

Bedout Multi-well Exploration and Appraisal Drilling Environment Plan (Activity Update)

Information overview

Santos is proposing to undertake a multi-well exploration and appraisal drilling program within Commonwealth waters of the Bedout Basin.

Santos has a long history of hydrocarbon exploration, development and operations offshore northern Western Australia, including in the Bedout Basin where Santos, over many years, has successfully undertaken exploration and appraisal activities.

Bedout Basin has the potential to be the next major liquids rich gas led development off Western Australia. The purpose of the

drilling program is to identify hydrocarbon resources additional to Santos' known discoveries in the region. Exploration success during the Bedout exploration and appraisal drilling program will help inform a future development.

The proposed activities are planned to commence from Q1 2027, subject to obtaining all regulatory and business approvals. All wells drilled will be permanently plugged and abandoned.

Santos is seeking input from commercial fishers on the Activity Update by **27 October 2026**.

Details on fisheries Santos has assessed as being active in the Operational Areas (OAs) are included in **Table 1**.

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 upon request.

General fact sheets on proposed activities in Commonwealth waters and WA State land and waters, including potential environmental impacts risks and associated management measures, can be found at www.santos.com/offshoreconsultation

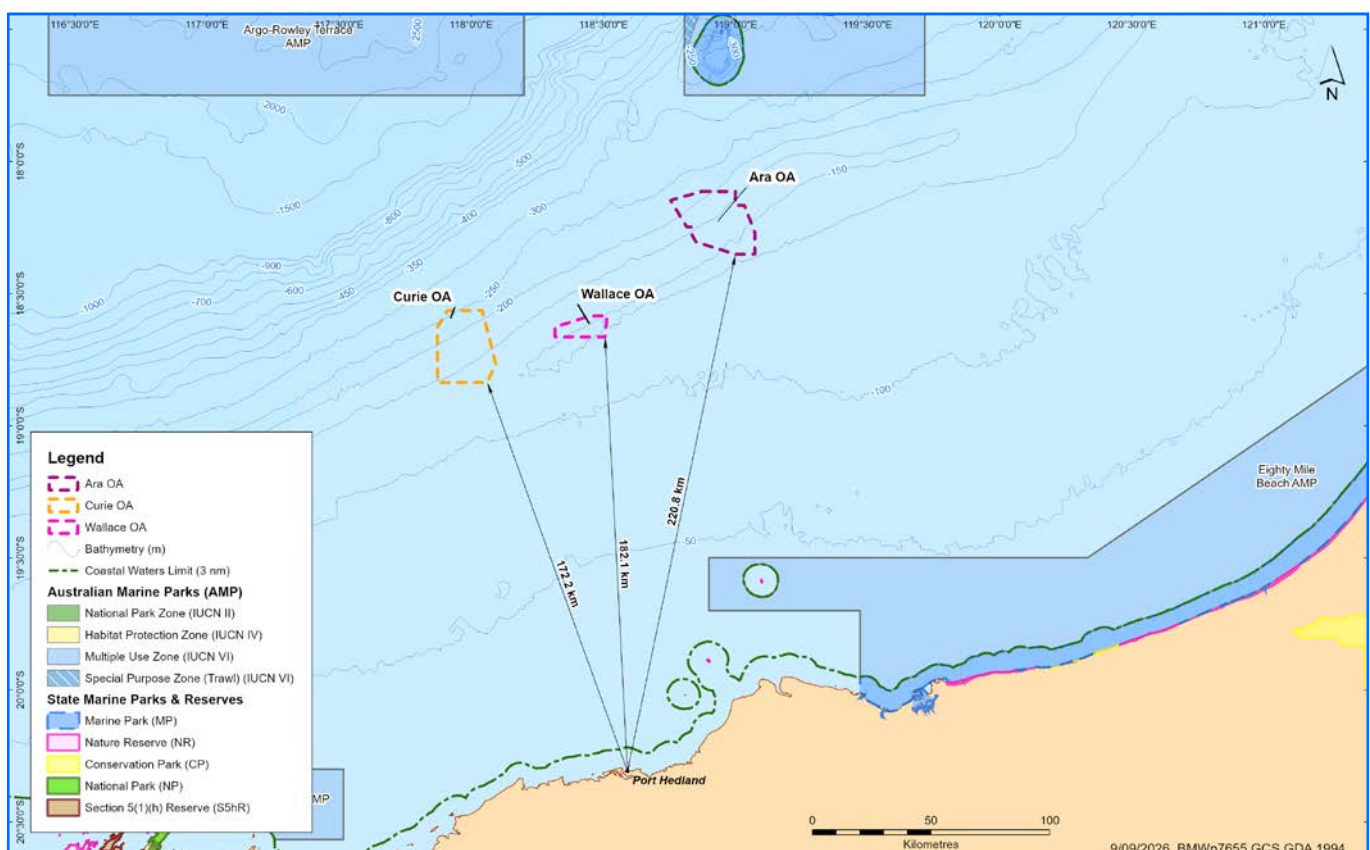


Figure 1. Bedout Operational Areas, Marine Parks & Reserves.

Activity description

Activity details		
Proposed activity	The drilling of up to 7 (exploration and/or appraisal) wells across three Operational Areas (OAs).	
Activity purpose	The purpose of the drilling program is to identify hydrocarbon resources additional to Santos' known discoveries in the region.	
OA location	The closest OA to the WA mainland – Curie OA – is approximately 172 km north west of Port Hedland, WA.	
Water depth	OA	Water depth
	Ara	130 m - 235 m
	Curie	135 m - 265 m
	Wallace	135 m - 155 m
Anticipated timing and duration*	Drilling and appraisal activities may occur from Q1 2027, subject to obtaining all regulatory and business approvals. Expected duration to drill each well between 40 to 90 days, with drilling duration subject to change based on geological conditions and potential for operational challenges.	
Exclusion zones	A 500 m radius Petroleum Safety Zone (PSZ) exclusion zone will be in place around the Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU) for the duration of the activity as a safety requirement to protect other marine users who might be in the area. A 2,000 m cautionary zone will be established during anchor handling operations (for 2-3 days either side of rig arrival and departure).	

* Timing and duration of proposed activities are subject to change based on regulatory approvals, rig availability, adverse weather conditions or technical/equipment issues that may arise during operations.

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 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.

Table 1 provides an overview of those fisheries that spatially overlap the OA and the 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.

OA coordinates can be found in **Table 2**.

Table 1. Commercial fishery assessment

	Fishery spatial overlap with Operational Areas	Fishery spatial overlap with EMBA
Commonwealth Fishery		
North West Slope Trawl Fishery	Yes	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 Australian Fishery		
Abalone Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Mackerel Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Marine Aquarium Fish Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Nickol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Pearl Oyster Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Fisheries (includes trawl, trap and line fisheries)		
• Pilbara Line Fishery	Yes	Yes
• Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
• Pilbara Fish Trawl Interim Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pilbara Developmental Crab Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Sea Cucumber Fishery	No	Yes
Shark Bay Crab 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 Rock Lobster Managed Fishery	No	Yes
West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Kimberley Crab Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Kimberley Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Broome Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Northern Demersal Managed Fishery	No	Yes

Table 2. Operational Area coordinates

OA	Latitude	Longitude
Ara	18° 06' 48.37" S	118° 52' 22.75" E
	18° 06' 50.13" S	118° 59' 59.16" E
	18° 09' 57.85" S	119° 00' 0.79" E
	18° 09' 59.04" S	119° 02' 2.23" E
	18° 16' 9.73" S	119° 04' 26.12" E
	18° 21' 1.9" S	119° 04' 24.71" E
	18° 21' 4.72" S	119° 00' 1.11" E
	18° 18' 17.64" S	118° 51' 3.88" E
	18° 16' 48.18" S	118° 50' 10.82" E
	18° 14' 53.53" S	118° 50' 9.08" E
	18° 14' 52.15" S	118° 48' 58.02" E
	18° 08' 50.51" S	118° 45' 16.49" E
	18° 06' 48.37" S	118° 52' 22.75" E
Curie	18° 37' 37.76" S	117° 52' 19.74" E
	18° 33' 55.48" S	117° 54' 34.55" E
	18° 33' 51.32" S	118° 02' 30.76" E
	18° 45' 56.15" S	118° 05' 32.99" E
	18° 50' 10.39" S	118° 03' 39.04" E
	18° 50' 12.65" S	117° 52' 23.61" E
	18° 37' 37.76" S	117° 52' 19.74" E
Wallace	18° 39' 52.96" S	118° 19' 4.57" E
	18° 37' 35.32" S	118° 19' 4.33" E
	18° 35' 6.28" S	118° 26' 58.41" E
	18° 35' 2.98" S	118° 30' 50.36" E
	18° 39' 54.22" S	118° 30' 23.55" E
	18° 39' 52.96" S	118° 19' 4.57" E

Consultation

In preparing an EP for submission to NOPSEMA, a titleholder must consult with each 'relevant person', including relevant Commonwealth and State Departments or agencies, and persons (or organisations) whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by the activity proposed to be carried out under an EP.

Your input is important:

- So that Santos can understand the environmental values in the OAs and the EMBA, and the environmental impacts and risks associated with the Activity to inform development of the Bedout Multi-Well Exploration and Appraisal Drilling EP;
- To inform Santos how consultation processes may need to be adapted for different relevant persons; and
- To ensure that Santos provides information to relevant persons in an appropriate and accessible manner.

Consultation also helps Santos to identify values and sensitivities where information is not publicly available, such as spiritual and cultural connections to land and sea country. This enables Santos to receive first-hand feedback on commercial and recreational fishing, tourism and local community activities and interests.

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

This feedback helps Santos to refine or change the management measures it plans to address any potential activity impacts and risks. Santos' objective for the proposed activities will be carried out in a manner by which the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be reduced to a level that is ALARP and acceptable over the life of the Activity.

Providing feedback

Santos is seeking your input on this Activity Update. Please contact us at the earliest opportunity. Formal consultation closes on **27 October 2026**.

The merits of relevant person feedback provided through the consultation process will be considered during EP development with a summary of responses included in the EP submitted to NOPSEMA for assessment. Please let us know if you would like your personal/organisational details or any part of your feedback to not to be published and we will ensure that it is not.

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.

EPs 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.

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