

Hawai'i Ocean Resources Management Plan Working Group

Meeting Summary

February 3, 2010; 12:30 – 3:30pm
NOAA Pacific Services Center, #1550

Members Present:

Cindy Barger (USACE)
Jim Buika (Planning, Maui)
Chris Conger for Sam Lemmo (DLNR OCCL)
Jim Coon (MACZAC)
Steve Frano (NOAA OCRM)
Todd Low (DOA Aquaculture)
Marnie Meyer (OP/CZM)
Hudson Slay (EPA)
Lisa Ellen Smith via telephone (Planning, Kauai)
Barry Usagawa (BWS)
Dean Watase (DOT Harbors)

Others Present:

Travis Augustin (ICAP)
Ron Cannarella (DOFAW)
Linda Colburn (Facilitator)
Dolan Eversole (UH Sea Grant)
Melissa Iwamoto (OP/CZM)
Lorene Maki (OP/CZM)

Recap/Discussion on Policy Group Meeting

- Working Group (WG) requested that presentations made at the Policy Group (PG) meeting be shared; they can now be downloaded at:
http://www.state.hi.us/dbedt/czm/ormp/policy_group.php
- The PG would benefit from meeting more often. WG meeting agendas will be shared with the PG.
- It would be beneficial to have additional clarification of the relationship between the WG and the PG – especially in the case of leadership.
- The WG should identify specific things we want action on going forward, broadcast these items before the PG meeting convenes, and pursue on PG agenda.
 - Consider advocating for the convening of the PG in response to a single urgent issue or accumulation of items to trigger Policy Group action.
 - Example: Short-term turn arounds for PG, such as target estimates for sea level rise, magnitude forecasts and time frames. Need a champion on this - also need to get more information out to multiple audiences to deal with climate change doubters.
 - We should consider developing priorities re: specific studies and data needed to support efforts down the line.
- There is a clear interest in moving forward on projects or initiatives that are likely to attract new funding to the state. Learn more about what's coming down the pike from federal sources, and what their funding criteria are.
- UH Sea Grant and ICAP are currently working on a climate change impacts report for Hawaii. There are great models out there that address this on a global level; it is important to downscale for specific areas like Hawaii.

State-wide Assessment of Forest Conditions and Resource Strategy (SWARS)

Ron Cannarella, Forester from DOFAW, gave an update of the SWARS document (report due June 18, 2010).

Caucus Break Outs – Refocus of Caucus Efforts to Support Major Theme

The caucus groups decided to refocus their efforts in the short-term to help move the climate change adaptation framework along:

Watersheds

The watershed caucus will focus on implications/consequences of climate change in relationship to watersheds.

Climate Change

The climate change caucus will set priorities for specific action and data needs in the short term, and look for opportunities where these items intersect with funding. They will coordinate sending these items up line to the PG and ask for a yes/no response.

*Policy/Legislation**

The policy caucus will focus on how to get leadership support. They will explore the idea of working with ICAP to develop a draft Executive Order directing agencies to incorporate climate change into their respective planning efforts. The caucus will develop a strategy for navigating an EO and/or other policy issues up-line in respective agencies, and identify prospective areas for PG-level support.

*Outreach/Up-reach**

The outreach caucus believes that we should move forward on parallel tracks with public education and outreach at the same time that our adaptation efforts get more focused. It's crucial we get public support by sharing the science through community outreach as well as up-line in agencies. This will enable the public to advocate by providing them with the foundation/credible science. It will be important to research what the most effective way to communicate the science is.

The caucus is also considering outreach efforts to legislative/political candidates to foster increased awareness of issues and engagement in our climate change adaptation efforts. One idea is to position the draft EO as an action that could be taken early in the next administration's term.

* The outreach and policy caucuses discussed the possibility of merging together to work on the EO and the education/outreach components.

Next Steps

- WG will explore possibility of moving meetings to the 4th Thursday of each month to accommodate Abbey Mayer's schedule. ***The next WG meeting date set for March 25, 2010.***
- Each agenda should have 1 core item that is organized around a product or issue. Possible agenda item for March meeting: discussion on the EO concept, potential as a strategy or mechanism for moving state forward on climate change adaptation. For the March meeting, the focus will be climate change – moving forward in the adaptation framework. The caucuses will have time to break out and work on their tasks, as identified by them and described above.