

KISC APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

I. Review agenda items

II. No new members in attendance

III. Review Minutes of April meeting

- No comments

IV. Announcements:

A) Allan requests photos for outreach. Prefers photos without copyright rules.

B) Tim Flynn suggested Jim Space may be a possible resource. He has a website with a lot of good photos.

V. New Items:

A) Approve mission statement revision.

Rob Culbertson motioned for accepting the revised mission. Dave Alexander seconded. Revised motion is unanimously accepted.

REVISED MISSION STATEMENT

KISC is a voluntary partnership of government, private and non-profit organizations, and concerned individuals working to prevent, control, or eliminate the most threatening invasive plant and animal species in order to preserve Kauai's native bio-diversity and minimize adverse ecological, economic and social impacts.

B) Documenting "in-kind" contributions.

Allan would like to keep "in-kind" volunteer or paid hours (those not Federal workers). If anyone does anything for KISC they should keep track of the time donated, such as KISC monthly meetings. A monthly database will be kept of all in-kind hours. This will aid us in getting matching fund grants.

C) KISC's need for a list of resources

A list of KISC resources was requested by Allan. (Whom do you know?) This would be an influential community outreach list. Allan urges the committee to help in outreach measures. If someone knows an influential person, please offer your connection for this list.

D) Outreach

1. Rob Culbertson needs more help for outreach committee (Rob, Rhoda & Hokulani). Tim, Mike, Ellen, and Meghan will join the outreach committee. KISC members are requested to help make a calendar of events. Coming up events are:

- i. Aug 3 Kauai Museum asked the Kauai Native Plant Society to fill 3 hrs for their monthly "Family Day" (1st Saturday). Rob invites KISC to help fill this time with a presentation. We will need a volunteer.
- ii. Mokihana (in October)
- iii. Banana Poka Festival (this Sunday)
- iv. County Fair (August)
- v. Allan will talk on KKCR with Adam Asquith and Don Heacock on June 3

- vi. Farm Bureau Fair
 - vii. Landscape Industry Council of Kauai meeting. May 29 and the Veteran's Center in Lihue @6:30 pm.
 - viii. Natives Workshop on other islands coming up soon (look on www.hear.org website)
 - ix. Miconia Search of WRSP May 24, 9:00 am, Sleeping Giant Trail Head.
2. Volunteers for public speaking events were requested. Tim Flynn suggested that Michelle would be an excellent public speaker for radio shows. Keren Gundersen and Allan Rietow were some people that agreed to public speaking.
 3. Do we want to start a letter writing campaign? Tim Flynn stated that in American Samoa there is a monthly article in the newspaper on an invasive weed. The sponsor of these articles offers a replacement native plant for anyone with an invasive weed in their yard. Is this something we can do as well? KISC needs to approach Paul Curtis with the Garden Island News to see if this same idea for an article can be included. Rob suggested that we post them on the Internet first and then find out what works and what doesn't. Perhaps our web site can serve as a repository of information that we can pull articles from. The articles can tie in with current projects and answer the question: "What can you do?" The committee voiced the importance that all outreach communications emphasize, "What can you do?"
 4. Outreach committee will contact Kaua'i Magazine for possible inclusion of KISC article. It would be a good idea to check on the possibility of sending flyers out with Kauai Electric and water bills.
 5. KISC's web site is still under construction. The body will be the Action Plan with links to events, organizations, etc. The Action Plan will be available for downloading in PDF format. Communication with Phillip Thomas by Keren and Meghan will make this a great web site.
 6. State Outreach. DoFaW and F & W will both be contributing (for a total of \$60K) for an All-Island Outreach Position. Christy Martin (formerly MISC's Public Relations) will be taking this position.
 7. "What will be done about nursery education?" (Ellen). Lelan Nishek is a member of the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii and is working to set up Landscape Industry Council of Kauai. Kauai is the only island without a council. They will meet quarterly with guest speakers. The council would be part of the national association. To upgrade the Horticulture Industry, it will have an educational nursery training course with official certification for participants. There is already a national curriculum set up for this course. Invasive species would be an integrative part of the course. The Farm Bureau will assist the council by making them a chapter of the Farm Bureau. This would give the council non-profit status. There will be a **meeting May 29 at 6:30 at the Veteran's Center in Lihue**. The council encourages organizations to join. Lelan encourages everyone to join the Farm Bureau as well.

8. Allan asked if KISC could also have the Farm Bureau be our administrator by becoming a chapter. This would keep our affairs on-island and make us a non-profit. Allan is pursuing this possibility.

VI. Unfinished Items:

A) Data Base & Mapping

1. Currently, information is being captured by GPS and recorded for future use when a database is set up.

2. Maui offered its assistance in helping KISC set up a database. Access will be the most likely choice as it is the most common database system on the other ISCs and we have support from Maui. There are courses in Access training available on Kaua'i.

C) Chairperson - Define term, overlap.

1. The chairperson has the responsibility to oversee and direct the coordinator and crew. The committee discussed that there should be a determined training period for the next chairperson. Tim suggested be the position be self-nominated. There was a discussion about the length of each term. Keren moved that the term for the chairperson be one year and a half. Tim Flynn seconded. The committee unanimously accepted the term limit. It was suggested that the co-chair be elected in six months before the end of term. This co-chair will then become the chairperson the following term. Notice for self-nominations will be posted on the KISC List server.

2. Katie was nominated at the last meeting as substitute chairperson. She will act in the absence of Allan. She accepted this position. If there is any official business that needs to be acted upon, in Allan's absence, she will respond to it.

D) Coordinator & Field Technician Positions

1. Allan asked that the hiring committee review what would be an acceptable salary range for the two positions. Allan suggested paying the coordinator between \$35,000 – \$40,000. Benefits will be up to 25% additional to salary. Allan and the staff will do some homework and present it to the hiring committee. Tim motioned that we accept the hiring committee's decision and salary range. Lelan seconded it. The group unanimously accepted the motion. Salary will determine if there is enough in the budget to hire one or two field technicians.

2. It was also motioned by Katie, seconded by Tim and accepted unanimously that the hiring committee look over Keren and Meghan's status and pay/benefits. KISC needs to look into the possibility that we could extend them if the hiring process is prolonged. Keren and Meghan will let the hiring committee know if this is possible.

E) All day KISC Workshop

The next all day workshop will occur in October regarding evaluation. Not enough participants attended the meeting to define a date at this time.

VII. Updates:

A) Funding Update

1. We will be sending a CGAPS budget update prepared by Duane Nelson via the KISC list server. It outlines the redistribution of CGAPS funds. Our final budget amount will be \$163K.

2. Question: Can we apply for money from any other sources? Answer: Yes. It was decided that we should start by writing a formal request letter to PMRF for Prosopis work on the base. Staff to carry this out.

B) Action Plan review

We are planning to print about 125 copies. It may cost around \$800. These copies will be distributed to committee members and Funders. Nobody has sent comments back so the action plan will be printed in its current form and post to the website.

D) US Department of Agriculture – Peter Silva

1. Four million dollars have been allocated through the Legislature for coqui frog control starting in October for Kauai and the Big Island. They may hire additional staff that would be term positions with benefits. Lelan suggested that the USDA allow the private sector to bid on some of this control work. Perhaps KISC could absorb some of these funds. Peter assured the committee that we will be working in conjunction with their efforts.

Response by e-mail:

After reviewing the May 16 KISC Minutes, I have found some erroneous statements regarding future funding for Eleutherodactylus Frog (coqui and planirostris) control work to be accomplished by USDA/Wildlife Services. Through a University of Hawaii research program called TStar, USDA/Wildlife Services will be receiving \$200,000 effective October 1, 2002 to implement a pilot tree frog control program using caffeine as the primary method on Kauai and the Big Island. The TStar program usually places priority on research-oriented projects; however an exception is being made in this case. Approximately \$50K of the total will be allocated to research through the National Wildlife Research Center. Their involvement will include collecting the necessary data pursuant to an EPA label for caffeine.

Although this \$200K is a one shot deal, it does show promise to future funding via U.S. legislative delegations through Senator Inouye's office. In line with our Frog Eradication Plan written in cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, the \$200K is only the beginning of a four-year work proposal to help eradicate tree frogs from the state. Multiple state and federal agencies will have a part in the program including HDOA, HDLNR, and CTAHR, with USDA/Wildlife Services being the lead agency. The total proposed budget for FY 04-06 is approximately \$3.5 million each year. All of the work will be done in conjunction with other working groups such as the "ISCs" which include KISC.

As for the questions regarding allowing the private sector or KISC to bid on some of the control work, the nature of the funding and USDA's policies would prohibit USDA to "subcontract" the work to the private sector. However, if there are people interested in getting involved in this type of work, the USDA/Wildlife Services Hawaii State Office will be accepting applications in the event that the \$3.5M comes through in FY 04. I will keep everyone posted on future developments regarding this funding. Aloha!

S. Mark K. Ono
District Supervisor - Hawaii
USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services

2. \$50,000 has been given by DLNR to control mongoose on Kauai. There have been reports up in Kokee of mongoose sightings. KRCP will help set traps. In next month's meeting we will discuss creative ways to get money from the federal government.

Response by e-mail:

Thomas Kaiakapu - Kauai DLNR wildlife biologist, reviewed the budget with me this morning. There is currently \$5000 for all invasive animal monitoring. \$700 is for operations (traps, equipment) and the rest is for payroll. This funding is for DLNR staff response to mongoose sightings, bulbul and parrot sightings, snake reports and all other new species reports. Additional funding for existing staff in addition to continued and additional support in reporting/responding to new species would be a start towards a realistic level of protection for Kauai's native species.
Mindy Wilkinson DLNR-DOFAW

E) State Dept of Agriculture – Craig Kaneshige

There have been unconfirmed reports of Coqui frog. Two residents who are familiar with the Coqui frog call reported an outbreak in Wailua Homestead area. There appears to be more than one male calling. There were other reports up in Hanalei regarding Coqui frog. Craig will confirm these reports.

F) KISC Activities Update

1. Miconia

- i. First mailing consisted of tax lots with designated priority habitat to be searched. This was sent out on April 24th. Since this initial mailing date 35% have been returned. The priority II mailing will go out by the end of next week.
- ii. Re: private property searches. Eight properties have so far been searched. No Miconia has been found. It is a difficult procedure as the tax lots are not always apparent on the tax lot map. Many of the properties have been subdivided and sold since the last printing of the tax lot map. The type of vegetation varies greatly between each property. Some are cleared fields other are steep dense forests of Hau. Keren requested t-shirts to perform searches, as crew feels uncomfortable searching private property without official designation. Craig Kaneshige agreed to get Dept. of Ag. shirts for the crew. Lelan Nishek suggested that hats may be more appropriate.
- iii. We will be taking Miconia flyers to nursery outlets encouraging them to distribute to customers
- iv. There may be a potential problem with tree ferns imported from Miconia infested areas on the Big Island. Lelan believes that this is a statewide issue. The Nursery Association is concerned about this and are looking into ways to encourage self-imposed procedures. Possibly tree ferns can be wrapped up in plastic for 6 months to a year, this would kill seeds.

2. Office work

- i. Office and computer are getting set up (Phone: 246-0684, FAX 632-0841)
- ii. Busy scheduling property searches for Miconia inspections
- iii. Meghan and Michelle are busy putting the finishing touches on the KISC poster for the Hawaii Conservation Conference.

3. Field work

- i. Staff works in the field 2-3 days per week
- ii. Thorny Kiawe (*Prosopis juliflora*) monitoring has been conducted from Polihale through Waimea to Pakala Beach. This seems to be hybridizing with the regular Kiawe manifesting itself in any variation of characteristics from either plant with the signature long, wicked thorn. The initial estimation of the invasion of this species was underestimated, as the infestation area appears to be all the way to Kipu Kai. This means that the action plan may need to be revised. Thorny Kiawe appears to be the main threat to the coast strand on the Westside at this time. We will be working on getting permission to monitor on private land.
- iii. Mapping with Guy Nagai has taken place over 2 days. Guy also spent time educating the staff about weed control and important historical events that have impacted weed control and the pesticide industry. 13 sites have been visited and five species were mapped. Time was spent on control methods for each site visited. Next mapping day will be posted to the group via the Internet. Committee members are encouraged to participate.
- iv. Staff will continue working monthly with KRCP up in Koke'e and also with Craig and the State Dept of Ag.
- v. Staff has a need for identifying shirts when doing field work. Craig Kaneshige will attempt to acquire some through the Dept of Ag.

VIII. Next meeting

Thursday, June 20. 5-7pm. Location to be announced via the list server. If you have an agenda item, e-mail Meghan mhalabisky@hotmail.com and she will get it to Allan.

Attendance:

Allan Rietow, Craig Kaneshige, Keren Gundersen, Meghan Halabisky, Ellen Coulombe, Lelan Nishek, David Lorence, Katie Cassel, Rob Culbertson, Robert Nishek, David Alexander, Mike Maunder, Tim Flynn, Paul Silva, Laura Arnold, Jeri Ooka.

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