

**Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council
Ke Kahu O Na Kumu Wai**

Friday, June 8, 2007
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
The Willows Restaurant
901 Hausten Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

MINUTES

Members Present: Arnold Lum, James Coon, Roberto Hera, Herbert Pua Ishibashi, Rhoda Libre, Susan Sakai, Ronald Terry, Justin Kanoa Withington, Donna Wong

Members Absent: Donna Brown, Henry Lau

OP Staff Present: Laura Thielen, Douglas Tom

Others Present: Kevin Kelly, Thomas Mitrano, Jessica Stabile

DISTRIBUTED MATERIAL

- Meeting Agenda
- Minutes of the May 16, 2007 Meeting
- Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP) Policy and Working Groups Packet
- Office of Planning Strategic Plan: Comprehensive Operational Plan, FY 2007-2008 (draft)
- DLNR to Host Last Public Information Meeting to Present Proposed Plan for Ala Wai Parking
- NOAA-CSO "Envisioning the Future of Coastal Management" Meeting
- 2007 Hawaii Congress of Planning Officials Conference
- Coastal Zone '07 Conference

Call to Order

MACZAC Chair Arnold Lum called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Everyone at the meeting introduced themselves.

Approval of the May 16, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved.

Report and Discussion of ORMP

Kevin Kelly, a Tetra Tech consultant, gave a presentation on the ORMP. Tetra Tech began its work on the ORMP in February 2006, after the Office of Planning (OP) had completed its initial legwork of conducting scoping hearings in 2005. The ORMP is mandated by HRS §205A-62. Because the ORMP is part of the Hawaii CZM Program, it is eligible to receive federal funds.

The original version of the ORMP, prepared in 1991, took a compartmentalized and sector based approach to ocean resources management. The ORMP considered only direct impacts and was to be implemented by jurisdictional entities. With time, the ORMP became outdated and so came under review and revision. In contrast to the earlier draft, the current version of the ORMP, updated in 2006, took an integrated and place based approach whereby management is specific to the locale, with management plans developed at the ahupuaa or moku levels. Moreover, community (and private sector) involvement is emphasized in management decision-making and subsequent action. This is an adaptive and leaning approach. Implementation is to be carried out by a broad base of stakeholders. Both direct and indirect impacts are considered. Resource use is integrally linked with respect for and care of the natural environment. The primary goal of the ORMP is to improve and sustain the ecological, cultural, economic, and social benefits that Hawaii's residents derive from ocean resources today and for future generations.

The updated ORMP features three perspectives: (1) Connecting Land and Sea – Careful and appropriate use of the land is required to maintain the diverse array of ecological, social, cultural, and economic benefits we derive from the sea; (2) Preserving Our Ocean Heritage – A vibrant and healthy ocean environment is the foundation for the quality of life valued in Hawaii and the well-being of its people, now and for generations to come; and (3) Promoting Collaboration and Stewardship – Working together and sharing knowledge, experience, and resources will improve and sustain our efforts to care for the land and sea.

The current driving forces for change to Hawaii's ocean and coastal resources include population growth, urbanization, tourism, commercial and recreational uses, climate change, sea level rise and other coastal hazards, marine debris, and aquatic invasive species. Laura Thielen, OP Director, wrote in the ORMP's cover letter: "Changing practices in multiple federal, state and county agencies, revising multiple laws, ordinances and regulations, and modifying habits of community-government interactions are very significant changes." Thus, there is a big challenge ahead which will require much hard work. The OP is the lead government agency responsible for preparing and coordinating the development and implementation of the ORMP.

The ORMP is organized according to 5-year phases within a greater 25-year vision plan for integrated management. Experience and lessons learned during each phase will be documented and shared, and so may help to promote cooperation and inform subsequent phases. The ORMP will be reviewed and updated every 5 years by the OP's CZM Program. Progress will be reported to the general public.

MACZAC member Jim Coon complemented Tetra Tech's efforts in compiling the ORMP, stating that the concepts had been amorphous but Tetra Tech was able to conceptualize them and distill it all down into a great document. Jim further commented that the ORMP is really a journey and so there needs to be a grassroots effort with community buy-in as well as political will.

OP Director Laura Thielen indicated that many civic groups and concerned citizens had been clamoring for years for the ORMP to be updated. OP helped to provide the framework for drafting the ORMP. There was not a single negative comment received, and the new ORMP version has received much positive support. Now that the final draft has been completed, the ORMP needs to be implemented. The OP and CZM Program will oversee the ORMP implementation. It is important that the various state and county agencies who will actually be implementing the ORMP

on the ground continue to feel ownership over the plan and stay involved in the process. Thus, agency representatives will be asked to serve on the ORMP Working Group and ORMP Policy Group. This will allow everyone to work together and talk across the table and share information so as to be more cooperative and effective. Agencies should recognize their commonalities and take full advantage of the overlap.

MACZAC member Sue Sakai complemented Laura Thielen for taking such an approach because she believes that the ORMP really needs that kind of strong support from the top.

Arnold Lum will serve as MACZAC's representative on the ORMP Policy Group. Jim Coon will be MACZAC's representative on the ORMP Working Group, and Sue Sakai will serve as a substitute backup representative should Jim be unable to make any of the meetings.

Laura Thielen noted that while the OP will be able to bring government agencies to the table to collaborate on ORMP implementation, the OP needs MACZAC's help in bringing in the public's perspective. The OP wants the process to be as inclusive as possible. As MACZAC is a citizen group that is statutorily charged with providing community perspective, this would be a natural role for it to play in the ORMP implementation process. MACZAC members readily agreed to provide assistance. MACZAC could help with the Moku Management Framework and Principles process and work with local communities and mokus.

Laura Thielen drafted a letter on May 1, 2007 to all interested parties outlining the solicitation guidelines for the OP's available discretionary CZM funds over the next five years. The letter served to inform the counties (and others) that State CZM monies will only be provided for a specific purpose – the ORMP – and so the counties need to get on board with its objectives. The letter explicitly states that funding proposals generally relating to CZM objectives will no longer be entertained by the OP, and funds will only be distributed for ORMP implementation efforts.

Report and Discussion of the OP's Strategic Plan

Laura Thielen noted that the OP Office is relatively small, comprised of only about 30 employees, but is segregated into the CZM Program, GIS Division, and the Land Use Division. Everyone is very specialized so there has not been much intercommunication between divisions or employees. The OP's new strategic plan, however, addressed the question of how the Office could become more integrated. The ORMP is seen as one of the primary common foci for everyone in the OP Office.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Coastal States Organization (NOAA-CSO) Envisioning Meeting Recap

During May and June 2007, NOAA-CSO hosted a series of five meetings across the nation – in Boston, Chicago, Atlanta, Honolulu, and San Francisco. These meetings, entitled "Envisioning the Future of Coastal Management", consisted of facilitated small break out sessions in addition to opening and closing remarks. The CZMA is up for reauthorization and so NOAA and CSO are undergoing a process of public consultation on coastal zone management practices. The Honolulu meeting took place on June 7 and was meant to solicit the Hawaii and the US Pacific islands perspective. A major point made was that NOAA should modify its funding approaches and recognize that islands are different from the mainland US states. MACZAC members Arnold Lum,

Jim Coon, Sue Sakai, Donna Wong, Roberto Hera, and Pua Ishibashi attended the all-day meeting, as did MACZAC assistant Jessica Stabile, and OP staff Laura Thielen, Doug Tom, Mary Lou Kobayashi, and Laura La France.

Hawaii Congress of Planning Officials (HCPO) Conference

The 2007 HCPO Conference will be held from September 26-28 at the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel along the Kohala Coast of the Big Island. Hawaii County is hosting the HCPO Conference this year, and the theme is “Mixed Plate: Local Best Practices of Sustainability and Low Impact Development”. Both Arnold Lum and Donna Wong indicated that they will not be able to attend the Conference; all other members indicated that they planned to attend. The next MACZAC meeting will be scheduled to immediately follow the HCPO Conference on September 28. Vice-Chair Jim Coon will lead the MACZAC meeting in Arnold’s absence.

Coastal Zone `07 Conference

The Coastal Zone `07 Conference will be held from June 22-26 in Portland, Oregon. MACZAC members decided that although it would be a valuable experience to attend the Conference because it would provide an opportunity to interact with CZ managers from other states, the high cost of the conference registration fees coupled with transportation and accommodation expenses may be too much for the MACZAC budget to bear, especially in light of the upcoming expenditures associated with members’ attendance at the HCPO Conference.

MACZAC Priorities and Formation of Investigative Working Groups

Professional facilitator Thomas Mitrano gave the MACZAC members some brainstorming exercises to assist them in organizing themselves as a group and identifying their top priorities and goals for the period through December 31, 2008. The members ultimately chose to form and/or revive the following investigative working groups: Shoreline Access/Parking (chaired by Arnold Lum), Boating (Jim Coon), Moku Management (Pua Ishibashi), Regulatory Review (Sue Sakai), Wastewater (Ron Terry), Marine Protected Areas (Donna Brown), and Lua/Kauai Compost Toilets (Rhoda Libre). Because quorum was lost in the last few minutes of the meeting, further decisions regarding the formation and composition of the investigative working groups was deferred until the next meeting.

Adjournment & Next Meeting Date

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for the afternoon of September 28, 2007 at the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel along the Kohala Coast of the Big Island.