

**Oahu Invasive Species Committee**  
August 4, 2004 General Meeting Minutes  
Lyon Arboretum  
9:00 – 12:00

Attendees: Rob Hauff (Division of Forestry and Wildlife - DOFAW), Stefanie Loo Jefts (The Nature Conservancy) Kari Shozuya (OISC), Penny Levin, Joshua Fisher (OISC), Jason Sumiye (Koolau Mountain Watershed Partnership), Mindy Wilkinson (DOFAW), Juan Chavez (American Fellows Program), Tim Edmonds (University of Hawaii), Scott Lynch (OISC), Christy Martin (CGAPS/ISCs), Larry Abbott (KNHF / AML Kawainui), Amy Tsuneyoshi (Board of Water Supply), Mark Fox (TNC), Kim Langley (CGAPS), Nilton Matayoshi (Hawaii Department of Agriculture), Kahale Pali (OISC)

- I. Welcome and sign-in
- II. OISC Meeting Focus and schedule overview
- III. Announcements
  - A.) As a way of saying thanks to the OISC staff Leila and the committee extended their appreciation to the OISC crew for all their hard work. Each field staff member received a card and a small gift.
  - B.) OISC is looking for a new deputy chair for next year. Currently, Leila Gibson is the chairperson of OISC. Soon Leila will be stepping down as chair and the deputy chair Rob Hauff will become the new chair. Rob's spot will need to be filled. If anyone is interested in becoming the chairperson of OISC please contact either Ryan or Leila.
- IV. New Summer OISC staff
  - A.) Kari Shozuya (UH-HIP intern)

As part of the UH-Hip internship Kari had to complete a specific project. Her project was to update the Department of Agriculture's airport display for the inter-island terminal. We are expecting to see her project finished by the end of this summer.
  - B.) Mike Leech (Western Washington University – Masters student)

Mike was hired this summer as a GIS specialist. He had several tasks outlined for him.

    - i. Help OISC migrate to ArcGIS 9.0
      - Conduct GIS training tailored for OISC
      - Create reference guides for using ArcGIS
      - Transfer OISC GIS project from Arcview 3.2 to ArcGIS 9.0
      - Create tools for prioritizing survey / managing
    - ii. Spatial Vegetation Image Analysis

Used satellite imagery to create polygons of monotypic stands of bamboo, hau, and uluhe to assist with field surveys and planning. He is doing in-depth analysis of miconia infested areas.
    - iii. Legacy Data

- Systematically enter all data sheets previously stored only as hard copies or in an excel spreadsheet (11/01 – 12/02) into the OISC spatial and tabular databases.

- iv. USFWS mapping
  - Create initial survey map of invasive species in USFW Kipapa preserve.
  - Provide management recommendation in conjunction with OISC.

V. OISC Field Work: accomplishments/ roadblocks  
 A.) Summary of field work ( January- June 30 2004)

<b>OISC TARGET SPECIES</b>		
Field Summary January – June 2004		
<b>Species Rank determined by New Zealand Assessment</b>	<b>Total treated</b>	<b>Total Field Hours</b>
<b>Existing Target Plant Species</b>		
1. Miconia calvescens	<b>55 / 0 M</b>	<b>570/46</b>
2. Eleutherodactylus coqui	N/A	N/A
3. Rubus discolor	1365	62 /48
4. Schizachyrium condosatum	7955	314/48
5. Buddleia madagascariensis	280	44
6. Leptospermum scoparium	6446	190/308
7. Pennisetum setaceum	2499	373/19
8. Morella faya	0	16/8
9. Melastoma candidum	390	312/74
<b>Additional Incipient Target Species</b>	179	99/81

B.) Field Work by Species( January- June 30 2004)

1. **Miconia:** No mature trees discovered. (1st quarter since 2001) / Aerial ops 1-2x/month.
2. **Coqui:** OISC is working in collaboration with DOA/DOFAW. Earlier this summer OISC held a coqui frog strategy meeting.
  - a.) New strategy plan:
    - Increase large spray ops in Wahiawa (goal min. 3 / frog season)
    - OISC is dedicating to 1-2x / week to frogs. Unfortunately the suppliers of citric acid are currently out of stock and we are waiting for a new shipment. This has been a significant set back at controlling the Wahiawa population.
    - Continue surveying known locations to determine treatment efficacy.

- Increase reconnaissance of other high risk areas (other nurseries).
  - Waimanalo: Continue to work with nurseries to control Coqui.
  - DOFAW is possibly contracting the USDA wildlife services for assistance on coordinating efforts for the control of coqui on private lands. OISC is not doing control of frogs on these lands. It takes a lot of time to organize efforts and still be effective.
  - Coqui PSAs (Christy) There is wording for a 30 second commentary and a good recording of the calling frogs. On Oahu the hotline number is the DOA's pest hotline. OISC is hoping to design a website for people to refer to that would be clear and concise. Christy has already begun to solicit radio programs to play the PSA.
- b.) Discussion:
- Penny – Can you use a call trap to catch the females. Ryan – Yes, but it can be difficult as they require maintenance. Some of the nursery owners use these traps. Scott is looking into the possibility of using them.
  - Mindy – Can you give us a summary of how Wahiawa is doing this year compared to last year? Ryan – We have divided the infestation into three areas. Section 1 – Flat area, Section 2 - gulch, Section 3- area surrounding residents and residents property. The frogs have been there for four years. We haven't noticed a significant change in population numbers despite treatment last year. This year we have noticed that they have spread slightly beyond the current location. They spread from Section 1. Fortunately it is a slow spread.

3. **Himalayan Blackberry:** As OISC extends its surveys of the population of Maumae trail we are finding more plants in new areas thus extending the infestation perimeter. OISC will be conducting more surveys of this area. Our next Sierra Club trip will be focused on this project (August 14).

4. **Bush beard grass:** OISC is systematically targeting Temple Valley. We are gaining the cooperation of the private landowners and the surveys of the neighborhood are going well. Inclement weather is often a setback as it delays the 6-8 week rotation that is necessary for treating mature plants.

5. **Smoke bush:** OISC staff member, Kahale Pali found a new location in Wahiawa. OISC will be conducting more surveys of this area.

6. **Indian Rhododendron:** OISC staff is currently re-evaluating our role in management of this species. OISC has found populations ranging from Waihee to Maunawili. OISC still needs to develop a better control technique.

7. **Fountain Grass:** OISC held a Fountain Grass Working Group meeting in early July to re-examine the strategy for this species. Below is a summary of that meeting.

- a.) Eradicate from Wai'anae: Increase Reconnaissance / map habitat and likely areas that are not managed.

- b.) Remove / Control High traffic areas (in conjunction with partner agencies)
  - 1. Continue annual push on Diamond head trail
  - 2. Continue annual treatment/survey of plants on Bellows AFB
- c.) Increase Reconnaissance.
- d.) Satellite Populations: Increase PR efforts. Empower landowners to control work with partner agencies to share the control.
- e.) Main populations: Try to develop cooperative efforts with partner agencies.

Discussion:

- The United States Marines may be a possibility with control of fountain grass on Lanikai.
- Penny has been talking with residents in Palolo about the spread of fountain grass. There may be some interest in getting community support for control of fountain grass in Palolo.

**Action Item:** - Have Mike create a vegetation map for suitable habitat of FG.  
- OISC will follow up with Penny re: Palolo fountain grass.  
- OISC and CGAPS will look into the possibility of a joint project with the Marines.

C.) Volunteer Opportunities

Monthly volunteer outings have resumed. They will occur on the second Saturday of every month.

D.) Education / Outreach

1. Developed display 'What's Invading your neighborhood?' with associated flyers for each neighborhood area.
2. Standardized all species flyers / access permission forms.
3. Gave a presentation to the Ala wai watershed hunt.
4. Other educational presentations: Blaisdell plant sales, Ala Wai Community Association, Palolo Community Association.

Discussion:

Jason- Do you have a specific plan for public relations? Ryan- No. There was a lot of initial work to determine a specific plan for this person and then the resources. Jason - It would be wise to create a subcommittee for this. Mindy – This should be done prior to hiring for a PR position.

**Action Item:** OISC will organize subcommittee defining a specific plan for PR/Education issues.

E.) ALL ISC Data hui

The goal of this meeting is to standardize data collection and reporting statewide amongst the ISCs. This initiated dialog which will be continuing this fall.

F.) Trainings

1. Wilderness 1st Aid
2. Chainsaw Training
3. OAS sling load training

G.) OISC seeking a new home

OISC is currently looking for a space where they can merge their office and baseyard into one location. If anyone has any ideas to solve this problem please contact Ryan.

H.) Topics that need addressing:

1. OISC meeting schedule:

Ryan – We feel that the information from others is important, yet when we had the quarterly meetings there wasn't a high turnout. Rob – It may be better to continue with the bi-annual meeting and have more ad hoc meetings when necessary. Christy prefers the quarterly meetings as she can get updates about not only OISC but what other organizations are doing out there as well. Scott Lynch feels that the information regarding weed strategy is important as the OISC staff is young and he would like to draw on the older more experienced members. Christy would like a more in-depth report on what is going on. She would like to see more information about what is going on Oahu. Mindy suggests that we create a more detailed bi-annual report in conjunction with the OISC general meetings. This will keep the meetings short, yet still give the details that some committee members would be interested in. These can be posted on the website. **Conclusion: In place of the other two meetings OISC staff will provide a summary of field effort. It will be available on the internet as well. It can be used to send out to other groups as well – PTAs, neighborhood boards.**

2. OISC Meeting Format

- a. General Meeting: Continue with bi-annual meetings (mid January / mid July) In place of quarterly meetings OISC will produce quarterly reports (mid April / mid October).

- b. Annual prioritization: Discussion

Ryan – How do we determine how successful we are controlling these species? How do we rate our success? Ryan wants to build on the same agenda that was presented last year, but would like to take a more analytical projections about how much time things take to complete using the Access Database and GIS. In conjunction with that he would like to rate the level of success in managing individual species. This would be based on historical data of population size and acreage and locations and time spent. He is soliciting how best to do this re-prioritization meeting. Mindy – Thinks it is a good plan. The goal of this meeting is to see how we are spending our time and resources, what areas are still left to be done, and also to where others can bridge the gap.

VI.) Addressing Invasive Species Statewide: Mindy Wilkinson

#### A. Status of HISC:

Mindy will be resubmitting a proposal for 5 million for the next legislative session. Three million dollars is available for this fiscal year. The HISC list identifies species that trigger access provisions in Act 85 (legislation that created the HISC) The HISC list is independent of other agency lists. The species on the HDOA noxious weed list are included in the HISC list. Adding something to the HISC list doesn't change the species on existing agencies' lists or their authority to act on those species.

Amy- If the nursery is selling a specific weed on the HISC list does that mean they can fine them for it. Mindy – No, that authority is still contained within the HDOA noxious weed list.

Christy - The noxious weed list was made to prevent the spread of those species already established in Hawaii. Therefore, you can own it but you cannot spread it. A nursery owner can have it but cannot sell it.

Mark – What is the DOA's idea of a creating a restricted list for plants?

Nilton- In an addition to the noxious weed list there has been discussion to create a restricted list. This would allow people to bring in certain species with a permit for research and study. It has not been approved. There would be a list of things that you cannot bring in to Hawaii. This list would have nothing to do with regulating a nursery that had a weed species.

#### B. Established Pest Working Group:

There is a need to find out the impact of the HISC funds on the NARS program. Also, the HISC committee needs to review funding priorities. The goals are to continue to fund the ISCs , find a way to determine efficacy of the ISCs control and support an experimental marine response team. The HISC Outreach Working Group has come up with the a work plan for the outreach tasks and job descriptions for outreach staff .

#### C. Additional Questions:

What about city and county funds? Mindy – We haven't really looked into getting funding from the city and county as of yet. It might be a possibility for matching funds.

### VII. PR update: Christy Martin

#### A. Media Campaign:

There is money for a media campaign and after delays the accounts are now set up. The advertising group Ward Research is conducting surveys to determine a pre-campaign knowledge with the plan to do a similar survey after the media campaign is completed.

#### B. "Don't plant a pest" brochure:

Getting the nursery input on this is difficult as they are somewhat resistant to the idea of it. They are going to hold their own industry meetings to discuss

this project and to decide on “best uses practices”. There will be another meeting in September to discuss what the nursery industry wants as far as creating a bad list.

C. Website:

The HISC would like to have a web page developed in conjunction with the CGAPS and ISC websites. Christy is hoping to get a designer for this by the end of next month.

Mark – Christy is doing an amazing job because she is breaking through to get into the landscape community. This has been very difficult in the past. Christy finds it a worthy challenge to build a relationship between the environmental groups and the landscape industry.

VIII. CGAPS coordinator – Kim Langley

Kim started June 1st. This position will be looking at various types of funding. She will examine what is currently set up, what the needs are, and will go after those needs. She wants to support the ISCs. She still wants to keep it local and grassroots, but also wants to bring some uniformity to all the ISCs.

IX. Presentation by Tim Edmonds (UH PhD candidate)

Tim Edmonds gave a presentation on his work on mapping the invasive tree Pond Apple (*Annona glabra*) in Australia. Please contact OISC if you would like to reach Tim for further questions.

X. Next meeting will occur in six months. The location and exact date and time will be announced on the OISC e-mail list.

~Pau~