Meeting scheduled in April to discuss CAPL's upcoming activity. CAPL requested NAC to provide names of meeting attendees.		
	26/04/2023	OC-000355	Face-to-face	CAPL presented to NAC on upcoming EP development. CAPL sought feedback on areas of significance and cultural values including sea country and underwater cultural heritage. CAPL requested advice as to whether additional relevant persons not present at the meeting should be informed and consulted with.		
	27/04/2023	OC-000530	Email	CAPL contacted NAC regarding feedback following the board meeting. CAPL identified the importance of NAC values and sensitivities and thanked the board for the opportunity to engage. CAPL listed and outlined the important take aways from the meeting and informed NAC to identify any missing information. CAPL requested another meeting to discuss other opportunities.		
Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation Ltd	12/12/2022	OC-000331	Email	CAPL advised that the Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation Ltd (NYFL) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activities and NYFL was interested in connecting with CAPL and setting up a meeting.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, NYFL has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation including working with traditional owners on a broader understanding of sea country and underwater cultural heritage. CAPL notes	As referenced in Section 8.3.4, CAPL will provide NYFL in ongoing consultation of the activity milestones as per their request. CAPL will also notify NYFL in the event of an emergency as per their request. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address NYFL's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	11/01/2023	OC-000333	Email	CAPL engaged with NYFL to organise a meeting with the board to discuss CAPL's activities and answer any questions NYFL may have.		

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	25/01/2023	OC-000422	Phone	CAPL attempted to call NYFL but received an automated message that the office is unattended.	that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
		OC-000335	Phone	NYFL advised CAPL that they were interested in CAPL spending time in the region and experience what industry contributions and funding can achieve. NYFL requested or more basic information sheet outlining CAPLs activities for their board meeting.		
	03/02/2023	CN-000332	Email	CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified NYFL that they welcome meaningful feedback.		
	15/02/2023	OC-000334	Email	CAPL communicated their planned agenda for the meeting. NYFL responded with additional requests to be added to the agenda which were included.		
	08/03/2023	OC-000535	Virtual Meeting	CAPL met with NYFL to discuss the upcoming activities and to further understand areas of significance and cultural values including sea country and underwater cultural heritage. CAPL requested advice as to whether additional relevant persons not present at the meeting should be informed and consulted with.		
	06/04/2023	OC-000252	Email	NYFL is pleased to hear CAPL's appetite to strengthen the relationship and likewise NYFL sees the relationship with CAPL as an opportunity to set a new standard for consultation and stakeholder engagement, and in turn, create a more meaningful relationship between CAPL and the NYFL membership, and Ieramugadu community. NYFL confirmed the below - NYFL Directors noted that "People from the land speak for and care		

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				about the marine animals", even if they are far out to sea - Discussed the nature of many traditional narratives have origins and connection to the seascape, and that impacts to the seascape can have cultural repercussions. - Discussed that TO communities are rarely able to verify proponent management approaches to the seascape environment, including marine fauna, given it's not an observable environment - Discussed the interconnectedness of the cultural landscape, whereby TOs from the western Pilbara are held to account by other Nyambali (Cultural bosses) when proponents impact land and sea. The cultural responsibilities transcend Native Title and other boundaries.		
	09/05/2023	OC-000420	Phone	CAPL left as message for NYFL to call back in regard to CAPL's Environment Plans.		
	12/05/2023	OC-000429	Phone	NYFL confirmed that there were no further comments to add to their response to CAPL's submission.		
	15/05/2023	OC-000524	Email	CAPL thanked NYFL for their time and consultation and ensured their commitment to ongoing consultation. CAPL summarised NYFL's feedback that they have shared the last few months for NYFL's information: - Traditional Owner organisations were being inundated with proponents and that many Traditional Owners and TO organisations are experiencing consultation fatigue. NYFL noted that resourcing is required to		

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				support consultation. NYFL's position is that it is required to be consulted on EP matters that relate to the relevant environment. NYFL, like other TO organisations, need to be resourced appropriately - Noted that "People from the land speak for and care about the marine animals", even if they are far out to sea - Confirmed the nature of many traditional narratives have origins and connection to the seascape, and that impacts to the seascape can have cultural repercussions. - TO communities are rarely able to verify proponent management approaches to the seascape environment, including marine fauna, given it's not an observable environment. As such, there is still a significant lack of understanding about the industry. - There is an interconnectedness of the cultural landscape, whereby TOs from the western Pilbara are held to account by other Nyambali (Cultural bosses) when proponents impact land and sea. The cultural responsibilities transcend Native Title and other boundaries. NYFL thanked CAPL for their time.		
	30/06/2023	OC-000573	Face-to-face	CAPL met with NYFL in Roebourne to discuss development of ongoing engagement and relationship. NYFL confirmed that Yindjibarndi Ngurra Aboriginal Corporation consented to direct engagement with CAPL and that this could be the case for		

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				Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation, however this was to be confirmed. NYFL made request that CAPL support NYFL with funding to employ a person to support with ongoing consultation as resourcing is their biggest challenge.		
Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Advisory Committee (NCWHAC)	16/02/2023	CN-000489	Email	CAPL advised the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Advisory Committee that they had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity in a factsheet. CAPL notified the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Advisory Committee that they welcome meaningful feedback. Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Advisory Committee advised that the information would be shared with the Committee at a meeting in May 2023 and would revert back to CAPL with any feedback. CAPL contacted The Committee to see whether there was any feedback from the Committee meeting. No response was received.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address NCWHAC's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Northern Prawn Fishery	14/03/2023	CN-000193	Email	CAPL advised that the Northern Prawn Fishery (NPF) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the NPF that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Northern Prawn Fishery's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.

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Onslow Chamber of Commerce and Industry - OCCI	17/01/2023	OC-000092	Email	CAPL advised the Onslow Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL suggested they coordinate a phone call to discuss and agree on the communication protocols and to consult on the current Environment Plans.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, OCCI has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address OCCI's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	23/01/2023	OC-000286	Virtual Meeting	CAPL met with the OCCI to provide an overview of their new approach to consultation along with an update on their Environment Plans.		
	07/02/2023	OC-000295	Virtual Meeting	CAPL spoke with a representative from OCCI to provide an overview of their new approach to consultation along with an update on their Environment Plans. CAPL provided guidance on how to find information regarding risks associated with the activities in CAPL's online consultation hub for upcoming activities.		
	08/02/2023	CN-000093	Email	CAPL notified the OCCI that the Environment Plans site on CAPL's website was live and CAPL had published in local, state and national newspaper to help identify additional relevant persons. CAPL also requested that the Onslow Chamber of Commerce and Industry share the advert internally via their EDM to their members.		
	16/02/2023	OC-000094	Email	CAPL reached out to the OCCI to see if there were any questions that came through after the presentation and requested that if there were any questions, CAPL would be happy to have a chat.		
	02/03/2023	OC-000147	Email	OCCI advised their community of CAPL's information briefing on their proposed offshore activities.		
	18/03/2023	OC-000095	Email	OCCI sent through their newsletter that had an advert from CAPL seeking relevant persons engagement.		

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Protect Ningaloo	10/02/2023	CN-000223	Email	CAPL advised that Protect Ningaloo had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified Protect Ningaloo that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Protect Ningaloo's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Recfishwest (WA)	23/09/2022	CN-000152	Email	CAPL provided the information sheet of the activity. Recfishwest acknowledged receipt of email and upon review of the decommissioning assessment for the wellheads to remain in situ, Recfishwest does not object to the proposal by CAPL. CAPL will provide an update to Recfishwest on the EP when it is submitted to the regulator and accepted.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, Recfishwest had no objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Recfishwest functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	24/02/2023	OC-000125	Email	CAPL advised that Recfishwest had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified Recfishwest that they welcome meaningful feedback. Recfishwest acknowledged receipt of email and requested to be included in consultations and advised the appropriate contact for all correspondence in the future.		
	28/02/2023	OC-000264	Virtual Meeting	CAPL spoke with representatives from Recfishwest. CAPL provided an overview of their new online interaction hub and update on their Environment Plans. Recfishwest		

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				advised that continued consultation is encouraged. CAPL offered to present current activities to the board and provide an EDM for Recfishwest.		
	10/03/2023	OC-000185	Email	CAPL provided details of the activity and discussed the best method to circulate information about activities with Recfishwest and their members.		
	23/03/2023	OC-000165	Phone	CAPL contacted Recfishwest to request that CAPL's EP identification information be published in the Recfishwest EDM. Recfishwest advised that the content is inappropriate for the newsletter.		
Santos	20/03/2023	CN-000186	Email	CAPL advised that Santos had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified Santos that they welcome meaningful feedback.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, Santos has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Santos' functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	10/05/2023	OC-000432	Email	CAPL reached out to Santos to provide any feedback they may have on the activity. CAPL confirmed that Santos has not expressed specific concerns or objections to the planned activity.		
Shire of Ashburton (Pilbara)	17/01/2023	OC-000096	Email	CAPL advised that the Shire of Ashburton had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL requested that at the next meeting to provide an overview of the activity. Shire of Ashburton advised that previously CAPL has firstly presented to council their activity and then to the community.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, Shire of Ashburton has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL reached out to the additional contacts provided by the Shire of Ashburton. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Shire of Ashburton's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	25/01/2023	OC-000285	Phone	CAPL provided a follow up phone call regarding a email CAPL sent on the Environment Plan consultation process.		

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				CAPL provided an overview of their new approach to consultation along with an update on their Environment Plans.	received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
	07/02/2023	CN-000097	Email	CAPL advised that the Shire of Ashburton had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the Shire of Ashburton that they welcome meaningful feedback.		
		OC-000293	Virtual Meeting	The Shire of Ashburton shared their concerns regarding impacts on recreation and fishing and suggested CAPL present at an information session in Onslow.		
	14/02/2023	OC-000098	Email	Shire of Ashburton thanked CAPL for presenting on their upcoming activities. The Shire of Ashburton noted that other titleholders have spoken to them about risk protocols in Commonwealth and State waters and possible contingencies in place for accidents in relation to a hydrocarbon incident. The Shire of Ashburton provided contact names and details for people within the Shire of Ashburton that assist in emergency management.		
	01/03/2023	OC-000128	Email	Shire of Ashburton thanked CAPL for presenting on their upcoming activities. CAPL provided the Shire of Ashburton with an overview of their new online consultation Hub and activities. The Shire of Ashburton was informed that if they had any further queries to contact CAPL.		
		OC-000269	Virtual Meeting	CAPL met with representatives from Shire of Ashburton. CAPL provided an overview of their new online interaction hub. CAPL answered and discussed relevant questions		

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				and queries from the Shire of Ashburton and defined contacts and procedures in the event an emergency occurs. The Shire of Ashburton invited CAPL to attend the next oil spill response exercise at Wheatstone and local Emergency Management Committee in Onslow.		
	10/05/2023	OC-000438	Email	CAPL reached out to the Shire of Ashburton to provide any feedback they may have on the activity. CAPL confirmed that the Shire of Ashburton has not expressed specific concerns or objections to the planned activity.		
Shire of Exmouth (Gascoyne)	17/01/2023	OC-000279	Phone	CAPL attempted to make first initial contact with the Shire of Exmouth.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, Shire of Exmouth has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Shire of Exmouth's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	18/01/2023	OC-000107	Email	CAPL advised that the Shire of Exmouth had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL suggested they coordinate a phone call to discuss and agree on the communication protocols and to consult on the current Environment Plans. Shire of Exmouth would be pleased to meet with CAPL and a meeting was organised.		
	24/01/2023	OC-000284	Face-to-face	CAPL met with representatives from Shire of Exmouth in Exmouth. The Shire of Exmouth provided advice on local relevant persons that we should be engaging. CAPL provided an overview of their new approach to consultation along with an update on their Environment Plans. The Shire of Exmouth invited CAPL to present at the Council meeting.		
	01/02/2023	OC-000170	Email	CAPL reached out to the Shire of Exmouth to understand who they should contact locally from an environment/conservation perspective. The Shire of Exmouth provided CAPL with relevant persons to contact who may be affected by their activities.		

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	08/02/2023	CN-000540	Email	CAPL advised that the Shire of Exmouth had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the Shire of Exmouth that they welcome meaningful feedback.		
	24/02/2023	OC-000268	Virtual Meeting	CAPL met with representatives from the Shire of Exmouth. The Shire of Exmouth provided feedback from the Council and the current need for a waste management master plan due to high volumes of land fill or transport per week. CAPL provided possible alternatives and identified the Shire of Exmouth's main priorities.		
	01/03/2023	OC-000276	Phone	The Shire of Exmouth advised that it would be good for CAPL to become a member of the Chamber and get involved with the community reference groups that will be able to support CAPL's consultation process. The Shire of Exmouth spoke to various issues that they are currently dealing with.		
	02/05/2023	OC-000356	Email	CAPL contacted Shire of Exmouth to confirm that there were no objections or further input required on our upcoming Offshore activities.		
WA Coastal and Marine Community Network	10/02/2023	CN-000222	Email	CAPL advised the WA Coastal and Marine Community Network had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified WA Coastal and Marine Community network that they welcome meaningful feedback.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, WA Coastal and Marine Community Network has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address WA Coastal and Marine Community Network's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	21/03/2023	OC-000119	Virtual Meeting	CAPL provided WA Coastal and Marine Community Network information on		

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				upcoming activities via the Interaction Hub during a Teams meeting.	consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
	22/03/2023	OC-000120	Email	CAPL followed up with WA Coastal and Marine Community Network email after their Teams Meeting with links to CAPL's Interaction Hub.		
WA Marine Science Institute	01/03/2023	CN-000196	Email	CAPL advised that WA Marine Science Institute (WAMSI) had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified WAMSI that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address WA Marine Science Institute's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Western Australian Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC)	29/09/2022	CN-000154	Email	CAPL provided the information sheet of the activity to WAFIC that on behalf of CAPL sent out to the identified fishers: - West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean - Pilbara Line - North West Slope Trawl WAFIC replied that one fisher from the West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean had responded to the activity information provided by CAPL and stated they operate further south, so this has no impact to their operations, however appreciated receiving the information.	WAFIC had no objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks and WAFIC also confirmed that no feedback, objections or claims had been received from the fishers. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	As referenced in Section 8.3.4, CAPL will provide WAFIC ongoing consultation of the activity milestones or if there is a material change to the proposed activity. CAPL will also notify WAFIC in the event of an emergency as per their request. CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address WAFIC's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	02/11/2022	CN-000539	Email	WAFIC sent out an amended notification for the Gorgon and Jansz Well Head Decommissioning after Chevron advised WAFIC of a minor error in the factsheet regarding the map of the wellhead. All other details in the factsheet were accurate.		

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	10/01/2023	OC-000085	Email	CAPL reached out to WAFIC and a meeting was organised to discuss and agree the communication protocols for consultation.		
	12/01/2023	OC-000278	Phone	CAPL established contact with WAFIC to organise a time to provide an overview of upcoming projects. WAFIC spoke to some concerns they are currently facing and would be very eager to come together and work out the best model to communicate to fishers.		
	03/02/2023	CN-000086	Email	CAPL thanked WAFIC for their time and providing further information for CAPL to understand more about their challenges as an industry and organisation. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the WAFIC that they welcome meaningful feedback. CAPL noted down all of WAFICs challenges that they shared in respect to dealing with large volumes of proponent activity and the burdens that this places on them as an organisation. CAPL notified WAFIC that they will discuss some options internally with our leadership first and revert back. In the interim, if WAFIC have some ideas on how CAPL can engage directly with their industry CAPL requested WAFIC let us know.		
		OC-000087	Email	WAFIC thanked CAPL for meaningful discussions and provided a link to their consultation approach along with WAFIC included a post in their February newsletter advising their members of CAPL's new online interaction hub for feedback.		
	10/02/2023	OC-000549	Email	Western Australian Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC) provided a link to CAPL's consultation hub in their monthly newsletter and a summary of all upcoming offshore activities that was sent out to WAFIC's email list including the below identified fishery		

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				groups where applicable (not in situ wellheads) within the Operational Area: - Mackerel Managed Fishery - Pilbara Crab Managed Fishery - Pilbara Line Fishery - Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery - Marine Aquarium Fish Managed Fishery - Specimen Shell Managed Fishery		
	28/02/2023	OC-000263	Virtual Meeting	CAPL spoke with representative from WAFIC. WAFIC responded with positive feedback on CAPL's consultation process and advised relevant persons to contact in regard to Bluefin Tuna spawning area.		
	02/03/2023	OC-000291	Face-to-face	CAPL met with WAFIC at their office to provide an overview of their new approach to consultation along with an update on their Environment Plans. WAFIC provided an overview of their current concerns and there was discussions on how CAPL could support/assist with these concerns.		
	01/05/2023	OC-000358	Email	CAPL contacted WAFIC to confirm that there were no concerns or objections to the planned activities discussed in the consultation process. CAPL acknowledged that they would like to develop a framework with WAFIC for ongoing consultation and engagement. CAPL confirmed they will advise of any material changes to the proposed activities and provide reasonable time for WAFIC to reassess potential impacts and risks on values and sensitivities. CAPL look forward to our ongoing consultations and continuing to explore new opportunities with WAFIC.		
	07/06/2023	OC-000570	Email	CAPL and WAFIC organised a time to catch up to discuss their ongoing relationship and CAPL engaged early to discuss future approvals. WAFIC provided their draft		

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				Consultation Guideline and welcomed any feedback from CAPL.		
	19/06/2023	OC-000560	Face-to - face	CAPL met with WAFIC representatives to discuss their continued relationship and the development of OPP and the opportunity for WAFIC's involvement in the process. WAFIC appreciated the opportunity provided by CAPL to be involved in the early stages of development of the OPP so that it can best represent the WA Fishing Industry. WAFIC advised that they are a significant and important stakeholder given the growing demands on the industry, particularly the increase in expanse of the offshore renewables sector. WAFIC also provided CAPL with a draft consultation framework.		
Western Australian Museum	24/04/2023	CN-000382	Email	CAPL advised that the Western Australian Museum had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified the Western Australian Museum that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Western Australian Museum's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society	10/03/2023	CN-000221	Email	CAPL advised that Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.

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	27/03/2023	OC-000161	Phone	CAPL contacted Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society to confirm receipt of EP information using the number listed on their website however the number was not connected.	committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
Wilderness Society	10/02/2023	CN-000197	Email	CAPL advised that Wilderness Society had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified Wilderness Society that they welcome meaningful feedback.	No objection or claim raised regarding the activity impacts or risks. CAPL has provided a reasonable period to receive feedback, which is consistent with CAPL's intended outcome of consultation (see Section 6). CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation and will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Wilderness Society's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC	24/11/2022	OC-000371	Email	CAPL contacted the Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation (WAC) to provide an overview of their current approach to consultation and Environment Plans for upcoming activities. CAPL informed WAC of their commitment to consultation.	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity. Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation have requested to be included in ongoing consultation and in the event of an emergency they be included in the notification to relevant persons. CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation including working with traditional owners on a broader understanding of sea country and underwater	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation functions, interests or activities. No changes required.
	30/11/2022	OC-000372	Virtual Meeting	CAPL advised WAC of the new NOPSEMA consultation requirements, CAPL's Environment Plans and what the best course of action is to consult with the WAC members and community. WAC suggested the best course of action was to focus on developing a communication plan between CAPL and WAC to commence rebuilding the relationship prior to discussions around CAPL's upcoming project activities (environmental plans). Both parties agreed to identify a suitable meeting date before the end of the year via email correspondence.		

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	06/12/2022	OC-000546	Email	CAPL engaged with WAC to confirm possible dates to meet the WAC board and elders and develop a relationship. CAPL presented WAC with some questions regarding expectations to discuss when CAPL meet with the WAC board and elders, including co-design, drafting up an agreement and the CAPL representation WAC would expect to see. WAC and CAPL organised to have an informal meeting prior to the Board meeting.	cultural heritage. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
	22/12/2022	OC-000476	Face-to-face	A CAPL representative and the WAC General Manager met to discuss the draft agenda for the upcoming meeting between CAPL and the WAC Board and Elders, scheduled in January 2023.		
	30/12/2022	OC-000374	Email	CAPL and WAC exchanged Emails looking at a proposal from WAC on future partnership opportunities.		
	05/01/2023	OC-000375	Email	CAPL and WAC exchanged emails discussing meeting quotes, agenda, and scheduling a meeting to socialise the agenda with the WAC Board prior to the meeting in January. The Board meeting did not go ahead as CAPL met with WAC Chair on the 10th of January instead.		
	10/01/2023	OC-000376	Face-to-face	CAPL met with WAC to discuss the upcoming WAC/CAPL meeting planned for the 17th and 18th of January. A discussion about the CAPL and WAC relationship, past, present and future was had; and the agenda for the upcoming WAC/CAPL meeting.		
	17/01/2023	OC-000274	Face-to-face	CAPL met with the board of directors, elders' council and staff of WAC to present an overview of their upcoming offshore activities and to discuss the re-building of the relationship between CAPL and Wirrawandi. CAPL sought feedback on areas of		

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				significance and cultural values including sea country and underwater cultural heritage. The key items discussed; CAPL explained its facilities and projects, and activities covered by upcoming Environment Plans and answered questions from Wirriwandi regarding seismic, whales and environmental monitoring on Barrow Island. CAPL requested advice as to whether additional relevant persons not present at the meeting should be informed and consulted with.		
	03/02/2023	CN-000426	Email	CAPL sent a follow up email advising that WAC had been identified as a relevant person with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding the activity. CAPL notified WAC that they welcome meaningful feedback.		
	15/02/2023	OC-000338	Face-to-face	CAPL met with WAC rangers. WAC informed CAPL of their connection and history to country and shared their history and story.		
	16/02/2023	OC-000349	Email	CAPL informed WAC of their travel plans to Karratha and confirmed time and date to meet with CEO and Chair of the Board of Directors while in Karratha.		
	22/02/2023	OC-000347	Face-to-face	CAPL engaged with representatives from WAC and continued discussions from previous board meeting in January.		
	16/03/2023	OC-000350	Email	CAPL advised WAC of the proposed agenda for the board meeting in Perth. • Recap of the initial meeting between CAPL and WAC from January 20223.		

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				• Feedback on CAPL projects, CAPL will provide an overview of the upcoming projects and using a map highlight significant area(s) of concerns for WAC that surrounds the EMBA. • Re-build the relationship between WAC and CAPL by developing a guideline and structure for WAC and CAPL relationship and working group.		
	22/03/2023	OC-000273	Face-to-face	CAPL met with the board of directors, elders council and staff of the WAC to provide a follow up presentation of their upcoming offshore activities and to review draft terms of reference for joint working group to further develop governance of relationship.		
	06/04/2023	OC-000351	Email	CAPL sent through minutes of previous meeting with the WAC board of directors which occurred on the 22nd of March and additional documents requested during the meeting. The key discussions from the meeting was: The drafted terms of reference were reviewed by the group: • Purpose of terms of reference to be edited based on discussions which included Heritage Agreement and Process for Negotiation • Terms of reference to be the same between WAC and BTAC • Minimum of 4 meetings to occur throughout the year and additional meeting will occur if needed. • Informal check in meetings to occur with the extended membership once or twice a year e.g. BBQ's		

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				• WAC staff member to be included in the working group. • Include a co-chair or vice-chair. • This working group is to the lead communication group, when needed, guest or advisors to attend meetings to support initiatives. • Protocols for meeting discussion and engagement to be replaced with WAC code conduct. CAPL also requested permission of WAC members to display pictures in internal presentation for educational purposes.		
	12/04/2023	OC-000275	Face-to-face	CAPL met with representative of WAC to discuss actions arising from the initial meeting in January with the board of directors and elders council of WAC.		
	26/04/2023	OC-000354	Face-to-face	CAPL met WAC representatives to discuss and agree on ongoing communications between CAPL and WAC and provide a summary of CAPL's consultations with WAC in respect to CAPL's current Environment Plans in development for WAC's approval.		
	01/05/2023	OC-000348	Email	CAPL confirmed time and date of meeting with the CEO of WAC.		
	15/05/2023	OC-000528	Email	CAPL advised WAC of the draft documents they have prepared in preparation for the board meeting in the following week. CAPL informed WAC that they would be happy to discuss any of the documents. Draft Consultation Response and Statement: - captures the consultation and engagements with WAC over the last 6 months and summarises the information that CAPL will include in our upcoming EP's. WAC presented and discussed with the board. Draft Engagement Plan:		

Relevant Person	Interaction Date	Record ID	Method	Summary	Assessment of Objection/Claim	Changes made to EP in response to consultation
				- capture all the possible engagement and interactions that may occur between CAPL and WAC going forward. From consultation with WA, CAPL understands that: - The coastal area, sea country, and adjacent islands are highly valuable to the Yaburara & Mardudhunera people. Impact on these areas from a planned or unplanned event may cause harm to the cultural landscape, individuals, and the community. - Based on the current activity proposal, WAC, as representatives for the Yaburara and Mardudhunera people, has not expressed specific concerns or objections to the planned activities discussed in the consultation process. WAC has not advised CAPL of any individual Yaburara and Mardudhunera persons that has a function, interest or activity in the EMBA that we should consult with separately. - WAC requests CAPL continues engaging to gain a deeper understanding of the values and sensitivities, so emergency response plans are well informed. CAPL has committed to continue engagement with WAC and to ensure emergency response plans are well informed.		
Woodside	14/02/2023	CN-000118	Email	CAPL advised that Woodside had been identified as a relevant organisation with functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the activity. CAPL provided an overview of the activity and provided a link to their website for further information regarding	In consultation in the course of preparing the EP, Woodside has provided no objection or claim in response to the proposed activity.	CAPL considers the measures and controls in the EP address Woodside's functions, interests or activities. No changes required.

Relevant Person	Interaction Date	Record ID	Method	Summary	Assessment of Objection/Claim	Changes made to EP in response to consultation
				the activity. CAPL notified Woodside that they welcome meaningful feedback. Woodside acknowledged receipt of email.	CAPL is committed to ongoing consultation. CAPL notes that further feedback may be received as part of ongoing consultation. CAPL will consider any feedback if they provide in the future (see Section 8.3.4.1)	
	10/05/2023	OC-000433	Email	CAPL reached out to Woodside to provide any feedback they may have on the activity. CAPL confirmed that Woodside has not expressed specific concerns or objections to the planned activity. Woodside confirmed receipt of email and forwarded the email onto appropriate representatives that will reach out to CAPL if they have any feedback. Woodside responded stating they had no feedback regarding the activities.		