Work update at Lawai infestation site

Upcoming control work is scheduled to continue the week of July 30, 2007. Crews will be arriving mid-morning and working until around 9:30 pm.

Field crew work is scheduled for July 30, 31 and August 1 and 2.

At the time this work notification flyer was written, a summary of work was not available. A summary of work from July 23 to August 3 will be included in the next newsletter to be posted on August 3.

For the week of July 30 crews will focus citric acid spraying in sections 2-7, 10, and 18-22. Lime will be applied in sections 10-22.

After a shortened previous work-week there will be much to accomplish this week. Crews will also monitor for any outlying frogs as well as re-survey reported calls outside of the infestation in Lawai.

Rapid response to reported calls is imperative to prevent new populations from establishing.

A big “thank-you” goes out again to neighbors on Lawailoa Lane as well as those west of sections 17 and 22, and abutting section 4. These neighbors act as our “border patrol” and let us know if we are containing the frogs in their current locations.

Hopefully the weather will stay a bit drier as we move into the busiest part of the calling season. Dry, calm weather will enable the crews to optimize spraying coverage as well as more easily access all areas of the site.

Robert Diaz mans the pump and sprayer

W ork should be finishing up with the mechanical vegetation clearing on the intake side of the reservoir. We will be sure to include more pictures of the cleared site in the next update.

Report a Pest: 643-PEST

Management Area Map

The map to the left shows the entire infestation area. This area has been broken into management units, and numbered accordingly.

Work at the site will reference these numbers.

If you hear calling frogs in an area near you, please contact our office so that we can schedule treatment in that unit.

Contact Phone Numbers:

- KISC: 246-0684 (from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm)
- Crew Supervisor: 651-8781
- Hawaii Department of Agriculture: 274-3069
- Pest Hotline: 643-PEST

Tidbit

There are more than 4,000 types of amphibian in the world, but Europe only has 45 species.
**Web access to Coqui News**

The mission of the Hawaiian Ecosystems at Risk project (HEAR) is to provide technology, methods, and information to--and to facilitate communication among--decision-makers, resource managers, and the general public to help support effective science-based management of harmful non-native species in Hawaii and the Pacific.

Until sometime in the 1990s, serious concern about invasive species—even in Hawai‘i—was relegated to academic conferences and park offices.

More recently, however, invasive species have become a household concern.

The reasons for this are many, but the Hawaiian Ecosystems at Risk project (HEAR) is high on the list. The HEAR information sharing system uses a set of rather ordinary computer technologies—a website, a series of databases, and the like.

From the start, HEAR’s purpose has been to standardize and expand the informal information-sharing network that has long existed among a small set of leading conservationists on the islands. The project was initially aimed at involving a broader range of conservation professionals in core invasive species work. However, HEAR has since expanded its scope—broadly and much more influential—cross-section of Hawaii’s decision makers.

For the Kauai Invasive Species Committee, the ability to post information regarding news, meetings, and mission, is enabled by the webmasters who oversee the HEAR website.

When coqui work-site notification was implemented for the Lawai eradication project, the KISC website was altered by webmasters Philip Thomas and Laurie Furumoto to accommodate this time-sensitive information.

Check out the website to view both recent and all past posted notices.

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**Invasive Cuban tree frogs threaten native wildlife**

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — North Florida residents accustomed to tiny tree frogs may feel jumpy—a giant Cuban species has colonized half the state and is moving north, a University of Florida expert says.

The Cuban tree frog may threaten its native counterparts, said Steve Johnson, an assistant professor with UF’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

The amphibians have already become a nuisance to homeowners and utilities workers.

“W’e don’t really know (how serious the issue is),” Johnson said. “They’re not going to attract the attention of citrus cancer or some other problem that has huge economic importance.”

But “huge” is a good word to describe the frog, which can be more than 6 inches long. Usually creamy white to light brown, they have large eyes and rough skin. Their skin is coated with a secretion that irritates mucus membranes; Johnson says people shouldn’t touch the animals bare-handed.

He’s more concerned about the frogs becoming established in natural areas. Early research suggests they may eliminate native tree frogs by competing with them for food and shelter or by simply devouring them. In one wooded area, Johnson set up PVC pipe “homes” to attract tree frogs for study. He found 130 Cuban tree frogs and no natives.

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**Informational Links**

Please visit the following sites for more info:

- [http://www.hear.org/articles/cip_summer2002v3n3_hear.pdf](http://www.hear.org/articles/cip_summer2002v3n3_hear.pdf)
- [http://www.hear.org/kisc/coqui_news/](http://www.hear.org/kisc/coqui_news/)