

Annual Brown Treesnake Working Group Technical Meeting

15, 16, &17 April 2009

Saipan, CNMI

The annual Brown Treesnake Working Group meetings are intended to be a forum for the exchange of ideas and information related to this pest species and its control. The meeting is open to the general public. Individuals and entities working on brown treesnake control, interdiction, research, and policy are encouraged to participate in the meeting. The submission of abstracts for oral presentations related to new research results, management issues, public education or policy updates are welcomed.

Individuals and entities working on related topics are invited to participate or present information at the meeting. Examples of related topics are: invasive species, introduced reptiles and amphibians, public education, economics of invasive species, terrestrial vertebrate conservation in the Mariana Islands, island conservation. We tentatively propose to devote two days to covering topics directly related to BTS issues, and one day to general conservation in the Mariana Islands. This can be adjusted based on responses to the call for abstracts, and input from members of the Working Group.

SOLICITATION FOR ABSTRACTS

All interested parties are invited to submit abstracts of 300 words or less of descriptive text related to the topics discussed above by 27 Feb, 2009 via e-mail to Karl Buermeyer (Karl.Buermeyer@fws.gov). Presentations should be fifteen minutes in length with five minutes for questions. Please indicate if additional time might be needed for presentations, and if internet access will be required. If possible, accommodations for additional time will be made.

AGENCY UPDATES

Time will be allocated during the meeting for agency representatives on the Brown Tree Snake Working Group to provide a general overview of efforts related to brown treesnake control and research since the annual meeting in Honolulu in 2008. The specific format of agency updates will be determined in the coming weeks.

ACCOMMODATIONS / FURTHER DETAILS ON MEETING LOCATION

We are currently getting bids for a meeting facility on Saipan at the Federal per diem rate. We will be sending an update regarding meeting accommodations shortly.

The Brown Treesnake Working Group (BTS WG) has two meetings annually.

A general two to three day technical meeting (40 - 60 participants) is typically held each spring. The public and all individuals involved with brown treesnake control, interdiction, research, policy, and related issues are invited to attend and participate in this meeting. The format of this meeting is 15 to 30 minute presentations that are organized thematically.

A two-to-three day working meeting (20 participants or less) for agency representatives of the BTS WG is scheduled to occur in October or November. This meeting is intended to be a forum where representatives from BTS WG member agencies can discuss current issues early in the Federal fiscal year. The fall 2009 meeting will be held in the Washington, DC area.

Contact Karl Buermeyer (Karl_Buermeyer@fws.gov) for further information.

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