

# Steering Committee Update

February 19, 2015

Washington, DC

*Working to preserve and protect  
coral reef ecosystems*



## 2015 Maui Meeting Follow-Up

- Res 25.1 Accomplishments Report
- Development of Strategic and Targeted Priorities





## Res 25.1 Accomplishments

- National Ocean Policy Engagement
- Place-based Partnerships
- Trans-jurisdictional Issues
- Science to Management
- Internal Business



## National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan

- Land-based sources of pollution
- Climate change
- Planned (permitted and authorized) and unplanned events (vessel groundings)

## Watershed Partnership Working Group

- Work continues in 3 Priority Watersheds
- Held workshops based on local needs in St. Croix and Maui
- Active Membership with rotating lead
- Developing performance metrics
- Strategy for future of WPI

## Watershed Partnership Working Group

- Needs:
  - Designated Leadership of group
  - Support for monitoring resources
  - Support for data management

## Coral Reef Injury and Mitigation Working Group

- Handbook on Coral Impacts: Avoidance, Minimization, Mitigation, and Restoration
- Contractor was hired and coordinated development of the Handbook

## Climate Change Working Group

- Jurisdiction bleaching response or climate adaptation plans
- Corals and Climate Adaptation Planning (CCAP) Project
- Stood up separate Ocean Acidification and Education and Outreach Working Groups
- Kicked off webinar series for monthly calls

## Ocean Acidification Working Group

- Stand Alone Working Group
- Set goals of:
  - Raising awareness
  - Addressing the source of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Addressing local impacts
- Workshop and two panels have been held to date
- Inform USCRTF Future Strategic Planning

## Education and Outreach Working Group

- Focus on educational opportunities USCRTF meetings
  - Community presentations and trainings at St. Croix and Maui meetings
  - Science Café on corals and climate change
- Sunia Internship

## Other Accomplishments

- Enforcement
- Jurisdictional Coral Reef Management Priorities
- Science to Management
- Opportunities to Enhance Understanding
- Internal Operations

## Res 25.1 Accomplishments Report

- Near final draft
- SC Agreement on major highlights
- Additions proposed to strengthen some sections
- Final draft for principal review soon after DC meeting

## Strategic and Targeted Priorities Planning

- Draft resolution outline developed
- SC Retreat: began discussions on the timeframe for new resolution, ongoing actions from Res 25.1 to continue, and potential new priority actions

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Questions?

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# Steering Committee Action Items

- Continue to be engaged in the National Ocean Policy and Marine Planning
- Develop a list of budget and technical support needs for measuring success of the Watershed Partnership Initiative
- Continue efforts of Coral Reef Injury Working Group to develop Reef Managers Handbook to Coral Reef Impact Avoidance, Minimization, Mitigation, and Restoration

## Steering Committee Action Items

- Continue Climate Change Working Group efforts
- Implement 2014 Sunia Internship program

# Steering Committee Action Items

- Circulate and present recommendations of State/Territory Capacity Assessments among Steering Committee and discuss Federal engagement
- Plan and host Winter Meeting

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# Steering Committee Action Items



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