

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 2.5 billion acres of the seabed—nearly equal 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.



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## 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) 2021, offshore federal production reached approximately 603 million barrels of oil and 767 billion cubic feet of gas. This accounted for about 15 percent of all domestic oil production and about two percent of domestic natural gas production. About 500 of the 2000 active leases in the Gulf of Mexico are producing oil and gas. BOEM estimates that there are undiscovered oil and gas resources across the OCS totaling about 69 billion barrels of oil and 229 trillion cubic feet of gas.

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 as precisely as possible. 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>.

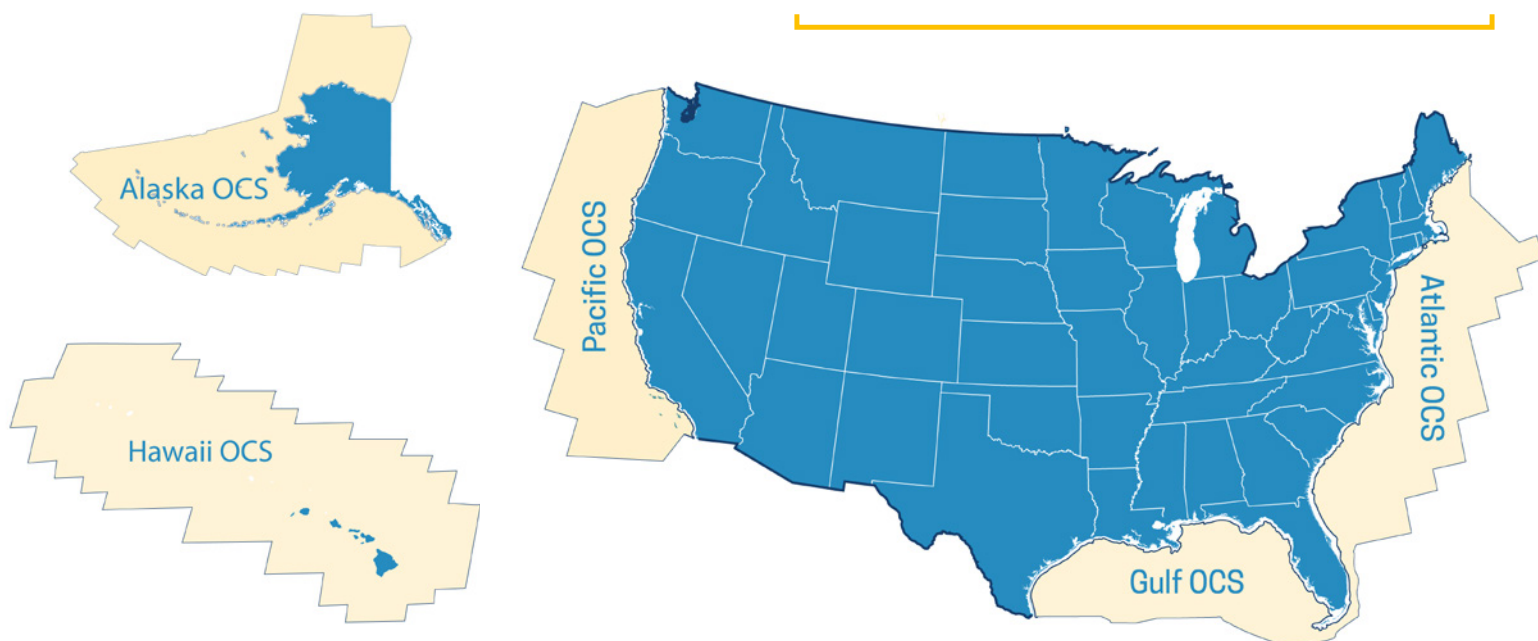
## Renewable Energy

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 federal, state, local and tribal 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/renewable-energy-program-overview>

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## Marine Minerals

In addition to its offshore energy responsibilities, BOEM manages appropriate access to marine mineral resources on the OCS, such as sand and gravel. Shore protection, beach nourishment, and coastal habitat restoration projects are the primary uses of these minerals. To date, BOEM has authorized more than 178 million cubic yards of OCS material for 64 coastal restoration projects in eight states, restoring more than 444 miles of the nation's coastline. Current statistics are available at:

<https://www.boem.gov/MMP-Current-Statistics>

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

All of BOEM's activities are underlain by a robust environmental program, which ensures that science-based environmental protection is at the forefront of BOEM's decision making. BOEM prepares and oversees environmental reviews, including National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) 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 three 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



### For More Information:

**Camarillo office:** [www.boem.gov/pacific-ocs-region](http://www.boem.gov/pacific-ocs-region) | **Washington, DC office:** [www.boem.gov/atlantic-ocs-region](http://www.boem.gov/atlantic-ocs-region)

**New Orleans office:** [www.boem.gov/gulf-of-mexico-ocs-region](http://www.boem.gov/gulf-of-mexico-ocs-region) | **Anchorage office:** [www.boem.gov/alaska-ocs-region](http://www.boem.gov/alaska-ocs-region)

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