

Invertebrate Conservation Strategy Meetings, January 2010

At both meetings Cynthia King gave updates on the progress of action items from September 2009 meetings:

- 1) Invertebrate species summaries – Many edits are now completed, however we are still waiting on many specialists to review their respective groups. Please don't forget to send your comments/edits to Cynthia!
- 2) Flagship species nominations – The spreadsheet that was distributed via email was fairly confusing. Cynthia will send out another, more straightforward email to solicit flagship species nominations.
- 3) Funding for the ICS is being pursued. Cynthia King submitted a proposal to the State Wildlife Grant opportunity offered by FWS. In the meantime, NARS will provide basic support to move forward with an initial Invertebrate Bioblitz, and database model development. We will submit to additional opportunities which become available.

Hilo Meeting – 19 January 2010

I. Grant submissions for the ICS or database initiative:

- 1) State should consult resource managers (not just academics) for specific data needs
- 2) Suggestions of potential funding sources: Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the NSF technology development grants
- 3) Drafting general letters of support for those who do not have the time to write their own may be helpful for future submissions

II. Potential objectives for this year:

Focus on obtaining the rest of the revised invertebrate species summaries, and complete an amended CWCS document.

III. Invertebrate Bioblitz (rapid assessment)

- 1) We will proceed with the planning of a bioblitz in spring/summer 2010.
- 2) There was a suggestion that the bioblitz should be paired with a conference like the HCC to draw in researchers coming from the mainland. However meeting members believed that might actually be less convenient for researchers from HI, as it would mean too much cumulative time away from regular work.
- 3) It was suggested that there needs to be defined outcomes from the bioblitz. For example, a species list/inventory (including morpho-species for groups not identified). Cynthia King will collate the information and produce a poster for the HCC or PEC with the names of all contributing ICS participants.
- 4) Following the bioblitz, we should schedule a day for gross sorting, to enable specialists to get all of the specimens relevant to their field of study. This is an activity that students could potentially participate in.
- 5) Bioblitz participants must follow quarantine procedures if conducting work in NARS or any other natural area.

Honolulu Meeting – 26 January 2010

I. Reviews and reminders

- 1) Cynthia King will be sending out reminders for species summaries, and flagship species nominations. *It was noted that flagship species should be revisited periodically to account for new discoveries.
- 2) Cynthia will also send out the “Research Opportunities” document drafted by Will Haines for ICS review.
- 3) Please circulate any funding opportunities that might be relevant for ICS development or for participants.

II. Bioblitz

- 1) Should be noted that it’s not a true bioblitz because we are targeting only invertebrates. We will try to do as complete an inventory as possible, but must recognize that there will be bias towards species of interest to ICS participants...which is still better than we would have otherwise
- 2) Methods - Should consider implementing some standard survey protocols to have a means of comparing biodiversity/search effort at multiple locations
- 3) Methods - Would be good to have folks capable of documenting alien species too
- 4) Location and date - After much discussion, it was decided that Cynthia will select potential locations and times/dates for the bioblitz, and send it out for a confirmation vote. Consensus was that spring break would be good for many Honolulu ICS attendees. (Specifically March 25-28, Thurs – Sun)
- 5) Site selection /publicity - If we want to raise public awareness of invertebrates might be beneficial to select an iconic site (i.e. Mt. Kaala). Also want to focus on an under-surveyed locality to provide useful data. To raise additional awareness, it would be good to invite the press to come cover the event
- 6) Goals – Ultimately data will be used by state resource managers, it can be presented at HCC or PEC. Can be used to make species/biodiversity comparisons for publications

III. Database development

- 1) Concerns remain that we do not want to duplicate efforts already completed
- 2) Suggestion that Cynthia King meet with DB managers/agencies to examine current resources and data needs: (PBIN, HDOA/USDA, NPS, UH, Army, FWS, and HISC)
- 3) Important to note that DOFAW will proceed with DB initiative for the purpose of organizing historical and contemporary state data (continue to collect data via the permitting process). Other data sources can be integrated into the DB through search methods/data linking.
- 4) Will be important to examine and integrate existing security measures!