ConocoPhillips Australia

Other Marine and Coastal Users

ConocoPhillips Australia is planning to undertake exploration activities in offshore permits VIC/P79 and T/49P located in Commonwealth waters. The proposed activity is a continuation of ConocoPhillips Australia's exploration activities in the offshore Otway basin which aims to identify commercially viable natural gas reserves to help meet Australia's energy needs.

About the Otway Exploration Drilling Program

ConocoPhillips Australia is proposing to undertake an exploration program that consists of seabed surveys and the drilling of up to six exploration wells in exploration permits VIC/P79 and T/49P located in Commonwealth waters offshore of Victoria and King Island, Tasmania.

ConocoPhillips Australia has commenced preparation of an Environment Plan (EP) that will seek approval for this exploration drilling program to be undertaken. Drilling commencement is dependent on regulatory approval and drilling rig availability. The initial activity will be seabed surveys which will commence no earlier than January 2024.

We are committed to sustainably co-existing with other marine and coastal users, and carrying out our offshore activities in a manner which does not interfere with other marine users' drilling rights to a greater extent than is necessary.

Figure 1 (overleaf) shows the proposed operational areas and provides coordinates for corner points and distances to nearby coastal communities.

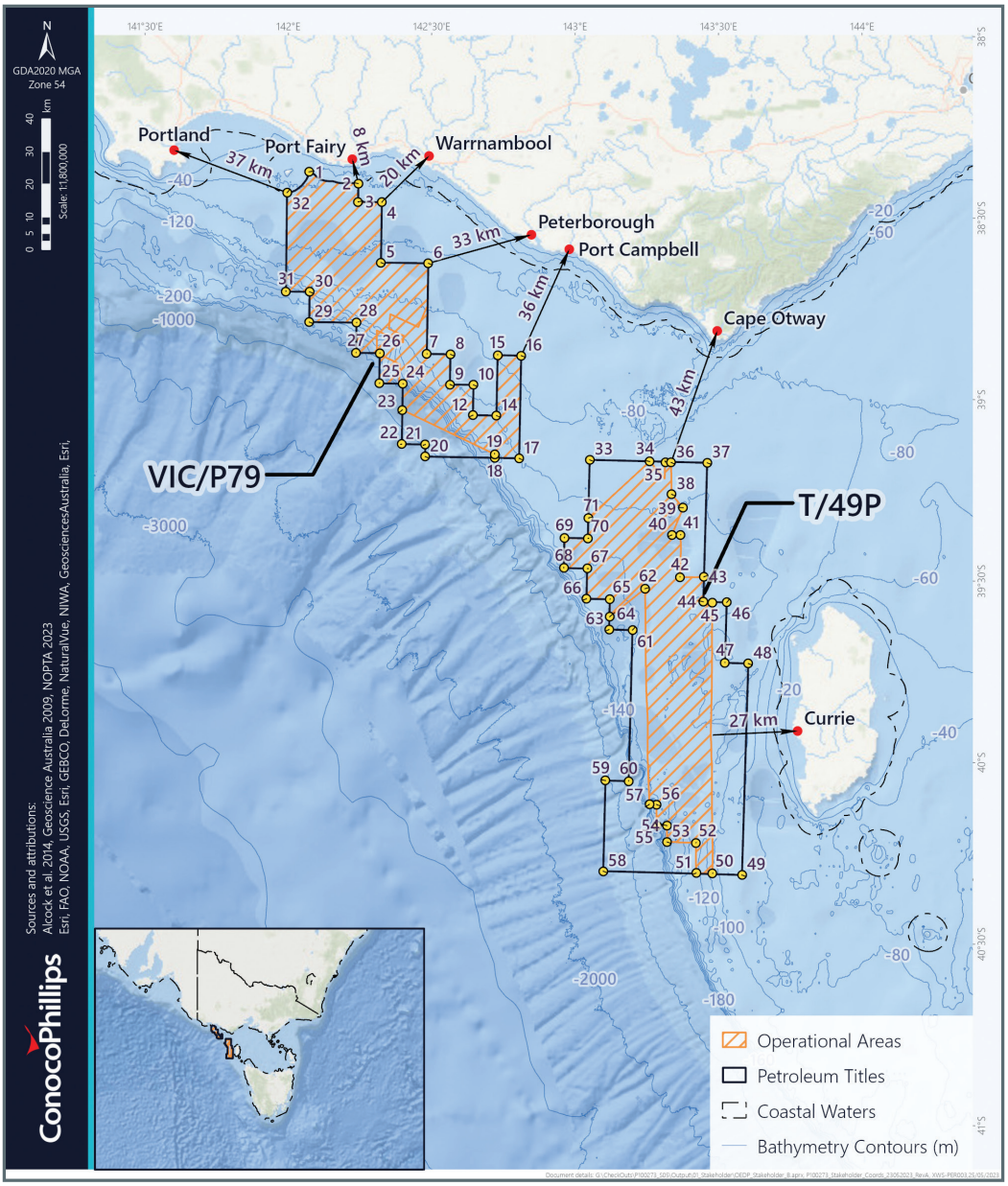
This information sheet summarises the ongoing assessment of potential impacts and risks to other marine and coastal users arising from the Otway Exploration Drilling Program.

KEY INFORMATION

- ConocoPhillips Australia is planning to undertake an exploration program in the Otway Basin and is preparing an Environment Plan which will be submitted to the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) for public comment and assessment. Any decision to proceed to development will be dependent on a conducive investment environment.
- The Environment Plan will include an assessment of potential impacts and risks to other marine and coastal users that may arise from the exploration drilling program. This assessment has currently identified a number of marine and coastal users and values including recreation and tourism, commercial shipping, petroleum activities, renewable energy, defence activities, commercial fishing and cultural heritage.
- Exclusion zones will be established to support safe operations. These zones allow for anchors, mooring chains and wire to be placed within the operational areas during the drilling program and prevent interactions or collisions with equipment or between vessels.
- Recreational diving is likely to be restricted to coastal waters in depths <18 m but with more advanced diving possible to 40 m. Water depths within the operational areas range between 35 and 670 m, which is mostly beyond the recognised maximum recreational diving depth of 40 m, and also an unlikely depth for recreational swimming. The sound generated by the activity has the potential to reach shallower waters if the drilling activity is in the northern portion of permit VIC/P79.

Map of Permit Areas

Figure 1



Coordinates

Label	Latitude (DMS)	Longitude (DMS)
1	-38° 25′3.131″	142° 4′39.232″
2	-38° 26′53.079″	142° 15′4.888″
3	-38° 29′54.69″	142° 15′4.894″
4	-38° 29′54.686″	142° 20′4.889″
5	-38° 39′54.694″	142° 20′4.908″
6	-38° 39′54.686″	142° 30′4.896″
7	-38° 54′54.697″	142° 30′4.924″
8	-38° 54′54.693″	142° 35′4.918″
9	-38° 59′54.697″	142° 35′4.927″
10	-38° 59′54.693″	142° 40′4.921″
12	-39° 4′54.696″	142° 40′4.93″
14	-39° 4′54.692″	142° 45′4.924″
15	-38° 54′54.684″	142° 45′4.905″
16	-38° 54′54.679″	142° 50′4.899″
17	-39° 11′54.694″	142° 50′4.933″
18	-39° 11′54.697″	142° 44′55.692″
19	-39° 11′18.194″	142° 44′49.999″

Label	Latitude (DMS)	Longitude (DMS)
20	-39° 11′54.708″	142° 30′4.951″
21	-39° 9′54.707″	142° 30′4.949″
22	-39° 9′54.71″	142° 25′4.953″
23	-39° 4′14.315″	142° 25′4.946″
24	-38° 59′54.705″	142° 25′4.938″
25	-38° 59′54.709″	142° 20′4.943″
26	-38° 54′54.706″	142° 20′4.935″
27	-38° 54′54.711″	142° 15′4.94″
28	-38° 49′54.706″	142° 15′4.932″
29	-38° 49′54.714″	142° 5′4.941″
30	-38° 44′54.71″	142° 5′4.932″
31	-38° 44′54.713″	142° 0′4.935″
32	-38° 28′31.755″	142° 0′4.902″
33	-39° 11′54.684″	143° 5′4.92″
34	-39° 11′56.572″	143° 17′52.217″
35	-39° 12′0.644″	143° 21′13.397″
36	-39° 12′1.03″	143° 22′24.381″

Label	Latitude (DMS)	Longitude (DMS)
37	-39° 11′54.664″	143° 30′4.89″
38	-39° 17′17.3″	143° 22′41.264″
39	-39° 19′27.132″	143° 25′13.929″
40	-39° 24′0.371″	143° 23′0.444″
41	-39° 23′55.841″	143° 24′47.592″
42	-39° 30′55.847″	143° 24′57.913″
43	-39° 30′47.539″	143° 30′1.633″
44	-39° 34′54.676″	143° 30′4.921″
45	-39° 35′2.601″	143° 31′58.008″
46	-39° 34′54.673″	143° 35′4.905″
47	-39° 44′54.677″	143° 35′4.906″
48	-39° 44′54.675″	143° 40′4.882″
49	-40° 19′54.686″	143° 40′4.966″
50	-40° 19′47.484″	143° 33′41.868″
51	-40° 19′48.944″	143° 30′10.185″
52	-40° 14′49.127″	143° 29′56.024″
53	-40° 14′47.42″	143° 23′40.631″

Label	Latitude (DMS)	Longitude (DMS)
54	-40° 12′5.982″	143° 23′34.74″
55	-40° 12′7.05″	143° 21′24.852″
56	-40° 8′39.816″	143° 21′12.975″
57	-40° 8′39.34″	143° 19′41.017″
58	-40° 19′54.707″	143° 10′4.993″
59	-40° 4′54.701″	143° 10′4.976″
60	-40° 4′54.697″	143° 15′4.971″
61	-39° 39′54.688″	143° 15′4.942″
62	-39° 33′0.546″	143° 17′31.908″
63	-39° 39′54.691″	143° 10′4.947″
64	-39° 37′47.264″	143° 10′8.348″
65	-39° 34′54.689″	143° 10′4.941″
66	-39° 34′54.692″	143° 5′4.946″
67	-39° 29′54.69″	143° 5′4.94″
68	-39° 29′54.694″	143° 0′4.945″
69	-39° 24′54.692″	143° 0′4.939″
70	-39° 24′54.689″	143° 5′4.934″
71	-39° 21′31.898″	143° 5′7.348″

Overview

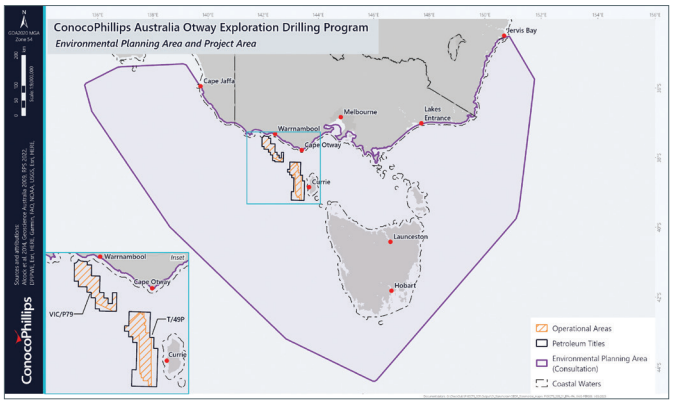
The Otway Exploration Drilling Program may affect the activities of other marine and coastal users. For example, the physical presence of seabed survey vessels, the drilling rig and support vessels used for the activity, and the establishment of exclusion zones, may result in the displacement of other marine users engaging in activities such as recreational and commercial fishing.

Other short-term petroleum activities, for example Vertical Seismic Profiling (VSP), have the potential to cause additional displacement if conducted in close proximity to coastal areas, with sound emissions from VSP limited to a maximum of 20 hours per well.

Figure 2 opposite shows the environmental planning area that has been applied to ensure that far ranging environmental values and sensitivities are appropriately identified and considered.

Environmental Planning Area Map

Figure 2



Potential Effects on Day-to-Day Activities

Potential displacement of other marine and coastal users will be determined by the following aspects:

1. Location

Up to six exploration wells will be drilled across both permit areas. The exact location of the wells is still to be determined.

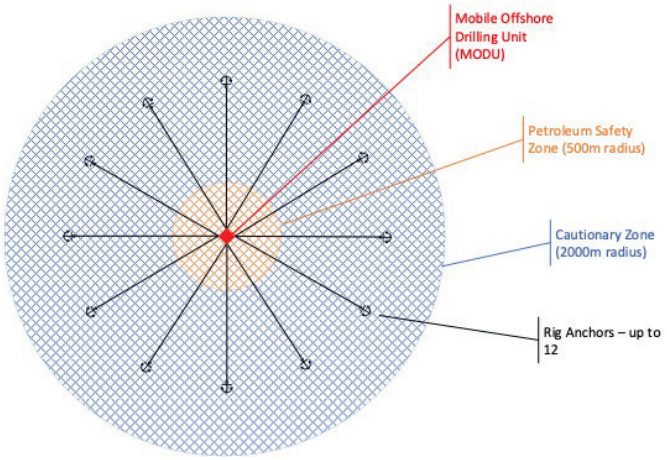
2. Exclusion Zones

Exclusion zones are put in place as a safety precaution. These zones allow for anchors, mooring chains and wire to be placed within the operational areas during seabed surveys and the drilling program and prevent interactions or collisions with equipment or between vessels. Three types of exclusion zones will be in place at set times and locations during the program.

3. Timing and Duration

ConocoPhillips Australia will undertake seabed surveys in up to nine locations, with the survey at each location expected to take approximately one week. Surveys will commence no earlier than January 2024.

For drilling, each well will typically take between 30 to 40 days but could take up to 90 days to complete, accounting for operational delays and weather events. Drilling will commence no earlier than October 2024.



Safe Navigation Area – A 500 m radius will be established around seabed survey vessels and any towed equipment when conducting seabed surveys.

Cautionary zone – a 2 km radius cautionary zone will be established around the drilling rig, once in position. This zone will cover the area of seabed anchors and mooring equipment and will be maintained by support vessels.

Petroleum Safety Zone (PSZ) – A 500 m radius petroleum safety zone will be enforced around the drilling rig once in position at each drilling location.

Reducing Impact and Risk

The objectives of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations (2009) are to ensure that any petroleum activity is carried out in a manner that is consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development as set out in section 3A of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). Additionally, these activities must be carried out in a manner that reduces the environmental impacts and risks associated with them to as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP), while also ensuring that any remaining environmental impacts and risks are at an acceptable level.

These objectives are critical to minimising impacts and risks to the marine environment as well as other marine and coastal users. The principles of ecologically sustainable development promote the responsible use of natural resources and emphasise the need to consider the long-term impacts of human activities on the environment.

Reducing environmental impacts and risks associated with offshore petroleum activities to ALARP is an important aspect of responsible and sustainable business practices in the offshore petroleum industry. This involves identifying potential environmental impacts and risks associated with an activity, implementing measures to minimise those impacts and risks, and continually monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of those measures.

Ensuring that any remaining environmental impacts and risks are at an acceptable level is also critical to protecting the marine environment and the activities, functions and interests of other marine and coastal users. This involves establishing acceptable environmental standards and thresholds for specific activities and ensuring that the environmental impacts and risks associated with an activity do not exceed those standards and thresholds.

Through the development of the Environment Plan and during consultation, ConocoPhillips Australia will identify and evaluate mitigation and management measures to minimise potential impacts and risks.

Examples of mitigation and management measures that will be implemented are listed below:

- Exclusion zones will be put in place prior to the commencement of seabed survey and drilling activities. These will be communicated via notices to mariners. Vessel and drilling rig operating procedures will establish:
  - A 500 m radius Safe Navigation Area (SNA) will be monitored around the seabed survey vessels to minimise interactions with other vessels.
  - A mandatory 500 m Petroleum Safety Zone (PSZ) around each drilling location while the drilling rig is in position. This prohibits unauthorised vessels from entering or being present within the PSZ.
  - A 2 km cautionary zone will be in place around the drilling drilling rig while on location. To avoid entanglement and safety risks, fishing nets, lines or pots should not be placed within the cautionary zone.
  - Vessel speeds will also be limited within the 2 km cautionary zone, known as the drilling area.
- A Communication Plan will be prepared to ensure that relevant persons are aware and informed of the activity. Specific notifications will be provided to:
  - Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC)
  - Australian Hydrographic Office (AHO)
  - Other relevant Authorities, and
  - Relevant Persons.
- ConocoPhillips Marine Assurance System ensures that project vessels meet all maritime laws and includes pre-commencement vessel inspections of class certification requirements under the Navigation Act 2012 and Marine Order 27 (Safety of Navigation and Radio Equipment) 2016; and Marine Order 30 (Prevention of Collisions) 2009.
- ConocoPhillips Australia will monitor the implementation and effectiveness of control measures for the duration of the activity and is required to report on environmental performance, including recordable incidents and non-compliances, to the independent regulator the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) at specified intervals during the exploration program. In addition, NOPSEMA typically conducts compliance inspections prior to and during the activity

Questions

and Answers

How will ConocoPhillips Australia determine when and where drilling will occur?

Drilling commencement is dependent on regulatory approval and drilling rig availability. The initial activity will involve seabed surveys and will commence no earlier than January 2024.

Specific locations for seabed surveys and exploration drilling are yet to be confirmed. ConocoPhillips Australia has undertaken to assess the environmental impacts and risks associated with seabed surveys and drilling activities that may occur anywhere within broader operational areas within petroleum titles T/49P and VIC/P79. This ensures that the impacts and risks associated with all potential survey and drilling locations are assessed.

ConocoPhillips Australia continues to interpret available data to prioritise and select final drilling locations with the highest likelihood of success. This process involves a careful balance of science, economics, and risk management to ensure that drilling efforts are safely executed with minimal impact to the environment.

Will it be safe to swim and dive?

All potential drilling locations will be confined to water depths between 35 - 670 m. Although the recognised maximum recreational diving depth of 40 m and an unlikely depth for recreational swimming, the sound generated by the activity has the potential to reach the shallower waters.

In particular, the northern portion of permit VIC/P79 is located within close proximity to the shoreline of Victoria. If drilling occurs near the northern border of the permit area, commercial dive-fisheries and recreational water-based activities may be affected by aversion during some short-term activities.

Will I still be able to fish?

Fishing within the permit area will be allowed, but not within established safe navigation areas, cautionary zones or the petroleum safety zone.

How will we know vessels and facilities are out there?

There will be a 'Notice to Mariners' provided by the Australian Hydrographic Office to inform other marine users of the activity taking place and of the exclusion zones in place, as regulated by the AMSA.

The drilling rig will also be equipped with an Automatic Identification System (AIS) installed to ensure the facility is detected at sea by other vessels or operators. Further, additional lighting as per Commonwealth required guidelines will be installed on the drilling rig and support vessels, which will allow easy identification.

Where can I find information on exclusion zones relevant to me?

PSZ notices will be published in the Gazette on the NOPSEMA website. A description of the activity, location and the time frame of exclusion will also be available at:

https://www.nopsema.gov.au/offshore-industry/directions-notices-alerts/gazetted-notices

Contact us

ConocoPhillips Australia values consultation and feedback and invites consultation with individuals, groups and organisations potentially affected by the proposed activities to help inform the development of the EP.

You are invited to provide feedback, request a meeting and ask questions on the proposed activity by contacting us in one of the following ways:

E: otway@conocophillips.com
T: 07 3182 7122
PO BOX 1243, MILTON, QLD, 4064
conocophillips.com.au

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