



# Kick-starting tidal current energy in the Cook Strait

Cook Strait is potentially one of the best sites in the world for generating power from tidal currents.

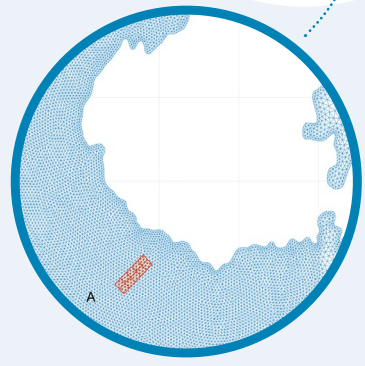
One major barrier to tidal current energy is lack of knowledge about the scale of investment required.

Our researchers used computer models to determine the best site for a tidal farm off Wellington's South Coast, the shape of that farm and how many tidal turbines would be required to generate enough energy to power a major city.

## We found:

- At site A: 95 turbines spaced 100m apart in two rows could produce 90 megawatts (peak). That's similar to the West Wind Farm in Makara!
- Researchers also developed a faster, cheaper way to initially assess multiple sites in a region using existing hydrodynamic models.

Learn more [www.sustainableseaschallenge.co.nz/tidal-energy](http://www.sustainableseaschallenge.co.nz/tidal-energy)



**About Sustainable Seas Challenge:** Our vision is for Aotearoa New Zealand to have healthy marine ecosystems that provide value for all New Zealanders. Our research brings together scientists, social scientists, economists, and experts in mātauranga Māori and policy. We are one of 11 National Science Challenges, funded by MBIE.

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