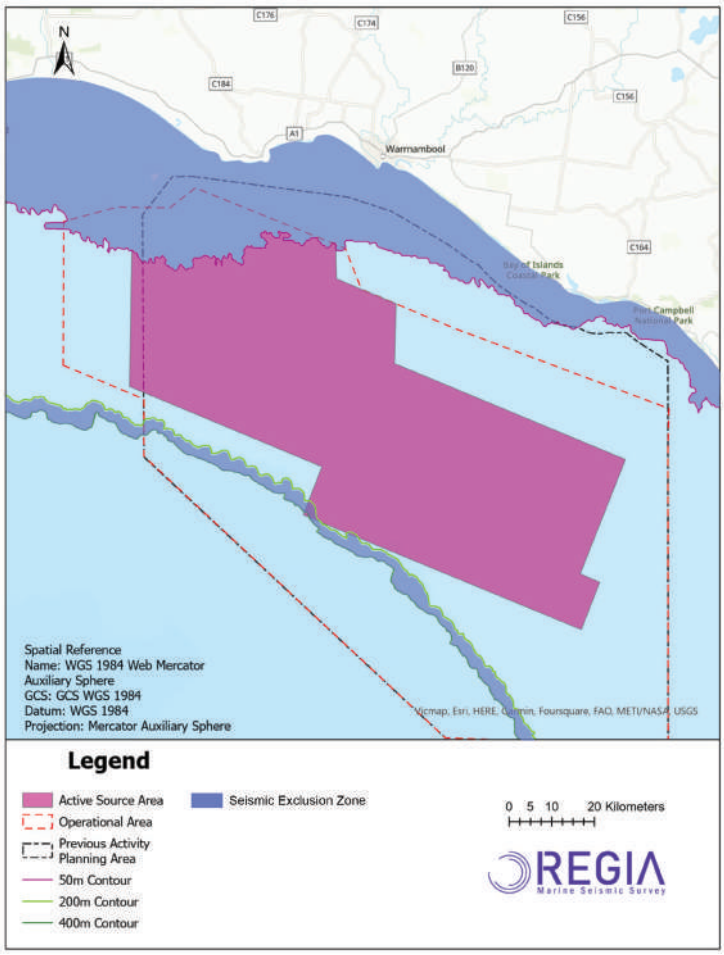
Regia Marine Seismic Survey & Commerical Fishing

CGG is planning to undertake the Regia 3D Marine Seismic survey in the Otway Basin over open and held acreage, in Commonwealth waters. The survey vessel will sail back and forth across the acquisition area along sail lines between 500m to 900m apart, acquiring seismic data. Seismic sound will be generated from three acoustic source sub-arrays operating alternatively, one discharging as the others recompress, with a maximum source volume of 2,820 cubic inches (cui) and an operating pressure of 2,000 pounds per square inch (psi). The vessel will tow a maximum of 14 hydrophone streamer cables approximately 8,100 m long, which contain the sound sensors that detect the pressure and velocity of sound levels reflected from the geophysical structures being targeted.

Activity timing

Through consultation and environmental assessments, two suitable 3-month windows have been identified, April – June and September – November. The activity is likely to occur once in either of these windows between 2024 and 2028.

The survey duration is capped at 90 days with a maximum of 60 acquisition days.



Operational Area Coordinates

Point	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
1	142° 05' 16.36731454"" E	38° 26' 10.85543250"" S
2	142° 26' 16.51574318"" E	38° 36' 13.94860129"" S
3	143° 05' 09.69318434"" E	38° 48' 00.14571285"" S
4	143° 05' 04.67882903"" E	39° 21' 03.62327244"" S
5	142° 36' 52.94914954"" E	39° 20' 23.41884832"" S
6	142° 24' 07.50000104"" E	38° 32' 15.00000770"" S
7	141° 58' 45.51609119"" E	38° 52' 42.45350650"" S
8	141° 58' 45.97159093"" E	38° 47' 04.71440775"" S
9	141° 48' 33.17463405"" E	38° 43' 44.91246252"" S
10	141° 48' 37.63265552"" E	38° 29' 30.29365786"" S
11	141° 55' 22.91787843"" E	38° 28' 04.95447531"" S
12	142° 02' 04.26170745"" E	38° 28' 09.17227542"" S

Identified Fisheries

A review of the presence of commercial fisheries with the operational area was undertaken[1], and the following Commonwealth and state fisheries have been identified as currently operating in the activity planning area.

Commonwealth:

- Eastern tuna and billfish fishery
- Small pelagic fishery western sub area
- Southern and eastern scale fish and shark fishery - shark gillnet and hook sector
- Commonwealth Trawl Sector of the Southern Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery
- Southern squid jig fishery
- Western tuna and billfish fishery

Victorian:

- Giant Crab fishery
- Multi-species ocean fisheries
- Octopus fishery
- Rock Lobster fishery

The Regia MSS Commercial Fishery Review is available online in the document library on the Regia project website: *www.regiamss.com.au*

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Commercial Fishers potential impacts and measures

Potential Impact	*Description*	*Measure in place*
Interaction with other vessels & Vessel Exclusion zone	During acquisition the vessel will be towing up to 14 streamers, this means the vessel will have restricted manoeuvrability. Her minimum speed is 4 knots and she cannot come to a complete stop. For the safety of your vessel and equipment, it is advised not to approach closer than 5 km or 2 NM to the seismic vessel or its streamers. Please see the schematic diagram below, for a visual representation.	A yellow-coloured float called a tail buoy (see photo below) will be attached at the end of each cable and will be equipped with a white flashing light. CGG will be issuing AHO a notice to mariners 4 weeks prior to commencement of the survey and advising AMSA JRCC 24-48 hrs prior. Fishers in our database (please contact us to confirm your preferred method of contact) will be notified 4 weeks prior to survey commencement and 2 weeks following completion. Lookaheads informing of the vessels location and plans for the next 48-72hrs will be provided to fishers. This will be done with 24-hour notifications during the survey. Notifications will be issued by the CGG vessel and distributed via daily emails, SMS and broadcast twice a day on VHF channel 16. The emails and SMS will contain an opt-out option if you don't wish to receive the notifications. We are also engaging with fishing associations to forward on water communications to their fishers. Two chase vessels will also accompany the seismic vessel and will be used to communicate with other vessels to maintain a safe distance.
Sound	Marine mammals, fish, and other marine fauna can be affected by the sound levels they are exposed to from a seismic survey.	Studies[2] were undertaken to understand the potential acoustic impacts on key regional receptors including fish and Invertebrates, and a review of commercial fisheries that fish in the area to identify the commercial fish and invertebrate species. This informed the impact assessments and identified the following measures to be implemented to bring impacts to an accept-able level and ALARP (as low as reasonably possible): • The seismic source will not be operated within the West Tasmania Canyons Key Ecological Feature (KEF). Further, there will be no survey deeper than the 400m depth contour to reflect that the f eatures and values of this KEF extend throughout the shelf area. • As required by EPBC Act Policy Statement 2.1 - Interaction between offshore seismic activities and whales, the seismic source is required to be slowly ramped up to full power over 30 minutes. For mobile species they would move away from the source before it is at full power.
Loss of catch & displacement	The survey has the potential to temporarily displace fish and other marine life from the survey area, which may temporarily impact the local fishing industry. Economic loss can occur due to: • reduced catch in the regular fishing area due to impacts from a seismic survey • reduced catch from fishing in a new area to avoid a seismic survey • relocation of fishing operations from the regular fishing area to avoid a seismic survey • fishing gear loss or damage caused by a seismic vessel (including its in-water equipment or supporting vessels)	Implementing of exclusion zones around fishing grounds. The impact assessments have identified high levels of commercial fishing activity shallower than 50m and some trawling activity between 200m and 400m. We have excluded acquisition shallower than 50m and deeper than 200m to continue to allow access for fishing. If interference cannot be avoided, CGG will implement a commercial fishing industry adjustment protocol within the acquisition area. This will follow the principles of the NERA protocol[3] and allow for a practical, evidence-based process and ensure no commercial fisher is worse off due to the activity.

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Commercial Fishers potential impacts and measures

Potential Impact	*Description*	*Measure in place*
Introduction of invasive species	The introduction of marine pests could occur from vessels used for the Regia MSS because of: • Discharge of ballast water containing foreign species. • Translocation of species through biofouling of the vessel hull and/or niches (e.g., sea chests, bilges, and strainers) or in-water equipment (e.g., source array and streamers).	CGG will implement their marine assurance system to ensure compliance of contract vessels with pre-arrival biosecurity checks for international vessels, and ballast water and biofouling requirements[4]. The seismic source and towed streamers will be inspected and cleaned (where required) prior to deployment for the Regia MSS.
Setting of traps and fixed fishing gear	Fishing gear may become lost or damaged if set in the path of the vessel	CGG requests that fishers contact CGG prior to laying traps or setting fishing gear in the vicinity of the proposed Regia MSS operational area, to ensure full understanding of the seismic vessel's movements over the next days to weeks. This will enable you to plan your activities around the location and future path of the seismic vessel and to avoid negative interactions between the seismic vessel, seismic equipment, fishing vessels and fishing gear.
Commercial Divers	Seismic surveys generate intense, low-frequency sound waves that have the potential to pose risks to divers	CGG will put in place measures such as prior notification to relevant parties, exclusion zones, monitoring, gradual ramp up of the seismic source, open communication channels and diver safety briefings. If you are a diver in this region, whether recreational, commercial, or scientific, please contact us at *contact@regiamss.com.au*
Great Southern upwelling events	These seasonal events bring up cold, nutrient rich water, encouraging growth, such as phytoplankton blooms, which in turn contribute to the oceans food chain.	CGG has altered their acquisition timing, from November-May to April-June or September-November, to ensure no activity is undertaken during this time of increased biodiversity. CGG is prepared to incur additional costs due to weather related downtime, to implement this measure.

Fig 1. Schematic diagram of vessell and towed streamers

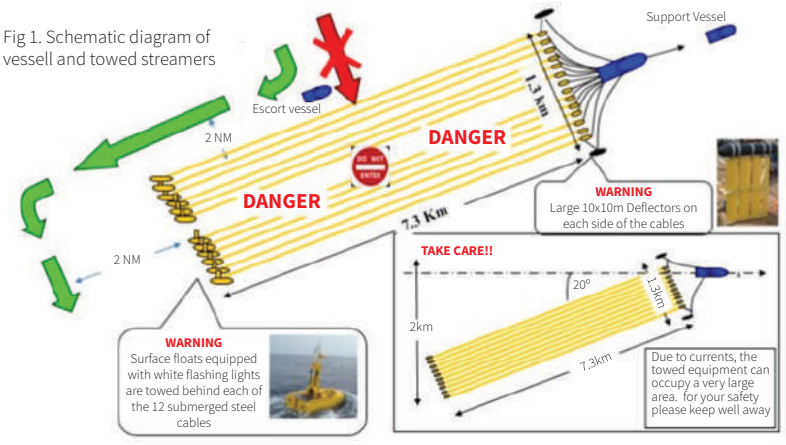


Fig 2. Tail Buoy



How to get in touch

Via email at - contact@regiamss.com.au *Via our website - www.regiamss.com.au* *Via our project hotline - +61 455 344 625*

Other functions, interests, or activities in the activity area?
Please contact us describing these so we can work with you to ensure any potential impacts are managed and any measures required are put in place. For example, an individual may be a relevant person via commercial fishing activities or through a spiritual connection to Sea Country.

Know someone who may be relevant?
We encourage you to share our consultation material and contact details with anyone you may know who may be affected by this activity. We understand this process is voluntary, however we believe it's important to hear from people who live, work and enjoy the environment we would like to work in, prior to us submitting our Environment Plan.

References

1. Milloden Consulting and Klarite, Regia MSS Commercial Fishery Review, 9 Aug. 2023, available at https://klarite.mysocialpinpoint.com.au/regiamss/document-library

2. Klarite, Regia Marine Seismic Survey Draft Impact Assessment – Underwater Sound: Fish & Klarite, Regia Marine Seismic survey Draft Impact Assessment – Underwater Sound: Invertebrates, available at https://klarite.mysocialpinpoint.com.au/regiamss/document-library

3. NOPSEMA, Supporting cooperative coexistence of seismic surveys and commercial fisheries in Australia's Commonwealth marine area, Guidance Framework, https://www.agriculture.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/guidance-framework-supporting-cooperative-coexistence-seismic-surveys-commercial-fisheries.pdf

4. Klarite, Regia Marine Seismic Survey, Draft Risk Assessment – Introduction of Marine Pest Species, available at https://klarite.mysocialpinpoint.com.au/regiamss/document-library

Further information can be supplied on request, or visit our comprehensive website with document library: www.regiamss.com.au

Activity carried out by CGG

EP prepared by Klarite