



Environmental Stewardship on Barrow Island



Barrow Island has been a Class A Nature Reserve since 1910 and is an internationally important conservation estate.

It is also Australia's largest onshore operating oilfield. Chevron, the operator of both the oilfield and the Gorgon Project, is proud of its environmental reputation and performance on Barrow Island.

The management of oilfield operations on Barrow Island is widely recognised as an industry benchmark for the successful coexistence of petroleum development and biodiversity protection.

These achievements have been realised over a period of 45 years, while producing more than 300 million barrels of oil.

Barrow Island is the largest landmass in Australia, and possibly the world, with no known introduced species since records began. Non-indigenous species represent the greatest threat to Barrow Island's native animals, and strict quarantine procedures have been successfully implemented by Chevron to prevent their introduction. The ecology of Barrow Island includes:

Vegetation

There are some 378 species of native plants. Spinifex grasslands dominate the landscape.

Mammals

13 species of mammals are resident on the island. Five resident species are protected under Western Australian and Commonwealth legislation.

These are:

- Barrow Island Golden Bandicoot
- Barrow Island Boodie
- Barrow Island Spectacled Hare-Wallaby
- Black-flanked Rock-Wallaby
- Barrow Island Euro.

Birds

119 species of terrestrial and migratory birds have been regularly recorded, of which 37 are residents or regular migrants to the island.

Reptiles

43 species of reptile have been recorded, of which one, a sub-species of skink, occurs nowhere else in the world. Barrow Island is home to the second largest lizard in the world, the Perentie, which can grow up to more than 2 metres in length.

Frogs

One species of frog lives on Barrow Island.

Underground Fauna

Many species of troglobitic (cave-dwelling) and stygobitic (groundwater-dwelling) species live in the caves and shallow groundwater of Barrow Island.

Over the last 45 years, Chevron has acquired invaluable knowledge of the island's conservation values, and of the management of oilfield activities within a Class A Nature Reserve. This experience gives the Gorgon Joint Venture Participants confidence in the ability to construct and operate the Gorgon Project on Barrow Island under the continued stewardship of Chevron.

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For more information on the Gorgon Project:

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