

Name:

Email:

Subject: Problems with seismic testing

Message: I have concerns about the negative effects of seismic testing on wildlife and the natural environment, as well as on existing sustainable industries.

Seismic testing kills zooplankton, which underpin the entire ocean ecosystem — see research by University of Tasmania Research [<http://www.imas.utas.edu.au/news/news-items/new-research-reveals-impact-of-seismic-surveys-on-zooplankton>].

Zooplankton are an important part of the ecosystem, as food for many other species including whales, fish and invertebrates. They are also an important factor in limiting climate change as they consume carbon dioxide on a scale equivalent to forests and other land plants — see research at NASA [<https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/features/Phytoplankton>]

Noise from seismic testing air blasts can harm whales up to 3km away — see reach by University of Queensland [<http://theconversation.com/noise-from-offshore-oil-and-gas-surveys-can-affect-whales-up-to-3km-away-82646>].

It also irreversibly harms lobsters — see research by Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies in Hobart and Curtin University in Western Australia [<https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2019-07-26/rock-lobsters-impacted-by-seismic-surveys/11343240>].

Seismic testing threatens the whale and dolphin watching tourism industry, which is said to be worth between \$100 and \$500m a year to the economy — as reported by ABC [<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-03-04/humpback-whale-migration-numbers-off-southern-queensland/10867396>].

Research found that the professional fishing industry in the U.S experienced reduced catches of between 40-80% during and immediately after seismic testing — see OCEANA research [https://usa.oceana.org/sites/default/files/662/seismic_fact_sheet_2016.pdf].

Seismic testing also threatens the recreational fishing industry, which in 2012 was found to be worth \$3.42bn in NSW alone and employ 14,254 equivalent full time jobs — see research by University of Wollongong [https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/499302/UOW-statewide-economic-survey-final-report.pdf].

(Sent via [Protect Our Coast Alliance](#))