



## Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) Meeting Notes

Hawai'i Department of Agriculture Plant Quarantine Conference Room  
1849 Auiki St., Honolulu, HI

9:00 am – 12:00 pm Wednesday, July 26, 2017

**Note:** *These are not official minutes of the meeting, as they have not been reviewed and approved by the speakers. I've attempted to capture the points and discussion, but I urge you to contact the speaker to verify any information. -Christy*

Remote access link: <https://zoom.us/j/510153708>

**9:00 – 9:05 Welcome & Introductions:** *Joshua Atwood, DLNR DOFAW & 2018 CGAPS Chair*

**9:05 – 9:15 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan:** *Josh Atwood*  
Presentation on Biosecurity

- Legislative packages will be out in Nov. In the plan, we are going to look at infrastructure needs and staffing investments for the coming legislative session. Vacancy rates remain an issue, but we need to have those conversations. We will also be pursuing the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority.

**9:15 – 9:30 DLNR DAR Ballast Water & Biofouling:** *Jules Kuo*

- About 1000 vessels arrive annually, 20% discharging ballast water. Presentation. Vast majority of vessels arriving from North America and Asia. Risk Assessment via the Ballast water management reports, due 24 hours prior to arrival. Working with USCG and going on inspection together.
- Ballast water assessment kit measures live chlorophyll activity, called a CFA test. (ATP kit measures both auto and heterotrophs, more expensive, \$35/sample). CFA kit is less expensive and user friendly, less than 2 minutes to receive answer. Can take a sample and test a week later with little impact to results. Eventually want to switch over to ATP.

Q If water is high risk, whats the next step?

A Good question. The USCG regulations are broken up by size class of organism found. If the sample is high risk, we would take a sample and use an epiflorescens and stereomicroscope procedures.

Q What happens to the vessel during the process?

A We would ask that they stop discharging, what we would like to do is work with the vessel to keep the vessel from discharging in the future.

**9:30 – 9:45 Joint-Base Pearl Harbor Hickam USAF Biosecurity:** *Kristen Rex*

- My area of focus: Alaska, Mt. Kaala Radar, Kokee AFS, Wake Island Airfield
- Biosecurity management plan drafted in 2012, required for rat eradication effort in 2012. Now we have an updated plan, now with the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, done in 2015, only one or two enter the marina.

- Our two installations in Hawaii have some invasives, but not many. Our major issue is Wake. On average there are 5 or 6 barge movements to Wake annually. Stages and loads at the Fleet Logistic Supply Center, Hickam Air Cargo Facility. Goodnature Traps and nontoxic snap traps, glue board or sticky traps around the facility. Place them in every barge that goes to Wake.
- Requires all vendors to buy their own traps, etc. Each vessel is required to obtain a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor certification that the vessel is free of rodents, written into SOW. We haven't run into a situation where we have found that a vessel has rats, so I don't know if the 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor would be liable or what the repercussions might look like.
- Each conex also gets a No Pest Strip, only goes in the containers that don't have perishable items.
- When barge contracts require that vessels move through USDA WS to do canine inspections.
- On arrival on Wake, the only QA tool we have is personnel on the ground to attend to the unloading and opening of the containers, within 72 hours so the vessel can depart. Small airport team of rapid responders ready to deploy should we have a snake sighting.
- Air freight: is a lot more challenging. Arrives from all over, making it much more challenging.
- Next up Teaming with USGS to update species index, conduct a biosecurity efficacy study in 2018, and update Wake Island Biosecurity Management Plan in 2018 or 2019.

Q: With Biosecurity in USAF, how much do you work with the Pest Management side.

A: I'd say that it was a little easier prior to joint-basing.

Q: HDOA has reinitiated the BTS fence line searching and traps (12 traps).

**9:45 – 10:00 Marine Corp Base Hawai'i:** *Lance Bookless (not present, will contact and reschedule for Sept. meeting)*

**10:00 – 10:15 Māmalu Poe Poe/Monitoring for Public Health Pests at Airports:** *Leyla Kaufman*

(PowerPoint Presentation)

- 5-year plan for gap filling at airports, monitoring and treating for key invasive species threats at airports. We work with key agencies, airport personnel and project partners to streamline communications, develop plans, raise internal capacities, and conduct monitoring and treatment.
- Targets: mosquitoes, ants, coconut rhinoceros beetles, Africanized honeybees (this also helps monitor for honeybee pests)
- Monitoring at Daniel K Inouye, Hilo, Kona, Kahului, Molokai, Lihue.
- Progress: Met with all lead agencies, assessed status of airports and met with all airport managers to discuss program, toured most airport facilities with partners, created tentative maps of restricted areas for planning traps. Gathered monitoring protocols/SOPs for the target pests. Refined some protocol, particularly for mosquito lure and trap studies. Approached ISC managers to assess collaboration potential. Started badging process for access. Purchased materials for monitoring, beginning training of all staff.
- Funding also supporting Helen Spafford (UH) to do a trap study on Oahu outside the airport, and Donna Lee (UH) to conduct an assessment of the economic benefit of increased surveillance at airport facilities.

**10:30 – 10:40 Guam/CNMI Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific: *Angela Kieran-Vast***

- I am focusing on the Marine Corps relocation program for Guam for NavFac Pacific. All contracts for construction, all must have a HASOP plan and implementation (usually a person on staff required to track all shipments and inspect, wash downs, etc.) reviewed by Natural Resources staff based on Guam. HASOP training for contractors annually, and contractor education program for natural resources, cultural resources and invasive species.
- Horizontal projects (clearing vegetation), we have pre-construction survey, one during and one post-construction to assess species change and mitigate for new weeds—currently limited to plants only, discussion to expand to other types of species.
- All contracts must have a greenwaste plan and procedures to check for CRB, LFA. CRB is widespread on Guam, but we don't want to add to the problem.
- Outreach for general public + military families. So far, 2 rounds of PSAs on TV, incl. BTS. We are funding research projects prioritized by the BTS Working Group.
- Once aerial BTS control trial is complete, we will be building a 300 acre barrier and 160 acre barrier to conduct BTS suppression.

**10:30 – 10:40 Break**

**10:40 – 11:00 Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death Update and Needs: *Rob Hauff***

Continuing with quarterly surveys on BI, 2x/year for other islands. Sept. is next round of surveys

- Looking at how to limit impact in high-priority forest areas.
- Tom Harrington was here in July, he was encourage to see some not real active dying, mostly old infections.
- Monitoring plots should help us look at how “episodic” nature.
- Still working on disposal of trees in communities.
- Ceratocytis species A appears to be a wilt pathogen that moves quickly, species B is more of a canker disease that takes much longer to die. These two diseases are being described. Both kill trees.
- ED/RR: Need to make sure we have the resources on each island to follow up on aerial survey sightings. We are working on getting resources to each island (lab in a suitcase) to help.
- Through aerial surveys and increased eyes, we have seen some wider mortality of ohia on Oahu and Molokai, we think it is an impact of ohia rust samples taken will hopefully shed some light on what we are dealing with—a genetic shift or a new strain of the guava rust that causing it.
- Messaging statewide is being coordinated by new hire Ambyr Mokiau-Lee, based at UH. Also Christy is working on a ROD Documentary with a contractor to raise awareness.
- Myrtaceae import restriction: We have a call with USDA and HDOA this week to get parallel state and fed regulations in place.

**11:00 – 11:40 Invasive Species Committees of Hawai'i:**

**MISC: *Adam Radford***

- Coqui frogs in Maliko Gulch: we are gaining ground with extra support and crew, community help.

- LFA: Waihee and Haiku populations have shown how important it is to keep surveying. Both have popped up again in these areas that were “eradicated”. We now have 3 dedicated staff for LFA, plus working with HAL, and other MISC staff assists when needed.
- Rat lungworm: Several recent cases are known from East Maui. Posting of semi-slug asking the public if it is present, people responded that it is. HCF funding to Bishop Museum is helping to get surveys done. MISC is helping to connect parties and to provide public outreach.

**KISC:** *Tiffani Keanini (update emailed)*

- KISC in currently transitioning management, Bill Lucey, KISC Manager, departed KISC in July.
- Miconia efforts this period resulted in the control of 3 mature and 143 immature.
- KISC assisted HDOA with the capture of 3 coqui frogs in March.
- The last detected Little Fire Ant at the Kauai infestation site was in January 2017 by partnership of HAL, HDOA, KISC. No LFA have been detected since.
- KISC's Plant Early Detection program is wrapping up a complete survey of Kauai (accessible roads, trails, nurseries, planting sites, etc) and will be using the data to prioritize over 65 early detection species for control, report on 45-55 new island/state naturalization records and help inform our Pono Endorsement program's future black/phase out lists

**OISC:** *Rachel Neville/Erin Bishop (update emailed)*

- A total of 4,268 acres (2828 air and 1440 ground) in 20 watersheds surveyed this month. 7 mature and 180 immature.
- Crew found new patch of miconia while on ROD surveys in between Mānoa and Maunawili populations.
- Found a mature tree in marginal habitat (just at the 1800 isohyet) in Ha‘īku. It was on private property that had not ever been surveyed. There has not been a mature tree ever recorded in Ha‘īku before.
- Crew experimenting with drones, found immature miconia with a drone in a place that would be too steep for the crew to cover. Will treat next time we do HBT operations with James Leary.
- An OISC staff member is writing code for image identification technology so in theory we will not have to watch the drone footage, the computer will find the plants for us.
- Crew found UXO while doing *Chromolaena odorata* surveys at Camp Smith. They turned out to be inert.
- 13 coqui frogs removed from Waimanālo.
- Little Fire Ant found and treated, also in Waimanālo.
- Treated 4 mature and 253 immature *Tibouchina herbacea* at Poamoho.
- Crew conducted surveys and flagging for later treatment at KTA, monitored treatment of spray operation in Kahana and continued to delimit and monitor treated areas in Aiea. The crew is also experimenting with gigapan technology in cooperation with Oahu Army Natural Resources Program. Crew navigated to points using images taken with the ultra-high resolution camera. It is a useful method for steep parts. You can take a photo areas too steep to survey sweep-style and navigate directly to the point.
- Outreach: 3,395 people from March 10-July 21.
  - Attended 17 events with the largest being the HI Pet Expo where we had an LFA booth reaching 700 people and distributed about 300 test kits.

- Outreach staff presented invasive species and little fire ant presentations to 9 schools for 831 students, and collected 257 ant samples...none were positive for LFA.
- OISC had 4 volunteer trips at Lyon Arboretum to remove 764 invasive plants, with 120 volunteer hours...and partnered with DOFAW for a volunteer event for Kailua HS at Kawainui Marsh including LFA testing.
- OISC conducted invasive species prevention training for pesticide recertification course and for construction contractors.

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*Lori Buchanan MoMISC; Springer Kaye BIISC: updates not available*

#### **11:40 – 11:55 CGAPS and Partner Agency/NGO updates**

**PQ Jonathan Ho:** Audit was conducted. It wasn't very positive, but a lot of the issues brought up were somewhat skewed. The Branch has been working to address the issues for many months. WE are working on e-manifesting and transitional facilities. HDOA is also working on the new database RFP.

**DAR Brian Neilson:** Partnered with KISC to deal with Salvinia in a stream. We partnered with Oceanic Institute to do an e-DNA test to do a presence/absence of salvinia in the stream. It worked out well, and if we receive funding we can do e-testing for this and possibly other species in waterways.

- Looking at tsunami debris-over 50 Japanese species have come over on debris, alive when they arrive. There is no evidence of establishment, but we are monitoring.
- Aug 22 BOA meeting to decide on Nile tilapia (moving it from restricted A list for research, to B, potentially for commercial use)

**UH PCSU Dave Duffy:** Within a week of RCUH approving use of firearms. Working with office of aircraft services to ensure safe heliops. Looking at transition to an Organized Research Unit at UH.

**CRB Kailee Tam:** Population still at Iroquois, PC peninsula, JBPPH. Most active site is PC peninsula. Known breeding site of chipped mangrove material on military property in an unmanaged area. Cleared a lot of kiawe and brush to let the site heat and dry while mitigating the large amount of material.

- Waiawa area below LCC is most recent site. 700 larvae on site so far, 54 adults just in mulch pile. Manual removal so far.
- Shifted a lot of staff from trap servicing and focusing more on breeding site surveys.
- Last week for the interns.

**USFWS Joshua Fisher:** Working with partners to come up with a management plan to address mosquitoes and the diseases they vector to native birds. The recent meeting held by the Center for Food Safety on the use of genetic techniques for addressing mosquitoes, but they also included taro and ohia, and other topics, things we aren't working on. It was very convoluted.

**HDOA Keevin Minami:** coqui work on Oahu going well. We would like to try the male coqui attractor with barrier that is a one way developed by Arnold Hara. Intercepted Cuban treefrog in a shipment of bromeliads from Florida. Trained 4 inspectors in Guam on BTS and also venomous snake ID.

#### **11:55 – 12:00 New Business & Announcements**

- Aug. 27 in Hilo, the Ohia Love Fest

- Dec. 5-7, 2017: Pacific Entomology Conference & Hawai'i Botanical Forum, Hilton Waikiki Beach (note that this replaces the Sept. 5-7 Pacific Ent. Conf)

**Pau. Mahalo!**

**(CGAPS Steering Committee to follow, 1:00-3:00 p.m.)**