May 22, 1997

Dear potential Monitoring Expert Advisory Team member:

In early 1995, the Natural Resource Monitoring Advisory Working Group was formed under the auspices of the Secretariat for Conservation Biology (SCB) to discuss natural resource monitoring issues in Hawai'i. This group was formed as a direct result of discussions held at the 1995 Conservation Forum and took on the task of bringing consistency and standardization, whenever possible and appropriate, to the many monitoring methods and techniques currently being used by various land managers. Current 1997 members of this advisory group include Randy Bartlett, Gene Conrad, Coleen Cory, Nancy Glover, Jim Jacobi, Scott Johnston, Gary Ray, Alenka Remec, Peter Schuyler, and Philip Thomas. The group usually meets once a quarter to discuss issues and implement projects (such as monitoring workshops or developing monitoring resources).

As one of its first tasks, the group sent out a questionnaire in August 1995 to 54 managers, biologists and researchers in Hawai'i. Forty-four responses were received. The survey asked questions about the importance of monitoring in a management context and the need for more monitoring tools for a variety of organisms and natural resources. Comments were also solicited to identify possible mechanisms and resources to provide new information and a means for timely review of monitoring programs as mangers developed and implemented them.

One suggested mechanism was the formation of a "Monitoring Expert Advisory Team" that people could call upon with specific questions. Although an initial list of experts was compiled and distributed at the SCB sponsored workshop on Experimental Design and Data Analysis held on Maui, Oahu and the Big Island in Jan/Feb 1996, the concept has not been fully developed and utilized. At this time, we wish to update, expand and organize the list into specific monitoring topics and organismal groups. The revised list will be made available at the Hawai'i Conservation Conference in July and will be posted on the World Wide Web.

At the last meeting of the Natural Resource Monitoring Advisory Working Group, you were suggested as an expert in one or more areas of natural resource monitoring in Hawai'i. We invite you to join this team of monitoring advisors. A list of identified monitoring categories as well as currently contacted people is attached. We have specifically not linked names and categories together at this time recognizing that each individual is best suited to determine his/her own area(s) of expertise. By consenting to be a member of this team, you would agree to review monitoring plans and answer telephone, FAX, or email inquiries on specific monitoring questions in your area of expertise. You will not be required to attend any meetings. Since we are not sure how much a time commitment this will entail, you would be free to establish availability guidelines and could have your name removed from the list if participation became too time-consuming. A member of our group will be contacting you soon by telephone to discuss your possible participation. At that time, we would also appreciate any leads on other people who might be appropriate to include on the list of monitoring advisors.

The compilation of an annotated bibliography of monitoring references was also identified by questionnaire respondents as a means for improving the dissemination of monitoring information to managers. Work has begun on this compilation and a preliminary list should be compiled by September. At that point, would you be interested in reviewing the list and making comments or additions?

Thank you for your time and consideration. It is greatly appreciated.

Aloha,

Coleen Cory, Peter Schuyler, Philip Thomas

for the Natural Resource Monitoring Advisory Working Group

attachments

cc: Nancy Glover

ATTACHMENT 1

One of the three of us (Coleen, Peter or Philip) will be contacting you by telephone in the near future to ask:

- Would you be willing to serve on the SCB's "Monitoring Expert Advisory Team"?

- If so, which of the following would you consider to be your primary area(s) of expertise (feel free to choose more than one area)

Data Management (includes analysis, design, and handling)
Feral Ungulates
Alien Plants
Alien Predators
Alien Invertebrates
Native Invertebrates
Vegetation-Natural Communities
Native Vertebrates
Fresh Water Streams
Rare and Endangered Plants
Remote Sensing, GIS and GPS
Restoration
Bio-Control
Other: _____

- Are there others whom you would recommend us to contact regarding participation in the Monitoring Expert Advisory Team? (NOTE: the following list indicates the people who received this letter)

Steve Anderson	*National Park Service -HALE*
Jim Baldwin	*US Forest Service - California*
Pat Bily	*The Nature Conservancy - Maui*
Anne Brasher	
Greg Brenner	*USGS Biological Resources Division - Hawai'i*
Kim Bridges	*University of Hawai'i-Manoa*
Earl Campbell	*Animal Damage Control - Hawai'i*
Ron Cannarella	*Division of Forestry and Wildlife*
Pat Conant	*State of Hawai'i, Dept. of Agriculture*
Paul Conry	*Division of Forestry and Wildlife*
Coleen Cory	*The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i*
Jack Ewel	*US Forest Service - IPIF*
Steve Fancy	*USGS Biological Resources Division - Hawai'i*

David Foote	*USGS Biological Resources Division - Hawai'i*
Alan Friedlander	
Sam Gon	*The Nature Conservancy - Heritage Program*
Jeff Hatfield	*USGS Biological Resources Division - MD*
Paul Higashino	*Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission*
Jim Jacobi	*USGS Biological Resources Division - Hawai'i*
Larry Katahira	*National Park Service-HAVO*
Mike Kido	*UH Hawai'i Stream Research Center*
Fred Krauss	*Division of Forestry and Wildlife*
Paul Krushelnycky	*USGS Biological Resources Division - HALE*
Julie Leialoha	*Division of Forestry and Wildlife - Hilo*
Gerald Lindsay	*USGS Biological Resources Division - Hawai'i*
Lloyd Loope	*USGS Biological Resources Division - HALE*
Sandy Margriter	*USGS Biological Resources Division - Hawai'i*
George Markin	*Forestrty Sciences Lab / Montana State Univ.*
Shannon McElvaney	*Geo InSight*
Loyal Mehrhoff	*US Fish & Wildlife Service - Portland, Oregon*
Scott Miller	*Bishop Museum*
Marie Morin	*US Fish & Wildlife Service*
Bob Nishimoto	*Division of Aquatic Resources - Hilo*
Linda Pratt	*USGS Biological Resources Division - Hawai'i*
Gary Ray	
Neil Reimer	*US Department of Agriculture*
Nathan Rudd	*The Nature Conservancy - SERO*
Dan Salzer	*The Nature Conservancy - ORFO*
Rob Sutter	*The Nature Conservancy - SERO*
Andy Taylor	*University of Hawai'i - Manoa*
Philip Thomas	*Hawaiian Ecosystems at Risk Project - Maui*
Tim Tunison	*National Park Service - HAVO*

- Would you be interested in reviewing the bibliographic compilation and making comments or additions (preliminary list expected out in September)?

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