

Big Island Invasive Species Committee

Meeting Minutes- 5/5/99

Attending: Duane Nelson, Jim Jacobi, Rick Warshauer, Bill Stormont, Pat Conant, Lyman Perry

The group reviewed, discussed and modified a draft of the Operating Principles. A revised draft will be circulated with these minutes. The Operating Principles are meant to serve as a framework for operation of the developing organization. Therefore there is a lot of room for the committee to develop along whatever path is chosen by the membership. It is expected that the Operating Principles will remain in a draft format until the Committee has coalesced and the membership has broadened to reflect the diverse group described in the Principles.

Duane Nelson has agreed to chair the committee during start-up.

The group spent considerable time discussing methods to develop and maintain island-wide involvement in BIISC. Distance has the potential to limit meeting attendance and long-term participation. Several solutions were discussed, but no decisions were made:

- Use of electronic media for conducting BIISC business, including use of a website (probably under the HEAR umbrella), e-mail, faxes and teleconferences or videoconferencing. Video or phone conferencing could reduce travel times, if we are able to find facilities (UH?).
- Rotating venues- Meeting venues could rotate around the island (Hilo, Waimea, Kailua) or they could be centralized (Waimea, or a conference room at PTA) to assure easier access for members.

The group discussed potential target species that could be addressed by BIISC. This is a VERY preliminary list that should help jump-start discussion on appropriate focus of our efforts. There is no priority order to this list.

Bocconia frutescens

Buddleia madagascariensis

Pittosporum viridiflorum

Rubus ellipticus (containment, local eradication, and education)

Ligustrum spp.

Eschscholzia californica-California poppy (on Mauna Kea, near visitor's center)

Parrots

Senecio madagascarensis, fireweed (biocontrol and containment)

Little Fire ant and Imported fire ant

Brown tree snake, any snake

The group discussed approaches to “roll-out” BIISC to a more diverse, island wide membership. It was agreed to have one more meeting of the small group (start-up committee) to plan a kick-off meeting that will be held in Waimea. The next planning meeting will be Thursday, June 3 at 1:00 pm at the DOFAW conference room. The kick-off meeting will be held in Waimea, tentatively on July 14 at a location yet to be determined. The meeting will be publicized to a broad audience by e-mail, fax and hard-copy mail to a broad list of potential members (see minutes from 4/1).

General format for the kick-off meeting follows:

Understanding the Scope (brief examples that show compelling need for action)

Little Fire Ant and Imported Fire Ant (prevention and rapid response)-Pat Conant

Miconia- Containment and potential eradication (??)- Duane Nelson

Gorse- containment and support for sustained effort- Pat Conant

Setting a course for the future

Operating Principles

Meetings- Logistics, locations and formats to facilitate active participation

Get buy-in

Identify players- develop list of members

How do we succeed?

Workshop to ID priorities, develop plan, budget, who?