

General Meeting Notes
September 17, 2003
Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden

I. Welcome and Sign-in

II. Announcements

A. New OISC Chair

1. Mindy Wilkinson announced Leila Gibson as the new OISC Chair. She will serve as a guidance role and the new point of contact for the next year. Mindy will become the Emeritus Chair and will continue to serve as the point of contact for RCUH.
2. OISC is currently looking for a Deputy Chair for any interested individuals.

B. Focus of OISC General Meeting

It was discussed that OISC will be stepping away from reporting in great detail on fieldwork accomplishments, and move towards a general forum of invasive species projects/ to share perspectives of varied agencies.

- This would help OISC understand what partner agencies are doing
- Continuous updates of noteworthy highlights of partners would make meetings more valuable for all involved.
- There was some discussion to cut to two meetings a year. This was rejected due to fear of people losing interest.
- Of the 4 meetings a year, it was discussed that OISC could make 2 of them in the evening and 2 during the daytime with hopes that it could reach more interested parties. This would address the fact that there is an interest in the community to learn more.
- An idea to have meeting coincide with community board meetings was declined with the reasoning that it's better that OISC have its own meetings. Community meetings may not give OISC the time it deserved.

Action Item: The OISC list server will be used for final acceptance of a new meeting structure.

III. OISC Re-Prioritization Meeting

A. Meeting Format

1. Organization Format of Meeting:

- OISC built upon previous history and looked to add, reject or refine target species. To do this, OISC members examined the progress/success of each species on the target list and re-evaluated the strategy of each species. OISC compared last year's species to the proposed species and looked at proposed field days and % field time.
- See reprioritization meeting minutes for more info.

2. Tables Discussed

OISC TARGET SPECIES	OISC TARGET SPECIES			
2002 -2003	2003 - 2004	Proposed FY 03 -04	Proposed FY 03 -04	
Species	Species Rank determined by New Zealand Assessment	Est. # Field Days	Est. % of Field Time	Nox weed List
Existing Target Plant Species	Existing Target Plant Species			
1. Miconia calvenscens	1. Miconia calvenscens	120	43.0%	X
2. Eleutherodactylus coqui	2. Eleutherodactylus coqui	20 to 40	8 - 16%	--
3. Rubus discolor	3. Rubus discolor	8 to 15	3 - 6%	X
4. Pennisetum setaceum	4. Schizachyrium condensatum	20 to 30	10 - 12%	--
5. Morella faya	5. Buddleia madagascariensis	4 to 6	2 -3%	X
6. Schizachyrium condensatum	6. Leptospermum scoparium	12 to 20	5 - 8%	--
7. Hiptage benghalensis	7. Pennisetum setaceum	25 to 35	10 - 14%	X
8(a). Leptospermum polygalifolium	8. Morella faya	5 to 20	2- 8%	X
8(b). Leptospermum scoparium	9. Melastoma candidum	10 to 20	4 - 8%	X
9. Prosopis juliflora				
10. Tibouchina urvilleana	Additional Incipient Target Species	3 to 8	1- 3%	X
(RR) Buddleia madagascariensis	Aquatic Invasive species	4 to 6	1.5 -2.5%	X
(RR) Senecio madagascariensis	(TSM) Tibouchina urvilleana	3 to 8	1- 3%	X
(RR) Cortaderia jubata & seloana	(TAC) Cortaderia jubata & seloana	1 to 5	1.0%	X / --
(TAC) Melastoma candidum	(TAC) Senecio madagascariensis	4 to 8	1- 3%	X
	(TAC) Hedychium gardenarium	10 to 20	4 - 8%	--
	(TAC) Hiptage benghalensis	4 to 5	1-2%	X
RR = Rapid Response				
TAC = Taxa of Concern				
TSM = Target Species to Monitor				

Table1: OISC 2003/2004 target species, proposed allocated time and ranking as preliminarily based on the New Zealand weed risk assessment. 1 field day= 3 staff @ 8 hrs

3. Notable Updates:

Fountain Grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*):

- Decrease effort on annual pushes to “control” large infestations

Fire Tree (*Morella faya*):

- Waianae effort limited to potential assistance of TNC control efforts

Hiptage (*Hiptage benghalensis*):

- Status change from OISC #7 target to a Taxa of Concern
- Goal = to visit and map all known population / asses feasibility of control

Manuka (*Leptospermum polygalifolium*):

- Status change from OISC #8 to Opportunistic Species of Concern
- Effort limited to controlling 2 known satellite populations

Thorny Kiawe (*Prosopis juliflora*):

- Status change from OISC #9 to Opportunistic Species of Concern
- Awaiting a better control method
- Would be willing to assist in a DOA effort.

- Need more data on this species
- Glory Bush:** (*Tibouchina urvilleana*)
- Status change from OISC #10 to target species monitor list
- Smoke bush** (*Buddleia madagascariensis*)
- Status change from Rapid Response to OISC target #5
- Indian rhododendron** (*Melastoma candidum*)
- Status change from Taxa of Concern to OISC target species #10
- Pampas grass** (*Cortaderia spp*)
- Status change from Rapid Response to Taxa of concern
 - Map / visit known locations try and solicit voluntary compliance from owners to control
- Fireweed** (*Senecio madagascariensis*)
- Status change from Rapid Response to Taxa of concern
 - Assist partner organization in species control
- Kahili ginger** (*Hedychium gardenarium*)
- Listed as OISC Taxa of Concern
 - Allocated 4-8% of OISC field time to work in conjunction w/ partner organization in Mt. Kaala bog
- Aquatic Invasive Species**
- Allocated 1-3% of OISC field time for aquatic invasive species
 - Strategy meeting / OISC will sample projects to asses how best to assist w/aquatics

4. Discussion of Improving OISC Detection

- OISC is going through an initial plan for a road survey project. It has been noted that roadways are a good way to look over the entire island quickly and efficiently. Because Oahu has an overwhelming amount of roads it may be a good idea to focus a survey on key parts such as around botanical gardens and at the ends of roads that border natural areas.
- OISC noted its concern to better connect with Biologists/Botanist to make sure information is getting to OISC and that all questions and concerns of new things are being addressed. OISC is working on trying to formalize some way to get the reports effectively. OISC wants to help professionals volunteer the information more freely.

Action Item: Develop generic information survey for professionals (OISC)

- OISC envisions itself as the housing for invasive species information.
- OISC sighted an interest in asking HECO to help out with power line inspections. OISC noted that through volunteer outreach, HECO could be provided with ID cards to help train them to be aware of invasive species in their areas and to report them.
- Nilton Y. from DOA noted that they are looking for partnerships for weed surveys and lack the capability to hire a dedicated Botanist for such work. He noted that they are currently trying to get more involved in detection. They lack the manpower, but are still trying to get back to their original statutes. He stated that they are playing catch-up at this point but promises that they will help out more with OISC.

IV. OISC Crew Accomplishments
 A. Field Work Summary

OISC TARGET SPECIES		
Field Summary May - September		
Species Rank determined by New Zealand Assessment	Total # treated	Total Field Hours
Existing Target Plant Species		
1. Miconia calvescens	96 / 3 M	943
2. Eleutherodactylus coqui	N/A	705
3. Rubus discolor	1100	48
4. Schizachyrium condensatum	1044	54
5. Buddleia madagascariensis	N/A	N/A
6. Leptospermum scoparium	9295	550
7. Pennisetum setaceum	1843	122
8. Morella faya	0	92
9. Melastoma candidum	1302	229
Additional Incipient Target Species		
Aquatic Invasive species	N/A	N/A
(TSM) Tibouchina urvilleana	N/A	N/A
(TAC) Cortaderia jubata & selloana	N/A	N/A
(TAC) Senecio madagascariensis	contributed	contributed
(TAC) Hedychium gardenarium	30	9
(TAC) Hiptage benghalensis	300	32

- There currently is an ongoing Island-wide coqui. With Scott Williamson on the lead. OISC strategy is to get Wahiawa to a monitoring point, and then move on to focus on other areas. OISC wants to develop a better partnership with the nurseries.
- OISC is having positive results on Rubus discolor treatments. The current treatment is Roundup PRO @ 2.5%. Roundup Pro is more effective than Roundup as it requires only a 2hr period before rainfall to be effective versus the 6+hrs.
- OISC is working on hammering out the grass populations, working on an 8-week interval, with possibly decreasing the interval with beard grass. Waiting till winter/wetter season to survey fountain grass in the Waianae Mountains, as it is too dry to detect plants.
- OISC is hoping for a possible victory with Buddleia, but is waiting on masks (PPE) for control work.

- OISC is finding aerial surveys to be very valuable for detection. They allow OISC to cover large amounts of ground in areas not normally visited or that are too difficult to get to. OISC projects 3 trips every 2 months to be the most beneficial.
- OISC noted of a recent discovery of a mature tree above Maunawili and discussed about possible access issues. It was noted that Mike Buck lives in the area and is part of the neighborhood board and could be of some help.

Action Item: Contact Mike Buck (OISC- Mindy)

- OISC discussed the addition of aquatic species and what should be targeted. It was decided to talk with the Aquatic Species Advisory Committee and the Div. of Aquatic Resources. OISC plans to deal with plant species first as it is more apt to deal with them.

Action Item: Begin open dialogue with ASAC and DOAR (OISC)

B. Education/ Outreach

- OISC had two trips involving Na Ala Hele interns and Lyon Arboretum interns. It was both an educational opportunity for the interns and a great contribution of manpower towards control work.
- OISC had also done a Sierra Club presentation and set up an informational booth se at a Lyon Arb. Plant sale.

C. Volunteer opportunities

- OISC is revising its miconia hunt service trips. It has been decided to have these trips be more in-house based due to concerns over quality control issues on the surveys. OISC hopes to continue to use the same dedicated volunteers they have in the past. Because it takes a certain degree of skill and training to search for Miconia and because large/safe search areas are becoming scarcer OISC wants to encourage a more hard-core volunteer base for this.
- OISC had an alternative control outing in Waihee on *Melastoma candidum*. There was a solid turn out and it was deemed a success.
- OISC is going to treat volunteer opportunities on a case by case basis and deal with them as they arise, as not to hamper OISC control efforts which is OISC's primary responsibility

D. Other news

- OISC acquired a new vehicle to use, a 96 Ford Bronco from Brent Liesemeyer, (DOFAW), creating a total of two vehicles to its fleet.
- OISC has a new Hutch (storage container) located at the Makiki Forestry Baseyard. The hutch is fully operational, but OISC is currently working on trying to get power and water hooked up which is going to take some time.
- USFWS is setting up a proposal for OISC to help out with a large weed survey which would include funding for 4-5 aerial surveys.
- OISC has a new database from Hawaii Heritage that OISC has eagerly been anticipating. Once updated with past data this database will house all of OISC field information conveniently organized and accessible for real time reporting.
- The BLASTER WORM regrettably hit OISC's office.
- Christy Martin passed out a new OISC flyer for comment on. It incorporates a detection aspect coupled with informative PR for the general public.

- Discussion over possible posters for schools was also addressed. It was noted that these posters would be for detection. They would be placed in hot areas and be species specific as not to over crowd the poster.

V. Species Presentation: Nick Kalodimos—Parrots on Oahu

A. Highlights: For more info contact Nick = biota4@yahoo.com

- Nick noted that due to a previous newspaper article that was published, the public is aware that something is going to happen with the parrots. People are both for and against the parrots
- He noted parrots are unique in that they travel long distances and have interesting foraging habits
- He noted that the red-crown and Amazon have the largest flight ranges.
- He noted that there are 4 potentially reproducing populations on Oahu.
- He noted that the red-crowned parrot and red-masked parakeet travel the greatest distance, followed by the rose-ringed parakeet and sulphur –crested cockatoo respectively next.

B. Overview of Locations

- 12 cockatoos @ Lyon Arb.
- ~12 rose-ringed parakeets in Honolulu
- 6 cockatoos @ Makiki Valley
- 2 cockatoos @ Haiku Valley
- 6 cockatoos @ Windward
- 30 red-masked parakeets @ east Leahi
- Other locations not mapped yet

C. Concerns

- Defoliation of trees, especially palm trees.
- Spread of non-native plants thru long distance seed dispersal
- Potential agriculture pest

D. Opinions

- Manoa cockatoos are the least likely to expand, due to them being lowland specialist.
- Makiki cockatoos have a higher potential to move but have been stable for 8 years.
- Red-crowned parrot, rose-ring parakeets, and conures have the ability to increase in numbers fastest and spread most rapidly, due to them being generalist
- Conservation wise, Nick believes seed dispersal would be the biggest concern, followed by them being a potential disease vector.
- Nick noted that for management purposes, work should be done around food sites so as not to disturb roosting sites, as then they would move to a new location.

VII. Next meeting date and location.

January 21 from 9-12 @ Lyon Arboretum

- Email verification will be sent out.

~PAU~

Attendees: Scott Lynch, Eileen Hemstetter, Christy Martin, Amy Tsuneyoshi, Nilton Matayoshi, Nick Kalodimos, Brent Liesemeyer, Randy Miyoshiro, James Yuen, Meghan Halabisky, Josh Fisher, Ryan Smith, Mindy Wilkinson, Jason Sumiye, Rob Hoff