

**MEETING NOTES**  
**MAUI INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE**  
**Friday, August 11, 2006**

ATTENDANCE: Pat Bily, Lloyd Loope, Steve Anderson, Mach Fukada, Nathan Varns, Stuart Funke-d'Egnuff, Jeremy Gooding, Glenn Shishdo, Marilyn Parris, Forest Starr, Kim Starr, Bob Hobdy, Mindy Wilkinson, William Jacintho, Sarah Tanuvasa, Ranae Ganske-Cerizo, Patra Vidondo, Teya Penniman, Joylynn Paman, Aaron Kogan, Mike Ade, Elizabeth Anderson

- The meeting was called to order by Pat Bily (TNCH) at 9:10am and introductions were made around the table.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Teya: we had a last minute change in our meeting format for today. We were originally scheduled to have our annual all day priority setting meeting today; however, due to the absence of a couple of key players we have postponed that meeting. Today's meeting will be a standard general meeting and we should be done by noon.
- Pat: there was an ISCs forum at the Hawaii Conservation Conference a couple of weeks ago. Teya: yes, the conference this year was expanded to three days with the afternoon of the middle day reserved for field trips and forums. This gave us an excellent opportunity to get all of the ISC staff together for a forum. Each of the coordinators gave a presentation regarding their target species and each coordinator was asked to highlight a success story for their ISC. MISC's presentation focused on what we consider to be the critical components of our success rather than on a specific target. The key components highlighted were our committee members and our staff. I attribute much of our success to our committee's participation and what the members bring to the table. After the presentations, we had breakout sessions on topics determined by the participants. Topics included inter-ISC cooperation, when to drop a species, coqui control, landowner cooperation, early detection, etc. Participants found the afternoon to be worthwhile and we will look at doing something similar in the future.
- Mindy: Paula Warren, a senior policy analyst from New Zealand, has been here as part of an exchange program. She attended the Conservation Conference and has been interviewing dozens of people from across the conservation spectrum in Hawaii. In her close-out she noted that one of the most positive signs she saw was the enthusiasm of the ISCs.
- Mindy: we are expecting a visit from the new Secretary of the Interior and/or key members of his senior staff. They are conducting listening sessions regarding cooperative conservation. We are expecting them August 28 & 29. The exact schedule is still up in the air. There will be one day dedicated to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and the other day will focus on projects that use Cooperative Conservation Initiate funds. Even if the Secretary doesn't come it will be a good opportunity to meet his new staff.

UPDATES

**Quarterly Report**

- Pat: I want to commend MISC on the excellent Quarterly Report that was sent out to the Committee. Stuart: can we use the same report for our quarterly grant reports? Teya: we view this one more as an internal document. It is a little more informal and it doesn't directly address the specifics of our proposals. Stuart: maybe as an appendix. Teya: that is a great suggestion. We are also looking for feedback, comments, suggestions, etc. Pat: the pictures are great.

**ACTION ITEM:**

- *Include the Committee Quarterly Report as an appendix for our reports to funders. (Teya & Elizabeth)*

## PR/Education

- Joy: we've had quite a bit of press coverage in the past week. On Sunday, there was a large article in the Maui News regarding the funding decreases for the Hana miconia operation. Yesterday there was a front page article in the Honolulu Advertiser, spearheaded by Jackie from KISC, regarding the codes of conduct for nurseries. Christy and I were both interviewed for the article. MISC will have a regular Maui News column beginning later this month. The column will appear the third Sunday of every month. The first article will be on miconia.
- Joy: MISC was contacted in late May/early June by a writer from the Maui News to answer a question from the general public about a vine (glycine) that was overtaking Ulupalakua. The email was forwarded to the MISC list to get expert opinions. We received good responses from many committee members. I compiled the responses and sent an e-mail to the Maui News reporter. On June 10, the Maui News printed the information in the "Check it Out" column. The reporter took many quotes directly from my email. Unfortunately, the reporter either misinterpreted or inadvertently changed a section of the original email. In the original email, I stated that, "it was introduced to Maui to provide high protein forage for cattle at Ulupalakua Ranch." The reporter changed a key word and said glycine was introduced "by" Ulupalakua Ranch. Naturally, Ulupalakua Ranch was offended by the statement and contacted Art Medeiros who then wrote a letter to the editor correcting the statement publicly. I attempted unsuccessfully several times to contact the ranch owner to apologize. Ulupalakua Ranch sent me a certified letter summarizing additional information about glycine and emphasizing that facts should be verified before making such bold statements. Since then, Ulupalakua Ranch has not been in contact with MISC regarding this matter. Lloyd: the Soil Conservation Service brought it in originally. They basically said they had a new forage plant and asked Ulupalakua Ranch if they could put it out on their land. Ranae: at the time it was great thing. It is an excellent forage species. Lloyd: it is a nitrogen fixer and it does well in pasturelands. Both of these characteristics are good predictors of invasiveness. Pat: in some cases the plant itself may not be the problem, but rather the manner in which it was vectored. Glenn: the issue is more with the reporter than the plant species. Lloyd: The Maui News is better than most newspapers. Teya: this situation underscores the fact that people take alleged responsibility for invasive species very seriously. Our general tactic of not associating things with any particular landowner is effective.
- Joy: on August 1st I attended a sustainability fair at Maui Community College. It was one of the better fairs I've been to. The audience was different than a lot of the community events we go to. Stuart: the audience was seriously interested in almost every booth there. There were people from all over the world attending. Joy: the Keanae Hoolaulea is coming up next Saturday. The Hana crew will be helping me with a booth at the fair.
- Joy: in addition to the internal quarterly report, we are working on our first "external newsletter" for the public. Our goal is to have it available for the County Fair. Various members of the crew and committee are working on articles. Lloyd and Jeremy are both contributing. We want the newsletter to have a variety of voices.
- Joy: I've also been working on getting permissions. I've been working with Maui Land and Pineapple to gain access to a field in Makawao where we want to search for chameleons. We have overcome a huge hurdle and finally gained permission to access the Huelo property where the conures are. We've also been working with the Department of Water Supply to gain access to a better water source at Maliko Gulch for coqui control work. There is not enough water pressure and volume is an issue.
- Joy: Shannon and I gave our first early detection workshop on June 20, 2006 for the Friends of Haleakala. Fifteen people attended. We plan on offering additional workshops as soon as the field guide is ready. I attended a Natural Resource Communication Workshop on Oahu. I learned new presentation skills and how to use PowerPoint more effectively. MISC's entry in Makawao Fourth of July Parade won the "most unusual" award. We recently held a community meeting for residents of the Maliko area to help keep them up to date on what we are doing.

## Superferry

- Pat: there have been Maui News articles implying the environmental friendliness of the Superferry and full page advertisements promoting it. Ranae: it is interesting that on the list of people who are in favor of the Superferry there are more people/companies from Maui than from any other island. Marilyn: I think that has changed in the past couple of months. It seems that support is dropping now that the consequences are coming out.
- Teya: I am a member of the Maui Advisory Board. There will be a series of ads. The Superferry public relations person has asked if we could suggest someone they could hire as a consultant to help them address the invasive species concerns. I suggested they try to bring together key members of invasive species community to help. An EIS would have taken care of the concerns. We have to be realistic regarding the fact that an EIS is not happening and we need to mitigate. They are working with HDOA.
- Lloyd: self inspections won't substitute for HDOA inspection. There will be HDOA inspections. Mach: the inspections need to be consistent with the process for Young Brothers, etc. Lloyd: it is important for them to meet with HDOA folks on Maui. HDOA inspections are possible if there are enough resources. They can't be allowed to self inspect. Ranae: enforcement with 200 vehicles loading at one time isn't going to happen. Mach: cars shipped via Young Brothers aren't currently inspected. Teya: that is a point that the Superferry people have raised. They want to know why they get increased scrutiny. HDOA's response is that inspection needs to be ramped up for everyone.
- Teya: the best thing I can see is to come up with a group of people who are willing to sit down and work with them. If anyone has ideas regarding who should participate, please let me know. Mindy: the CGAPS Steering Committee has been meeting with them for about a year and a half. Without regulatory participation the continuation of meetings is non-productive. As far as risk assessment, HDOA is finishing up on the non-airport risk assessment for the passage of goods and services. Hopefully key risks will be identified from the assessment, but I don't think it will be surprising.
- Pat: are you up to date with what County is doing? Are they pushing for an EIS? Stuart: the County Council did pass a resolution in favor of an EIS and last I heard Mayor is in support of Council. If there is a ruling, they will go for an injunction to have the ferry stopped until an EIS is completed. Whether the litigant has standing has been an issue. Lloyd: it would be a shame not to take them up on offer to help them. Pat: during an EIS process they should interview and consult people. That would be better than the ISCs taking on the task themselves. Teya: in an EIS they must address the issues that are raised - it is a requirement.
- Bob: there was a raccoon in a recent shipment from the West Coast. They were off-loading the ship and there was an animal scampering around among the crates. It was captured and killed. Mach: there is a new paper wasp, which looks like a *Vespula*, which has become established on Oahu. I expect we will see it here on Maui as well.

## **Budget/Funding Updates**

- Elizabeth: I just finished closing out our State FY06 expenditures. Our total expenditures for the year were just over \$1.5 million. This includes the NPS funds that are at UH, support for Molokai, funds held at Tri-Isle, funds for the Hoike curriculum, and the HISC ‘bonus’ we received. Out of the total, \$125,000 went for support of the MoMISC program. I need to fine-tune projections now that the new pay and benefit rates are effective. Based on current rough estimates, the Hana operation will transfer to MISC base accounts in mid-October. We have enough of a buffer that we should be OK for approximately a year after that. If we don’t have additional funding by summer 2007, we will be in trouble. We are currently spending from a variety of accounts: State/HISC/USFS FY06, DWS FY05, and three OED FY06 accounts. We are just closing our FWS FY06 account – this will possibly be our last FWS funding. We have DWS FY06 funds incoming in at \$230,000 and FY07 HISC/State/USFS at \$705,000 – both of these are working their way through the UH system right now. Mindy: we may get FWS funding again in the spring of 2008.
- Nathan: we are working to migrate our website and move the pages over to a private site so we are able to receive donations. Our current website is through the federal government which makes donation acceptance an issue. NRCS has offered to assist us with the change over. Stuart: we are really excited about this. We will be able to use our 501(c)(3) status to benefit the projects. It should be as easy as click a button and donate to MISC. Teya: we are already receiving some donations which Tri-Isle holds for us. We also keep some money for supplies from our County grants at Tri-isle for ease of turnaround.
- Ranae: NRCS has a program for farmers and ranchers that have invasive weeds on their land. The program will be open for new sign-ups soon. We have a list of species of concern. They can get a 75% cost share on their property. We funded 28 farmers/ranchers on Maui last year. Teya: can we get a list of the target species? Ranae: I have it here and we will have a working group meeting soon to re-look at the list. We will look at the average cost this year. Costs have gone up considerably. Teya: we need to explore how we can better cooperate with landowners. A lot of the work we do is on private land. Ranae: there is a \$2.5 million cap on eligibility. There is some talk of changing the eligibility criteria for Hawaii. We are hoping that with the next Farm Bill there may be some change. That could benefit some of the watershed partnerships, etc. Jeremy: is Hana Ranch pursuing another round of funding? Ranae: we are working with them. Hana Ranch got in before the \$2.5 million requirement was instituted.
- Stuart: Tri-Isle administers programs for NRCS. There should be funding for agricultural development again this year – hopefully an increase. The focus this year is on multiple beneficiaries, infrastructure type work, and cooperative efforts. Pat: this has a direct impact on us. These large land parcels are our natural area buffers. Programs like this really help us with protection of natural areas. Mindy: could infrastructure include something like a quarantine facility for people moving equipment or animals interisland for agricultural purposes? Stuart: there is a fair amount of flexibility. Mindy: it would be nice to have a commercial vehicle wash available on Maui. I know there are ranchers wanting to move equipment/animals to Molokai from fireweed infested pastures here. Stuart: there are funds for Molokai in separate account for the program.

## **PLANTS**

### **Miconia** (*Miconia calvescens*)

- Mindy: as mentioned earlier, I will have an opportunity to speak during the DOI/EPA visit and we will highlight areas for cooperation. I am planning to highlight miconia on Maui as an example. If there is anything else that could really benefit from the exposure, let me know.

- Teya: I will start out and then Jeremy is going to run through a summary of what he presented at the Conservation Conference. Looking at the number of mature plants controlled annually both aerially and on the ground, we are seeing a downward trend. We really began ramping up miconia control in 2003. This is especially evident when looking at the aerial numbers with the addition of NPS funding. As we see the numbers going down, we need to ask why – is it because we surveyed fewer acres? We define mature plants as those that are flowering or seeding (this is usually equivalent to ~5yrs old). We have a stated goal of zero fruiting trees. We don't claim we will be able to eradicate miconia. Stuart: it would be nice to show this type of data on a brochure for raising funds. Your numbers really show that it isn't a lost cause. Marilyn: I agree. Jeremy: we will have some refined graphs soon.
- Jeremy: we are looking at numbers of plants controlled relative to effort and relative to the area covered. It is clear that the trends hold regardless of whether we look at ground or aerial operations. It is vitally important that we have a combined ground and aerial approach. Without the aerial work we wouldn't have gotten it all, but we need the ground coverage as well. Just one or the other alone won't do the trick. Steve: it seems like over time we will we need to expend the same amount of effort searching, but if we are successful we will find fewer plants even though our person hours are still high. We need to be cautious as to how we interpret the data.
- Jeremy: the current miconia footprint using a 1 km buffer is 37,000 acres. Of this, 2,500 acres are densely infested and 7,000 acres are lightly to moderately infested. During helicopter operations we attempt to fly systematically rather than in a "flight of bumble bee" pattern. We achieved excellent coverage and we are lucky to be working with the same pilots year after year. In low density areas we fly without a sprayer and with three spotters on board. The pilot and one spotter both have a GPS/PDA to guide the process and we attempt to fly tight, systematic recon lines. In high density areas it is a little different as it is difficult to keep the straight lines. To date we have used 60% of the NPS helicopter contract available for this year. We take down and report anything relevant – parrots, pampas grass, etc.
- Jeremy: outlier infestations are obviously a very high priority. Looking at aerial numbers for Hanawai Stream below the highway, we had a significant population at the start of the contract. We completely covered this area in 2006. There was a seedling flush in 2003-2005. We have exhausted our mature population and we are starting to see a reduction in recruitment already. In other areas we haven't seen the recruitment drop off that quickly. We also covered Nuaailua Valley completely in 2006. We are seeing a reduction in seedlings. The seed-bank may not be that rich in this area. In Wailuanui (1200' elevation), there was one mature plant controlled in 1998. In 2003, there were a substantial number (302) of seedlings. In 2006, we are seeing a substantial reduction in the seedling flush. In unit DD1, which is adjacent to the Hana core, we are continuing to put in a substantial amount of time, but we are finding very few plants. This is a good trend to see. It shows that our strategy works in the outlier areas and if you put in adequate effort it works in a core area as well. We do miss some plants in high density areas. It is impossible to get everything and we will probably see mature plants in the future.
- Jeremy: for ground work we have broken the area up into management units. During our second entry into Puu Ki Nui we found no mature plants, but a spike in immature plants. Our third entry showed an excellent trend with no mature trees found and a substantial reduction in immature plants. It doesn't take as long to cover a unit as it did to begin with.
- Jeremy: in conclusion, our current miconia operation on Maui is succeeding. At the current and projected funding levels there is no reasonable end to the project. It could work given adequate funding. If we drop below where we are now, we will see trends go the other way. We need to develop a funding strategy. There has been a base increase for the Exotic Plant Management Teams applied for in 2008. If our constituency puts up a strong argument, some of that funding could come here. Steve: we know there is a likelihood there will be more funding in the EPMT program. How it will be divided is the question.

- Pat: are other programs across the county showing strong results? Marilyn: you need the data to show what we have invested and what the result is. They want to know what the funding is buying. Lloyd: it would be nice if there was some way to model what would have happened if we hadn't done anything. We would basically be like Tahiti if the NPS hadn't come in to save us. It bought a little bit of time. My impression is that on the Big Island they are losing the battle. It would take a huge amount of funding to do on the Big Island what you have done here. Jeremy: I am not sure they even have adequate aerial coverage to map the population. Stuart: would it be possible to graph money spent next to the mature and immature columns. If the \$\$ reflect the change, someone will take notice. Teya: we have done an initial economic analysis in conjunction with the University of Hawaii and University of Florida. It shows what the status quo will cost and what it would cost if we ramped up. There is also an analysis of the costs of a core focus vs. a satellite focus. We need to pull the information together in an easily accessible format. Marilyn: there will be a sustaining level of funding needed that goes out decades. Pat: this is all based on detectability. There may be better techniques coming along. Jeremy: it looks like remote sensing techniques will need to be refined before they are useful for miconia. Our current signature has too many copy cats.

**ACTION ITEM:**

- *Refine quantitative data for use as a fundraising tool. (Teya)*

**Pampas Grass (*Cortaderia jubata* & *C. selloana*)**

- Aaron: we mapped all the known points and then did a 500m buffer around them. Teya: we have mapped ground buffers and we are attempting to map suitable habitat. At the statewide level we are working to come up with comparable measurements across all the islands. We want to identify what the potential infestation could be, taking into account the biology of each target species and potential vectors. We want to get a better handle on what we need to do in order to effectively survey for each species. At this point the 500m buffer is arbitrary. For each species we are pulling together all known information to fine tune what the buffers should be. For pampas, it looks like the entire island could be potential habitat. This is a work in progress. We are looking for input from the Committee. It is great to see trends in known populations, but we really need to be sure we are looking everywhere we need to look.
- Aaron: we are trying to come up with valid buffers - how far should we walk to survey? William: you should consider wind patterns. Aaron: we have discussed wind. Kauai is complicated because of the hurricane and on all the islands wind patterns vary due to storms, etc. We are building up a matrix of biological information including information on how long after germination before we can spot a plant, how much time do we have before it goes to seed, etc. We are collecting data island by island and compiling it into a statewide profile. We are trying to ignore cultivated plants in the analysis. Bob: in wet forest habitats the presence and disturbance of pigs makes a big difference in whether weeds can get started. Lloyd: it is surprising that pampas doesn't show up in the park more often. It may be because there isn't the continual disturbance in the park. Jeremy: we found 6-8 plants in the crater in the last six years. Pat: anyone who has been in the Honomanu area that is heavily infested knows that the area is really hammered and disturbed by pigs. Kim: in ranches it comes up on the side of the gulches. Lloyd: how invasive is pampas on the other islands? Kim: it is not on Oahu. On the Big Island and Molokai it is only in cultivation.
- Lloyd: the NPS is working on early detection protocols. I am arguing that we shouldn't be waiting until something gets to the park. Others argue that the focus should be in the park only. I disagree. For *selloana* we are still in an early detection situation. This is good justification for more early detection and rapid response. *Cortaderia* could occupy much of Haleakala and that is not acceptable. We need to learn from past mistakes of not reacting fast enough. Forest: we also to get the message across to other islands that don't have pampas problems yet. Teya: the profiles should help us discover anomalies – for example, this is what we expect in the native range, but we see something different here. We need to get the information out there.

- Teya: we are refining our strategies a bit this year. It is difficult to see the plants from the air unless they are flowering. Mike: we are doing drop-ins this year on East Maui – dropping a crew by helicopter in the morning and picking them back up (hopefully) in the afternoon. So far, we’ve been in twice for four hours with a crew of four. We killed 600 plants. They were keiki that were not yet flowering. Pampas is very cryptic in that area – it hides in the sedges and grows on ohia stumps. Being on the ground is the best way. The weather is not cooperative. It rains often, making herbicide application difficult. You really can’t pull the plants because of the damage caused. Pat: do you think the over-spray from aerial work can augment recruitment of seedlings? Mike: the plant is dead, but we will still see an ohia growing next to it. Our spray patterns are pretty tight. I think that is more likely to be an issue on West Maui. We started pampas work early this year – at the end of May. As always it is slow going because of weather. We sprayed on West Maui yesterday and found more than expected. The flowers are just starting to come up. Teya: we are looking at alternate strategies this year - start early and get as much as possible before flowering and then go back and pick-up after flowering. The season has really expanded – we start early and go late. We are not yet seeing trends. We still need to get to that point. Mike: for residential pampas we still have a couple left with no permission. We are finished otherwise. Our residential work is a really good success story. Lloyd: *selloana* really could be an eradication. Teya: we are asking that *selloana* be added to the Noxious Weed List. Mike: we have had just as much *jubata* in yards as *selloana*. We do have recalcitrants. Teya: we need to ask for HDOA assistance with the recalcitrants.

**ACTION ITEM:**

- Request HDOA assistance with recalcitrant pampas grass landowners. (Teya)

**Fountain Grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*)**

- Teya: based on a brief assessment of potential habitat, it looks like it could grow almost everywhere on Maui. Mike: we just controlled one in Pukalani. Ivy gourd was discovered during a BBTV survey and when we went to control the ivy gourd, we found fountain grass. Forest: the map needs to be corrected. It looks like some of the points showing up are purple fountain grass and not *P. setaceum*. Mike: the Mokulele Hwy. plant was right before Cane Haul Road on the Kihei side. We found a plant in Kihei while we were working on ivy gourd. A guy brought it over from the Big Island. Teya: overall we are seeing some good trends. There are fewer mature plants.

**ACTION ITEM:**

- Correct fountain grass maps to remove or differentiate non-*P. setaceum* points. (Aaron)

**Ivy Gourd (*Coccinia grandis*)**

- Teya: we are continuing work. It is widespread. The ivy gourd on Lanai was successfully controlled. Overall trends are looking good. We just need to keep plugging away at it.

**Giant Reed (*Arundo donax*)**

- Teya: we have shifted our focus to protecting high value wetland areas. In the past we spent a lot of time controlling arundo in Kula gulches and the threat wasn’t really clear. It spreads vegetatively.

**Eradicable Species**

- Mike: the frog crew found a *Macaranga mappa* on Kokomo Road in Kula. We controlled it - *Macaranga mappa* has been eradicated from Maui again. Steve Anderson found a new mullein site in Kula. We have controlled the plant. We don’t know how it got there. It had gone to fruit and we were able to collect the old fruit. The landowner is monitoring. Lloyd: mullein really is a success story. We have been eradicating it for 20 years. The concept of early detection is an effective practice in this case. Teya: as part of our FY07 HISC proposal we will continue to work on the plants from the eradicable project as our early detection focus. There has been some concern expressed regarding tulip trees on West Maui. We have found six during aerial pampas grass missions. Pat: they are around. They are cultivated and once you start looking you will find more and more. Mike: banana poka seems to be moving east. There is more and more of it.

### **Banana Bunchy Top Virus**

- Teya: we are continuing work on BBTV with County funding. It is no longer contained in the Pukalani and Makawao area. The virus has been found in Kihei, Kula, Lahaina, and Kahului. Pat: do you think the new areas found are a result of increased survey coverage or is it spreading? Mach: in some cases we haven't looked house to house. As we do, we will probably find more. Mindy: it is not clear that the virus is limited to bananas. Mach: the aphid will go to other things, but I don't know about the virus. Teya: Adam will be presenting a paper with HDOA at the annual Banana Industry Convention in Hilo.

### VERTEBRATES

#### **Coqui frog (*Eleutherodactylus coqui*)**

- Teya: We estimate that doing the entire Maliko Gulch area will take \$750,000. Right now we are focusing on the rim area. We had a community meeting with the Maliko area residents to keep them up to date on our plans. We are continuing to make progress reducing both total acreage and number of frogs on Maui. Most of the funding for coqui from the Legislature this year went to the Big Island. The bottom-line here is that if we don't take care of the problem now, the amount of funding needed will continue to go up. Forest: it seems like a hot water facility would be a good use of the infrastructure funding that Stuart was talking about. Teya: HISC funded research into development of a portable low cost heat treatment system for nurseries.
- Mach: I believe nettle caterpillars will become established on Maui. There is a bad outbreak on the Big Island this year.

#### **Veiled chameleon (*Chamaeleo calytratus*)**

- Teya: Brooke has been continuing to work on our veiled chameleon research project. The goal is to put radio transmitters on captured chameleons and release them in order to observe behavior and dispersal patterns. Our focus is on improving our capture and control techniques. There is obviously a problem inherent in doing research on an animal you are trying to eradicate. Brooke presented a paper on our results to date at the Conservation Conference. We plan to try luring them into a trap using a Jackson's male. We do have a report of a possible additional location. That area will be the target of our next search. There was also an animal turned in to HDOA from just outside our core area.

#### **Conures (*Aratinga mitrata*)**

- Teya: we have progress to report on conures. We have gained permission to access the cliff property. The lack of access has been an issue for years. We have completed an initial control operation with DOFAW and Wildlife Services. We have another operation planned for next week.

### NEXT MISC MEETING:

- Teya: our next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2006 from 9am to 3pm. This meeting will be our rescheduled prioritization meeting. We will send out some material in advance. Pat: we should brainstorm critical strategies and questions. Mindy: if there is a decision made to drop any species, we need to let our partners know so there can be a seamless transition from species-based control to area management. Teya: a point that Paula made at the Conservation Conference was that even if you are making a decision to do nothing, it is still a decision and you are giving the cost to someone else.

### **ACTION ITEM:**

- *Send material for annual prioritization meeting out to the Committee in advance. (Teya)*