



Coqui News

Online at www.hear.org/kisc/coqui_news

Kauai Invasive Species Committee

Work Notification
January 7-11

Work update at Lawai infestation site

Upcoming control work is scheduled to continue the week of January 7, 2008. Crews will be arriving in the afternoon and working until around 9:30 pm.

Field crew work is scheduled for January 7 and 8.

The holidays are over and work has resumed at the coqui infestation site in Lawai.

During the week of Christmas no work was conducted at the site so there is nothing to report.

This past week the crew went to the site to monitor for frogs and assess the site for upcoming work. Overall, it looked pretty clear with only minor twigs and branches fallen on the ground: nothing

blocking access roads.

The crew was able to clear some grassy weeds around the intake side of the reservoir in the lower valley.

When it became dark the crew only heard three frogs calling in the entire area (not including the frogs we have in the two habitats). It was quite cold and a bit breezy so this may be inhibiting frogs from calling.

Next week the crew will target spraying with citric acid in sections 5, 14, and just outside of 18 where frogs were heard.

Weather permitting, they will also apply lime as a ground drench to parts of section 2 and 3.

Overall, the project is progressing nicely through these winter



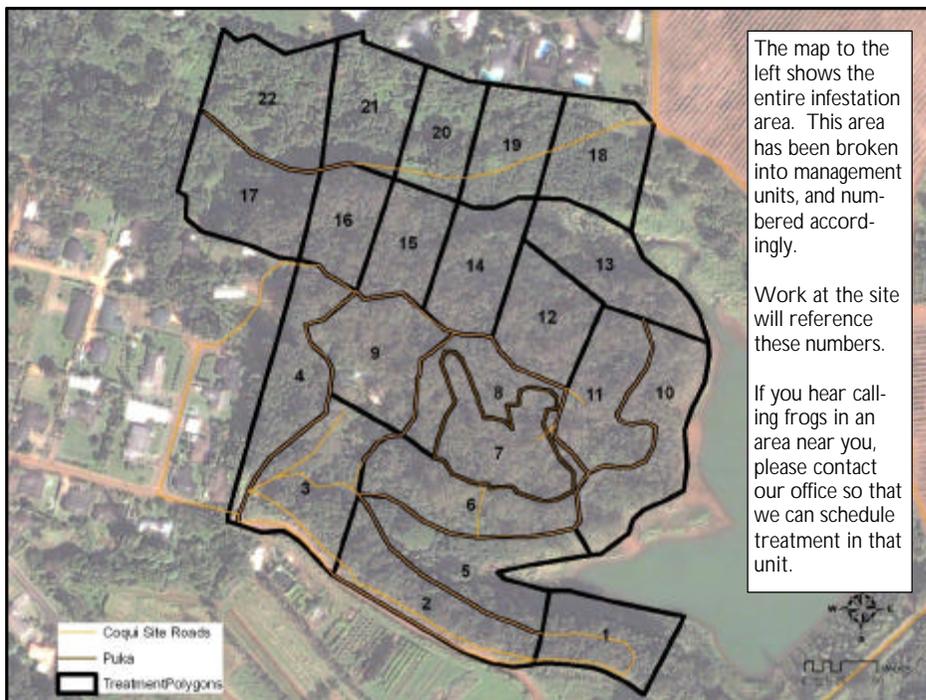
Our goal: A coqui-free Kauai

months and with continued work at the site, springtime will yield few remaining frogs.

Report coqui frogs!

643-PEST

Management Area Map



POSTED:

Friday, January 4, 2008

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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

A rare Chinese frog has entered the record books as the first amphibian known to communicate using ultrasound.

(*Amolops tormotus*)



Population Monitoring of Coqui Frogs

Coqui frog population densities in Lava Tree State Monument (Pahoa, HI) are the highest in the state of Hawai'i (>2,000 adults per acre) and are already more than twice the densities found in their native Puerto Rico.

On some nights, the frogs' chorus in the park reaches 70 decibels – about as loud as a vacuum cleaner. Decibel readings of frog calls were taken, but environmental factors seem to greatly affect frog-calling behavior; therefore, esti-

mating frog populations by the level of sound has not been well established and may require continued improvements in data collection methodology.

The T-STAR Hawai'i Coqui Frog Invasive Species Project recruited the expertise of Dr. Larry Woolbright, of Audubon International and Siena College in New York, to initiate a population monitoring study at Lava Tree State park and collect baseline ecological data.

Plots measuring 20 x 20 m were surveyed on four con-

secutive nights; frogs in the plots were counted and measured. It is through these studies that Dr. Woolbright determined that Hawaii has much denser populations of coqui frogs compared to Puerto Rico.

See this article online at <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/coqui/population.asp>



Coqui frog being measured at Lava Tree State Monument -

Photo by S.Chun

1st International Conference on Coqui Frogs

On February 7, 2008 scientists and people working in conservation all over the globe will convene in Hilo for the First International Conference on Coqui Frogs.

This conference is intended to provide an opportunity for an informational exchange on the coqui frog and other invasive amphibians via oral and poster presentations, invited speakers, and panel discussion for researchers, wildlife, landscape, natural resource, and prop-

erty management professionals and homeowners concerned with managing the coqui frog in Hawai'i.

Topics to be discussed relating to amphibians:

- Ecology
- Physiology
- Genetics
- Population dynamics
- Habitat

as well as other information gaps applicable to understanding coqui frogs in order to minimize their spread in Hawai'i.

Guest speakers have been invited from Australia, Puerto Rico, New York and Florida.

The conference venue is at the Naniloa Volcanoes Resort and the conference itself is to take place over three days.

For more information see <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/coqui/conf08.asp>

Coqui Frog Control for Homeowners

Methods To Stop the Spread of Coqui Frogs in Hawai'i

A brochure for homeowners is available online at http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/fr_eepubs/pdf/MP-5.pdf



Picture of coqui on someone's golf bag on Big Island.

Informational Links

Please visit the following sites for more info:

- Work Notification Policy: <http://www.hear.org/kisc/pdfs/200704coquiworknotificationpolicy.pdf>
- <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/coqui/population.asp>
- <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/coqui/conf08.asp>