

Hawai'i Island Recommended Staff Sanitation Protocol

The described procedures below provide guidelines to limit transmission of the fungal pathogen *Ceratocystis* through field activities. *Ceratocystis* has been determined to be the pathogen causing Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death. While we do not know the primary vector of transmission, there are steps we can take to limit our role in unintentionally spreading the fungus to new areas.

Roles and Responsibility

Field Supervisor: Ensure all field leaders and coordinators understand and abide by the protocol.

Supervisors/Leaders: Ensure all staff are trained and instructed to follow this recommended protocol. Ensure necessary supplies and time to carry out sanitation procedures are provided daily/weekly.

Staff: All staff, regardless of position or frequency in the field, are recommended to follow this protocol.

Sanitation Schedule

Sanitation procedures are to be conducted before operations begin and at the close of operation for each work site, prior to moving to a new location. At a minimum, complete sanitation is to be conducted at the end of each work week, and prior to every trip to an uninfected area. Sanitation procedures are to be conducted even if the week's work site is not in 'ōhi'a or *Ceratocystis* locations. Make it a habit.

Hawai'i Island Decontamination Protocol

Sanitation of Outerwear: Soap and Water

Hand/machine wash all outerwear (rain jacket, rain pants, backpacks, vests, hats, etc.) with soap and water. Rinse with clean water and hang dry. All other clothing should be laundered with detergent in hot water (DAILY).

Sanitation of Tools: Disinfectant

Wash equipment to remove visible dirt, plant material, sawdust, and other contaminants. Spray entire surface thoroughly with 70% rubbing alcohol or freshly mixed solution of 10% chlorine bleach. If using bleach solution, spray tools, let sit for 15 seconds, rinse with clean water, dry, then spray with oil-based lubricant to prevent corrosion.

Sanitation of Boots: Disinfectant

Thoroughly scrub/wash all visible dirt, plant material, etc. from boot surfaces. Be sure to pay special attention to the sole grooves and any crevices that may trap soil. Spray with 70% rubbing alcohol.

Hawai'i Island Recommended Protocol Continued.

Sanitation of Vehicle

Wash vehicles with detergent, paying particular attention to removing dirt and organic material from the undercarriage, truck bed, bumpers, and wheel-wells. Clean all dirt and organic material from interior of vehicle. Wash floor mats with soap and water then spray floor mats with 70% rubbing alcohol.

Dedicated On-Island Gear

Dedicated gear, is a separate set of gear that is devoted to prevent cross-contamination of sites. Dedicated gear should be stored separately from regular work gear and cleaned following the decontamination protocol listed above. While this is ideal, it is not required.

INTER-ISLAND DECONTAMINATION PROTOCOL

Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death is currently confirmed only on Hawai'i Island.

Dedicated Inter-Island Gear (Work trips from Hawai'i Island to other islands)

Maintain a dedicated set of clean gear to be used for work trips to other islands. Store gear separately from regular work gear. If dedicated gear or borrowing gear from an on-island agency is not an option, it is recommended that work trips to and from Hawai'i Island be carefully considered and canceled when not necessary.

DEDICATED GEAR IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. IF NOT POSSIBLE, GEAR USED ON HAWAI'I ISLAND MUST BE THOROUGHLY DECONTAMINATED BEFORE USE ON OTHER ISLANDS.

DO NOT MOVE TOOLS INTER-ISLAND: This includes chainsaws, machetes, pruners, clippers and any other equipment or machinery that could have come into contact with infected 'ōhi'a wood.

To learn current ROD confirmation locations, how to identify the symptoms of ROD infected trees, and keep current with the latest decontamination recommendations please visit rapidohiadeath.org

