# **Post-Disaster Reconstruction Guidelines and Protocols**

for the Conservation of Coastal Resources and Protection of Coastal Communities in Maui County



The beautiful islands of Molokai, Lanai and Maui are highly susceptible to the damaging impacts of strong Pacific Ocean coastal storms. After a devastating event occurs, each community will need to reconstruct its infrastructure, buildings, resorts, commercial facilities and homes. The disaster recovery reconstruction process may take months and years to complete.

In our rush to rebuild, let's make sure our natural assets and coastal resources—beaches, reefs, parks and shoreline access—are not degraded or lost. How can we make wise choices when that time comes?

To ensure we are properly prepared, Maui County is developing community-based *Post-Disaster Reconstruction Guidelines and Protocols*. The proactive planning effort will prioritize rebuilding actions, create a process sequence, and help speed up the approval process of urgent reconstruction needs.

It is our kuleana to work together now to plan for how we will rebuild in a way that:

- Is proactive, efficient and respectful
- Reduces post-disaster hardship
- Protects sensitive natural and cultural resources
- Results in more resilient coastal communities
- Strengthens our economy, and
- Supports the community's sustainability and quality of life goals

### In a coastal community -it's not if, but when!



Building Back Safer, Stronger, Smarter!

## **Project Details**

**PRIMARY GOAL:** To develop *Post-Disaster Reconstruction Guidelines and Protocols* (RGP) that will accommodate expeditious reconstruction while conserving valued coastal resources and protecting sensitive ecosystems.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- 1. Develop RGP
  - · Responsibly streamline post-disaster permitting time and costs
  - Protect sensitive coastal resources such as beaches, reefs, fish ponds, and shoreline access
- 2. Engage stakeholders
  - Raise awareness of the need for pre-disaster planning
  - Seek both government agency and community input on RGP development
  - Involve isolated and remote communities that may have limited resources
  - Engage underserved and at-risk communities and areas
- 3. Propose a framework for implementation by the Maui County Planning and Public Works Departments, in coordination with other authorizing agencies, to implement after a major coastal storm or hurricane

**GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS:** The project includes the islands of Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, and will especially consider our isolated and rural communities that are vulnerable to coastal storms.

**PROJECT TEAM:** The County of Maui Planning Department will lead a small team of Maui-based planners, working collaboratively with local Community Coordinators, an Advisory Group, state and county agencies, and community members, to develop reconstruction guidelines and protocols.

SCHEDULE/APPROACH: A yearlong planning process (Jan. 2014—Jan. 2015) will include four activity phases:

Phase 1: Understand current disaster response processes

Phase 2: Identify damage scenarios and risks related to different types of coastlines

Phase 3: Develop a matrix of reconstruction guidelines for damage scenarios and shoreline types

Phase 4: Establish Reconstruction Guidelines and Protocols (RGPs)

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT	
STAKEHOLDER GROUPS	OUTREACH ACTIVITIES
Project Advisory Group	Three meetings
Regulatory Agencies	<ul> <li>Pacific Risk Management 'Ohana</li> <li>Ocean Resources Management Plan Working Group (ORMP)</li> <li>ORMP Policy Group</li> <li>Government agency review and comment</li> </ul>
*Supported by Community Coordinators	Five community workshops:      *Island of Molokai     *Island of Lanai     *Hana, Island of Maui     Kihei, Island of Maui     Lahaina, Island of Maui

#### For more information, please contact:

James Buika: james.buika@mauicounty.gov or (808) 270-8205 Tara Owens: taram@hawaii.edu or (808) 463-3868







Funding provided by the NOAA Coastal Storms Center in collaboration with the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program. Photographs courtesy of Dolan Eversole.