

Hawai'i Ocean Resources Management Plan Coordinated Working Group

Meeting Summary

October 4, 2018 - 9:00am – 12:00 pm
Office of Planning, 6th Floor Conference Room
235 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

Present:

Name	Agency/Organization
Bass, Danielle	OP-SPB
Buika, Jim	Maui County Planning Department
Callender, Tova (via phone)	West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative
Coon, Jim	MACZAC
Delaney, David	DLNR-DAR
Eisen, Tom	OEQC
Ersbak, Katie (via phone)	DLNR-DOFAW
Galinato, Jody	Kaua'i County Planning Department
Gibbs, Ann (via phone)	USGS Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center
Godwin, Scott	DLNR-DAR
Goggins, Justin	DLNR-DAR
Hekekoa, Josh	OP-CZM
Hughes, Kira	UH-HIMB
Kuo, Jules	DLNR-DAR
Langenberger, Fiona	PacIOOS
Lander, Melanie	OP-CZM
Li, Shichao	OP-CZM
Nihipali, Justine	OP-CZM
Perez III, Kaipo	NAVFAC Hawai'i
Romine, Brad	UH Sea Grant
Sullivan, Kevin	Hawai'i County Planning Department
Webster, Lisa	OP-CZM
Yamada, Zach	WPRFMC
Presenters	
Anthony, Stephen	USGS Pacific Islands Water Science Center
Maeda, Troy	DOH-CWB

Welcome, Introductions

Justine Nihipali, Manager, Office of Planning (OP) Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program, welcomed participants to the Coordinated Working Group (CWG) meeting.

Office of Planning Updates

There were no OP updates to share this month.

Coordinated Working Group Working Session

Justine shared the status of several current CZM initiatives:

- The CZM Program is funded through a cooperative agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and is required to develop a Section 309 strategy to enhance the program. The implementation of year one of the Coastal Hazard strategy is close to contract execution for *Statewide Probabilistic Tsunami Design Zone Maps for a 2,500-year Maximum Considered Tsunami for the Island of O‘ahu*. The project is being led by CZM Project Analyst Sandy Ma and will result in recommendations to strengthen the building codes for critical structures (i.e. hospitals, fire stations) in the event of a tsunami.
- The final report for the project *Assessing the Feasibility and Implications of Managed Retreat Strategies for Vulnerable Coastal Areas in Hawai‘i* is currently in review and is expected to be finalized in the next few months. The report identifies successful managed retreat initiatives, reviews the Managed Retreat Symposium themes, potential applications to Hawai‘i, and recommended next steps.

Melanie Lander announced the focus of the meeting, ORMP Management Priorities #3, Watershed Management, and #5, Coral Reef with an emphasis on Hawai‘i’s water quality from mauka to makai. The meeting’s presenters, Troy Maeda, Environmental Health Specialist, Department of Health (DOH) Clean Water Branch and Stephen Anthony, Director, United States Geological Survey (USGS) Pacific Islands Water Science Center, presented their perspectives on water quality monitoring and management practices.

ORMP Agency Updates and Announcements

Kevin Sullivan, Hawai‘i County Planning Department, announced that the County is looking to hire a transportation planner. [The County of Hawai‘i General Plan](#) is currently undergoing an update. The Nature Conservancy is working with the Planning Department to create green infrastructure mapping to inform the General Plan update. The lava has also stopped flowing on Hawai‘i Island.

David Delaney, Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR)- Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR), shared that he is convening a meeting on November 2, 2018 at NOAA Pier 38 from 9:00 am-11:00 am. The meeting will be a brainstorming session to discuss the feasibility of creating a central repository for coral reef studies and monitoring efforts. David also noted that cauliflower coral (*Pocillopora meandrina*) is currently under review for protection under the Endangered Species Act. The review is a response to a [petition](#) from the Center for Biological Diversity, which called for the listing of the species as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The petition cites declines in statewide cover of *Pocillopora meandrina* and notes its statewide cover was ~1.5% as of 2015. If listed by the Endangered Species Act, the consultations process for many county, state, and federal agencies could be affected. Cauliflower coral may be found on submerged hard substrates around the state, including harbors, artificial reef balls, and natural coral reefs. You can learn more and submit comments [here](#). Comments close on November 19, 2018.

Tom Eisen, Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC), stated that the Hawai‘i Administrative Rules (HAR) Chapter 11-200, Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) rules continue to be [updated](#) and will likely be presented to the Governor for signature by the end of this year.

Jim Coon, Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council (MACZAC), shared that the council took a field trip to Waikiki on October 1, 2018 to see coastal erosion and beach maintenance issues firsthand. The tour of the beach was guided by presenter Dolan Eversole of the University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant College Program. The MACZAC was

also presented to by Dr. Fletcher of the University of Hawai'i School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology on his ongoing work to study and map coastal erosion statewide.

Jim Buika, Maui County Planning Department, announced that the County is looking to fill a vacancy for a Planner. Maui is also proposing to incorporate projections of 3.2 feet of sea level rise into their shoreline setback rules.

Fiona Langenberger, Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS), reported that a new nearshore water quality sensor has been placed in Maunaloa Bay off of the Wai'alaie Beach Park in partnership with Mālama Maunaloa. The sensor is on loan for one year as a part of the [PacIOOS Water Quality Sensor Partnership Program](#). The product of another water quality monitoring effort by citizen-science groups on Maui will be hosted by the [PacIOOS Voyager](#). The data for the citizen science initiative will be updated quarterly and publicly available.

Brad Romine, University of Hawai'i (UH) Sea Grant College Program, shared updates related to the DLNR Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL). The draft programmatic EIS continues to progress for statewide small-scale beach nourishment. The draft is currently under review with state and federal agencies and will be published in the Environmental Notice before the end of the year. The Ka'anapali Beach Restoration preparation notice was released about a month ago. The draft EIS will be released soon.

Jody Galinato, Kaua'i County Planning Department, reported that the West Kaua'i Community Plan update has commenced and that recovery in Hanalei and on the North Shore from the April flooding event continues as well.

Melanie Lander, on behalf of Katia Balassiano, City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting, "Unfortunately, our request for assistance from the National Park Service was not approved. However, we still hope to move forward with the updating of our shoreline and SMA regulations and rules. We may be able to secure funds from FEMA via a hazard mitigation grant, and are now thinking that Sea Grant may be able to do both: draft the amended text – based on Chip Fletcher's recent mapping efforts – and conduct the necessary public education and outreach. The contract with OP regarding its shoreline photos is slowly moving ahead. We ran into a procedural snag that held us up for a while, but I think we've cleared that hurdle. With OP's funding assistance, we ultimately hope to update our shoreline photo archives."

Danielle Bass, State Sustainability Coordinator, Office of Planning Special Plans Branch, has been attending the Water Reuse Taskforce led by the Department of Health (the creation of which was required by [legislative resolution](#) last year) to coordinate county water treatment and reuse opportunities, regulatory problems/issues that arise, and increasing water recharge. The Taskforce will create proposals for the next legislative session. The Hawai'i Community Foundation continues to promote their [Blueprint for Action](#) for water conservation, reuse, and recharge.

Kira Hughes, UH-Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB), is beginning coral restoration through several partnerships with NOAA, DLNR-DAR, and Mālama Maunaloa and will be testing the performance of resilient corals and evaluating which species are most effective in the field.

Jules Kuo, DLNR-DAR, will be participating in an in-water cleaning/debris capture system trial in California to get hands-on experience with the technology. The Vessel Incidental Discharge Act is currently proposed in Congress; however, DLNR-DAR opposes the Act and is working with Hawai'i's senators to create practical and effective provisions to protect Hawai'i's waters.

Next Steps & Housekeeping

The next CWG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 1, 2018

Adjourned at 12:10 pm.