

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) invites input and ideas from stakeholders for new environmental and socioeconomic studies (e.g., data synthesis, baseline study, risk assessment, modeling, monitoring) to inform ongoing and/or future management of energy and mineral resources in the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Region (offshore California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii).

BOEM has funded numerous studies related to Pacific Region priorities. A list of current studies, list of recently completed studies, and documents providing overviews of selected renewable energy and decommissioning studies are available here. BOEM recommends submitters briefly review this information prior to submitting new study ideas.

All interested stakeholders are welcome to submit study ideas that are closely aligned with one or more of BOEM's current Pacific Region priorities:

National Oil and Gas Program

- ➤ BOEM is planning for potential leasing of oil and gas offshore California, Oregon, and Washington associated with the 2019–2024 National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program.
- ➤ BOEM will strongly consider study ideas addressing data gaps relating to new oil and gas leasing in geographic areas included in the National Program.

Offshore Wind in California

- BOEM is planning for potential leasing of wind energy offshore California. In October 2018, BOEM published a <u>Call for Information and Nominations</u> identifying potential wind energy lease areas offshore Northern and Central California. Offshore wind energy is also being considered in Oregon and Hawaii; however, planning in those areas is at a different stage.
- BOEM will strongly consider study ideas addressing data gaps relating to wind energy offshore California. Particularly compelling ideas for studies addressing data gaps relating to wind energy offshore Oregon and Hawaii will also be considered.

Oil and Gas Decommissioning

- ▶ BOEM is planning for shutdown and removal of oil and gas facilities offshore southern California. As of November 2018, several of the 23 OCS platforms are slated for decommissioning in the coming years.
- > BOEM will consider study ideas addressing data gaps relating to oil and gas decommissioning.

Making BOEM information and data available and useful for the public is a high priority for the Pacific Region office. All BOEM-funded studies must comply with <u>Department of Interior "Promoting Open Science" Secretarial Order 3369</u>.

Funding is limited and will be allocated to ideas that best meet BOEM's highest-priority information needs. Ideas may be submitted at any time; however, they must be received by December 20, 2018, to ensure consideration for Fiscal Year 2020 funding. BOEM expects to make funding decisions in early Fiscal Year 2020.

Please note that this is not a proposal solicitation. Any submissions are considered recommendations to BOEM and will become property of the federal government. Study ideas will be reviewed on a case-by-base basis and there is no guarantee that any idea will be funded. BOEM's use of an idea does not imply in any way that the submitter will receive funding.

To submit a Pacific Region study idea, send an email message to BOEMEnviroStudies@BOEM.GOV with the following information: submitter's name, affiliation, and contact information; brief description of the study or information need. If possible, please include objectives, geographic area, general methods, anticipated products, and how findings will inform BOEM's management of energy and mineral activities in the Pacific Region.

For more information, contact Jeremy Potter.

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