

Varanus Island Hub Operations Environment Plan (State)

Information overview

Santos provides this supplementary information for commercial fishers as part of regulatory consultation activities for the five-year revision of the Varanus Island (VI) Hub Operations Environment Plan (State).

The revision of the Environment Plan (EP) supports ongoing operations on Varanus Island,

as well as care and maintenance, and investigative works within the VI Hub and on Airlie Island in preparation for decommissioning of retired assets.

Santos is seeking input from commercial fishers by **17 July 2025**.

Details on consultation and providing input can be found on the back page of this fact sheet.

Pre and post activity notifications are also available on request. A general fact sheet on proposed activities in WA State lands and waters, including potential impacts, risks and associated management measure can be found at www.santos.com/offshoreconsultation/Carnarvon/

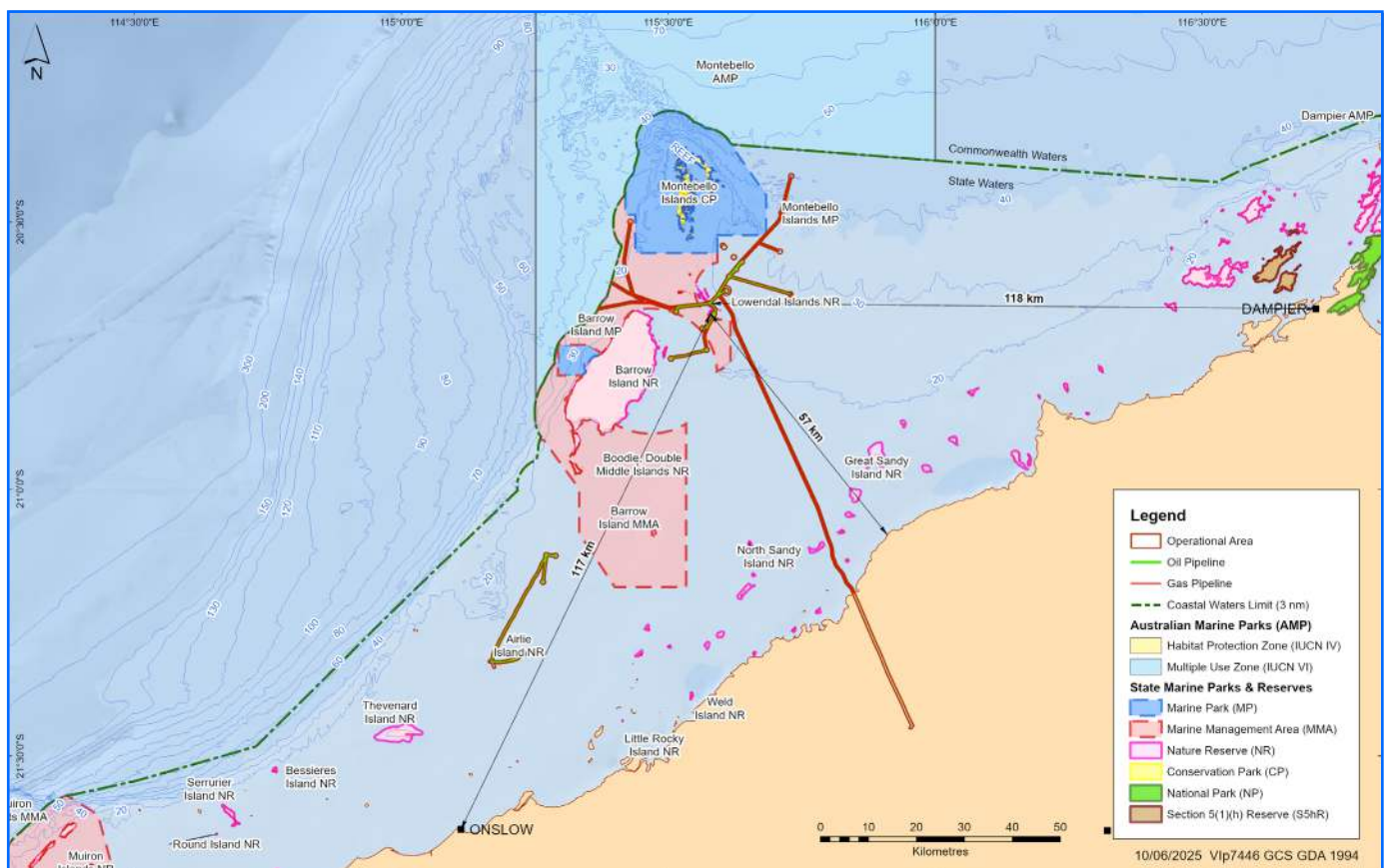


Figure 1. Operational Area of Varanus Island Hub Operations.

Activity description

Activity details	
Proposed activity	Operational activities managed under the State EP include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine oil and gas production on VI, including condensate and gas export operations; • Marine vessel-based activities; • Rig-less well intervention/ workover and infrastructure maintenance and remediation activities; • Implementation of environmental monitoring on VI, Airlie Island (AI) and surrounding waters; and • Care and maintenance, and investigative works within the VI Hub and on AI in preparation for decommissioning of retired assets.
Activity purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing gas supply to WA domestic markets. • Ongoing condensate supply to international markets. • Preservation of facilities/pipelines ahead of future decisions by Santos on decommissioning.
Operational Area (OA) location	The OA includes 250 m either side of pipelines, 500 m radius around platforms and subsea infrastructure, including wells, a 1000 m radius Restricted Operational Area at the Varanus Island Marine Terminal (VIMT) and a 500 m radius around VI and AI.
Water depth	Shoreline to approximately 40 m depth.
Exclusion zones	A 500 m Petroleum Safety Zone (PSZ) is defined around the offshore platforms and marked on Australian Hydrographic Office (AHO) nautical charts.

Considerations for Commercial Fishers

Santos has undertaken an assessment to define the environmental, social, economic and cultural aspects that may be affected by proposed activities. To do this we have considered the totality of the area where activity impacts and risks may occur.

The widest geographic extent of activity risk is defined by potential ecological and socio-economic impacts resulting from a single or multiple credible worst case spill events. For this State EP, the following scenarios

were considered as being credible worst case spill events:

- Vessel collision resulting in hydrocarbon release from:
 - o A support vessel (marine diesel oil)
 - o An offtake tanker (heavy fuel oil and crude oil)
- Loss of well containment from wells; and
- Subsea pipeline rupture.

Table 1 provides an overview of those fisheries that spatially overlap the Operational Area and the Environment That May Be Affected (EMBA).

These fisheries have been assessed to determine potential for interaction with proposed activities in the OA (see highlighted fisheries).

Santos' assessment was based on publicly available government managed catch and effort data, our ongoing discussions with commercial fisheries representative organisations, and historic engagements for previous petroleum activities.

Table 1. Commercial and State fishery assessment

	Fishery spatial overlap with the OA	Fishery spatial overlap with EMBA
Commonwealth Fishery		
North West Slope Trawl Fishery	No	Yes
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	No	Yes
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	No	Yes
Western Skipjack Tuna Fishery	Yes	Yes
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Yes	Yes
Western Australian Fishery		
Abalone Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Abrolhos Abrolhos Island & Mid West Trawl Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Beche-de-Mer Fishery (sea cucumber)	Yes	Yes
Broome Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Exmouth Gulf Developing Crab Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Hermit Crab Fishery	Yes	Yes
Kimberley Gillnet and Barramundi Fishery	No	Yes
Kimberley Crab Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Nickol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Mackerel Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Marine Aquarium Fish Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Nickol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Northern Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Octopus Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Fisheries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilbara Fish Trawl (Interim) Managed Fishery • Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery • Pilbara Line Fishery 	No Yes Yes	Yes Yes Yes
Pilbara Developing Crab Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Shark Bay Crab Interim Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery	No	Yes
South-West Coast Salmon Fishery	Yes	Yes
Specimen Shell Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
West Coast Demersal Scalefish Interim Managed Fishery	No	Yes
West Coast Demersal Gillnet & Demersal Longline Interim Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Western Australian Pearl Oyster Fishery	Yes	Yes
West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery	No	Yes

Consultation

Consultation provides Santos with an opportunity to receive input from authorities, persons and organisations whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by the proposed activities.

This input helps us to refine or change the management measures we are planning to address potential activity impacts and risks.

Santos' objective for proposed activities is to reduce environmental impacts and risks to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP) and acceptable over the life of the activity.

Consultation also helps us to identify values and sensitivities where information is not publicly available, such as first-hand feedback on commercial fishing activities and interests.

Providing feedback

Santos is seeking your input on proposed activities by **17 July 2025**.

The merits of relevant person feedback provided through the consultation process will be considered during State EP development, with responses summarised and included in the State EP submitted to DEMIRS for assessment.

Please let us know if you would like your personal/organisational details or any part of your feedback to remain private and we will ensure this remains confidential to DEMIRS.

More information about how community members can participate in environmental approvals for activities proposed in Commonwealth waters has been published in a **brochure** by NOPSEMA.

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