

# Alternative Ocean Energy in Washington

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# Outline

- Coastal impacts of wave and tidal energy
- Regulatory process
- Status of alternative energy proposals, projects and activities in Washington

# What do we know about coastal impacts?



December 2006

OpenHydro  
Scotland's European Marine Energy  
Centre



May 2003

Marine Current Turbines  
United Kingdom



September 2007

Finavera AquaBuOY  
Oregon



September 2006

Clean Current at Race Rocks  
British Columbia



Winter 2006/2007

Verdant Power  
New York's East River

# Regulatory Process



- **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)** issues licenses for hydrokinetic technologies in state waters.
  - **Preliminary permits** allow feasibility studies only.
  - **Licenses** allow construction of a project. Incorporate most state authorizations and usually take years to complete.
  - Over the past year, FERC developed new policies:
    - strict scrutiny policy over issuing and oversight of preliminary permits
    - pilot licensing process
    - “conditional” license policy

# Regulatory Process: How can the public get involved?



- Access and inspect via [eLibrary](#) all public documents
- Submit written concerns via [eFiling](#) to the Commission and its staff
- Participate in [public meetings](#) held near the proposed project area
- Participate in [site visits](#) near the proposed project area
- Submit [eFiling](#) comments on draft Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements
- [Intervene](#) on a specific proposed project
- Have federal court review a Commission's decision (you must be an intervener)
- [File a Critical Energy Infrastructure Information Request](#)

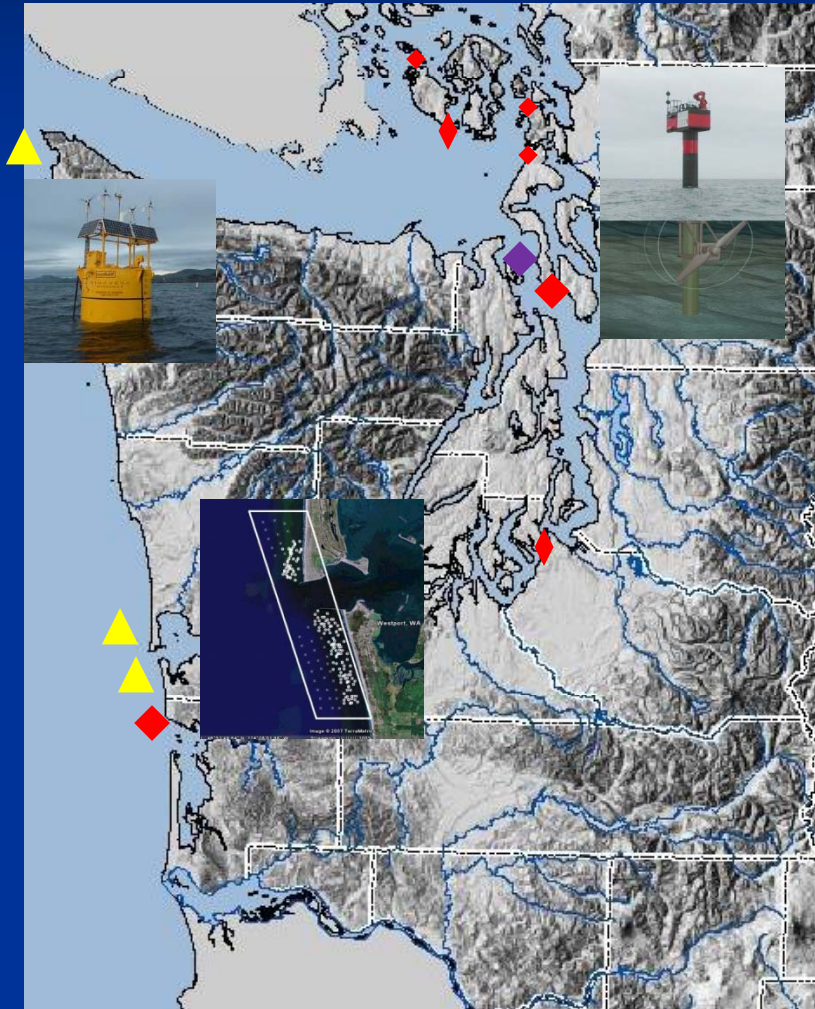
More information on [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)

# Regulatory Process



- **Minerals Management Service** for federal waters
  - Regulations for offshore renewable energy program issuing leases.
  - Nomination areas for testing technologies.
- **MMS and FERC Memorandum of Understanding.**
  - FERC does licensing for tidal and wave, but in federal waters MMS must first issue a lease.
  - MMS leases for wind in federal waters (3 n.m. out)

# Washington proposals

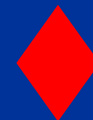


## Wave Energy:

AquaEnergy/Finavera project at Makah Bay recently surrendered license.

Grays Harbor Ocean Energy Project with FERC preliminary permit.

## Tidal Energy:



Project proposals with FERC preliminary permits.



Proposed Navy pilot project.

# Washington activities

- Governor's Office of Regulatory Assistance:
  - coordinates permitting and communication
  - facilitates technical team for potential pilot projects
- Informal interagency collaboration on policy and regulatory issues.
- Regional collaboration through West Coast Governors' Agreement. Held 2008 regional workshop. Planned activities: data and information, siting, regulatory communication, and education and outreach.
- Drafted Memorandum of Understanding with FERC.

# Questions?

