

Hawai'i Ocean Resources Management Plan Joint Policy and Working Group

MEETING SUMMARY

January 11, 2013: 9:00am – 11:00am
Hawaii Theatre Conference Room
1130 Bethel St. Honolulu, HI 96813

Policy & Working Group Members Present:

Allen Tom, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Pacific Islands Region (via teleconference)

Bobby Jean Leithead Todd (County of Hawaii, Planning Department)

Brian Taylor (University of Hawaii, School of Ocean and Earth Science & Technology)

Capt. Christopher Woodley (United States Coast Guard)

Dean Nakagawa (Department of Transportation, Statewide Transportation Planning Office)

Derek Chow (United States Army Corps of Engineers)

Doug Mayne (Hawaii State Civil Defense)

Ernest Lau (Honolulu Board of Water Supply)

Gary L. Gill (Department of Health, Environmental Health)

Jesse K. Souki, (Office of Planning)

Michael A. Dahilig (County of Kauai, Planning Department)

Michele McLean (County of Maui, Department of Planning)

Sue Sakai (Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council)

William M. Tam (Department of Land & Natural Resources)

Barry Usagawa (Honolulu Board of Water Supply)

Bethany Morrison (County of Hawaii, Planning Department)

Bradley Romine (Department of Land & Natural Resources, Office of Conservation & Coastal Lands)

Darren Lerner (University of Hawaii, Sea Grant College Program)

Elia Herman (Department of Land & Natural Resources, Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary)

Emma Anders (Department of Land & Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources, Coral Program)

CDR Glenn Martineau (United States Coast Guard, Prevention Department - Honolulu)

Hudson Slay (United States Environmental Protection Agency, Pacific Islands Contact Office)

Jean Tanimoto (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Pacific Services Center)

Jim Coon (Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council)

Melissa Iwamoto (University of Hawaii, School of Ocean and Earth Science & Technology, Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System)

Randy Hara (City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning & Permitting)

Jeff Kent (Office of Hawaiian Affairs)

Others Present:

April Coloretti (SSFM International); Cheryl Soon (SSFM International); Doug Harper (NOAA Pacific Services Center); Heather Kerkering (UH SOEST, Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System); Janice Fukawa (U.S. Navy); Jody Galinato (Kauai County Planning Dept.); Josh Hekekie (Office of Planning, CZM Program); Kathy Sokugawa (City and County of Honolulu, DPP Planning Division); Leo Asuncion (Office of Planning, CZM Program); Luisa Cristini (UH Sea Grant/SOEST); Lynn Sumida (Office of Planning, Sub-ROP Project); Mary Lou Kobayashi (Office of Planning); Matt Gonser (UH Sea Grant); Manuel Meiji (The Nature Conservancy); Miki Lee (Leeway Enterprises); Miranda Smith (Office of Planning, Sub-ROP Project); Nancy Matsumoto (Honolulu Board of Water Supply); Sarah M. Pautzke (NOAA Fisheries Service, Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning); Takiora Ingram (All-Islands Committee-USCRTF/PROP Secretariat)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Jesse Souki, Director of the Office of Planning, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and initiating introductions. Special thanks were given to the attendees considering the timing with the legislative session. Three new staff members were introduced.

Ia. Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP) Evaluation and Update:

Mr. Leo Asuncion, Planning Program Manager, OP-CZM

Ms. Cheryl Soon, Project Manager, SSFM International

Objective of the Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP) and statutory basis

Mr. Asuncion and Ms. Soon provided a power point presentation starting with an overview of statutory basis of the Ocean Resource Management Plan (ORMP):

- Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (HRS) §205A-62 Coastal Zone Management (CZM) which describes agency responsibilities
- HRS Chapter 225 M which describes the roles and responsibilities of the Office of Planning

The presentation touched upon the historical events starting in 1985. After being updated and published in 1991, the ORMP was adopted by the Legislature in 1994, and incorporated by legislation into the CZM Program in 1995. Today, this living document serves as a collaborative framework of Management Priorities. The ORMP focuses on an integrated, place-based approach by recognizing Hawaii’s natural and cultural resources of the islands, recognizing the ecological connections between the land and sea, linking the human activities and their impacts on the environment, and acknowledging the need for improved collaboration and stewardship in natural resource management.

The presentation proceeded with an overview of the ORMP update since 2011, highlighting where the agencies were involved and what is expected during the next few months before the implementation of the plan begins at the end of the summer.

The presentation ended with the ORMP Vision: “The vision for Hawaii’s ocean resources is to have a healthy, productive, and sustainable ocean system that fosters economic growth while preserving and protecting Hawaii’s values and needs.”

First Draft of the 2013 Update of the ORMP:

Ms. Cheryl Soon, Project Manager with SSFM International, provided a power point presentation highlighting the new additions from the updated ORMP, including a new vision statement, addition of climate change as a “coastal risk,” alignment with National Ocean Policy objectives, and eleven Management Priorities.

Management Priorities, agency commitments, and metrics

Ms. Soon provided an overview of the criteria for selecting the eleven Management Priorities. The nine National Ocean Policy Priority objectives were also incorporated into the ORMP Update and were reviewed in the presentation.

The presentation included examples of 1) how a Management Priority is aligned with statutes, 2) how a Management Priority Metric is defined, and 3) what implementation actions an agency can take to fulfill a Management Priority. Early on, the SSFM team was asked to evaluate the ORMP

and to make it more meaningful to agencies by incorporating metrics. Up until recently, it was a policy document that did not have any type of measurement component.

Listening Sessions: Moving from Demonstration to Adaptation

SSFM shared feedback from the statewide public listening sessions:

- The public is asking for the posting of agency report cards on websites where they can become informed and get involved.
- The public is very committed to ocean resource management protection and wants to remain closely involved. For example, on the island of Molokai, there is a direct relationship in understanding that the practices of the agriculture industry shifted on their island into a more dominant land-owner, Monsanto. There were similar issues with a different landowner on the island of Lanai. Other great perspectives and feedback were received on the island of Oahu where meetings were held in Waimanalo, Waianae, and Honolulu.

Discussion: Department of Health (DOH) asked for clarification on whether Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) or DOH would be responsible for areas being overfished, health of coral and its ecosystems, water quality, reefs, fish, and invasive species. DLNR also asked for clarification. Mr. Souki clarified that this type of discussion and cross-agency collaboration is what will be expected in the next few months during the one-on-one sessions with agencies. Mr. Souki explained that the role of the Office of Planning is to report on the measures of the ORMP. He concluded that obtaining agency input will be vital in regards to areas that each department feels will be important for the reporting process. Another member of the Policy Group stated that it may take a whole year of these types of discussions, not a few months.

Iib. Remarks by Governor Neil Abercrombie

Governor Neil Abercrombie greeted the attendees and spoke about current events and policies as they relate to ocean resource management. Governor Abercrombie noted that the ORMP Policy and Working Groups are key to developing solutions to the serious challenges of ocean resource management in Hawaii. He remarked that this group through ORMP collaboration is critical to protecting our ocean health, quality of life, and ability to respond to the impacts of climate change.

However, the group is also tasked with translating their decisions to the public. He committed that he will be looking to this plan in the months to come.

Mr. Souki asked the Governor about his thoughts on the signing of the Pacific Regional Ocean Partnership (PROP). The Governor responded that there may be things that can't be changed by policy or agreements like rising oceans where we have atolls. There will be cyclical changes over the year; much of the South Seas and south Pacific may disappear. He noted that populations may leave; Hawaii is where they will come. Micronesians are leaving for several reasons. Congress has not remotely addressed the ending of the financial assistance for the Compact of Free Association. With no economic future, no cultural foundation, nothing to relate culturally, there are so many reasons why people are leaving the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Marshall Islands, and Palau. There are scientific and academic reasons for being happy with the signing of the PROP.

A comment was made that now is the time to translate the ORMP and its priorities into departmental budgets, and stated that the Governor is a key in that transition. The Governor stated that he is supportive of the ORMP.

A question was posed on how to overcome the challenges of multiple overlapping jurisdictions. Governor Abercrombie responded by noting that a lot of what this body does is coordinating and collaboration. That overcomes much of the challenge. The next part is addressing how each agency brings their mandates to the table. He recommended that folks need to go to legislators and support what the Chief Information Officer for the state will be requesting - an overhaul and upgrade of the state's information system so that agencies can communicate with each other. One of the reasons it is so difficult to get things done is that we have an antiquated information system and everyone is working in silos using different information systems. We need to work together in a horizontal fashion and be able to exchange work products. In addition to working across agencies, we need to work with groups like the Hawaii Community Foundation and the Omidyar Foundation, which are financially and logistically assisting the business community to upgrade our systems.

He referred back to the comment on converting plans to implementation actions and emphasized that the agencies must each commune and talk with one another everyday on an ongoing basis. We all need shared technology, shared communications that are beyond email and cloud foundations.

III. National Ocean Policy- Regional Ocean Governance Partnerships (ROPs)

Mr. Jesse Souki, Director

Ms. Miranda Smith, Coordinator, OP-Sub-Regional Ocean Partnership (SubROP) Project

Mr. Souki provided an overview of the Regional Ocean Partnerships (ROPs) currently in existence. There are 9 Regional Ocean Partnerships across the United States and the Pacific. Hawaii is a member of the Pacific Regional Ocean Partnership, and is also recognized as its own sub-region. In addition, Hawaii has also been recognized as its own sub-region because of the ORMP. The Sub-Regional Ocean Partnership (SubROP) is a means to formalize the existing ORMP groups and to implement the ORMP.

Miranda Smith, SubROP Project Coordinator, provided an overview of the process to formalize the SubROP, which consists of making recommendations to the ORMP groups on options for governance structure and scope of operations, then building consensus on how to proceed. The intent of the SubROP is to facilitate the implementation of the ORMP, thus the upcoming agency interviews regarding agency actions and metrics will inform the recommendations OP makes to the group about SubROP agency roles and organizational structure. At this time, the focus of the ORMP groups will continue to be the ORMP Update. However, SubROP research and recommendations are being culminated for later presentation to the ORMP groups.

Ms. Smith encouraged implementation as the next step. Mr. Souki noted the shared reality of declining resources and increasing mandates. Several years ago, OP had \$4.5 million in general funds to carry out the functions of OP. Now OP has a little over \$1 million in general funds. This makes OP seek other sources of funding annually to carry out functions. Mr. Souki noted a recent collaboration with the Department of Agriculture (DOA) on the Food Security Plan. It has now been adopted and DOA is taking on implementation of the plan. This is an indicator of successful funding and implementation.

Mr. Souki added noted that this group of decision makers is setting the course. The ORMP Working Group meets more often so they can focus on implementation. However, we still need the Policy Group at the table to support what the Working Group is trying to do. There is still a vertical relationship between the members of the Policy Group and Working Group. Once the ORMP is updated, there will likely be more collaboration that cuts across the two groups. The measure of success will be how fully the agencies support and implement the ORMP.

IV. Next Steps

- Comments on the Public Review Draft, which will be incorporated into a second draft version of the report, are due January 15, 2013.
- SSFM will hold a second round of agency interviews on the second draft, and is targeting to be completed with the interviews by April 2013.
- Next ORMP Policy Committee Meeting: members will be asked to confirm commitments and to sign-off on the document.
- Submission of the updated ORMP to the State Administration for approval and Governor's signature.
- Final ORMP Update is targeted to be completed by Summer 2013.

Note: Next Working Group meeting will be held on February 7, 2013