

Christy Martin¹, Keren Gunderson², Tina Lau³, Michael Leech⁴, Teya Penniman⁵, Greg Santos⁶

¹Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species, PO Box 61441, Honolulu, HI 96839

²Kauai Invasive Species Committee, PO Box 29, Kilauea, HI 96754

³Molokai-Maui Invasive Species Committee, PO Box 220, Kualapuu, HI 96757

⁴Oahu Invasive Species Committee, 2551 Waimano Home Rd., Pearl City, HI 96782

⁵Maui Invasive Species Committee, PO Box 790360, Paia, HI 96779

⁶Big Island Invasive Species Committee, 16 East Lanikaula St., Hilo, HI 96720

ISLAND-BASED PARTNERSHIPS AND STATEWIDE COORDINATION TO ADDRESS INCIPIENT INVASIVE PESTS.

Addressing Hawaii's invasive species problems requires better prevention measures, rapid response and monitoring of incipient pests, and continued control of established pests. The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS), a government/non-government partnership has worked since 1994 to address policy and funding issues for these three areas of need. While policy issues still exist, one area of great success has been with the formation of Invasive Species Committees (ISCs) to function as rapid response and monitoring crews on each island. The ISCs are island-based grassroots government/non-government/private business partnerships working to protect each island from the most threatening invasive pests. Each ISC has a list of priority target species, pests that were evaluated and ranked to determine the level of threat and potential for control. Field crews survey, map, control and monitor priority targets such as *Miconia* (*Miconia calvescens*). Since July 2001, the ISCs have surveyed 54,018 acres and controlled 637,064 *Miconia* statewide, including 333,957 seeding trees. Additional work by the ISCs include rapid response to reports of coqui frogs in areas where they are not known to exist, like Molokai and Kauai, and snake and veiled chameleons searches on Maui. ISCs provide the necessary manpower to assist the under-staffed Hawaii Departments of Agriculture and Land and Natural Resources in searches and control work. The amount of control work shows the success of the ISC partnerships and the continuing need for dedicated rapid response crews.

Christy Martin

Phone: (808) 722-0995

FAX: (808) 973-2936

Email: christym@rocketmail.com