

Oahu Invasive Species Committee Meeting
November 15, 2000
Paki Hale, Kapiolani Park
MINUTES

8:30 a.m. Sign-in

The meeting agenda:

1. Revisit workshop minutes
2. Work Group progress reports and discussion (7 min each)
 - a. Budget/Funding
 - b. Policy/Lobbying
 - c. Detection
 - d. Control
 - e. Education
 - f. Restoration
 - g. Aquatic
- Break** (15 min)
3. Report on work group organization
4. Species background (7-10 min each)
 - a. Plant - thorny kiawe
 - b. Plant – fern tree
 - c. Animal – parrots
 - d. Aquatic - TBA
5. Field work schedule
6. Quick poll of sightings/distribution
7. Finalize Mission Statement
8. Volunteers requested – Chair, Recorder
9. Set next meeting

Welcome given by the chair, Joan Yoshioka. Following introductions the meeting was called to order. Was noted that newspaper articles concerning OISC were written by Jan Tenbruggencate, November 13, 2000 in Honolulu Advertiser. Additional publicity was from a Honolulu Weekly article published in the October 18-24, 2000 edition. Review of organizational meeting and the workshop minutes were postponed so participants could review them. Comments are due November 22; email Christina_Crooker@fws.gov, 541-3441.

WORK GROUPS

- 1) Budget/Funding - Joan Canfield, point of contact
Main purposes are to develop OISC's short- and medium-term strategic plans and to obtain funding to carry out the priorities identified in those plans. Joan will not be reachable for the next two months and Rob Cowie will be the point of contact.
Objectives:

- a) Will write a draft OISC strategic plan for Year 1, based on the priorities of work groups.
- b) Will write a draft OISC 3-5 year strategic plan.
- c) Will search for funding for OISC coordinator position, initially this may be a half time position. DOFAW has located a potential office site at Waimalu but this will not be available for several months or more.
- d) Identify potential funding sources for OISC activities.

Budget/funding work group needs prioritized year one plans (including budget) from each work group as soon as possible in order to develop OISC's year one strategic plan.

- 2) **Policy/Lobbying** - Fred Kraus, point of contact
 Have held two meetings: 1) To educate the work group of present policies 2) To address first year goals.

First Year goals:

1. Produce a position statement supporting a screening system for species introductions.
2. Draft a bill to legislature to increase enforcement capability for animal smugglers.

Longer-term goals:

3. Revisit bird plant importation list and address the added threat of disease introductions.
4. Add plant taxa to HDOA noxious weed list.
5. Petition DOFAW to stop planting and distributing invasive plant species.

The policy working group needs are:

1. A pool of OISC lobbyists.
2. Suggestions of taxa to add to noxious weed list to make changes worthwhile – deadline?
3. Letterhead ASAP

Gaps that are not covered by other groups are not apparent at present. the next policy meeting is November 21, 2000 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Lyon Arboretum
 Draft for screening & legislation should be ready at November 21, 2000 meeting.

Questions:

1. What trees are DOFAW planting that are invasive? Pine and *Melaleuca* for sure, there are others.
2. Have you considered the plantings of other nurseries? Yes, but not high priority now. Would require cooperation of nurseries and we do not have wide representation of commercial nurseries at OISC meetings
3. Do you have a list of noxious weeds? There is one on the HEAR website
4. Do you have notes from your first meeting? Christina Crooker has policy notebook or ask any policy work group member.

Federal bill # 3222: adding to Fed noxious weed list.

3) **Detection** - Dan Sailer, point of contact

The group's current emphasis is on invasive plant species but expects to expand to other taxonomic groups with addition of new members.

Year 1 priorities

Objectives:

1. Design and develop detection system for rapid response
 - a. Build upon the capacity of existing detection systems. Examples are pest hotlines such as DOA *Miconia* hotline, DOCARE (deals with illegal activities on DOFAW lands)
 - b. Create a "most unwanted" incipient species list for Oahu and prioritize it for eventual training/educational purposes. Philip Thomas has started this type of list at the HEAR web site. Also Bishop Museum's Occasional Papers, Number 65 has a list of potentially invasive horticultural plants.
 - c. Centralize/standardize geographical information on priority incipient species for control purposes. This will require verification of species identification with Bishop specimens; coordinate with other ISCs.
 - d. Create a "Pest Scoring System" for early detection of potential pests.
2. Implementation of above Objective 1
 - a. Assemble forms used by BIISC, MISC, and Hawaii Heritage Program
 - b. Put on OISC website.
3. Future objective: Train Board of Water Supply, HECO, etc. employees for identification of invasive species.

Questions:

1. Are we going to place emphasis on Natural Areas or Agriculture areas? For now, we are mainly looking at Natural Areas but detection will encompass urban areas.
2. Where is the geographical information? In the control work group. Hopefully, the Heritage program will participate in this action.

4) **Control** – Mindy Wilkinson, Point of Contact

1. Species list from last meeting:
 - a. *Miconia* – Actions include looking for seedlings and control trips, more volunteers are needed.
 - b. Fountain grass – Actions needed are treatment of Diamond Head population and to broaden our efforts – Lanikai?
 - c. Frogs – Actions needed are to gather more information and to support nursery control
 - d. Thorny kiawe – Actions needed are to map existing populations
 - e. Blackberry – Actions needed are to retreat existing populations and map the extent of these populations
 - f. Parrots - More information is needed for a control strategy.
2. General:
 - a. Invite media to weed control groups
 - b. Supply field technicians with GPS units

- c. Standardize forms for detection
- d. Develop long term control schedules - encourage more volunteers
- e. Establish baseyard for staff & equipment
- f. Coordinate with other working groups
 - Detection group: Fountain grass control - December 4, 2000 at Diamond Head
 - Anyone having information priority species, please locate on the maps after the meeting
 - Also coordinate with education, budget, and policy groups
- g. Map all priority species
- h. Continue ongoing control of target weeds and obtain information for additional target species
- i. Develop and publicize work trip schedules

For minutes of the control work group, contact Mindy

Hawaii Heritage Program - Leilani Durand

The program has the capability to map species and could make a database using two methods:

1. Call with information; easy access, most simple method
2. Interactive internet web page (probably the best method); would need screening method

For cost of each method will need to work with budget work group.

Comments:

1. Suggestion to review past mapping efforts of Lyndon Wester
2. Deposit vouchers at Bishop Museum

5) **Restoration** Point of Contact, Jennifer Garrison

Main goals:

1. Establish web site to discuss restoration efforts; will get standard format in 1-2 months.
2. Work with control group to publish on website.
3. Showcase restoration project that group could work support, possible site in Waimanalo with Matt Schirman and Rick Barboza.
4. Develop handbook for restoration techniques including resources.
5. Identify photos for natives and invasive species and make available to public.
6. Work with education group to get increased participation for publicly.

Questions:

1. Is the Restoration workgroup involved with Ala Wai Restoration Group? No, we are just in the process of organizing the group.
2. Malama Hawaii has volunteer network – is a representative coming to OISC meeting? Yes.
3. Is there a phone tree set up that we could share? Yes

6) **Education** - Melissa Dumarán, point of contact 733-4267

Goal of the work group is to promote education of OISC goals, here to serve the organization. Six action items have been identified:

1. Develop point of contact list: Malama Hawaii,
 2. Logo development, could use the MISC logo and change it for Oahu.
 3. Need for a one page fax sheet similar to MISC for outreach.
 - i. Work with control and detection groups on the fax.
 4. Need follow up articles to Honolulu Weekly and the Advertiser; easiest to write letters to editor.
- Need mailing address – possibly rent a post office box?

Question:

1. Do we have articles to put in different organizations newsletters? Yes, the one page fax should serve for that.
2. Do we have the money for logo, posters, etc. – Would money be available from the Secretariat for Conservation Biology? Check with Moani. NOTE Annette passed hat and we got \$100.00 for the logo design.

7) **Aquatic** – Point of contact, Lu Eldredge

Projects Identified:

1. Fish placed in the alkaline ponds on the Big Island should be taken out.
2. A letter should be sent to pet shop owners advising them to discourage their customers from dumping their pets in stream; coordinate this action with the education group.
3. Revive television spots discouraging people from dumping their pets into the streams.
4. Mike Yamamoto is doing the legislative work on prevention of dumping ballast into the harbors.
5. May 18 & 19, 2000 Bishop will sponsor workshops on alien marine species; the workshop on the 19th will be open to public. Lu will have guidebook of reintroduction of natural species at that time.
6. Bishop Museum web site has listing of introduced and native species

General discussion followed on USDA Quarantine and Federally listed invasive species, funding is available for *Salvinia* control. Call 861-8490 for more information. Federal funds can be used for public education at schools, shows, etc. Someone from the federal office will attend OISC meetings. There is a stakeholders meeting December 20, 2001 (for airlines, public, agencies). For federally regulated species a compliance group looks at markets; the federal agents will refer back to the state if needed; call USDA with information about invasive species. Can get the federal list from this web site: aphis.uspa.gov – Contact Hilda Montoya for more information. Director of Operations in Hawaii: Travis Richardson

Working Group organization - Discussion

Have not heard from native Hawaiian groups, could this be addressed by Malama Hawaii? Groups have been invited to attend. Also worked on wording/suggestions and added to notes.

Field work schedule

1. Ongoing *Miconia* and fountain grass control
 - a. *Miconia* trip this Saturday, Nov 16 at 8:00 a.m. at Church of the Crossroads, contact Joby/Kapua
 - b. Palolo sighting of *Miconia* at Kaaui Crater, need volunteers in mid December, check with Jordan.
 - c. First 2 weeks in January Diamond Trail will be closed, can treat fountain grass population on trails; good chance to get new OISC technicians involved, check with Jordan.
 - d. Fountain grass control will be taking place at on-ramp on Pali Highway next month-December, need select group of volunteers to assist; possibly treat small population past Pali tunnels as well?

OISC mission statement

Some concern has been voiced about addressing only on Oahu invasives/problems - comments?

Also concern was voiced on addressing incipient over established species.

Could we address many of these concerns by elaborating in a one-page document?

Suggestion was made to add "invasive" between "incipient species" at 2 locations.

Question of if we should define incipient or use other wording that public will understand? Should we use "new" rather than "incipient"? Possibly put "incipient (newly established)"? Group voted to use "present but not wide spread" by approximately 70% for and 30% against.

Next meeting January 10, 2001

9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

Joan will no longer be on Oahu by the end of January, we urgently need a volunteer to be chair, preferably a person that can be an OISC lobbyist; Vickie Caraway volunteered to be the recorder.