



Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) Meeting Agenda

Hawai'i Department of Agriculture Plant Quarantine Conference Room
1849 Auiki St., Honolulu, HI
9:00 am – 12:00 pm Tuesday, February 21, 2012

This CGAPS meeting will focus on agency/NGO updates.

9 – 9:10 **Welcome, Introductions:** *Dan Clark, USFWS & CGAPS Chair Emeritus*

9:10 – 9:20 **HDOA Plant Quarantine:** *Carol Okada*
(Not present)

Glenn Sakamoto: Gov just signed off on rule restricting interisland movement of coffee plants/plant parts. Buy local flowers program continues, next event will be a bridal event.

9:20 – 9:30 **USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service:** *Dorothy Alontaga*

- Projects: harmonizing pest list between USDA and HDOA. Ongoing. Some good news: Center for plant health and technology, will look at the 3,000 insect species to evaluate which may be pests, from this winnowed list we can go forward with harmonizing.
- Meeting with AI Tasker, to discuss “plants not authorized pending pest risk analysis”. Plants are not subject to pest risk analysis before importing. Q37 rule in place, anyone can propose adding something to a list. Lloyd drafted a proposal for adding myrtaceae, sent it to some folks for review.

9:30 – 9:40 **U.S. Customs & Border Protection:** *Jim Kosciuk*
(Not present)

9:40 – 9:50 **HDOA Plant Pest Control:** *Neil Reimer*
(Not present)

9:50 – 10:10 **PBIN/HBIN Update & Results of the Online Pest Reporting Pilot Project:**
Sky Harrison, HBIN

- PBIN-as-we-know-it going away in July, I will continue by transitioning to a PCSU-administered project in a few months, with HBIN as the new project name, Hawai'i Biodiversity Information Network. Servers and system is at MCC and will stay there for the foreseeable future.
- HISC grant in 2005 to stimulate early detection through targeted outreach, online reporting, rapid assessment and response capability, including mapping and tracking capability, records every step of the process. Hawai'i Early Detection Network, conducted on Maui, Kaua'i and starting on Big Island. Complementary to 643-PEST.
- Elizabeth did the training for field people with field guides, presentations.
- Starts with a user visiting the website, can go to the island specific page for ED species with photos, ID tools.
- User (AKA reporter) reports something, and an email is automatically sent to admin/reviewer AND reporter. Elizabeth/Sky take the report and interact with reporter to attempt an ID, multiple checks if not clear. Close if not actionable, or refer directly to a

responder or second assessor (regional or taxonomic expertise for ID/verification). Integrated responder tree built into the system so the report is referred to one or more responders.

- (videos shown)
- Since 2009, there have been 104 reports, 18,020 page views, 20 targeted workshops, 260 participants. No public marketing to date beyond the targeted workshops. Most people reporting to date are through online searches.
- What is next? Is this worth continuing, and in what way? We built it, but we need to know if it will be used, what needs to change, etc.
- Logical next steps are to recruit/train assessors from all islands, increase collaboration with responders, start promoting reportapest.org and online reporting along with 643-PEST. System can stand as it is, but there needs to be the initial contact/assessor, which needs a decision from the group.

10:10 – 10:20 Hawai i Invasive Species Council: *Joshua Atwood*

- January council meeting resulted in supporting (in positive feedback) the concept of the MBP and strategic implementation plan.
- Will try to have a Resources working group meeting soon, next HISC meeting in late May (date TBD) on Maui.
- Would like to have individual meetings with HISC agencies in mid-May to reconnect.

10:20 – 10:30 DLNR DOFAW: *Rob Hauff*

- NPDES permit now needed from HDOH for applying pesticides around, in, and near waterways. Problem is that there is no permit process in place. There will be a general permit for environmental agencies and work (ISCs are proposed for inclusion on the permit). HDOH is working on getting one in place, has a draft one in place, with directions to file a notice of intent to be covered under the general permit when it comes out. Not sure about coqui in Maliko.
- Wildlife rule (ch 124) approved by the board to go to public hearings in the spring. Would close the loophole on the release of animals, would create a new classification of “introduced wildlife” which would prohibit the movement and release of non-regulated “introduced wildlife”.

10:30 – 10:40 BREAK

10:40 – 10:50 DLNR Division of Aquatic Resources: *Jono Blodgett*

- Continuing ops in Kāneohe Bay, we’ve moved to three larger reefs in the central area of the bay. 2500 urchins, 1,000 more today, another 1,000 every other weeks in the spring. Opportunistic feeders, the two species of seaweed are at the top of their lists. Once in the field, it is difficult to determine mortality rate. We lost a lot on our pilot project reef, but we suspect poaching.
- Next week we’ll be doing a lot of outreach, booth at Heaia Kea harbor, Hanauma Bay Thursday eve lecture next week.
- New ballast/hull fouling coordinator started in Dec., she attended the ballast conference last month. California is leading the way with hull fouling regulations. We hope to follow with some adjustments. Concern is that we will need to set rules in place soon after California, or boats will come here to be cleaned before going to CA.

10:50 – 11:00 Legislative Update: *Mark Fox*

- Biosecurity: funding for PQ inspectors (including Maui), detector dog program, inspection facilities and consolidation. Proposing to use funds from the Ag development and Food security special fund (fed into by the barrel tax—this is new money that went into effect 2 years ago, I don't think a lot of the revenue has been spent to date).
- Watershed: Four bills, now three moving forward to fund it. One would provide G funds to DLNR. Two bills initially, now one would place a fee on single use bags with the majority going to DLNR. Friday was the deadline to go to the subject committee hearing. The bill was recommitted to another subject committee, it missed the deadline.
- Interisland transport of game mammals bill would do the same thing as the DLNR rule change.
- Emergency rulemaking authority bills would add “imminent threats to the environment” to be added to the list of conditions.
- EEWf: 2002 initial EEWf hired temporary workers taken up by ISCs, DOFAW, TNC, others. Challenges were that there wasn't enough money set aside for training, outfitting, transporting, etc. New bill proposes to use unspent cash balances within special funds including NARF and Cargo fee. They think they can get \$8 mil, plus some G funds to hire 500-700 in temporary workers for 6 months to work with these groups again. Questions remain, Are there really balances that are not being used; will this result in the loss of trained workers; can we even absorb people in a meaningful way on a 6 month contract? We need to figure out how we can help direct it since it has a lot of support and push behind it. We will be having an internal discussion meeting on ideas next week.
- Big Island watershed partnerships and BIISC are taking some legislators on a fieldtrip next week, but we need to do more of this and help them see our work.

11:00 – 11:10 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: *Dan Clark*

- BTS: DOD, DOI arranged funding for the continuation of the interdiction through the end of Sept 2012. DOI has been discussing reauthorizing the BTS act.
- USFWS: still working on the budget, which will be directed by our strategic plan—our office is also looking at reorganizing to be programmatic AND geographic. Continuing resolution slowed the grant process. Office is still working on how funds will be spent. State of the Birds may provide additional funding for endangered birds, which may translate to the ability to shift internal funds to some other projects.
- Thanks to DLNR we are going to the BLNR board to discuss the PEIS for rodent control in conservation areas.

11:10 – 11:35 ISCs: *Rachel Neville, OISC; Keren Gunderson, KISC; Teya Penniman, MISC; Lori Buchanan MoMISC; Jan Schipper, BIISC*

Rachel Neville, OISC:

- Welcome Lara Reynolds on outreach and Ereim on coqui/LFA.
- Fairly sizeable pop of fountain grass in Makua found by OANRP, OISC is helping with outreach and property access. Did a presentation to the Waianae Neighborhood Board to educate and gain community support.
- Crew has proceeded with miconia surveys, they found a mature miconia that had green leaves entirely, no purple undersides.
- ED species work continues, including removal of *Rauvolfia vomitoria* in a botanical garden (no spread detected).

Keren Gunderson, KISC:

- Increased County involvement and did Early Detection Network trainings with over 100 people in a few days. Mayor agreed to pay for signage around LFA treatment area.
- Worked with the County to arrange a special conservation workshop, with an invasive species component, hosted by HCA (Mar 13).
- Our work on cattails has stopped with the NPDES requirement, and taro farmers are begging us to come back, LFA treatment on the cliff has also been stopped because of this.
- No coqui calling in Lawai in the last 9 months. We have had 13 coqui reported and recovered. The Report a Pest online report has been great for us.
- HBT has been approved by the Pesticide Branch, James Leary will be coming to Kauaï to train our staff.
- John Chapman is working on a density analysis of miconia based on KISC data over 10 years, and credible mongoose sightings. Should help us with our strategy.
- Also worked with the KLIC on revising their Codes of Conduct to add LFA and that they would not promote or propagate any plant deemed high-risk by the HPWRA.

Teya Penniman, MISC:

- Pampas work in East Maui, Brooke presented at the Weed Science Society meeting—analysis shows that there is a significant decline over the latest 3 years.
- ED/RR list continues to be discussed.
- LFA video footage is complete.
- Thanks to Sen English, we met with Tahitian president and environment minister.
- The Maui County council deferred the axis deer reduction/management plan.
- Hosted environmental funding groups at MISC.
- Completing the Hoike o Haleakala invasive species module by this summer, continuing teacher workshop.

Lori Buchanan, MoMISC:

- A lot of deer on Molokaï, we just slow down. Private property fencing has re-routed deer and sent them onto roadways.
- We dedicate a few days a month to help our partners, will be doing outplanting of native plants, partnered with NPS to treat Mexican poppy on Kalaupapa.
- Upcoming we are going to try to go to the back of the valley to look for kudzu which was reported.
- Last week we received a report of something green running on the ground, perhaps an iguana, trying to catch.

Page Else, BIISC:

- Still surveying for deer, did a lot of training to get certificates, safety, etc., have a lot of survey done, but one of the biggest challenges is private property access to survey. Jan will hold a deer working group meeting soon.
- Plant crew has been working on smoke bush lately, also gorse where it is spreading from the main infestation.
- Participated in the HDOT Highways maintenance training on invasive species (SNIPP). HDOT has a budget request to fund the SNIPP program is at the legislature.
- Increasing outreach capacity with staff, print, online, etc. Donna started a feral pet campaign, with rabbits and chinchilla being reported.
- Starting ED roadside survey in Oceanview.
- Problems in Wao Kele O Puna—crew truck encountered spikes in the ground and hooks in the trees. Neighbors against govt. presence.

11:35 – 11:40 CGAPS Hau`oli Mau Loa Projects Update: *Christy Martin*

- Myrtaceae rulemaking continuing, import replacement work going well
- Presence/Absence databases: Philip has a 5-page doc that details it,
- Electronic Air Manifest: stalled, difficult to schedule next step during legislative session

11:40 – 11:55 Other Partner Agency updates

- Jodi Chew, USFS: Alex Friends is the new acting director of the USFS PSW, is interested in talking with us on the topic.
- Ken Werner, USDA APHIS: Wrote an article on how to move without spreading invasive pests. Will be working with a computer program to feed our risk data in and see if we can produce a visual picture of potential movement of pests in the Pacific.

11:55 – 12:00 New Business & Announcements

- Pacific Entomology Conference, February 22-23, 2012, Outrigger Waikiki
- National Invasive Species Awareness Week February 26 - March 3, 2012
- Hawai'i Conservation Conference, July 31-August 2, 2012, Hawai'i Convention Center (Rob Hauff: submitted a proposal for an integrated pest management symposium, Mar 9 is the abstract due date. Contact Rob if interested in submitting an abstract).

Next meeting:

Tuesday, May 15, 9 a.m.-noon at HDOA PQ conference room. CGAPS Steering Committee meeting to follow, 12:15-2:30.