

**Hawaii Ocean Resources Management Plan  
Council on Ocean Resources/Coordinated Working Group Joint Meeting**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

May 20, 2016, 2 pm – 4 pm

No. 1 Capitol Building, 250 S. Hotel Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Multi-purpose Room

**Council Members Present:**

Bob Stanfield for George Atta (City and County of Honolulu, Dept. of Planning and Permitting)  
Bethany Morrison for Duane Kanuha (County of Hawaii, Planning Department) via phone  
Michael Dahilig (County of Kauai, Department of Planning)  
Michele McLean for William Spence (County of Maui, Department of Planning)  
Justine Nihipali for Leo Asuncion (Office of Planning)  
Alton Miyasaka for Suzanne Case. (Department of Land and Natural Resources)  
Keith Kawaoka for Virginia Pressler (Hawaii Department of Health, Environmental Health Administration)  
Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (Hawaii Department of Agriculture)  
Norren Kato for Dean Nakagawa (Hawaii Department of Transportation, Statewide Transportation Planning Office)  
Chip Fletcher for Brian Taylor (University of Hawaii, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology)  
Jim Coon for Sue Sakai (Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council)  
Darren Lerner (University of Hawaii, Sea Grant College Program)

**Working Group Members Present:**

Jody Galinato (County of Kauai, Department of Planning)  
Elia Herman (DLNR, Division of Aquatic Resources)  
Bradley Romine (DLNR-OCCL/UH Sea Grant)  
Todd Low (Hawaii Department of Agriculture)  
Sandra Rossetter (Department of Transportation, Harbors Division)  
Michael Burke (Hawaii Department of Health, Clean Water Branch)  
Darcy Iwashita (Hawaii Department of Health, Clean Water Branch)

**Partners/Others Present:**

Mike Wyatt (USACE); Nancy McPherson (Department of Hawaiian Home Lands); Matthew Gonser (UH Sea Grant); Fiona Langenberger (Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System); Rebecka Arbin (Office of Planning, CZM Program); Shichao Li (Office of Planning, CZM Program); Lisa Webster (Office of Planning, Sub-ROP Project)

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

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Justine Nihipali, Planning & Policy Analyst, Office of Planning, Coastal Zone Management Program

1. Ms. Nihipali called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone and expressed regrets on behalf of Director Asuncion who was performing jury duty. All those present briefly introduced themselves.

**II. ORMP Overview and Activities**

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Justine Nihipali, Planning & Policy Analyst, Office of Planning, Coastal Zone Management Program

A. Overview: Introduction and Refresher to the ORMP

Ms. Nihipali provided a brief refresher of the ORMP, including its history/background, Hawaii Ocean Partnership (HOP) formalization, its governance structure and function, and current focus on implementation.

**III. Mid-Plan Review**

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Justine Nihipali, Planner, OP-CZM

A. ORMP Report to Council

- 1) Ms. Nihipali provided a summary of the ORMP activities for the first half of this planning period. The ORMP Coordinated Working Group (CWG) meetings have provided a venue for the partnership to provide feedback on a number of recent studies, projects, tools, and program changes. The established Actions Teams (ACTs) for

Management Priorities (MP) #1 Appropriate Coastal Development and #2 Management of Coastal Hazards, and MP #5 Coral Reef have also been active and engaging in implementation.

- MP #1&2: Implementation plan has been finalized. The ACT identified many actions that would support these management priorities, and eliminated some that were redundant to other initiatives such as the Interagency Climate Adaptation Committee (ICAC). Ultimately, they decided upon a project that will “expand efforts to assess the feasibility and implications of implementing managed retreat strategies (e.g., shoreline armoring restrictions, rebuilding restrictions, structure removal requirements, acquisition and buy-out programs, conservation easements, rolling easements, etc.) to gradually shift threatened development inland and away from vulnerable coastal areas. Funding support for this project will come from the lead agency (OP).
  - MP #5: DLNR-DAR identified 2 areas of which the ORMP could assist in implementation. The first supports facilitation stakeholder engagement, public meetings, and public hearings for community based subsistence fishing area (CBSFA) designations. The second continues to train interested communities in monitoring protocol for nearshore fish species to develop more informed “pono” fishing practices. The project also includes data gathering and analysis for key nearshore fish species to inform recommendations to DLNR-DAR for possible regulations changes on catch size and limits. Funding support for this project comes from OP as a supporting agency.
- 2) Ms. Nihipali posed a question to the Council to assist in identifying actionable items that the Council would like the CWG and ACTs to focus on through the remainder of the planning period. There were no immediate comments at the time.
- Action: OP will develop and circulate a survey in order to obtain feedback for this item.**
- 3) Ms. Nihipali noted that, in addition to implementation through 2018, the ORMP will begin its update process in 2018-2019. The Council and CWG should start to consider how to improve the Plan. Some considerations might include:
- a. While the 2013 version is more streamlined than the 2006 version, resources are still pretty stretched in terms of staff time. Is the plan realistic to expect all of the activities to be completed?
  - b. There are many redundancies in the representation on action teams, therefore it may be challenging
  - c. Are there better approaches or considerations that we should be thinking about for the next iteration of the plan?

#### Discussion

- Chip Fletcher, UH SOEST, inquired whether or not an assessment of the effectiveness of the Plan has taken place, and suggested that a one way to address this would be to incorporate assessments into the Plan update.
- Elia Herman, DLNR-DAR, indicated that some of the metrics that are useful include those that are specific, particularly those that reference obtaining employee positions. This has been useful to convey messages and indicate planned needs when requesting resources either from the legislature or through granting agencies. The plan (as written) has been a useful tool to better organize activities that agencies are already doing and help to use it as a way to leverage the things that agencies already know that they want to accomplish.
- Jim Coon, MACZAC, noted that recently there is increasing knowledge among lawmakers of the ORMP which is positive, although it seems that there has been less of a concerted effort to promote the plan (than in the past), in which a legislative briefing was held each year. Recommends that there remains a need to educate public and decision makers of the ORMP.
- Elia Herman, DLNR-DAR, concurs with Jim’s point and adds some considerations including: How does the group want to use this Plan? Where is it most useful? And therefore, what types of metrics should be included in the next plan and how specific should the metrics be? Ms. Herman added that the most helpful part of the plan is the “Management Priorities Summary Matrix” (ORMP, pp 49-58), and perhaps should be featured more prominently in the next plan.
- Bethany Morrison, County of Hawaii, Department of Planning, commented on a higher level view of the Plan, and reminded the group that the ORMP is using a phasing approach (ORMP, pp 3-4) which recognizes that resource protection takes many years and therefore breaks the ORMP into phases that work from “Demonstration” (2006-2012), “Adaptation” (2013-2019), “Institutionalization” (2020-2030),

and “Mainstreaming” (2030 and beyond). The metrics and measurements will fall into these phases for the timeframe for achieving the goals. Should keep in mind that whatever metrics we are working on should fall into the respective phase that the plan is in.

- Michael Dahilig, Kauai County Planning Dept., commented that a consideration might be integrating the health ocean management into everything we do, rather than only in succinct and specific tasks. That may address the daunting feeling of looking at the long list of tasks that need to be accomplished and rather focus on identifying what we already do, and try to integrate common policy rather, which may be a more achievable goal.
- Nancy McPherson, DHHL, states that one of the strengths of the plan is the integration of Hawaii concepts and principles (i.e. Mauka to Makai, and ahupua‘a based planning) was incorporated in the plan, and supports continuing its inclusion in the next plan.

## B. Climate Change Initiatives

Ms. Nihipali provided an overview of some of the current climate change/coastal hazards projects in order to clarify confusion related to project outcomes, timelines, and involved agencies. A handout was provided to show a timeline of the project period(s) in relation to the ORMP update and other initiatives. Ms. Nihipali described two (2) OP-CZM initiated projects (1 and 2 below), and Ms. Arbin and Mr. Romine shared information regarding other respective projects.

- 1) Building Code Amendments. This project is a collaboration with the City & County of Honolulu to examine their existing building codes to assess potential gaps for the expected impacts from climate change. The project will propose suggested amendments to strengthen buildings against the expected impacts, increasing resilience to coastal properties.
- 2) Probabilistic Tsunami Design Zone Maps. This project will be undertaken by OP-CZM as part of its Section 309 strategy for FY 2016-2020, and include statewide probabilistic tsunami design zone maps to inform the development of building codes that are designed for the impacts of tsunami loads and effects.
- 3) Coastal ACT Project. Ms. Rebecka Arbin is serving as interim Chair of the ACT. Ms. Arbin provided a summary of the ACT’s timeline of activities to-date; and a description of the proposed project, which will explore managed retreat options and assess feasibility as an option for the State.
- 4) Interagency Climate Adaptation Committee (ICAC) Statewide Sea Level Rise (SLR) Vulnerability Assessment and Report. Mr. Bradley Romine spoke on behalf of DLNR-OCCL regarding Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative Act, the resulting formation of the ICAC and expected SLR Vulnerability Assessment and Report that is slated for completion by December 2017. The report shall serve as a framework for a Climate Adaptation Plan to be written by OP.
- 5) Building Resilience to Coastal Hazards and Climate Change in Hawaii (UH Sea Grant).

Mr. Romine, Principal Investigator for the project, provided a summary of this multi-year project, which began this month (May) and will continue through early 2019. This project includes three (3) sub-projects:

- a. Web-based Hazard Exposure and Mapping Tool which includes erosion and coastal inundation hazard exposure + sea level rise
- b. “Guidelines for Integrating Coastal Resilience in Existing Planning Frameworks” to increase the number of plans and policies that address coastal hazards and climate change impacts
- c. “Guidelines and Training for Post-Disaster Rebuilding and Recovery” to improve the ability of island communities to prepare for, adapt to, and recover from coastal disasters

Mr. Romine intends to actively engage the ORMP CWG to solicit input and help inform the direction of the project.

## IV. Next Steps

### A. Identify staff responsible for agency metrics

Ms. Nihipali revisited the need for agencies to provide both quantitative and qualitative data for their respective metrics to OP. Ms. Nihipali provided a quick snapshot of the data that OP has gathered and/or was submitted by agencies, and what data is missing. The information used is intended to feed into a data visualization dashboard to share the progress of ORMP implementation over time, with data from 2012 as a baseline.

Ms. Nihipali shared that there is need to review the metrics and consider how to best portray the data, provide context to the viewer, and frame the message, and will be utilizing the monthly CWG meetings to present the data and obtain feedback and guidance, particularly from the lead agencies.

**Action Item: Review metrics as provided in the formal letter of invitation, and provide data to OP.**

Discussion:

- Mr. Fletcher noted that the CWG monthly meetings are a unique asset, and would be a positive attribute to providing input on the metrics.
- Michelle McLean, Maui County Planning Dept., (comment submitted via email post-meeting) Maybe there should be two categories – ongoing and new. There are definitely important initiatives, projects and programs that should be mentioned in the plan as continuing priorities that may be hard to measure or quantify, but may never really be finished, as well as new initiatives and projects that the plan calls for and be measured.

## **V. Partner Agency Announcements**

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### Initiatives, proposed legislation, other announcements

- Mr. Dahilig, shared that Kauai County is hosting the Hawaii Congress of Planning Officials (HCPO) Conference from September 21-23, 2016, at the Kauai Grand Hyatt at Poipu. This year's theme is "The Tao of Planning" and registration is open now. Further details are provided online at, <http://www.kauai.gov/HCPO>.
- Mr. Jim Coon, shared that he will be hosting decision-makers on a site visit on the waters near Maui to highlight some of the ocean and resource management issues the area faces. The sail will occur in the early morning of June 3, 2016.
- Matthew Gonser, UH Sea Grant, shared an upcoming event "Green Infrastructure for Stormwater Management Summit" will be held on August 9, 2016 at Café Julia, Honolulu, Hawaii. Registration will be \$60 and open in early June 2016.

## **VI. Next Council on Ocean resources Meeting – 2016-2017**

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Next meeting discussion item(s) and timeframe is to be determined, based upon outcomes of the survey as addressed in agenda item III.