



309 Assessment & Strategy Stakeholder Workshop

The Division of Coastal Resources Management successfully hosted the 309 Assessment & Strategy Stakeholder Workshop on Coastal Hazards at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan on January 22, 2025. The workshop served as a crucial platform for gathering input from the key agencies and organizations to enhance the management of coastal hazards, including flooding, shoreline erosion and sea level rise.

Participating agencies included the Division of Environmental Quality, CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, DCCA's Historic Preservation Office, Northern Marianas College, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Public Assistance Office, Saipan Mayor's Office, Zoning Office, the Office of Planning and Development, and the Hazard Management Grant Program. Attendees engaged in discussions focused on identifying and prioritizing coastal hazard risks, as well as exploring emerging issues with limited evidence. The workshop also featured a presentation on updating DCRM Coastal Hazard Areas of Particular Concern, ensuring that local hazard management strategies remain effective and data-driven.

Interactive sessions allowed stakeholders to contribute valuable insights regarding the top three hazards facing the CNMI's coastal areas and to assist in setting management priorities. These discussions will play a key role in shaping DCRM's 309 Assessment & Strategy, guiding future coastal resilience efforts.

Findings and recommendations from the workshop will directly inform the 309 Assessment & Strategy, helping to establish a robust, forward-looking approach to coastal hazard mitigation and resilience. For more information, please contact Arthur Charfauros, Coastal Planner III, at acharfauros@dcrm.gov.mp, or call (670) 664-8300.