

Oahu Invasive Species Committee - Minutes
February 20, 2002
Lyon Arboretum

Attendees: Joan Canfield, Vickie Caraway, Ken Ching, Coleen Cory, Rob Cowie, Domingo Cravalho, Christina Crooker, Curt Daehler, Julie Denslow, Melissa Dumaran, Leilani Durand, Jennifer Garrison, Karen Horita, Veronica Hotton, Jordan Jokiel, Matt Kier, Kevin Kinvig, Megan Laut, Brent Liesemeyer, Steve Lohse, Duane Nelson, Mark Ono, Cynthia Rezentes, George Staples, Theresa Trueman-Madriaga, Amy Tsuneyoshi, Ron Walker, Christine Woolaway

1. Welcome - Coleen Cory, Chair

2. Announcements

- Status of OISC Coordinator-Position description is at RCUH now, will be announced next week
- Field Technicians - Liddy ? hired, will be hiring a third technician soon.
- Emergency Environmental Workforce - OISC has one position
- OISC Chairperson - TNC is undergoing reorganization and Coleen will have to step down July 1, Coleen will be call people to replace her.
- Ronnie, a graduate student with US Forest Service, will be doing surveys of agencies via interviews to get weed lists, research direction, management direction, possible policy direction in using risk assessment; this information will be posted on the web site; idea is to go the next step on handling weeds that are threatening conservation areas; Ronnie is working with Julie Denslow of US Forest Service. The purpose is to come up with a weed list that is supported by data; included will be GIS info on the weedy species, probably in polygon form;
- Teresa Trueman-Madriaga- December 2001 Invasive Species Workshop was held on Big Island, sponsored by Kaulunani program of DOFAW; this workshop was driven by the federal funding of Kaulunani which will not support invasive species; participants in the workshop were the landscape industry, DOA, UH, Bishop Museum, and others; purpose was to establish goals allowing a viable landscape industry yet stopping the flow of invasive species; Curt Daehler received a grant from Kaulunani to score possible invasive species, this grant was renewed for next year; (handout); a follow-up workshop is planned for this summer to go over the scoring of landscape plants; major goal is to build trust between the groups involved; Lyle Wong from DOA has agreed to look at the process that is in place in Australia; Mike Maunder of National Tropical Botanical Garden wrote the guiding principles that everyone agreed to use; Kaulunani will probably be hiring a part-time person to accomplish the follow-up workshop and to communicate the results of the scoring process to the urban forestry community; if anyone wants to be on the list to receive information from the workshop in December contact Teresa (672-5167); Curt has results for about 70 species, wants to test the risk assessment results with field staff for a blind check of the results; this spring land managers will be asked to score species and Curt will compare this information with the assessment results; America Society of Landscape Architects wants to use the list; when list is validated it will be posted on the web for use
- List serve - you have to sign yourself up and take yourself off, no one else can do it; contact Philip Thomas with questions.

3. Working Group Reports

· **Budget/Funding** - Christina

- o Budget group identified staffing needs - a policy/public relations person, to handle OISC public interface; the OISC budget to date, with funding source:
 - USFWS funding for two technicians, remaining: \$23,358
 - USFWS funding for coordinator: \$39,000
 - USFS funding extended for 2 technicians: \$50,000
 - USFS funding for supplies: \$12,750
 - State funding for biocontrol: \$20,000
 - Hawaii Community Foundation extension for technician: \$63,000
- o Above funds are in-hand, funding below has been requested:
 - DOFAW technician vehicle: \$62,500
 - USFS funding, general: \$80,000
- o Proposed funding: Priority 1 - 50K to extend coordinator, 40K for community outreach/policy, 35K for frog technician; Priority 2 - 30K for parrot survey, 5K for signs at trailheads and ID cards
- o March 15 meeting of interested parties to do joint package for USFWS proposal
- o Reviewed the 2001 budget; meeting will be held soon for 2002 budget package
- o OISC needs to take responsibility to get county funding for invasive species but do not have expertise to do so now, looking to Karen Horita for guidance

· **Policy/Lobbying** - Steve Lohse

Newspaper article in Star-Bulletin about the Environmental Task Force on Oahu; two bills are in the House and Senate to extend the Task Force July 1; funds will have to be appropriated by the Governor to bridge the gap between previous 6-month funding and new funding; suggestion was made for individuals of OISC to write letters thanking their Legislators for support and asking for support for new funding; a template letter will be sent to the OISC list-serv; more Task Force positions of OISC can be requested July 1.

Requested support funding bill in the governor's budget and discussed the best way to do testimony (e-mail, fax, etc), also helpful to send Steve copy of your testimony; Karen H can get you in to see officials to do lobbying on the county level; OISC needs to know what issues are decided at the county level; ISC's are responsible for county level lobbying and CGAPS deals with state level issues; suggested meeting with Karen to find out funding contacts in the county and to address the approved street tree lists to eliminate invasives on the list; for this year funding, OISC must meet with county officials within the next 3-4 weeks to get on budget and to address street and park plantings; to get mayors budget start lobbying in November, for council members lobby around the same time; the group should meet with Karen; Steve has been sending out notices for bill support to the OISC list-serv. Detection - Coleen suggested folding the function of detection working group with control group, no opposition from group.

· **Control** - Jorden

Plant control targets are:

1. **Fountain grass**

Diamond Head location, hit 70 % since Jan 1, including the rim (except main trail), trails, and roads in the crater; in March Diamond Head State Park will close for week and OISC can access main trail, may be a call for volunteers for steep access; Feb 6 cooperative venture with Marines on runways at Bellows, all plants seen were treated, plants probably

originated from neighboring Lanikai; Punchbowl population was treated, few plants are now left and DOA will treat these, BOW also treated plants on their lands; at Chaminade University 10 acres were treated; monitoring will continue at Punchbowl and Palolo populations; Dan Sailor has been doing control on Diamond Head, around the old Cannon club; 15 plants were found at the airport; at Kahuku (new seedlings, will continue to go back) and Dillingham (no seedlings but will keep going back) very small satellite populations were found and controlled.

2. Miconia

Mike has been very effective on documentation of sites on Sierra club trips, since December 479 plants were treated and he has been updating ArcView information (Mike's number is 286-4816) concerning locations; in December 11 mature trees were removed at Judd and Nuuanu sites, in January 1 mature tree removed; December in Manoa over 300 seedlings were removed, mature trees above Paradise Park found with ripe fruit, this site will need follow-up; in Kalihi an aerial survey behind the nursery discovered plants found; in February the Sierra Club found no new plants were found on the right side of the ridge but will need more survey; D Sailor searched drainage of Palolo Valley (Pukele stream side) found nothing but will continue search

3. Thorny kiawe

In the Kapalama drainage 7.5 tons of plant material was cut from area, this effort should be finished by March 21; at Sand Island about 1000 plants need to be removed; the Navy removed 50-100 plants from Pearl Harbor; Maili Stream, from the road, plants were removed; Barbers Point - removal is happening on the beach;

4. Rubus discolor

Only one population in Koolau Mtns, retreated pop twice, interested in volunteer trips for removal and search for plants between the populations.

5. Molokia umbellata

Army plants

6. Leptospermum poligufolia

2 populations on Waiialae Nui trail treated; can do more aerial surveys with present budget

Animal Control -

1. Frogs Domingo Cravalho

Pest hotline had 25 frog reports from Oahu, all calls were followed up with 11 confirmed reports with frogs retrieval; frogs were found in a nursery in Hawaii Kai that had received no new plants, the question is how did it get there? Also a garden shop found frogs in plants received from Howards Nursery; a Pupukea Nursery found frogs in plants from the Big Island; the Environmental Workforce has been working 2 known frog sites at Wahiawa and Iwilei Home Depot, breeding populations were found, controlled using hydrating lime as soil amendment, 1lb per gal of water; caffeine was approved as pest under special permit, have had no applicants, - process is cumbersome and expensive with many hoops to jump through plus a 24-hr no entry zone after use of the caffeine and collection of frogs killed; heat treatment is successful but not used commercially.

2. Parrots

Being addressed by DOA, need info on economic loss from pet stores to counteract the parrot support group, trapping has not worked, may need to get info from MISC on parrot control there, possible get info from Florida for control efforts and documented info on what the birds do when reaching a damaging population level

Aquatics

Lu Eldridge - yes still exists and will be holding workshops and want to be affiliated with OISC; focus on prevention policy and education, control is not possible at this time.

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- **Education** - Melissa

Accomplishments: Gather info into notebook - this list will go to the coordinator, includes: List of clients (agencies, environmental groups, television and radio, landowners, plant and landscape industry, tourism, etc) that will go to the coordinator; OISC logo developed, same as MISC; developed OISC fax sheet, needs to be updated with current info, will go to the coordinator; drafted proposal to fund outreach materials, trail signs at state trailhead, 2-3 inch ID cards for field ID, funding source is needed, may copy big island format
Goals for 2002 - continue last year projects; OISC is unique in the access to legislature and needs a full-time person for lobbying, Christy from MISC has been doing this but cannot keep doing it.

4. Field Schedule

- o Miconia dates - Amy

Mar 9, 2 Saturday of every month, 8am at the Church of the Crossroads

- o Other control dates:

Jorden will contact people for Diamond Head fountain grass control date

Miconia control and Coqui frog videos were shown to the group and are available for loan.

5. Species Background

We may need to reconsider the species list and drop some of the organisms.

Sphaeropteris cooperi (Australian tree fern) - Leilani D.

Native to Australia, spread by wind, not sure how long gametophytes persist in soil, widespread on Kauai; on Oahu found in Manoa and East Range, it displaces natives, grows to 20 ft tall, epiphyte diversity is reduced vs. native species; never found in large stands in Australia; will grow as understory plant and in full sun; grows very rapidly 15 inches per year vs. 3 inches per year for natives; natives 1-4 fertile fronds per year and are seasonal; the invasive species has up to 24 fertile fronds year round; pigs do not attack invasive, they generally prefer the native sp.; obnoxious scales on invasive; best control is cutting down or bagging fertile fronds; herbicides may allow for spore release; invasive is presently being sold as ornamental and is planted in landscapes; most of what is sold here is a Brentwood cultivar from California, the question is if a hybrid is occurring between the native and the cultivar, making it a more aggressive invader.

Volunteers are needed for next meeting species reports

Prioritization workshop is needed also

6. Next meeting May 15 tentatively at Hoomaluhia, 9-noon, will be meeting quarterly.