



Islands Engagement Strategy

Strategy Leads: Coastal States Organization with Island Coastal Programs

Status: Island adaptation planning research is in progress. Islands breakout session during CSO Fall Member Meeting being planned.

Call to Action: Rob Porro will be conducting interviews with Island coastal program managers/staff to discuss the CZMA 309 process and adaptation challenges. If interested/available for an interview, please contact Rob.

Strategy Overview

The Islands Engagement Strategy is a continuous CSO effort to improve engagement between Island CZM programs, local agencies, and Federal partners (USACE, FEMA, NOAA) and to identify opportunities to support coastal resilience efforts across islands. Each year new priorities, engagement, and project opportunities to support island programs are identified by CSO fellows and staff through research and consultation with members.

Recent Highlights

- CSO Staff/2021 Knauss Fellows worked to identify challenges, needs and opportunities related to hazard mitigation implementation in the Pacific, through informational interviews with Pacific programs and a Pacific Islands listening session with federal partners. This resulted in a White Paper released in April 2022.

Current Efforts

- CSO 2022 Knauss Fellow is evaluating adaptation planning efforts across islands to identify challenges and best practices. This includes a review of CZMA 309 Strategies and State/Territory Hazard Mitigation Plans, and interviews with coastal managers and hazard planners.
- CSO is planning an Islands breakout session during the CSO Fall Member meeting to provide a venue for Island programs to discuss island-specific challenges and needs.

Timeline

October 2021: Pacific Islands Listening session held with Pacific Island coastal programs and federal partners

Spring 2022: 2022 Knauss Fellow initial consultations with island programs to discuss adaptation research & priorities.

April 2022: Federal resource packets ([FEMA](#), [USACE](#), [NOAA](#)) updated/shared. White Paper, "[Coastal Resilience and Hazard Mitigation in the Pacific Islands: Coordinating Efforts to Support Hazard Mitigation Project Implementation](#)", released.

Summer and Fall 2022: Evaluation of adaptation relevant plans in islands (309 Strategy / Hazard Mitigation Plans); hosted Pacific Island sediment regulations for Beneficial Use of Dredged Material workshop.

September 2022: Knauss Fellow Presentation on islands adaptation research at ASBPA National Coastal Conference

Fall 2022: Interviews with coastal managers and hazard planners

October 2022: Islands breakout session during CSO Fall Member Meeting

December-January 2022: Islands adaptation planning research wrap-up/resource development.

Island Engagement Strategy Objectives

- Improve coordination around coastal resilience and better connect island communities with federal agency support and resources.
- Foster cross-jurisdictional conversation about the shared challenges and barriers to effective coastal resilience efforts.
- Provide a forum for islands to share and discuss best practices and identify opportunities to engage federal partners and advance coastal resilience objectives.

CSO Point of Contact

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