

**HISC Resources Working Group Meeting
HDOA Plant Quarantine Conference Room
Wednesday, September 8, 2010
12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Attendance: Lori Buchanan (MoMISC), Teya Penniman (MISC), Lanky Morrill (DOFAW), Jan Schipper (BIISC), Rob Hauff (DOFAW), Chris Dacus (DOT), Rachel Neville (OISC), Jacqueline Kozak (HISC), Christy Finlayson (DOFAW/PCSU), Tony Montgomery (DAR), Domingo Cravalho (HDOA), Darcy Oishi (HDOA), Neil Reimer (HDOA), Dan Clark (USFWS), Meredith Kuba (DBEDT), Mark Fox (TNC), Christy Martin (CGAPS), Carol Okada (HDOA), Anne Marie Larosa (USDA FS), Shawna LauKong (Senator Kokubun), Paul Conry (DOFAW), Kate Cullison (DAR), Randy Kennedy (DOFAW, NARS)

- 1. Call to order (Christy Martin and Meredith Kuba)**
- 2. Introductions (see attendance above)**
- 3. Old business / Approval of minutes**
- 4. Presentation of FY2011 budget proposals by HISC Working Group Chairs; discussion of proposals**

[Note] Public Outreach Working Group went before original agenda item #4 (budget discussion). Other working group projects were included in the budget discussion now agenda item #5 below.)

Public Outreach Working Group

- Held 7 meetings, 12-15 people
- Passionate group
- 382-130K, 66% reduction in FY10
- October 2009 had strategic goal setting workshop, prioritized statewide and county efforts, POWG meeting followed to refine. 7 goals, 4 main objectives.
- Reduced 2 HISC outreach positions to 1
- Reorganization and hiring already took place. Position is to meet the goals of POWG.
- Prevention: port, plant industry outreach: Plant Pono, BMPs for invasive species at nurseries, biocontrol education: produced some collateral
- Since the goal setting meeting, made progress on all four
- Next meeting will be a revision of our goal setting. How do we finish our four goals and what new to build on it
- With 130K last year, we came up with a high of 328 and low of 261K
- The big increase was project proposals in addition staff

- We would lose the OISC position and more participation from Lanai
 - Since we have 15 active members, we have 15 proposals
 - For BI, key objective is to develop eyes and ears community networks
 - For DAR AIS, develop outreach plans for BI and Maui
 - For AG/HDOA, buy local radio PSAs
 - For DOH, support educational efforts with Ohia Productions and children's theater
 - HEAR, half of a position that does the website maintenance
 - HISC, continuation of the strategic plan POWG priorities
 - KISC, coqui PSAs and display materials
 - MISC, provide travel for Lanai capacity building, Hoike teacher training
 - WRA, publication of low risk ornamental plants and help with Plant Pono
 - ED/USGS, produce educational materials for public workshops
 - WP, video production about impacts of feral animals on Hawaiian forest
- Jackie: Clarification...Historically HISC supported 3 fulltime positions, plus partial support to ISCs now reduced to 1 fulltime and partial support to ISCs

5. Discussion of available FY2011 HISC funds

Paul Conry: There are two pots of money for this year.

- NARS: FY11, we predicted would be the crunch year, 2 million last year, 1.2 this year with projections, 6.8 million into NARF. We looked at the revenue, it was a bit higher, had more funding to spread across four programs, we decided to increase FY11 funding for HISC to 1.4 million.
- ACT 209 passed: This bill allowed for a portion of Legacy Land Conservation fund to be used for invasive species control and monitoring. We will tap 400K of that fund to supplement HISC. Sunsets in 2013. LLC fund is comfortable with providing support to invasive species, but doesn't want it to be a long-term funding because goal is for land purchases.
- Brings HISC is from 1.4 to 1.8, Christy F. has worked on some general fund possibilities to meet HISC program needs
- 2.48 million is the total with HISC, LLC, and general funds

Christy Finlayson:

- Refer to blue and green sheet (see attachment)
- Low request is 2.08 million from HISC Working Groups
- Proposals were evaluated based on (see attachment)--- 1) recommendations from Working Groups, 2) applicability to HISC Strategic Plan and Measures of Success, and 3) Justification. Items 2 and 3 were taken from the supplemental information provided by applicants. Questions used to evaluate applicability to the HISC Strategic Plan and Measures of Success were:
 - Does this work address HISC goals and objectives?
 - Is this work backed by sufficient and appropriate staff, facilities, materials, etc.?

- Is this work part of a well-established program, well-supported program, or have other characteristics (ex. expertise) associated with success?
- Are measures of success and evaluation implemented?
- Is this program, or can this program be, self-sufficient?
- If this is not a new program, has the program been successful at acquiring funds?
- Was information provided as requested?
- Making a decision from a one page proposal is a difficult basis for final funding, so applicants were asked to provide additional information about their projects/programs
- Refer to breakdown of recommended and proposed Working Groups funding for FY2011 (see attachment)
- Group suggests further discussion on HDOA biocontrol proposal through EPWG that is partial Research and Technology, since R&T has not been funded during the past two years
- Breakdown is: 1.4 HISC, 400K from Legacy Land Conservation Fund, 680K from general funds and USDA FS grants
- Christy M.: Historically, the Working Group chairs propose a budget, and the WG should decide. It isn't spelled out enough in our strategic plan about biocontrol, people need to make these decisions within the working group. I would suggest that we go through the proposals from Christy F. and then proposals from WG chairs.
- Christy F.: These numbers are not in stone, but are a suggestion.
- Paul: This HISC meeting only needs to decide on 1.4 million worth of HISC and 388K from Legacy, part of the orange line.
- Christy M.: The grey lines are set in stone, correct? The overhead and support staff, so \$287, 684 is untouchable. We end up 1,100,10.
- Christy F.: We should also add the 388K (but that has to be in control) so should be in the EPWG. LLC are for the ISCs, split equally.
- Darcy: Why are they only for the ISCs? HDOA does control as well.
- Rob: Because HISC funds were so limited, we looked where there were pukas that Forest Service funds could fill.
- Anne Marie: FS is a 50/50 match, must be same programmatic commitment.
- Teya: That was already considered in all of the ISC proposals.
- Paul: There may be flexibility in the LLC funds, EPWG can decide.
- Tony: I have a question about the process...Shouldn't those funds have been worked out through the Working Groups?
- Christy F.: We didn't know that we had them at that time.
- Dan: We are only talking about the 388, not the 600+K in other funds today.
- Christy M: I think that the LFA project would fit under the LLC fund.
- Neil: I would argue that biocontrol would be too.
- Anne Marie: I think anything in EPWG would qualify.
- Rachel: OISC's perspective is that the proposal was made based on the assumption of what we would be getting from the USDA FS funding. When I figured out

- that, it meant we need a certain amount to make it to December.
- Rob: There still is money coming from USDA FS. And that can be revised.
 - Christy F: Those five groups need to decide who can take a cut collectively. Do we need to have another EPWG, can we move money to HDOA for biocontrol?
 - Teya: ISCs were requesting some flexibility within allocation. You can give us a dollar figure to work out amongst ourselves.
 - Christy F.: We would need to look over and approve final breakdown.
 - Neil: The other option is that full funding for the ant proposal could be shifted down to moderate funding and shift over to biocontrol. We would lose one tech position from LFA. Then, that wont impact any of the ISCs.
 - Carol: Point of clarification...The amount in the orange is money in hand?
 - Christy F: Yes, close to certain.
 - Carol: Then we should only be thinking about if there are any problems in the pink column.
 - Tony: We talked about the biocontrol quite a bit in EPWG. Maybe it better fits under R&T. We agreed that it was worthwhile to fund in our working group meeting. We shouldn't eliminate it because it isn't in the right box. A lot of things we do involves research. We are out to implement, but need the research component.
 - Carol: We just need to tweak it a bit.
 - Teya: Can we allocate anything outside of HISC funds?
 - Anne Marie: The orange is where they are expected to go. We aren't allocating the orange. We only need to look at the pink.
 - Carol: The faster that we get this to the council, the faster we can get the funds.
 - Christy F: The orange just helps us to see the overall amount.
 - Christy M: If the ISCs and the EPWG have the ability to move FS or ACT LLC monies between ISCs, are you ultimately happy with the trend of the pink?
 - Teya: One thing that came out of the EPWG that I wasn't thinking about is that MOMISC has relied heavily on a functioning TNC staff. But with recent cuts, that is definitely going to impact their productivity. I would like to add the MOMISC capacity. It hasn't grown over all of these years. At the pink level, that is not adequate. We would need another 100K funding.
 - Rachel: KISC's situation is the same as OISCs. 150K was the lowest that KISC could go. KISC's 150K was calculated assuming a certain amount from FS.
 - Domingo: I am trying to get a full understanding of the chart. I really like it. We looked at high, medium, and low. The green is what we decided prior to knowing that we had extra money. Throw out low, high, go with the medium. There would be less funding support to the ISCs. Less would be coming out of the HISC funds, more would be coming from LLC and other funds. It is equitable that way.
 - Christy F.: Do you all agree that going straight for medium, and how do you evaluate different proposals?
 - Darcy: We had to do a supplemental, where did that go?
 - Christy F: That went to WG chairs and me.
 - Neil: How we do it varies from year to year. One year I was chair of the WG, and

we all took the cuts at same level. It may not be appropriate in all cases.

- Christy M: If we are just deciding on HISC and LLC, it would be our low, problem is that biocontrol was supported to be funded.
- Christy F: We can change the pink column.
- Rachel: I am worried about the extra funding certainty. I would like to leave this meeting with the closest to my low from HISC funding.
- Meredith: We should figure out how the 1.4 million will be divided.
- Christy F: Because the 1.4 million is so low, and because extra funds have restrictions to what can be funded, this sheet was meant to give the broader perspective.
- Dan: However, by having the extra color (orange), the HISC has a false sense of security that you get all of these things for only 1.4 million. We won't have LLC in the future. We want to give a clear message about how much all of these projects cost. Just consider no orange in the future. How will that play out in FY12.
- Anne Marie: If we are looking at 1.4 million, everything in Prevention matches the request, but the ISCs are way off.
- Christy F: It's because the orange line could mainly go to ISCs.
- Rachel: We should talk about 1.4 plus 388 and not consider the general funds, totaling 1.788.
- Teya: What about if we regrouped in working groups for a short break and came back?
- Christy M: We shouldn't even know the other pieces of the puzzle. Each of the WG is the low, medium, high to HISC funds. We didn't ask Teya to come to the table with her county budget so that we can give her less.
- Christy F: I disagree. If the ISCs know that there is other money it helps them to make a decision. Because there are restrictions with other funding sources, other projects would be impacted. This was done to try to meet all of the requests of the working groups. To meet minimum goals.
- Mark: I would like folks to consider Carol's original comment. Look at the pink column. Are people generally comfortable? Are there gaps that need to be filled, like biocontrol? The ACT money, it is pretty general language, but my recollection is that they were not nitpicking over where it went to. I think there is leeway in the pink column to move it out of EPWG to PWG or POWG. But trying to only put blinders on with the yellow money, I am concerned it's just going to spiral into an overly detailed discussion. The pink column shows that things aren't that bad. Getting to something in this room today will help to make things accepted.
- Teya: There is a level of risk about taking the other funds, but are you ok with that overall allocation?
- Mark: I don't think that there is uncertainty about these funds. There is an exact amount of general funds and Forest Service.
- Teya: However, we have not put everyone's money on the table to consider in totality like we did the Forest Service.

Break into Working Groups

- Reconvene
- Paul: I want to answer the question about how reliable are the other funds. The HISC is getting 1.788. You really need to consider the other money of 600K approx., that is basically funds that the department is identifying to put into the HISC process. I suggest that we simply spread some of the risk throughout the groups. Total number is pretty secure.
- Teya: I propose that since we are doing this quickly, the numbers might not be right. If every Working Group went with their low. I took the HISC support numbers out of the discussion. 1.4 from HISC, take admin out (287K). Add in the 388K. Equals about 1.5 million. We are off by 100K. A number of people have suggested dropping the UH proposal because it is research. Leaves DLNR discretion to figure out the rest.
- Tony: It isn't research.
- Dan: Did you only count one ant proposal (there are duplicates)?
- Anne Marie: How does getting the low affect the pink column as the proposed bottom line?
- Teya: I suggest that the remaining 17K is made up from general funds.
- Group agrees: Take off UH proposal, second DOH proposal.
- Darcy: I am not ok with ant specialist being funded at the low level. We took a huge hit in RIFFS. I would like to see it at the medium level.
- Teya: I strongly support development of that program. I think every program at their low is taking major cuts.
- Christy F.: The hard part is working with what we have or looking at priorities.
- Chris D: I think that the general fund is secure. The rest should be left up to the Working Groups. The general funds can go to any of these three groups. You could make it up in the general fund. How will that be decided?
- Christy F: The discussion today will be a big part of it. The process of evaluating the projects will also inform it.
- Christy M: Looking at the ant line that it weighed out at the high in the pink.
- Christy F: Those numbers were based on working group recommendations. Will include biocontrol in consideration this time.
- Teya: Were you suggesting that the working groups would meet and give CF a list of priorities? Were you suggesting that the WG might reallocate?
- Chris D. I was suggesting that each gets low plus changes we talked about, and they can move things around to make it work for their priorities.
- Tony: Darcy is making a case for his medium which is 58K more. Teya yours is 50K more than what the EPWG recommended.
- Christy F: I don't want to compare things that way.
- Kate: The WG recommended the high for the ant proposal, will the orange column cover the medium?
- CF: I don't think we want to delve into the orange column anymore today.
- Darcy: I don't approve of this budget with the ant proposal at the low. I will have a hard time keeping that program going. Cas will be gone a quarter of the year.

- Christy M: I understand the discomfort. What Mindy would do in the past is she would ask if folks could get her a proposal on projects that the HISC didn't fund. CF has made it transparent. I am uncomfortable that there is only one WRA tech.
- CF: The information that you have supplied is what went into make the evaluations for the pink column. It will largely be maintained. I'm not going to ask for another proposal. If you look at the pink column you see the programs that come across as being crucial for funding.
- Carol: So you will play with the orange to come up with the pink considering the new yellow decided by the group?
- Jan: We are all in the same position as Cas if we stick to that low.
- Paul: We are committing 2.4 million, however, if governor says no more general fund spending, then it is a challenge. We just try to trust the process during a difficult time.
- Neil: Who makes the decisions of the orange funds?
- Rob: It is a basket of DLNR funds. DLNR has to decide among themselves on what is best way to spend them. There is restrictions. The FS funds are for ISCs.
- Paul: If you want to go with setting the lows, the commitment from Christy F. and me is getting as close to the pink as possible.
- Christy M: Everyone's discomfort is noted. Equally.
- Neil: My discomfort is the unknown. We are able to discuss the yellow column. But the orange column will be decided by DLNR. It is an unknown.
- Christy M: Next steps is to get the notes back, review budget, and schedule the HISC meeting.
- Christy M: It has been suggested that biocontrol goes into EGPWG. We can change the strategic plan. Also, think about what the HISC is going to look like with the new administration. How do we prepare for that? Should discuss with the council.
- Anne Marie: are there other things that need to be changed in the strategic plan?
- Christy M: The HISC will meet to go over the budget. Each chair of the working group, please get with your members and get folks to chime in on the strategic plan. Email the changes. Since we don't have HISC meeting scheduled, we will aim for October. Get changes into CF as soon as you can. Clarifying changes, or like the change to insert biocontrol. The October meeting will not be a new council.
- Teya: I wont have time to put into that between now and October. I would rather see that be a more thoughtful process that takes place in the context of a working group.
- Christy M: We will have a longer review in 2013. We can just have a pointed suggestion of including biocontrol. Will work with Neil on that section. A

6. Preparing for a new administration and Council members

- Next HISC meeting TBA

7. Public comments

- No public comments

8. New Business / Announcements

- No New Business

9. Meeting Adjourned