



Australian Government

Director of National Parks

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

Approval of Mining Operations in a Commonwealth Reserve

Approved Area/s	Commonwealth reserves in the South-east Commonwealth Marine Reserve (SE CMR) Network, being: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apollo Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• Beagle Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• Boags Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• East Gippsland Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• Flinders Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• Franklin Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• Freycinet Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• Huon Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• Murray Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• Nelson Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• South Tasman Rise Commonwealth Marine Reserve;• Tasman Fracture Commonwealth Marine Reserve; and <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zeehan Commonwealth Marine Reserve. but excluding Macquarie Island Commonwealth Marine Reserve
Approved Person/s	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Persons conducting exploration for minerals by marine seismic survey¹; and2. Persons operating vessels transiting² through a SE CMR in connection with, or incidental to, the mining or recovery of minerals or the production of material from minerals in connection with mining operations.
Approved Action/s	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Exploration for minerals by marine seismic survey; and2. Transit of vessels through a SE CMR in connection with, or incidental to, the mining or recovery of minerals or the production of material from minerals in connection with mining operations.
Conditions of Approval	As specified overleaf

¹ Marine Seismic Survey is a technique that directs acoustic energy (sound) into the rock beneath the sea floor from equipment towed behind a vessel.

² Transit refers to the continuous movement of a vessel through a Commonwealth Marine Reserve

Conditions of Approval

1. The person conducting the operations under this approval must hold appropriate authorisation for the operations under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967* (PSL Act) and must conduct all activities under an Environment Plan prepared under the PSL Act.
2. The operations must be conducted in accordance with the PSL Act, including an Environment Plan under that Act, and all other applicable Commonwealth and State laws.
5. Marine seismic surveys must not be conducted in the following zones of Commonwealth reserves in SE CMR Network:
 - a. Sanctuary Zones (IUCN Ia);
 - b. Benthic Sanctuary Zones (IUCN 1a)
 - c. Recreational Use Zones (IUCN II).
6. Operations must be conducted:
 - a. in accordance with EPBC Act Policy Statement 2.1 *Interaction between offshore seismic exploration and whales* issued by the Department of the Environment and Water Resources; and
 - b. in accordance with the conditions (if any) determined by the Minister under Chapter 4 of the EPBC Act for the operations.
7. All staff, contractors and subcontractors and volunteers involved in the conduct of the operations in the SE CMR Network must be fully informed of these conditions before commencing the operations.
8. The person conducting the operations must report all gear, equipment and other articles lost during the operations in the SE CMR Network that are likely to have a significant impact on the marine environment, as soon as possible, and within 10 days in any event, after the loss occurs. The report must include a description of what was lost, the location at which they were lost or believed to have been lost and the date and time at which they were lost.
9. The person conducting the operations must inform the delegate of the Director of National Parks of the proposed operations 30 days prior to their commencement.

Failure to adhere to the conditions of approval may result in variation or revocation of the approval.

Assistant Secretary
Marine Conservation Branch
Department of the Environment and Water Resources
Delegate of the Director of National Parks