

**MAUI INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE
MEETING
FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2003
9:00 AM - 12:30 NOON**

ATTENDANCE: Erik Barnard, Mach Fukada, Mele Fong, Randy Bartlett, Christy Martin, Pat Bily, Teya Penniman, Mike Walker, Sharon Souza, Forest Starr, Kim Starr, Alex Michailidis, Kat Lui, Lloyd Loope, Eliza Woo, Beth Speith, Elizabeth Anderson

- The meeting was called to order by Randy Bartlett at 9:05 AM
- The minutes from the May 16, 2003 meeting were approved. They will be posted on the HEAR website.
- Pat introduced Eliza Woo who is hoping to study the role of frugivores in spreading weed seeds. She is exploring a number of possibilities and looking for ideas and suggestions. Alex introduced Kat Lui who is the new East Maui Watershed Partnership Public Relations and Administration person. Kat previously worked on the Maui Forest Bird Project.
- We are trying a new strategy for dealing with action items this meeting. The items have been incorporated into the agenda under the appropriate heading (*in italics*) rather than covering them all at the beginning of the meeting. We are experimenting and are open to suggestions.

MAYOR'S AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: PREVENTION (Lloyd Loope, USGS-BRD)

- After the MISC meeting today, Teya and Lloyd are going to meet with the Mayor's Agriculture Committee and give a presentation regarding collaboration between conservation and agriculture. The Mayor regularly attends this committee's meetings.

MISC WORKSHOP

- The annual MISC priority setting workshop is scheduled for 7/25/03 from 9am-3pm. The workshop will take most of the day. This is not a regular meeting. We will be re-evaluating priorities. Everyone should come prepared with thoughts about target species and justifications. We will send out a reminder ahead of time.

BUDGET/FUNDING/REPORTS STATUS

MISC/MoMISC Funding Updates (Teya Penniman)

- *Ask BIISC and OISC for \$5,000 each to support MoMISC (Teya)* - Item deleted due to reallocation.
- *Allocate \$22,000 from MISC's Budget to MoMISC* - Item deleted due to reallocation.
- Teya: at our last meeting we focused on miconia and an overall budget review. We knew at the time that the federal funding (FS and FWS) was set, but the state allocation was not yet set. Since that meeting there have been more adjustments to the state allocation. At a statewide level, it was agreed to treat MoMISC as a separate line item, with the understanding that MoMISC would remain part of MISC for account tracking. Because of decreased funding, the amount allocated for each ISC was decreased by \$26,000. The way that played out for MISC/MoMISC was that MISC funding was decreased by \$76,000 and MoMISC was increased by \$50,000. MoMISC also will be receiving \$10,000 in federal funds from the statewide "pool" so MoMISC would receive a total of \$60,000. We have two options 1) we can accept the proposed allocation of state funding, or 2) we can ask to review the allocation process and request a different amount. What does this mean in terms of the MISC budget? We certainly will not purchase an additional vehicle. Based on the budget we prepared for matching funds for our Forest Service funding, with a decrease of \$76,000, we would be short at least \$20,000 for this fiscal year. This is not as dire as it sounds because we do have some carryover funds.

- Teya: as a separate issue we need to evaluate at a statewide level how we allocate funding among the ISCs. Originally, funds were allocated on a county-wide basis. The decision to break MoMISC out and reallocate funding was made without direct input from MISC or MoMISC, which made the discussion we had at the previous MISC meeting somewhat irrelevant. There are a lot of different rationales that could be used for allocating funding. The proposed allocation would bring MoMISC up to its requested budget. The Molokai budget is tiny compared to others. If they continue to grow, we will need to address how MISC will continue to absorb the increased administrative responsibilities. That is a discussion we need to have with Tina in the future.
- Randy: the other question is one of home rule. Can MISC and MoMISC get together and decide where the funding goes in Maui County or is someone on Oahu deciding where the money goes within our County?
Teya: what we need to decide today is if we are OK with the new allocation. Mach: what kind of handle do we have on the problems on Molokai? Pat: part of why they need funding is to get a handle on the magnitude of the problems. We need to see what is on the market there, look at nurseries, go to the hotels, etc. The one coqui that was caught over there points towards the potential. A lot of the priority weeds probably haven't gotten to Molokai yet, but we don't really know. We need to sit down with Tina and reassess what can be done with a limited budget. Randy: if we can get them two people full-time, that would be really good. Pat: what isn't apparent in the budget is the TNC in-kind contribution of office support, supplies, etc. Randy: we need to make sure we reflect that in-kind funding. Alex: if TNC support is being considered as an in-kind contribution, we need to know where the funds are coming from so we don't use them to match something else. Randy: we will move ahead for now and we will explore allocation issues in the future.

County Funding Update

- The state FY03 Department of Water Supply funding finally came online as of June 1.

Federal Funding Update

- *Prepare a proposal for NPS Challenge Cost-Share Initiative (CCI) (Steve) – DONE.* The park was awarded \$356,500 in CCI funds. The CCI and federal FY03 NRPP funds are both pending at PCSU. \$100,000 of the FY03 NRPP funds were deferred to federal FY04.
- Lloyd: there was some movement to try to stop the park from using the CCI funds outside of park boundaries. The new Regional Director, John Jarvis, came out to investigate. There is draft legislation being put forward for just the Pacific Region to allow funds to be used outside the park. It shouldn't be too controversial. This money will help support the EPMT and Hana crews.

PR/EDUCATION STATUS REPORT (Mele Fong)

- *Review final PSA text for A&B radio spot (Lloyd) – DONE*
- *Malama i ka Aina Award*
 - o *Complete development of the award program for landscape professionals (Mele) – In process.*
 - o *Put together a list of 10 example of "plants of concern" to include with the award (Mele) – In process.*
Mele: we are still developing the award. I've compiled the responses for the plant list and tried to make some sense of them. I looked at what the Dept. of Water Supply has done for describing plants and am using a similar classification system to clump things (bush, vine, tree, etc.). As soon as I get the information into a flyer, I will be ready to go back out to the MALP meeting.
 - o *Get County endorsement of the award - DONE*
- A summary of PR activities since the last meeting was passed out. Mele: I am getting more involved in radio and have been on Uncle Charlie's show and on Talk Radio. Both are interested in having me come on a regular basis. These may be good ongoing opportunities. I want to bring everyone's attention to the items on the board behind me. I am trying to post all new media here.

- Sam asked if I could do a flyer for hunters on stopping the spread of miconia. Sam had a pig-hunting contest and it was a good opportunity to reach a specific group. I also revamped the miconia control story for the Mayor's miconia over-flight on Friday, June 20.
- I would like to ask for the committee's advice on dealing with calls regarding non-target species. I received a call from a lady who said she saw a garlic tree that looks like a tropical ash and is spreading rapidly. She wanted our help. The tree is on a neighbor's property. She is a biologist. What do I say to people who have concerns about species that are not MISC targets? Mach: we get a lot of similar calls (i.e. the Fish Shack is selling mangrove, people with pasture weeds seeding onto adjacent property, etc.). It is hard because these are not state-listed weeds. We encourage them to talk with the neighbor, but we can't do much. Kim: it is always good for us to check-out these reports. It could be something new. Lloyd: yes, send an email to Forest and Kim and to me when you get this sort of call. Forest: we are willing to follow-up. Mach: this is how we found the *Piper*. It is worthwhile. Randy: if the report is from the west side, Hank could look and sometimes maybe Pat could check-out these kinds of reports also. It would be best to notify several people. You should have a short list of people who can identify weeds. Include Mach too. Use the local experts. Pat: when you tell people something is not a target, what is the reaction? Mele: I tell them we will look into it, but we have limited resources. Randy: if people are calling we definitely need to follow-up. It could be something new. It is good people are recognizing the issue.
- Lloyd: I've been getting a lot of very positive feedback about the PR MISC is doing.
- Teya: what would it take to update the State noxious weed list? It seems like this would be a very worthwhile thing to do. Mach: it just doesn't seem to go anywhere. Christy: we still have a list of species we would like to propose and we really need to keep pushing. Lloyd: don't get discouraged. We have made so much progress. Mach is coming to the meetings now so we at least have an HDOA person who cares! Mach: in order to have the plants added they will need to convene a committee of specialists on each island. Lloyd: just imagine if we can get Arakawa to be supportive. I think he will be and we are well positioned to make progress. Mach: once upon a time, before it became a big issue, I pushed the Department to look at *Salvinia molesta*. I was told that we don't have the expertise and if we add it to the list, we will have to do something about it. Forest: the Hawaii noxious weed list hasn't been updated in a decade. In Australia, they can update in a day. On the mainland there is a push to get people out looking in the field for weeds. We have a good model here already.
- Lloyd: in New Zealand when they were dealing with zebra mussels, they were able to change the law within three days to allow them to do what they needed to do. Mach: along those lines, *Coccinia grandis* was added to the list because of political pressure. There was information leaked to the legislature. Teya: this seems like a statewide issue. How do we best do this? Randy: we need to add the topic to the All-ISCs agenda. Christy: it is a topic for the next ISCs meeting. Teya: the process for getting things on the list should maybe be streamlined. The HISC Council does have the authority to create a list of plants that will allow DLNR to go onto properties if permission cannot be obtained. Teya: CGAPS and the ISCs should be working to prepare lists of species we want on the HISC list. Randy: this will put pressure on HDOA to update their list. Mach: HDOA is losing the corn seed certification program. In theory, this should free up additional time for invasive species work.
- Lloyd's New Zealand talk is on the HEAR website if anyone is interested in seeing it. It was very well received. Thanks to Forest, Kim, and Mach for their help.

MOMISC UPDATE (Tina Lau; TNCH-Molokai)

- *Look into putting a MoMISC proposal together for NFWF funding, due Nov 6 (Tina, Teya, Eliz)* – Proposals are due ~Nov. 6. We are looking at the RFP for NFWF and we will help Tina pull a proposal together.
- Tina wasn't able to make it over today for the meeting, but she sent the following notes:

- MoMISC had a news article printed in the June issue of the TNC NewsFlash. Tina and Lori attended the Molokai Earth Day celebration with a display on alternatives to releasing pets into the wild. They highlighted veiled chameleons and parrot-like birds. Lori, Tina, and the Pookela intern gave a 1.5 hour workshop to 25 state and county workers on invasive species problems and MoMISC target species that may potentially grow in lowland areas where they work. They included a prevention message on miconia.
- A one day survey of the Kamiloloa gorse population was completed. A cat's claw aerial spray operation was conducted on 4/17/03 by Eric Pacheco (Windward Aviation) using 2.5% Garlon 4 with 1% Forest Crop Oil. Roughly 3,750 square meters (0.93 acres) of the core population east of Kalae highway was sprayed. Initial assessment one month following herbicide application indicates that the treatment is effective. The majority of the leaves are brown, but the cambium scrape is still green. MoMISC will be discussing the direction to be taken on cat's claw at the upcoming meeting. There was also one day of cat's claw control work done at the Kalamaula population.
- Three days of arundo control work were completed and three days of control/scouting for New Zealand flax. Two new Barbados gooseberry populations were found in Halawa Valley down stream from the largest population. All populations were treated during three days of control work.
- MoMISC investigated public reports of cat's claw and miconia that proved to be incorrect identifications. Australian tree ferns were removed from the shelf in the Kaunakakai store per our request. A red-eared slider turtle was captured in Kaunakakai. A tibouchina sample was brought into TNC from Halawa Valley. The sample needs to be verified by Bishop Museum and then we will revisit the site to survey.
- The next MoMISC meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2003 from 10am to 11:30am at the Plant Materials Center.
- Lori will begin working full-time on July 1. Christy: the next MoMISC meeting conflicts with the next CGAPS meeting.

LAMISC UPDATE

- *See if the Watershed Coordinator on Lanai (Darryl Stokes) can assist with fountain grass (Randy)* – In progress. Randy: I've tried to contact Darryl Stokes on Lanai to see what is going on there. TNC is no longer on Lanai so we no longer have Brian Valley to move LaMISC forward. There is no allocation of funding for Lanai although there could be in the future. Pat: I have one suggestion for Lanai. The Maui TNC office will be assuming some role on Lanai and I will be making trips over there occasionally. Maybe when I go, I could take a couple of MISC folks with me and we could do some fountain grass mapping. If they see we are making an effort, Lanai Company may help out. Sharon: I know for a fact that Darryl is actively working on the deer.

FACILITIES

- We are still here at NifTAL for a couple more months. The two yurts are up, but there is no deck connecting them yet. You have to climb a ladder to open and close the windows. We have the materials for the deck. Alex has Sky Fiber for his Internet service now and is happy with it so our Internet service issue is resolvable.

FIELD WORK: PLANT CONTROL UPDATES

- *Look into purchasing two "XM" GPS Units (Mike W)* – In process. Mike: I have some quotes for purchasing new map capable GPS units I am looking into options and distributors. For a bare bones unit with and educator discount it will probably cost ~\$2,500.

Miconia

- Jeremy was unable to make today's meeting so most of the ongoing miconia action items were deferred until next meeting.
- Mike W.: since April we have covered 15,121 acres from the air and controlled 2,718 plants of which 74 were seeding. There has not been a lot of ground activity by MISC. We covered 12.5 acres in Nahiku and controlled 5,287 plants of which 20 were flowering (174 man-hours).
- Teya: Jeremy and I did a miconia over-flight in the core area with the Mayor, his wife, and Rob Parsons on June 20. He got a good sense of the scope of the problem. We touched down and walked around a little and also talked about decontamination. He was very supportive. He asked for an estimate of what would it cost to really do the job --- not just in terms of the resources we have, but what would it really cost. Developing a cost estimate will be a real challenge and we need to come up with a justifiable figure. Lloyd: my instinct is that this is a risky way to go. It is dangerous to advocate tossing millions of dollars at miconia. There are other problems out there. We need to keep it contained. In the long run bio-control is the only way we are going to win. To tell the Mayor that with a certain amount of funding we will eradicate miconia is dangerous. We really don't know for sure what the seed longevity is. There is no question that we need a sustained effort. Forest: if you look at the literature there is little hope of eradication for plants that have spread to over 10 acres. Teya: the point was made that what we need to look at is containment and maintenance. The chance that we will get two million dollars a year is obviously slim. Randy: this is a generational effort. We aren't just going to get rid of it. Steve: We have previously prepared a cost estimate and can provide that analysis.
- *Attend Koolau hunter volunteer group meetings and talk to them about miconia (Mele) – Pending.*
- *See if the Hunter Education program (Alex has contact information) is willing to include information on miconia in the course (Mele) – Pending.* Pat: in the past I offered to speak during the Hunter Education classes. They do have a section where they talk about conservation and weeds. You just need to get through the bureaucracy.
- Teya: we did submit a hunter education proposal to FWS for funding. The proposal focused on educating hunters on miconia decontamination protocols and actually using them to help with some control and to be our eyes in the forest. The proposal was pulled together at Alex's recommendation as a result of conversations with Benton Pang. Lloyd: do we get many reports from hunters? Pat: a few from Keanae. Lloyd: the education idea is great, but I don't know about the herbicide. Pat: teaching them to clean their gear is really important if they are hunting in various locations. Lloyd: you can make a good case to hunters that miconia is bad news for them. Mele: I made a miconia flyer for Sam's hunter group. Lloyd: I have a problem with telling them not to pull the plant if they see a seedling. We will never be able to find a remote location like that again. Pat: we did have a hunter who pulled for about two years, but he didn't tell us for a long time. Forest: you should include other weeds in addition to miconia. There are other weeds where cleaning protocol would help prevent spread. Pat: you are dealing with an audience where your message will be diluted if you present multiple species. Alex: I know the MISC proposal wasn't funded. There are other FWS funding sources that would be similar. I'm looking at options and we could go in together on something. I meet with the Koolau hunter group every couple of months and I have done some basic miconia training with them. The opportunity is there.
- *Get together with Sierra Club to set up another miconia service trip (Teya to contact Lucienne) – They are interested.* The next trip will probably be sometime in the late fall. Forest: we can house volunteers at Puunene if you want to use groups from off-island.
- *Compile a list of East Maui residents who have concerns re: aerial spraying and contact them (Jeremy)*
- *Switch the Hana operation over to using a thin-line basal application technique (Jeremy)*

- *Try using water soluble packets of blue dye to make a super concentrate for heli-spray operations (Jeremy)*
- *Assist Pat with landowner access for outlying populations in the west, talk to Bob Yonahara (Mele) – Pending.*
- *Check with Kipahulu Unit Manager to see if the park staff can help w/ miconia public relations (Jeremy)*
- *Contact Fern regarding addressing endangered birds in the miconia EA (Jeremy)*
- *Clean up the methods section of the EA (Jeremy)*
- *Clarify non-NPS organization roles in the EA (each entity to provide input, Jeremy to consolidate)*
- *Get a copy of TNC ground sweep protocols to use as a guideline (Pat) – **DONE***
- *Develop a list of rain-out and light duty activities for crews in Hana (Jeremy & Kerri)*
- *Get a copy of any reports resulting from the \$28,000 in county funding that MISC contributed to bio-control research in Brazil (Elizabeth) – We requested a copy of the report from PCSU, but we haven't received anything yet. They are trying to track it down. Lloyd: it is a good idea to cc: Cliff Smith on any correspondence regarding miconia bio-control. He may be able to help track it down.*
- Erik: MISC is not currently producing any fungus and neither is Eloise. Eloise is maintaining a base culture. Lloyd: we were going to discuss miconia bio-control at the last meeting, but we ran out of time. Mach: with the chemical/mechanical control we are doing it doesn't seem feasible now. Lloyd: what about in the core? There is a possibility of partnering with MCC for a facility to help generate fungus. Ann Emmself at MCC is interested in establishing partnerships between the conservation biology community and agriculture. The fungus is out there and so it seems like we might as well apply it although it isn't ideal to use herbicides and bio-control at same time. It is a tool. Students could help out with growing the culture, but someone from MISC would need to follow-up. Ann is very enthusiastic about the idea. Teya and Erik will follow-up with her when she comes back from maternity leave.
- Erik: what about the monitoring aspect? Who is going to monitor to see if it is actually worthwhile? Mach: we went out and looked last year. The fungus had persisted. If the trees that were inoculated have been sprayed with herbicide, there probably isn't anything to monitor. Forest: there should be monitoring for anything brought into state. Mach: the fungus needs free water to move. Randy: it seems like the best place to put it is in gulches. Pat: is it impacting miconia in all stages? Mach: I don't think it will kill the adult trees, but the keiki are impacted. Pat: I can see combining the bio-control with herbicide. Mike: it will be really difficult to use the fungus since we are treating so much with herbicide now. We've been told you can mix the fungus with Garlon 4. Pat: an agenda item for the upcoming workshop would be to outline our goal for how we see this progressing (e.g. from containment and then bio-control kicks in, etc.). Lloyd: we can't wait for bio-control. We need to do what we can now. There are five possible new agents being tested.
- *Enforce data transfer protocols between Hana/MISC and continue training on GPS/data (Mike W) – We are developing a new database to move things into and looking at compatibility. Teya: we had a data meeting with Steve, Jeremy, & Kerri to discuss how to make our system functional while retaining compatibility with the NPS system. Randy: will the new MISC database still tie into the park? Mike W.: we are using the same field definitions and culling stuff. The new format is a geo-database where attribute data is tied together with GIS data. It is a tough battle to keep it simple and still be compatible with NPS system that we are locked into. Teya: we will be meeting with Shannon in July. He has created a draft database for OISC.*

Pampas Grass

- *Follow-up on local stores, web-sites, etc. selling pampas grass seeds (Mele)* – Ongoing. Mach: to deal with the catalogs, web-sites we need a letter from the State noxious weed person. If they get a letter from him, they will stop. We could draft a letter for his signature. He would probably only sign off on *jubata*.
- *Find a way to get rid of the pampas grass in the Quonset hut at NifTAL (Erik)* – The pampas grass is composting in place. We are fertilizing and watering it and it is shrinking.
- *Track down the reference on the selloana problem in California (Lloyd)* - Not yet, Kim will help get it.
- *Evaluate the need for a pampas news article focusing on the selloana issue (Mele)* – Pending.
- *Schedule the EMWP crew to assist with pampas grass (Erik & Alex)* – We normally do pampas in the fall so we are waiting to schedule until then. We definitely want EMWP help on pampas.

Fountain Grass

- Erik: the crew spent 6% of their field time since April on fountain grass. We have a new location on Waipoli Road in Kula. We controlled 75 plants and cut several 100 seed heads. The site is along the road before the cattle guard. Creighton found the site. We are going to do a flyer for the neighborhood.

Ivy Gourd

- Erik: the crew spent 25% of their field time since April on ivy gourd. We have treated every known site except a couple of Mach's bio-control sites. We will be going ahead with control work on the bio-control sites as well. We want to do a talk for the maintenance folks at the Kapalua Golf Course. Randy: we need to get the four different crews together. I'll contact them. Mele: late July or early August would be a good time to schedule the talk. It would be nice if we could go on location and show them. We don't need a room. Randy: I will start trying to line things up.

Giant Spanish Reed

- Erik: 22% of the crew's field time since April has been on arundo. There is one new site above Kula Nani subdivision. We've hit all but six sites. Mach there is a variegated one in Keanae that is not very big. Forest: the Airport Road site looks good. Pat: did you hit the Pulehuiki site? Erik: yes. The crew has suggested doing an aerial survey in the gulches that have arundo. It may be a good idea.

Mullein

- *Finish developing educational materials on mullein (Mele)*
- *Control Kula mullein population (Jeremy)* – Mele gave a folder of information to Jeremy. We have been passing it back and forth. Forest: we can't let this go. It needs to be dealt with now. Is Jeremy too busy? Erik: get us permission and MISC will take care of it. Mach: it would be best if you can get voluntary compliance. We need to do a publicity blitz on this. Forest: it was eradicated once. Lloyd: if we eradicate it again it would be a good time for a newspaper article. There was an article done in 1999. Some PR could help us solicit additional sightings.

VERTEBRATES

- *Add MISC's 2115 number and Teya's cell phone number to the MPD call list, call 244-6400 (Teya)* – **DONE**
- *Schedule the next Vertebrate Subcommittee Meeting on the same day as the regular MISC meeting in hopes of getting better attendance* – **DONE**, scheduled for 8/29/03.
- *Schedule basic training for MISC office and field staff in vertebrate identification, questions to ask (Fern)*

- *Develop a list of websites for target species identification for public inquiries (Elizabeth)* – In process, Jin-wah has been working on this.
- *Draft an MOU for vertebrate operations to define roles and authorities (Teya & Erik)*
- *Compile a review summary of the different agency's roles, what legislation exists, what the punishments are, etc. for vertebrate issues (Teya)*
- *Get the word out that the vertebrate position posting has been extended – **DONE**, selection is pending RCUH approval. Estimated start date is 7/28/03. Lance Tanino has been selected for the position.*
- *Obtain vertebrate reference books for MISC. - In process.*

Conures

- *Develop a conure proposal for eradicable species funding – **DONE**, the proposal was not funded.*
- *Talk to Delkab and Monsanto about conures (Fern)*
- *Compile a data synopsis (Fern & Erik)*
- *Attempt to get access/landowner permission for the cliff area (Mele) – **DONE**, we got a negative response. They will not allow access.*
- *Schedule helicopter flight with Bill Evanson/infrared (Fern & Erik) – **DONE**, we got skunked twice. The birds didn't show. Mike W.: we would like to do one more flight. We have permission to use a jet ski so we can watch the birds leave the cliff and then radio to the helicopter. Christy: Oahu does have a bird specialist who could possibly help out.*
- *Get Alex to put the location of the birds he saw from the air on a map (Erik) – We will do this today after the meeting.*
- *Get details on the May parrot meeting from Mindy (Teya)*
- *Explore the possibility of EMWP or park staff that have firearms in their PDs doing control (Erik)*
- *Decide whether we want to be an IACUC "test case" (Teya)*
- *Check into "Starlicide" (Steve) – **DONE**, per Fred this won't work.*

Other Parrots/Birds

- *Catch the conure on Molokai (Tina)*
- *Get video footage of the macaws and amazons in Huelo (Russ) – Russ has tried a couple of times but hasn't been successful yet.*
- *Contact the landowner where the last two Mollucan cockatoos were seen and schedule a survey in Wailuku Heights (Fern)*
- *Follow-up on the one-legged cockatoo reported by Anna Palomino (575-5099) (Erik)*

- *Bring the Molokai bulbul issue to HDOA attention (Fern)* – We need to at least get it on record so they know about it. It is a noxious species and the landowner will not grant access. This would be a good species for the HISC list.

Snakes

- *Get a copy of the “Top Five Snake Questions” for the MISC office (Fern)*
- *Schedule snake training on Maui in May or after (Lance)* – Christy: we should plan on sending Lance to Guam the next time there is a chance. There will be another group of four people going down to Guam probably in August.
- *Send a letter to Domingo re the protocol for snake dog training for Sam Akoi IV’s dog (Teya & Erik)* – We need to begin by exploring whether this is a sensible approach before we go to Domingo.
- MISC does have a copy of the educational brown tree snake kit. Christy: one of the very useful things we did during the training in Guam was to role play using the interview kit. It was great practice. MISC should set aside some time to run through the questions. Mele: we have a couple of levels of training needs. We need field training and we also need training for the folks that answer the phones on screening.
- Alex: there was a snake report up at the park last week. I told park to call MISC, but I guess they didn’t. Supposedly there was a picture was taken. Erik will follow-up.

Geckos

- *Get pictures of the day geckos in Maui Meadows for identification (Erik)* – **DONE**, they are gold-dust geckos.
- *Send out gecko flyers (Mele)* – In process. We plan to develop a mail-back postcard to attach to the flyer. They are apparently very well established and were brought in intentionally. We want to figure out how far out the range goes.

Chameleons

- *Summarize data from field efforts and calculate total area (Erik)* – **DONE**, but under revision as new data comes in. To-date we have captured 88 veiled chameleons in Makawao plus the one from Lahaina. We did two nights of searches this week on Monday and Tuesday. We captured six adults and 19 juveniles that were 2.5 to 3 inches long. All but two of the juveniles were in a 10-foot circle. Mach: so, the number per search isn’t going down. Teya: HDOA is holding one gravid female to see how many eggs she lays. We will schedule more searches soon.
- *Schedule follow-up on non-core reports – Piiholo (Erik & Fern)* – We did one search, but we want to do more.
- *Send out flyers to Burns Road residents (Mele)*
- *Schedule a day-time chameleon search at the West Maui site (Erik & Fern)*
- *Coordinate with Hale NP to get chameleon information included in park school programs (Mele)* – Mele went along on one of the existing park 3rd grade programs recently. During the program children learn about what is native. We hope to piggy-back off of that and do a follow-up on aliens. Mele will be working with Jeff Bagshaw on this for next spring’s programs.
- MISC will be doing a chameleon poster for the Conservation Conference.

Frogs

- *Meet with Rob Parsons at the County nursery (Erik & Fern) – DONE.*
- *Develop an education campaign for hotels, nurseries, and homeowners regarding what they can do and meet with homeowners associations (Mele) – Mele: I put together a PowerPoint presentation and developed a flyer. I gave my first presentation of the program to one of the Kiwanis groups recently. This will be an ongoing thing. I would like to do a 5-10 minute movie through Akaku to use at homeowners association meetings. Lloyd: Rotary Clubs would be good and are sometimes better attended than Kiwanis. Mele: I could go on the lecture circuit full time, but there are other things I have to do as well.*
- *Add “what you can do” information to the Malama i ka Aina award mail-out (Mele) – In process.*
- *Check on the status of USDA coqui funding (Teya) – DONE, this funding is not coming through. They went out with a management plan and an estimate of \$900,000 for three years. They received an initial \$200,000 and then the following year they didn’t get anything. There is no funding for work on Maui or the other islands. Bob Sugihara will come over and help us when we are ready to start spraying in wildland areas after Lance comes on.*
- *Buy some citric acid (Elizabeth) – Brewer has it in stock and we will purchase some when we are ready to spray. It is still not available in small quantities. There is no legal issue with repackaging it, but there needs to be someone willing to deal with the logistics.*
- *Set up a test citric acid spray, find a location (Mele contact for permission) – Mele checked with Howard and he said no because of the phytotoxicity issue. Mike W.: when Howard moves we should find out who the new owner is and maybe they will let us spray. Mach: Howard thinks the cold treatment works, but when he moves he is going to move the eggs and he will have the problem all over again. Mele: Bob Sugihara is willing to talk to other nursery owners who have used citric acid to see if they will talk to Howard.*
- *Identify equipment needs/sources for a test spray (Erik) – The county may be able to help us out. There may be a truck-bed sprayer available from HDOA.*
- *Verify previous reports and clean up data (Erik) – In process. The crew has been going out to resurvey sites. At a lot of the sites they are not hearing frogs, but we aren’t confident that means there aren’t frogs there.*

BIG CAT

- *Lloyd: why is MISC involved in this? Teya: primarily to support and cooperate with our partners. MISC does have a policy of no new vertebrates established on Maui. We need to clarify whether we are talking about a population or an individual. There is definitely a question as to whether the cat fits into MISC’s mission. When we initially got involved, we obviously didn’t know how much time it was going to take. Lloyd: my impression is that it was a good story at first. I don’t think anyone really believes that big cats are going to get established on Maui. It is a good message regarding how easily things like this can slip through and get into the state. It is not a MISC target species. We need to reevaluate. Christy: Fern needed bodies and that is something MISC can provide. DLNR does have a Public Information person who could be taking all the calls. Mach: initially the calls were being bounced to us and we weren’t even notified that the press release was going out. Teya: we have provided media support and limited field manpower so far. We have also been serving as a sounding board for Fern in developing a strategy. The situation has escalated to a point where the higher levels in DLNR are interested and they are working with HDOA. We are hopefully at a point where MISC can step back from the PR element. As a result of this incident we have developed a proposed protocol regarding how to handle exotic animal incidents.*

- Pat: why is this a DLNR issue? What about HDOA, the Humane Society, and USDA Wildlife Services? Mach: none of us are trained to carry weapons. Teya: Trevor was here yesterday and said it doesn't really fall under Wildlife Services. They work on a project funded basis. Lloyd: we know how many holes there are in the state system. Is it really MISC's responsibility to cover those holes? Mike W.: there was a report of a large cat breeding facility in Maliko Gulch for years. We really don't know that there isn't more than just the one cat. Randy: this is an opportunity to put out the word regarding limited funding for us and HDOA/DLNR. We can't guarantee public safety.
- Lloyd: MISC needs a way to get the membership to make decisions on cases like this rather than getting in too far. I don't consider this to be a rapid response situation. Little fire ants would be! Randy: the point is nobody has the resources to deal with this. If people are worried about this they need to get us the funding. Lloyd: we need to provide rapid response, but we need to prioritize. Teya: hopefully this is an unusual situation. It evolved rapidly and our crew was essential in helping to define the situation and in helping Fern.
- Erik: we also responded to a monitor lizard report in Keopulani Park recently. Randy: this is a topic for the upcoming workshop. How do we make the determination? Teya: there can be a good follow-up message out of this, but right now it is too complicated. Mike W.: I think shifting the focus to how do things like this get into Hawaii is an important message. We need to steer the media towards the prevention and quarantine message.

NEW BUSINESS

Agency Roles re: Invasive Species?

- This is an issue for the next All-ISCs meeting along with the noxious weed list revision.

Mission/Vision/Values?

- *Consolidate comments on the draft concept for MISC's mission, vision, and values (Teya)* – A copy of the draft was passed out for comment.

Creation of Nonprofit?

- *Evaluate the idea of MISC forming a non-profit, check into the UH Foundation (Teya)* – A flipchart outlining some of the pros and cons of forming a non-profit was posted. Teya will email the chart to the MISC-L for comment and discussion. Teya: the West Maui Watershed Partnership has experience with this. Right now we are using Tri-Isle RC&D as an umbrella non-profit and fiscal sponsor. Tri-Isle is set up to get organizations up and running with the hope that the groups will later become independent. Tri-Isle is supportive of MISC forming our own non-profit. There are a lot of benefits to doing it, but there are substantial drawbacks as well. I am comfortable setting up a non-profit. Mele: if MISC becomes a non-profit, how does that fit in with the ISCs? Teya: MISC would stay in its current form. There would be a completely separate entity that would fundraise. In order for the project to grow, we need to find mechanisms for bringing in additional funding. Randy: we are hitting a ceiling with federal and state funding levels and we need to find a different way to get more money. Individual donations could be a substantial source, but we currently have no way to accept them. Teya: the University Foundation is willing to serve as an umbrella for specific proposals, but they don't work with individual donations. Randy: increased administrative costs are a price. This discussion will be continued via email and revisited at an upcoming meeting.

Next Regular Meeting Date/Time: Friday, 8/29/03, 9am – noon, with a Vertebrate Subcommittee Meeting the same day from 1pm - 4pm

MISC ACTIVITY SCHEDULE
May 19 to June 27, 2003

- 5/19 Piiholo: Site Work (Mike A., Sam, & Russ)
Ivy Gourd: Kihei (Jin-wah & Shannon)
- 5/20 Piiholo: Site Work (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
- 5/21 Piiholo: Site Work (Mike A., Sam, Russ, & Jin-wah)
RCUH Reclassification Training (Teya, Erik, & Elizabeth)
- 5/22 Piiholo: Site Work (Mike A., Sam, & Russ)
Arundo: Kula (Jin-wah & Shannon)
- 5/23 Pampas Grass: Kula (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
Arundo: Kula (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
Fountain Grass: Kula (Shannon)
- 5/26 Memorial Day Holiday
- 5/27 Pampas Grass: Kula (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
- 5/28 Piiholo: Site Work (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
- 5/29 Piiholo: Site Work (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
- 5/30 Fountain Grass: Kula (Mike A., Jin-wah, & Shannon)
Pesticide Applicator Test (Mike A., Jin-wah, & Shannon)
Ivy Gourd: Kihei (Sam & Russ)
- 6/2 Arundo: Kula (Mike A., Sam, & Russ)
Ivy Gourd: Kihei/Paia (Jin-wah & Shannon)
Design Workshop (Mele)
- 6/3 Brazilian Visitor Forum (All Staff)
Arundo: Waikapu (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
- 6/4 Pampas Grass: Kula (Mike A.)
Arundo: Upcountry (Jin-wah & Shannon)
Ivy Gourd: Lahaina/Kapalua (Russ & Sam)
Coqui Distribution Mapping: Kihei (Russ, Sam, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
- 6/5 Arundo: Kahului/Paia (Mike A., Russ, Sam, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
Coqui Distribution Mapping: Kihei (Mike A., Russ, & Jin-wah)
- 6/6 Piiholo: Site Work (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
- 6/9 Crew Holiday – Kamehameha Day
Data Meeting (Teya, Erik, Mike W., Kerri, Steve, & Jeremy)
- 6/10 Arundo: Kula (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
Pampas Grass: Kula (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
- 6/11 Pampas Grass: Haiku (Mike A., Jin-wah, & Shannon)
Vehicle Repairs (Russ & Sam)
- 6/12 Ivy Gourd: Kahului (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
Fountain Grass: Kahului (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
Kiwanis Presentation (Mele)
Meeting with Tri-Isle RC&D Program Committee (Teya)
- 6/13 Fountain Grass: Kahului (Mike A., Jin-wah, & Shannon)
Ivy Gourd: Lahaina/Kapalua (Sam & Russ)
Pesticide Applicator Test (Teya, Mike A., Jin-wah, & Shannon) – Everyone Passed!
Talk Radio with Rob Parsons (Mele)

- 6/16 Pampas Grass: Haiku (Mike A., Sam, Russ, & Jin-wah)
- 6/17 Safety Meeting (All Staff)
 First Aid/CPR Training (Teya, Mele, Mike W., Elizabeth, Mike A., Sam, & Russ)
 Arundo: Kula (Jin-wah & Shannon)
- 6/18 Arundo: Kula (Mike A., Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
 Cat Survey: Giggle Hill (Teya, Erik, Fern, & Creighton)
 Press Conference on Cat Sightings
- 6/19 Arundo: Kula (Mike A., Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
- 6/20 Miconia: Helicopter Reconnaissance (Erik, Mike W., & Mike A.)
 Miconia: Over-flight with the Mayor, Mayor's Wife, & Rob Parsons (Teya & Jeremy)
 Vehicle Maintenance: (Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
 Pampas Grass: Kula (Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
 Arundo: Kula (Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
- 6/23 Pampas Grass: Kula (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
 Arundo: Kula (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
 Veiled Chameleon Search: Makawao (Teya, Erik, Mike A, Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, Fern, Domingo, Creighton, Jay, & Brian)
 Proposal Writing Workshop (Teya)
- 6/24 Pampas Grass: Kula (Mike A., Jin-wah, & Shannon)
 Cat Survey: Olinda (Erik, Sam, Russ, Fern, Domingo & Creighton)
 Veiled Chameleon Search: Makawao (Teya, Erik, Mike A, Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, Fern, Domingo, Creighton, Jay, & Anna-mae)
- 6/25 Pampas Grass: Kula (Mike A., Jin-wah, & Shannon)
 Cat Traps: Olinda (Russ, Fern, & Creighton)
 Piiholo: Site Work (Sam & Russ)
- 6/26 Pampas Grass: Kula (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
 Vertebrate Working Group Meeting
- 6/27 Arundo: Kula (Mike A., Sam, Russ, Jin-wah, & Shannon)
 MISC Meeting
 Meeting with the Mayor/Agriculture Committee (Teya & Lloyd)