Work update at Lawai infestation site

Upcoming control work is scheduled to continue the week of December 31, 2007. Crews will be arriving in the afternoon and working until around 9:30 pm.

Field crew work is scheduled for January 2.

This past week, no work was conducted due to the Christmas holiday and crewmember vacations.

Work this coming week will involve monitoring the entire site, hand-capturing any calling frogs, and assessing the site for herbicide control and clearing with some spot-spraying.

Citric acid spraying will be conducted in any areas where frogs are calling and where hand-capturing is unsuccessful.

We are committed to continue monitoring and working this site until we can assertain that there are no calling frogs. We will then continue to monitor this site for up to 12 months to ensure that there are no maturing juvenile frogs in this infestation area.

We want to prevent a resurgence in this population as well as prevent any re-introductions to the site.

Early detection of coqui frogs island-wide will be our priority so that we can prevent this pest from establishing new populations elsewhere.

Please encourage friends and family to report any calling frogs to the PEST hotline so that we can quickly respond.

We wish everyone a Happy New Year and are grateful for those of you who continue to aid in raising awareness regarding coqui frogs as a threat to Kauai.

Help us to continue to keep Kauai coqui-free in this coming year.

Report coqui frogs! 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.

Happy New Year!
Noise-Induced Hearing Loss

Of the roughly 40 million Americans suffering from hearing loss, 10 million can be attributed to noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL). NIHL can be caused by a one-time exposure to loud sound as well as by repeated exposure to sounds at various loudness levels over an extended period of time. Damage happens to the microscopic hair cells found inside the cochlea. These cells respond to mechanical sound vibrations by sending an electrical signal to the auditory nerve. Different groups of hair cells are responsible for different frequencies (rate of vibrations).

The healthy human ear can hear frequencies ranging from 20 Hz to 20,000 Hz. Over time, the hair cell's hair-like stereocilia may get damaged or broken. If enough of them are damaged, hearing loss results. The high frequency area of the cochlea is often damaged by loud sound.

Sound pressure is measured in decibels (dB). Like a temperature scale, the decibel scale goes below zero. The average person can hear sounds down to about 0 dB, the level of rustling leaves. Some people with very good hearing can hear sounds down to -15 dB. If a sound reaches 85 dB or stronger, it can cause permanent damage to your hearing.

The amount of time you listen to a sound affects how much damage it will cause. The quieter the sound, the longer you can listen to it safely. If the sound is very quiet, it will not cause damage even if you listen to it for a very long time; however, exposure to some common sounds can cause permanent damage. With extended exposure, noises that reach a decibel level of 85 can cause permanent damage to the hair cells in the inner ear, leading to hearing loss. Many common sounds may be louder than you think.

A typical conversation occurs at 60 dB - not loud enough to cause damage. A bulldozer that is idling (note that this is idling, not actively bulldozing) is loud enough at 85 dB that it can cause permanent damage after only 1 work day (8 hours).

A coqui calls at 90-100 dB…


Review the year

A lot of progress has been made at the coqui infestation site this past year.

What exactly? Well, you can check out the progress online where every issue of Coqui News is posted.

At this site you can review progress of work at the site, learn more about coqui frogs, and read interesting articles about amphibians, and other related tid-bits.

We hope you enjoy the news to come and that we can soon announce eradication of coqui from the infestation site in Lawai!

http://www.HEAR.org/kisc/coqui_news/

Informational Links

Please visit the following sites for more info:
- http://www.hear.org/kisc/coqui_news/