

**MAUI INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE
MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2000
9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON**

ATTENDANCE: Steve Anderson, Jeremy Gooding, Pat Bily, Melissa Dumaran, Christy Martin, Paul Higashino, Randy Bartlett, Fred Kraus, Philip Thomas, Sharon Souza, Bob Hobdy, Forest Starr, Kim Martz, Hans Schopen, John Kunna, Mark White, Les Matsuura, Hank Oppenheimer, Mike Richardson, Alison Loomis, Fern Duvall, Lance Tanino, Elizabeth Anderson

- Call to Order by Randy Bartlett; MPC/Chair at 9:15 am

NEW BUSINESS

BUDGET/FUNDING REPORTS

Coordinator's Status Report (Jack Peterson, MISC)

- Jack passed around a summary budget status report outlining award amounts received to date and expected upcoming sources. He also reviewed MISC's expenditure summary for the last year. We spent less than expected in several categories. The parrot money was absorbed within our RCUH account and is not accounted for in current expenditures. We spend roughly \$33,000 a month on salaries and operational expenses. We currently have about 4-5 months funding left.
- Our 4th quarter DLNR payment (\$47,000) hasn't arrived yet. RCUH is working on securing the last installment. They've also taken \$30,000 from this year's DLNR funding and are applying it to last year's NFWF to make the match. There is a possibility that the 4th quarter \$47,000 may be lost due to fiscal tracking problems in DLNR. RCUH will continue to follow up. Our current NFWF funding will be finished by December. Our extension was until Dec. 31, 2000.
- Mark raised the concern that by starting to use this year's money we may guarantee we don't get the last quarter of last year
- It looks very likely that we will get \$30,000 from the Hawaii Community Foundation this next year. This still leaves us about \$62,000 short for the upcoming year with what we think/know we have coming in. Additional NFWF money is important in seeing us through.

NFWF 2001 Proposal

- We are hoping to work something out through Tri-Isle RC&D for the 2001 NFWF request. Tri-Isle doesn't have enough administrative staff to support us and they don't want to deal with employees because of liability, etc. We are looking at having any NFWF funding we get transferred to RCUH from Tri-Isle so that PCSU can deal with preparing the reports and sending them to Tri-Isle to document the match. All Tri-Isle will need to do is put the report on letterhead and send it out. NFWF is not willing to deal directly with the University again this year. The problems have not been with the PCSU office, but with the UH Fiscal Office. This plan will circumvent that problem.

- Since Tri-Isle has concern about personnel costs, we will need to consider other items to fund through NFWF this year. Using the funding for helicopter time may be a good idea. There are a number of restrictions with NFWF if you use the money for items other than salaries. Salaries are the simplest thing to document --- that is why we did it that way last year.
- Last year we offered a 1:2 match because it is more competitive, but this is more difficult for accounting and documentation of the match. A 1:1 match is simpler to administer. It was decided that we would ask for \$100,000 (half of what we received last year) at a 1:1 match. Fred reminded us that the entire DLNR \$130,000 can't be used as the match because some is already matched elsewhere. Only approximately \$100,000 may be available as matching for this year.
- Sharon added that she needs a copy of the contract from last year to show the RC&D Board. Timing may be an issue because the Board doesn't meet again until Dec and the proposal is due next week. She reemphasized that Tri-Isle doesn't want to deal with any personnel. RC&D Board members are reluctant to work with PCSU due to fiscal reports being late to the Office of Economic Development, County of Maui, in 1997 when their grant was being managed by PCSU. Tri-Isle is going through a federal audit this year. There will be a meeting at 9am on Monday at the RC&D Office to discuss the details of the proposal.
- All the participating organizations should send in supporting letters as soon as possible. The letters should go to Jack. To be included in proposal support letters need to be received by Thursday next week.
- The NFWF funds are only for plants as are the DLNR and FS funds. The FWS money is targeted at public relations and education. This leaves us with no vertebrate money for next year.
- We need to discuss getting 501(c)3 status in the future to simplify some of these issues. We could actually start receiving money as soon as we start calling ourselves a non-profit. We could hire an attorney to set up a non-profit for us.
- Mark added that as long as we are dependent on soft money these fundraising issues will continue to come up every year. We need to reconsider hiring a grant writer in the future so we don't have this scramble every year. It comes down to an issue of sustainability. We should be working this into the budget. Fred added that since we will be hiring a part-time CGAPS person soon, the ISCs could kick in funding to make the person full-time and have them do the grant support (maybe \$10,000 from each ISC). A subcommittee was established to iron out this issue (Mark, Randy, Jack, Christy, and someone from CGAPS).

Hana Crew Budget Status Report (Sharon Souza, RC&D)

- We have \$150,000 left in the budget. This will keep the crew going through next summer. We haven't gotten much support from the Office of Economic Development and won't be looking for funding from them next year. We are thinking of approaching the Water Department again this year.

- There have been no injuries in the last 6 months. We are putting a strong focus on safety. If we have more than 5 injuries, OSHA will come in.
- Les mentioned that the University might be going thru a HAZMAT audit this fall, and we need to make sure our pesticide storage is in order.

PR/EDUCATION STATUS REPORT (Christy Martin, MISC)

Hula Bowl

- We will have a full-page ad in the game program about invasive species. The ad is also being turned into a poster to take to schools for outreach programs. Thanks to everyone who helped with text and pictures for the poster!
- Christy showed the first draft of the 30-second PSA to the group. The Visitors Bureau was concerned that we wanted to really show problems in Hawaii. People aren't going to fully digest the material during a commercial break in the game and they were concerned that we would portray bad images, which could hurt tourism if people didn't understand fully.
- Comments on the draft PSA: When the speaker was saying non-native plants and animals, they were showing a nene. Can the timing be changed so they don't flash simultaneously? Should we show miconia since it wouldn't be as offensive to visitors? Maybe we could replace the nene shot with smothered vegetation (banana poka). Smothered vegetation would be clearer than miconia. We could add a circle with slash over the image to make the point clear.
- The HEAR web site is listed at end of the PSA. The site will be updated to show things people can do before the PSA airs.
- We have three more spots to fill during the in-game show. We hope to do one on frogs and maybe use one of the old Miconia PSAs. These will be good for the local audience.

Other Public Relations Items

- Christy is regularly submitting articles to the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals. There were recent articles on pampas grass and frogs ("The Not So Silent Invasion").
- The Discovery Channel filmed the MISC crew recently. Topics included miconia, pampas grass, and frogs. Art did the voice over for most of the show. We will get 10-15 minutes on the Discovery Channel in March. They did helicopter and rappelling footage and may do some more footage in the office in November. They came to us --- we didn't pay them.
- Christy is doing school outreach. She will be teaming up with Kepa from TNC for a few slide shows in November. YES is not involved right now as they don't have funding.

MacArthur and Packard ISC Proposals

- Nothing to report. We need to look for new agencies to target. We haven't heard back from Packard yet. Are there a couple others we should send the proposal out to? Mark will check on what others would be appropriate.

CGAPS STATUS REPORT

- The Chairmanship of CGAPS has switched to Duane Nelson who is also the BIISC chair.
- There was recently a meeting of the ISCs and CGAPS to see how we can better coordinate funding requests. It was agreed that for the purposes of FWS funding we would put together a package for all the ISCs. The most we can get is about \$50,000 per ISC per year from FWS. We can shuffle this depending on where the greatest need is each year. This next year BIISC doesn't have anything. A consolidated request is probably also a good way to deal with NFWF funds in future. We don't want to appear to be competing with each other.
- CGAPS will be picking up more of the coordinating role. The coordinator should be able to help with the funding especially if the ISCs come in with some support money.

KIRC INTRODUCTION/STATUS REPORT (Paul Higashino, KIRC)

- What can the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission give/gain from MISC? KIRC is responsible for alien plant control, replanting, restoration, erosion control via plants, managing special ecological areas --- small areas of natives.
- There is potential for rich bird populations on the island. The native Hawaiian bat has been seen and there are large pili grasslands on north coast. They are also mapping populations of ma'o and *Manduca blackburni*/tree tobacco. Some areas remain unexplored because of unexploded ordnance.
- The Navy in conjunction with civilian contractors is removing unexploded ordnance from the island by splitting the area into 100m grids. Before going through the grids for ordnance, biologists survey the grids looking for native/rare species and weeds. They found fountain grass in 1996 and controlled it in April 1997. The area is revisited each year and decreasing amounts have been found. It is likely that fountain grass got to Kahoolawe via the military. Fountain grass could easily take over the whole island in 10 years if left unchecked.
- Other aliens of concern include: *Glycine wightii*, an *Aragrostis*, Cenchrus, koa haole, and ironwood.
- In an effort to prevent additional alien species from becoming established one employee, Lance Tanino, helps with boot checks on incoming workers, gravel and equipment inspections, and inspections of barges and vehicles to make sure they are cleaned and scrubbed. Nothing is 100% effective, but they want to reduce the amount that comes in as much as possible.
- Animal problems include feral cats, mice, and a few rats. There are no rats in the Honokanaia area where there are a lot of native plants. There are an estimated 100-250 cats on the island. They attack petrels --- about 90 or so were predated last year. Every few years there is a mouse explosion --- 1,500 mice were caught in one month using sticky traps.

- Restoration efforts have included planting 28,000 plants since 1999. Success is less than 10%, mostly due to quality control issues. Average survival 35-40%. Plants are checked for pests at the heliport before transport to Kahoolawe. They will be putting in a water catchment system starting in March. One of the most successful plantings has been a chenopodium. Fire is a big issue and they are looking at what can be planted to reduce the risk. There is a very limited seed source of natives on the island. They are working with NRCS on Molokai for seed sources
- They will be beginning an invertebrate contract this coming year. The insect fauna is expected to be rich because bio-controls didn't make it over there.
- Paul has only one employee. Most of the work is done with volunteers. He is looking to get more people with practical solutions out there to help.
- We will add fountain grass control on Kahoolawe to the MISC NFWF proposal. This will allow us to continue qualifying for Legacy funding since fountain grass on Kahoolawe was probably introduced by the military. We could help with surveys.

OLD BUSINESS:

See the attached Activity Summary for an overview of the MISC crew's schedule since the last meeting.

PLANT UPDATES

Miconia Hana Crew (Bob Hobdy; DOFAW)

- We have completed five aerial missions covering 237 acres. Our next aerial spray operation is scheduled for Nov 2. We are scheduled to release fungus again next month.
- The crew is still working full speed and we've had good weather up until this week. We are focusing on upper elevation outliers and aerial work. Most of the spraying is being done in the periphery with the core left for the crew. The Hana crew now has a truck!

Miconia Peripheral Populations (Jack Peterson, MISC)

- The MISC crew spent 17 days on Miconia since the last meeting and conducted 4 spray operations.
- We have been doing a lot of miconia survey work around the Hana core to establish where the boundary is. On our maps the core is spreading and we are establishing where the periphery is. We are really concerned about the periphery and boundary. Whenever possible we are spraying as we go when surveying to be most effective. Things seem to be pretty clean further down south.

Pampas Grass

- The crew spent 8 days on pampas grass since the last meeting. We are worried about the East Maui Watershed and higher elevation on East Maui. The weather has been an issue. We were able to spray all the West Maui pampas grass locations.

- In Honomanu our objective to spray the infestation was accomplished. Previous surveys had been done when it wasn't seeding and as a result we thought the area was cleaner than it was. We also did an aerial reconnaissance over the pali and didn't find any pampas. We don't think it has spread too much further to the East.
- We've been getting good cooperation from EMI --- fast approvals and they have cleared us for aerial spraying.
- We've also done several front-country flights. We found 5 plants in two gulches and then another one up higher on Henry Rice's property.

Fountain Grass

- The crew went back to Kahului and the sand dunes and did sweeps. They didn't find anything. We will expand the sweeps --- need to go back and keep looking. The only known Fountain grass on Maui is on Kahakuloa.

Ivy Gourd

- We have spent four days on ivy gourd since last meeting. We found a new plant in Kahului and were able to treat it that day. We need to revisit the Ritz soon.

Arundo

- There have been eight days of work on Arundo since last meeting. We took down 1050 stalks and sprayed. We also found some new sites in Kula where we still need landowner approval.

LOOSE ENDS FROM SEPTEMBER MISC WORKSHOP

- At end of the workshop we ran out of time and didn't get to some of the objectives. We need to move banana polka, fire tree, and tetrastigma to survey and monitor, but don't control. For the nursery program we are going to focus on education, but we aren't going to provide certification.

VERTEBRATE UPDATES (Fern Duvall and Fred Kraus; DOFAW)

Caribbean Frogs

- Jack indicated that MISC has shifted its focus to education in dealing with frogs. The calls have slacked off a little. Philip and Christy did a presentation at the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals meeting. Frogs will be a real focus on the Discovery Channel program. We are working on putting together a legislative action list and information that will help people control frogs themselves. We have a tape loop for use in the field.
- Fred reminded the group that we need to voucher the frogs. Please make sure full information is included with any specimens.
- Fern added that he is fielding a lot of calls from people wanting information. There is a new location at Makena Surf --- the security guard there is dealing with them.

- Caffeine field trials will start in two weeks on the Big Island. We are not sure when they will start on Maui.
- Philip asked about the Kihei nursery person who asked for assistance with frogs on his property. We need to make sure they don't go through a life cycle. We don't want to give them a month or so to reproduce. A quick response for a new locality is very important otherwise will have to deal with the problem repeatedly.

Parrot-Type Birds

- We have new information that there are 6-8 cockatoos somewhere out near Koki Beach in the Hana area. We need to confirm the sightings.
- We will pick Anne and Renate up to continue their parrot work as soon as Renate is back in the country. They will finish out the 10 weeks left on their temporary appointments.

Saffron Finch

- The zoo will only be interested in one time accession so we need to capture all the birds. We need to do a formal survey --- Fern needs assistance to do the survey.

GORILLA FOUNDATION PLANT LIST STATUS (Philip Thomas; HEAR)

- Philip sent off the list and hasn't received a response yet.

Next Meeting Date/Time: Friday, 12/08/00, 9am-12noon

M.I.S.C. Activity Schedule
Aug. 11 – Oct. 27 2000

- 8/11: MISC Meeting

- 8/14: Ivy Gourd, Lahaina and Kapalua Revisit
- 8/15: Ivy Gourd, Pua Mana,
Nelson Sakamoto at M.I.S.C.
- 8/16: Pampas, Keokea
Hawaii Landscapers Council Mtng., Hono., Christy
- 8/17: Hawaii Conservation Conference
- 8/18: Hawaii Conservation Conference

- 8/21: Admissions Day Holiday
- 8/22: Miconia, Wailua, Keanae, Outliers none found
- 8/23: Miconia, Wailua, Keanae, Outliers none found
- 8/24: Miconia, Wailua, Keanae, Outliers none found
- 8/25: Office Data and Decontamination
Hula Bowl Filming Meeting, Robin Berg

- 8/28: Miconia, w/Darryl, Keanae
Hula Bowl Meeting
- 8/29: Miconia, Keanae, Outlier, 11 plants, 1 Flower , 1 Seeding
- 8/30: Miconia, Keanae, Outliers, none found
- 8/31: Miconia, Keanae, Outliers none found
- 9/1: Ivy Gourd, Honokahua, Frog Flyers, Kapalua, Lahaina
Heli-Ops, Pampas Recon, Kahakuloa, appr. 18 plants found

- 9/4: Labor Day Holiday
- 9/5: Miconia, Moo Moo Nui w/Hana Crew, Spray Sweeps
Heli-Ops Spray, Cancelled
- 9/6: Miconia, Moo Moo Nui-Rainout, Hana Core w/Hana Crew, Spray Sweeps
Hawaii Landscapers Council Mtng., Christy
- 9/7: Miconia, Rainout, Office, Maint., Decon.
- 9/8: Heli-Ops Spray, Cancelled, Drive-by Surveys, Errands

- 9/11: Office, Apchul Training w/Aaron and Phil
- 9/12: Arundo, Stable Rd., Office, Maint., Errands
- 9/13: Pampas, Kula, Keokea
- 9/14: Pampas, Kula, Keokea
- 9/15: M.I.S.C. Workshop

- 9/18: Pampas, Waikamoi, Kula Wildland, Keokea
- 9/19: Pampas, Keokea, Transport
Heli-ops, Pampas, Hale Ranch, Kula. Keokea
- 9/20: Pampas, Olinda Spray, Surveys, Decon.
Heli-ops, Pampas, Hale Ranch, Miconia, Mauka Hana Core
- 9/21: Arundo, Stable Rd., Pampas, Shibuya
- 9/22: Arundo, Stable Rd., Pampas, Keokea, Bronco fix

- 9/25: Arundo, Beach Rd., Pampas, Outlier scouting Poli Poli
- 9/26: Pampas, Keokea Transport
- 9/27: Pampas, Keokea Transport
Data, Training Apchul/GPS w/Aaron, Jack, Hans
- 9/28: Miconia, Hana Ranch Outlier Scouting
- 9/29: Heli-Ops, Pampas Spray, Kahakuloa 18 Plants
Heli-Ops, Miconia Spray, Mauka Hana Core

- 10/2: Arundo, Beach Rd., GPS Arundo and Ivy Gourd in Kihei, Decon.
- 10/3: Miconia, Mauka Hana Core Scouting
Heli-ops, Pampas Spray Honomanu, appr. 60 Plants
- 10/4: Rappelling Class w/Greg Moss
- 10/5: Rappelling Class w/Greg Moss
Heli-Ops Spray Cancelled
- 10/6: Miconia, Kuwaipapa Scouting

- 10/9: Arundo Spray, Stable Rd., Decon.
- 10/10: Arundo Cut, Beach Rd., Planning for Discovery Ch.
- 10/11: Discovery Filming, Pampas, Hale Ranch
- 10/12: Discovery Filming, Miconia, Hana Ranch, Kuwaipapa
P.M. Frog Filming, Howard's Nursery
- 10/13: Basic Heli. Safety Refresher

- 10/16: Day Off Comp.
- 10/17: Arundo Spray, Beach Rd., Decon.
- 10/18: Miconia, Moo Moo Nui Spray Sweeps
- 10/19: Miconia, West Keanae Wall Scouting, none found
- 10/20: Heli-ops, Pampas Spray, Honomanu, appr. 150 Plants

- 10/23: Fountain Grass, Maui Lani Core, none found
Data and Decon., NFWF
- 10/24: Ivy Gourd, Kahului, 1 plant sterile, Errands, Data, NFWF
- 10/25: Miconia, Moo Moo Nui Spray Sweeps
Office, NFWF
- 10/26: Miconia, Moo Moo Nui Spray Sweeps
Office, NFWF
- 10/27: M.I.S.C. Meeting
Pampas, Poli Poli Outliers