

Date: Thursday, May 15, 2003
Time: 10 –12 noon
Location: HDOA Meeting Room

KISC AGENDA

- I. Introductions, Welcome to Visitors
- II. Review Agenda Items (additions).
- III. Review Minutes of March 2003 Meeting. Minutes approved.
- IV. Invasive Species Power Point Presentation - Allan
- V. New Items:
 - Rabbits. There are a couple of populations of loose rabbits on Kauai. Known in Omao and Wailua. Trapping started in Omao. Guy Nagai: Label for registered pesticide to kill rabbits, but not licensed in state. Concern with licensing, using poison, Humane Society, location of rabbit population – next to residence. Rhoda: Has anyone successfully eradicated rabbits from Honolulu area? MO: Pearl Harbor, uninhabited island, easy to trap because no food on island. Here hard to trap because lush with lots of food. MC: How many rabbits? Maybe 12. GN: Since we have no mongoose, rabbit population can explode. AK: only one rabbit caught so far (AS), and one cat. Cattle have knocked down fences and traps closed.
 - Funding/Budget FY04 projections. Biggest change, hoping to hire another person for field crew, another vehicle, and helicopter time (see attached budget). Allan will be moving his office and KISC will stay at KCC. GN: if HDOA charges us for base yard space, we can use it as matching funds. We got \$10K from county this year. Allan and CM presented to Mayor Baptiste, Keren and Allan talked to county council. CGAPS All-ISC budgets: \$25K from USFWS and \$40K hopefully will go up to KRCP, \$101K state pass thru and supplemental budget requests. KISC ended up with more than we needed so we transferred \$50K to Big Island because they are operating in a deficit. KISC will get our budget this year, continue with our Action Plan until next Strategic Planning Meeting. USFWS putting up money for one year eradication projects.
 - Frogs – FWS funding possible. MO: Bob Sugihara- researcher, TSTAR grant to research efficacy of citric acid as treatment for frogs. Refer to Bob Sugihara for questions; he will be here on Kauai next week. KISC submitted a grant for \$68K, full time person to deal with frogs plus supplies, equipment, chemicals.
 - Fountain Grass – FWS funding possible. KISC asked for \$44K. Population on A&B land that is leased to Robinson.

Questions: EC: What about the NFWF Pulling Together? Don't know.
DL: What type of herbicide are we planning on using on the fountain grass?
Roundup – probably will take 3-4 applications. What about the other
population on G&R land? Need to negotiate.

VI. Updates:

- CGAPS/ALLISC meeting in Honolulu. West Nile Virus, prevention strategies, PR, no live bird shipping. Vectors: infectious mosquito arrival, migratory bird, importation of birds. Hawaii's birds will be wiped out. AK: Is there an elevational limitation? AR: Mosquitos are the transmitters, so only in mosquito areas. Postal Service has blocked shipping of birds, so HDOA could enact an emergency response. Homeland Security: 600 APHIS positions have been transferred to Homeland Security AR: Ag inspectors and customs inspectors will get cross training. Duane Nelson's replacement will be hired soon. Carol Russel is new Chairperson of CGAPS. Acting Chair, Chair Emeritus, Deputy Chair: to create continuity. Steve Loshe resigned. Andy Schulker gave update on ANS, steering committee, freshwater working group. MICONIA: Big Island treating 110,000 acres, National Geographic will film. WRA testing continuing. Guam back to standard post hurricane monitoring for brown tree snake. Coqui frog: USDA has grant from TSTAR, may be hole in funding for FY04. KISC applied for funding for incipient Coqui and Greenhouse eradication. Legislative Update: Bills that passed: Hawaii Invasive Species Initiative, Landowner liability exemption, import of sterile male BTS for training, Hawaii needs to beef up prevention efforts for BTS. GN: Why was a new law made to prohibit transport and sale of *Salvinia molesta* if it is already on the Federal Noxious Weed List? Should enforce by rules, gets too clunky with bills, laws, rules. Just to change one thing, you have to go back to the legislature every year. AR: Intent of the entire law is to get leadership and coordination thru the whole state. Alan: You can still buy and sell *Salvinia molesta* on Kauai.
- Ginger Survey ready to begin! Ellen: starting heli-survey on Monday, Luca will be pilot, another survey on the 22nd. Overnight work trip Memorial Day with Rob Hauff. USFS is giving \$20K for monitoring project. Going to remove ginger in Wainiha Pali area. Puaiohi guys searched 7 drainages into Koaie and didn't see any ginger. Good cooperative project: conduct survey, map, and come up with strategic plan. TK: What is the most effective chemical for ginger? Escort, but Joby and Kapua seem to be having problem in wetter areas. Guy suggests calibrating equipment.
- KISC Activity update (progress on target species) – Sarah
 - ✓ **Miconia**: finishing up private property searches, found three more plants (not flowering) at Alexander's Nursery; Wailua River State Park search yielded 85 seedlings/ saplings pulled in "hotspot" area.
 - ✓ **False kava**: searched area surrounding known (treated) population and found more plants, 52 total treated; need to search further in area.

- ✓ **Arundo donax:** began treatment on new large population in Kekaha; St. Teresa's population successfully eliminated; 2nd ditch population bulldozed, will continue to monitor and retreat if necessary.
 - ✓ **Cattails:** Treated Koloa and Knudsen Gap roadside populations; follow up treatment of Maha'ulepu.
 - ✓ **Long-thorn kiawe:** found two new individuals by 2nd ditch; retreating Waimea populations; retreated Korean rock.
 - ✓ **Fireweed:** KISC has taken over two of the Halfway Bridge sections, spreading Snapshot pre-emergent in areas where seeded plants are found.
 - ✓ **Fiddlewood:** county removed fiddlewood trees from Vidinha soccer fields after KISC drew their attention to fiddlewood's invasiveness. Good rapid response by county.
 - ✓ **Mongoose:** KISC conducted trapping after sightings at Kapaa bypass and Halfway bridge. Caught everything from toads to rats to cats, but no mongoose. Possible bait station action to come.
 - ✓ **Public Outreach:** Keren and Sarah presented to Kapaa High School students in Carrie Johnson's class; also did booth at Garden Fair in Kukui Grove, great success, well attended, positioned next to Kauai Landscape Industry Council and Kauai Native Plant Society. Also had an article published in Kauai Business Report written by Joan Conrow.
- KISC/RCUH Volunteer forms
 - Hiptage mapping/monitoring – KISC is having hard time finding time to schedule hiptage. Would be helpful to have committee; it could work on Staff availability, form committee for action, and engage NRCS. Lelan, NRCS? Conduct herbicide trials. Hiptage may be a problem in NZ as well. KISC will do research about problem. Seedlings coming up in canefields now that they aren't in production anymore. It is mostly confined to valleys as cattle is grazing on it where there used to be sugar cane. Bobby is trying to see if cattle are grazing it on his land. Wind disperses seeds as well. Michelle, Lelan, Bobby, Les Milnes? Craig heard it may be by Olopuia gardens.
 - Rodney (Kauai Taro Growers' Association): Apple Snails brought in '85-'87 in Waipa area. Now in Kekaha, Waimea, Hanapepe, Kapa'a, Hanalei, etc. (everywhere). Really spreading around. 30-50% of taro growing area in Hawaii infested. Taro production down 60% due to apple snails. Brought in by aquarium trade. Brochures to educate about apple snails. HDOA did copper sulfate trials, didn't pan out, too toxic. Tried hand picking, electrocuting, now trying neem oil and papaya extract, mechanical crushing, marketing. One of the biggest problems for taro growers. Went to legislature to ask for more money for control. In '87, Chipper Wichman went to lobby for control. Hard to eradicate, control only. One little snail can go through screening. One snail can make 151 million snails in a year. Targeting rabbits, frogs, what about the apple snail? On USFWS

property, but not getting any money to control snails. Can float, so when flooding occurs, they move. Water birds may feed on small ones. Cannot use ducks because they will interbreed with Koloa ducks. TK: thinks that Black-crowned night herons may be transporting snails. Man is moving snails. Snail eats succulent weeds then goes after taro. Normal harvest is 14 months, but now harvesting 11 months because racing the apple snail. Ideal breeding ground for apple snail. Snail creates monoculture/desert. Impacts environment for birds and invertebrates. USFWS needs to acknowledge this problem. Dept. of Ag allowed importation for aquarium trade, it then has been moved around as food item in Asia. KISC will try to assist with finding a solution to apple snail. Farmers need a protocol that works to control snail so crop production comes back to normal. Public education. If USFWS controlled the snails in the refuge, would help the problem. Lelan: in a brackish water pond, the snail controls grass. Education important.

VII. Announcements:

- Farm Fair Coming Aug. 29-30– we need volunteers now.
- Banana Poka Roundup May 25th. Come support KISC!

VIII. Unfinished Items.

- Website update.
- Species Prevention List.
- In-Kind Hours by Members.

IX. Next Meeting: Thursday, July 17, 2003. Time & Place to be announced.

Pau

Attendees: Alenka Remec (TNC Honolulu), Alan Silva (DLNR), Thomas Kaiakapu (KDOFAW), Michelle Clark (NRCS), Kerri Fay (MISC), Guy Nagai (USDA PPQ), Jeri Ooka (UH-KARC), Sarah Newton (KISC), David Lorence (NTBG), Wayne Souza (DLNR State Parks), Craig Kaneshige (HDOA), Rhoda Libre (KWWC, GIRC&D), Alvin Kyono (KDOFAW), Ellen Coulombe (KRCP), Paul Pancho (USDA APHIS WS), Mark Ono (USDA APHIS WS), Allan Rietow (KISC, TNCH), Robert Ferreira (Kipu Kai, KCA, HCC), Peter Joyce, Rodney Haraguchi (Kauai Taro Grower's Association), Lelan Nishek (KNL), Roy Yamakawa (UH CTAHR), Peter Silva (USDA APHIS WS)