

Kauai Invasive Species Committee (KISC) Strategic Planning Workshop

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

MEETING MINUTES

I. Welcome – Allan Rietow, Chairperson

II. Review agenda and the day's objectives

No changes put forth.

III. Introductions and Announcements

Welcome to special guests from Oahu, Mindy Wilkinson and Rob Hauff, DOFAW. Plan on attending Brown Tree Snake Training after KISC's first quarterly meeting, January 15, 2004. Details will be posted to the list server. Trainer: Mindy Wilkinson, Invasive Species Specialist, DOFAW.

V. Review for Committee:

- KISC Mission Statement (read by Allan) [See KISC Action Plan]
- Policy Statement (read by Allan) [See KISC Action Plan]
- Rules of order - We operate by consensus. Majority rules.

VI. Review last meeting results (Addendum to Action Plan) - Keren Gundersen [See KISC Action Plan w/Addendum]

VII. Progress/status report – Sarah Newton

- Infrastructure
 1. Continued with two employees, will be hiring one new KISC employee. We will also be acquiring one intern through Americorp/YCC courtesy of DOFAW. This will be a twelve month position. Both positions will start in January.
 2. Budget to remain stable for FY04 at \$190K.
 3. Data base and GIS up and running and linked.
 4. Office equipment, computers, etc. have been purchased.
 5. Vehicle purchased (Crew cab pick-up truck)
 6. Base yard space negotiated with HDOA.
- Training / certifications
 1. Pesticide risk reduction course and certification
 2. Basic Aviation safety training
 3. OAS s271 helicopter crewmember training including sling load training
 4. Hunter safety training (taken on personal time)
 5. First aid /CPR (to be completed in December)
- KISC Outreach and Public Awareness Activities
 1. Visited schools to follow up on mailing
 2. Mayor visited by Christy Martin and Allan Rietow
 3. County council presentation by Keren and Allan (taped and played on Hoike Public Access Television for the entire month of March)
 4. Chamber of commerce presentation by Christy Martin
 5. Family Ocean Fair at Kilauea Light House
 6. Garden Fair

7. Banana Poka Roundup in Kokee
8. Conservation Conference
9. Kauai County Farm Bureau Fair
10. Radio shows (KKCR with Don Heacock and Adam Asquith, and KONG "Island Talk" with Jimmy Torreo)
11. Display at Princeville Library during month of September
12. Presentation at Princeville Library
13. Cattlemen's Association Annual Meeting Presentation
14. RC&D Pacific Rim Conference Presentation

- Outreach Products

1. Display at airport baggage claim
2. KISC "Most Wanted" poster sent to state agencies, schools, general public
3. Pest Alerts for Arundo, Cattails, Ivy Gourd, Salvinia molesta and Fireweed
4. Invasive Pest Coloring Sheets for schools and fairs
5. Magnets
6. "Prevention Species" and "Target Species" flash cards
7. "Honu Helper" and "Weed Warrior" stickers
8. News articles and press releases
9. Banner
10. Bumper stickers

- KISC field activities (Power Point Presentation)

- Targets - We found additional populations of almost all targets
Targets with populations/acres - see Table 1
Man-hours by target – see Table 2
- Rapid Response – Mongoose and Rabbits
- Surveys
 1. Kahili ginger 4000 acres surveyed
 2. Hiptage widespread in Kipu area; already crossing road to Kipu Kai
 3. Fiddlewood widespread in Anahola and Wailua
 4. Mangrove still to be surveyed.
- Animals
 1. Frogs: USDA worked on eradicating Lawai Coqui with two major sprays; these reduced the population but did not eliminate the frogs. We need to stay on top of these. USDA might be doing another spray in Lawai. Greenhouse frogs are widespread. USDA sprayed Poipu area resorts. Population decreased, but still persistent. We need to get homeowner/resorts to participate in eradication.
 2. Little Red Fire Ant monitoring revealed a resurgence in ant population beyond the original infestation in Kalihiwai (still under 2 acres). Treatment with Amdro is planned when weather is drier.

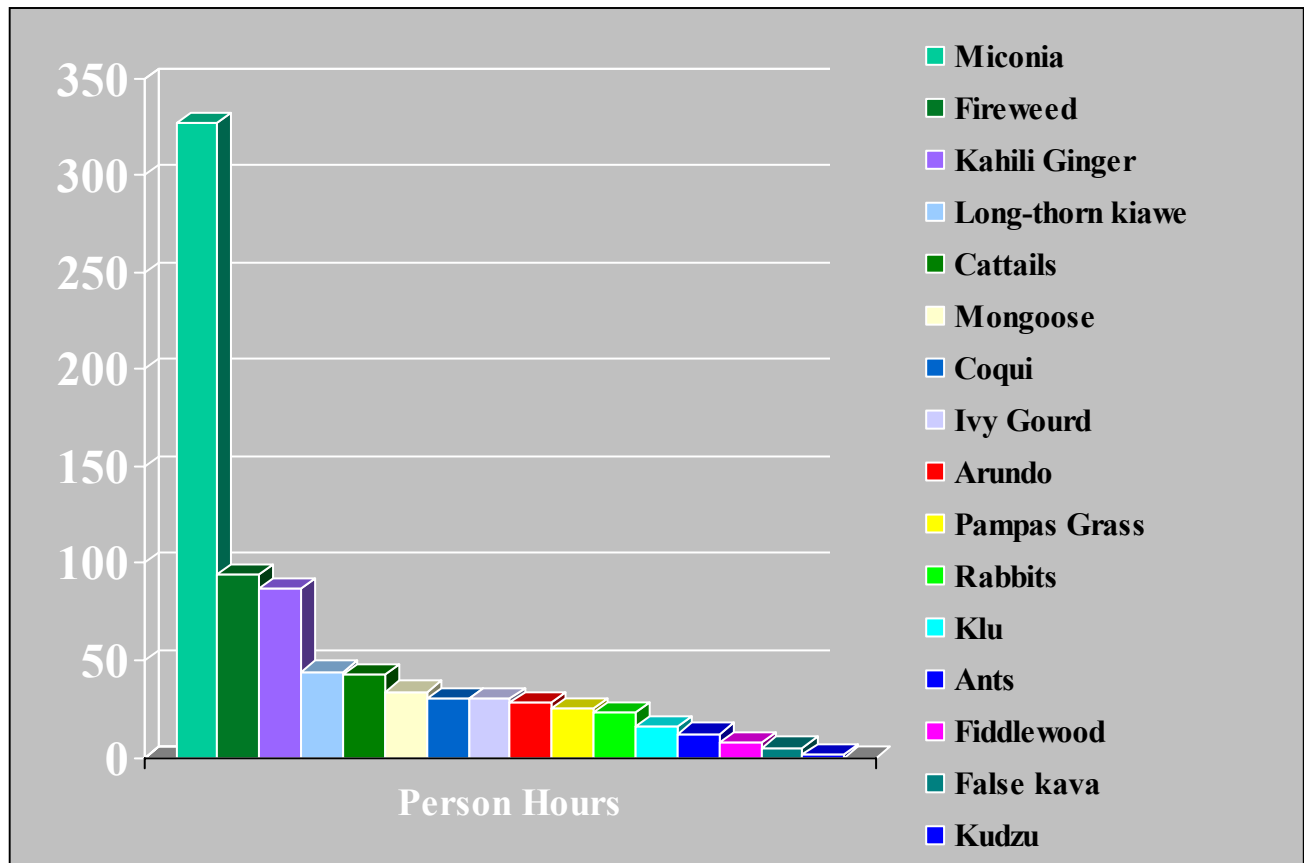
Table 1 – Target Species

Species	Original Estimate		Treated†		Actual Known to Date	
	Populations	Acres	Populations	Acres	Populations	Acres
Miconia	2	755*	2	2386*	3	1170*
Fireweed	1	2	1	58	2	2.1
Cattails	5	2.5	9	194	12	7.53
Arundo	5	0.61	8	3.61	10	4.64
Ivy Gourd	7	3.76	7	16.6	8	4.32
Pampas Grass	2	0.167	2	79.3	3	?
False kava	1	0.001	1	4.9	1	0.5
Long thorn Kiawe	8	500	7	31	8	500
Fountain Grass	2	30	0	0	2	30

* Includes Buffer

† Includes re-treatments

Table 2 – Man-hours per species



VIII. Update Target Species

• Action Species

Miconia: Currently, this is our number one target species. [KS: DOFAW would like KISC to take the lead on new outliers in the Wailua Game Management Area. DOFAW will assist when able.] We will coordinate with DOFAW as we go out to this area. Wayne Souza with State Parks is okay with KISC's current search strategy in Wailua State Park. We do have about a 1.5 year buffer in searches considering the rate of growth before flowering. How big a buffer zone is necessary? Other ISCs have a 500m ground search buffer and a 1000m aerial search buffer. How far do we expand our search? We have exceeded the 1000m aerial survey buffer in most of the drainages. [GN: New site is within a predictable range. He would not be surprised to find nothing between the two populations but less confident there are not existing plants beyond the outliers.] We will now prioritize what areas we will ground search depending on terrain and canopy coverage. Can we tap other helicopter pilots to watch for Miconia for us? Keren has talked to Terry Lo with DOCARE and he is interested in having us give them a Miconia presentation so that they can look during their Green Harvest sweeps. The biggest outlying tree was about 6 inches dbh (diameter at breast height). **Group: Keep on list as number one target.**

LT Kiawe: At Mahaulepu we are just checking for seedlings now. At Kekiola harbor and Mana Drag Strip Craig has been using different rates of Garlon or Remedy in a foliar spray. This method, however, is seeing re-growth after 3 mos. Now trying mist blower with herbicide/crop oil mixture. There has been no re-growth with a cut/stump method but the Mana population is too thick to get to the center to cut. PMRF Base trials seem to reveal spike to be the most effective method and frilling with Garlon to be a close second. [EC: Is it worth trying to eradicate on the island if PMRF does not eradicate their population?] [GN: If this species is eradicated except on the base, they will follow suit.] [LN: Is it on Ni'ihau?] [GN: The small population that was identified does possibly not exist any longer.] [LN: Since we know that this species is on their land, we should network with Robinsons to bring them on board; let them know our methods. We should evaluate if we should eliminate all Kiawe from the island due to its ability to hybridize with LT Kiawe.] **Group: Keep on list and continue partnership work with HDOA.**

Fireweed: [LN: We should push this species to a CGAPS level since both of our infestations did not spread naturally, but were introduced in a hydro-mulch spray. Both populations were preventable.] [MW: We will need to provide info: contractor, date sprayed, and possible seed source.] [GN: Seed law does not cover this; seed law is for vegetables only.] [LN: Seed source should be well documented on how it arrived. Seed suppliers have to take more responsibility. Contractors need to be accountable. CGAPS/HISC/Legislature should press HDOA to follow-up on sources.] **Group: Keep on list and continue partnership work with HDOA.**

Fountain Grass: We have only aerial surveyed; no ground treatment has been done to date. Aerial surveys have been about two years apart. This population has spread very little. We need to ground survey. [GN: This should be our number two priority. It is not happy where it is. Other grasses are keeping it fenced in, one day that fence is going to break. It would be very happy in Waimea and Westside. It would be all we would see. Fountain Grass has a 3,000 ft elevation to shoreline habitat.] [MW: It has a very low mortality following fire.] [TM: Get rid of it now. There is a cost benefit to treating it before it spreads as well as a safety hazard.] [LN: Can Robinsons be a partner?] [GN: There would be no reason for them not to be a partner in this.] [WS: When dealing with the Robinsons, don't include controversial individuals in the eradication efforts.] [DA: What about Guinea grass, doesn't it burn?] [TM: Yes, but it grows in wetter areas and it doesn't have the same habitat

along cliffs as fountain grass does. It is not as great a threat as a fire hazard.] [GN: HDOA should come up with a comprehensive plan for eradication. This is a species that we could get additional funding for. KISC should pursue this as an active program. It should be a win/win situation with the landowners.] HDOA is working on obtaining access from property owners. **Group: Keep on list and continue partnership work with HDOA.**

Pampas Grass: The two known populations have been treated and are under control. KISC is still monitoring. One individual in Princeville still needs to be addressed. [LN: This species should be addressed on a state-wide level if other islands are using it as a landscaping plant.] **Group: Keep on list. Downgrade priority.**

Ivy Gourd: Current technique of cut/stump working well. We haven't prioritized this species as much as other targets but we plan on targeting it more with the addition of new employees. [MW: It is not incipient on Oahu; you have a chance here on Kauai of eradication. OISC does not actively pursue this weed as the bio control is widespread on Oahu.] Is the bio control used here? No, the population is not large enough. [EC: Why should we target this vine over others?] [GN: Ivy gourd tolerates dry conditions, unlike other vines. It can spread to the drier side of the island. It spreads rapidly and can smother even haole koa!] [LN: Believes there is a population in Poipu and one at the airport toward crash fire area in coconut trees.] **Group: Keep on list.**

False Kava: This has been surveyed and treated twice. This species may be sold in nurseries as "Mock Kava". [GN: It also might be used as a food source; so if we look for it, we will find it.] KISC should concentrate on the education aspect of this species. **Group: Keep on list. Downgrade priority.**

Cattails: Seeds spread by wind and possibly birds. [LN: KISC should do a display at the Hanalei Taro Festival.] [GN: It is not on the noxious weed list (it was considered a wetland weed and therefore, not as important), this should be looked at.] Group divided on continuance. Only the large Waimea Valley population is one of concern as it is in the taro lo'is. There will be participation from other groups on this project; landowners, HDOA, DOFAW. After the removal effort in Waimea Valley, KISC should scale back efforts with cattail. Keep up the educational aspects. **Group: Keep on list and continue partnership work with HDOA.**

Frogs: Coqui: USDA contained the biggest population in Lawai. [CK: The frogs are still calling; possibly around 12 individuals left. Weather needs to warm up a bit to get an accurate count.] [MM: There is still one at the Marriot.] KISC should hold the line with follow-up from USDA's efforts until USDA gets funding for next year (FY05). **Group: Keep on list and continue partnership work with HDOA.**

Greenhouse: [CK: The frogs are adding biomass and have the potential for concern with other predators such as snakes and rats.] Are homeowner efforts worthwhile? [MW: If they are continuously being spread around island, control efforts are hopeless. If we can not distinguish what their infestation area is, how can we treat them?] [TM: We should focus our resources on our known species.] [MW: Don't know what the ecological impacts of greenhouse frogs are.] [AR: What about reintroduction from other islands? What is being done to prevent this from happening?] [MW: HDOA is stepping up inter-island inspections.] [TM: Are infested nurseries cooperating? Can this be contained?] [MW: Yes, if they want to ship their stock inter-island, they have to cooperate.] [LN: Other nurseries will not buy from untreated nurseries.] [TD: Regarding inspections: are they during treatment or are they visual after treatment?] [MW: After treatment.] [AR: We should encourage nurseries to treat when shipments come to island.] **Group: Remove from list.**

Ants: Continued monitoring will be needed. Treatment will ensue on known population. There is only one population that we know of. Is there a chance of other populations? [GN: Doesn't think that there are other populations. This is a species where, unfortunately, reports will come to us due to the stinging.] **Group: Keep on list and continue partnership work with HDOA.**

Firethorn: KRCP continues work on this. Almost all eradicated except known individuals around a cabin. **Group: Remove from list.**

Arundo: This species is hard to kill! Our technique of cutting and then spraying when young seems to be effective. This species seems to be moving around in fill dirt. [LN: Should not be a high priority.] [GN: Should be on "C" list, not a high priority.] **Group: Keep on list. Downgrade Priority.**

- Monitor / Map / Trials

Hiptage: Can we get landowners to take ownership? What are they doing on other island? [MW: OISC found an effective treatment strategy: cut with chainsaw, stump treat with herbicide. OISC just dropped from target list because it is beyond controlling. Molokai just dropped as well; it is too large a population and the landowners are willing to treat it. On other islands it is widespread and not targeted.] What about other countries? It does not seem to be a problem in Australia. [LN: KISC should research and bring results to meeting.] [AR: Perhaps Grove Farms would cost share a heli-survey?] [KC: It would be nice to survey it soon to get a grasp how quickly it is spreading.] **Group: Keep on list. Research and survey.**

Ginger: KISC is surveying with KRCP the extent of the infestation in the Alakai. [AR: Funders of KISC are interested in what is happening in watershed.] [EC: It can be kept from spreading to eastern Alakai (it is incipient now).] [WS: As the ginger population surrounding this area increases, control will be futile.] [KC: This is why we are trying to pursue a bio-control. A defensible line is an interim tactic.] Area based management might be viable. [MW: If it goes past a minimal amount of ground support, she would not encourage KISC to participate as an active ground control crew. This is not what the FS, FWS and matching funds sees as part of KISC's program.] Is a bio-control currently being worked on? [RH: Yes, it has already been released on BI and other islands; this particular bacterium has not been found here on Kauai, so it will not be introduced here. It also has been found that it does not readily spread (only 200 m).] [MW: Bio controls for other Himalayan weeds are being worked on, so this is something that will not be dropped.] [AR: Ground work for ginger control will not have much to do with KISC; this will eventually move to the Watershed Alliance.] Keep KISC involved as temporary resource for survey work. KRCP hopes to keep KISC as an excellent partner in this project. KRCP will do research on viability of Kahili ginger, elevational range, seed spread, etc. Identify other varieties of Kahili and investigate their viability: they do seed. **Group: Keep on list. KISC involved in survey with minimal ground control.**

Fiddlewood: [LN: Keep on list. It is a pest. This species is widely planted as an ornamental in private yards. Stop the nursery industry and architects and planners from planting it.] What kind of format can we address this? LIC is working with **Kaulunani?** to work with industry to educate on invasive species (they will be hiring in January). KLIC would be a good forum to address the problem with invasives such as this. KISC should share the mapping with them. Get landowners involved. **Group: Move to educational item.**

Mangrove: Leave on as something to map. It has a limited habitat. KISC should get treatment information and do the survey as time allows. MH: 50%Garlon/%50FCO basal bark seems to be very effective. **Group: Survey as time allows.**

- Education and Further Study:
Kudzu: *Group: Move up the list to map.*

Weed Project Kokee: [WS: Leases will expire in 2005. State will have the opportunity to put stipulations in lease to be responsible for invasives. KISC should be in on this stage of planning/lease re-writing.] Wayne will keep us informed as to when that is. In current issues: Ag lands will be transferred from DLNR to HDOA within the coming year. This may be an opportunity to address noxious weeds on State Lands. *Group: Advise Kokee planners at appropriate time.*

Hapu'u Tree Fern shipping: Private owners bring trees into county, not only nurseries. We should keep this on the list for discussion. [LN: LIC educator should include this as a topic. Landscaping industry should be more self-policing.] *Group: Keep as education item.*

Jackson chameleon et al: *Group: Keep on list as education items.*

- Additions?

Cactus: [LN: Has noticed increase in invasion on South Side, Poipu and Koloa areas. You can not even walk through the Haole Koa any longer because of the cactus. We need to get someone to identify the problem.] Craig has noticed increase in population. [KG: We need to ask HDOA if they can involve themselves in this problem and possibly introduce a bio-control to this area.] *Group: Have HDOA follow-up on this item.*

- Prioritization (Group consensus by vote)

Action items:

1. Miconia
2. Fountain Grass
3. Long Thorn Kiawe
4. Fireweed and Cattail
5. All others

Survey/Map/Education:

1. Hiptage
2. Kudzu
3. Fiddlewood and Cactus

IX. Action Plan / Strategic Plan

- Action Plan
 - Update with addendum and new cover
 - Complete by Dec 31, 2003
- Strategic Plan
 - Long term outlook for KISC
 - Complete by June 30, 2004

X. Next KISC meeting

(First quarterly meeting) January 15, 2004
10 am to noon*
HDOA conference room, Lihue.

*Plan on attending Brown Tree Snake Training during the afternoon with a night training session that evening (details to be posted on List Server). Trainer: Mindy Wilkinson, Invasive Species Specialist, DOFAW.

PAU

Attendance: Allan Rietow (TNC/KISC), Trae Menard (TNC), Guy Nagai (USDA-APHIS), Sarah Newton (KISC), Kawika Smith (DOFAW), David Alexander (KRCP), Rob Hauff (DOFAW), Tony Doth (USDA-APHIS-PPQ), Katie Cassel (KRCP), Craig Kaneshige (HDOA), Mike Hawkes (USFWS- Kauai NWR), Keren Gundersen (KISC), Lelan Nishek (Kauai Nursery & Landscape), Monika Miva (UH WRRC), Ellen Coulombe (KRCP), Mindy Wilkinson (DOFAW), Wayne Souza (DLNR- State Parks)