

The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) manages the responsible development of America's offshore energy and mineral resources. The bureau promotes energy independence, environmental protection, and economic development through responsible, science-based management of energy and mineral resources on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).

Overview

The United States' natural resources provide its citizens unparalleled opportunities for energy and mineral production, job creation and revenues for the American people. These opportunities can only be realized when these resources are managed thoughtfully. BOEM manages the nation's offshore resources to help meet the country's energy needs.

With fewer than 600 employees, BOEM is a fairly small agency tasked with managing almost 3.2 billion acres of the seabed — greater than the size of the nation's land acreage. BOEM's primary mission focuses are oil and gas energy, renewable energy, and marine minerals, with environmental science underpinning all of our efforts.



Oil & Gas

Domestic energy development is critical for national security and the U.S. economy, and offshore oil and gas resources are vital components of the nation's energy portfolio. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, annual OCS production accounted for 15 percent of domestic crude oil and 2 percent of domestic natural gas production. In FY 2022, companies paid \$78.5 million in rent and \$6.3 billion in royalties to develop oil and natural gas in federal waters. Portions of that revenue help fund conservation initiatives such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Historic Preservation Fund.

BOEM is responsible for the development of the National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program (National OCS Program), which establishes a five-year schedule of oil and gas lease sales in federal waters. The schedule includes the size, timing, and location of potential oil and gas leasing activity. The process begins with a Request for Information and culminates with the approval of a National OCS Program, with multiple drafts and opportunities to comment in between.

For more information on BOEM's oil and gas energy activities, visit: <https://www.boem.gov/oil-gas-energy>.

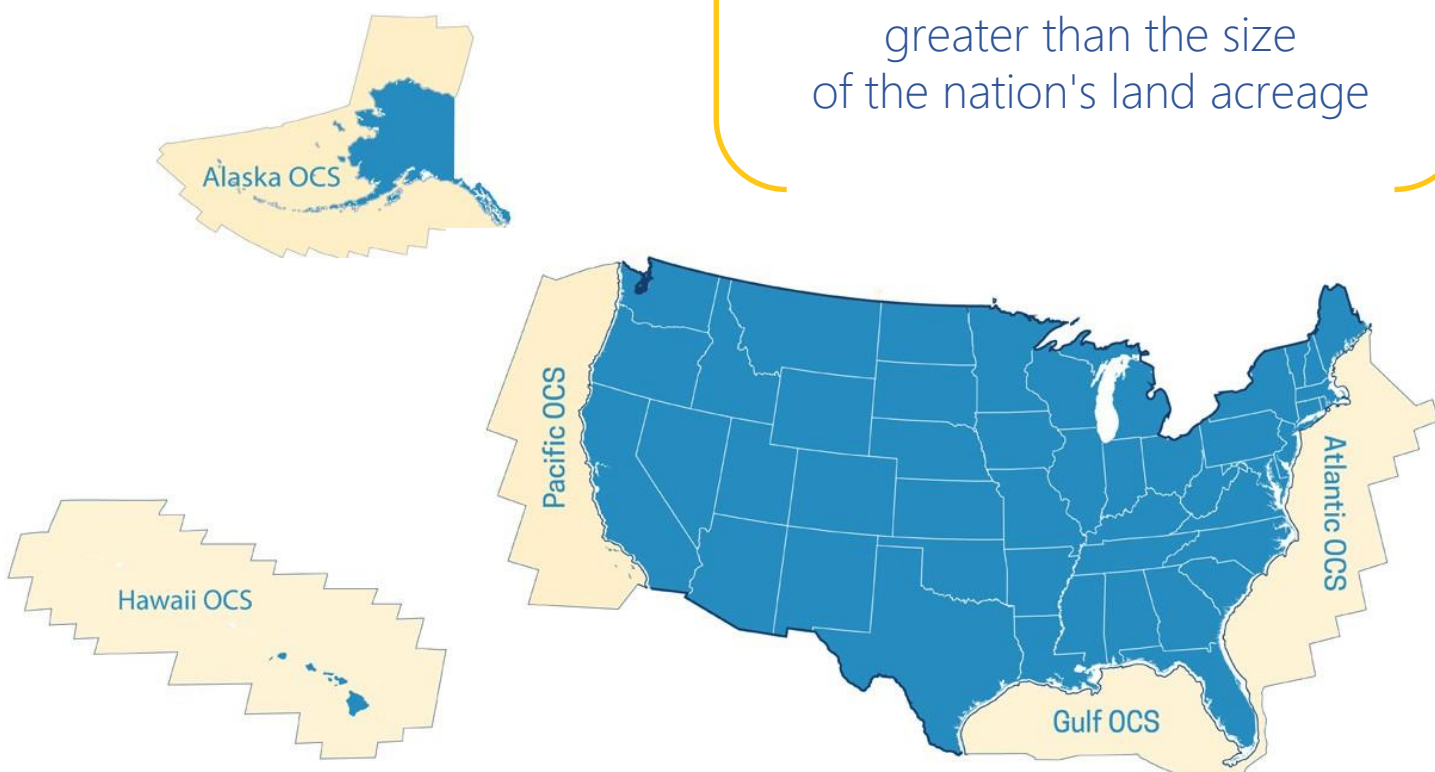
Renewable Energy

As an emerging part of the nation's all-of-the-above energy portfolio, offshore wind energy provides a new source of renewable, domestic energy supply. It also offers the prospect of additional domestic jobs and wages and significant revenues from lease bonuses, rentals on acreage leased, and production operating fees.

BOEM oversees orderly, safe, and environmentally responsible renewable energy development activities on the OCS. The bureau grants leases, easements, and rights of way for offshore renewable energy. BOEM works directly with Tribal, federal, state, and local governments and other key stakeholders to help identify wind energy areas and issues related to upcoming offshore renewable energy projects.

For more information on BOEM's renewable energy activities, visit: <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy>.

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Marine Minerals

In addition to its offshore energy responsibilities, BOEM manages appropriate access to marine mineral resources, such as sand and gravel, on the OCS. Shore protection, beach nourishment, and coastal habitat restoration projects are the primary uses of these minerals. To date, BOEM has authorized more than 193 million cubic yards of OCS material for nearly 68 coastal restoration projects in eight states to restore more than 481 miles of the nation's coastline. These projects protect billions of dollars of infrastructure and ecological habitats while restoring public beaches affected by severe erosion. The OCS also has the potential to contain significant volumes of critical minerals that can help support national security and the economy.

For more information on BOEM's marine minerals activities, visit: <https://www.boem.gov/marine-minerals>.

Environment

A robust environmental program is the foundation of all BOEM's activities, ensuring science-based environmental protection is at the forefront of BOEM's decision making. BOEM prepares and oversees environmental reviews, including National Environmental Policy Act analyses for offshore energy and mineral development. In addition, BOEM develops, funds, and manages rigorous scientific research to inform policy decisions regarding the development of energy and mineral resources on the OCS. Since 1973, BOEM has funded more than \$1 billion in scientific research.

For more information on BOEM's environmental activities, visit: <https://www.boem.gov/environment>.

Offices Around the Country

BOEM employees work in four regional offices across the country: New Orleans, La.; Camarillo, Calif.; and Anchorage, Alaska, as well as two offices in the Washington, DC area.

BOEM strives to protect the environment while overseeing the development of

OCS energy and mineral resources

