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Invasive Species Committees Receive Senate Recognition

The Invasive Species Committees (ISCs) received special recognition from the state senate in a ceremony on April 3 in front of the full senate at the State Capitol. The ISCs are projects administered by the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit (Dr. David Duffy, PI), and employ nearly 65 staff through RCUH. The ISCs on Kauai (KISC), Oahu (OISC), Maui (MISC), Molokai (MOMISC), and the Big Island (BIISC) are partnerships that work with government agencies, non-profit organizations, private businesses, and landowners to guide staff in actions to protect each island from the most threatening pests.

Each senator may officially recognize one individual or group each session for their contribution to society. At the start of the 2012 legislative session, Senator Gabbard co-hosted an invasive species information briefing in January, and was so impressed with the mission and work of the five Invasive Species Committees (ISCs), that he selected the ISCs and exploratory entomologist Dr. Moshen Ramadan of the Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture to be honored.

“Mahalo to the dedicated men and women of the Invasive Species Committees for their diligence in preventing, controlling, and eliminating the most threatening invasive plant and animal species to preserve our native biodiversity. They work hard to keep Hawaii naturally beautiful as it should be,” said Senator Gabbard.

Project managers for the ISCs were present to receive the award on behalf of their staff and partners, many of whom were in the gallery.

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