

**Hawai'i Ocean Resources Management Plan
Coordinated Working Group**

Meeting Summary

May 18, 2023, 9:30 – 11:30 am
Office of Planning & Sustainable Development
6th Floor Conference Room
235 S. Beretania Street

Attendees:

	Name	Agency/Organization	Virtual
1	Bae, Jessica	US Senator Brian Schatz's Office	
2	Buika, Jim	Maui County Planning Dept	
3	Camero, Tracie	Hawai'i County Planning Dept	
4	Candilasa, Rebecca	Dept of Health (DOH) – Clean Water Branch (CWB)	
5	Cardoza, Collette	Maui County Planning Dept	X
6	Chang, James	US Senator Brian Schatz's Office	
7	Chang, Sarah	OPSD – CZM	
8	Harper, Doug	Mālama Maunaloa	X
9	Hee, Brandon	Dept of Transportation – Highways Division	
10	Hekeia, Josh	OPSD – CZM	
11	Higuchi Sayegusa, Jodi	Kaua'i County Planning Dept	
12	Hull, Ka'aina	Kaua'i County Planning Dept	
13	Idica, Romio	Kaua'i County Planning Dept	
14	Kimura, Kristi	OPSD – CZM	
15	Krueger, Liz	City & County of Honolulu Dept of Planning & Permitting	
16	Lander, Melanie	University of Hawai'i (UH), Sea Grant	
17	Laramee, Leah	Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission	
18	Lopez, Sybil	Maui County Planning Dept (Moloka'i Office)	X
19	Low, Todd	Dept of Agriculture	X
20	McPherson, Nancy	Dept of Hawaiian Home Lands	X
21	Mendes, Deb	OPSD – CZM	
22	Miyashiro, Scott	DOH – CWB	
23	Nalesare, Katie	UH Hawai'i Coral Reef Initiative	X
24	Nihipali, Justine	OPSD – CZM	
25	Noren, Lara	Dept of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR) – Div. of Aquatic Resources (DAR)	
26	Owens, Tara	UH Sea Grant (Maui)	X
27	Reder, Ben	US Army Corps of Engineers	X
28	Romine, Brad	UH Sea Grant; DLNR – Office of Conservation & Coastal Lands (OCCL)	
29	Roth, Katie	DLNR – CWRM	X
30	Roy, Alex	Hawai'i County Planning Dept	
31	Sullivan, Kevin	Hawai'i County Planning Dept	X

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32	Summers, Alisha	Kaua'i County Planning Dept	
33	Terada, Yuki	OPSD – CZM	
34	Tsang, Anita	DLNR – DAR	
35	Webster, Lisa	OPSD – CZM	
36	Wirts, Amy	UH Sea Grant; DLNR – OCCL	
37	Yee, Alex	City & County of Honolulu, Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency	

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Justine Nihipali, Program Manager, Coastal Zone Management Program (OPSD-CZM), welcomed participants to the first in-person Coordinated Working Group (CWG) meeting since 2020. Participants introduced themselves and the organizations/agencies they were representing.

CZM AND ORMP UPDATES

Ms. Nihipali provided a brief update on the leadership changes at OPSD. Mary Alice Evans is serving as the Acting Director until July 4, 2023, at which point, Governor Josh Green may choose to nominate an Interim Director.

Funding Opportunities

- Project of Special Merit FY23: CZM and DHHL submitted a joint proposal to explore what shoreline management/rules could look like within DHHL. Award announcements anticipated in late Summer.
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA/BIL): Through CZM, NOAA awarded full funding to Coral Alliance for a \$3 million, 3-year project. Funding will be used for watershed restoration in Maui Nui, including streambank monitoring in West Maui and fishpond restoration in Moloka'i.
- Second round of IIJA funding: CZM program can submit 3 LOIs to NOAA for invitation for full proposal. NOFO anticipated for June/July. Funding available for habitat restoration and land acquisition.

Updates to ORMP Governance and Meeting Structure

Sarah Chang, Project Analyst, OPSD-CZM, proposed two recommendations to improve the efficiency of the ORMP meeting structure.

Recommendation #1: Initially, the Council on Ocean Resources was intended to be composed of Director/Cabinet level members; however, many Council members have delegated their attendance to program managers/administrators. As a result, there is an overlap in attendance between the Council and Coordinated Working Group and the distinction between governance levels is less clear. Additionally, at this stage of implementation and project-level discussions, the role of the Council is less defined. OPSD-CZM recommends replacing ORMP Council Meetings with a regular “CZM/ORMP Updates” agenda item during State Climate Commission Meetings. There is a large overlap between Commissioners and ORMP Council Members

Recommendation #2: With the shift towards ORMP implementation, OPSD-CZM has been asking ORMP partners to participate on project-specific Action Teams, which requires a time commitment. OPSD-CZM recommends shifting from quarterly Working Group meetings to an event-driven schedule and agenda.

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Proposed meetings would center around pre/post legislative session, and Fall (Sep/Oct) which coincides with timelines for funding opportunities (ex. NOAA Project of Special Merit, NOAA Fellows).

Group Discussion:

Strong support from State and County agencies about the value of these meetings as an opportunity to coordinate efforts, network and connect names to faces.

One of the recommendations from the Sea Level Rise Adaptation & Vulnerability Report: 5-Year Update (State Climate Commission) was to support more coordination mechanisms to align on-going work, track projects that address Report goals, and support agencies working towards adaptation.

For future discussions: Can the ORMP Coordinated Working Group be leveraged to facilitate this coordination?

2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION WRAP-UP

CZM Staff and ORMP partners shared bills with relevance to ORMP that have been passed through the legislature and are awaiting Governor approval.

SB1291/HB300: OPSD requested \$400,000 to develop a standardized process for assessing state facilities' vulnerability to SLR. This will support continued work under CZM's Act 178, SLH 2021 initiative which focuses on impacts of SLR on state managed facilities (i.e., buildings). SB1291 died in Conference Committee, but full funding was allocated through the budget. CZM will be reconvening the Act 178 Action Team and putting together a scope of work so we can be ready when the funds are released.

SB1417: requires HCDA to consider the impacts of climate change and SLR in the design and siting of buildings in Kaka'ako and Kalaeloa. OPSD's CZM and the Statewide Sustainability Branch have been working with HCDA and look forward to supporting them in implementing these new requirements.

HB365: expands list of potential exclusions from the definition of "development" as it applies to SMA.

HB1091: Requires disclosure of all existing permitted and unpermitted erosion control structures on the parcel in real estate transactions when residential real property lies adjacent to the shoreline.

- Initially this included the disclosure of erosion rates, but was removed because there is no standard way to report this data as each county has its own format. DLNR-OCCL is interested in working with the Counties to standardize erosion rates to make data more accessible.

SB1391: Authorizes the Board of Land and Natural Resources to place a lien on property for noncompliance with certain administrative enforcement actions related to land use violations and certain unauthorized structures encroaching on public lands. Process will be administered through DLNR-Land Division.

SB1390 (DID NOT PASS): Expands the authority of the State and the counties and develops funding to begin utilizing managed retreat as an option for voluntarily moving residential development and associated infrastructure away from critically vulnerable areas to locations outside of sea level rise and coastal flooding exposure areas, including through a pilot program on the North Shore of O'ahu.

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- Hope to reintroduce next year as there is momentum and ‘lessons learned’ around managed retreat/voluntary relocation
- Several folks from various Hawai‘i agencies (State and County) will be attending a Managed Retreat Conference at Columbia University this June.
- OCCL and CZM hope to provide an informational briefing to the legislature on the combined and coordinated shoreline management efforts, challenges and needs.
- County of Maui Ordinance 5442: Dedicates 20% of TAT per year (~\$20 mil/year) to a fund that is used to cover the removal of structures that have fallen in the ocean. Has not been implemented yet.
 - In determining which projects will be funded, priority must be given in the following order:
 - A. Removal or relocation of County-owned structures or infrastructure that pose an imminent threat to public health or safety or the environment.
 - B. Removal of structurally compromised abandoned structures that pose an imminent threat to public health or safety or the environment.
 - C. Removal, relocation, or safety improvements to County owned structure or infrastructure.
 - D. Assist in the facilitation of permitting to remove privately-owned structures.
 - E. Other County or privately-owned projects related to the purposes of this chapter.
- DHHL will need to develop their own strategy for managed retreat, would like to stay in the loop with any discussions

HB819: Designates limu kala (*Sargassum echinocarpum*) as the official Hawai‘i state limu.

HCR80: Designates Hawaii's coral reefs as critical natural infrastructure and strongly supporting nature-based solutions such as coral reef restoration for risk reduction.

SCR113: Urges the department of land and natural resources to minimize human interaction at certain locations during coral spawning events.

HB1396 (DID NOT PASS): Cesspool omnibus bill died in conference committee.

- Hope to reintroduce certain aspects next year as individual bills. No cesspool-related bills passed this session.
- Suggestion to have cesspools as an agenda/discussion item for a future ORMP CWG meeting as there are multi-agency/cross-jurisdictional challenges, especially when there are cesspools in/near the shoreline setback.
- What happens if you abandon a cesspool in the shoreline setback area? What is the most environmentally friendly method to fill an abandoned cesspool?
- Need for state and county coordination; OPSD-CZM will facilitate offline conversations between DOH, UH Sea Grant and the counties.
- Moloka‘i is categorized as a low priority area on the State Cesspool Prioritization Tool because there is no available hydrologic data. As a result, beneficiaries on Moloka‘i are not eligible for any cesspool conversion grant programs.
 - *For future discussion:* Can CZM support technical studies to fill this data gap?

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- Need for outreach and education for the public on rules, alternatives, impacts, etc.; need education for planners on the conversion process.

ORMP PROJECT UPDATES

CZM Staff provided brief status updates on recently completed and on-going ORMP implementation projects.

Focus Area 1: Coastal Hazards & Development

A Guide to Coastal Adaptation Strategies Suitable for Hawaii's Coastlines

Project completed at the beginning of this year. It is an informational resource that identifies over 40 adaptation strategies to coastal hazards. Each of the strategies has its own Info Card which includes information such as pros and cons, relative cost, ideal siting requirements and potential permits required. The intent is to be a resource for all audiences and to help people better understand the range of available options. CZM is working on a roll out plan now and anticipates releasing the resources soon. Mahalo to those who participated on the Action Team and provided feedback on the resource.

Regional Shoreline Management Scoping Study

Project completed at the beginning of this year. The Scoping Study is the first step in a larger initiative to open up opportunities for more coordinated, large-scale, and proactive interventions based on environmental conditions and how they interact with the natural environment and development. The final report included a proposed methodology for how to define shoreline regions based off a range of factors. CZM's next step is to do agency to agency outreach and technical consultations to socialize the idea of regional shoreline management and get a better understanding of how a regional approach would impact/conflict with/support existing regulatory and planning processes. Mahalo to those who participated in the Action Team, facilitated workshops and wiki surveys

Social Vulnerability & Coastal Hazards (NOAA Coastal Management Fellow Project)

This project will identify communities with a disproportionate risk to sea level rise and coastal erosion hazards. This will help inform future work of the CZM program to apply for funding opportunities and to inform equitable policies for coastal communities in Hawai'i. The Fellow continues to conduct spatial analyses and will be conducting community-level surveys.

Group Discussion:

- Several counties have developed their own social vulnerability indices, interest in seeing how analyses compare
- Can this be tied in with the regional shoreline management study? (i.e., look at demographics at that regional scale vs. census tract)
- SLR Vulnerability & Adaptation Report: 5-Year Update calls for the 2027 report to include a vulnerability analysis (exposure + sensitivity + adaptive capacity)
- State Climate Commission is looking at turning the 2021 SVI Study into a viewer; assessing the feasibility of developing a statewide map that more accurately describes Hawai'i communities and would facilitate eligibility for federal funds as the current Justice40 map does not accurately represent vulnerable communities for Hawai'i.

Managed Retreat Analysis: Policy & Funding

This project is currently in the procurement stage, and CZM hopes to execute a contract in mid-June 2023. This study will be looking at the implications of managed retreat through a legal and policy lens,

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and a funding and financing lens. It will also include a conceptual application of a proposed legal framework, and recommended funding mechanisms to two case study sites: the single-family homes along North Shore, O’ahu and Kahana Sunset Condo, Building F in West Maui. Once the contract is executed, CZM will be assembling an Action Team of ORMP partners to advise on the project. Please reach out to Sarah Chang if you are interested in being part of the Action Team.

Focus Area 2: Land-based Pollution

Reimagined Low Impact Development (LID) User’s Guide

This project will update the 2006 LID User’s Guide to be more user friendly and include examples of local applications and considerations. Currently in the procurement process and the project will be completed by December 2023.

Focus Area 3: Marine Ecosystems

Kōkua Community-based Monitoring Project

This project is to develop a framework for community-based monitoring of nearshore subsistence resources to fill gaps and support adaptive management. Currently, the project team is circulating a draft framework, and will be sharing at the Hawai’i Conservation Conference poster session. Next steps include rolling out the framework with pilot communities that have expressed interest in co-monitoring and sharing monitoring protocols for ‘opihi and limu.

AGENCY ROUNDTABLE UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liz Krueger, DPP: HCPO – “Turning Tides” is September 6-8, 2023, in Waikīkī. DPP developed three public service announcement videos for the updated SMA and shoreline setback rules. Videos are posted to the newly updated DPP website and will be shared with Neighborhood Boards.

<https://www.honolulu.gov/dpp/permitting/coastal-area-permits/save-our-beaches.html>

Leah Laramee, State Climate Commission: Community Climate Fair – O’ahu May 20; Hawai’i Island June 17. Continuing Punalu’u beach restoration feasibility study and working with the community to understand options for preserving beaches. Recently awarded \$3 mil from US EPA for climate mitigation planning. Will be putting together technical working groups to address different challenges, including wastewater. If interested in joining a working group, contact Leah Laramee.

Anita Tsang, DLNR-DAR: Miloli’i CBSFA formally recognized last June; Kīpahulu, Maui is the next community for potential CBSFA designation, scoping sessions are in progress. Working with Mālama Maunalua to create a fisheries management area in Maunalua Bay. Communities are approaching DAR for assistance with management plans. Holomua is still working on the Maui Pilot Program with guidance from the Island Navigation Team (20 community members nominated by Maui residents) to work with DAR to create management plans.

Brandon Hee, DOT-HWY: Continuing work with UH on lateral erosion analysis to better understand cumulative effects of erosion, looking at hot spots on each island. Exploring SandSavers and dry stack walls in areas with longshore sediment transport. Working with HIMB to explore feasibility of using GGBS concrete to encourage coral growth. Pursuing research with HPU on using plastic in asphalt.

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Alex Roy, County of Hawai'i, Planning Dept: Participating in a hui to improve practices for managing, protecting and restoring anchaline ponds. Currently, management is haphazard and inconsistent. Exploring how to best work with private property owners with anchaline ponds on/near property.

Ka'āina Hull, County of Kaua'i, Planning Dept: Developing Adaptation Action Plan and starting public stakeholder outreach. Found the discussion around managed retreat to be a major stumbling block. Need to refine the messaging and language to increase public understanding of the options. SLR Constraint District was implemented Oct 2022, so far smooth rollout and widely accepted.

Jim Buika, County of Maui, Planning Dept: Maui hosted Kaua'i Planning staff and OCCL for a nature-based solutions island tour and knowledge exchange. County Council recently passed new shoreline rules based on erosion hazard line. County is working with Mā'alaea community to address erosion risks and assess adaptation options.

Melanie Lander, UH Sea Grant: Waikīkī Beach Maintenance and Improvements Final EIS has an informal briefing to the BLNR on June 23rd (not decision making). The Hawai'i Cesspool Tool (hawaiicesspooltool.org) is up and running.

Nancy McPherson, DHHL: Continuing to work on the South Molokai Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (SEMP). Requested an extension on the NFWF funding for the South Molokai community resilience plan, which builds off the South Molokai SEMP.

Brad Romine, Honolulu Climate Change Commission: Recently completed an update to the Commission's Climate Change Guidance: <https://www.resilientoahu.org/climate-change-commission/>

Amy Wirts, DLNR-OCCL/UH Sea Grant: Just an FYI that the BLNR, under Chair Chang, will be asking for more informational briefings for projects that are complicated and/or will have significant public interest.

NEXT STEPS & HOUSEKEEPING

Upcoming meeting dates:

- **State Climate Commission Meeting:** June 22, 2023
- **Coordinated Working Group Meeting:** October 2023

ADJOURNMENT

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