# Appendix A: Permissions

List of permissioning documents relevant to marine sampling in the Commonwealth waters (defined as 3 nm to the EEZ 200 nm and extended continental shelf). This list is a guide only, and certainty should be sought from responsible agencies. DoEE = Department of Environment and Energy. Compiled by Melissa Fellows, Dec 2017.

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| Activity | Sample type | Jurisdiction | Responsible agency | Legislation/Treaty/  Documents | Requirements for approval | Link |
| Research and monitoring | All activities | Australian Marine Parks | DoEE | *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*  (EPBC Act)  Australia Marine Park Management Plans | Authorisation is required for all zones | https://parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/ |
| Activities that could have a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance | Within EEZ and on or in the continental shelf beyond 200nm | DoEE | EPBC Act | EPBC Act referral | <http://www.environment.gov.au/protection/environment-assessments\>  <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/what-is-protected> |
| Sampling | Biological Samples | EEZ (3-200nm) | Department Agriculture and Water Resources | *Biosecurity Act 2015* | No importation required if preserved by storage in a sealed container with  70% alcohol or  10% formalin or  Minimum 2% glutaraldehyde or plastinated curable polymers and labelled  Otherwise refer to BICON for importation requirements | <https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0/ImportConditions/Questions/EvaluateCase?elementID=0000086465&elementVersionID=201>  <https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0/ImportConditions/Search> |
| Waters and seabed of the EEZ and the continental shelf | DoEE | *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000*  Part 8A |  | <http://www.environment.gov.au/topics/science-and-research/australias-biological-resources/permits> |
| Sediment |  |  | *Biosecurity Act 2015* | Import requirements for samples collected beyond 200 nm. | <https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0/ImportConditions/Search> |
| Interactions with Cetaceans | Seismic and other acoustic equipment | 3nm to EEZ (200nm) | DoEE | EPBC Act  Policy Statement 2.1 | EPBC Referral and comply with Policy Statement 2.1 | <http://www.environment.gov.au/resource/epbc-act-policy-statement-21-interaction-between-offshore-seismic-exploration-and-whales> |
| Whale and Dolphin watching | 3nm to EEZ (200nm) | DoEE | *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000* EPBC Regulations’  *Australian National Guidelines for Whale and Dolphin Watching 2005*  Whale and Dolphin Watching Guidelines | Comply with EPBC Regulations | <http://www.environment.gov.au/marine/publications/australian-national-guidelines-whale-and-dolphin-watching-2017> |
| Aircraft, helicopters and drones | 3nm to EEZ (200nm) | DoEE | EPBC Regulations  Whale and Dolphin Watching Guidelines | Comply with EPBC Regulations  Permits required to operate a drone in close proximity to a whale or dolphin.  Refer to Whale and Dolphin Watching Guidelines for allowable operating distances | <http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/7f15bfc1-ed3d-40b6-a177-c81349028ef6/files/aust-national-guidelines-whale-dolphin-watching-2017.pdf> |
| Vessel interaction | 3nm to EEZ (200nm) | DoEE | EPBC Act  EPBC Regulations (part 8) | Report death, injury, stranding or entanglement of whales and dolphins to DoEE  Specific requirements for vessels |  |
| Study of cetaceans:  take, keep, move, interfere with (harass, chase, herd, tag, mark or brand)  and to possess or treat (divide cut up, extract any product from) | Australian Whale Sanctuary 3nm to the EEZ (200nm)  And in waters beyond for Australian residents | DoEE | EPBC Act | Research permits for research actions that contribute significantly to the conservation of cetaceans | <http://www.environment.gov.au/marine/marine-species/cetaceans/research-permits> |
| Interaction with Heritage | Historic Ship wrecks | Waters above the Australian continental shelf | DoEE | *Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976* | Ship wrecks and relics older than 75 years are protected.  Some ship wrecks lie within protected zones. Permits required to enter a protected zone for some activities. | <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/historic-shipwrecks> |
| Offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas exploration | Geophysical, geotechnical, seismic, drilling. | 3nm seawards to the outer limits of the continental shelf. | National Offshore Petroleum Title Administrator  NOPTA | *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*  (OPGGSA)  *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Resource Management and Administration) Regulations 2011* | Title required to undertake activity. | http://www.nopta.gov.au/  <http://www.nopta.gov.au/guidelines-and-factsheets/offshore-petroleum-guidelines.html> |
| 3nm seawards to the outer limits of the continental shelf. | National Offshore Petroleum Safety Environment  NOPSEMA | *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*  *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009* | Accepted Environment Plan in place, includes EPBC Act requirements. | <https://www.nopsema.gov.au/environmental-management/assessment-process/environment-plans> |
| Installations | Installations, in contact directly or by cable or similar device with the seabed for 30 continuous days or one or more period during the 60 days that sum to 40 days. | 3nms seaward to EEZ or outer limits of the continental shelf |  | *Sea Installations Act 1987* | Permitting system no longer applies, however maritime safety, customs, immigration and quarantine matters continue.  Safety zone of 500m may apply. | <http://www.environment.gov.au/topics/marine/marine-pollution/sea-dumping/sea-installations> |
| Restricted vessel movement and moored scientific equipment that create navigation hazards |  |  | Australian Hydrographic Service  AHS  Australian Marine Safety  AMSA |  | Notice to mariners  2-3 weeks prior to survey commences.  Vessel to RCC to update NAVAREA X alerts | <http://www.hydro.gov.au/n2m/about-notices.htm>  datacentre@hydro.gov.au,rccaus@amsa.gov.au  <https://www.amsa.gov.au/safety-navigation/navigation-systems/maritime-safety-information-database>  [natuticaladvice@amsa.gov.au](mailto:natuticaladvice@amsa.gov.au)  rccaus@amsa.gov.au |
| Research in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park GBRMP | Research, except for limited impact research. | GBRMP | Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority GBRMPA | *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*  *EPBC Act* | Limited impact research may be conducted under a letter of authority issued by an accredited educational or research institutions  All other research requires permission | <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/zoning-permits-and-plans/permits>  <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/zoning-permits-and-plans/permits/research-permissions> |
| Research around infrastructure, cables and pipelines | Disturbance of the seafloor and strong acoustic disturbance (seismic) | Cables – Australian continental shelf  Pipelines – 3 nm to 200 nm and extended continental shelf | Cables  Australian Communications and Media Authority ACMA  Pipelines  National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator  NOPTA | *Telecommuncations Act 1997*  International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC) recommendations | 500m safety zone  Liability for damage to cables  Spatial pipeline data | <https://www.acma.gov.au/Industry/Telco/Infrastructure/Submarine-cabling-and-protection-zones/submarine-telecommunications-cables-submarine-cable-zones-i-acma>  <https://www.submarinecablemap.com/>  <https://www.iscpc.org/>  <https://www.iscpc.org/publications/recommendations/>  <http://www.nopta.gov.au> |
| Sea dumping | Deliberate dumping of wastes at sea | EEZ | DoEE  GBRMPA | *Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981*  London Convention, 1972/96 | Permits for large scale dumping required | <http://www.environment.gov.au/marine/marine-pollution/sea-dumping> |