

CGAPS Meeting 10/01/2020 9a-12p

**\*These notes are uncorrected by speakers and participants—they represent a sense of the meeting and information shared. Readers and users are urged to verify data or information with the speaker.**

In attendance:

Christy Martin(CGAPS), Kailee Lefebvre(CGAPS), Ambyr Mokiao-Lee(CTAHR), Andrew Porter(CGAPS), Angela Kieran Vast(NAVFAC), Andy Cullison(DOFAW), Chelsea Arnott(HISC), Chuck Chimera(HISC), Danielle Frolich(SWCA), Dorothy Alontaga(USDA), Emma A (HCA), Franny Brewer(BIISC), Janet Ashman(HFBF), Jodi Chew (USDA FS), Joshua Fisher(USFWS), Kaili Kosaka(CRB), Keith Weiser(CRB), Kevin Hoffman(HDOA), Koki Atcheson(CRB), Laura Brewington(East-West Ctr), Leyla Kaufman(HISC), Lori Buchannan(MoMISC), Makena Mason(NAVFAC), Michelle Lazaro(HCA), Michael Melzer(CTAHR), Natalie Dunn(DAR), Nate Dube(OISC), Noel Dunn(NAVFAC), Norma Creps(NAVFAC-PAC), Randy Bartlett(HISC), Rebecca Chong(CBP), Rob Hauff(DOFAW), Shahin Ansari(H.D. Harvey & Associates), Springer Kaye(BIISC), Stephanie Easley(CGAPS), Stephen Mosher(NAVFAC Marianas), Valentina Alvarez(UH)

- HDOA- Kevin Hoffman
  - Working at full staff and in office but due to COVID, suspension on recruitment for vacancies and no Inter Island travel
  - PQ Updates:
    - Continued Live snakes, invertebrates, marine confiscation
    - Number illegal shipments incl. stingrays
    - Encouraging reporting to 643-PEST
    - Continuing work on controlling Coqui on Oahu with Citrus
    - Myrtaceae ban- an interesting case- Jewish community celebrating Yom Kippur- needs 4 particular species including myrtle which was confiscated. Tried to work with them to source locally- But difficult because the species (*Myrtus communis*) is from the Mediterranean.
    - Coffee Berry Borer- confirmed on Lanai and Kauai
    - Passion vine hopper (*Scolypopa australis*) found on Oahu in Waianae Mountain range of Palehua, has a wide range of targets and this is the first US record.
    - Detection of Cuban brown snail (*Zachrysis provisoria*) at a residence in Kaneohe. Currently found in Caribbean and Florida (introduced). In their

native range they say it is worse than the Giant African snail. Hopefully caught it soon enough. Doing tracing and response.

- Kevin will follow up on Mike Melzer's inquiry about coqui frogs reported in Manoa last week

- CBP- Rebecca Chong
  - Seeing a decrease in travel due to COVID, incl. Philippines, Japan, and Guam. Hopeful that those will be back online soon.
  - Providing training to staff to keep them busy
  - Cargo continues, mail starting to increase
  - Not doing as much Special operations (aka blitz) although continuing to do some work with the Hawaii Risk Assessment Committee (HIRAC)?
- USDA- Dorothy Alontaga
  - Unsolicited seeds being sent from China or other places. Unsure what the intention is (promotion or something more nefarious). Please don't plant or touch them. Bring them to the USDA Plant Inspection station at HNL airport. To the right of CBP, bottom floor.
  - Rebecca- how many seed shipments have been reported locally? Dorothy unsure, probably not a small amount. Kevin says thousands nation-wide, less in HI- been funneling these through to USDA. CPB has been confiscating and destroying immediately. Rebecca will talk to Tony Landers USDA about this. Fraudulent shipments being declared as jewelry, and other items.
  - Rule-making process for Federal regulations on Myrtaceae (particularly for cut greens) is slow and in a different group. Dorothy will follow up on any updates.
- DOFAW/DAR- Natalie Dunn
  - Still working on reviewing list of aquatic species for import restriction project, completed a first risk screening and begun second tool for that.
  - 6 presentations given at HI Conservation Conference
  - Outplanting native urchins continues, 600,000 urchins by end of Dec. 2020, that's the total produced and outplanted over the past 10 years to control invasive algae in Kaneohe Bay
  - Caribbean corkscrew anemone survey from Jan 2019 report- does not appear to have spread
  - Extracted non-native coral species at Kaneohe Bay
  - Collected species from a floating drydock from WA and working to identify species collected
  - Proposed EPA standards for VIDA to be published any day now, in prep has been raising awareness in the community
  - ARMs units- still working on this, the installed units will be collected and species identified which will create a partial baseline for species found in harbors

- DOFAW- Rob Hauff
  - Crews working in the field at full capacity however, affected by the hiring freeze- unable to hire for Josh's position although he continues to support HISC
  - Biocontrol projects:
    - Tibocina and Miconia biocontrol agents have gone through the public comment period. After state release approval (FONSI), will need to get Federal release approval (FONSI).
    - Draft for Christmas berry control- working with the bee-keeping industry and others
    - Initial talks with watershed partnerships to do more wide-scale control with biocontrol release for strawberry guava. Also targeting areas that have ROD to reduce impacts
- USFS- Jodi Chew
  - Passing of Great American Outdoors Act- \$280M for next 5 years- unfortunately does not qualify to fund a new biocontrol facility. Biocontrol WG looking towards CCIP funding that might be available
  - Staff might not be responsive due to ongoing wildfires, please be patient
  - American Conservation Enhancement Act passed today
- USFS- Joshua Fisher
  - Pest alert Mitten Crabs- uptick in shipments in express hubs and on brought on by passengers. Pest alert being distributed by CBP and HDOA will follow up. May have a press release?
  - Will be submitting mitten crabs for a risk assessment being done in HI and Alaska
  - Brown Tree Snake WG to be held Nov 9-19, submit abstracts to Joshua
  - DOI Strategic plan- open for comment till Oct 9  
<https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2020-17740>
- NPS- Attached summary from Jadelyn Nakamura
  - Encourage comment on what kind of metrics on the DOI plan- particularly on prevention
- NAVFAC Marianas- Stephen Mosher (PPT attached)
  - DoD Implementation of Regional Biosecurity Plan
    - An addendum has been made to the plan, waiting to hear back before distribution
    - Came up with baseline for EDRR and implementation of plans
    - Cooperative Agreement with Colorado state university to include staff through 2021:
      - PI, Project Manager, Entomologist, Biologists, Techs, Crew lead

- ED surveys conducted
    - Taxa surveys, Weed surveys, No taxa & weed surveys
  - Developed SOPs for control/eradication for
    - RIFA, Coqui, Mile-a-minute vine
  - Invasive species RR
    - No events occurred in FY20m 5 BTS personnel certified
  - Biosanitation QA/QC control inspections during military training events
    - Training events, inspections
  - Development of programmatic pathway risk analysis for movements into the mariana islands and between islands
- LFA detected at 6 sites on Guam
- CRB on Guam
  - Implementing trapping, outreach
  - Removed >200 dead coco trees
  - Received \$100 K grant to remove breeding sites on installations
  - Bi-annual breeding site surveys
  - Coordination with regional partners
  - Implementing BMP's- surveys, trapping, awareness, interdiction measures during measures on Guam
- CNMI CRB Interdiction
  - ED survey- no damage
  - Deployed traps, netting
  - Raised awareness during military exercises
  - Biosecurity inspections on all cargo from Guam
- Stephen has had a terrestrial focus but beginning to get into aquatic issues such as ballast water and biofouling as included in the Biosecurity Plan. Will try to implement in 2021.
- CRB- Keith Weiser
  - 2 COVID cases within staff- enhanced health and safety protocols
  - Minor property access issues during COVID, otherwise largely unaffected
  - A serious increase in detections started in May
    - Majority of population came from a small number of locations- Waiawa Road farms, Navy property, Ted Makalena Golf Course, Iroquois Point

- Mililani Ag and Kunia Ag lots are emerging populations
  - Treatments
    - Pesticides-
      - Granular used at breeding sites, primarily Imidacloprid active ingredient
      - Systemic injections into coconut trees at Waikele CC, Kapilina housing at Iroquois Point ~1,400 trees treated. At least 4 months to be able to see some result
    - Vacuum steam unit has been on hold due to permitting, now some parts are breaking or not working properly. Still testing and optimizing protocols on known and suspected breeding material
    - Canine Program
      - Proficient in training, found a breeding site at Mililani Ag Park
      - Not working as efficiently in the field but still working on it
      - Contracted treatment and removal of breeding material- chipping and hot composting green waste material from Ted Makalena and Waikele CC
  - New stuff
    - Several breeding sites at Iroquois Point
    - Netting on potted plants
    - Website coming soon
    - Enhanced trace work- identifying movement of infested material
    - [Keith to follow up on cost of pesticide injections per tree](#)
- ROD- Rob Hauff
  - Detection of Lukuohia in Hanalei. Due to proximity to a stream, crews are monitoring the tree in an attempt to prevent spread that would occur from felling
  - Continue to see a trend of less activity in drier areas
  - Upcoming science team meeting Oct 14 9-12pm- Let Rob or Bill Stormont know if you'd like to join
  - General ROD updates are given during a meeting every month, let Rob know if you would like the information on that meeting to join
  - Ohia Love Fest (4<sup>th</sup> Annual, 1<sup>st</sup> virtual) November 16-21 check [Rapidohiadeath.org](http://Rapidohiadeath.org) for schedule, register links, and please share
  - Updated "Travel Alert" posters coming to the airport in partnership with HDOA
- HAL- From Cas Vanderwoude:

- Haven't been able to do much fieldwork this quarter, but plan to ramp up as restrictions ease. HAL is launching their new websites (by Melody Eauparadorn). HAL Oahu new hires: Chris Frohich and Jolie Dollar will be working with longtime HAL staff Mikey and Matt K
- New website launched earlier than expected and went live yesterday! It's the same [www.littlefireants.com](http://www.littlefireants.com) but the information is organized in a much more user friendly way and it looks pretty too. It still has all the information from the old one including links to journal publications, ant keys, etc. in case you utilized those for anything
- MISC- Adam Radford
  - Moving base yard to Paiea
  - Coqui control expansion efforts
  - New little fire ant infestation in Haiku has not been released in press yet
  - Outreach- Promoting STA Month for October
- MoMISC- Lori Buchanan
  - Surveyed 1,228 acres, fully staffed
  - Upside-down jellyfish- working to control in designated swimming areas like the wharf
- OISC- Nate Dube
  - Funding- mostly okay but looking for opportunities
  - Scaling back surveys for devil weed and other species, field staff is lowered, finalizing some positions, also getting Kupu interns
  - Outreach working hard, check website Oahuisc.org for resources
  - Ball sprays for Miconia- issues with public perception, heavily rely on cooperation for private property access
  - Continuing surveys at airports
- BIISC- Springer Kaye
  - Pampas grass eradication news release!
  - Positive ID on Phenax hirtus- looks like mamaki. Likely been here for a while. Unfortunately, it is on a popular hiking trail. Makaala area. Please BOLO on other islands!
  - Losing Field supervisor and Bill Buckley while already short staffed
  - Restarting Albizia work after a gap in funding- working with 300 landowners in Puna
  - ROD crew is helping with seed collections for out-planting and resistance studies
  - Outreach- converting to online, which is popular. Continuing QLB and Spittle bug awareness.
  - Rabbits- funding to contract control for increasing colonies
- Watershed Partnership- Shelly Gustafson
  - Work continues

- Vulnerable SOFT funded grants, state funding mostly secure
- Tapping into Aina Corps Program
- Webinars- Biocontrol, Post fire restoration, Upcoming: OCT 26- Native seeds for ecological restoration by Matt Keir, request info from Shelly for that
- HFB- Janet Ashman
  - Purchasing from local farmers and distributing to those in need
  - Farm-to-car partnership restarting, other programs continue
  - Programs promote import replacement which reduces pathways for introduction
  - Young Brothers increased shipping rates- not good for local producers
  - Maui County Council- creating Maui Dept of Ag. Will be on the ballot- simple question like “do you want a maui county dept ...” BUT in COVID environment, the plan doesn’t have defined protocols, may have conflicting roles and provisions with other depts. This has been rushed through the council.
  - Adam had many questions and confused how these orgs will work together. Janet mentioned that the Dept of Ag was not notified or asked to consult on this matter. Kevin Hoffman submitted testimony but was not given much time. Dorothy asked if HDOA has preemption over county? Kevin- yes, but depends on things like pesticides. Some things will conflict also with EPA.
  - Janet- another ordinance is a pesticides bill in the works- ban on non-organic pesticides and fertilizers. Included are exemptions, but this is an example of why we need to educate elected officials about why and how these tools are used and needed
- Mamalu Poepoe- Leyla Kaufman
  - Last year of funding from DOT, till end of next year. Exploring other funding sources. Preparing a letter for legislators but not too hopeful about that success. DOT has made it clear that the current targets are HDOA, are others kuleana
  - Created BMP’s, which will be implement into planning at airports
  - Negative for detections of all target species
- HISC- Randy
  - Made funding selections last month- 34 proposals selected. Kept same amount of funding from last year. Suspects next year will be more difficult to maintain funding level due to lag resulting from COVID
  - Reformatting HISC/CGAPS working groups to reflect the new joint strategic plan- please reach out to Randy or Chelsea if interested in participating
  - Prevention/EDRR WG- Identified 5 tasks, hoping that folks will sign up to work on these collaboratively. Please reach out to Leyla or Steph Easley for information and signing up
- CGAPS- Christy
  - We are always available to help!

- Please fill out and share the google form survey post meeting  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8hF7QBxbNzp\\_CQB6QwtCVNQBnldDP-b-BXIBfPVt3pABsSw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8hF7QBxbNzp_CQB6QwtCVNQBnldDP-b-BXIBfPVt3pABsSw/viewform?usp=sf_link)
- Please submit comment for DOI plan- can possibly include pests of human concern (mosquitoes)
- Rachel Neville-
  - Restricted Plant list submission- working on about 30 species
  - What does USDA consider to be “in trade”
  - Don’t have a great way to do climate modeling- taking suggestions? Don’t think hiring a GIS specialist is necessary for this scale of project, but up to funders
  - Christy- [Since this list of remaining species is potentially important for the rest of the US, let's talk about how we might bring other states' attention to this list and process](#)
- Chuck Chimera-
  - New Business and Announcements: Wanted to pass along news of conservation/invasive species legislation recently passed on Hawaii Island: "The Hawaii County Council unanimously approved a bill to provide tax incentives for property owners to set aside land for conservation purposes." <https://www.westhawaii.com/2020/08/06/hawaii-news/tax-bill-passes-for-forest-conservation/>
  - Lawyer who helped write legislation, Leslie Cole-Brooks (lcb@colebrooks-law.com), is looking for other legislation to work on & partners to work with: Legislative—ideally, the county level (any Hawaii county), but possibly the state level through an admin rule change Broadly on the subject of native forest restoration Process oriented rather than financial (e.g. changes that adjust improves the current process rather than a new tax credit [which would be very difficult to get through with the current fiscal crisis])

Next meeting: Will aim for early December, Christy or Kailee will send out a Doodle poll to the Steering Committee soon.

Mahalo all and please stay safe and healthy!!