



BOEM Bureau of
Ocean Energy Management

Pacific Offshore Wind Energy Activities

November 10, 2021

Pacific Fishery Management Council – Ad Hoc Marine Planning Committee

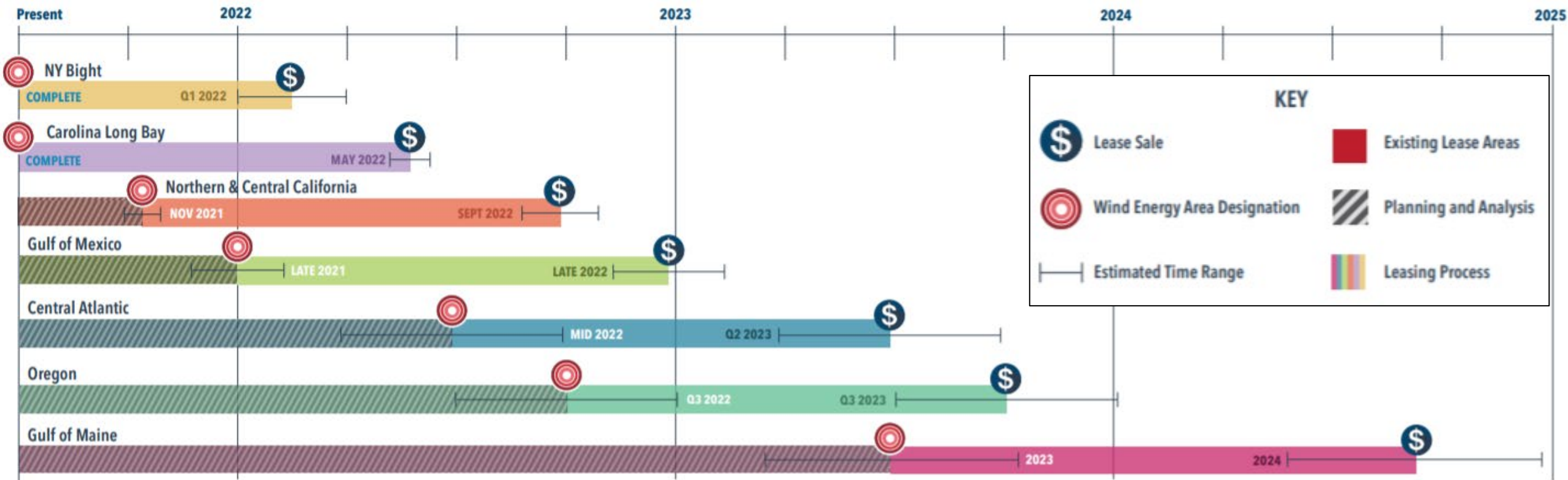
BOEM Offshore Wind Energy Authorization Process



- BOEM coordinates and consults with affected Tribal, State, and local governments and other federal agencies
 - Multiple opportunities for public input



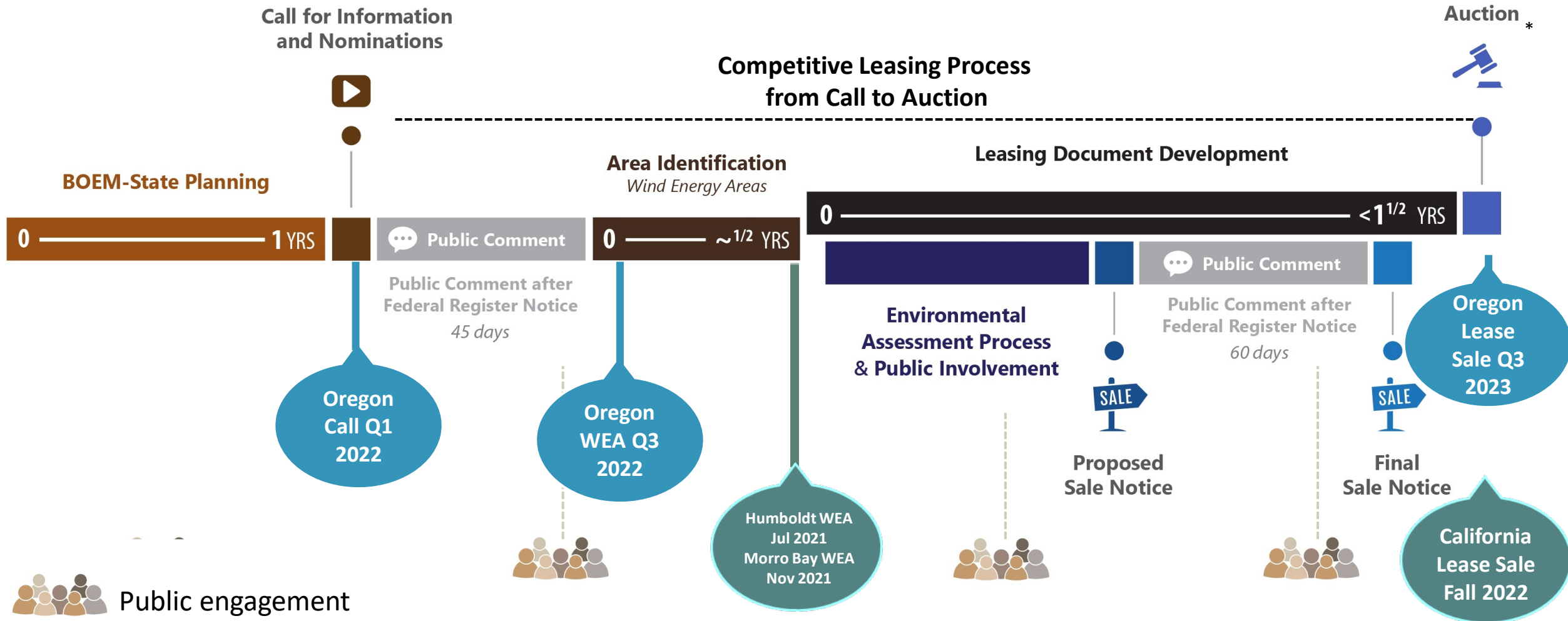
BOEM Offshore Wind Leasing Path Forward 2021-2025



Our path forward will help achieve the first-ever national offshore wind goal to deploy 30 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2030, which would create nearly 80,000 jobs



Oregon and California Planning and Public Input Opportunities Prior to a Lease Auction



*A lease provides the lessee the right to submit a Site Assessment Plan (SAP) and a Construction and Operations Plan (COP) for technical and environmental review and approval. A lease does not, by itself, authorize any activity within the leased area.



BOEM Oregon Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force

September 2019 meeting: discussed planning approach

- Result: BOEM and DLCD drafted data gathering and engagement plan

June 2020 meeting: discussed draft plan

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

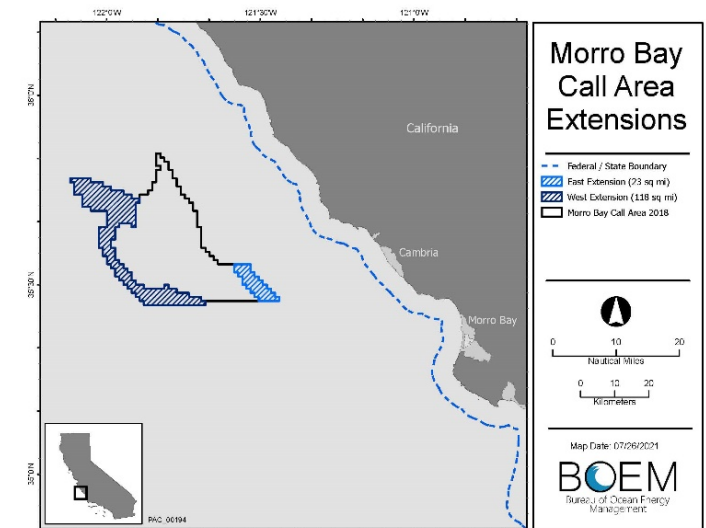
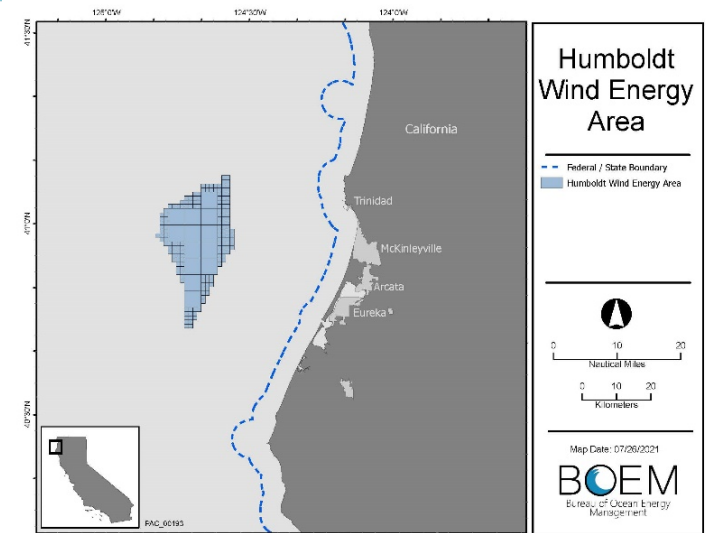
October 2021: discussed data gathering and engagement and next steps in the leasing process

January 2022: discuss draft Call Area(s)



BOEM California Updates

- Northern California
 - July 28, 2021 – BOEM announced the **Humboldt Wind Energy Area (WEA)** offshore northern California.
 - WEA environmental review for potential lease issuance underway.
- Central California
 - July 29, 2021 – Call for Information and Nominations published for **Morro Bay Call Area East and West Extensions**, adjacent to the original 2018 Morro Bay Call Area.
 - Next step is to identify the Morro Bay WEA.
- Northern and Central California processes combined into 1 Proposed Sale Notice for 1 lease sale
- Fall 2022 – California Auction Target Date



BOEM-Funded Research

The environmental, social, and economic information garnered from BOEM-funded studies informs decisions about energy programs in the Pacific OCS.

- Current Pacific Studies:
 - <https://www.boem.gov/Pacific-Current-Studies/>
- Recently Completed Pacific Studies:
 - <https://www.boem.gov/Pacific-Completed-Studies/>
- Environmental Studies Program Information System (ESPIS):
 - <https://marinecadastre.gov/espis/#/>
- Marine Cadastre:
 - <https://marinecadastre.gov/>



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**Selected BOEM-Funded Research
Informing Renewable Energy
Offshore Oregon**
OCTOBER 2021

Biological Studies PAGE 1
Cultural & Archaeological Studies PAGE 5
Information Synthesis Studies PAGE 6
Physical Oceanography & Geology Studies PAGE 7
Resource, Technology & Infrastructure Studies PAGE 8
Socioeconomic Studies PAGE 9

Biological Studies

Ongoing (2014–2022) — Potential Impacts of Submarine Power Cables on Crab Harvest
This two-part research effort is to learn more about whether the electromagnetic fields (EMF) emitted from subsea power-transmission cables may affect the movement and harvest of commercial crab species. The first part was conducted by the University of California, Santa Barbara, which collected data on red rock crab in the Santa Barbara Channel and Dungeness crab in Puget Sound. The second part is collecting and analyzing additional data.
Study Profile: <https://www.boem.gov/pc-19-02/>

Ongoing (2014–2021) — Year-round and Diel Patterns in Habitat-use of Seabirds off Oregon
This study by Oregon State University and the U.S. Geological Survey will provide information about the distribution, movements and behaviors of Oregon seabirds and identify patterns in their habitat use 24/7. New data collected with state-of-the-art tracking devices will be integrated with existing data to map and predict the distribution of species and their potential vulnerability to renewable energy devices.
Study Profile: <https://www.boem.gov/pc-14-03/>

Ongoing (2016–2021) — Analysis of Long-term Seabird Colony Legacy Data in the Pacific Northwest as a Regional Baseline
This study by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is summarizing data regarding the abundance and distribution of birds in seabird breeding colonies along the coasts of Oregon and Washington. It will provide an environmental baseline against which to evaluate potential effects of offshore energy projects on seabird colonies and populations.
Study Profile: <https://www.boem.gov/pc-16-06/>

Ongoing (2019–2022) — Development of Computer Simulations to Assess Entanglement Risk to Whales and Leatherback Sea Turtles in Offshore Floating Wind Turbine Moorings, Cables, and Associated Derelict Fishing Gear Offshore California
This study, in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, has developed morphologically and behaviorally accurate 3-D computer models of protected whale species (fin and humpback) and leatherback sea turtles. Two offshore floating wind mooring systems are currently under digital development. The whale and mooring system models will be integrated into simulations to visualize various potential interaction scenarios, including with associated derelict fishing gear. These simulations will assist BOEM in assessing the risk and potential severity of entanglement, and potentially identify mitigation measures to reduce any risk.
Study Profile: <https://www.boem.gov/pr-19-ent-profile/>
Infographic: <https://www.boem.gov/PR-19-ENT-infographic>

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Available at www.boem.gov/Oregon



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The background of the entire image is an underwater photograph showing rhythmic, wavy sand ripples on the seabed. The water is a clear, vibrant blue, and the lighting creates a sense of depth and movement. The ripples are illuminated from above, creating highlights and shadows that emphasize their texture.

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