

Hawai'i Ocean Resources Management Plan Working Group

Meeting Summary

March 3, 2011 9am -12pm

State Office Tower 6th Floor Conference Room

235 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

Present:

Malia Chow (HIHWNMS)	Bethany Morrison (Hawaii Co.)
Jim Coon (MACZAC)	Sandra Rossetter (DOT)
Dolan Eversole (UH Sea Grant)	Lisa Ellen Smith (Kauai Co.)
Steve Frano (NOAA/OCRM)	Jesse K. Souki (OP)
Doug Harper (NOAA/PSC)	Deanna Spooner (PICCC)
Melissa Iwamoto (OP/CZM)	Jean Tanimoto (NOAA PSC)
Jeff Kent (OHA)	Nancy Wallis (NOAA)
Petra MacGowan (DLNR/DAR)	Lisa White (DLNR/DAR)
Marnie Meyer (OP/CZM)	

Linda Colburn (Facilitator, Where Talk Works)

Via Teleconference:

Jeffrey Dack (Maui Co.)

Welcome/Interim Updates

Office of Planning/CZM: New Interim Director of the Office of Planning, Jesse Souki, introduced himself to the ORMP Working Group. Jesse is happy to learn of all the work the ORMP group is doing, and looks forward to working with everyone. Jesse reminded the group to stay focused on how things can be practically implemented within the purview of the Coastal Zone Management Act, others laws and statutes, etc., and to always tie implementation efforts to the legal language.

Hawaii Co: ORMP implementation project at Honu'apo Estuary will be presented to the Working Group in June.

HIHWNMS: The Sanctuary received over 12,000 comments on the Management Plan Review (MPR), and will share with the Working Group for potential input into the ORMP update at the May meeting. Meanwhile, the Sanctuary Advisory Council will be forming working groups based on the comments, and will work with communities to advise the Sanctuary on what role they should have on certain topics during the MPR.

NOAA OCRM: NOAA will be working with CZM on the upcoming grant application, but since NOAA has no budget yet, nothing has been allocated. Annual funding guidance to the states has yet to be released, but states should start planning for a little less funding than the last grant cycle.

UH Sea Grant:

Coastal Storms Program - Sea Grant's Coastal Storms Program (CSP) is new to the Pacific Islands region. CSP usually stays in a region for 3-4 years to work on projects relating to climate change, coastal hazards, community resilience, etc. Dolan Eversole is the coordinator for the CSP – Pacific Islands Region.

Hazards Outreach and Trainings - Sea Grant is currently updating the Homeowner's Handbook and other hazard mitigation guides and is conducting a series of statewide coastal hazard mitigation workshops,

targeting new council members, administrative staff, and county staff. A second series of community workshops is planned for June and July in conjunction with the State and County Civil Defense to educate the public on hazard preparation and evacuation.

Climate Change Adaptation Training - Sea Grant has been partnering with the Pacific Services Center on a climate change adaptation training course, adapted for the Pacific, with the first course in Hawaii being offered from April 18th -21st on Maui. The training course will be targeting county level admin and staff, including the Mayor's Office.

Sea Level Rise Study - A multi-hazard sea level rise (SLR) inundation study is being conducted for urban Honolulu by Sea Grant and UH. The study will calculate how many hours of inundation per year Honolulu will experience, based on global SLR estimates, in addition a storm surge model from Hurricane Iniki, plus SLR scenarios at 1, 2 and 3 feet. Also included in the study are the socioeconomic impacts, such as on transportation infrastructure, and other data that would feed into risk and vulnerability assessments. This dovetails with the SLR study for Honolulu.

Sea Level Rise Policy Review - The Center for Island Climate Adaptation & Policy (ICAP) is conducting a policy review that will look at the political and legislative challenges and opportunities regarding SLR.

Climate Change Impacts Report - Sea Grant is revising a climate change impacts report for the State. The report is not a comprehensive scientific study, but will allow for the common lay person (targeting legislators) to understand the projected impacts of climate change in Hawaii. The report should be completed in the next 6 months.

Kailua Beach Management Plan – Just completed and soon to be released to the public is the Kailua Beach Management Plan, which includes measures for climate change adaptation. The plan includes recommendations on adaptation measures regarding land use options for the future, taking into consideration projections for SLR and dune system shifts.

Public Access Website - Sea Grant has a new public access website as part of a national effort to provide the public with information on public shoreline access. It provides a legal background on public access in Hawaii, frequently asked questions, as well as maps of public access points, although unsure if accuracy has been groundtruthed. The website can be viewed at: <http://seagrantsoest.hawaii.edu/coastal-access-hawaii>.

Kauai Co: Working with new Sea Grant extension agent on Kauai, Tiffany Anderson, on revamping the shoreline setback.

NOAA PSC: Staff met with the Lieutenant Governor on the Fair Share Initiative, which is a new program working to secure and expend external sources of funding for our state. PSC staff put in a good word for the ORMP group working collaboratively across sectors to bring in federal dollars. They gave the example of our joint proposal to NOAA under their Regional Ocean Partnerships grant.

DLNR DAR:

The Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR), who runs the state's coral reef conservation program, has prioritized the West Maui area as a priority site for coral reef conservation efforts in Hawaii, along with a site on the west coast of the Big Island. The U.S. Coral Reef Task Force has since chosen West Maui as a priority site for the Pacific Region. This may bring more resources to the partners and communities that are working collaboratively.

DAR will start a human use mapping project at the West Maui coral site in August, like they previously did for the Big Island site. They will be working with The Nature Conservancy to develop mini conservation plans for the two coral priority sites.

DAR will be convening a workshop at the end of the month that brings in California folks to share with us their process for designing a network of ecological marine managed areas (MMAs) along the central coast. The target audience for the workshop are resource managers and communities. The panelists will describe the planning process, share what tools were used, and share lessons learned.

DOT: Staff would like to bring more information from the Harbors Division to the Working Group as a wonderful resource. A meeting with OP might be worth it.

MACZAC: MACZAC has not been able to meet recently, so Jim Coon has been testifying on CZM issues as an individual.

OHA: OHA is tracking legislative bills that are of interest to beneficiaries.

Maui Co: The County has been busy with a large amount of SMA permit applications. Staff is working with the Planning Commission to revamp SMA rules. Staff will keep the Working Group updated about the public involvement process.

The County is still working with Chip Fletcher on updating Maui's erosion rates. Initial findings, which are using a different, more common statistical methodology, conclude that erosion rates might end up being reduced, meaning that setbacks would move makai. They may insert a sea level rise component.

Legislative Updates

ORMP members discussed bills of interest to the group. A handout summarizing some of the key bills was shared.

Climate Change

Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative Update - Deanna Spooner from the Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative (PICCC) gave an update of the program. The program has been operating for about one and a half years now. There are 29 members, including federal and state agencies, as well as NGOs. PICCC focuses on the impacts of climate change on biocultural resources. PICCC can be a funding source for projects that translate science into recommendations, which partners can then turn into management actions. Projects so far have included things like climate model downscaling, sea level rise modeling, climate change impacts to wetlands, and adaptation tools for reversing localized coral bleaching and acidification. When the federal budget is finalized, they may have up to \$500,000 for projects to do climate change adaptation and management tools. A request for proposals will be announced when the funding is secured. Projects throughout the Pacific will be eligible, but need to be place-based, collaborative work. For more information please see www.PICCC.net.

Center for Island Climate Adaptation & Policy (ICAP) - Maxine Burkett met with the Lieutenant Governor as per his request to discuss climate change adaptation. The Lt. Governor thanked her for the draft Executive Order (which the ORMP Working Group helped develop with ICAP), and appreciated another option to the Climate Change Task Force.

Climate Change Initiatives Update – CZM is updating the list of climate change initiatives in Hawaii document, which was first developed in 2008. In order to make it easier for people to update the list on a regular basis, it was recommended that we use Google Docs, if we can't get access to an FTP site.

Climate Change Adaptation Framework – Do we need a vision before we continue implementing the framework? The framework already includes a draft vision for a safe, healthy, productive and resilient Hawaii.

There was a suggestion to broaden what we talk about in relation to food security, national security, economic development, etc. Identify which risk and vulnerability assessments are not being addressed so that when funding becomes available, we already know which gaps need to be filled.

Other updates/initiatives in progress:

- OP/CZM will be developing a statewide policy on climate change adaptation (with ORMP partners)
- ICAP is conducting a sea level rise policy stakeholder survey, will have the results within the year.
- Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) is doing a pilot risk and vulnerability assessment on transportation assets. They are using a model developed by the Federal Highways Administration. They will be having a workshop next week.
- Sea Grant is conducting a climate change adaptation community survey of 1,000 people in Kailua. This could serve as a testing ground for further surveys/community awareness studies.
- It would be good to have an inventory of houses, facilities, harbors, airports, cemeteries, etc. that are at risk for SLR impacts throughout the state.
- Vulnerability assessment tool: PRiMO TRAP tool

Regional Ocean Partnerships

There is still no word from NOAA on the status of funding proposals to develop and implement regional ocean partnerships (ROPs). The Office of Planning had submitted two proposals, on behalf of the ORMP partners, to develop and implement a Hawaii sub-regional ocean partnership.

The Pacific Islands region, defined by NOAA as CNMI, Guam, American Samoa, and Hawaii, also submitted a proposal (minus Hawaii). Hawaii is now able to participate in the proposed Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Partnership (PROP). The four jurisdictions will have meeting on March 14th to discuss organizational development as partners will be passing through Honolulu on their way home from Washington, D.C. The Governor of Hawaii has yet to designate his representative on the PROP.

The Pacific Islands representative on the National Ocean Council's Governance Coordinating Committee is Lelei Peau, Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce for the American Samoa Government.

Strengthening ORMP

The Working Group discussed ways to strengthen the ORMP, which primarily focused on building community awareness and buy-in. Several ideas for ORMP outreach materials were discussed and will be sent via email to the Working Group for comments.

Next Steps

The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at the Office of Planning. Tentative agenda items include: a demonstration of the new PacIOOS website, a presentation of the new CZM/DOH Watershed Guidance document, and standing agenda items on climate change, regional ocean partnerships, and outreach.