

Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council (MACZAC)

Ke Kahu O Na Kumu Wai

August 24, 2012

9:30 am – 3:00 pm

Hawaii Office of Planning (OP), Conference Room

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

- Members Present: Donna Brown, Jim Coon, Dawn Hegger, Robin Kaye, Sue Sakai, Kimbal Thompson, Roy Takemoto, Rhoda Makanani Libre
- Members Absent: Bryan Mamaclay, Michael Sabas, Michael Gleason, Henry Lau
- OP/CZM Staff Present: Leo Asuncion, Jonathan Lorentzen, Scott Forsythe, Shichao Li, Robyn Loudermilk
- Others Present: Paula Levine (USFWS), Brian Hunter (DOH), April Coloretti (SSFMI International Inc.)

DISTRIBUTED MATERIAL

- MACZAC Meeting Agenda for August 24, 2012
- Minutes from June 1, 2012 MACZAC Meeting (Draft)
- CZM Report to MACZAC (8/24/2012)
- Coastal Zone Management State Consistency Review Diagram
- 2012 Ocean Themed Essay Contest Packet
- Douglas Tom Thumbs-Up Award Nominees from 2011
- Tabasco® Leader Lauded for Coastal Commitment [<http://www.myneworleans.com/New-Orleans-Magazine/August-2012/Tabasco-Leader-Lauded-for-Coastal-Commitment/>]
- "Coast States Get Up to \$50K for Tsunami Debris Aid" [<http://juneauempire.com/state/2012-07-30/coast-states-get-50k-tsunami-debris-aid>]
- "Opponents of Coastal Zone Initiative Lead in Fundraising" [<http://www.adn.com/2012/07/31/2564793/opponents-of-coastal-zone-initiative.html>]
- "Perdue Does Not Sign or Veto Sea-Rise Level Bill" [<http://www.stamewsonline.com/article/20120801/ARTICLES/120809970/-1/business?Title=Perdue-does-not-sign-or-veto-sea-rise-level-bill>]
- "Yosemite Trout a Reminder of Ocean's Stirring of Life" [http://www.staradvertiser.com/newspremium/20120806_Yosemite_trout_a_reminder_of_oceans_stirring_of_life.html?id=165109426]
- "Man Wants to Farm Shellfish in Federal Waters" [http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_21246327/man-wants-farm-shellfish-federal-waters]

- "Fast Rising Seas Demand New Flood Plans and Smart Zoning"
[<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/print/2012-08-06/fast-rising-seas-demand-new-flood-plans-and-smart-zoning.html>]
- "Do Fake Reefs Offer Real Solutions for Hawaii?"
[<http://www.civilbeat.com/articles/2012/08/06/16747-do-fake-reefs-offer-real-solutions-for-hawaii/>]
- "Oceanic Quirk Shielded Hawaii from Majority of Tsunami Debris "
[http://www.staradvertiser.com/newspremium/20120810_Oceanic_quirk_shielded_Hawaii_from_majority_of_tsunami_debris_.html?id=165697396]
- "Fisheries Service Pressed to Protect False Killer Whales"[http://www.staradvertiser.com/newspremium/20120813_Fisheries_Service_pressed_to_protect_false_killer_whales.html]
- "Beach Barriers"[<http://honoluluweekly.com/cover/2012/07/beach-barriers/>]
- "Last Remaining Undersea Habitat on Chopping Block" - [Honolulu Advertiser, 8/12/2012]
- "New EPA Regulations Leave Shippers in Unchartered Waters"- [PBN, 7/27/2012]
- "Maui Coastal Parkway Project Revived"- [PBN, 6/15/2012]
- "Shoot the Messenger: Carolina's Costly Mistake on Sea Level Rise" -
[<http://e360.yale.edu/content/print.msp?id=2543>]
- "Sustainable Feed Supply Tops To-do List"- [East Oahu Islander, 8/8/2012]
- "Sea Turtles Threatened Status Under Review"
[http://www.staradvertiser.com/newspremium/20120802_Sea_turtles_threatened_status_under_review.html?id=164709876]
- "Seal Turns Up on Sunset Beach, Thousands of Miles Away From Home"
[<http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/164687636.html?id=164687636>]
- "Coastal Mapping Project Completed"- [http://www.hydro-international.com/news?id5640-Coastal_Mapping_project_Completed.html]

Call to Order

Chair Sue Sakai called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and welcomed everyone. All those present briefly introduced themselves.

New MACZAC Administrative Assistant, Jonathan Lorentzen, introduced himself and provided attendees a brief summary of his professional background.

Approval of June 1, 2012 Meeting Minutes

The June 1, 2012 Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved by all present members.

Hawaii Coastal Zone Management Program Report

Leo Asuncion, CZM Program Manager, provided the members a summary of his attached report. Mr. Asuncion began his report by outlining recent developments of the Hawaii Sub-Regional Ocean Partnership (Hawaii Sub-ROP) and the Pacific Regional Ocean Partnership (PROP), both of which will aid the National Ocean Policy of the United States. According to Mr. Asuncion, to date, the PROP has been signed by Governor Abercrombie, Governor Fitial (Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), Governor Calvo (Guam), and most recently, by Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono (American Samoa) during the 28th US Coral Task Force Meeting held August 17-21, 2012 in American Samoa.

Both the ORMP Working Group's *Framework for Climate Change Adaption in Hawaii* and the

Statewide Climate Change Adaptation Policy (SB 2745) are progressing positively thanks to the research being undertaken by OP partners ICAP (International Carbon Action Partnership) and the U.S Army Corps of Engineers' Planning Assistance to the States (PAS) Program.

The report concluded with a lively and hopeful discussion of re-establishing a National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) in Hawaii. According to Mr. Asuncion, Governor Abercrombie sent a letter to NOAA requesting assistance in selecting an appropriate site. Members discussed which criteria would be used for selection and how such criteria would be determined, one option, suggested by Mr. Asuncion, is to get information from successful NERRs on the mainland. Mr. Asuncion noted that all information on NERRs and NOAA reports on estuaries could be circulated to members if requested.

Update on the Hawaii Ocean Resources Management Plan

April Coloretti, from SSFM International, Inc. and consultant to OP on the ORMP update provided two handouts, one flow chart outlining the planned phases of the ORMP and one ORMP worksheet listing management goals, to all those present at the meeting. Using the flow chart, Ms. Coloretti showed how the current phase of finishing the first ORMP draft update is on time for September 2012 completion. Public meetings will be held throughout October and November 2012 to get public insight into any areas of concern.

Ms. Coloretti then commenced with a "lightning round" of inputs in regards to the ORMP Perspectives to determine which specific management goals are viewed as most important by the members. The top three results were:

- Improve coastal water quality by reducing land-based sources of pollution and restoring natural habitats.
- Improve the health of coastal and ocean resources for sustainable traditional, subsistence, recreational, and commercial uses.
- Apply integrated and place-based approaches to the management of natural and cultural resources.

Mr. Asuncion also noted that the "Cumulative Stormwater Impact Assessment Project" and the "Alternative Financing for Shoreline Public Access and Coastal Lands Acquisition", two CZM Program projects, will be issuing RFPs in the near future. The "Scoping the Value of the SMA Permit and Shoreline Setback Variance" RFP did not yield proposals so the CZM Program is looking into alternatives to complete the study.

Discussion on SMA Process Streamlining

Shichao Li and Mr. Asuncion presented a concept of the Special Management Area (SMA) Permit Streamlining Process being developed by OP. The streamlined process (consistency review) is proposed to be an alternative to the current SMA permit process, and only for State agencies that have a project on State lands within the SMA, and also as an alternative to total exemption from the SMA permit process. Mr. Asuncion noted that the streamlined process would preserve the integrity of HRS Chapter 205A, and ensure that projects are consistent with objectives and policies set forth in HRS Chapter 205A.

Asked if other agencies have been consulted, Mr. Li noted that OP is in the process of meeting with key State agencies - DLNR and DOT. Mr. Li also noted that meetings will be held with DAGS, DOE, and UH, as well as the County Planning Departments.

Mr. Asuncion noted that OP does not foresee a lot of State projects coming in because of the new process based on a survey of SMA permits (major and minor) in the past 5 years that shows that State projects on State lands within the SMA were a very small percentage of the total number of SMA permits processed by the respective counties.

MACZAC member Robin Kaye asked about a hypothetical project where a private developer proposes to build a project, in conjunction with a State agency, on State lands within the SMA. Mr. Asuncion noted that based on the process being developed, the applicant for consistency review should be the State agency, but the private developer could provide support to the State agency during the consistency review.

Highlighting Critical Marine and Coastal Hotspot Issues, By Island

Rhoda Libre, MACZAC's Kauai representative, noted that repairs and cleanups to areas affected by this year's earlier flooding of the island (March 2012) are still ongoing. Hotspots on Kauai include the Kekaha Landfill, Salt Ponds on Hanapepe, and Kalapaki.

Oahu MACZAC Member Kimbal Thompson noted that the Ala Wai Canal is still a hotspot on Oahu where water quality is still an issue.

Maui MACZAC member Donna Brown expressed concern over the emergency roadway construction at Ukumehame and Launiupoko, as well as the proposed development and construction of Olowalu Town in West Maui, noting that such a large development project could potentially ruin the landscape and reef (which is the last healthy reef in West Maui). Furthermore, Ms. Hegger informed the other Council members that the County of Maui Planning Department's Lahaina Bypass Highway project has continued without an EIS requirement.

Maui MACZAC member Jim Coon noted that Honolua Bay is being impacted by land-side development and he is also working with the community and the county to determine what the issues are with Kanaha Beach Park. At Kaanapali, all swimming buoys are deployed and an advisory group has been created (however there is only one commercial seat on the advisory group). The state (DLNR) is trying to enforce operational rules at Kaanapali that mirrors operational rules for Waikiki, which Mr. Coons feels will not work in Kaanapali

Robin Kaye, MACZAC's Lanai representative, informed the Council that there are resource conflicts occurring between Maui boaters and the local Lanai population. Maui boaters and fishermen are congesting Lanai waters.

MACZAC Working Groups

CZMA 40th Anniversary Ocean-Themed Essay Contest Working Group

The focus of conversation among the present members revolved around finding donors to support the contest. Members discussed the possibility of advertising the contest in local magazines and newspapers as well as tracking down companies that could make significant contributions. Because of the 40th anniversary status of this year's contest, finding greater support than in the past was a key focus of the group.

Education and Outreach Working Group

The Education and Outreach Working Group had no updates to provide

Shoreline Access Working Group

Discussed the 3 initiatives currently being developed:

- 1) Community Managed Public Access Prototype (\$100,000 Grant to PATH for prototype project in Pepeekeo)
- 2) Public Access Inventory (Should commence in September)
- 3) Working on legislation to strengthen the land owners liability statute (HRS Chapter 520)

Website Working Group

Funding for this working group has been pulled. Group has been dissolved.

Discussion on New Working Groups

The MACZAC members agreed to examine the possibility of a Legislative Briefing in December 2012 on CZM. The briefing would function as outreach to the legislature and decision makers on the importance of CZM, the issues facing management of Hawaii's coastal areas and oceans, and to build integrity of MACZAC as a voice for CZM and the community

2nd Annual Douglas Tom Thumbs-Up Award

MACZAC members voiced their opinions on various organizations that they felt were worthy of the Thumbs-Up Award. Jim Coon, MACZAC Maui representative, suggested that the Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL) be considered because of the positive impact it has had by working directly with hotels to raise reef awareness among tourists. Other organizations considered for the award were the UH Marine Option Program and the Lana'i Limu Restoration Program. Ultimately, B.E.A.C.H. (Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawaii), proposed by Oahu MACZAC member Kimbal Thompson, was selected for the award.

The Council also voted to write and send a letter to the University of Hawaii administration praising the work of the Marine Option Program over the last forty years, and in recognition of its efforts to educate all interested UH students in marine sciences.

Other Announcements

A move to write a letter to Governor Abercrombie explaining MACZAC's concern about the beach area of Launiupoko in the face of the Olowalu development project was approved.

New Business

The next MACZAC meeting will be held on Friday, October 26, 2012 at the OP Conferenc Room in Honolulu.

Adjournment

Chair Sakai adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm

