

Workshop on Ocean Observing in Support of Coastal Management
September 30 - October 1, 2008
Embassy Suites, San Juan PR
Preliminary Agenda

Purpose of Workshop

This workshop will bring together a group of coastal managers from the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico with representatives of the CaRA, the regional coastal ocean observing system for the region, to discuss what information and data products coastal managers need to address the critical issues surrounding inundation -- sea level rise, impact on beaches and shoreline from hurricanes and other extreme events, beach erosion, etc.

Workshop Sponsors

The Coastal States Organization (CSO and the Caribbean Regional Association for Integrated Coastal Observing (CaRA) are pleased to sponsor this workshop. CSO was founded in 1970 and represents the interests of the 35 coastal and Great Lakes states, commonwealth and territories on legislative and policy issues related to sound coastal management (see: www.coastalstates.org). CaRA is dedicated to providing real time coastal observing information to managers, planners, government officials, industry and the general public (see: www.cara.uprm.edu). Funding for the workshop is provided by NOAA.

Desired Outcomes

The workshop will:

- Document the needs of coastal managers for data and information to address
- Provide managers with an understanding of CaRA
- Develop specific recommendations for how coastal managers and CaRA can move forward with addressing the needs.

Workshop Steering Committee:

Jorge Corredor - PI, CaRA, University of Puerto Rico

Ernesto Diaz - Director, PR Coastal Zone Management

Janice Hodge – Director, US VI Coastal Zone Management

Julio Morell – Director, CaRA, , University of Puerto Rico

Roy Watlington - PI, CaRA, University of the Virgin Islands

Kate Zultner - Policy Analyst, Coastal States Organization

Workshop Coordinator: Josie Quintrell, Nat'l Federation of Reg. Associations for Ocean Observing

Preliminary Agenda

Tuesday, September 30, 2008

9:30 Registration, Coffee and donuts

9:45 Opening Remarks

9:45 Welcome and Workshop Overview Kate Zultner, CSO

9:50 Opening Remarks Sect. Javier Velez-Arocho

10:00 Brief Introductions to CSO and CaRA

CSO Kate Zultner

CaRA Julio Morell

10:20 Round Table Introductions

10:30 Workshop Logistics Josie Quintrell

10:30 Short Break

10:40 Coastal Management and Inundation: Managers' Concerns

10:40 Issues Facing the Virgin Islands Janice Hodge

10:55 Issues Facing Puerto Rico Ernesto Diaz

11:10 Overview of CaRA of work on coastal hazards Aurelio Mercado

11:30 Discussion Josie Quintrell

11:50 Charge to the break sessions Josie Quintrell

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Break out session #1: Understanding managers' needs

Facilitators: Josie Quintrell and Whit Saumweber

This session will document the needs of managers for science information to address issues related to coastal inundation including coastal erosion, sea level rise, emergency response and flooding. The session will review the response from the pre-workshop survey to determine if the major issues are covered or if there are additional needs that should be identified. Example questions:

- 1) What kind of decisions do they make concerning inundation?
- 2) What data do they presently use?
- 3) What would they like to have?
- 4) Does the data need to in real time? Do they need trend data?
- 5) What kind of decision support tools (predictive models, etc)
- 6) What capacity do managers have for: accessing data and information (eg, should it be GIS compatible?), analysis of data, etc.
- 7) What are the managers top priorities for scientific information concerning inundation issues?

1:45 Plenary Session: Recap of discussion

2:15 Break

2:30 Break out session #2: Opportunities (and challenges) for addressing managers' needs

Building on the previous breakout discussion, this session will identify:

- 1) Most important needs of managers for which CaRA can assist
- 2) Challenges (or barriers) to addressing those needs. These may be:
 - Scientific challenges (i.e., need for scientific understanding);
 - Legal challenges (i.e., do managers have specific legal requirement in use of data? liability concerns?)
 - Institutional (institutional policies, staff capacity, IT capacity)
- 3) Solutions for overcoming challenges

4:15 Plenary Session: Recap of working group discussions
Report out from groups on priority needs of managers and opportunities for addressing those needs
Synthesis of needs of both groups

5:30 Adjourn

Dinner and social time:

Dinner is on your own but a group reservation will be made at the Metropol Restaurant for those who are interested.

<http://www.metropolpr.com/>

Wednesday, October 1

8:00 Continental Breakfast

8:30 Plenary Session

Recap of previous day's sessions

Priority Issues

Develop and establish recommendations

10:30 Break

10:45 Informal Panel Response on Workshop

10:45 Response from Coastal Managers: Janice Hodge and Ernesto Diaz

Was the workshop useful? Do you feel that your needs as managers were understood and listened to? Do the meeting recommendation address your needs? Are there other issues that need to be addressed?

11:00 Response from CaRA: Roy Watlington and Jorge Corredor

Was the workshop useful to CaRA? Did you have a better understanding of the data and information needs of managers? How will CaRA use the results of the meeting?

11:10 Response from CSO: Kate Zultner

11:15 Open Discussion

11:45 Wrap Up -- Next Steps

12:00 Workshop Adjourns