

MoMISC Meeting Notes

April 26, 2004

The Nature Conservancy Office

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Attendance: Kali Arce, Lori Buchanan, Audrey Egusa, Bill Garnett, Guy Hughes, Bob Joy, Russell Kallstrom, Tina Lau, Ed Misaki, Glenn Sakamoto, Glenn Shishido, Jane Wood, Ken Wood.

Meeting Notes

I. INTRODUCTION

- **Last Meeting Notes.** No changes made to 04/26/04 notes.

II. BUDGET

- **FY2004 Federal and State funding (Tina).** Subtracting funds for Field Tech position until Dec. 2004, there is about \$ 13,000 left for supplies and equipment this year.
- **NFWF PTI proposal (Tina).** The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation proposal was not funded. HCF proposal is still awaiting a decision.
- **5 Year Projection (Ed).** Ed is writing a 5 year projection for MoMISC to be used for future call for proposals.
- **Invasive Species Funds (Ed).** An invasive species Bill associated with the NAR fund was passed. Increased funds will be available for invasive species work, with proportionate amounts for the different island ISC's (MoMISC included with MISC). This will not affect the NAPP funds this year, but may in the future.
- **DOFAW Field Technician (Glenn Shishido).** Creighton has resigned from the position for a different position. Creighton was an asset to MoMISC and hopes that this position will be continued. A person on the state work crew was placed in the field tech position on an emergency hire so that the position would not be lost. There's a possibility that this position may not be extended. Seven other state positions that are vacant will be lost within the year.

III. OUTREACH

- **Workshops (Lori).** An invasive species educational workshop was held for the Alu Like Kupuna program on February 24, 2004 at the new senior center at Home Pumehana.
- **Earthday display (Lori).** MoMISC participated in the Earth Day celebration on April 16, 2004, and will have a display at the Kilohana Bazaar on 5/8/04 to reach the rural east end community.
- **NewsFlash article (Lori).** A well-written article was printed in the last TNC newsletter by a southshore resident that had fountain grass in her yard and removed it.
- **Hunter Education Classes (Lori).** Lori talked with Billy Akutagawa to incorporate MoMISC pamphlets into the Molokai Hunter Education classes. On Lanai, there is an outreach program for fountain grass prevention. Glenn Shishido plans to share this with the west side of the Big Island. Pat Bily checks the Lanai fountain grass population. On the last visit 70 plants (9 with flowers)

were taken out. The plant occurrences are correlated with rainfall. There is a need to increase awareness programs when the Super Ferry passengers moving cars from island to island. Perhaps a high pressure car wash can be used on the underside of vehicles. The procedure is like using boot brushes, which has low efficacy but promotes public awareness.

- **Flier distribution (Lori).** An informational flier targeting Fountain Grass will be distributed to all homeowners in the Kawela plantations units to educate them on the dangers of Fountain Grass.
- **Prevention List (Tina).** A species evaluation list was created identify the worst species most likely to arrive on Molokai. Additional criteria to add to list were ecological range, ability to detect, likelihood of control, life form, threats, and footnotes for “eradicated” species. Partners were requested to fill in two columns of the form: likelihood of arrival and expert opinion on a 1-3 point rating (higher number indicating more of a threat), as well as additional species for evaluation. Return forms to Tina for compilation. Need to keep in mind that the weed risk assessment (WRA) is focused on the green industry and doesn’t include many noxious weeds.

IV. RESPONSE (Lori and Tina).

- **Island-wide survey packet (Tina).** The prevention list species will be included in the survey packet along with a introduction sheet, survey form and species descriptions with life form and habitat information. Target species and “eradicated” species should be included. This will be used by partners while at their field sites to increase the amount of area being surveyed.
- **Australian Tree Fern (Ken).** This fern has been a serious problem on Kauai with high costs, aerial herbicide application issues in watershed, and spread of spores. It is the fastest growing tree fern, reaching saleable size quickly. It is for sale at a Molokai nursery. The owner is selling 5 plants for \$75 per tree. Need a photo of the ferns with Clidemia growing on it. Look into KHNP purchasing the ferns and disposing of it. The owner will not restock once these plants are gone.
- **Rubber Vine (Lori).** Lori has done roadside surveys to find locations of rubber vine. Eight populations are known. The largest population at Kamalo is over 2 acres, but is estimated to take only 2 to 3 days to control. The next largest population will take only half a day. Issues to work out are liability from rubber vine sap getting on the public while the plant dries out. Post warning signs. All landowners are willing to remove this plant, except one person who would like a suitable replacement plant. Landowners should be asked to remove this plant on their own first. Another issue is disposal of the cuttings – haul to the landfill or consider asking the fire department to conduct a controlled burn of the cuttings at the site. After completing a full survey for rubber vine, begin control on small populations and then proceed to the largest population.
- **Snakes (Lori).** Randy Manaba volunteered to attend snake training in August in Guam and will come to the MoMISC meeting following training to report. He will be the primary response person for Molokai.
- **Weeds of Hawaii Pastures and Natural Areas (Kali).** This publication of CTAHR is now available on-line. Kali will check if more copies are available.

V. NEXT MEETING DATE

- **Meeting date & time.** Monday, July 19, 2004, 10 AM to 11:30 AM.
- **Location.** The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, Conference Room.