

Hawai'i Ocean Resources Management Plan Working Group

Meeting Summary

August 1, 2013: 9:00am – 12:00pm
Office of Planning, 6th Floor Conference Room
235 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

Present:

Anna Fernandez (DLNR/DOCARE)	India Heff (CRest)
April Surprenant (HI Co. Planning)	Kem Lowry (UH–East West Ctr)
Bethany Morrison (HI Co. Planning)	Leo Asuncion (OP–CZM)
William Tam (DLNR - CWRM)	Lisa Webster (OP-CZM)
Dolan Eversole (UH SeaGrant)	Lori Sun (DOH)
Elia Herman (DLNR)	Lynn Sumida (OP–CZM)
Emma Anders (DLNR/DAR)	Matthew Gonser (UH SeaGrant)
Glenn Martineau (USCG)	Melissa Iwamoto (PacIOOS)
Hudson Slay (EPA)	Miki Lee (Leeway Enterprises)
Janice Fukawa (U.S. Navy)	Miranda Smith (OP-CZM)
Jesse Souki (OP)	Nathalie Morison (OP-CZM)
Jim Buika (Maui Co. Planning)	Penny Larin (NOAA-PSC)
Joshua Hekekoa (OP-CZM)	Randy Awo (DLNR/DOCARE)
Justine Nihipali (OP-CZM)	Sue Sakai (MACZAC)

Welcome

Jesse Souki; OP Director welcomed the group and shared that Governor Abercrombie held a signing ceremony of the 2013 Hawaii Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP) on July 25 at the State Capitol. Mr. Souki noted that the Governor was impressed upon the significance of the number of agencies and partner organizations committed to the implementation of the plan.

This is the first meeting since the Governor's signing and signals the next step towards a different format of the ORMP meeting structure from the past 18 months. The current priority is to develop a framework to assist with the process towards the actions to implement the metrics/goals of the ORMP.

A Framework to Implement the Ocean Resource Management Plan (ORMP)

Miranda Smith continued to lead discussion from the last ORMP meeting towards developing a governance agreement among stakeholder agencies as a framework for implementation. The focus of this agenda item was to work on drafting an agreement to empower lead agencies to move members of ORMP forward in their commitments as outlined in the 2013 update.

Ms. Smith presented 2 handouts to the working group to discuss the scope of the governance agreement.

1. Management Priorities and Agency Involvement “matrix” – provides a 1-page matrix of agencies' involvement in each of the 11 management priorities
2. “Thinking Draft” – provides a conceptual version of the governance agreement based on the management priorities table in the ORMP and recommendations for structure.

The Working Group is targeting towards more focused (action/work) meetings which are based on actions selected to move forward on the metric and/or goal. Action teams may not be permanent as actions are completed. The working group oversees and guides AT members and elevates to the Policy Group.

The framework should help the group define the roles and expectations of all key participants, including lead and participant agencies, chairs, and OP.

Discussion points from the working group included:

- The agreement should define the roles and expectations of all key participations including lead and participant agencies, chairs, etc... but is not prescriptive
- How does the existing working group fall into the proposed “thinking draft” structure? And what is the best group to represent at the working group level?
- What is the relationship between “Action Teams” - Working Group and “Working Group – Policy Group”?
- Clarifying future roles of non-government, community-focused agencies in ORMP.
- Importance of creating structure via governance agreement while also maintaining some flexibility to accommodate existing collaborations
- Re-evaluation of agencies’ appropriate staff representation as ORMP shifts to implementation
- Continuation of progress on metrics in conjunction with developing the governance structure. Working on the governance agreement does not and should not preclude existing progress.
- The need to evaluate what is already happening with agencies and link to existing plans to avoid duplication and wasting resources

Next Steps:

The group was asked to use the “matrix” and “thinking draft” as tools to help identify those within their own agencies that are best suited to move forward on metrics.

Coastal Resilience Networks (CRest) Project – Briefing and Updates

Kem Lowry presented on behalf of India Heff and provided a status update of the CRest project.

Following the previous CRest presentation at the Working Group, in-depth consultation was performed with the county planners group to address priority issues and focus on implementation categories with initiatives would be considered “low-regrets/no-regrets”. CRest will be providing a report responsive to the immediate opportunities to adapt existing tools to local issues of sea level rise.

A new addition to the report is the Implementation Tool-Kit which focuses on hazard assessment. Elements of the report include an extensive survey of existing climate change initiatives in the State; location guidelines for identifying hazard-prone areas, and samples of incorporating language into existing plans. The updated report is scheduled to be finalized at the end of August.

Other sea level rise scenario resources include a number of sea level rise mapping efforts. Dolan Eversole contributed that at least 3 separate but related sea-level rise mapping models will be released within the next few months. They include:

- National NOAA Digital Coast Sea Level Rise Viewer – regional level, information-based

tool, not intended for decision-making

- NOAA/UH futuristic hazard zone modeling w/Dr. Kwak Fai and Dr. Karl Kim: models impacts of tsunami and hurricane inundation zones after 3 ft. sea level rise. The study area is limited to Honolulu/Waikiki areas.
- UH SeaGrant Chip Fletcher research – groundwater flooding related to sea level rise, including high resolution maps in certain areas in the state.
- FEMA is updating flood insurance rate maps (FIRMs) to modify one of the methodologies for riverine flooding which is likely to impact communities at low-level areas.

Mr. Lowry will be developing a community-level engagement project with sea level rise. He distributed a draft template for community meetings in identifying climate impacts as part of the development plan process for the group to review and provide input. The intent is to gather information from community members regarding their experiences of their communities to supplement technical data. Comments/Suggestions can be submitted via email to:

lowry@hawaii.edu

Other

The Hawaii Congress of Planning Officials will be hosted by the County of Hawaii Planning Department from September 18-20, 2013 in Kona, HI.

Next Steps for Working Group

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4, 2013, from 9:00 – 12:00pm, at the Office of Planning conference room.