

oceanica

Capability Statement

About Oceanica

Oceanica Consulting Pty Ltd (Oceanica) is a Western Australian firm providing specialist consultancy services for marine, coastal and estuarine environmental issues. We have completed hundreds of projects in Western Australia for corporate and government clients.



Why Oceanica?

At Oceanica we take pride in our reputation for providing high-quality environmental advice that adds real value for our clients by:

- Obtaining timely project approvals based on our understanding of the regulator's requirements for environmental impact assessment and doing the work properly the first time;
- Reducing client risk through our expertise in implementing programs for legally binding marine and coastal management, monitoring and reporting requirements;
- Managing client regulatory risk through our expertise in independent audits of marine and coastal management, monitoring and reporting obligations;
- Assisting clients to build community and regulator credibility through our understanding of best practise methods;
- Maintaining value by ensuring the long-term utility of data and methods;

- Developing programs that are appropriately targeted and not wasteful of time and money;
- Ensuring that our rates are competitive and that our staff experience and skills are suited to the task at hand;
- Transparency with clients on all aspects of our work and ensuring that we only undertake work that we have the expertise to do; and,
- Using our wide network of specialists and academics to ensure that our client has access to the best skills, resources and reviewers for any issue.

Our services

The Oceanica team has built a reputation for quality environmental consulting with integrity and reliability. We take pride in our reputation for providing high quality environmental advice across the following defined service areas:

Environmental Impact Assessment & Approvals

- Environmental referrals
- Scoping documents
- Environmental assessments
- Dredging/dumping permits
- Management plans
- Works approval & licences

Audit & Compliance

- Changes to proposal
- Performance & compliance reporting
- Audits

Review & Advice

- Strategic advice
- State of environment reporting
- Policy formulation
- Technical study
- Planning advice
- Peer review

Monitoring & Field Services

- Baseline monitoring
- Compliance monitoring
- Marine Pest Monitoring and Inspections

Our skills

The staff at Oceanica are highly qualified and have a wide range of relevant skills, including:

Ecological Processes

- Benthic flora & habitat surveys
- Marine fauna surveys
- Marine pest surveys

Water & Sediment Quality

- Water quality
- Sediment quality
- Ecotoxicity

Geomorphology & Oceanography

- Coastal processes
- Geomorphology
- Oceanography
- Climate change vulnerability

Technical

- Project management
- Stakeholder consultation
- Risk assessment
- Biostatistics
- Commercial diving
- Environmental modelling
- Data management
- Mapping



Our practice areas

Oceanica works across the following general practice areas:

- **Coastal infrastructure** — developing environmental support for the development and operation of coastal infrastructure

projects. These include port, harbour, marine, jetty and boat ramp upgrades.

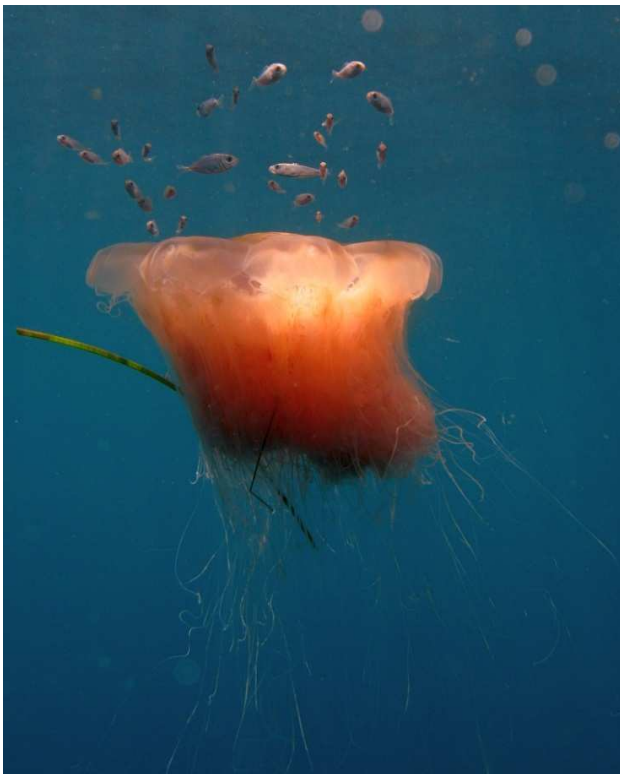
- **Marine discharges**—Ensuring ocean disposal is sustainable requires a clear understanding of the contaminants in the wastewater, flows, dilutions and hydrodynamics together with an appreciation of the receiving environment, including water quality, sediment quality and benthic habitats. A large component of Oceanica's work involves monitoring and managing the environmental impacts of these projects.
- **Dredging**—Dredging may result in a number of potential impacts in the marine environment, including: loss of habitat, turbidity, contaminant release from dredged sediments, and the injury or death of marine biota due to vessel activity. Oceanica has undertaken numerous projects involving both capital and maintenance dredging and onshore and offshore disposal.
- **Coastal setback and protection**—with growing pressure to use the coast, there remains a need to ensure new development is appropriately set back from the coast to allow for predicted sea level rise and a consideration of tides, storm surges and coastal topography. The level of climate change occurring also requires that existing development is protected where appropriate, based on careful consideration of the expected degree of hazard and vulnerability.



- **Marine resources**—Marine resources include sands, oil and gas and fisheries. Oceanica has provides ongoing environmental support for one of the only operational marine sand extraction industries in Australia, in a region where community expectations for environmental management are very high. Oceanica also provides

marine environmental services to the oil and gas industry and is contracted to provide support services to three of WA's largest operating solar salt fields.

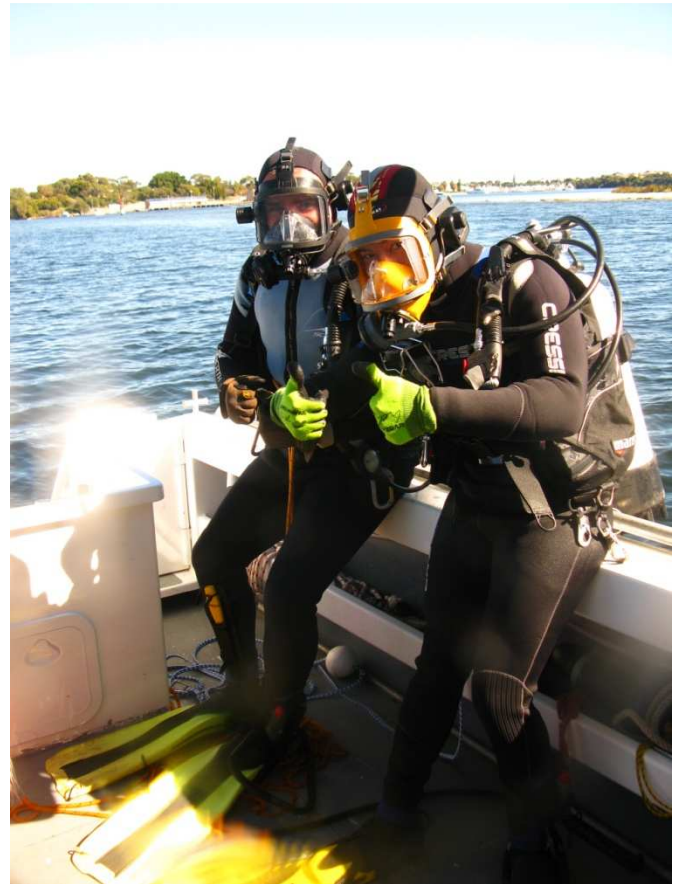
- **Natural resource management**—a clear understanding of the condition and connections within the natural environment is critical for sustainable natural resource management. Key aspects of the environment must be identified and considered in the context of existing and predicted patterns of human development and use. Oceanica has been involved in several such studies, to help inform the management of pressures from increasing human use and climate change, and in particular to help identify priority areas for management and planning.



Our staff

Oceanica employs professional consultants, dedicated data management, GIS, logistics, operations and administration personnel. Details of all of Oceanica's staff can be accessed via our webpage at www.oceanica.com.au

All of Oceanica's consulting personnel have strong academic qualifications and wide experience, and can provide a range of multi-disciplinary skills and services. Our skill base ranges from coastal geomorphology, water quality analysis, benthic habitat monitoring, environmental auditing, sediment and chemical analysis to marine pest risk assessment and monitoring.



Oceanica also draws on a broad network of specialist consultants and commercially trained contract scientific divers as required. Oceanica has well established working relationships with other specialist consultant groups and all of Western Australia's Universities.

Oceanica's divers are trained to a minimum of ADAS Part 1 (AS2815.1) with additional capacity to provide commercially trained onshore supervisors (AS2815.5) and divers trained to ADAS Part 2 (AS2815.2).



Oceanica is owned and governed by three experienced Directors.

Mark Bailey is an experienced Certified Practising Engineer in the fields of civil and environmental engineering. He has experience as a civil engineer in the fields of marine construction and commercial project management and since 1994 has extensive experience in marine environmental impact studies, environmental project management, modelling of aquatic ecosystems and marine quality assessments.

Dr Bruce Hegge is an experienced coastal scientist. Bruce's background is in coastal geomorphology; particularly beach systems, nearshore and coastal hydrodynamics and marine sedimentology. He also has extensive experience in environmental assessment and management of dredging operations. Bruce has a long-term involvement in the development and application of techniques for the broad-scale mapping of benthic habitats. He has strong skills in project management, data analysis, report writing and presentation.

Dr Karen Hillman is an aquatic ecologist with over twenty nine years experience in research, and the development and co-ordination of environmental monitoring programs, in estuarine and coastal ecosystems. Karen has strong skills in strategic planning, program

evaluation, the distillation and interpretation of multi-disciplinary data, and report writing.

Systems, quality assurance and insurances

Oceanica has systems in place for all elements of its business, including: policy; business planning; project management; office procedures; occupational health and safety; and maintenance of technical excellence.

Oceanica has a strong commitment to ensuring that all systems within the organisation are current best practice. All systems have been developed with the aim of:

1. Improving the efficiency of our work environment for all employees; and
2. Maximising the level of service we can provide to our clients.

Oceanica maintains the following insurance covers:

- Professional Indemnity Insurance;
- Public Liability Insurance;
- Workers' Compensation Insurance;
- Commercial Insurance;
- Volunteers Insurance; and,
- Business Person Insurance.

Oceanica's QA and OHS systems have been audited and accredited by external parties including Rio Tinto, Alcoa and Fremantle Ports.



www.oceanica.com.au

Street Address:
Level 1/353 Cambridge St, Wembley, 6014

Postal Address:
Oceanica Consulting Pty Ltd
PO Box 462
WEMBLEY WA 6913
AUSTRALIA

ABN: 89 093 752 811
Phone: 61 8 6272 0000
Fax: 61 8 6272 0099
oceanica@oceanica.com.au

