

## Oahu Invasive Species Committee Minutes

September 18, 2001

Bishop Museum, Atherton Halau,

1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Attendees: Joan Canfield, Vickie Caraway, Coleen Cory, Domingo Cravalho, Christina Crooker, Leilani Durand, Leila Gibson, Karen Horita, Jordan Jokiel, Annette Kaohelaulii, Kapua Kawelo, Terrell Kelley, Fred Kraus, Brent Liesemeyer, Kay Lynch, Nilton Matayoshi, Moani Pai, Shawn Reed, Dan Sailer, George Staples, Jason Sumiye, Katie Swift, Amy Tsuneyoshi, Ron Walker, Mindy Wilkinson

### 1. WELCOME – Coleen Cory, OISC chair

### 2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Kaulunani's Invasive Species Workshop in Hilo has been postponed until December 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> due to September 11 events.
- Women's weeding group to meet Thursdays at Diamond Head State Park, at Battery 407, to do weeding, 9am-noon, contact Annette at 235-5431.
- Volunteer Leader training is coming up in October.

### 3. WORKING GROUPS

- **Aquatics**-No report
- **Education**

Group has been working on species identification cards with pictures on one side and more info on the back, concentrating on species that are here now. Targets are educational groups and Invasive Species Committees. There is a grant opportunity available through Moanaloa Gardens, with concentration on species that are presently considered invasive, not established.

- **Detection** - Dan Sailor

Bruce Koebele, Kaala Farms, is going to check on the Waianae Kai population of Fountain grass. Hawaii Trail and Mountain Club has been contacted to give presentation to OISC in the future. To report weeds call toll free 586-PEST. Our web page will focus on our top six species for control. Also on the web page will be the form for reporting new invasive species populations.

- **Control** - Vince phone ????????

#### 1. Miconia Searches

June 9 in Manoa - one large tree was found behind Lyon Arboretum.

July 21, Manoa, several seedlings were found around tree found June 9.

August 11, Maunawili, 17 people participated; the southern portion above trail was searched but no plants were found. One volunteer was injured.

The September search was via helicopter; one large tree was found in fruit below Aihualama Trail with several seedlings.

Nov 9, Friday 9am a Miconia strategy meeting will be held at Makiki Baseyard.

A search at Kalihi Pacific Palisades resulted in no plants located.

November 7 search at Waimanalo, 9am, contact Jordan 733-4267.

Regularly scheduled Miconia hunts are scheduled for Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec 8

#### 2. Fountain Grass

Lanakai population was sprayed but the effort was not effective, possibly due to the use of old pesticides. Diamond Head spraying will begin soon, using new pesticides. Vince has two interns that will be participating in control. The Punchbowl population will need an exemption to spray, a requirement of Board of Water Supply.

Chamanaide University will be working DOA on their campus population. The Pali outbound lanes on Kailua side will be shut down for cleaning and DOA can access that population for control.

3. Blackberry

Rained out, will do control when weather lifts

4. Hiptage

Marks Estate population has been eliminated.

5. Frog

At Kahaluu one juvenile was caught. DOA will be holding meetings with Wahiawa community to present plan for frog control. Options are fire, caffeine, hot water treatment, and pyrethrums. DOA is going through procedures to get the coqui frog declared a pest. This will allow for control. This designation can be used as a hammer to get more control efforts. Use of the PEST hot line (586-PEST) will be mainly a frog hotline. Enforcement can only be done after the animal is declared a pest and prohibited. Following a press release, enforcement can be done, such as such as a felony offence with \$50K fine. Enough information was received from Brian Stevens, Kauai DOFAW, to add to noxious weed list via Curt Daehler.

Generally you can give Curt the species and he can get the info needed to add to the list. Vince will email the list out.

Volunteer opportunities:

Wahiawa Frog Hunt – POC Nilton 973-9538

- **Budget** – Christina

Handed out a list of money received but OISC to date and where we have asked for money. Presently we have enough money to hire coordinator and a second field tech from USFWS. USFS money can be used to expand field crew, will need a 1:1 match for this money.

- **Policy**

The Strategic Plan 90% completed by Rob Cowie with updates by Coleen. This documents was handed out at meeting. A contact person is needed for this group, Fred and Christina willing to participate.

**4. Status of Field Technicians and OISC Coordinator - Brent**

Miconia control is as mentioned above, also blackberry and fountain grass as noted. Hiptage was removed from Marks Estate. Prison crew that does trail work has found two Miconia plants around Aihualama Trail. Second person for field crew should be hired within a month. Coordinator description is in works and could be hired very quickly. Have office space available now. DOFAW tech with vehicle will be hired for each district along with needed equipment. Question: Should we try for one more position and increase operating budget with a Hawaii Community Foundation grant? Also, a question was raised about who will be hiring the coordinator and contributing to the position description. Christina has written a draft and can accept comments via email.

## 5. Species Accounts

- *SALVINIA MOLESTA* Kay Lynch

Giant salvinia is an invasive fresh-water weed from South America with the potential to do serious harm by blocking waterways. It has been on the U.S. noxious weed list since 1983. This aquatic weed can spread explosively and has covered Enchanted Lake in the past. *Salvinia* was first discovered in Hawaii's natural areas in 1999 and could threaten bird habitat, interfere with taro culture, and limit recreational uses of our lakes. The plant alters aquatic systems by forming mats and blocking oxygen and light and disrupting the food chain. Recommendations are to extensively survey potential habitats, educate the public to remove the threat, and consider legal mechanisms to exclude *Salvinia* from Hawaii.

6. For the next meeting more species reports are needed – Pampas grass, *Arundo donax*, cactus (Vickie will contact) and *Dillenia* (Amy). Possible site of next meeting is at Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden, December 4<sup>th</sup>.