

- Active Leasing Area
- Active Leases
- Presidential Withdrawal Areas
- OCS Planning Area Boundary

OVERVIEW

BSEE Alaska Region oversees more than one billion acres on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and more than 6,000 miles of coastline – more coastline than in the rest of the United States combined.

The region encompasses the Arctic Ocean, the Bering Sea and the northern Pacific Ocean. The primary interests for drilling activities are currently in the Arctic Ocean’s Beaufort Sea and Cook Inlet, off Southcentral Alaska. Since 1980, there have been 36 wells drilled in the federal waters of the Beaufort Sea offshore Alaska, including as recently as 2015.

BSEE Alaska Region responsibilities often overlap with the responsibilities

and regulations of other federal and state agencies. The bureau works closely with these partners to ensure we approach this shared regulatory space in an efficient and consistent manner.

Committed to maintaining open and transparent communications, the Alaska Region regularly engages Alaska’s Native organizations, Tribal Governments, and communities, keeping them apprised of general offshore activities, and facilitating communication with BSEE senior leaders. These important conversations emphasize trust, respect, and shared responsibility as part of a deliberative process to promote effective collaboration and informed decision-making.

ORGANIZATION

The directorate office located in Anchorage, Alaska, is organized into a regional directorate and field operations program office, which includes engineers, inspectors, and environmental compliance personnel.

Region personnel are committed to ensuring safe and environmentally responsible offshore oil and gas development. As federal regulators, BSEE personnel ensure safe and environmentally responsible operations by enforcing operator compliance with regulations, conducting inspections and exercises, overseeing safety and environmental performance programs, and validating the tactics, logistics, resource availability, and personnel proficiency requirements identified in approved plans and permits.

OFFSHORE ACTIVITIES

BSEE Alaska Region currently oversees, in coordination with state regulators, production activities at the Northstar unit.

The Northstar development area spans the State of Alaska and federal waters; the federal percentage of Northstar production varies between 15 and nearly 18 percent, allocated across three participating areas. Northstar production began in November 2001.

Oil and gas are processed on site at Northstar Island; the gas is re-injected, and sales-grade oil is transported onshore by a pipeline that is buried 7 to 11 feet below the seafloor to avoid ice impacts.

Northstar Island is a five-acre, man-made island located in the state waters of the Beaufort Sea, 12 miles northwest of Prudhoe Bay and six miles offshore. It is owned and operated by the privately-held corporation Hilcorp Alaska, LLC. Northstar currently produces 8,000 barrels of oil per day.

The BSEE Alaska Region is

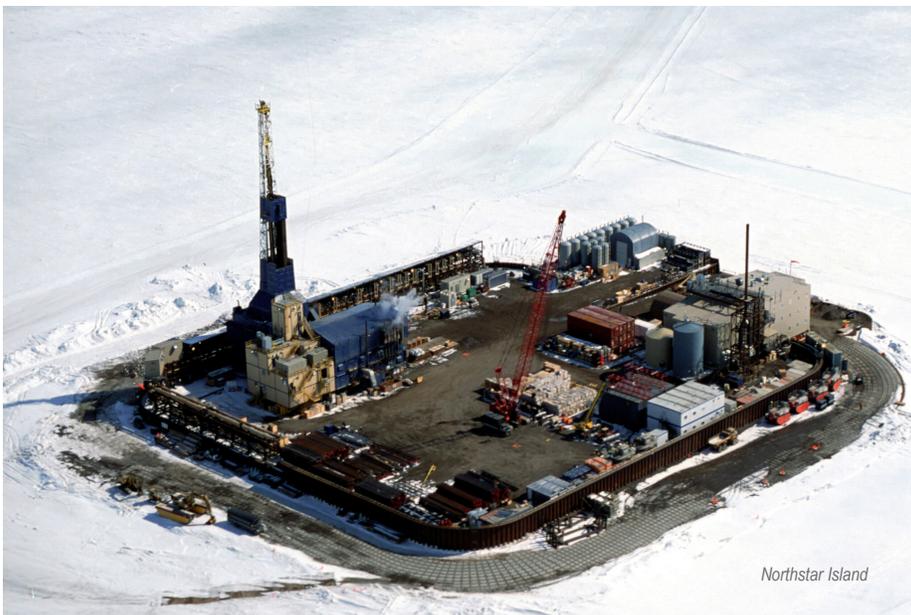
also engaged with Hilcorp Alaska, LLC on the Liberty Project, an offshore prospect in the Beaufort Sea. If permitted, this would be the first completely federal OCS production facility in the Alaska Region.

The project includes building a 24-acre man-made gravel island 5.6 miles off the Northern Coast of Alaska in shallow water, inside the Beaufort Sea's barrier islands.

Once in production, it is projected to deliver a peak production rate of between 60,000 and 70,000 barrels of oil per day with a total recovery estimate of 80-150 million barrels of oil over 15-20 years.

Hilcorp Alaska, LLC also purchased 14 tracts covering roughly 76,615 acres in Cook Inlet. The Cook Inlet Lease Sale 244 is the first of its kind held in Alaska's federal waters since 2008 – garnering more than three million in bids, all submitted by Hilcorp Alaska LLC.

Hilcorp has indicated no drilling activity will begin in Cook Inlet earlier than Summer 2023.



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, established in 2011, is a U.S. Department of the Interior agency. BSEE promotes worker safety, environmental protection and conservation of resources through regulatory oversight and enforcement of the offshore energy industry on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf.