

MoMISC Meeting Notes

July 9, 2003

Plant Materials Center

10:00-11:30 AM

Attendance: Nancy Bauman, Jane Bachtel, Kawika Duvachelle, Bill Garnett, Guy Hughes, Bob Joy, Debbie Kelley, Tina Lau, Ed Misaki.

Meeting Notes

I. INTRODUCTION

- **Last Meeting Notes.** No changes made to 4/9/03 notes.

II. OUTREACH (Tina)

- **State and County Workshop.** Lori, Tina, and Kawehi Soares held a workshop for state and county highways workers to introduce them to MoMISC mission and target species.
- **Earthday display.** A display was manned at the April 2003 Earthday celebration. The message was to provide alternatives to releasing pets into the wild.
- **News Releases.** The most recent Newsflash publication contained 2 articles on alien species. Mahalo to Kali for submitting an article on the Farmers Perspective on Alien Plants and Lori's MoMISC update.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species Meeting.** A public information meeting on the aquatic invasive species Management Plan is scheduled for July 17. Comments will be taken until July 23. The Nature Conservancy was contracted by the Dept of Land and Natural Resources to write the plan. Tina will call Andi for the website where the plan can be viewed.

III. RESPONSE (Tina)

- **Cat's claw.** Cat's claw has been determined to be well established on Molokai. New populations have been found below Palaaau Park. To maintain MoMISC's mission of controlling incipient species and conducting prevention, and due to budget cuts for FY04, we will not be able to continue field control work on cat's claw in the same capacity as in FY03. However, MoMISC will continue to monitor and report on the aerial sprayed plants at Waiakale gulch and provide a report with a recommendation on the most effective strategy for control. MoMISC will also continue to control the upper Kalamaula population since it is isolated from the core population and because so much work has already been done.

USDA may have funds for work on pasture land. Jane will assist landowners interested in applying for EQUIP funds. The landowner must initiate the application. The deadline is in January.

Bill commented that legume seeds remain viable for decades. Stirring up the dirt increases germination and large equipment acts to scarify the seeds and enhance germination. Bill is interested in what type of plants grow up after cat's claw is controlled? Tina will look into this question.

- **Barbados gooseberry.** New plants have been found in Halawa downstream from the main population. It is likely that propagules may have spread in the stream water.
- **Giant reed.** The Kaunakakai population is still resprouting. We have used Roundup Pro, Fusilade DX and Escort to treat the arundo. All herbicides have worked to kill the portion of plant sprayed, but does not kill the underground root. Bill suggested to add ammonium sulfate to the Roundup to improve effectiveness. Bob mentioned that there is another Arundo plant of the variegated form near the bar at Hotel Molokai. This plant spreads very slowly.
- **New Zealand flax.** Creighton will be treating remaining plants at the Puu Kauwa population this week. Plants that were sprayed last quarter are dying back. We'll need to continue monitoring.
- **Invasive birds.** A USFWS proposal was submitted for funding to survey for and eradicate parrot-like birds on Molokai. The proposal was not funded. Since additional funding was not found, we will conduct control only on the parrot in Kaunakakai town, where we already know locations that it visits.
- **Tibouchina.** A Tibouchina plant was brought into the office recently. The sample will be sent to Bishop Museum as a voucher specimen. Lori returned to the site but did not find any more plants. We will return on a regular basis to monitor the area. Tina found in a internet site by Philip Thomas that Tibouchina is present on Molokai. This location is not known to us and Philip will be contacted to determine the source of the reference and the location.
- **Success Stories (Guy).** Need to document invasive species control success stories. Maybe we can then submit as a CPSU report publication. TNC science staff is working on a success story report for New Zealand.
- **Other Invasives (Bill).** Mexican poppy, *Argemone mexicana*, is a range weed that hybridizes with the Hawaiian poppy. Could do restoration with the pua kala. None known at Moomomi preserve.

IV. BUDGET

- **FY04 funds.** The budget for FY04 has not been finalized yet. MoMISC submitted a request for about \$ 80 K for federal and state funds. There will be roughly a 20 % budget cut.
- **Other funding sources.** It was suggested that MoMISC seek NFWF funds for next year. The proposal is due in November. This is a federal grant that MISC has already received maximum funding for the island of Maui. Funds may be available for another location even if the same entity applies. So Molokai can receive funds through MISC.

V. NEXT MEETING DATE

- **Meeting date.** Date in October to be determined so that Randy Bartlett, MISC Chairperson, and Teya Penniman, MISC Coordinator, can attend. The meeting will serve to introduce the MoMISC members to the Chairperson, formalize the MISC – MoMISC partnership, and establish an understanding of the working relationship between the two island committees.