

Hawai'i Ocean Resources Management Plan Working Group

Meeting Summary

April 7, 2011 9am -12pm

State Office Tower 6th Floor Conference Room
235 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

Present:

Cindy Barger (USACE)	Marnie Meyer (OP/CZM)
Jim Buika (Maui Co.)	Bethany Morrison (Hawaii Co.)
Ron Cannarella (DLNR/DOFAW)	Chris Ostrander (PacIOOS)
Lawana Collier (DOH)	Joe Paulin (HIHWNMS)
Jim Coon (MACZAC)	Kenny Roberts (OP/CZM)
Dolan Eversole (UH Sea Grant)	Hudson Slay (EPA)
Steve Frano (NOAA/OCRM)	Lisa Ellen Smith (Kauai Co.)
Brian Hunter (DOH)	Jean Tanimoto (NOAA PSC)
Melissa Iwamoto (OP/CZM)	Barry Usagawa (BWS)
Jeff Kent (OHA)	Lisa White (DLNR/DAR)
Todd Low (DOA)	

Linda Colburn (Facilitator, Where Talk Works)

Welcome/Interim Updates

County of Maui: Maui County experienced massive flooding and sediment runoff into the ocean during Christmas and January storm events. The March tsunami also caused a lot of damage on the north shore. The County has engaged the planning commission several times on these issues. At the end of the month, the UH Sea Grant Program will meet with the County to see how they can help with local flooding issues, changes to SMA rules, and post-disaster policies and procedures.

County of Hawaii: Hawaii County submitted testimony on HB117 opposing the removal of the SMA threshold. They are working on department SMA rules to cover minors they process.

Hawaii County is also trying to figure out how to best coordinate post-disaster procedures. It was noted how important it is to document damage right away, as some homeowners start rebuilding in the SMA on their own without permits within a few days after a natural hazard event.

Dolan mentioned that he volunteers with State Civil Defense (SCD) after disasters. After the March tsunami, volunteer observers went out to document and record tsunami run up. Measurements are taken right away, as evidence is hard to determine if you wait too long after an event, because people start cleaning up. The volunteer observers take photos as well. This is an unfunded program through SCD.

Dolan volunteered to help facilitate post-disaster discussions via NOAA's Coastal Storms Program. He also noted that the State Hazard Mitigation Plan updated last year called for a post-disaster plan, however no such plan currently exists.

County of Kauai: Kauai saw run-up along the shoreline, up to 70 feet inland in some stream areas, from the March tsunami, although there was no significant damage to report.

UH Sea Grant/CSP: The Pacific Risk Management ‘Ohana (PRiMO) held their annual meeting in Pago Pago, American Samoa, which was very well attended by American Samoa staff. The meeting focused on the September 2009 tsunami in American Samoa. The meeting resulted in the next year’s priorities and actionable steps to strengthen coordination at all levels to build community resilience in American Samoa and the Pacific.

During the flight to American Samoa was when the Japan earthquake and tsunami occurred. Pago Pago had a whole new network of warning sirens that were activated. The sirens were weak but did work, and the announcements were given in English and Samoan. Hotel staff didn’t appear to know what to do, so there is room for improvement in this area, perhaps some training would be appropriate.

PacIOOS: PacIOOS has upgraded its website, please take a look and send comments or suggestions for improvements.

DOA: Kona Blue got approval from NOAA to conduct an offshore aquaculture pilot project in federal waters off the Big Island. The pilot included two cages, however one got loose and one sank. There were no fish in the cages, they were only testing the concept. Aquaculture in federal waters is a new concept being piloted; it will only succeed if it is environmentally, economically, and socially sound.

MACZAC: Maui harbors took a significant hit during the March tsunami. Numerous docks were damaged or destroyed. The State has federally earmarked harbor improvement money, however it is possible that the funding will not come through. If it did, it would be perfect timing.

At the last HIIWNMS Advisory Council meeting, Jim tried to bring the ORMP to the forefront of the meeting as an appropriate vehicle to deal with most of the broad, land-based resource management issues, rather than the Sanctuary.

Jim advocates the ORMP framework whenever he can, including during a personal interview as part of “Preserving the Past”.

CZM: Update on ORMP implementation projects - The Honu‘apo Estuary project on the Big Island is almost done with their restoration plan. UH Sea Grant and Mālama Maunalua held a rain garden workshop on Oahu as part of their ORMP project.

CZM met with the City and County of Honolulu (CCH), Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP). DPP is interested in participating in the ORMP groups, especially on climate change initiatives.

HIIWNMS: There are nine new members on the Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC). There was a 2-day SAC meeting on Maui on April 4-5. The SAC approved nine draft work plans, based on the nine working groups formed previously around the topics covered in the public scoping comments.

The Sanctuary is organizing an aquaculture workshop this summer with Donna Ching, from the University of Hawaii. More details to follow at the next meeting.

NOAA: PSC has training programs on smart growth; if you know people who could benefit from such training, such as planning commissions or chambers of commerce, contact PSC.

April is tsunami awareness month. PSC has a webpage dedicated to tsunami preparedness, including the tsunami inundation zones, and a new tsunami safety booklet that targets children ages 3-5. The booklet was included in the Star Advertiser as an insert. The booklet can be downloaded from the PSC website: <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/psc/>.

PSC, in partnership with the National Marine Sanctuary Program, Pacific Disaster Center, UH Sea Grant, County of Maui, and Hawaii CZM, will be holding its first round of *Climate Adaptation for Coastal Communities* trainings in Hawaii on Maui from April 18-21. Eventually, PSC wants to hold this training on each island.

During the first week of May, NOAA's Office of Coast Survey will be hosting a Hydrological Services Review Panel in Honolulu. This is a rare opportunity for Local, State and Federal entities to have their issues and concerns presented to a panel who will in turn make recommendations to high level decision makers regarding priorities in the Pacific Region.

DLNR/DAR: Update on DAR staff - There is no Sanctuary staff at the state at this time, but the position is open for applications. The hiring process for the DAR administrator position is being delayed further.

DLNR/DOFAW: The ORMP provided vision and guidance for the 2010 Statewide Assessment of Forest Conditions and Resources (SWARS). DOFAW was successful with their submission to the U.S. Forest Service – Hawaii will receive \$1.5 million in the next grant cycle. They will be producing a DVD with all the GIS data layers and strategy matrices. The SWARS document is available online at: <http://www.hawaiiassessment.info/>

DOH: DOH staff attended in support of the Watershed Guidance presentation later in the meeting, which was a joint CZM and DOH project. Staff asked for input as to which groups they think would benefit from the presentation, and the best way to present the Watershed Guidance to others. MACZAC was mentioned as a group that would probably be interested in a presentation on the guidance, as several members do watershed management activities on their islands.

DOH will put out a RFP this month for projects that develop watershed plans and address polluted runoff.

BWS: The BWS has been reviewing emergency response plans after the March tsunami. They have found some gaps and will try to address them.

After seven years, the Waianae and Ko'olau Loa watershed plans have been approved. The plans incorporate water use, protection, restoration, as well as development. There were significant community outreach component to the plans, which was the hardest part. BWS has six more watershed plans to complete.

Barry will forward a work progress report from the Ko'olau Mountain Watershed Partnership on removing invasive species in the Ko'olau mountain watersheds.

USACE: At the February U.S. Coral Reef Task Force meeting, West Maui was chosen as a top project nationally. This will bring national and private funding to the area.

Legislative Updates

ORMP members discussed bills of interest to the group. HB117 relating to special management areas is still alive. SB80 relating to the Climate Change Task Force did not cross over, but others regarding the barrel tax did.

Watershed Guidance

Kenny Roberts, CZM coordinator for the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (CNPCP), delivered a presentation to the Working Group on the CZM/DOH Watershed Guidance document that was just completed. The Watershed Guidance, which provides a user-friendly resource tool to help community organizations and agencies navigate the process of developing watershed plans, was developed by the CNPCP and DOH Clean Water Branch's Polluted Runoff Control Program. The two major components of the Watershed Guidance are:

1. Management Measure implementation through the use of tested, cost-effective best management practices (BMP's); and
2. Watershed planning and implementation, with an emphasis on water quality protection and/or restoration.

The Watershed Guidance is available in hardcopy format if you contact Kenny, or it's available for download on the CZM and DOH websites:

<http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/cleanwater/prc/index.html>

<http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/czm/initiative/nonpoint.php>

The full power point presentation is available online at:

http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/czm/ormp/working_group.php.

ORMP Update

CZM will start the process of updating the ORMP this summer, pursuant to Chapter 205 A-62, HRS. The ORMP update is included the CZM Program's Section 309 Strategy for Ocean Resources, for FY 2011-2015.

The 309 Strategy will set forth as explicit State public policy the importance of managing Hawaii's ocean resources because of their economic, environmental, and cultural significance to the State. In order to capitalize on the collaborative work that has been building for several years now, an analysis and update of the current ORMP will be conducted in years 1 and 2 to provide the basis for approval by the Governor as a functional/strategic plan in later years. The existing ORMP will be analyzed to identify what is working, the constraints and obstacles frequently encountered, and gaps in the plan. The analysis will include facilitated discussions with major partners on various aspects of ORMP implementation (e.g., definitions of the terms we use, often with different intentions and understandings). This facilitated and strategic analysis will help CZM to ensure that the ORMP continues to evolve and be relevant and meaningful to the Program and our partners. The data gathered will also provide the foundation for the development of new policies to address the challenges encountered and any gap areas identified, e.g., climate change and regional ocean partnerships.

Standing Agenda Items

a. Climate Change

- CZM passed out a google docs spreadsheet meant to update the Climate Change Initiatives in Hawaii list first developed in 2008. The purpose is to get a running list of all climate change related projects and initiatives going on in Hawaii to fill in the gaps and avoid duplication moving forward implementing the climate change adaptation framework.
- John Marra, NOAA Climate Service's Regional Director for the Pacific Islands, is also conducting a similar inventory of climate projects, focused more on research and assessment throughout the Pacific Islands region.

- It would be helpful if we could include all these items into an interactive website, to include reports, projects, presentations, etc. It was noted that during a tsunami, many people are communicating in real time via social networking websites such as Facebook, Twitter, and You Tube.
 - County and some state agencies are not allowed to view these types of websites on government computers. Want to look into what it would take to get these kinds of capabilities approved for use to coordinate climate change and coastal hazard information.
 - Downsides of social websites are the lack of rumor control and verifying credible information.
- CZM is investigating the possibility of producing a climate change public service announcement (PSA). Sea Grant offered to help with language for a RFP. NOAA outreach group also wants to work on PSAs, will connect with this effort.

b. Regional Ocean Partnerships

- The four jurisdictions of the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Partnership (PROP) held an initial meeting on March 14th to discuss organizational development of the partnership.
 - Governor Abercrombie has designated Jesse K. Souki, OP Director, as his representative on the PROP.
- The PROP representative on the National Ocean Council's Governing Coordinating Committee is Lelei Palau, of American Samoa. Lelei is coordinating the PROP's list of nominees for a national workshop on CMSP in Washington, D.C., from June 21-23, 2011.
 - Hawaii's nominees for the workshop were: Jesse Souki, William Aila, Brian Taylor, Carlos Andrade, and Sterling Wong, with Uncle Buzzy Agard as an alternate.
 - Cindy Barger will be attending the CMSP Workshop in June on behalf of USACE.

c. ORMP Outreach

- ORMP Outreach Poster – CZM and PSC staff are working on an ORMP outreach handout. Drafts were shared with the Working Group for input. Please send comments to Melissa.
- ORMP Logo – PSC has offered to develop an ORMP logo for the group, if we send some ideas on what we want it to look like. Initial ideas are that it should be blue like the cover of the ORMP, and it should include a mauka to makai element. If you have any graphical ideas, please send to Melissa.
- Maui's sailing company, Trilogy, does monthly community outreach and has been getting a strong response from the community. They always include elements of the ORMP such as the land-sea connection, promoting collaboration and stewardship, and preserving ocean heritage. They do land and ocean cleanups and local restaurants provide food. They ask for a \$20 donation, and give half the donations to Surfrider, and half to an NGO. They want to give each participant a copy of the ORMP. CZM will send them a box.
 - Last Sunday, they did a cleanup of the post-tsunami damage. They had two boats, about 150 volunteers, and multiple restaurants with tons of food. Marine debris from the tsunami is an ongoing issue. All three of Trilogy's dock boxes were swept out to sea, and haven't been found. This time, they gave all of the donations to the Japan relief effort.

Next Steps

The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 5, 2011 at the Office of Planning. Tentative agenda items include: standing agenda items (ROP, climate change, and outreach); ORMP implementation project presentation from Sea Grant/Mālama Maunaloa; and a summary of public scoping comments on the HIHWNMS Management Plan Review process.