



## Resident Perceptions of Wind Energy Development Offshore the Oregon Coast

### What Are We Doing?

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) oversees development of US offshore renewable energy projects on submerged lands called the Outer Continental Shelf. BOEM has identified two areas on the Outer Continental Shelf of Oregon for potential offshore wind energy development (known as wind energy call areas). BOEM's responsibilities include determining and evaluating the effects of Outer Continental Shelf activities on natural, historical, and human resources, and the appropriate monitoring and mitigating of those effects.

The study outlined below is needed by BOEM to describe the opinions and values of Oregon coastal residents in order to characterize and monitor the complex interactions among society, the environment, and offshore energy development.

### Study Goal

Few studies on offshore wind energy development focus on the relationships among social values, support level, and participation in social action and civic engagement. These gaps in information limit understanding about the effect of offshore wind energy development on coastal communities.

Researchers with NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) will determine how a multitude of social factors influence community support for, or opposition to, wind energy development offshore Oregon, as well as provide BOEM with information on social action and civic engagement intentions and preferences.



Credit: Ian Dyball



Credit: 3000ad



Credit: Ian Dyball



## Project Area: Oregon Coast

This study is focused on the Oregon Coast where BOEM is proposing offshore wind energy development. The study region (depicted in the map to the right) consists of the following coastal counties: Clatsop, Tillamook, Lincoln, western Lane, western Douglas, Coos, and Curry.

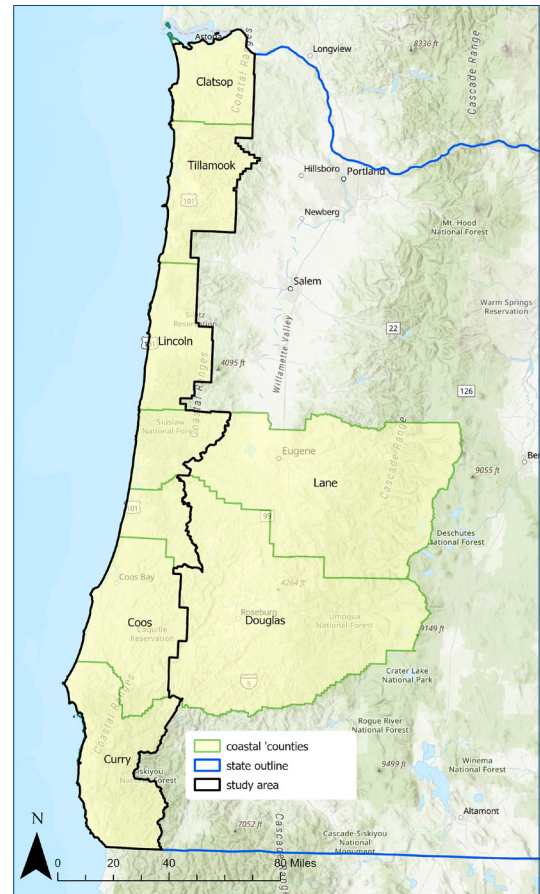
## Methods

NCCOS will conduct a randomly sampled household survey in coastal Oregon to collect information about residents' opinions, values, attitudes, and behaviors related to offshore wind energy development.

## Expected Outcomes

BOEM will use the results of this study to better understand opinions associated with offshore wind energy development that are representative of the public. BOEM's decision-making process is subject to detailed environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act. This study may contribute to the development of assessments required for Oregon offshore wind energy development to proceed, such as the Environmental Impact Statement or the Environmental Assessment. This information will also inform marine spatial planning efforts in jurisdictional lands and waters and help constituents understand offshore wind development in these areas.

This project is a collaborative effort between NCCOS and BOEM.



### Online Resources

NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science:  
<https://coastalscience.noaa.gov/>

BOEM Pacific Region Renewable Energy Program:  
<https://www.boem.gov/regions/pacific-ocs-region/renewable-energy/renewable-energy-pacific>

### For More Information

Sarah Gonyo  
NOAA | NOS | NCCOS  
✉ [sarah.gonyo@noaa.gov](mailto:sarah.gonyo@noaa.gov)  
☎ 240.621.1999

Karen Villatoro  
BOEM Pacific Regional Office  
✉ [karen.villatoro@boem.gov](mailto:karen.villatoro@boem.gov)  
☎ 820.222.6986

