

KISC Meeting Minutes

Date: **Thursday, January 9, 2003**

Time: **9 – 11 am**

Location: **HDOA Meeting Room**

- I. **Introduction of new members and guests.** Welcome to Jason Kauai, new member; Eric Garcia, Craig's new assistant with Dept of Ag; Christy Martin, CGAPS PIO from Honolulu.
- II. **Review agenda items.**
- III. **Opening statement by Chairperson.**

Allan is calling for all KISC members to attend the meetings and encourage others to attend as well. Lelan suggested writing letters formally asking groups for participation (i.e. Farm Bureau and Cattlemen's Association, tourist industry, landscape council). We need a greater and wider representation.

Action Item: send out another round of invitations.
- IV. **Review Minutes of September Meeting and Strategic Planning Meeting**

David Alexander moves to approve minutes, Christy seconded, unanimous approval.

Action item: post approved meetings on web site.
- V. **Introduction/Welcome to our new employees.** Leis were presented to Keren Gundersen, Project Coordinator and Sarah Newton, Natural Resource Management Assistant. Thank-yous for the great job they have been doing.
- VI. **New Items:**
 - **Action Plan Addendum – Keren reviewed the Addendum.** (This can be viewed at the KISC website.) John Plews gave history of fiddlewood: introduced on Oahu by a botanical garden, experimental planting in the 30's, long distance infester. Easy to spot, upright growth, orange berries. David says this variety is *C. caudatum*. Makiki nursery in Anahola introduced it several years ago.
 - **Kahili Ginger – KISC participation in a proposed control program. (Allan)**

There is a definite need for a control program to be established, especially with the widespread ginger. Allan, Katie Cassel, Alvin Kyono, and Ernie Lau met in December to discuss the ginger situation in the Alakai. KRCP and KISC staff have conducted preliminary helicopter and ground surveys. Laura Arnold (KRCP) noted that at a previously treated outlier population, you could see the dead rhizome, but so many seedlings had come up that you could hardly tell that the area had been treated. John Plews commented on two problems: seed bank of ginger, and the severity of impact of people in the swamp area. Allan said that a ginger survey plan is being worked on to survey roughly 5,000 acres. \$10,000 dollars has been

contributed by the Kauai Watershed Alliance with additional funding coming from DOFAW and TNC. The plan proposes to fly on a 100 meter grid like MISC does with Miconia surveys. Alvin Kyono (DOFAW) gave permission for KRCP to go in immediately and treat satellite populations. After the survey is completed a strategic plan will be drawn up. The strategic plan should include a defensible line, safety protocol, person-hours necessary, how to measure success, work plan, etc. The survey will determine whether it is a doable project considering manpower and funding.

John Plews asks whether we want to focus in areas that just contain endangered species. We must use care not to kill other (non-target) plants. Lelan wants to determine an elevational gradient to determine the elevation that ginger gets out of control. David commented that the time for treatment is now or never. 10 years ago there were just a few clumps, now there are 100s of acres. Laura pointed out that one rogue ginger was recently found at Waialae. Ginger will eliminate recruitment of native species. Michelle thinks that this is an opportunity to directly protect biodiversity, which is part of KISC's mission statement.

Allan: Question: Does KISC want to allocate time and resources to participate in this effort with planning and mapping, etc? There was a motion for KISC to participate in the ginger control program, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Christy suggests checking with DOFAW for aerial photos; may be helpful for mapping.

- **USDA greenhouse frog control program on Kaua'i.** (No representative from USDA)

We don't know what USDA's plans is... it's a big mystery. They need a protocol at the hotels for using the citric acid. Hopefully we will be informed as to activities in the near future.

- **Species Prevention List.**

In KISC's Strategic Planning Meeting it was agreed that we would put together a list of items that should never be introduced on Kauai (ex. *Tibouchina herbacea*, mongoose, bulbuls) that can be used as an educational tool. Everyone is urged to contribute to this list.

Action item: Post to list server asking for suggestions for prevention list to discuss at next meeting.

- **Miconia Effort – KISC to lead. (Allan)**

As *Miconia* is KISC's number one target species, we will take the helm in the Miconia eradication program rather than KRCP. KISC appreciates all of the contributed labor that KRCP has donated (and will continue to donate) to this eradication effort.

- **Nominations for New KISC Chairperson.**

Item parked.

- **Review of ISC PR responsibilities (Christy Martin)**

Christy was hired Oct. 1 as the new CGAPS Public Information Officer. She had been working with MISC in a similar capacity. She is now representing all the ISCs and CGAPS (policy changes and statewide directional organization with the legislature). She has written a media plan for the next year and is awaiting approval of it by the CGAPS Chairperson. Her goals are to: educate the public, government officials and the horticulture/landscape industry; promote CGAPS and the ISCs to receive more funding. She plans on targeting business leaders, the public, and public officials. Products and services Christy is hoping to promote are: the Weed Risk Assessment system to promote awareness in the landscape and horticulture industry as well as in the public sector; legislation that the Weed Risk Assessment become a law (backed by TNC); brochures for each ISC; a major media campaign adding credibility to the ISCs. Christy also plans on addressing the city council within the next 6 months. She is planning on attending more KISC meetings to stay in touch with our needs.

- **Request for accounting of in-kind hours by committee members.**

KISC is requesting that if you have made in-kind contributions to KISC for the year 2002, you submit your hours to us as soon as possible.

Action item: We will post a request to submit in-kind contributions (broken down by month) to the list server.

- **Written appeal to Governor re: State Hiring Freeze (Wayne Souza)**

Wayne Souza had asked KISC to write a letter to Gov. Lingle, requesting to unfreeze the State Parks Botanist position. This sparked a discussion revealing many opinions on the matter, but the committee consensus is to write a general letter stressing the need on Kauai to fill the very important natural resource management positions that are now vacant with DLNR.

Action item: Write a letter to Gov Linda Lingle.

VII. Unfinished Items:

- **Base Yard/ Storage (Herbicides). Keren**

KISC still needs a base yard, and we are considering the option of subleasing the RC&D Forestry Base yard in Puhi. It is very overgrown and would require contracted (or donated!) services for clearing, but it already has a container and a shade-house/nursery on the premises, as well as a water supply. There is no electricity, but it is not necessary. Keren has also obtained an additional container from Mattson that can be placed on this property. Keren will be meeting with the Forestry Committee later this afternoon.

VIII. Announcements:

- CGAPS/ALLISC Meeting in HNL - Thursday, January 16th. Allan & Keren attending.
- Arc View course at KCC (trying) to be scheduled.
- Helicopter training to be scheduled.

IX. **Updates:**

- Committees: Outreach (report any progress). Allan (for Rob C.)

Signs have been placed at the baggage claim areas at the Lihue Airport promoting KISC and our target species. Response to the signs has been very good. Thanks to Rob for all of his hard work in putting these together.

- CGAPS/All ISC November 7, 2002 meeting report. Allan/Keren

The meeting was well attended. Earl Campbell stressed the importance of each ISC seeking funding, as Federal money will be tight this coming year.

- Action Plan/Target Species update/Progress report and discussion.

Keren/Sarah.

FIREWEED: While doing weekly monitoring of the Halfway Bridge area we are still finding flowering plants. Our efforts, with Craig, now involve using a pre-emergent on suspected sites of seeded plants. Craig and Eric have found over sixty plants recently.

CATTAILS: Since the last meeting, we have treated populations of cattails in Mahaulepu, Omao, and two in Nukolii. We also spent a day mapping / monitoring new areas with Adam Asquith. A large population in Niupalu is scheduled for treatment, and we are working with landowners to gain property access to treat an adjacent population in Niupalu, and a small site in Koloa.

GIANT REED: KISC is currently conducting trials to find the most effective treatment method for Arundo. This last quarter we have treated populations at: the lifeguard station, St. Theresa's Church, and 2nd Ditch, all in Kekaha. We are working on getting access to a population behind the prison in Wailua.

PAMPAS GRASS: The population in Kokee turned out to be much larger than expected, and required the use of heavy machinery. State Parks staff assisted with the removal effort. We also discovered that there is another population nearby, which is scheduled for treatment.

MICONIA: Private property searches continue in Wailua Homesteads, with 4 immature Miconia plants spotted and treated. Difficulty in contacting property owners has impeded progress. Two more searches have been conducted in Wailua River State Park since the last meeting, with no Miconia found. Searches will now be focused in areas within concentrated Miconia zones. Next search in Wailua River State Park is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21st.

FROGS: KISC has attempted catching the single Coqui at Kmart, without success as of yet. No restrictions have been placed on Kmart by HDOA and concern of the frog being sold on a plant is being stressed. Another population at the Marriott has not been captured. KISC has yet to be informed as to USDA's efforts for frog control here. The infestation of greenhouse frogs in Poipu remains and treatments have been ongoing by the resorts.

THORNY KIAWE: Treatments have continued on populations at Mahaulepu and Kipu Kai. KISC is assisting researchers at Coventry University in the UK by providing samples of all species of Prosopis found on Kauai. Craig has been closely monitoring Mahaulepu populations and cutting trails to make treatment easier.

FALSE KAVA: The population at Kahili Mountain Park has been successfully treated. Identification of false kava can be made based on venation patterns; with regular kava showing the palmate pattern, and false kava showing a central midvein.

IVY GOURD: Treatment continues in Anahola on the core infestation site. We are still working on permission for access to certain parcels for treatment around the bridge area.

FIDDLEWOOD: Populations have been mapped in Anahola, Wailua Homesteads and at Vidinha Stadium soccer field. Mapping continues as other known populations are in Kalaheo. Samples have been collected and will be delivered to NTBG for identification. It appears that both *Citharexylum caudatum* and *spinosum* are found here on Kauai.

OFFICE ACTIVITIES:

KISC had eight days of no work due to a funding gap.

Weed Risk Assessment Workshop in October.

Keren attended Global Invasive Species Programme at Bishop Museum.

KISC Strategic Planning Meeting in October

Hired permanent staff

Allan and Keren went to CGAPS/All ISC meeting in Honolulu (Nov 7)

Keren, Allan and Katie went to Maui to participate in ginger control work and attend MISC meeting (Dec 5-6)

FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

Miconia Hunt in Wailua River State Park January 21

CGAPS/All ISC meeting January 16 (Keren and Allan to attend)

Pest Risk Reduction Course for Keren and Sarah (Jan 29-31)

ArcView Class with KCC OCET (to be announced)

Helicopter Safety Training (to be announced)

VIII **Next Meeting: Thursday, March 20, 2003.**

Time and place to be announced via the list server.

- Pau -

Meeting attendance: Allan Rietow, Keren Gundersen, Sarah Newton, Laura Arnold, Lelan Nishek, David Alexander, David Lorence, Christy Martin, John Plews, Michelle Clark, Craig Kaneshige, Eric Garcia, Jason Kauai, Guy Nagai.