

Hawai'i Ocean Resources Management Plan Working Group

Meeting Summary

September 4, 2013: 9:00am – 12:00pm
Office of Planning, 6th Floor Conference Room
235 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

Present:

Anna Fernandez (DLNR/DOCARE)	Mark Fox (TNC)
Bethany Morrison (HI Co. Planning)	Matt Chasse (NOAA)
David Sakoda (DLNR/DAR)	Matthew Gonser (UH SeaGrant)
Frazer McGilvray (DLNR/DAR)	Melanie Saucier (NOAA-PSC)
Jesse Souki (OP)	Melissa Iwamoto (PacIOOS)
Jim Buika (Maui Co. Planning)	Miki Lee (Leeway Enterprises)
Jim Coon (MACZAC)	Miranda Smith (OP-CZM)
Jody Galinato (Kauai County Planning)	Nathalie Morison (OP-CZM)
Joelle Gore (NOAA)	Penny Larin (NOAA-PSC)
Justine Nihipali (OP-CZM)	Ron Cannarella (DLNR/DOFAW)
Kristina Kekuewa (NOAA-PSC)	Shannon Wood (WAA)
Leo Asuncion (OP-CZM)	Sue Sakai (MACZAC)
Lisa Webster (OP-CZM)	William Tam (DLNR - CWRM)
Laura McIntyre (DOH)	Willy Reay (Chesapeake Bay NERR)
Luna Kekoa (DLNR/DOCARE)	
Lynn Sumida (OP-CZM)	

Welcome, Introduction, and Office of Planning (OP) Updates

Jesse Souki; OP Director welcomed the group and shared that the Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP) has been selected as the recipient of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association annual award for "Outstanding Planning". Mr. Souki congratulated the entire team for their contributions.

NOAA Guests

Joelle Gore shared a brief background of the NOAA Coastal Programs Division. Ms. Gore stressed that the importance of these programs is partnerships and looks forward to broadening the partnership between NOAA and the state with the nomination of a potential NERR site.

Matt Chasse presented an overview of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) program and selection process. There are 28 separate NERR sites within the system that work collaboratively and research data is shared, and can be translated across the entire coastal zone to help inform management decision making. Sites are protected for long term research, stewardship and education. The NERRS focuses on three strategic goals: (1) people, (2) science, (3), places.

Mr. Chasse explained the process of designating a NERR site. Governor Abercrombie submitted a letter of interest in establishing a NERR in Hawaii and under the Office of Planning, the state has initiated the site selection and nomination process.

The site selection committee has selected Heeia as a preferred site for nomination as a NERR and is now a candidate to join the other 28 sites across the nation within the program.

For more information on NERRS: <http://www.nerrs.noaa.gov/Default.aspx>

OP NERRS website: <http://planning.hawaii.gov/czm/initiatives/nerrs-site-proposal-process/>

Climate Change Adaptation Planning and Implementation

Jesse Souki presented on the status of climate change adaptation efforts and planning. Climate change is specifically addressed in ORMP Management Priorities 1 and 2. Mr. Souki presented a brief history of the development of the Act 286 (now codified as HRS §226-109 climate change adaptation priority guidelines).

Mr. Souki stressed the importance of having HRS §226-109 to provide an umbrella under which efforts can build towards implementation. Part of OP's role in the statewide policy is to encourage, promote, and ensure that other county and state agencies are following the Hawaii State Planning Act.

Nathalie Morison presented an overview on the current implementation efforts in the state that are meeting guidelines within HRS §226-109 including:

- OP-CZM initiatives primarily through ORMP implementation
- County-level efforts to integrate climate change adaptation into existing planning frameworks
- Ongoing projects/programs in Hawaii that may not have been designed specifically with climate change, but can serve a dual purpose of also addressing 1 or more of the climate change priority guidelines
- External initiatives addressing climate change

Ms. Morison noted that the list of projects mentioned in the presentation is not intended to be comprehensive but is a general representation of existing efforts incorporating methods addressing climate change adaptation and policies. Ms. Morison summarized the presentation with strengths and opportunities for the future of climate change adaptation.

The presentation is available online at:

http://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/op/czm/ormp/working_group/meeting_presentations/wg_presentation_09042013_climatechangeepolicy.pdf

A Framework to Implement the Ocean Resources Management Plan

Mr. Souki presented and distributed the most recent version of the draft governance agreement. The purpose of the governance agreement is to formalize the partnership of agencies and focus on implementing the ORMP.

The proposed governance agreement is a procedural document built upon consensus-based decision making. It establishes and organizes a council of the agencies as identified in HRS §205A, with the addition of the County planning agencies, a Coordinated Working Group, and Action Teams. Mr. Souki briefly described the roles and duties of each group.

Building from the foundation of the governance agreement, Leo Asuncion demonstrated an example of moving forward with actions towards implementation. Using one of the

management priorities with OP-CZM as the lead agency, Mr. Asuncion described a sample process of forming an Action Team to determine the appropriate parties and representatives to best implement actions to achieve a goal/metric. Key information to this process is reviewing the goals, metrics, and core partners as listed in the Management Priorities section of the ORMP.

Considerations may be: who the core team, the size of the group, who will be impacted, who can provide support, who has information that can inform decisions. The comprehensive lists of agencies in the ORMP are by no means exhaustive, and other agencies and/or community groups may also be included as determined by the Action Team chair.

OP is developing guidance materials to help agencies to form teams and prioritize efforts. Mr. Asuncion encouraged lead agencies to begin to review their management priorities and start considering appropriate agency involvement. Lead agencies are encouraged to contact OP should they need assistance in facilitating the process. Partner agencies should be able to assist Lead(s) and be prepared to assist with identifying the most appropriate agency-level staff.

Other

The next Policy Group meeting is targeted for late November (TBD).

Next Steps for Working Group

- Working Group representatives were asked to share the draft governance agreement with their policy group member. Agency-level comments should be directed to Miranda Smith at Miranda.B.Smith@dbedt.hawaii.gov no later than September 20, 2013.
- Agencies with “Lead Agency” designations for management priorities are encouraged to review the ORMP matrix summary table – and begin to consider who the appropriate agencies/partners to involve.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 3, 2013, from 9:00 – 12:00pm, at the Office of Planning conference room.