



## Testing Ocean Energy in Maine

In order to facilitate the development of alternative ocean energy in Maine, the Governor's Ocean Energy Task Force recommended and drafted [L.D. 1465 \(.pdf\)](#), which was passed unanimously by the Maine State Legislature in June 2009.

The legislation directed the Maine Department of Conservation, in consultation with the Maine State Planning Office, to select up to five locations within Maine state waters to be designated as "Ocean Energy Testing Areas."

Through comprehensive review of available map information and numerous meetings with the public and interest groups, three sites were designated by MDOC on Dec. 15, 2009.

The information here is meant to inform and educate about the MDOC's site selection process, the many different facets of ocean energy and Maine's potential to be a regional, national, and world leader in alternative energy production.

### **Ocean Energy Demonstration Areas**

Three Ocean Energy Demonstration sites were designated on Dec. 15, 2009.

[Boon Island Ocean Site map \(.pdf\)](#)

[Damariscove Ocean Site map \(.pdf\)](#)

[Monhegan Island Ocean Site map \(.pdf\)](#)

### **Ocean Energy Planning Areas**

These sites were refined from seven [Original Planning Areas \(.pdf\)](#) that met several basic criteria:

- wind speed (17 mph annual average);
- depth (primarily 60 meters or more);
- within state-controlled waters;
- free of obstructions.

### **Siting Process Information**

[Overview of the Siting Process \(.pdf\)](#)

[Site Selection Methodology \(.pdf\)](#)

**Other Information**

[Frequently Asked Questions \(.pdf\)](#)

[Future Opportunities for Wind Power in Maine](#)

[What Does Ocean Energy Look Like?](#)

**For Additional Information**

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