# TETHYS BLAST

# 22 May 2026

Tethys is a knowledge hub with information and resources on the environmental effects of wind and marine energy. The bi-weekly Tethys Blast highlights announcements and upcoming events; new documents in the Knowledge Base; and international energy news. Email us to contribute!

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## Announcements

Survey on Marine Energy in Tropical & Subtropical Countries

OES-Environmental is conducting a short survey to collect information about the potential environmental effects of marine energy development in tropical and subtropical countries. We are looking for information on any active or planned marine energy projects in these regions; any research, monitoring, or modeling efforts; and any relevant literature or other resources. We are also looking for contacts and/or organizations with experience and interest in these areas.

U.S. Knauss Fellowship Applications Open

The National Sea Grant College Program is accepting applications for its 2027 Knauss Fellowship Program, which places graduate students interested in ocean, coastal and Great Lakes resources in executive and legislative offices where they contribute to real-world policy work. Apply by 3 June 2026.

Public Notice: Invitation to Comment on OSIP

The Fundy Ocean Research Centre for Energy (FORCE) has submitted an application to Transport Canada's Navigation Protection Program for scientific monitoring equipment as part of the Ocean Sensor Innovation Platforms (OSIP) project. OSIP is a collaborative research project with Acadia University, Ocean Tracking Network, the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq and other partners designed to improve how we monitor fish and marine life in high-flow tidal environments like Minas Passage. Review the file and submit comments here.

## Calls for Abstracts & Proposals

The Call for Workshops & Tutorials for OCEANS 2026 Monterey is open until 26 May 2026, and the Call for Town Halls and Panel Sessions is open until 20 July 2026. OCEANS 2026 Monterey will take place on 21–24 September 2026 in Monterey, California, USA.

NetZero Atlantic has extended the Call for Abstracts for the Atlantic Canada Offshore Wind Readiness Forum 2026 until 28 May 2026. The Forum will take place on 16 September 2026 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Marine Renewables Canada has opened the Call for Research & Technical Track Abstracts and the Call for Member Workshop Proposals for the Marine Renewables Canada 2026 Conference & Exhibition through 29 May 2026. The conference will take place on 17–19 November 2026 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute (REWI) has opened the Call for Abstracts for the 16th biennial Wind Wildlife Research Meeting (WWRM 2026) through 29 May 2026. WWRM will take place on 27-30 October 2026 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA.

Marine Technology Society (MTS) has opened the Call for Abstracts for the 2026 Global eDNA Conference until 29 May 2026. The conference will take place 28–30 October 2026 in Seattle, Washington, USA.

The Call for Abstracts for the 3rd Australian Ocean Renewable Energy Symposium (AORES) is open through 31 May 2026. AORES will take place 9–11 November 2026 in Adelaide, Australia.

Ocean Energy Saga University has opened the Call for Speakers for the 23rd Ocean Energy Symposium until 30 June 2026. The event will take place on 7 September 2026 at Saga University in Saga City, Japan.

## Funding & Testing Opportunities

Oregon State University (OSU) is seeking proposals from qualified contractors to provide Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) survey services at the PacWave South test facility located offshore of Newport, Oregon, USA. Proposals are due 26 May 2026.

Innovate UK is funding a competition to support early stage innovation projects within offshore wind, including smart environmental services. UK registered organizations can apply for a share of up to £10 million to support Feasibility Studies in Offshore Wind. Apply by 3 June 2026.

The U.S. Testing Expertise and Access for Marine Energy Research (TEAMER) program, which supports marine energy testing and development projects, is accepting Request for Technical Support (RFTS) 18 applications until 5 June 2026. TEAMER now provides expertise, non-open water, and open water support, as well as commercialization support.

University of California San Diego has opened applications for the StartBlue Ocean Enterprise Accelerator, which is an intensive immersive program designed to help ocean intelligence startups launch and scale to support the ocean enterprise. Information sessions will take place on 27 May and 12 June 2026. Apply by 21 June 2026.

VentureWell has opened applications for Stage 1 of its Ocean Enterprise Accelerator, which supports U.S. innovators with the development, commercialization, and adoption of new ocean data technologies and services. Apply by 7 July 2026.

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) has opened applications for the Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition 7: Deployment trials, which will fund real world demonstrations of innovative clean maritime technologies in an operational setting. UK organizations and collaborators can apply by 15 July 2026.

Career & Internship Opportunities

The National Laboratory of the Rockies (NLR) is seeking a Graduate Intern – Socio-Economic Impacts and Graduate Intern – Public Policy and Environmental Affairs with experience in public policy, social science, workforce, and/or economics and finance to contribute to its Wind Energy Impacts and End of Service Technical Assistance project.

Integral Consulting is hiring a Coastal and Hydrodynamic Numerical Modeler for its Marine Science and Engineering Practice area. The position will support multiple clients on varied projects, with the common theme of applying numerical models, which may include hydrodynamics, waves, sediment transport, and shoreline evolution.

Collaborative Environmental Advisers is looking for an Ornithology Consultant and a Benthic Consultant who have worked in offshore wind or other marine consents or environmental capacity and is familiar with the UK regulatory regime for offshore wind and other marine infrastructure. Apply by 31 May 2026.

Delft University of Technology (TU Delft) is looking for a Postdoctoral Researcher in Digital Ocean Twins for Marine Energy Applications. The work will focus on high-fidelity wave modelling and the development of advanced frameworks for “what-if” scenario analysis. Apply by 31 May 2026.

National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium (NOWRDC) is looking for a Program Manager to help manage a growing portfolio of projects at the intersection of energy, technology, and policy. Apply by 1 June 2026.

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is hiring a Community Energy Systems Electrical Engineer. This role will be focused on providing technical assistance for communities through two programs: the Energy Technology Innovation Partnership Project (ETIPP) and Energy to Communities (E2C). Apply by 4 June 2026.

# Upcoming Events

*The Tethys Events Calendar highlights key events from around the world related to wind and marine energy, including conferences, webinars, workshops, and more.*

Upcoming Webinars

France Energies Marine is hosting a webinar, "Towards cumulative impact assessment of offshore wind farms considering local to regional environmental and socio-economic stakes", on 26 May 2026 from 10:30am-12:00pm CEST (8:30-10:00am UTC). This webinar will give an overview of the main achievements and outputs of the NESTORE (2022-2025) project.

The Institute for Energy Studies, The Foundation for Western Washington University (WWU), & Alumni are hosting an event as part of its speaker series on Reducing Fish and Wildlife Impacts from Marine-Hydrokinetic (MHK) Energy Projects on 2 June 2026 from 4:00-5:15pm PDT (11:00pm-12:15am UTC) online and at WWU.

The Ocean Thermal Energy Association (OTEA) is hosting a webinar, "First National Prospective Analysis of Ocean Thermal Gradient Energy in Costa Rica", on 9 June 2026 at 8:00am CST (2:00pm UTC). Speakers include Lic. Pablo Mora (University of Costa Rica) and Dr. Rodrigo Rojas (National University of Costa Rica).

Interreg North Sea's Anemoi project is hosting the 2nd Anemoi Stakeholder Event on 20 June 2026 at 2:00pm CEST (12:00pm UTC). The event will feature presentations on the project and its next steps, chemical emissions from offshore wind to the marine environment, differences in offshore regulations, and potential effects from offshore wind leachates.

Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute (REWI) is continuing its *Technology Catalog webinar series* with a new topic: Wings Unharmed: Global Approaches to Mitigating Wildlife Collisions, which will feature risk minimization technologies from the REWI Technology Catalog.

- Part 1 will take place on 22 June 2026 at 1:00pm EDT (5:00pm UTC) and will feature Turbine Integrated Mortality Reduction (TIMR) and ThruTracker.
- Part 2 will take place on 23 June 2026 at 12:00pm EDT (4:00pm UTC) and will feature Optimized Smart Curtailment™ (OSC™) and Thermal Tracker 3D.
- Part 3 will take place on 25 September 2026 at 12:00pm EDT (4:00pm UTC) and will feature Song Meter® with Analysis and Remote Transfer (SMART™) and Acoustic and Thermographic Offshore Monitoring (ATOM).

Upcoming Meeting

The Maine Offshore Wind Research Consortium Advisory Board Meeting will take place on 3 June 2026 from 9:00am-12:00pm EDT (1:00-4:00pm UTC) online and at Coastal Enterprises Inc (CEI) in Brunswick, Maine. Advisory Board members will hear relevant project updates and discuss the outcomes of the two expert workshops that were held at the end of April.

Upcoming Training

Delft University of Technology, Wageningen University and Eindhoven University of Technology are hosting WINDed Summer School 2026, an interdisciplinary three-day programme on offshore wind operations and maintenance, digital tools, logistics, ecological impacts, governance and societal dimensions, on 27-29 August 2026 in The Hague, The Netherlands. Apply here.

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# New Documents on Tethys

*Tethys hosts thousands of documents on the environmental effects of marine and wind (land-based and offshore) energy, including journal articles, conference papers, and reports.*

## Marine Energy

**Dual-use wave energy converter arrays: Experimental insights into nearshore processes and coastal erosion – Cohen et al. 2026**

> Wave energy converter arrays have the potential to serve a dual purpose: generating renewable energy while reducing wave energy in their lee and subsequently modifying nearshore processes including wave refraction, diffraction and nearshore currents, all of which influence sediment transport at the shoreline. Understanding the interactions of these physical processes to achieve this dual purpose is complex, and detailed observations to support the design of suitable wave energy converter arrays are lacking. This paper reports on an extensive wave basin experimental program that measured shoreline changes on a sloping, light weight sediment beach, as a function of the incoming irregular wave conditions and five different 16-device wave energy converter array configurations.

**Environmental Policy and Risk Regulatory Framework for Sustainable Tidal Current Energy in China – Guo et al. 2026**

> Technology advancements have made tidal current energy (TCE) a promising renewable energy source. China possesses abundant TCE resources and has gradually incorporated TCE into its energy and marine development policies. In China, TCE projects are currently being implemented on a large scale. However, despite policy-level recognition, TCE development in China has received limited regulatory attention, particularly with respect to environmental protection and ecological risk governance. Existing governance frameworks largely rely on general marine environmental and ecological policies, which are insufficient to address the three-dimensional, underwater characteristics and cumulative ecological risks. This study analyzes the evolution of China's TCE-related laws and policies and identifies key deficiencies in current environmental regulation.

**A Framework for Analysing and Improving Graduate Attributes and Employability in the Blue Economy – Cossu et al. 2026**

The Blue Economy plays an instrumental role in the growing offshore industry. The new and emerging sectors of Australia's Blue Economy require an integrated understanding of technical, environmental and social aspects to support academic and industry career development which needs to be developed further at Australian universities. One of the key goals is therefore to educate a new generation of the Blue Economy workforce with detailed cross-disciplinary knowledge in future Blue Economy industries such as sustainable aquaculture industry, offshore wind and wave energy industry, green hydrogen industry and remote and autonomous technology. This work offers a first look on the potential impact of large industry–university partnerships (exemplified by the Blue Economy CRC on various disciplines and curricula.

## Wind Energy

**Best practice guidance for the collection, management and analysis of data to support post-construction seabird collision monitoring at offshore wind farms – Valantiejus et al. 2026**

This guidance sets out best practice recommendations for the collection, management, processing, transmission, storage and responsible disclosure of data from post-construction seabird collision monitoring studies. The focus is on improving data quality, consistency and comparability across projects, sites and jurisdictions, while recognising offshore feasibility constraints and the need to manage commercially sensitive information. The guidance is informed by a review of existing and planned monitoring studies, alongside structured engagement with offshore wind developers, monitoring equipment suppliers, and regulatory and environmental authorities.

**Renewable energy growth amplifies land pressure on Norwegian biodiversity – Borgelt et al. 2026**

The rapid expansion of renewable energy is a key component in mitigating climate change. Although Norway generates most of its electricity from renewables, the country aims to increase its production to decarbonise sectors heavily reliant on fossil fuels. However, energy infrastructure requires land, and land change is a primary driver of biodiversity loss in Norway. A novel countryside species-area relationship model was applied to Norway's renewable energy infrastructure for future energy outlooks to derive potentially disappeared fractions of species. Habitat loss impacts on species richness were quantified for land-based technologies: hydropower (reservoirs and power plants), onshore wind, solar power, and power lines that traverse forests, excluding offshore wind. We modelled future biodiversity impacts based on projections from six scenarios that estimate electricity production through 2050 by renewable technologies in Norway.

**Localized and temporary vessel traffic changes from offshore wind development on the US East Coast pose limited risk to large whales – Bishop et al. 2026**

The rapid expansion of offshore wind development along the east coast of the USA has raised concern over its potential effects on large whales, especially the Critically Endangered North Atlantic right whale. This study examines changes in vessel traffic

associated with offshore wind development to assess the potential for increased risk of vessel strikes and corresponding noise exposure. Monthly Automatic Identification System (AIS) vessel data were obtained from before, during, and after the construction of 3 wind energy projects: the Block Island Wind Farm, Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Pilot Project, and Vineyard Wind I. We then conducted a spatiotemporal analysis of vessel density on monthly rasters of vessel occupancy time.

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# News & Press Releases

## Marine Energy

**DOE's Hydropower and Hydrokinetic Office Announces Winners of 2026 Marine Energy Collegiate Competition – U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)**

The U.S. DOE's Hydropower and Hydrokinetic Office (H2O) recently announced the winners of the 2026 Marine Energy Collegiate Competition (MECC). The University of Southern California (USC) was the overall Megawatt League winner, with the University of Washington taking second place, and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo coming in third place. Competitors in the Kilowatt League joined Megawatt League competitors to vie for awards across categories such as best poster, pitch, technical design, build and test, and community connections. The annual MECC, now in its seventh year, challenges multidisciplinary collegiate teams to develop marine energy-focused solutions for ocean-based industries, research sectors, or national security missions.

**Relevant Spanish authorities grant approval for CETO's deployment at BiMEP – Offshore Energy**

Carnegie Clean Energy's wholly owned subsidiary, CETO Wave Energy Ireland, has received a EuropeWave payment of €63,688 that reflects the approval of two deliverables related to the deployment of the CETO wave energy converter (WEC) at the Biscay Marine Energy Platform (BiMEP) site. The payment, under the EuropeWave Phase 3 contract, follows the approval of two deliverables, including the authorization for deployment of the CETO device at the BiMEP from the relevant Spanish national energy and coastal authorities, and the completion of control software for the upcoming back-to-back PTO testing. The unit will operate at BiMEP for two years, gathering data to validate CETO technology and advance commercialization.

**MRECo Drops First Anchor for Ocean Innovation Network – MRECo**

The Marine Renewable Energy Collaborative (MRECo) has successfully deployed a SOFAR Spotter Buoy at the newly established Cuttyhunk Test Range, this marks a key milestone as the first in-water technology deployment within Massachusetts' Ocean Innovation Network. This deployment represents a major step forward in expanding real-world ocean testing capacity for marine technology companies and researchers. The

newly deployed SOFAR Spotter Buoy is a compact, wave-measuring device developed by SOFAR Ocean that collects real-time ocean data, including wave height, temperature, and environmental conditions. This data will directly support multiple ongoing and future ocean technology projects by improving safety, validation, and performance testing in open-water conditions.

**Seanergy 2026: French tidal tender to launch this year – Renews**

A public consultation on a 250MW French tidal wave tender is set to be launched by the end of this year. Benoit Vantourout, Project Manager at the Direction Générale de l'énergie et du climat (DGEC), said the consultation would then be potentially followed by detailed environmental and technical studies in 2027. The aim is to allocate the award in 2030. The tender, whose strike price is set to be set at €160MW/H, is part of the multi-year energy plan PPE 3, which was launched recently in France after a long delay. "There is public interest in developing this kind of renewable energy," he told the Seanergy conference in Nantes. "We envisage that the tender will be similar in format to offshore wind, but the specifics will be determined after the consultation and studies."

**EOM Offshore Partners with Triton Systems to Accelerate Scalable Marine Renewable Energy Technologies – Environment Coastal & Offshore (ECO) Magazine**

EOM Offshore is partnering again with Triton Systems, Inc., as they prepare for the upcoming deployment of a tender buoy system to support Triton's Wave Energy Converter (WEC) off Portsmouth, New Hampshire. They will be assisted by the University of New Hampshire vessel R/V Gulf Challenger, operating from their Judd Gregg Marine Research Complex. Building on the success of earlier deployments off Dartmouth, Massachusetts, this next phase continues EOM Offshore's collaboration with Triton Systems to advance practical, scalable marine renewable energy solutions. Wave energy systems require a unique mooring approach. EOM Offshore's custom compliant mooring solution combines our proven Whale Buoy platform with engineered Stretch Hose technology to deliver exactly that.

## Wind Energy

**New offshore wind environmental protection powering homes – GOV.UK**

In a major boost to the government's drive to deliver clean power by 2030, changes to legislation come into effect recently helping offshore wind developers protect nature while building the clean energy infrastructure Britain needs. The reforms enable a broader range of ways that developers can compensate for any unavoidable impact their projects have on protected sites. Until now, developers faced strict limits on the types of environmental compensation they could offer. The new rules open up a wider range of options, meaning compensatory measures can be more strategic, more effective, and better suited to the scale of the UK's offshore wind ambitions. These could include protecting seabird nesting sites, reducing predator numbers near protected colonies, or funding the restoration of native oyster populations.

**ScotWind Developers Fund Study to Find Out More About Minke Whale Activity – Offshore Wind**

Underwater acoustic monitoring equipment has been deployed off Scotland's east coast as part of a two-year study aimed at improving the understanding of minke whale activity in areas being considered for offshore wind farms' export cable routes. The work, led by the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS), is focused on the Southern Trench Marine Protected Area (MPA) off the Aberdeenshire coast, where several offshore wind developments are planning grid connection infrastructure. The study is being funded by the ScotWind projects Broadshore Offshore Wind Farm, Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm and Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm, together with Crown Estate Scotland and NatureScot. The developers said the research is intended to support the design of mitigation measures for offshore wind projects while contributing to the protection of marine species in Scottish waters.

**SOWDF announces formal launch at All-Energy – SOWDF**

A new industry group, the Scottish Onshore Wind Developers Forum (SOWDF), has recently announced that it has formally launched, bringing together leading onshore wind developers and operators to ensure the sector has a strong and dedicated voice in Scotland. The launch of the Forum comes at a critical moment for the sector. Scotland's onshore wind industry is facing significant policy and regulatory headwinds, including the low ambition for the sector after 2030 as set out in the UK's Clean Power Action Plan (CPAP), which risks undermining security of supply, consumer costs, jobs and investment. Together, the Forum's members have a pipeline of more than 6 GW of onshore wind in development, which if built, could play a vital role in meeting Scotland's climate targets generating clean, secure electricity capable of powering the equivalent of nearly 4 million UK households.

**China Puts 'World's First' Offshore Wind-Powered Underwater Data Centre into Operation – Offshore Energy**

An underwater data centre (UDC) connected directly to an offshore wind farm has been put into operation off the coast of China's Lingang Special Area of China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone, Chinese media reports. The project, said to be the world's first of this kind, was officially launched in June 2025 with the signing of a cooperation agreement between the administrative committee of the Lingang Special Area of China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone, Shanghai Lingang Special Area Investment Holding Group, and HiCloud Technology. According to information from June 2025, the project is being developed in two phases. The first phase is set up as a demonstration facility with a capacity of 2.3 MW, which is scaled up to 24 MW through the project's second phase.

**Turkey Defines Areas for First Offshore Wind Energy Auction – The Maritime Executive**

The Turkish government is pushing forward with its efforts to launch its first offshore wind energy tender in 2026. They defined the first zones that will be offered as the country continues to expand its onshore use of wind energy as part of its overall renewable energy strategy. The Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources posted the country's first offshore wind Renewable Energy Resource Areas (YEKA) on its website. It reports that, as a result of studies it has conducted, a total of four areas in the Saros Bay, Gökçeada, Bozcaada, and off the coast of Edremit have been identified as candidate Renewable Energy Resource Areas (YEKA). Detailed studies have begun to declare these areas as YEKA based on offshore wind energy. All four are located in the western parts of Turkey in the Aegean and near the border with Greece.