

Hawai'i Ocean Resources Management Plan Working Group

Meeting Summary

State Office Tower 4th Floor Conference Room

March 5, 2009; 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Members Present:

Thorne Abbot (Planning, Maui)
Jim Coon (MACZAC)
Todd Low (DOA)
Marnie Meyer (OP/CZM)
Dana Okano (Planning, Hawaii)
Chris Ostrander (UH/HiOOS)
Lisa Ellen Smith (Planning, Kauai)
Jean Tanimoto (NOAA)
Barry Usagawa (BWS)
Dean Watase (DOT/Harbors)

Others Present:

Linda Colburn (Facilitator)
Scott Glenn (UH)
Connie Hoong (OP/CZM)
Melissa Iwamoto (OP/CZM)
Shichao Li (OP/CZM)
Ann Ogata-Deal (OP/CZM)
Doug Tom (OP/CZM)

Welcome/Opening Remarks

The group provided interim developments from each of their agencies and organizations:

CZM: An annual report on the ORMP was submitted to the legislature. The Community Stewardship Directory is being updated – there are at least 30 new entries. Big Island has requested Doug speak to the Planning Commissions. They have ruled that there will be 2 planning commissions for the island.

DOT: DOT has hired Dr. Chip Fletcher to analyze the possible impacts of future sea level rise on the two commercial harbor facilities and the surrounding areas for consideration in the long-term planning.

HiOOS: There has been a \$1.1 million cut for the next three years (40% cut for operating costs).

Hawaii Co: The Hawaii County Planning Department finally has a new director: Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd.

Maui Co: Gave a presentation to the County Council on shoreline management and sea level rise.

MACZAC: MACZAC has started the process of reviewing the CZM Program.

Update on 2009 Program Managers meeting

Doug Tom gave an update on the 2009 CZM Program Managers' meeting that took place in February in Washington, D.C. Most of the meeting agenda dealt with CZM programmatic matters such as the performance measurement system, federal evaluations of state programs, federal consistency, budget and administration, and the CZMA reauthorization. Other highlights were:

- NOAA is receiving \$150-170 million dollars under the American Recovery and Investment Act. The money will be focused on restoration projects. Selections will be made in late April, 2009. NOAA is looking for projects that are shovel-ready (60-days or less) that are in the \$1-10 million range. A call for proposals will be in the federal

register this month, so please tell anyone that might have appropriate projects to check for that.

- CZMA reauthorization is still being pursued, but it looks like the Senate/House will come up with their own proposal.
- Global climate change is the driving force for the CZMA reauthorization. Some states are not waiting for OCRM guidance on how to plan for climate change and are already moving forward with their own initiatives, understanding that the natural phenomenon will generate different impacts geographically.
- EPA has a climate adaptation report on its website: www.epa.gov
- Ocean acidification needs to be a key component in any climate change study. States need to adapt to the phenomenon of climate change.
- Funding: CSO is requesting \$100 million, an increase of \$40 million. Unsure of what NOAA is going to request. The states are not supporting the notion of competition among states for a number of reasons. Ms. Bordallo's bill is requesting \$75 million for 2009, an increase of \$15 million. How much more Hawaii will receive after the allocation formula is applied is unknown at this time.
- Doug and Abbey met with congressional offices to update them on and promote the ORMP work, explain why the climate change study is important, request support for CZM reauthorization and CELCP funding authorizations, and other state matters.
- A group of attorneys have filed suit against NOAA and EPA, claiming that they did not have the authority to issue conditional approval of the CNPCP. They claim that NOAA should implement the 30% cuts that 6217 calls for. This would be an immediate penalty of \$600,000. The defendants are trying to convince the plaintiffs that the impacts are going to be far worse than any gain they will receive by winning the case. Hawaii is still working hard to get approval (we have conditional approval as well), but we would be seriously impacted by this.
- The states that dedicate resources to their CZM Program are normally through line items in their state budget. Hawaii has never provided adequate human or fiscal resources for its program. Throne asked if we could look into other options, such as a special fund, to provide state support for the HI CZM Program.

Climate change caucus discussion w/WG

The climate change caucus has been working on a short draft framework for addressing climate change adaptation in Hawaii. The group is requesting each WG member to answer the following three questions to include in the framework. A handout was distributed (specific comments were recorded but not included in meeting summary – please see Marnie if interested in notes). Provide any more input on this within the next month.

1. What will the impacts be for each agency?
2. What does each agency need to know to begin adaptation response?
3. How can agencies work together to address climate change adaptation?

Cross-sector caucuses

Caucuses for Climate Change, Community Outreach, and Policy issues met for the duration of the meeting time. They will report their updates at the beginning of the next meeting in April.

Next steps

- Working Group members agreed to review the Climate Change Caucus request for assistance and to provide additional feedback about departmental responses to climate change. Marnie will send out a reminder email with a form that will help collect this information.
- ORMP staff will assist each caucus to find at least one time and date for a conference call for caucus members. The caucuses should use this interim discussion to build on their work to date and to plan their update to the working group in April.
- The next meeting will be on **Thursday, April 2, 2009** @ the State Office Tower, 6th floor, from 9am-noon. Meeting agenda items to consider:
 - Small group/caucus reports to working group
 - Agency feedback re: climate change framework request
 - Remember to consider upside possibilities linked to climate change as well as the challenges that will require mitigation.
 - Small group/caucus time will be provided
 - ORMP Work Plan updates are due