

Commercial Fishers Information Sheet

Bedout East Multi-well Exploration and Appraisal Drilling Environment Plan



Activity Overview

Santos is proposing to undertake a multi-well exploration and appraisal drilling program within Commonwealth waters, within petroleum titles WA-436-P, WA-438-P, WA-541-P and WA-64-L.

The drilling program is part of a broader Santos exploration program in the offshore Bedout basin and are being progressed as part of separate environmental approvals.

Location

A number of drilling locations are proposed within four offshore operational areas. The closest operational area to the mainland is approximately 116 km north of Port Hedland, West Australia.

Timing

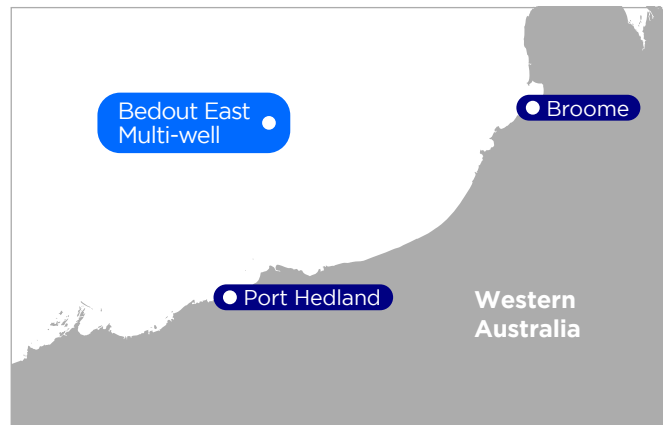
The activity is scheduled to occur between Q1 2027 and Q1 2032, subject to obtaining all regulatory and business approvals.

Duration

The expected duration of drilling each well is approximately 40-90 days. The expected duration is a forecast and is subject to change based on vessel availability, adverse weather conditions, standby periods, or technical/equipment issues that may arise during operations.

Consultation and feedback

All petroleum activities in Commonwealth waters must have an environment plan (EP) accepted by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) before any activities can take place.



Bedout Basin, North West Shelf.

Under Commonwealth environment regulations, Santos is required to consult with relevant persons about proposed activities in the course of preparing an EP. Santos consults to further ascertain, understand and assess potential environmental impacts and risks of a proposed activity and what, if any measures should be implemented to reduce these to 'as low as reasonably practicable' (ALARP) and to an acceptable level.

A relevant person includes Commonwealth and State agencies and authorities to which the proposed activity may be relevant, and persons or organisations whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by the proposed activity.

If you consider you may be a relevant person, please contact us as soon as possible to initiate consultation and so you can tell us how you would like to be consulted throughout the consultation process or if you need additional information.

The consultation period for this EP closes **15 July 2026**.

More details on consultation and providing feedback can be found in the consultation section of this Information Sheet.

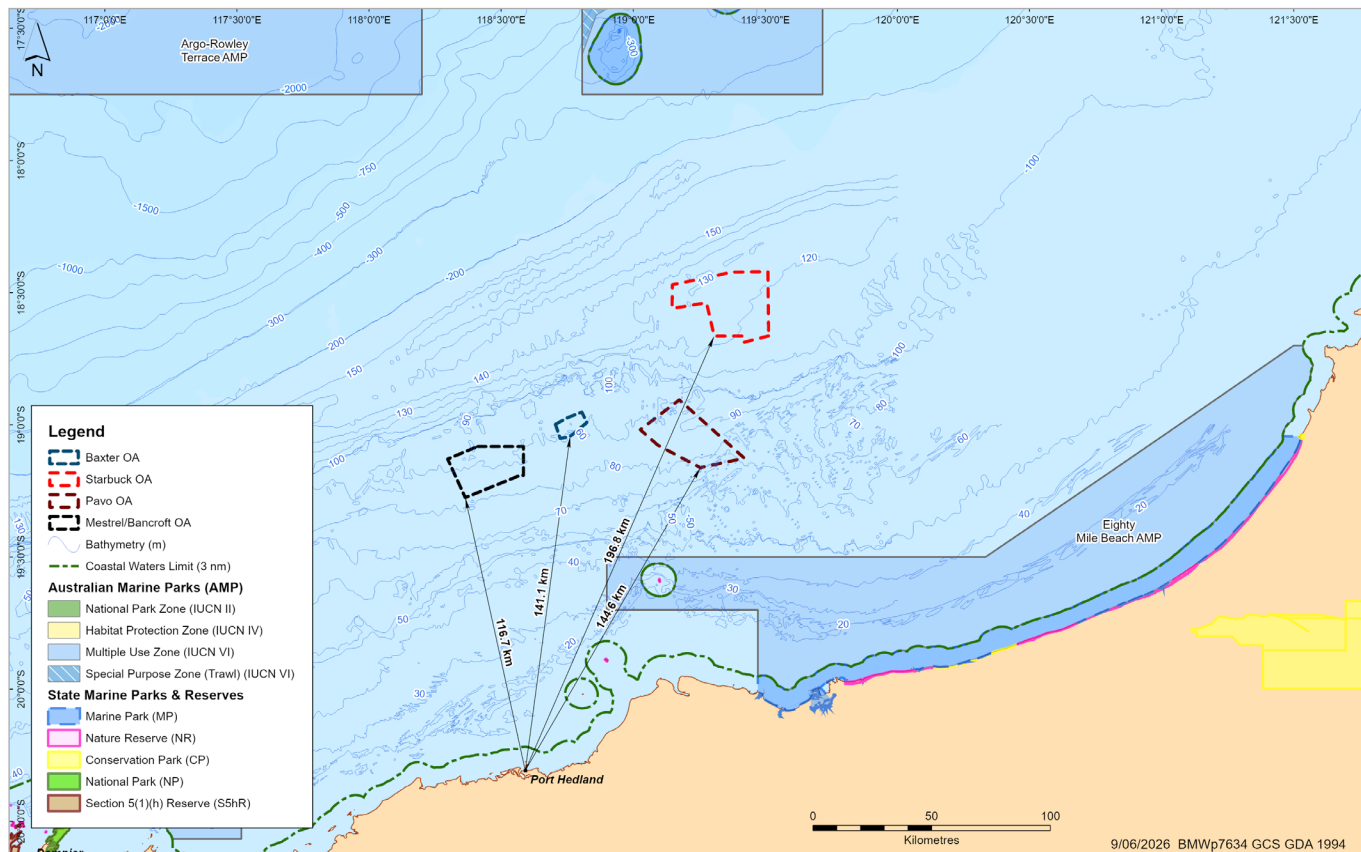


Figure 1. Activity Location

Table 1. Activity description

Activity Details	
Key Proposed Activities for each Operational Area (OA)	<p>Overall objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drill up to seven exploration and appraisal wells using a mobile offshore drilling rig • Prepare and drill well to collect data to assess geology (including well testing) and surrounding formation, followed by permanently plug and abandoning wells including removing well casings and wellhead (below or at seabed level) <p>Vessel-based surveys:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To determine suitable drill rig installation and operational locations • For seabed sampling, core samples and evaluation of foundation soils • Measure physical features underwater • Subsea measurements for infrastructure installation <p>Drilling activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving and positioning drill rig • If jack-up drill is used, pre-load and position to operational elevation • Drill conductor hole, run and cement conductor • Drill surface holes • Run and cement surface casing • Install wellhead and blow out preventer • Pressure test blow out preventer • Drill intermediate hole section(s) • Run well evaluation program • Run and cement intermediate strings • Drill production section(s) to well total depth • Run well evaluation program • Plug and abandon well <p>Demobilise or move drill rig to commence drilling of next well in another OA</p>
Operational Areas	<p>There are four OAs as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starbuck in WA-436-P • Pavo in WA-438-P • Baxter in WA-64-L • Mestrel/Bancroft in WA-541-P
Key Vessels, aircraft and other equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A semi-submersible or jack-up drill rig depending on water depth. • Up to four support vessels to assist with anchoring, towing, transportation of equipment and consumables, and refuelling. • Helicopters for crew changes, equipment supply and emergency response. • Remote operating vehicle to monitor drilling operations, conduct visual surveys and manipulation of subsea equipment. • Autonomous underwater vehicle to conduct several geophysical scans and inspections.
Exclusion and cautionary zones	<p>A 500 m radius Petroleum Safety Zone (PSZ) exclusion zone will be in place around the drill rig for the duration of the activity as a safety requirement to protect other marine users who might be in the area.</p> <p>A 2,000 m radius cautionary zone will be established during anchor handling operations (for 2-3 days either side of the drill rig arrival and departure).</p>

Table 2. Activity coordinates

The Activity will occur the within petroleum titles WA-436-P, WA-438-P, WA-64-L and WA-541-P and surrounding waters.

Operational Area	Permit	Approximate water depth	Latitude	Longitude
Starbuck	WA-436-P	115-135 m	18° 41' 13.96" S	119° 25' 9.63" E
			18° 39' 50.32" S	119° 25' 8.44" E
			18° 39' 51.23" S	119° 18' 23.45" E
			18° 32' 16.20" S	119° 16' 38.48" E
			18° 33' 34.95" S	119° 08' 49.42" E
			18° 28' 11.49" S	119° 08' 53.59" E
			18° 25' 19.08" S	119° 22' 33.50" E
			18° 25' 13.14" S	119° 30' 35.50" E
Pavo	WA-438-P	60-93 m	18° 39' 49.11" S	119° 30' 44.64" E
			19° 04' 37.92" S	119° 05' 36.85" E
			19° 01' 05.85" S	119° 01' 36.18" E
			18° 54' 19.33" S	119° 10' 27.93" E
			19° 07' 33.82" S	119° 25' 14.05" E
			19° 09' 42.86" S	119° 15' 15.12" E
Baxter	WA-64-L	90-95 m	19° 04' 37.92" S	119° 05' 36.85" E
			18° 59' 52.95" S	118° 42' 19.88" E
			18° 58' 24.06" S	118° 44' 59.84" E
			18° 57' 05.90" S	118° 48' 19.48" E
			18° 59' 28.20" S	118° 49' 28.02" E
			19° 02' 36.58" S	118° 45' 39.47" E
			19° 03' 05.16" S	118° 43' 24.33" E
Mestrel/Bancroft	WA-541-P	80-95 m	18° 59' 52.95" S	118° 42' 19.88" E
			19° 16' 30.95" S	118° 21' 51.47" E
			19° 07' 44.66" S	118° 17' 50.93" E
			19° 11' 27.76" S	118° 34' 17.72" E
			19° 11' 27.76" S	118° 35' 04.54" E
			19° 04' 55.31" S	118° 35' 04.53" E
			19° 04' 55.32" S	118° 24' 39.26" E

Commercial Fishery Implications

Commercial fishery assessment

Santos has undertaken an assessment to define the environmental, social, economic and cultural features that may be affected by proposed activities.

As part of this process, Santos has considered the totality of the area where activity impacts and risks may occur.

The widest extent of this area is called the Environment that May Be Affected (EMBA) which for this activity is a combined EMBA for the modelled potential worst-case hydrocarbon spill scenarios resulting from a loss of well control during drilling (see general information sheet for this activity for more details on the EMBA for proposed activities).

As part of the assessment process, Santos has identified commercial fisheries that have spatial overlap with the OAs and EMBA (see **Table 3**). We have also identified those fisheries that are entitled to fish in the broader EMBA. Note the fisheries shaded blue are those that have recent fishing effort in the OAs based on government fisheries data.

Operational Area Access

Commercial fishers and other marine users can access the Operational Area, inclusive of the 2000m radius cautionary zone around the rig but should exercise caution for safety reasons. Commercial fishers and other marine users are not permitted to enter the 500m radius PSZ exclusion zone.

Table 3. Commercial Fisheries Identified

Commercial fishing	OA	EMBA
Commonwealth		
North West Slope Trawl Fishery	No	Yes
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	Yes	Yes
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	No	Yes
Western Skipjack Tuna Fishery	Yes	Yes
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Yes	Yes
Western Australia		
Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Abrolhos Islands and Mid-West Trawl	No	Yes
Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Pilbara Fish Trawl Interim Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pilbara Line Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pilbara Crab Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Nickol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Broome Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Pearl Oyster Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Kimberley Crab Fishery	No	Yes
Shark Bay Crab Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery	No	Yes
West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery	No	Yes
West Coast Demersal Scalefish	No	Yes
Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery	No	Yes
West Coast Demersal Gillnet & Demersal Longline	No	Yes
Octopus Interim Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Northern Demersal Scalefish	No	Yes
Mackerel Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Marine Aquarium Fish Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Specimen Shell Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
West Coast Deep Sea Crab Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Abalone Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
South-West Coast Salmon Fishery	Yes	Yes

Consultation

Consultation is an important part of EP development as it allows Santos to receive feedback from relevant persons (agencies/ authorities, persons and organisations) whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by proposed petroleum activities.

This feedback may help Santos to refine or change the management measures we are proposing to address activity impacts and risks.

Santos will assess the merits of any objection or claim about the adverse impact of the activities proposed provided through the consultation process, with any responses summarised and included in the EP submitted to the Regulator for assessment.

Under government environment regulations Santos is required to provide relevant persons with:

- **sufficient information** to allow them to make an informed assessment of the possible consequences of the activity on their functions, interests or activities, and
- a **reasonable period** for the consultation.

Environment plans for offshore petroleum exploration activities are also subject to a mandatory public comment period. Public comment must be done before the environment plan is submitted to NOPSEMA for assessment.

More information

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.

Contact us

Engaging with this consultation will help Santos better understand the values and sensitivities of the environment and inform evaluation of the potential impacts and risks associated with the activity, and how to manage them properly.

To engage with our consultation or request for further information, please contact Santos on details provided below.

You may request that particular information you provide during consultation not be published. If you choose to do so, Santos will ensure that it is included in a separate report which is not published on NOPSEMA's website. Please let us know if you would like your personal/organisation details or, any information you provide not to be published. Please refer to below links on privacy.

[Santos' Privacy Statement](#)

[NOPSEMA Privacy Policy](#)

Consultation dates for proposed activities are published on Santos' Consultation Hub website.

Consultation on this EP closes **15 July 2026**.

Our contact and Hub details are

E: offshore.consultation@santos.com

T: 1800 267 600

W: [santos.com/offshoreconsultation](https://www.santos.com/offshoreconsultation)

