

August 26, 2022

To: Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council (MACZAC)  
From: Justine Nihipali  
Program Manager  
Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Coastal Zone Management  
Subject: CZM Program Report to MACZAC

### **National Initiatives**

#### **National CZM Program Funding**

The CZM Program has prepared and submitted its FY22-23 and FY23-24 coastal management grant application to NOAA. NOAA has shared that we should be planning for flat funding at least for the first fiscal year.

#### **CZM Habitat Protection and Restoration Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IJA)**

The CZM Program has the privilege of administering IJA funds that support the goals and intent of the Coastal Zone Management Act, the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

CZM solicited for LOI and submitted the maximum of three (3) to NOAA.

- Competitive: CZM serves as the eligible applicant for initial Letter of Intent (LOI) and if invited to develop a full proposal, may serve as a pass-through entity for partner organizations that need administrative support. Approximately \$35M in project funding at the national level is available for 3 types of project categories w/respective anticipated funding levels:
  1. Habitat restoration engineering, design and planning \$200,000 - \$500,000
  2. Habitat restoration: \$2M - \$6M
  3. Land Conservation: \$1M - \$4M
- Capacity Building: CZM is applying for funds to increase program capacity to coordinate and administer IJA projects over 3 years.

### **Hawaii CZM Program**

- 9 of 11 (2 are 0.5 FTE) positions staffed (1/2-time Project Analyst)
  - Position Vacancies: Planner V and Project Analyst
- 1 intern position
  - The graduate intern position is in recruitment.
- CZM Website updated periodically (<http://planning.hawaii.gov/czm/>). Working on improving communications for consistency and currency. Analyzing existing website to make it more efficient and streamlined.

#### **Section 312 Evaluation**

- No new activity
- CZM Staff contact is Debra Mendes

#### **Section 309 Assessment and Strategy**

- No new activity
- CZM Staff contact is Justine Nihipali

#### **Program Changes**

- No new activity

- Still waiting for the status for adoption of rules amendments from DLNR on HAR Ch.13-60.9 Mo‘omomi Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, Moloka‘i, HAR Ch.13-60.10 Miloli‘i Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, Hawai‘i, and HAR §13-256-152 Kahalu‘u Bay Ocean Waters, as well as proposed amendments to the County SMA and shoreline rules and ordinances for County of Hawai‘i, County of Maui, and City and County of Honolulu.
- Conducted an internal training on Hawai‘i CZM program changes on July 5, 2022.
- CZM Staff contact is Shichao Li

#### Ocean Resources Management Plan

- Implementation of the Kokua Community-Based Monitoring Program continues with the DLNR-DAR 30x30 planning team, project partners, and community groups. The program will increase DLNR-DAR's capacity to monitor culturally valuable nearshore marine resources that are not regularly monitored by the Division and is anticipated to run through March 2023. In June 2022, DLNR-DAR, in coordination with UH partners, recruited Katie Nalesere, who is based on Hawai‘i Island, as the new monitoring coordinator to carry out the project, and to work closely with to-be-determined pilot communities on the Kona Coast. The team is continuing to develop an outline for the monitoring framework, with an initial focus on limu and ‘opihi, and drafting a data sharing agreement with the communities through an iterative process. Next steps include developing a draft Memorandum of Agreement between DLNR-DAR and community entities, finalizing the data sharing agreement, and identifying existing monitoring protocols and current monitoring efforts for limu and ‘opihi. CZM Staff contact is Keelan Barcina.
- CZM received full funding for a NOAA Project of Special Merit FY22 project proposal to advance Focus Area #1. The project will analyze the legal and policy impacts of managed retreat in Hawai‘i. Funding is expected to be available in October 2022. This policy analysis will be one of two components in a larger managed retreat feasibility study. The second component will be an analysis of potential funding and financing mechanisms to support managed retreat in Hawai‘i which will be supported with CZM Section 309 programmatic funds.
- Implementation of the *Developing a Scoping Study for a Regional Shoreline Strategy Specific to the State of Hawai‘i* project continues with Tetra Tech and the project team. This scoping study is an exploratory step towards a regional shoreline management strategy for the State of Hawai‘i. On July 26, 2022, the project team hosted the first of three facilitated workshops with key stakeholders to solicit feedback that will be used to inform the final report and recommendations. The project is scheduled to be completed by December 2022, with possible extension. CZM Staff contact is Sarah Chang.
- CZM hosted a Joint Council and Coordinated Working Group meeting on July 7, 2022. The agenda included updates from CZM staff and project partners on the status of ORMP implementation projects, and a share-out from Council members on new legislation and proposed County rule changes that might impact ORMP focus areas.
- CZM’s NOAA Coastal Fellow began her 2-year fellowship on August 1, 2022. The Fellow’s project focuses on the nexus of coastal hazards and social vulnerability in Hawai‘i and aims to better understand and identify communities with higher risk to coastal hazards due to socio-economic and demographic factors.
- In July 2022, OPSD executed a contract with Oceanit to develop a *Menu of Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategies Suitable for Hawai‘i Coastlines*. The project deliverable is a comprehensive, informational resource that outlines potential coastal adaptation strategies. Each strategy will have its own “factsheet” which highlights the strategy’s pros and cons, appropriate site conditions, potential permits, etc. The project is scheduled to be completed by November 2022.
- OPSD continues to move forward with the Act 178, SLH 2021 initiative looking at sea level rise and State facilities. OPSD has conducted 1:1 meetings with key stakeholders and is drafting the

annual report which will be shared with the Act 178 Action Team for review and feedback. OPSD is preparing to submit draft bill language requesting funding to support the development of a standardized vulnerability assessment. CZM Staff contact is Sarah Chang.

- The new ORMP Dashboard was launched on June 8, 2022 and was the winning Web Map App during the Hawai'i Geographic Information Coordinating Council (HIGICC) Honolulu Geospatial Expo held August 5, 2022 at the State Capitol.
- CZM Staff continue to work towards developing projects under Focus Area II: Land Based Pollution with respect to the CZM-funded report produced by UH Sea Grant: *Frameworks for Nonpoint Source Pollution Management in the Hawaiian Islands*. Due to competing CZM priorities over the last few months, the project development process has been delayed with anticipated prioritization in the upcoming months. Currently, CZM staff are taking steps to update existing planning guidance documents with contemporary non-point source pollution information and best management practices tailored for the Hawaiian Islands and to identifying effective mechanisms to increase land-based pollution reduction considerations among permit and EA/EIS reviewers and the public with these revised resources. CZM Staff contact is Keelan Barcina.

#### Coastal Non-Point Pollution Control Program (CNPCP)

- On 7/29/22 OPSD received an informal response from NOAA/EPA that OPSD has proven that Hawai'i has suitable tracking and evaluation mechanisms in place to assess voluntary implementation of the roads, highways, and bridges operation and maintenance management measure. OPSD continues to collaborate with State DOH to execute a commitment statement for final NOAA/EPA approval of the roads, highways, and bridges operating and maintenance management measure.
- CZM Staff contact is Debra Mendes

#### Climate Change Adaptation

- OPSD Director and CZM Program Manager serve as Commissioners on the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.
- CZM was scheduled to present to the Commission on July 20, 2022 with DLNR – OCCL to discuss coastal erosion issues and projects that CZM is leading but was unable to due to illness.
- The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2022.
- CZM Staff contact is Justine Nihipali

#### Coastal Hazards

- Section 309 Coastal Hazards Strategy for the *Probabilistic Tsunami Design Zone Mapping – Maui Island (Phase II) and Kaua'i Island* contract executed January 20, 2021, is underway. The Contractor requested a contract extension, which was approved by NOAA. The new contract end date is September 30, 2023. The first informational meeting for this contract took place on July 22, 2022 and focused on Maui Island (Phase II). A technical meeting for Kaua'i Island is scheduled for September 23, 2022.
- CZM Staff contact is Lisa Webster

#### County CZM Projects

- The CZM Program was provided the opportunity to extend an award for an additional 12-months to address delays due to disruptions from COVID-19 and has engaged with counties to develop scopes of work to continue previously funded project initiatives that enhance their abilities to meet program objectives and policies. These projects must be completed by December 2022.
- Hawai'i County has entered into Phases 4 & 5 of the Shoreline-Riparian Setback Project, *Shoreline Pursuit*. This allows continued leveraging of products in pursuit of island wide data and analysis to support coastal management objectives. Phase 4: Contract(s) and MOA were executed

(May 2022) for UH-SDAV to continue data collection and processing of data in additional geographies/coastal areas. Phase 5: Contract(s) and MOA were executed (May 2022) for UH-SDAV to continue data processing, analyzing, and modelling findings. An extension request will be submitted.

#### Other Initiatives

- Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force. Three projects have been completed to meet objectives of Act 15, SLH 2018. The next meeting will be held August 31, 2022. CZM Staff contact is Justine Nihipali.
- Waikiki SLR Resilience and Adaptation Plan. OPSD received a budget line item of \$400,000 to support an initiative to develop a SLR plan for Waikiki. The initiative will be conducted in collaboration with the City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting that received \$400,000 in county funding to develop a Waikiki Special Area Plan. This will be supported by the CZM program, with no additional State funding for staff capacity. CZM staff contact is Deb Mendes.
- CZM Program is involved with a number of external groups and activities:
  - Coral Reef Initiative Working Group (DLNR-DAR)
  - Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council
  - Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) and HISC Resource Committee
  - State Hazard Mitigation Forum (HiEMA)
  - Coastal States Organization
  - Fisheries Local Action Strategy Hawai'i (FLASH)
- Continue to review environmental assessments/environmental impact statements to ensure CZM objectives, policies, and initiatives are considered.