

TETHYS BLAST

29 August 2025

[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. [ORJIP Ocean Energy](#) has partnered with [OES-Environmental](#) to provide additional content. [Email us](#) to contribute!

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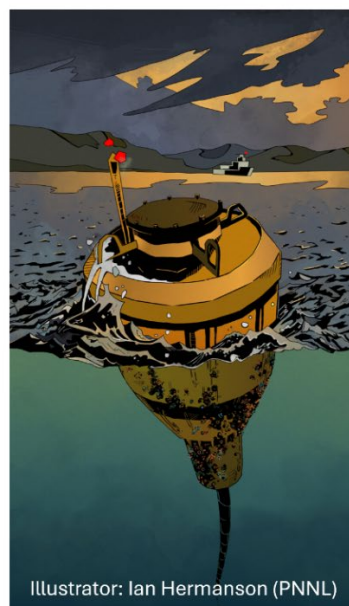
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Announcements

Marine Energy Illustrations Library

Tethys Engineering has launched a new [Marine Energy Illustrations Library](#) with a variety of illustrations for the marine energy community to use in presentations, documents, and websites. Please cite the illustrator in a caption and reference the Marine Energy Illustration Library.



MECC Applications Open

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Water Power Technologies Office (WPTO) has opened applications for the [2026 Marine Energy Collegiate Competition \(MECC\)](#), which invites interdisciplinary teams of students from a variety of academic programs to solve marine energy challenges in the blue economy. Applications are due 19 September 2025.

SULI/CCI Applications Open

The U.S. DOE's Office of Science is now accepting applications for the Spring 2026 term for the [Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships \(SULI\) program](#) and the [Community College Internships \(CCI\) program](#). Applications are due 1 October 2025.

SCGSR Applications Open

The U.S. DOE's Office of Science Graduate Student Research (SCGSR) program is accepting applications for the [2025 SCGSR solicitation 2 cycle](#). Applications are due on 5 November 2025. SCGSR application assistance workshops will be held on [11 September 2025](#) from 2:00-3:30pm EDT and [9 October 2025](#) from 2:00-4:30pm EDT.

Calls for Abstracts

The Marine Alliance for Science and Technology for Scotland (MASTS) has opened the Call for Abstracts for the [15th MASTS Annual Science Meeting \(ASM\)](#) until 29 August 2025. The ASM will take place on 18-20 November 2025 at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland. Early bird registration is now available through 28 September 2025.

The [Call for Abstracts](#) for [WindEurope's Annual Event 2026](#) is open through 5 September 2025. WindEurope 2026 will take place on 21-23 April 2026 in Madrid, Spain.

The [Call for Proposals](#) for the [Offshore Technology Conference \(OTC\)](#) is open until 9 September 2025. OTC 2026 will take place on 4-7 May 2026 in Houston, Texas, USA.

The Call for Session Proposals for the [2nd National Environmental Monitoring Conference](#) is open through 12 September 2025. The conference will take place on 15 December 2025 in Edinburgh, Scotland.

The [Call for Abstracts](#) for the [Pan-American Marine Energy Conference \(PAMEC\)](#) is open until 15 September 2025. PAMEC will take place on 12-15 April 2026 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The [Call for Abstracts](#) for [Torque 2026](#) has been extended through 15 September 2025. Torque 2026 will take place on 3-5 June 2026 in Bruges, Belgium.

The [Call for Abstracts](#) for the [39th International Conference on Coastal Engineering \(ICCE\)](#) is open through 1 October 2025. ICCE 2026 will take place on 17-22 May 2026 in Galveston, Texas, USA.

The [Call for Abstracts](#) for the [European Energy Research \(EERA\) DeepWind Offshore Wind Research and Innovation Conference](#) is open through 15 October 2025. The conference will take place on 14-16 January 2026 in Trondheim, Norway.

Funding & Testing Opportunities

The Centre for Ocean Applied Sustainable Technologies (COAST) has launched a [Call for Expressions of Interest](#) related to the British Columbia Marine Energy and Decarbonization Hub's first industry-led "Innovation Challenge." COAST is seeking short replies from marine technology companies with relevant technical capacities, and respondents will be the first to receive the program application when it is released in Fall. The deadline is 5 September 2025.

The Offshore Wind Growth Partnership has opened applications for the [Wind Expert Support Toolkit \(WEST\)](#) programme. WEST is a short-term intervention activity which aims to support growth of UK offshore wind supply chain companies through provision of specialist advice, market intelligence, and strategic insight into the sector. Applications are due 5 September 2025.

The Maine Governor's Energy Office has issued a [Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#) titled, Maine BlueTech Innovation: Offshore Wind Monitoring and Testing, to advance research at the University of Maine's quarter-scale floating offshore wind demonstration project. The RFA will provide a unique in-water opportunity for small businesses to test innovative BlueTech and monitoring approaches at the site. Applications are due by 17 September 2025.

Supergen ORE Hub has opened its [6th Flexible Funding Call](#) and is seeking research proposals from universities or other eligible institutions to facilitate a program of coordinated, UK-led ORE research projects in partnership with the Hub. Expressions of interest are due on 1 September 2025, and full proposals are due on 27 October 2025.

Career Opportunities

Alaska Sea Grant, a program of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, is seeking a [Science Communicator](#) to play a vital role in raising awareness of the program's research, education, and outreach initiatives, as well as building strong relationships with stakeholders, researchers, policymakers, and the public. Applications are due by 7 September 2025.

The Schatz Energy Research Center has openings for a [student research assistantship in offshore wind policy](#) and a [student research assistantship in secondary entanglement](#). These paid internship positions are expected to start in October 2025 and continue into Spring 2026. Applications are due by 8 September 2025.

Ocean Conservancy is searching for a [Manager for Tribal and Community Partnerships](#) who will support Ocean Conservancy's continued commitment to building and sustaining partnerships with Tribes, coastal communities, and others in Alaska and the circumpolar Arctic. Applications are due 3 October 2025.

The Biodiversity Consultancy is hiring an [Offshore Wind Consultant](#), who will work in the sustainable infrastructure practice developing approaches to identify, mitigate, and manage impacts of the offshore wind industry on biodiversity.

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

The Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute (REWI) is hosting a webinar, “[REWRF in Focus: Recent Publications from the Renewable Energy Wildlife Research Fund \(REWRF\)](#)”, on 4 September 2025 at 12:00pm EDT (4:00pm UTC). The webinar will share insights from three recent publications on REWRF-supported research on wind energy and wildlife, including bats and lesser prairie chickens. [Register here.](#)

Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. (WEST) is hosting a webinar, “[Navigating the Shift: Environmental Approaches for Renewable Energy Projects in a Changing Regulatory Landscape | Avoidance & Minimization Strategy Options](#)”, on 4 September 2025 from 11:00am-12:00pm PDT (6:00-7:00pm UTC). This session will explore a range of options available to operators— from smart curtailment and shut-down-on-demand technologies to habitat management and biomonitoring.

WEST is also hosting a webinar, “[Navigating the Shift: Environmental Approaches for Renewable Energy Projects in a Changing Regulatory Landscape | Compliance Strategies](#)”, on 11 September 2025 from 11:00am-12:00pm PDT (6:00-7:00pm UTC). This session explores how to build a flexible compliance framework that supports both permitting and non-permitting pathways, helping projects stay on track even when traditional routes are no longer available.

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and Sandia National Laboratories have teamed up for an informational [Marine Energy Career Panel](#) on 17 September 2025 from 2:00-3:30pm PDT (9:00-10:30pm UTC). Staff across various research disciplines will discuss their marine energy careers (past, present, and future) including their background, education, career path, and current projects. [Register here.](#)

The Supergen ORE Hub is partnering with the Marine Energy Test Area (META) and the ORE Catapult Marine Energy Engineering Centre (MEECE) to host a webinar, “[Real World Marine Energy Testing - the Benefits and Challenges](#)”, on 30 September 2025 from 1:00-2:00pm BST (12:00-1:00pm UTC). This webinar will explore the current landscape of the marine energy industry in Wales and deep dive into the practical experience of at-sea testing. [Register here.](#)

EPRI is hosting a webinar, “[Wind Wildlife Research: Recent Advances in Understanding Bat Interactions with Wind Turbines Using Thermal Imagery and Acoustics](#)”, on 30 September 2025

from 8:00-9:00am PDT (3:00-4:00pm UTC). The presenters will discuss the results of three projects, led by Stantec, Bowman Consulting, and EPRI, investigating bat behavior and potential attraction hypotheses at multiple wind farms in the United States.

REWI is also hosting a webinar, “[Cataloging Wildlife Risk Minimization Technologies with the REWI Technology Catalog](#)”, on 2 October 2025 at 2:00pm EDT (6:00pm UTC). The webinar will re-introduce the recently updated REWI Technology Catalog alongside an overview of its intended uses, current features, technologies, and how you can contribute. [Register here.](#)

Upcoming Conferences

The Dutch Marine Energy Centre (DMEC) is hosting the [DMEC Nature+ Conference 2025](#) on 30 September 2025 in Scheveningen, the Netherlands and online. [Register here.](#)

The [North American Wind Energy Academy \(NAWEA\) / WindTech 2025 Conference](#) will take place on 15-17 October 2025 at the University of Texas in Dallas, Texas, USA. [Register here.](#)

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

[Economic Viability and Environmental Assessment of Marine Renewable Energy Technologies: A Comparative Framework for Tidal Stream Energy and Offshore Wind Power in the United States](#) – Bajaj 2025

This study examines the comparative economics and social benefits of tidal stream energy (TSE) and offshore wind farms in the United States, adapting the methodology from Lamy & Azevedo’s 2018 United Kingdom analysis. Using levelized cost of energy (LCOE) projections, market data analysis, and social benefit quantification, we evaluate whether TSE projects offer sufficient value to justify their higher costs relative to offshore wind. Our analysis reveals that TSE projects provide approximately \$12/MWh more in net social benefits than offshore wind for standard 200 MW projects, increasing to \$42/MWh for smaller 20 MW projects. These benefits derive from higher energy value correlation with peak demand periods, superior generation predictability that eliminates forecast error costs, and the absence of visual landscape impacts.

[Offshore wave energy converter array poses threat to coasts causing significant rip currents](#) – Cao et al. 2025

The deployment of wave energy converters (WECs) in arrays is promising for the exploitation of sustainable marine energy under the overwhelming pressure of global warming. The far-field influence of these arrays can alter nearshore hydrodynamics and

environment. Existing studies focus on the change of wave actions while little attention is paid to nearshore circulation patterns. Using a fully nonlinear Boussinesq-type wave model, this paper investigates the influence of WEC array in wave-dominated beach environment. It is shown that significant rip currents will form in the lee of the array despite the original circulation pattern. In the longshore non-homogeneous beach environment, the array-related rip current can be comparable to the natural one in terms of magnitude.

[A Review Concerning the Offshore Wind and Wave Energy Potential in the Black Sea – Silion and Rusu 2025](#)

This paper aims to analyze the Black Sea region's potential for renewable energy, focusing on offshore wind and waves. The study highlights the Black Sea as a new region for marine renewables exploitation in the context of climate objectives and the European shift to renewable energy. It also incorporates results from different previous studies, when data from in situ measurements, satellite observations, and numerical simulations and climate reanalysis have been considered and analyzed. They focus on both localized coastal regions (predominantly Romanian waters) and the larger Black Sea Basin. The present work also discusses the environmental implications and technological development of different types of wave energy converters (WECs) and their use in hybrid systems integrating multiple marine energy resources.

Wind Energy

[Revised Marine Bird Collision and Displacement Vulnerability Index for U.S. Pacific Outer Continental Shelf Offshore Wind Energy Development – Kelsey et al. 2025](#)

The installation of offshore wind energy infrastructure (OWEI) at sea may affect marine birds by increasing the risk of mortality from collision with OWEI (Collision Vulnerability) and causing disturbance and displacement from important habitats (Displacement Vulnerability). In 2017, we published the first comprehensive database quantifying marine bird Collision Vulnerability and Displacement Vulnerability to potential OWEI in the region of the U.S. Pacific Outer Continental Shelf (POCS; waters within the Exclusive Economic Zone of California, Oregon, and Washington). We have updated this Vulnerability Index with new research and data, additional species present in the POCS, and an evolved understanding of the application and utility of the Index.

[Bats flying through a Y-maze are visually attracted to wind turbine surfaces – Jonasson et al. 2025](#)

Wind energy's rapid expansion has led to unintended consequences for wildlife, with migratory bats among the species most at risk. The behavioural mechanisms underlying collisions remain poorly understood, but one hypothesis is that bats are attracted to wind turbine structures. Vision is important to bat orientation and obstacle avoidance, yet it has been relatively understudied in the context of bat-turbine interactions. We hypothesize that light reflected off turbine surfaces could attract bats, acting as a sensory pollutant

that may increase collision risk. To test whether reflective turbine surfaces elicit attraction, we flew 242 *Lasiurus cinereus* and 154 *Lasionycteris noctivagans* through Y-maze assays. Bats were at least twice as likely to fly towards white turbine blade sections compared to less reflective black ones.

[Strategic Compensation Studies: Efficacy of predator reduction measures – a literature review – Tarbet 2025](#)

The Offshore Wind Industry Council (OWIC)-led Strategic Compensation Studies (SCS) project, funded by the Offshore Wind Evidence and Change (OWEC) programme, within which this piece of work is being delivered, aims to investigate the effectiveness of certain potential strategic compensation measures through desk-based studies and practical pilots to increase confidence in measures, and provide compensation options for OW plans and projects. This report forms part of the SCS predator reduction work package and aims to review the current evidence around the effectiveness of different predator reduction methods. Ensuring the most effective methods are used (when feasible) could result in improved performance of predator reduction as a strategic compensation measure and reduce the need for adaptive management in the future.

News & Press Releases

Marine Energy

[Eco Wave Power Successfully Completes Operational Testing and Lowers Floaters into the Water for the First Time - In a Live Exclusive Broadcast by Good Morning America](#) – Eco Wave Power

Eco Wave Power Global, a leading onshore wave energy technology company, recently announced that its U.S. pilot project at the Port of Los Angeles has successfully completed operational testing and achieved a historic milestone: the lowering of its innovative floaters into the water for the very first time. This major moment was broadcast live and exclusively by Good Morning America, marking unprecedented national visibility for the advancement of wave energy technology. The milestone follows the finalization of all installation works at the project site, including, full installation of all wave energy floaters, connection of hydraulic pipes and supporting infrastructure, and placement of the onshore energy conversion unit. With installation completed, Eco Wave Power has now officially entered the operational phase of its U.S. journey.

[ZOEX Power puts wave energy tech to test in Türkiye's Black Sea](#) – Offshore Energy

Aberdeen-based ZOEX Power has deployed its wave energy technology for testing in the Black Sea, Türkiye, with initial results showing higher generation than anticipated. According to the company, the system has already produced several hundred kWh, which were used to power electric heaters at its quayside hub. ZOEX Power noted that the technology performed as designed, but pointed out that project management challenges

provided valuable lessons for the broader marine energy community. These include the importance of robust project management systems, strong communication, early modifications before installation, and the value of engaging a local project engineer. The company also highlighted the role of collaboration, recognition of team efforts, and sharing the project vision clearly with stakeholders.

TEAMER Network Director Announces RFTS 16 Technical Support Recipients – TEAMER

The U.S. Testing Expertise and Access to Marine Energy Research (TEAMER) program has approved eighteen projects through its sixteenth Request for Technical Support (RFTS), reflecting a total of over \$2.7 million. These Technical Support Recipients (TSRs) will receive support for testing expertise and access to numerical modeling, laboratory or bench testing, tank/flume testing, and expertise within the growing TEAMER Facility Network. Selected applicants, along with their supporting Facility, will now submit their completed Test Plans, a requirement before assistance activities can commence. Supported by the U.S. DOE and directed by the Pacific Ocean Energy Trust, TEAMER accelerates the viability of marine energy by providing access to the nation's best facilities and expertise to solve critical challenges, build knowledge, foster innovation, and drive commercialization.

North Wales firm awarded £10m green energy contract – Morlais Energy

As a North Wales tidal energy scheme moves into its next phase, a local company has secured the £10 million contract to deliver the infrastructure work at Parc Cybi, Holyhead. Jones Bros Civil Engineering UK and Menter Môn Morlais Ltd have a well-established working partnership, and the signing of this new contract promises more local jobs and skills development opportunities. The announcement follows the recent award of funding worth £9million from the North Wales Growth Deal for the current phase of work, known as the Cydnerth Project. Morlais is the largest consented tidal energy project in Europe and is also the largest tidal development run by a social enterprise. Once fully operational, it will generate up to 240 MW of clean electricity.

Alderney Electricity is still backing tidal energy plans – Guernsey Press

Managing director Chris MacGregor said he would be closely monitoring trials for the tidal power company Spiralis Energy, now taking place in Orkney. Although the company stepped back from testing in the island, it has said it remains committed to Alderney's tidal power potential. 'Spiralis Energy's design has matured heavily in the past six months,' said Mr MacGregor who took over at Alderney's sole power company in July. 'They have berths at the European marine energy centre where they're testing their power barge design next year, and that gives us an amazing opportunity to look at the performance data and then really make an informed decision at the back end of next year about whether or not it is actually viable. 'So far, it's all looking really good – it looks more like a viable tidal project than anything that has come before it.'

Wind Energy

[Same space, two harvests: Euronews visits the first seaweed farm at an offshore wind park](#)

– Euronews

Europe's offshore wind farms are being reimagined as multi-purpose sites. The first commercial-scale project has successfully harvested seaweed between turbines in the Dutch North Sea. Eighteen kilometres off the Dutch coast, giant turbines spin steadily, harvesting wind energy in the waters of the Hollandse Kust Zuid offshore park — the world's largest built without government subsidies. But between the towering turbines, a new kind of harvest is underway. Floating in the waters, sheltered from vessel traffic, is North Sea Farm 1, a five-hectare experimental seaweed plantation. It is part of a pioneering experiment to combine offshore wind energy with ocean farming — and it just yielded its first crop.

[Final Turbine Assembled for 30 MW EFGL Floating Wind Pilot Project \(Video\)](#) –

Offshore Wind

The third and final floating wind turbine that will be installed at the site of the Éoliennes Flottantes du Golfe du Lion (EFGL) project in France has been assembled at Port-La Nouvelle. The 10 MW turbine, provided by Vestas, has been mounted on Principle Power's WindFloat semi-submersible floating foundation at Euroports' purpose-built Eolic Terminal in Port-La Nouvelle. In March 2022, EFGL, a consortium comprising Ocean Winds and the Banque des Territoires, signed an agreement with Euroports for port services during the construction of the wind farm. Throughout this project, Euroports has played a central role in the turbine integration, overseeing logistics, lifting, and handling operations. Last month, the first turbine was installed at the site located 16 kilometres off the coast of Leucate and Barcarès.

[Surveying marine growth on offshore wind turbine foundations in the North Sea](#) –

Vattenfall

To survey marine growth safely and efficiently on offshore wind turbine foundations in the North Sea, Bluestream collaborated with Wageningen Marine Research (WMR) to develop the remotely controlled Marine Growth Sampling Tool. In early stages, the foundation substrates are covered by algae and various sea creatures. Over time, the number of small sea creatures attaching to the substrate and the algae increases. Previously, this type of research was carried out by SCUBA divers, a method that has become increasingly difficult due to strict laws and regulations, health and safety rules, and the high costs associated with it. Vattenfall was able to make one of the Hollandse Kust Zuid wind farm foundations available for the study due to the fact that in January 2022, during a storm, the Julietta D vessel collided with the wind turbine foundation that was under construction, rendering it unusable.

Preliminary Licences Granted for 3 Offshore Wind Projects in Western Australia – Offshore Wind

The Australian government has issued preliminary feasibility licences for three offshore wind projects in the Bunbury zone off the coast of Western Australia. Declared in September 2024, the Bunbury offshore wind zone covers an area of 3,995 square kilometres and has the potential to generate up to 11.4 GW of renewable energy. In June, Federal Energy Minister Chris Bowen approved a feasibility licence for the Bunbury offshore wind farm in the zone's north and a preliminary licence for a related project planned in the southern section. However, the southern Bunbury project had overlapped with the proposed Westward Wind project, which was also offered a preliminary licence, requiring the two companies to negotiate a resolution. On 27 August, Bowen announced that Westward Wind and Bunbury Offshore Wind South had resolved the overlap between their projects, while the third project in the northern part of the zone is currently under consultation for a preliminary feasibility licence.

RWE's Sofia is the UK's first offshore wind farm to use recyclable rotor blades – RWE

RWE and turbine manufacturer Siemens Gamesa are driving a new era of wind turbine innovation with the first ever large-scale installation of recyclable blades at a UK offshore wind farm. Highly unique, the rotor blades are made using an innovative resin. At the end of the blade's operating life, the various materials can then be easily separated from the other components as a result and can be recycled, for example into vehicle components and consumer goods like bicycle helmets and suitcases. Following an agreement signed in 2023 with Siemens Gamesa, RWE's Sofia Offshore Wind Farm, located off the north-east coast, is now being fitted with a total of 150 recyclable blades, used across 50 of its 100 wind turbines. Already 50% of the recyclable blades have been fitted at the wind farm, with Siemens Gamesa continuing installation throughout the rest of the year.