



## Wetlands Management & Stakeholder Coordination Workshop

The Division of Coastal Resources Management hosted the Wetlands Management & Stakeholder Coordination Workshop at the Aqua Resort Club on January 23, 2025. The workshop was led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Coastal Management Fellow, Kellie Cutsinger. The event brought together 25 participants from various local and federal agencies, including the Division of Environmental Quality, the Division of Fish and Wildlife, CNMI Forestry, the Department of Public Works, National Park Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Pacific Coastal Research and Planning, among others.

During the workshop, Kellie presented on her fellowship project, titled "Updating the CNMI's Comprehensive Wetlands Management Plan and Stakeholder Coordination." This presentation set the stage for an engaging and productive discussion where participants explored key topics such as past and present wetland locations, threats and stressors impacting these areas, and potential solutions to mitigate these challenges.

To further inform the project, attendees participated in a survey aimed at understanding their agencies' specific efforts and programs related to wetlands management and stakeholder coordination. Additionally, two collaborated activities - a SWOT analysis and a project mapping exercise - were conducted to gather valuable stakeholder input and encourage sharing regarding the state of wetlands management in the CNMI.

The insights gathered from the workshop will contribute to the ongoing update of the CNMI's Comprehensive Wetlands Management Plan, ensuring a more coordinated and strategic approach to wetland conservation and stakeholder engagement.

For more information, please contact Kellie Cutsinger at [kcutsinger@dcrm.gov.mp](mailto:kcutsinger@dcrm.gov.mp) or call (670) 664-8300.