



STB PROJECT FACTS

Commentary on recent media misinformation and exaggerated claims relating to TTR's South Taranaki Bight iron sands project is:

- The area is no deeper than most harbours in NZ is well explored, understood and researched by TTR's scientific experts and is not like an alien planet
- There are no blue whales anywhere near our proposed operation as there is no foraging for them, it's too shallow (<50m water) with the nearest sighting 14.8km west in deeper water. The next sighting is 50km to the west and the rest around 120km west along the continental shelf where they live and migrate
- There is no "massive open cast mine" with only a shallow, on average 5m deep, excavation of the surface, that is immediately reinstated
- The disturbed area totals 0.27km² at any one time or an area approximately the same as the turf area of the Westpac Stadium
- The area is not "pristine" as it has, and continues to be, heavily bottom trawled by the fishing industry
- Playground being destroyed is simply not true and has no basis in fact
- There has never been any marine recreational activities or sports (including diving, swimming, surfing or recreational fishing) undertaken out in the area 22 to 36km offshore. It's simply too far out where weather and ocean conditions prohibit anything but the operation of large commercial vessels
- Noting the former onshore Waipipi iron sand mine area is now fully rehabilitated and a housing development actually supports the case for responsible low impact mining activities
- TTR's mine area will be fully rehabilitated as the operation proceeds with the re-establishment of the marine flora and fauna ecosystems within weeks and months of being disturbed (scientific fact internationally peer reviewed)
- TTR is proposing one (effectively stationary) vessel operating in area of approximately 66km² in the South Taranaki Bight that covers an area of 36,000km² with thousands of commercial shipping and trawler movements per year
- The operation for around 260 days a year for 20 years will add 1-2mg/l of suspended sediment to a small and migrating plume of <50km² into the naturally turbid STB ocean that contains 10 to 1,000's mg/l of suspended sediment. The plume generated totally dissipates around 10km offshore never reaching near shore environments
- The TTR plume will have no effect of the STB marine ecosystems and habitats including whales, dolphins, fish or kaimoana or the cultural and recreational use or values of the STB
- The TTR operation will have no effect or impact on the South Taranaki coastline beaches or environment
- The operation will have no effect on commercial or recreational fishing or the fish or marine mammal populations in the area (NIWA science and international peer internationally reviewed)
- The entire Mining Licence area of 66km² represents <0.18% of the STB
- The total disturbed and rehabilitated area over 20 years amounts to around 44km² within the Mining Licence is <0.12% of the STB
- The actual disturbed area of 0.27km² represents <0.001% of the STB or equivalent to <10% of the area disturbed continually by the 3km² Port of Whanganui