

MoMISC Meeting Notes

Oct. 27, 2003

The Nature Conservancy Office

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Attendance: Alton Arakaki, Lori Buchanan, Guy Hughes, Debbie Kelley, Tina Lau, Ed Misaki, Teya Penniman, Ronald Sagario, Glenn Sakamoto, Glenn Shishido, Michael Tancayo, Bob Yonahara

Meeting Notes

I. INTRODUCTION

- **Last Meeting Notes.** No changes made to 7/9/03 notes.

II. BUDGET

- **Statewide budget process (Teya Penniman).** State and federal funding for all island ISC's, each have specific guidelines. For the last couple years there has been a budget of about \$400 K. This year the FWS budget doubled to about \$600 K, with a base amount allotted to the different ISC's and the remaining funds distributed through a process of submitting proposals for further funding. This will also be the process for subsequent years. Oahu state and federal staff fully support Molokai funding. A sum of \$60 K was allotted to Molokai for FY04, which is a significant increase from prior years. Funds will continue to be handled by MISC through RCUH.
- **NFWF proposal (Tina).** The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation proposal outline is written and the draft will be sent out for comments. Information needed on "in-kind" contributions made to MoMISC over a year time period, including a value based on salary. Please reply to Tina by Nov. 3. The NFWF proposal deadline is Dec. 1, 2003.

III. OUTREACH

- **Goals and objectives (Lori).** MoMISC goal is prevention through education. Objectives are to target the workplace for invasive species education. For instance, an hour long county workshop was held, where awareness of the issues on Molokai was needed. For people who are not going to work sites, public events are venues for outreach. The east end in particular will be targeted at the Kilohana bazaar. Of concern are the 2 ports of entry on Molokai: the barge and airport. Educating field workers is a primary concern since they are in the field where detection can occur. Glenn suggested that DOFAW and Puu o Hoku Ranch workers could also be included in the upcoming workshops.

IV. RESPONSE (Lori and Tina)

- **Rapid Response chart.** The chart is currently a compilation of all agencies involved with the response to invasive species on Molokai and is information to be used by agencies (not the public). Our objectives are to 1) determine what agencies and services exist and whether they are capable of responding; 2) develop a working response plan for each of the invasive species categories; 3) provide a simple system to the public so that they will not be confused or discouraged from reporting invasives. We need to have each agency correct or verify the information in the chart and return the sheets to Lori by next Monday either by phone or fax. MoMISC will act as the response center for taking public calls and facilitating the response process.

- **Barbados gooseberry.** The control of this weed exemplifies MoMISC efforts to detect and control incipient invasives. Lori has found 2 satellite population downstream that were likely from propagules that spread in the stream water. The entire population has had an initial treatment and follow-up monitoring is done on a regular basis.
- **Cat's claw.** Cat's claw has been determined to be well established on Molokai. To maintain MoMISC's mission of controlling incipient species and conducting prevention, we will not be able to continue field control work on cat's claw core populations. Control work will continue on one satellite population in Kalamaula. MoMISC will act to facilitate control by landowners by providing technical assistance to develop effective control strategies and informing landowners of funding sources such as that provided by the Farm Bill.
- **Fountain grass (Debbie).** Fountain grass was intercepted on island recently. Debbie was tipped off when both the words Kona and grass were mentioned. She asked if she could look at the grass and recognized it as fountain grass. It was selected by the landowner for aesthetic reasons. The landowner was very receptive to removal and was sent to Glenn Sakamoto to get an alternative grass. The landowner also informed other Kupuna not to bring in anything from other islands. Bob Yonahara informed us that propagated material requires inter-island inspection. Additionally, airport security watches for hand carried items. Cargo agents have written regulations and will call DOA if there is a problem.
- **Giant reed.** Control is on-going. A number of methods have been used ranging from herbicide treatment to digging up the roots.
- **New Zealand flax, gorse.** Mahalo to Glenn and Creighton for working on both of these invasive weeds on Forest Reserve land.
- **Tibouchina.** Over the years, Tibouchina has been found at three sites on Molokai: Opaepa bog, Halawa valley, and most recently on the node of a ridge below Puu Alii. Even though this Tibouchina is in an area with a rapidly increasing Clidemia population, it is still worth eradicating. Guy suggested beginning survey of the Halawa area, since it is the entry way to the north shore system. KNHP is currently conducting an inventory survey of Kalawao County, including Waikolu, Waihanau, and Kaluahaunoni? Plantation to be completed in the next 6 to 8 months. Notify land managers about invasive weeds near the border of land boundaries.
- **Invasive birds.** MoMISC is taking reports on the bulbul, which is a major agricultural pest, and parrot-like birds. The shama thrush is not a target species because it is already established on the island, but its distribution is being tracked over the island as a part of a MISC/DOFAW study.
- **Other Invasives.** The wood rose is being assessed for its distribution on Molokai. For anyone who knows where it grows, please give Lori the location.

V. NEXT MEETING DATE

- **Meeting date & time.** Monday, Jan. 26, 2004, 10 AM to 11:30 AM.
- **Location.** The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, Conference Room.