

# Seeding Marine Innovation in WA with a Wave Energy Deployment in Albany

## Research Program

RP3 Offshore Renewable Energy Systems (ORES)  
Program

## Project ID

3.21.004

## Summary

A prototype version of the M4 (short for 'Moored MultiModal Multibody') Wave Energy Converter will be deployed in King George Sound, Albany, funded by the CRC, WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and UWA.

The project will demonstrate wave energy's potential to power the aquaculture industry and enable an ecosystem of other surrounding activities including development of a test site/market demonstrator and academic research in multiple fields and institutions. The M4 WEC is ideal for this project as it has undergone extensive optimisation, with published results (in peer-reviewed journals) demonstrating high energy capture and excellent survivability.

Wave energy converter deployments are typically commercially sensitive and therefore difficult to build broad research and engagement programs around. In this case data will be publicly available and benefits will include demonstration of local (Great Southern, WA) and national capability, interaction across CRC partners, advancement of the technology, community engagement, training and more.

The project will involve the design, manufacture, deployment, operation & maintenance, and decommissioning of a scaled prototype of M4, seeking to test and validate the infrastructure and supply chain necessary for emerging ocean energy markets, including the aquaculture industry in the region.

## Project Leader

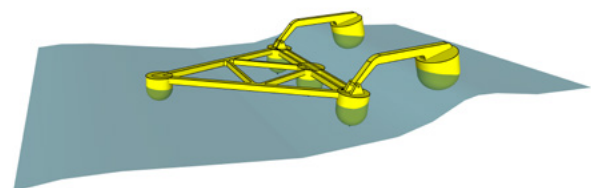
Christophe Gaudin and Hugh Wolgamot,  
University of Western Australia

## Duration

30 Months

## Project Participants

- △ University of Western Australia
- △ BMT
- △ University of Tasmania
- △ Huon Aquaculture
- △ University of Queensland
- △ Climate KIC (AOEG)
- △ M4 WavePower Ltd
- △ WA State Government Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- △ Albany Shellfish Hatchery



Images courtesy of the Wave Energy Research Centre