

Overview of Oregon Offshore Wind Energy Planning and Engagement Activities

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BOEM Oregon Task Force: 2019 & 2020 Recap



September 2019 meeting: discussed planning approach

- Result: BOEM and DLCD drafted data gathering and engagement plan
- Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) letter to the Governor supports planning

June 2020 meeting: discussed draft plan

- Result: BOEM and the State of Oregon committed to offshore wind energy planning

October 2020: BOEM and DLCD finalized “Data Gathering and Engagement Plan for Offshore Wind Energy in Oregon”



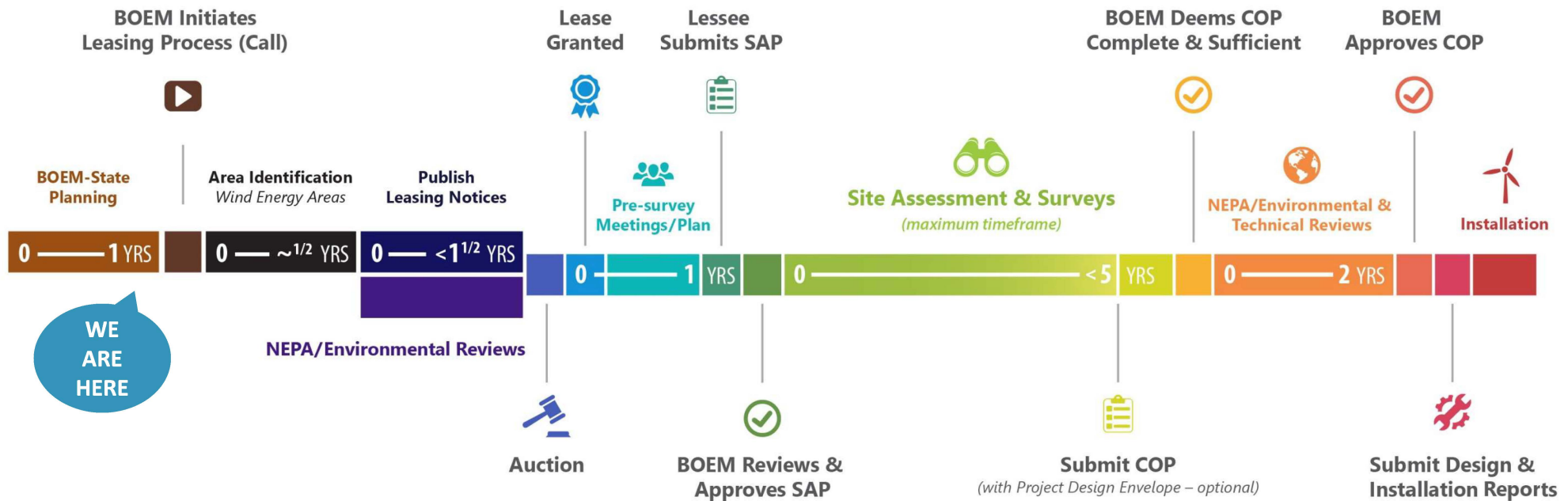
BOEM Offshore Wind Energy Authorization Process

[Planning & Analysis]

[Leasing]

[Site Assessment]

[Construction & Operations]



Draft Data Gathering and Engagement Summary Report

- **Outlines how BOEM and DLCD engaged over 12-month effort in data and information gathering**
- **Identifies key input and concerns received**
- **Includes feedback on data layers of the Oregon Offshore Wind Mapping (OROWindMap) Tool**
- **Target Audiences:**
 - Research organizations
 - Ocean Users
 - Coastal Communities/General Public
 - Tribes

Draft Data Gathering and Engagement Summary Report

Oregon Offshore Wind Energy Planning

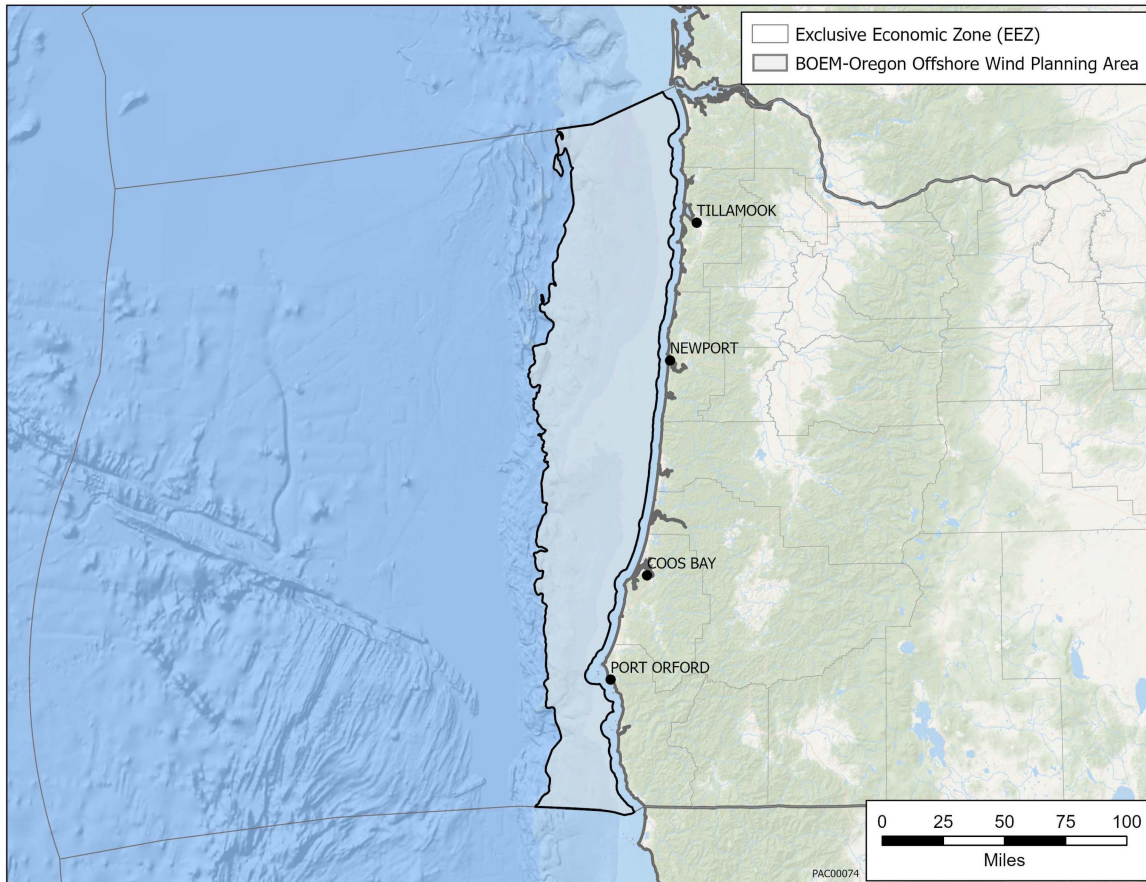
October 2021



Available at Earth & West

<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/2021-task-force-meeting-nine>

Current Planning Area for Leasing

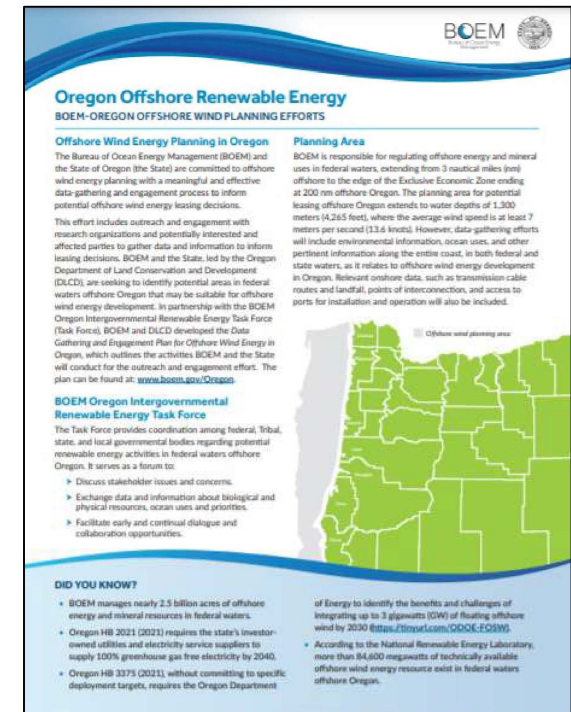


- **Federal waters offshore Oregon**
- **Water depths <1,300 m (4,625 ft)**
- **Average wind speed >7 m/s (13.6 knots)**



Summary of Outreach and Engagement Efforts

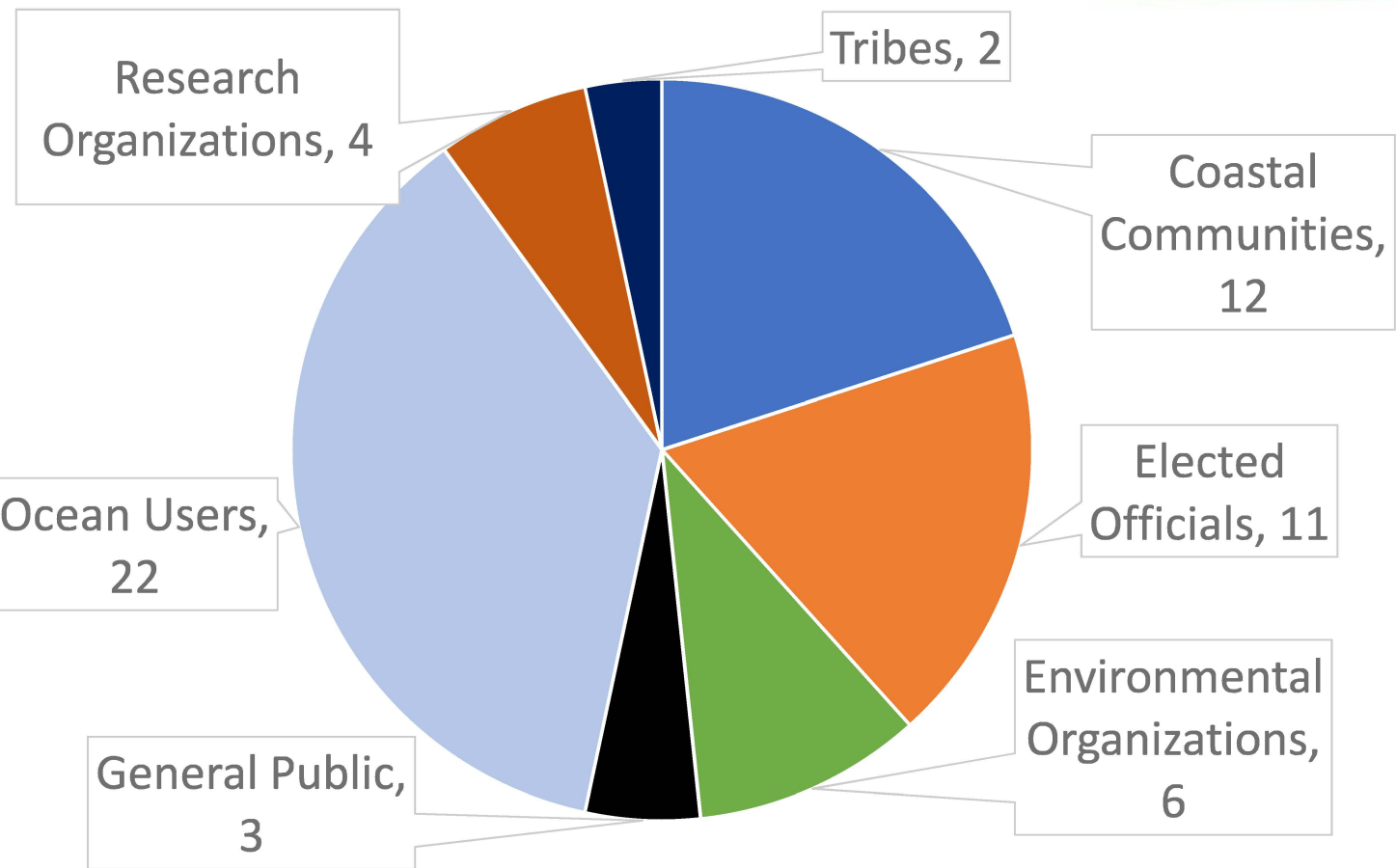
- **Adjusted to a fully virtual engagement environment**
 - Hosted public webinars
 - Hosted one-on-one or small group virtual meetings
 - Participated in standing meetings
- **Developed fact sheets**
- **Updated webpage www.boem.gov/Oregon**
 - Posted standing meetings open to the public
 - Created a virtual meeting room with all public webinar recordings and materials
- **Communicated to the Task Force regularly**
- **Maintained comprehensive contact list over 1,000 contacts**



Available at www.boem.gov/Oregon



Summary of Engagement Meetings



- **60 Meetings**
- **Over 1,200 participants**



BOEM-Oregon Offshore Wind Webinars

- **March 2021 – OROWindMap Introductory Webinar**
 - Purpose: Share the functionality of OROWindMap with key data users and data providers
 - 138 Participants
- **May 2021 – Oregon Offshore Wind Energy Planning Public Webinars**
 - Purpose: Provide an overview of and update to planning effort and gather feedback
 - 3 Webinars, 216 total participants
- **August 2021 – Data Review Virtual Workshops**
 - Purpose: Gather feedback and input on datasets
 - Physical, human-use, biological data review, 129 participants
 - Fisheries data review, 123 participants
- **Recordings and materials at www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/2021-oregon-offshore-wind-energy-planning-public-webinars**



Tribal Engagement

- **February 2021: Invited engagement with Tribes in Oregon**
- **March 2021: Staff-to-staff meeting with Coquille Indian Tribe, BOEM, and DLCD**
- **May 2021: Invited engagement with Tribes in California with ancestral lands in Oregon**
- **August 2021: Ocean energy staff briefing with Makah Tribe and BOEM**
- **Continuous: Regular updates to the West Coast Ocean Tribal Caucus**
- **Continuous: Periodic informal communications with Tribal representatives**
- **Next Steps: Continue communication, engage as requested, implement Tribal Cultural Landscapes approach**
- **As of September 2021, Parker McWilliams is the BOEM Pacific Tribal Liaison**



Feedback Theme: Meaningful Engagement

- **Support for continued engagement throughout BOEM's authorization process for offshore wind energy leasing and development**
 - Early and often
 - Clarify level of review and analysis at each process stage in BOEM authorization
- **Fishing industry and community**
 - Expressed concern that their feedback will not be taken into consideration
 - Want BOEM and the State to consider fishing industry feedback and want decisions to be informed by input from all current users of the ocean space
- **Industry users**
 - Expressed positive support for offshore wind projects
 - Encourage maritime partnerships are developed early
 - Prioritize safety and labor standards



Feedback Theme: Fishing and Other Ocean Users

- **Siting or potential loss of fishing grounds**
 - Impacts to some fisheries more than others
 - Future change in fish behavior and migration patterns
 - Socioeconomic impacts to fishing activities, impacts to fishermen's livelihoods and other ocean users
 - Consideration of mandatory and voluntary closed fishing areas
- **Offshore wind energy installation and operations**
 - Potential impacts to fisheries operations during construction and operation
 - Safety for fishermen and their equipment
 - Interference with survey efforts important to the fishing industry
 - Potential conflicts with vessel traffic
 - Other uses within a lease area not regulated by BOEM



Feedback Theme: Impacts to Wildlife and Other Impacts

- **Concern of impacts on marine species and seabird distribution, migration, and behavior**
 - Interactions with animals and floating offshore wind turbines
 - Cumulative impacts from multiple projects
 - Impacts on marine species that could impact fishing industry
 - Impacts of climate change on marine species
- **Concern of visual impacts from shore**



Feedback Theme: Oregon's Energy Portfolio

- **Cost of offshore wind on the ratepayer**
 - Concern for projects requiring feed-in tariffs
 - Cost-effectiveness of offshore wind compared to other energy
- **Feasibility of offshore wind and hydrogen production**
- **Support for southern Oregon offshore wind development**
 - Coastal resiliency and reliability
 - Planning and process are done responsibly, with transparency, and meet environmental protection standards
- **Future analysis: job creation or displacement, economic development**



Summary Report Next Steps

- **Provide feedback to draft**
 - Use the comment tracker to provide written review and input to draft report
 - Email comments to renewableenergypocs@boem.gov by November 4, 2021
- **BOEM and DLCD will:**
 - Finalize the summary report
 - Provide report to the Task Force
 - Post report at www.boem.gov/Oregon

