



If the person completing this form is representing a small business (i.e. a business having less than 20 employees), please provide an estimate of the time taken to complete this form.

Please include:

- the time taken spent reading the instructions, working on the questions and obtaining the information; and
- the time spent by all employees in collecting and providing this information.

Hours

Minutes

Supplementary Form A — Whales and Dolphins (cetaceans)

Application under section 238 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

This form has two purposes:

1. To apply for a permit to undertake an action which will contribute significantly to the conservation of whales and dolphins such as research on whales and dolphins.
2. To apply for a permit to interfere with whales and dolphins, where that interference is incidental to and not the purpose of the action, for example, building an underwater structure where you may come into contact with whales or dolphins.

Please supply the information requested in this form if you will interfere with, injure, take, keep, move, possess or treat (cut up/divide) a cetacean or part of a cetacean in the Australian Whale Sanctuary or waters beyond the Australian Whale Sanctuary (overseas).

This form should be completed in conjunction with The General Permit Application form.

If you need more space

If there is insufficient space on this form to fully address any of the questions please attach additional pages and list these attachments at question 16.

When using additional documentation to answer individual questions in this application, please refer to the document title, the specific section(s) and the page number(s) on which the information appears.

Application fee

There is a \$25 fee for permits where the action will contribute significantly to the conservation of cetaceans. There are some fee exemptions in certain circumstances, details of which can be obtained from the Department at the below address.

Where to send the forms and the application fee

Please send the completed General Permit Application **and this form** and any accompanying attachments to:

Director
Migratory Species Section
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

If you wish to carry out activities within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, you may need to apply to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority for a permit. For information please follow this link: [Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority permits](#)

If your activity will be undertaken in an Australian Marine Park then you may need to apply to the Director of National Parks for an authorisation. For more information please follow the link below:

<https://onlineservices.environment.gov.au/parks/australian-marine-parks>

If you are proposing to send specimens out of Australia you will need an export permit. Import permits will be necessary for bringing parts or products of cetaceans into Australia. For more information on imports and <http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade/permits#need>



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1 Details of species that will be affected by the action. Use the following codes to enter details in columns 3 and 5.

Column 1 Common name of species. Common and scientific names are available at the Departmental website: http://www.environment.gov.au/erin/applications/biodiversity/sprat/	Column 2 Scientific name of species	Column 3 Conservation status of threatened species under EPBC Act (e.g. the blue whale is endangered EN) Codes for Column 3 EW Extinct in the wild EX Extinct CE Critically endangered EN Endangered VU Vulnerable CD Conservation dependent	Column 4 Estimated number that will be affected.	Column 5 Type of effect Codes for Column 5 IC Interfering with a cetacean IN Injuring TA Taking KE Keeping MO Moving TC Treating PO Possessing
Minke Whale	Balaenoptera acutorostrata		500	IC
Antarctic Minke Whale, Dark-shoulder Minke Whale	Balaenoptera bonaerensis		500	IC
Sei Whale	Balaenoptera borealis	VU	500	IC
Bryde's Whale	Balaenoptera edeni		500	IC
Blue Whale	Balaenoptera musculus	EN	500	IC
Fin Whale	Balaenoptera physalus	VU	500	IC
Arnoux's Beaked Whale	Berardius arnuxii		500	IC
Pygmy Right Whale	Caperea marginata		500	IC
Southern Right Whale	Eubalaena australis	EN	500	IC
Pygmy Killer Whale	Feresa attenuata		500	IC
Short-finned Pilot Whale	Globicephala macrorhynchus		500	IC
Long-finned Pilot Whale	Globicephala melas		500	IC
Southern Bottlenose Whale	Hyperoodon planifrons		500	IC
Longman's Beaked Whale	Indopacetus pacificus		500	IC
Pygmy Sperm Whale	Kogia breviceps		500	IC
Dwarf Sperm Whale	Kogia sima		500	IC
Southern Right Whale Dolphin	Lissodelphis peronii		1000	IC
Humpback Whale	Megaptera novaeangliae	VU	500	IC



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Andrew's Beaked Whale	Mesoplodon bowdoini		500	IC
Blainville's Beaked Whale, Dense-beaked Whale	Mesoplodon densirostris		500	IC
Gingko-toothed Beaked Whale, Gingko-toothed Whale, Gingko	Mesoplodon ginkgodens		500	IC
Gray's Beaked Whale, Scamperdown Whale	Mesoplodon grayi		500	IC
Hector's Beaked Whale	Mesoplodon hectori		500	IC
Strap-toothed Beaked Whale, Strap-toothed Whale, Layard's Beaked	Mesoplodon layardii		500	IC
True's Beaked Whale	Mesoplodon mirus		500	IC
Killer Whale, Orca	Orcinus orca		500	IC
Melon-headed Whale	Peponocephala electra		500	IC
Sperm Whale	Physeter macrocephalus		500	IC
False Killer Whale	Pseudorca crassidens		500	IC
Shepherd's Beaked Whale, Tasman Beaked Whale	Tasmacetus shepherdi		500	IC
Cuvier's Beaked Whale, Goose-beaked Whale	Ziphius cavirostris		500	IC
Common Dolphin, Short-beaked Common Dolphin	Delphinus delphis		1000	IC
Risso's Dolphin, Grampus	Grampus griseus		1000	IC
Fraser's Dolphin, Sarawak Dolphin	Lagenodelphis hosei SE Asian population		1000	IC
Hourglass Dolphin	Lagenorhynchus cruciger		1000	IC
Dusky Dolphin	Lagenorhynchus obscurus		1000	IC
Southern Right Whale Dolphin	Lissodelphis peronii		1000	IC
Australian Snubfin Dolphin	Orcaella heinsohni		1000	IC
Australian Humpback Dolphin, Indo-Pacific Humpback Dolphin	Sousa sahalensis		1000	IC
Spotted Dolphin, Pantropical Spotted Dolphin	Stenella attenuata incl E Tropical Pacific, SE Asian populations		1000	IC
Striped Dolphin, Euphrosyne Dolphin	Stenella coeruleoalba		1000	IC



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Long-snouted Spinner Dolphin	Stenella longirostris incl E Tropical Pacific, SE Asian populations		1000	IC
Rough-toothed Dolphin	Steno bredanensis		1000	IC
Spotted Bottlenose Dolphin (Arafura/Timor Sea populations)	Tursiops aduncus (incl Arafura/Timor Sea populations)		1000	IC
Bottlenose Dolphin	Tursiops truncatus s. str.		1000	IC
Spectacled Porpoise	Phocoena dioptrica		1000	IC

2 Provide the latitude and longitude of where the action will be conducted. Latitude and longitude references should be used instead of AMG and/or digital coordinates.

Where the project area is less than 1 square km, provide a single pair of latitude and longitude references.

Where the project area is greater than 1 square km or any dimension is greater than 1 km, attach a list of coordinates to enable accurate identification of the location of the project area.

Latitude


Longitude


Degrees Minutes Seconds

Degrees Minutes Seconds


Locality name or description

All Australian Commonwealth waters and New Zealand waters. See Attachment 1 for intended areas of operation.

3 **Attach an A4 sized map to show the boundaries of the area in which the action will be conducted.** 

4 Provide an attachment describing the action addressing the following points. 

- A. The equipment and methods used to comply with the EPBC Act Regulations.
- B. What steps will be taken to minimise impacts on cetaceans.
- C. The objectives and purposes of the action.

5 Attach a description of any research relevant to the affected species or community that will be carried out in the course of or in conjunction with the proposed action, including: 

- A. A copy of the research proposal.
- B. The names of the researchers and institutions involved in or supporting the research.

C. Relationship of the researchers to the permit applicant, including any funding being provided by, or to, the permit applicant

6 Will the action involve invasive techniques?

No ⇒ **Go to next question**

Yes ⇒ Attach application and approval from an Animal Ethics Committee. 

7 Are you applying on the basis that the action will contribute significantly to conservation of cetaceans? (**Please note**, a fee of \$25 is required for this type of permit — see Question 21)

No ⇒ **Go to 9**

Yes ⇒ **Go to next question**



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8 Why do you believe that the action will contribute significantly to the conservation of cetaceans?

N/A

9 Are you applying on the basis that the effect on cetaceans will be incidental to, and not the purpose of, the action?

You must also answer questions 10, 11 & 12 to apply for this type of permit.

No ⇒ You are not able to apply for a permit using this form, please contact the Migratory Species Section at EPBC.Permits@environment.gov.au, or call (02) 6274 1111.

Yes ⇒ Why do you believe that the impact of the action will be incidental to and not the purpose of the action?

Now go to 13



The action is aimed at commissioning components of a recently acquired seismic system, which has been procured in order to undertake scientific research on board RV *Investigator*. The purpose of the action is to test the deployment, operation and retrieval of components of the new system, including two GI guns and 1-2 lengths of streamer (maximum length: 225m). The additional seismic surveys included in this permit application are aimed at collecting geophysical data and evaluating the effects of seismic survey operations specifically on zooplankton communities. As such, these actions are in no way cetacean research. Any effect on cetaceans will be purely incidental to the action.

10 Why do you believe that the proposed action will not adversely affect the conservation status of a species of cetacean or population of that species?

The proposed actions will not adversely affect the conservation status of the above species of cetacean or populations of those species due to:

- The low source level of the equipment to be used (levels which are similar to some naturally occurring sound sources e.g. earthquakes, submarine volcanic eruptions, ice bergs).
- The small footprint, limited intensity and short duration of the proposed actions (i.e. survey areas represent only a very small portion of the total habitat used by cetaceans, and commissioning and surveys will contain prolonged periods where airguns are not being used).
- Flexibility in the location of the operation, meaning the location can be chosen to minimise impact.
- The action will be undertaken in accordance with EPBC Act Policy Statement 2.1 – Interaction between offshore seismic exploration and whales (Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, September 2008).



11 Describe how the proposed action will be consistent with any recovery plans or wildlife conservation plans in force for the species of cetaceans that may be affected by the action.

Commonwealth recovery and wildlife conservation plans that are in force are available from the Department of the Environment and Energy web site:

http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicshowallrps.pl

State and territory recovery plans will be available from state and territory environmental agencies.

The actions will be consistent with the Blue Whale, Southern Right Whale and Humpback Whale Recovery Plans in that it uses a low level sound source which will produce sound similar to natural intermittent sound sources (e.g. earthquakes, submarine volcanic eruptions, ice bergs) over a short period of time. The sound will only affect a very small proportion of the total whale habitat within Commonwealth waters. Thus, the source will likely be audible at low levels to only a few whales for a short period of time. Standard mitigation procedures, including involvement of a dedicated and experienced observer, pre start-up visual observation, soft-start procedures, start-up delay procedures and stop work procedures, will be employed.

12 The applicant is required to take all reasonable steps to minimise interference with cetaceans.

How will this be carried out?

The source level of the equipment is the minimum needed to adequately trial the system and achieve future survey objectives. This source level is low and is similar to natural sound sources within the marine environment (e.g. earthquakes, submarine volcanic explosions, ice bergs).

A dedicated and experienced observer will be present on the vessel bridge. The operations will apply the mitigation measures recommended in the EPBC Act Policy Statement 2.1 – Interaction between offshore seismic exploration and whales (Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, September 2008), including pre start-up visual observations, soft start procedures, start-up delay procedures and stop work procedures.

13 Attach details of any proceedings against the proposed permit holder under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

14 Fees

The following fees apply:

- If you answered yes at question 7, for an action which will contribute significantly to the conservation of cetaceans - \$25 (there are fee exemptions in some circumstances).
- An incidental action relating to cetaceans - nil

15 Are you paying by credit card?

No [] => Attach a cheque, go to next question

Yes [] => Complete the following details

Card: Visa [] Bankcard [] MasterCard []

Card number

[] [] [] []

Expiry date (month/year)

[]

Card holder's name as shown on card

[]

Amount

[]

Cardholder's signature



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16 Attachments

Indicate below which documents are attached.

- Attach a map. **See question 3**
- The equipment and methods used to comply with the EPBC Act Regulations. **See question 4**
- What steps will be taken to minimise impacts on cetaceans. **See question 4**
- The objectives and purposes of the action. **See question 4**
- Copy of research proposal. **See question 5**
- Names of researchers and institutions. **See question 5**
- Relationship of researcher to permit applicant. **See question 5**
- Ethics committee approval. **See question 6**
- Details of any proceedings against the permit holder under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law. **See question 13**
- Cheque for payment of fee. **See question 14**
- List all additional documents below**

Titles of all attached documents (include the document title, the specific section(s) and the page number(s) on which the information appears)

Attachment 1: Maps showing predicted areas of operation for actions (page 1)

Attachment 2: The equipment and methods used to comply with the EPBC Act Regulations (page 4)

Attachment 3: What steps will be taken to minimise impacts on cetaceans (page 8)

Attachment 4: The objectives and purposes of the action (page 9)

17 Declaration

I declare that the information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of applicant

[Empty signature box]

Name of person signing

Megan Dykman

Date

8 May 2019