

Hawai'i Ocean Resources Management Plan Coordinated Working Group

Meeting Summary

February 6, 2014: 9:00am – 12:00pm
Office of Planning, 6th Floor Conference Room
235 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

Present:

Ben Reder (NOAA/PSC)	Justine Nihipali (OP-CZM)
Bethany Morrison (HI Co. Planning)	Leo Asuncion (OP-CZM)
Brad Romine (UH SeaGrant/DLNR OCCL)	Lisa Webster (OP-CZM)
Emma Anders (DLNR-DAR)	Lynn Sumida (OP-CZM)
Jim Buika (Maui Cty Planning)	Matthew Gonser (UH Sea Grant)
Jim Coon (MACZAC)	Melissa Iwamoto (PacIOOS)
Jody Galinato (Kauai Cty Planning)	Miranda Foley (OP Sub-ROP)
	Sue Sakai (MACZAC)

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

Leo Asuncion, Coordinated Working Group Chair, welcomed the group to the Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP) Coordinated Working Group (CWG) meeting.

Coordinated Working Group Working Session

Leo Asuncion, Coordinated Working Group Chair, provided an update and summary of bills that OP-CZM is tracking during the 2014 legislative session

a. Legislative Updates from OP

OP-CZM is currently tracking a number of bills in relation to issues such as climate change and special management area (SMA) exemptions, including carry-over bills from the 2013 Legislative Session.

Climate Change Adaptation

SB2344/HB1714. The joint majority package bill was initially supported by all agencies involved, but has changed its original intent since the initial draft. Items that were removed include overall climate change impact assessments; funds are now directed specifically to DLNR-OCCL to establish a committee to primarily address sea level rise (SLR) impacts where the intent of the bill is using SLR as the focus – the committee will develop a general framework to be used for all other components of climate change adaptation by 2016; and the committee size is streamlined to more targeted agency and organization representation. The amount of the appropriation remains the same.

There are two positions intended for funding with this bill: one position would be housed in the Office of Planning, the other would be housed in DLNR-OCCL.

OP is supporting the bill recognizing the effort to move forward on climate change adaptation measures in the State.

Special Management Areas

HB1586 will allow the Department of Transportation (DOT) to “plan, design, construct, operate, and maintain land improvements for airport and highway purposes without the

approval of county agencies.” Currently, DOT-Harbors division is already exempt from HRS 205A. A similar bill was also introduced approximately 2 years ago in which the Office of Planning requested time to develop an alternative strategy that maintains the review of projects in the SMA, and addresses DOT concerns. The resulting strategy was a proposed expedited review or “self-certification process” for state projects on state lands within the SMA.

OP submitted testimony on HB1586 which states that it prefers carry over bills SB 1027 and HB797, which were part of the governor’s package in the 2013 legislative session.

b. Technical Assistance Updates

Miranda Foley is continuing to develop a technical assistance piece related to outcomes from the November 2013 Hawaii Ocean Council meeting addressing Management Priorities for Appropriate Coastal Development and Management of Coastal Hazards. The technical assistance will be held as a “Data Exchange” addressing the needs for data and scientific information as related to Management Priorities 1 and 2.

The session will be centered among 2 categories – the “Data Demanders” consisting of planners and policymakers and the “Data Suppliers” consisting of researchers that are collecting or have data that can assist planners in decision-making processes. The focus will be on Management Priorities 1 & 2 goals and metrics that agencies already identified as issues they are focusing on over the next 5 years. Ms. Foley will be working with agencies prior to the event in order to identify key linkages and/or gaps between these elements, identify existing data sources used, and identify potential barriers to using the existing data.

Proposed outcomes of the Data Exchange include:

- Developing a data standard
- Developing a policy-driven research agenda
- Identifying legal and policy barriers
- Addressing data accessibility

Ms. Foley proposed a 1-day symposium with a timeframe for either April or May 2014. The Data Exchange is not intended to be a database or clearinghouse of information, rather a method to identify the information available – the discussion will focus on: identifying data barriers for agencies developing policies; identifying uncertainties related to using available data; and how researchers may be able to direct their research more closely with agency needs.

Representatives will be contacted on an individual basis – starting with those identified by the ORMP. Assistance requested includes:

1. Sharing coastal hazards and erosion planning and policy decisions;
2. Identifying sources of data that are currently in use or that agencies would like to use;
3. Discussion of data use qualifiers (perception, agency policy, authority)
4. Mark your calendar to attend (TBD) and share data needs with suppliers

Discussion items and suggestions included:

- Questions regarding whether this potential “gap” may be a lack of capacity to utilize existing data; and whether more data would make it indeed easier implement actions
- What’s missing is also a solid list of specific issues we are trying to solve - data is often provided to agencies without specific applicability to agency needs.
- Suggestions to follow-up with those agencies that requested additional data to confirm the specific types of data needed and how it may be used
- Suggestions to utilize private sector firms as potential data sources
- Avoiding issues such as demanding data without making decisions – therefore identifying specific “blocks” towards progress
- Importance to identify the desired outcome rather than focusing on a data absence; and avoiding the “trap” of needing 100% certainty from data & encouraging agencies to take action with “best available”; acknowledgement that data may be available, but that agencies do not have the capacity to research and mine data for each project
- Importance of agencies' feedback to help inform research agendas
- Usable formats: existing datasets for those that are not scientists/researchers, especially for data that may applied towards planning decisions; coverage levels (i.e. scale of data available – County, State, Region)
- Establishing a data standard will be helpful to ensure that the data provided can be included in recommendations to decision-maker (i.e. Planning Commissions, County Councils, Legislature); identification of ordinances/policies that need changing and get the right people with the data with the policy makers
- While changing ordinances/policies important to remain broad enough for new data that may inform future changes – trying not to “lock-in” to best available only
- Addressing the barrier of lack of access to archeological datasets per parcel (i.e. through the DLNR State Historic Preservation Division) – which increases the time and costs needed to process SMA permits

Other CWG business includes the continuation of producing an ORMP Dashboard/Report Card. Mr. Asuncion requested that state agencies provide their most recent annual report to Justine Nihipali via PDF or via a web link for download. This information will build the initial baseline information to develop the dashboard, starting with FY2013 data as reported by individual agencies.

Action Team Updates to CWG

Mr. Asuncion presented on behalf of Nathalie Morison, ACT Chair. Ms. Morison continues to work towards forming and convening the first action team meeting. Current bills proposed in the legislative session may affect the items that the action team will address.

Discussion items included:

- Continued need to integrate the ORMP into other agencies at functional levels
- Support to continue implementation progress through this ACT, rather than wait for decision-making from the legislature regarding bills that may affect ACT items.
- The push to focus on SLR may be based upon the sufficiency of data availability to address specific issue to develop planning tools and products as a framework to set a path as more information is gained for other related climate change issues.

- Concern of focusing primarily on SLR and losing momentum on other climate change adaptation issues such as catastrophic storms and potential impacts – especially at the county level

Mr. Asuncion concluded the discussion stating that the Office of Planning will continue to work on climate change adaptation, and has put in a provision that OP will work towards developing a climate adaptation plan (See SB2344/HB1714 above). OP requested \$50,000 for a planning position to be able to develop the plan in conjunction with pooling resources from other agencies to garner support of this shared initiative – which will be contingent upon work from action teams.

ORMP Agency Updates and Announcements

Brad Romine, DLNR-OCCL Representative shared that public hearings are scheduled for [CDUA ST-3703: Ho‘āla Loko I‘a: Statewide Programmatic General Permit and Programmatic Agreement for the repair, restoration, maintenance, and operation of traditional fishpond systems in Hawai‘i](#)

Scheduled public hearings are planned for:

- Tues Feb 18: Windward Community College, Hale ‘Ākoakoa Room 107 , 45-720 Kealahala Road, Kāne‘ohe. 6:30 pm
- Thurs Feb 20: Kāpa‘a Public Library, 4-1464 Kūhiō Highway, Kāp‘aa. 6:00 pm.
- Tues Feb 25: Kūlana `Ōiwi Halau, 600 Kamehameha Highway, Kalamaulu, Moloka‘i. 6:00 pm
- Wed Feb 26: Maui Sanctuary Visitor Center 726 South Kīhei Road, Kīhei. 6:30 pm
- Thurs Feb 27: Lana‘i Community Center, Eight St. and Lana‘i Avenue. 5:00 pm
- Wed March 5: West Hawai‘i Civic Center, 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Highway, Kailua-Kona. 6:00 pm

Further information can be found at <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/occl/current-applications/>

This is relates directly with **Management Priority #7 Cultural Heritage of the Ocean** metric to “decrease in number of months to obtain all permits necessary for fishpond restoration (DLNR-OCCL and DOH).”

Mr. Asuncion shared several announcements on behalf of the Office of Planning including:

- **NOAA Habitat Blueprint Sites chosen.** Two sites in the Pacific Islands were chosen as the next Habitat Focus Areas under NOAA’s Habitat Blueprint.
 1. Menell-Geus, Guam
 2. West Hawaii, Hawaii

Further information can be found at

<http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/habitatblueprint/pacificislands.html>.

- **National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS).** The second public meeting will be held on February 27, 2014 at the Governor Samuel Wilder King Intermediate School Dining Room located at 46-155 Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe, HI 96744 beginning at 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. Written comments will be taken until March 7, 2014. Further information can be found at <http://planning.hawaii.gov/czm/initiatives/nerrs-site-proposal-process/>.
- **“Sand Summit”** exploration. To conduct a forum for agencies and organizations that have authority or permitting authority to discuss how to increase efficiency and cost-effectiveness for beach nourishment efforts in contrast to methods that harden the

shoreline including seawalls and revetments. A goal may be supporting beach nourishment by streamlining the existing permitting process – similar to the process that is occurring for fishpond restoration. Agencies that may need to be involved include Counties, DLNR OCCL, Fisheries, DOH, USACE, USFWS.

- Brad Romine added to this update to share that DLNR-OCCL is currently pursuing a new programmatic agreement for beach nourishment. A request for proposals (RFP) was released for an environmental assessment as a first step towards the process.
- Hawaii Shore and Beach Preservation Association is a NGO that is exploring a Fall 2014 1st Annual Meeting (tentatively November). This may be a good opportunity to coordinate with the Sand Summit concept and the ORMP.

Melissa Iwamoto, UHSOEST/PacIOOS Representative shared that PacIOOS is beta-testing an online planning tool that provides historical shoreline change rate data, a tool to calculate shoreline setbacks, and NOAA sea level rise data on a parcel level for Islands of Kauai, Maui, and Oahu. Currently, Hawaii Island does not have the data required for the tool. Those agencies that are willing to participate in testing the tool may contact Melissa directly at Melissa.iwamoto@hawaii.edu.

Emma Anders, DLNR-DAR Representative shared several announcements on behalf of DLNR-DAR including:

- Coral Reef Working Group is meeting on February 27, 2014. Part of the agenda will be reviewing the ORMP coral reef management priority area and discuss the opportunity to fill some of the roles of the Action Team.
- Strong progress on ORMP metrics that match with the DLNR-DAR strategy. Further updates will be provided at our next meeting including:
 - Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Areas (CBSFAs)
 - Day-Use mooring surveys are being drafted for distribution. Ms. Anders will coordinate with relevant ORMP agencies and organizations.
- There are a large number of bills for this legislative session relating to DAR including:
 - Special Fund bill. DLNR is opposed because of conflicts with mitigation which is tied to Federal funds.
 - Recreational fishing licenses.
 - Manta Dive Sight on Hawaii Island
 - Request for support from ORMP agencies regarding the DLNR supplemental budget request for the ORMP to support some of the deliverables that DLNR is responsible for – specifically to fill the job positions. There is no hearing scheduled yet.
 - Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument and Hawaii Islands Humpback National Marine Sanctuary.
- Hawaii Islands Humpback National Marine Sanctuary Management Planning continues. It is currently in draft form.

Next Steps & Housekeeping

The **March meeting is CANCELLED** due to numerous events occurring in late February/early March. **ORMP CWG meetings will resume Thursday, April 3, 2014.**