



# 2008 Annual Report







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**Fiscal Year 2007 – 2008  
Report to the Twenty-Fifth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2009**

Prepared by  
**Office of Planning  
Department Of Business, Economic Development & Tourism  
State Of Hawaii**

In response to Section 205A-3(10), Hawaii Revised Statutes

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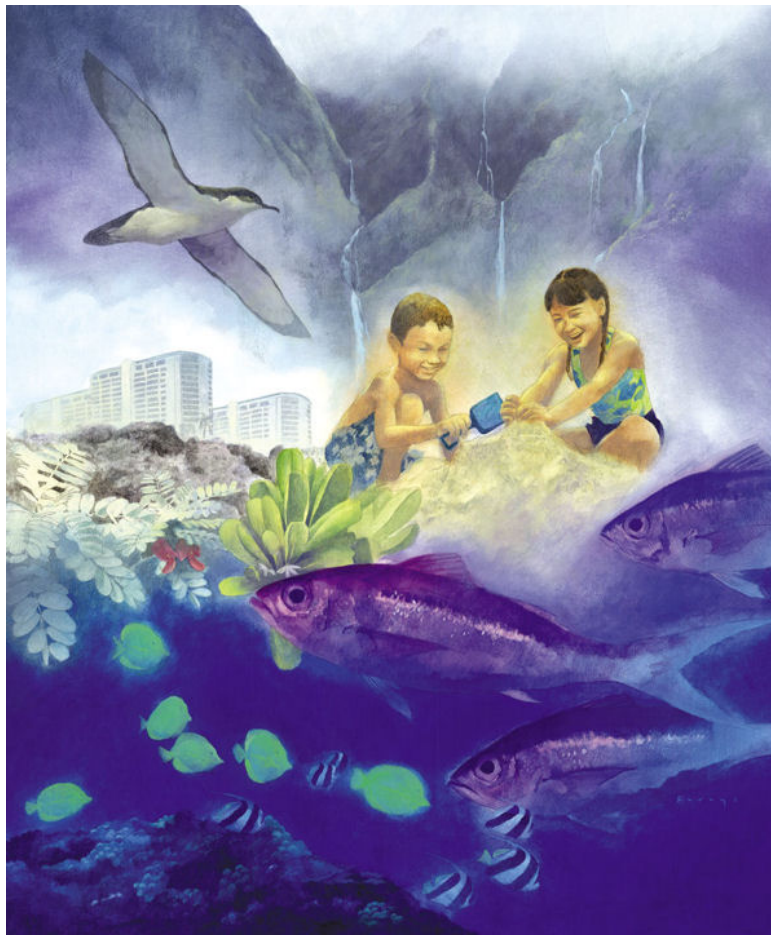




## PREFACE

From the earliest time, people of Hawaii have identified with the sea. For generations, they depended on ocean resources for subsistence, and some continue to do so today. The zone connecting land and sea continues to be the backbone of the State's economy. Clean beaches and coastal waters fuel a tourism-based economy. Many residents are still culturally and spiritually connected to the sea. The ocean is both Hawaii's heritage and future.

Everyone wants to enjoy the ocean's bounty, but intensified use of and neglect for the land and ocean have created an imbalance that threatens the ocean's health and quality. To achieve a healthy balance, new ways have to be found to reverse the pattern of decline. Managing the change will not be easy or quick. Altering the current land and water use and activity habits requires hard work. Through education and encouragement, everyone can understand the interconnectedness between land and ocean, and between the natural environment and human activities in an island ecosystem, and thus learn to appreciate and protect the coastal resources. Through this understanding, there can be respect for the marine environment. Increased knowledge and behavior changes will allow us as a community to reach the goal of good environmental health and well-being. It is a challenge, but the reward is well worth the effort.





## INTRODUCTION

Coastal zone management (CZM) is about ensuring a balance between economic development and environmental quality for present and future generations. The Hawaii CZM Program (or CZM Program) deals with complex multi-functional resource management problems, issues, concerns, and opportunities. The CZM policies provide for the protection and sustainability of coastal resources through various practices and activities. Unfortunately, there are differing views about what the environment can sustain, a major dilemma for coastal and resource management programs.

The CZM Program understands the importance of partnering with communities to assure relevance of Program actions with local values and needs. Communities are exploring ways to combine local expertise with western science to create a balanced approach to managing land and ocean resources. To achieve the goal of resource sustainability, efforts must be based on the interrelationship between land and sea, and collaboration between community and government is essential.

The CZM Program has accomplished much through hard work and dedication. The Program will continue to work with network partners and communities to address challenges and formulate solutions. Information about the CZM Program and its accomplishments as highlighted in this report can be found at the Hawaii CZM website at [hawaii.gov/dbedt/czm](http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/czm).





## Purpose

This annual report is a requirement of Section 205A-3(10), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). It describes the CZM Program's activities and accomplishments for the period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

## CZM Vision

A vibrant planning and management system that guides human activities to assure that land and water uses are designed and carried out in a manner that sustains the resources and their values.

Given multiple interests in managing Hawaii's precious resources, government and public partnerships can help assure comprehensive and coordinated research, policy development, and public education on ocean and coastal interests toward sustaining a healthy coastal zone.







## CZM PROGRAM

### What is CZM?

CZM is about using coastal resources sustainably by recognizing the needs for both economic development and resource conservation. The intent is to provide effective management, beneficial use, protection, and appropriate development of the coastal zone.

CZM is about looking at an ecosystem as an interrelated whole rather than at the individual species, resources, or uses. In a system, everything connects and interrelates; nothing is mutually exclusive or independent. CZM is about properly managing and maintaining coastal resources and human activities to assure a well-balanced ecosystem.

### What is the CZM Program?

The genesis of CZM was the 1969 Report of the Commission on Marine Science, Engineering and Resources, better known as the Stratton Commission. The report stressed that coastal areas were the backbone of the nation's economy, but were not managed properly. It also underscored the need for a national policy and management system highlighting the population shift to the coast which intensified competition for and conflict over resources, and coastal degradation resulting from multiple management regimes. Both trends are still in effect, perhaps at accelerated rates, rendering a more pronounced need for CZM.

Recognizing the need to coordinate and regulate coastal resources with a common focus, Congress enacted the national CZM Act (CZMA) in 1972 to preserve, protect, develop, and restore or enhance the resources of the coastal zone. Congress determined that the state, rather than federal or local government, was in the best position to manage the coastal zone because the state exercises discretion in land use policies and holds claim to the waters and submerged lands in the territorial sea. The CZMA was designed to be voluntary and flexible so that a jurisdictional program can respond to its own values and needs. The CZMA identifies the basic principles a program must contain, but leaves the substance to the states. Congress encouraged each state to participate in the national program by offering planning and implementation grants, and the privilege of administering the federal consistency review program.

In 1977, Hawaii's CZM Program was enacted as the State's policy umbrella for facilitating and assuring interrelated and comprehensive coastal resource management. The CZM Program oversees, and is the guiding perspective for, the design and implementation of allowable land and water uses and activities throughout the State. It encourages agencies to look at resources from a different and broader ecosystem





perspective toward achieving a balance between competing demands for limited and often fragile coastal and marine resources. In doing so, the Program also strives to protect the public trust and its resources while allowing and assuring the continued use of the resources upon which the visitor economy ultimately depends.

The Hawaii CZM law is the State's framework for assuring good resource management practices. Rather than duplicating or usurping the authorities and responsibilities of the State and County agencies, the CZM law builds upon them to form a team or network. The CZM network has working relationships with over 30 federal, State, and County agencies, as well as businesses, environmental organizations, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, special interest organizations, and the general public. To effectuate the network concept, the CZM law requires legal and operational compliance. Within the scopes of their authorities, all State and County agencies must assure their statutes, ordinances, rules, and actions comply with the CZM objectives and policies. In this way, the State and County agencies bound by the CZM statute help carry out the multi-functional purposes and requirements of CZM.

The CZM objectives, with their supporting policies, were established to guide planning and management of uses and activities toward a well-balanced coastal environment. They direct the management process toward consistency, predictability, and compliance with the law. They ensure that developments along coastal areas are appropriately designed with respect to economic, biological, environmental, and cultural values. The Program's ten objectives and supporting policies (enumerated in Section 205A-2, HRS) deal with recreational resources, historic resources, scenic and open space resources, coastal ecosystems, economic uses, coastal hazards, managing development, public participation, beach protection, and marine resources.

Because there is no point of land more than 30 miles from the ocean, a definite land-sea connection exists throughout the State. Therefore, designating the entire State as the CZM area was a logical decision. What occurs on land, even on the mountains, will impact and influence the quality of the coastal waters and marine resources. Seaward, the CZM area extends to the limit of the State's police power and management authority to include the territorial sea, a legal definition that is consistent with historic claims over the Hawaiian archipelagic waters based on ancient transportation routes. Given the inclusiveness of the coastal zone, there are many complex issues and challenges.

## **Program Administration**

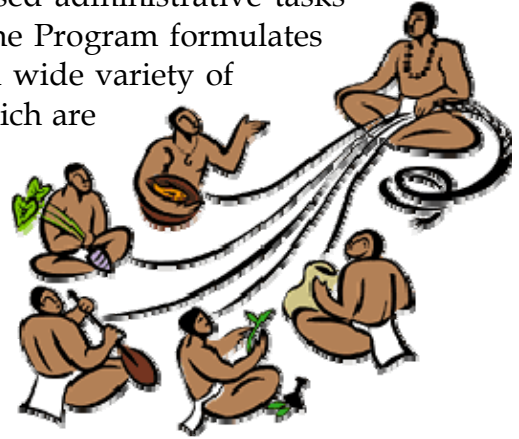
Section 205A-1, HRS, designated the Office of Planning (OP) as the lead agency to oversee the overall administration of the Hawaii CZM Program. Its primary responsibility is to monitor and assure agencies' actions are in compliance with the CZM objectives and policies. Under Section 205A-3, OP is also responsible for the



following ongoing tasks: receipt and disbursement of CZM funds, support and assistance to networked agencies, federal consistency review, monitoring and enforcement of actions for consistency and compliance, public participation, preparation and issuance of guidelines and reports, coordinating the implementation of the Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP), and others.

The CZM Program carries out a number of broad-based administrative tasks that are consistent with its objectives and policies. The Program formulates and implements policies, strategies, and plans using a wide variety of regulatory and non-regulatory techniques, most of which are characterized by:

- stewardship
- planning
- permit administration
- education and outreach
- multi-functional coordination
- policy development and implementation
- identification of emerging issues and exploration of solutions
- technical assistance to local governments and permit applicants
- assuring State and County compliance with the statutory requirements



Grant administration is a key work task since federal CZM funds underwrite most State and County CZM personnel costs. The preparation and administration of grant applications, grant reprogramming, extensions, contracts, and related activities are time consuming. The solicitation and recordation of eligible non-cash services to satisfy the one-to-one match grant requirement are cumbersome tasks. The temporary status afforded some CZM personnel contribute to workforce turnovers that make Program efficiency and consistency difficult.

The CZM Program monitors proposals for Congressional and State legislative consideration that potentially impact its program and initiatives. At the same time, the Program coordinates responses to legislative proposals with affected State and County agencies. Routinely, the Program reviews and analyzes bills and prepares testimonies on them.

Guidance and policy documents are developed for various CZM-related interests, such as interpretation of the CZM law, submarine cable landings, marina development, public access, and others. In addition to coordination with and training sessions for County personnel on CZM and the Special Management Area (SMA) permit system, the Program periodically responds to requests for policy and legal interpretations of CZM provisions.



## Grant Funding

OP receives federal and State funds for the Hawaii CZM Program. OP disperses a federal CZM cooperative agreement award annually from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for basic program administration, program enhancement, and implementation of approved polluted runoff management measures.

- **Section 306 Program Administration**

Section 306 grant funds underwrite most CZM administration costs. They require a one-to-one non-federal match. The funds support State and County CZM personnel and important projects. A limited amount of State funds to help match the federal funds is provided in the State budget. However, the inadequate amount of funds requires the use of other non-federal funds and services-in-kind. The State's reliance on federal funds for State civil service positions is a major federal concern because it detracts from using federal CZM funds for priority CZM-related projects.

- **Section 309 Coastal Zone Enhancement Grant Program**

Section 309 enhancement grants program encourages states to develop program changes in one or more of the nine designated coastal zone enhancement areas to achieve certain national objectives. The enhancement areas include wetlands, public access, coastal hazards, cumulative and secondary impacts, energy and government facility siting, marine debris, ocean resources, special management planning, and aquaculture. Although Section 309 funds do not require a State match, they must be used for activities that enhance specified CZMA objectives which result in a measurable program change (i.e., rules, laws, etc.).

A State-prepared five-year assessment and strategy in effect July 2006 to June 2011, determine how the grant funds will be allocated. The funds will underwrite priority enhancement area projects related to coastal hazards, ORMP implementation and update projects, and cumulative and secondary impacts.

- **Section 310 Technical Assistance for the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (CNPCP) Implementation**

The Section 310 program provides sporadic financial support for the implementation of federally-approved management measures of the State's CNPCP.







The VisionKeepers completed its *The VisionKeepers' Guide to Implementing Your Community Plan*, which highlights its first two years of implementation, providing stories, lessons learned, and key questions for other community plans. Templates, such as procedures for selecting committee members, organizational governance, agendas, and budgets are also included. The guide will be a valuable tool for the communities of Puna, Kona, and Kohala on the Island of Hawaii and elsewhere in the preparation of community plans, and is available online at [co.hawaii.hi.us/edh2025](http://co.hawaii.hi.us/edh2025)

- **Pacific Regional Marine Debris - Ghostnet Mitigation**

Ghostnets are a problem world-wide that negatively affects the health of marine and coastal ecosystems. Documenting the impacts of ghostnets is vital to finding a resolution to the problem. The CZM Program funded a University of Hawaii (UH) Sea Grant College Program project that identified the economic costs and impacts of ghostnets on maritime and recreational vessels, coastal tourism, and fisheries. The project also identified existing port facilities available for recovering derelict and discarded fishing gear.

- **County of Hawaii Shoreline Public Access (SPA) Inventory Program (SPA Geodatabase)**

The CZM Program supported the County of Hawaii's development of a SPA geodatabase (inventory), brochure map, website, and the update of the SPA geodatabase for all districts in the County, except for North and South Kona which were completed with County funds. The project involved research of records to determine the legal status of all public access sites, the collection and recordation of data, and the geo-referencing of trail locations with respect to shoreline and parcel data layers. A brochure guide map is posted on the County's website at [co.hawaii.hi.us/planning/spa/index.html](http://co.hawaii.hi.us/planning/spa/index.html).

- **County of Hawaii SPA Signage Program**

This project is an inventory and site selection for signage. The County has completed most of the sign installations/replacements in North and South Kohala and South Hilo. Public access sites in Hamakua and North Hilo were inventoried and determined not to require additional SPA signage.

## **Special Management Area (SMA) and Shoreline Area**

The Hawaii CZM Program is responsible for monitoring and enforcing State and County SMA. Under Parts II and III of Chapter 205A, the Counties administer the SMA permit and shoreline setback variance (SSV) approval systems. Development in the



SMA requires a permit from the County authority, except in community development districts (CDD) where the permit is administered by OP (Kakaako in urban Honolulu and Kalaeloa in West Oahu). The SMA permit is a management tool to assure that developments in geographically designated SMAs are designed and carried out in compliance with the CZM objectives and policies and SMA guidelines.

The evaluation of the County SMA administration involved a comprehensive survey of the County SMA and SSV, including the County rules and ordinances for the SMA permit and SSV approval, and grading and subdivision activities within each County. The evaluation provided an overview of the consistency of assessment, nexus of conditions, and performance requirements of the SMA permit. When frequency and intensity of coastal hazard events are on the rise globally, the island insular settings force the Program to enhance multi-hazard mitigations through the SMA and SSV permit system. The permit system assessments are routinely shared with the Counties to promote consistent understanding and practice in the permit process.

Three SMA minors and two major SMA use approvals for developments within the Kakaako CDD were conditionally approved. One of the approved SMA use approvals is for repairs to open channel and box culvert portions of a drainage structure. A major SMA use approval application is pending upon satisfaction of Chapter 343 requirements. The project is about seawater air conditioning within the Kakaako CDD.

The CZM Program initiated amendments to Chapter 15-150, Hawaii Administrative Rules, to comply with definitions of “coastal zone management area” and “development” in the Chapter 205A, HRS, and to adopt new guidelines for implementing the recent amendments to the statute. The proposed amendments will avoid delays in the process of SMA use approval applications within the CDDs by authorizing OP to waive the requirement of a shoreline certification in specific instances where the shoreline has been hardened and fixed by artificial structure(s). The Department of the Attorney General and the Small Business Regulatory Review Board reviewed the proposal and recommended proceeding with the public hearing, which will be held after receipt of the Governor’s approval.

The CZM Program monitors the Office of Environmental Quality Control’s bimonthly bulletin, *The Environmental Notice*, of all the State and County shoreline development permits, and reviews applications and proposals to ensure the network agencies consider the CZM objectives and policies in their reviews.

Partnerships with and knowledge between the Counties and network agencies continue to be strengthened through the coordination and collaboration of coastal and ocean planning and management activities. A statewide program coordinator is dedicated to oversee SMA matters by serving as the liaison to the Counties and communicating with the public. Site visits are undertaken periodically to validate reports and better



understand critical CZM issues. The CZM Program continues to increase public awareness of the SMA permit process and procedures by providing training sessions, encouraging public participation, and distributing the SMA Guide.

Two SMA training sessions were conducted on Maui and one on Kauai. The audience included planners, Planning Commissioners, developers, and the public. The workshops addressed the requirements of the SMA permit, expressed the need for conditions to have a CZM context, and cited several examples of concern. An individual training session was also offered to a new County CZM staff on the CZM Program and its broader initiatives.

The CZM Program holds regular meetings with County Planning Directors to discuss and seek solutions for issues dealing with public access, human-induced overgrowth of vegetation on beaches, time performance provisions for the SMA permits, and cumulative impacts of the proposed development. In one meeting, the Department of the Attorney General described public access laws and their applications in Hawaii. The Counties also exchanged their experiences, perspectives, and challenges in administrating the SMA permit in support of the dialogue. These sessions enhance partnership to seeking solutions to emerging CZM issues.

### Federal Consistency Program

The CZMA requires federal agencies to conduct their planning, management, development, and regulatory activities in a manner consistent with federally-approved state CZM programs. The informational and procedural requirements for CZM federal consistency reviews are prescribed by federal regulations.

Because there is a significant federal presence in Hawaii, federal consistency is a valuable State management tool. Federal planning, regulatory, and construction activities have direct and significant effects on land and water environments statewide. The federal government controls vast tracts of land. The range of federal activities and permits reviewed is extensive and includes harbor projects, beach nourishment projects, military facilities and training exercises, fisheries management plans and regulations, open ocean aquaculture, and dredge and fill operations. In addition, projects funded by certain federal grant programs are reviewed for potential impacts to CZM resources. Public notices for all federal consistency reviews are published in *The Environmental Notice*.

The following are noteworthy examples of federal consistency activities:

1. **Makua Military Reservation Training Activities:** The U.S. Army's live-fire training exercises at Makua Military Reservation on Oahu were reviewed for impacts on resources in areas beyond the reservation. The reservation itself is a



federal area that is excluded from CZM review. However, the CZM Program was concerned about the effects of live-fire training, particularly wildfire on State natural area reserves, critical habitat for endangered species, and historic and cultural resources. Federal consistency negotiations with the Army resulted in mitigation measures to ensure protection of natural and cultural resources.

2. **U.S. Navy Undersea Warfare Exercises (USWEX):** The CZM Program reviewed a series of USWEX, which are anti-submarine exercises involving the use of mid-frequency active sonar in waters around the State. The primary concern with sonar is its potential to harm marine mammals such as whales and monk seals. USWEX also involves land-based training exercises such as aerial bombing of Kaula Island off of Kauai and Pohakuloa Training Area on the Island of Hawaii. Operational conditions and mitigation measures were required for the sonar use for consistency with CZM enforceable policies. An objection was issued over the use of Kaula Island until a monitoring plan and baseline survey of birds is completed. In response to the Program's consistency decision, the Navy issued a notice of intent to proceed over both the conditions and objection.
3. **U.S. Navy Hawaii Range Complex (HRC):** The HRC is one of the Navy's range complexes used for training operational forces and military systems. The HRC covers 235,000 square nautical miles around the Main Hawaiian Islands, and a 2.1 million square nautical mile Temporary Operating Area of sea and airspace. The biennial Rim of the Pacific naval exercise is included as one of the major activities covered by the review. One of the primary concerns was the Navy's use of mid-frequency active sonar and its impacts on marine mammals. The CZM Program required mitigation measures for the sonar use to be consistent with CZM enforceable policies. An objection was issued to the use of Kaula Island for bombing until a monitoring plan and baseline survey of birds is completed, and the development and operation of a directed energy (laser) weapon facility at the Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai, until potential hazards are identified and operating procedures and safety requirements are developed. The Navy declined to agree and issued a notice of intent to proceed over the conditions requiring sonar mitigation and the objection to the bombing of Kaula Island. However, the Navy is developing a management plan for seabirds at Kaula in response to the CZM review and also agreed to submit a separate CZM review for the directed energy facility when the details are developed.
4. **Hawaii Superferry Security Zones:** The CZM Program issued federal consistency concurrences for the U.S. Coast Guard to establish security zones for the Hawaii Superferry at Nawiliwili Harbor, Kauai and Kahului Harbor, Maui. The security zones were necessary in consideration of the large number of protestors who prevented the Superferry from entering Nawiliwili Harbor. The Program's consistency concurrence ensured that public access was maintained





by requiring that canoe and boating clubs, small commercial businesses, and Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners be given consideration for access to resources during the activation of the security zone. The Program also required that when the security zone is inactive, public access to and use of established public areas in and around Nawiliwili Harbor and Kahului Harbor be allowed.

The Hawaii CZM Program facilitates cooperation among government agencies in reviewing applications for federal, State, and County permits. Also, pre-application consultation is highly encouraged. Consultations occur by telephone and email, as well as through meetings involving applicants and agencies.

The CZM Program continued its involvement with the federal and State agency coordination initiative involving quarterly meetings with regulatory and resource agencies, and various branches of the military. The meetings are hosted by the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and the U.S. Navy. This forum provides the participating agencies an opportunity to discuss and coordinate on current and future projects, activities, and issues.

## Citizen Participation

Public participation and outreach is an ongoing CZM activity. Participation in numerous organizations, events, and conferences continue to educate others of the CZM Program's perspective about public involvement in integrated ocean and coastal resource management. Citizen involvement is important because stewardship is essentially a community function, and success in resource planning and management is enhanced with community partnerships.

The Hawaii CZM website was redesigned and reorganized to be more consistent and user-friendly. The site also works well on most hand held internet terminals, such as the iPhone, Treo, Blackberry, and various cell phones. The site is continually updated and provides important information and resources about CZM initiatives and projects.

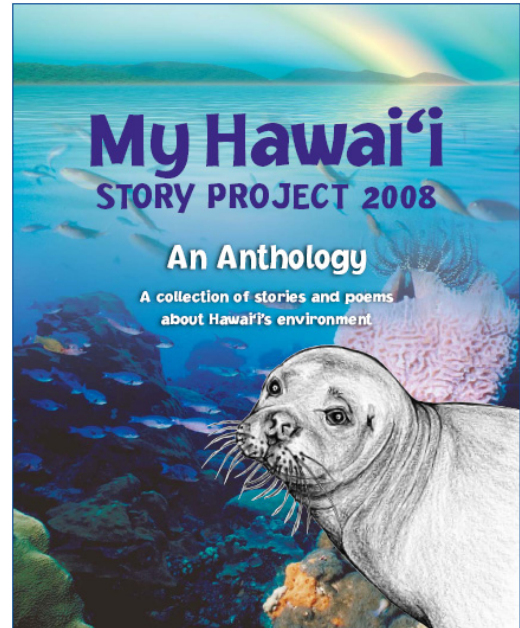
Funding was provided for the annual Get the Drift and Bag It! cleanup event. The event is part of the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup and is held worldwide on the third Saturday of each September. The project attracts hundreds of volunteers statewide and removes thousands of pounds of trash from the shoreline areas. Tabulated data are displayed on the Ocean Conservancy website ([www.oceanconservancy.org](http://www.oceanconservancy.org)).



The CZM Program funded the printing of *My Hawaii Story Project 2008*, a collection of stories and poems written by Hawaii middle school students. The project supports the ORMP Perspective 3 on promoting collaboration and stewardship by developing education and outreach programs to educate residents and visitors on natural and cultural resource values, regulations, and best practices.

Outreach, education, and presentations on the Hawaii CZM Program and its initiatives were presented to a wide variety of audiences at various events, some of which include:

- Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary's Advisory Council
- Hawaii Coral Reef Outreach Network, International Year of the Reef
- NOAA's Annual Program Managers' Meeting
- Kawaihae Local Resource Council
- Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council
- Graduate classes at UH
- PACON's 2008 Ocean Day Festival
- Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts Annual Convention



### **Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council (MACZAC)**

Section 205A-3(6), HRS, established a formal public participation component in the CZM Program. To further this aim, MACZAC was established as a public advisory body under Section 205A-3.5, HRS. MACZAC was tasked to advise the Program on matters relating to marine and coastal zone management planning, coordination, and facilitation of CZM functions.

MACZAC established several investigative working groups to address specific CZM-related issues and concerns. In the course of the work, the groups provided for public participation in their activities and decisions. They stimulated public awareness of and involvement in coastal issues and the activities and accomplishments of the CZM Program. The groups addressed the following specific marine and coastal zone management issues:

- Shoreline access/coastal parking
- Boating
- Marine managed areas



- Regulatory review
- Wastewater
- Lua compost toilets
- Moku management
- Legislation

MACZAC members also agreed to help spearhead public participation in implementing the ORMP. MACZAC's Chair and Vice-Chair serve on the ORMP's Policy Group and Working Group, respectively. Furthermore, MACZAC deliberated on ways to bridge the gap between government and local communities on coastal issues and engage in public outreach.



## CZM INITIATIVES

### CZMA Performance Measurement System (PMS)

Under the CZMA PMS, each federally-approved CZM program across the nation is required to collect and report on performance measures. The purpose is to track the performance and effectiveness of the coastal management programs and estuarine research reserves at the national level. A set of performance measures and contextual indicators were developed to assess how well programs achieve their goals and objectives, which are to be reported under the following six categories:

1. Government Coordination & Decision Making
2. Public Access
3. Coastal Habitat
4. Coastal Water Quality
5. Coastal Hazards
6. Coastal Dependent Uses & Community Development

Phase 1 collected data for the first two categories which was completed in July 2006. The next two categories, along with other changes, were added to Phase 2. In addition to updating the data collection materials to reflect these new changes, the structure of the survey forms and explanation of terms were redesigned to be simpler and user-friendly. This helped improve data collection and enhance participation and involvement from source agencies. The Phase 2 Final Report was completed and submitted to NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) in October 2007. To further enhance the data, graphic displays of the public access data were prepared.

Phase 3 was to report on all six categories. The CZM Program met with the Counties to discuss and seek solutions to some of the new changes and definitions. The discussions and examples presented during these meetings helped provide better guidance and clarification of the materials for everyone. The CZM Program collaborated on a few of the changes to the definitions and provisions to assure geographic relevancy. As of June 30, 2008, Phase 3 data collection materials had been updated and circulated to source agencies to start the collection process.

Data collected from source agencies will be used to communicate with stakeholders, including Congress, the importance of the National CZM Program. Qualitative and quantitative reporting and analyses provide information and document trends on how the national program is responding to environmental, economic, and social challenges to balance development with the protection and restoration of coastal resources.





The CZMA PMS has been and continues to be refined and updated as OCRM and CZM programs gain experience in developing data sources, tracking activities, and reporting performance so that it reflects national priorities of the CZM programs. To date, the Hawaii CZM Program has fulfilled all federal requirements for the CZMA PMS.

## **Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP)**

The ORMP sets forth guiding principles and recommendations for the State to achieve comprehensive and integrated ocean and coastal resources management. Section 205A-62, HRS, charges the Hawaii CZM Program with the review and periodic update of the ORMP, as well as coordination of the overall implementation of the plan. The ORMP is an integrated, place-based approach to management of ocean resources in the islands, based on recognition of the ecological connections between the land and sea, the link between human activities and its impacts on the environment, and the need for improved collaboration and stewardship in natural resources governance.

An executive-level Policy Group and a manager/staff-level Working Group were established to oversee and coordinate the implementation and further development of the ORMP. The Policy Group meets twice annually to recommit staff time and support for ORMP implementation, to guide the Working Group, and to approve their work tasks and recommendations. A schedule and list of initial work tasks were developed and agreed upon at the first Policy Group meeting in July 2007.

The Policy Group and Working Group are represented by members from federal, State, and County partners, citizens groups, and UH. However, the Working Group is the catalyst of ORMP implementation. The Working Group meets monthly to coordinate agency efforts, streamline implementation, and further develop the ORMP. Members have selected implementation priorities and developed work plans to describe how agencies will implement the ORMP. The work plans include information on the tasks, partners, timeframes, results indicators, budgets, and additional needs. A consolidated State work plan was presented to the Policy Group in April 2008.

## **Promoting Collaboration and Stewardship**

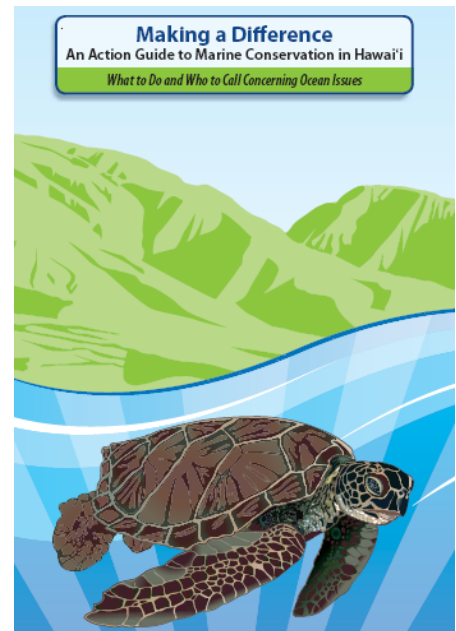
One of the primary objectives of the CZM Program is to coordinate the implementation of the ORMP by promoting collaborative governance and stewardship. Federal approval was granted to reprogram surplus funds for coordinated implementation activities to support the ORMP. The CZM Program issued a statewide solicitation notice of available funding and requested proposals for partnership projects between government (State or County) and the community with the primary objective of implementing the management goals and strategic actions of the ORMP. Successful applicants met the following criteria:



- Demonstrated collaboration among State and County government agencies and community entities to cooperatively implement the ORMP.
- Identified how the project would implement one or more specific management goals and strategic actions in the ORMP, a timeline of project activities and deliverables, and a detailed narrative budget justification.
- Provided non-federal matching funds or services-in-kind on a one-to-one basis.

The following projects were supported and completed using CZM grants:

- **Hilo Bay Watershed Advisory Group Website Project**  
This project involved the design, development, implementation, and administration of a professional-quality interactive website for use by the wider community to address the Hilo Bay Watershed Advisory Group mission, which is to “bring the community together to understand and protect the ecology of the Hilo Bay Watershed.”
- **Hilo Bay Watershed Advisory Group Water Quality Monitoring Program**  
This program identified pollutants that may need application of best management practices to bring suspect waters into compliance with current water quality standards.
- **Tsunami Education, Preparation & Recovery Plan for Downtown Hilo**  
This project addressed the risk that the Downtown Hilo business community faces from tsunami inundation, including storm surge and coastal flooding.
- ***Making a Difference: An Action Guide to Marine Conservation in Hawaii***  
This project was designed as a community tool to promote marine stewardship. The booklet provides key information, guidelines, and contact information for marine resource conservation and enforcement of rules and regulations.

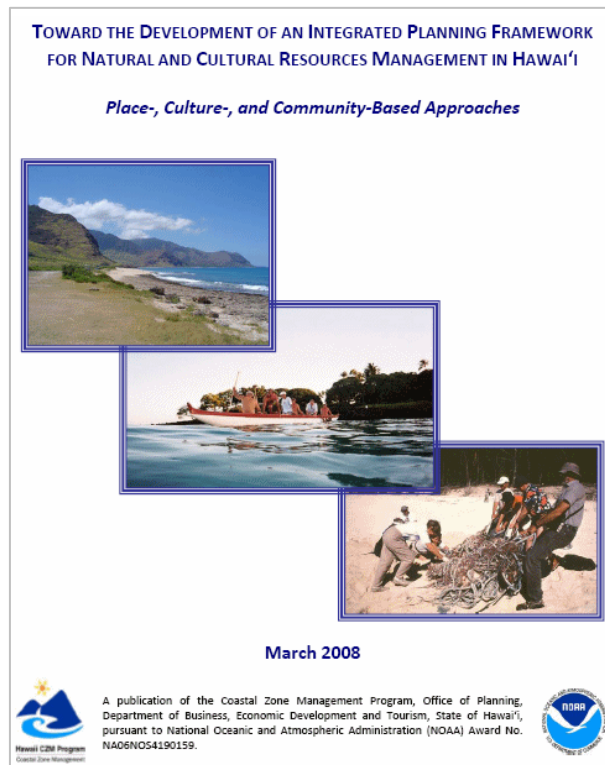


## Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

The goal of the CBRM project is to refine and institutionalize an integrated planning approach for the Hawaii CZM Program to guide the State toward natural and cultural resource management that is grounded by place, culture, and community. The Program has had several recent accomplishments toward that goal.



In late 2007, the CZM Program completed an inventory of community stewardship groups and conducted a survey of these groups on their challenges, needs, best practices, successful projects, and institutional resources. The inventory implemented a foundational ORMP strategic action. The information gathered through the survey was used to develop five draft principles. A workshop of about 50 representatives from participating community stewardship groups was held in January 2008, to build capacity and develop implementation options associated with each principle. The resulting draft framework, consisting of the principles and accompanying implementation options, is included in the final report entitled, *Toward the Development of an Integrated Planning Framework for Natural and Cultural Resources Management in Hawaii: Place-, Culture-, and Community-Based Approaches*.



## Community Stewardship

### Directory



March 2008

In addition, the survey results were used to create a community stewardship directory which contains mission statements, contact information, areas of focus, projects, and more on the 59 groups included. Initial response to the directory has been extremely positive, and many groups have requested to be included in the updated directory.

The process of identifying, surveying, and bringing together stewardship groups and organizations has increased the Program's awareness of the resource management community. Furthermore, community stewardship organizations learned about the program's efforts to implement and institutionalize place-based, integrated planning. Implementing this strategic action within the ORMP helped establish cooperative relationships as well as lay fundamental groundwork for future stages of project initiatives.

## Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (CNPCP)

The primary focus of this project was collaboration on and development of management measures necessary for federal approval for the State's CNPCP. Section 6217 of the *Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990* requires the coastal zone



and water quality agencies of each state with a federally-approved CZM program to develop and implement a CNPCP. The Hawaii CZM Program and the State Department of Health (DOH)'s Polluted Runoff Control Program collaborated on an ongoing basis with NOAA and the Environmental Protection Agency to meet the remaining requirements for approval.

In July 2007, Hawaii received interim approval of its site development management measure for Urban Areas. In March 2008, Hawaii received approval of both the erosion and sediment control and the grazing management measures which completed the process of full approval for the CNPCP for Agriculture. As of June 30, 2008, there are 12 remaining management measures and two administrative requirements pending federal approval.

The CNPCP awarded a contract for the Phase II development of the Hawaii OnePlan. The Hawaii OnePlan is a computer based Geographic Information System application tool to aid the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and State funded NRCS-trained conservation specialists to work with farmers to create conservation plans.

## Coastal Hazards

Hawaii is threatened by numerous hazards, many of which affect the near shore area. The hazards include coastal erosion, earthquake, tsunami, hurricane, sea level rise, flooding, storm wave, subsidence, lava flow, wildfire, and pollution. They can result in significant loss of life, property and environmental damage, business loss and interruption, and damage to historical and cultural resources.

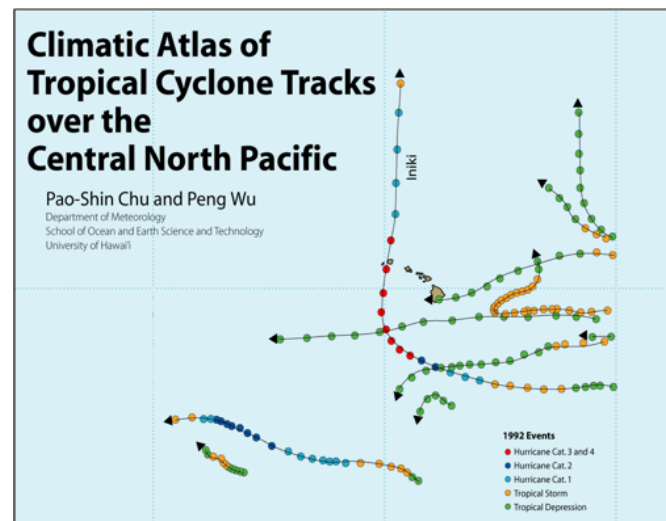
A CZM objective is to reduce risk to life and property from coastal hazards. A related objective deals with the improvement of the development review process in the management of coastal hazards. The hazard mitigation work is focused on meeting these objectives to achieve greater community resilience to natural hazards.

The following are coastal hazard mitigation highlights:

1. **Earthquake Loss Estimation Modeling:** The report, *Earthquake Hazards and Estimated Losses in the County of Hawaii*, won the 2007 Overall Award for Excellence in Mitigation from the Western States Seismic Policy Council. The report's loss estimation model was validated in the wake of the October 2006 Kiholo Earthquake. The model's damage estimates were found to be similar to the actual damages sustained in that event and thus found to be valuable for earthquake hazard mitigation. The Hawaii CZM Program, State Civil Defense, and the Hawaii State Earthquake Advisory Committee were joint award recipients.



2. **Update of the State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan:** The update was approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in October 2007. The plan is essential for State eligibility of federal post-disaster funding and pre-disaster mitigation grant funding, including flood mitigation assistance, fire management assistance, certain categories of public assistance, and two hazard mitigation grant programs. The monies can be used for projects such as repair of critical facilities, public awareness programs, and risk and vulnerability assessments, all of which build resilience for future hazard events. The CZM Program's contributions to the plan included drafting portions on the role of OP in integrating hazard mitigation into local, regional, and statewide planning, and oversight responsibilities for plan approval and implementation as a member of the State Hazard Mitigation Forum.
3. **Hurricane-Wind Speed Mapping and Building Code Amendments for the County of Maui:** A community's resilience to natural hazards such as hurricanes can be strengthened by adoption and enforcement of modern building codes which incorporate the latest advances in science and engineering, and provide a uniform and predictable regulatory environment for homeowners, as well as the design, construction, and insurance industries. The CZM Program completed wind risk assessment, maps, and wind design standards for hurricane-force winds hitting the County of Maui. The work is being reviewed by the State Building Code Council for inclusion in the State Building Code as technical amendments to the 2006 International Building Code (IBC).
4. **IBC Training:** Realization of the full value of the latest building codes requires well-trained and highly qualified design, building, and regulatory communities. In August, September, and October 2007 and May 2008, the CZM Program co-sponsored IBC training, partnering with the City and County of Honolulu Building Division; the local chapters of the American Institute of Architects and the Construction Specifications Institute; the Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii; and the Hawaii Association of County Building Officials. There were over 900 participants in twelve training sessions.
5. **Climatic Atlas of Tropical Cyclones:** The project resulted in an atlas of best track records of tropical cyclones over the Central North Pacific. In addition to its forecasting and emergency







management uses, the track data provide a baseline for studying the changes of tropical cyclones in an environment of increasing sea surface temperatures.

- 6. Coastal States Organization's Coastal Resiliency Steering Committee:** As a member of this committee, the CZM Program assisted in collecting information on current resilience efforts of the coastal jurisdictions and assessing the potential for resilience to be used as a performance measure in the national PMS. The committee produced a white paper entitled, *Coastal Community Resilience: An Evaluation of Resilience as a Potential Performance Measure of the Coastal Zone Management Act*, which concluded that resilience should not be included in the PMS at this time because there is no widely accepted mechanism for measuring resilience, among other factors.

## Special Projects

### Rural Policy and Best Practices Project

The rural project was initiated in 2006 to provide local governments, public, and State decision-makers with information on policies, planning tools, and practices that could be used to better plan and manage the cumulative and secondary impact of development in the State's rural areas. The project included public workshops on rural land use policies and planning techniques, and the compilation of information on various tools and case studies that will be published in the form of a rural planning guidebook for Hawaii. The work was the basis of a legislative proposal, House Bill 1269/Senate Bill 1355 introduced in the 2007 legislative session, which proposed amendments to the State land use law to redefine the state rural land use district and allow the use of innovative planning practices to protect rural areas and their ecosystem and hydrologic functions. This bill is also being used to reform rural land use policy, including a revised bill to be proposed for inclusion in the 2009 Administration legislative portfolio.

### Onsite Wastewater Treatment Survey and Assessment Study

The purpose of this study was to ensure the protection of valuable water resources and the environment through the effective use of onsite wastewater treatment and disposal systems in rural and urban settings, so that ground and surface water resources, coastal water quality, and coastal habitats are protected from contamination. The report identified a range of individual onsite wastewater treatment and disposal systems, with an assessment of the site factors and implementation issues related to the selection of an appropriate system for use in Hawaii. The document provides information on the capabilities and limitations of onsite and selected alternative wastewater systems, as well as factors to consider in the selection of an appropriate system so that those



involved in the selection, design, construction, operation, maintenance, and permitting of these facilities can make informed decisions.

The study was sponsored by the Hawaii CZM Program and the State DOH, and prepared by Dr. Roger Babcock of UH. The final document was completed in March 2008, and is available online at both the CZM and the DOH websites.

### **Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP)**

To address the need for long-term protection of significant coastal and estuarine resources, CELCP was created to assist the CZM Program in protecting and preserving coastal scenic and open space resources and valuable coastal ecosystems. CELCP continues to work with local land trusts and government agencies to refine the Hawaii Plan. The Plan provides a framework for identifying coastal and estuarine land conservation priorities, and defines the State process for evaluating project proposals.

The CZM Program worked with interested parties to develop and submit proposals to NOAA for possible funding consideration. Two proposals were reviewed and submitted to NOAA's competitive grant process. Each of these proposals was considered to be nationally competitive and was also a good candidate for local State and municipal funds for acquisition of important resource lands.

### **Additional Projects**

#### **CZM Program Office-wide Toolkits**

The Office-wide Toolkits were created to assist the different programs within OP to further their understanding and advocacy of the CZM goals and objectives. The project was created to be a resource/reference for planners to incorporate CZM concerns in the review and preparation of comments and positions on environmental assessment/environmental impact statements, permit applications, and land use dockets before the Land Use Commission. It is intended to assist the Land Use Division in providing improved information to land use regulators/decision-makers and in the review process of new developments. It is also intended to be used to introduce and orient new staff to the CZM Program.

The project integrates CZM objectives and concerns in the land use and planning work of the Office. It identifies the most important, useful, and current information for each of the initiatives/projects carried out by the CZM Program. Each toolkit contains the following information:

- Background
- Authorities/Statutes



- Key Reference Documents
- Key Reference Maps & Tools
- Best Management Practices
- Lead Agency & Point of Contact
- Key Web Resources

### **NOAA Project Design and Evaluation Workshop**

The Hawaii CZM Program, in partnership with NOAA's Coastal Services Center, held a two-day Project Design and Evaluation Workshop in May 2008, for coastal resource managers, planners, and others. The 28 participants included people from the CZM Program, Land Use Division, and Special Projects Branch of OP; planners from the Counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai; water quality planners and engineers from the State DOH; and hazard mitigation officers from the State Civil Defense Agency. The purpose of this training was to build the capacity of the lead agency and its network partners in project design, implementation, and evaluation.

### **House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) No. 258**

HCR No. 258 requests the OP to coordinate the city and state agencies in addressing the overgrowth of vegetation on Kahala Beach. There have been numerous community complaints that human-induced vegetation is blocking public access and use of Kahala Beach. The OP convened and facilitated meetings which involved the Hawaii CZM Program, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Planning and Permitting, community members, and city county and legislative staff members in January, April, and September 2008. A report to the Legislature has been completed.



## CLOSING

CZM is a concept also known by other terms, such as resource and ecosystem management. However, natural resources do not need to be managed. When left undisturbed, nature will naturally fix and heal itself. Resource management is really about managing human activities that affect the delicate balance of use and conservation of resources.

Hawaii is a beautiful place, a unique environment composed of an intimate connection between land and sea. The quality of life is derived from a vibrant and healthy sea, a rich and resourceful ocean. However, through generations of continuous ocean harvesting and land development, the ocean and coastal environment is being rapidly degraded and depleted. Regional and global circumstances create new challenges such as climate change, sea level rise, ocean acidification, and increased frequency and severity of coastal hazards. Land is becoming less available because population growth and economic expansion require more land for homes, work, infrastructure, and food production.

The need to achieve a sustainable balance for the island ecosystem is more pronounced than ever. Developing and maintaining a strong and healthy economy, protecting the environment, educating the people, and creating new conservation tools to protect the land and coastal resources are worthy pursuits and need to be effectuated. The goal is to make Hawaii a better place to live, for today and future generations. Everyone must work together to achieve this goal. It is by respecting and taking care of nature that nature, in return, can provide the rich resources that everyone wants to enjoy.





## ACRONYMS

CBRM	Community-Based Resource Management
CDD	Community Development District
CNPCP	Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program
CZM	Coastal Zone Management
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
DOH	Department of Health
HRS	Hawaii Revised Statutes
IBC	International Building Code
MACZAC	Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OCRM	Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
OP	Office of Planning
ORMP	Ocean Resources Management Plan
PMS	Performance Measurement System
SMA	Special Management Area
SPA	Shoreline Public Access
SSV	Shoreline Setback Variances
UH	University of Hawaii





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