# Welcome, Introductions, and Office of Planning (OP) Updates

Leo Asuncion, Acting Director, Office of Planning, welcomed participants to the Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP) Coordinated Working Group (CWG) meeting and provided updates regarding the following items:

- **OP Leadership Changes & Interim Functions of ORMP**
  
  Effective as of March 10, 2014, Jesse Souki is the First Deputy at the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and Leo Asuncion will be serving as the Acting Director of the State of Hawaii Office of Planning. Mr. Asuncion will continue to hold his position as CZM Manager and has delegated the following staff to provide oversight on projects when he is out of the office.

  Please contact:
  - Justine Nihipali, Planner, regarding ORMP projects;
  - Debra Mendes, Planner, regarding climate change and environmental projects such as coastal non-point and estuarine reserve; and,
  - John Nakagawa, Federal Consistency Coordinator, regarding regulatory issues.

- **CRest Project Updates**
  
  The CRest Project Report is in the final stages of the project. The report is slated to be finalized for publication in mid-April.

- **Resilient Hawaii Forum Updates**
  
  Approximately 50 participants attended the 2-Day Resilient Hawaii Forum in February 2014. A public session was also held during the PRiMO conference on March 12 with over 75 participants. The online survey released by the Governor’s office received strong participation. State Sustainability Coordinator, Jackie Kozak-Thiel, will be compiling the over 1,000 responses. Thank you to those who responded and shared information with their respective networks.
CZM is taking a closer look at several of the recommendations that came from the fora to advance at least one to compete for funding or utilize CZM funding to move forward on ORMP implementation. Specifically, CZM will be working towards a proposal to work with DPP to incorporate climate change adaptation measures into building codes.

**Coordinated Working Group Working Session**
Mr. Asuncion provided an update and summary of approximately bills that OP-CZM is tracking during the 2014 legislative session.

**Climate Change Adaptation**
SB2344/HB1714. Both bills have made it through and the language is alike on both sides. The bills may not need to go to conference. The appropriation request is $400,000 for DLNR-OCCL and one funded position, $50,000 for a statewide adaptation plan addressing sea-level rise (SLR), and one funded position in OP for a planner focused on transit-oriented development (TOD).

**Special Management Areas**
HB1586 HD1 that would 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” is now dead for this session.

**Hawaii Invasive Species Committee**
HB1716/SB2343 HD1 both bills are still alive with an appropriation of $5,000,000 for invasive species.

**Other**
SB632 Relating to Environmental Courts is still alive, and OP will continue to track.

HB2441/SB2330 Relating to Kaneohe Bay Regional Council. The bill died in the House, but the Senate bill is still alive and includes language that includes naming the DLNR-DAR Administrator as Chair and calls for semi-annual meetings.

Mark Fox encourages partner agencies to support State Sustainability Coordinator position which is currently unfunded for the next fiscal year.

Elia Herman announced that the State monument and sanctuary positions are also not in the budget and requests support from partner agencies.

Emma Anders shared an update from DLNR-DAR’s request for positions named in the ORMP. The House Finance committee cut the positions, but left the operating budget intact, and Senate Ways and Means committee cut both the positions and the operating budget.

Laura McIntyre shared that positions requested to supplement losses from the RIF in the Environmental Planning Office were also removed from the budget.

At the County level, Bill 17 was introduced for an ordinance amendment to include sea walls or structures as minor structures within the shoreline setback. OP-CZM submitted a letter to the Council noting that this may be inconsistent with HRS Ch 205A objectives; and such structures may harden the shoreline. The bill passed the zoning committee and will be heard at full council meeting. Bob Stanfield shared that the Department of Planning and Permitting testified against the bill.
**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 Data Exchange is tentatively scheduled for a full-day on Friday, May 30, 2014. Please save the date!*

**Action Team Updates to CWG**

a) The Coral Reef Task Force met on February 25, 2014 and as one of their agenda items, agreed to form an Action Team for Management Priority #5 Coral Reefs.

b) The Action Team for MP’s 1 & 2 Appropriate Coastal Development and Management of Coastal Hazards will be meeting for its first kickoff immediately following the April 3 CWG meeting. The objective for this meeting is to familiarize ACT members with the goals and metrics as listed in the ORMP, and start working towards developing a workplan.

c) OP has also been meeting with the State Department of Agriculture – Aquaculture Division to form an Action Team under Management Priority #6 Ocean Economy based on the currently NOAA Aquaculture group.

**ORMP Agency Updates and Announcements**

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary: Elia Herman introduced new staff person, Shannon Lyday, Programs and Operations Coordinator with the Sanctuary.

C & C of Honolulu, Dept of Planning and Permitting: Bob Stanfield shared that recent updates to the Ewa development plans have yielded the adoption of a series of climate change adaptation policies, including a policy that increases setbacks to 150 ft, and all new public and private projects in shoreline areas to include an assessment of the impact of SLR on the operation and design of their project and how - where feasible – they have adapted or mitigated the risk.

Formal requests for CCA assessment strategies in response to submitted Environmental Assessments are one aspect of how DPP is implementing such policies.

The Ewa Development Plan can be accessed at www.honoluludpp.org and suggestions for improving implementation of the Plan vision and policies are also available via web in the Ewa Development Plan Review Report, Vol 1 (May 2011), pp 2-45 to 2-48.

Department of Health: Laura McIntyre shared that DOH is currently updating the State Implementation of Non-Point Source Pollution. Due to the EPA by September 30, 2014.


- The CRWG will be working over the next 3 months to update their strategy, if you are interested in participating in these discussions, please contact Emma directly. They are currently in the scoping and brainstorming phase and will then move towards
prioritization at a later date.

- The West Maui Priority Site Coordinator successfully received a grant award from DOH for riparian restoration in South Kohala for later this year. They are currently performing a stream corridor assessment in the Waiulaula watershed which is the only perennial stream in the area.
- The Stakeholder Workshop for the Coral Adaptation Planning (CAP) Project, hosted by the U.S. EPA, NOAA, and DOI is scheduled for July 8 -10, 2014.
- The United States Coral Reef Task Force Meeting will be held in Maui tentatively during the week of September 8, 2014.

DLNR-DAR strategic planning is currently still in the internal phase. DAR will keep the group posted on the status.

UH Sea Grant: Matthew Gonser shared that the April 15, 2014 free public lecture by former U.S. Vice President Al Gore requires tickets – although admission is free. “Note: as of 4/10/2014 Tickets are currently “sold out”, but should seats become available due to no shows, they will be released on a first come, first serve basis at the door. This free seminar is co-hosted by UHM Sea Grant College Program, UHM Chancellor’s Office, and the University of Hawaii Foundation.
- University of Hawaii at Manoa
  Stan Sheriff Center
  April 15, 2014 7:00pm

Maui County Planning Department: Jim Buika and Tara Owens, UH Sea Grant, will be presenting during the Coordinated Working Group meeting in May. They will be sharing their progress on the NOAA Coastal Storms grant and request your feedback on project “Development of Post-Disaster Reconstruction Guidelines and Protocol for the Conservation of Coastal Resources and Protection of Coastal Development.”

In addition, Maui County is working on developing a partnership with USACE to utilize the sand that will be dredged out of the Kahului harbor. Other counties that may be interested in working towards a partnership to preserve dredged sand resources may contact Jim.

Mr. Buika also shared that MACZAC member and ORMP representative Jim Coon recently received a 2014 Mayor’s Small Business Award for Lifetime Achievement from Maui County Mayor Alan Arakawa.

DLNR-OCCL: Brad Romine shared that DLNR-OCCL received approval from the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) to redo the programmatic permit and environmental assessment for small scale beach restoration projects (i.e. projects of less than 10,000 cubic yards of sand). This is largely geared at private homeowners who want to do small-scale replenishment of their beaches, and also for counties. The project will take several years.

BLNR also approved DLNR to go under contract in planning for a beach restoration project in Kaanapali, Maui. This project will also take several years.

Mr. Romine also wanted to keep the CWG apprised of upcoming shoreline issues coming before the State. There are currently 3 applications coming before the BLNR in the next few weeks for major shoreline armoring projects. All three are located on Maui. Two are for public infrastructure 1) wastewater plant in Kahului, and 2) road project in West Maui along Olowalu,
and a one is for a private structure in front of Hoolani.

**Next Steps & Housekeeping**

The next scheduled meeting is **May 1, 2014**.