

## **Forest Stewardship Advisory Committee Meeting**

Hilo, Hawaii

DOFAW Hawaii Baseyard

January 15, 2008

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bill Cowern (acting Chairperson), Bill Sager, J.B. Friday, Katie Friday, Laura Brezinsky, Day Day Hopkins, Kip Dunbar. **Members Absent:** Mike Tulang, Bob Joy, Craig Rowland, Lea Hong, Betsy Gagne. **Staff:** Sheri Mann, Melissa Sprecher, Don Yokoyama. **Visitors:** Megan Webster.

**11:00am – 2:45pm** Field trip to Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) Conant project site was offered.

**03:00pm** **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

**Motion to elect Bill Cowern as acting Chairperson for this meeting. Moved by J. Friday, seconded by Hopkins. Passed unanimously.**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Meeting minutes October 19, 2007. Motion to accept the minutes as amended. Moved by J. Friday, seconded by Hopkins.**

Corrections:

Minutes should read 'opposed' not 'apposed'. Under **Mendes Project** milo should be noted as a Polynesian introduced species. Under **Ola Honua FSP Project** text change to 'mycorrhizae inoculation.' **Hui Ku Maoli Ola Management Plan** section correction to 'forestry practices on 8,000 acres...' should read 'forestry practices on 20 acres representing small non-industrial farms.' Under **Honolua Wao Kele Management Plan** change text to 'pre-immersion herbicides.'

**Passed unanimously.**

### **FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:**

The Committee reviewed one revised FSP Management Plan for Honolua Wao Kele (Maui Land & Pineapple). Megan Webster in attendance to represent Maui Land & Pineapple's Honolua Wao Kele project and FSP management plan.

### **Honolua Wao Kele Management Plan**

Maui Land & Pineapple (ML&P) has resubmitted their management plan with the changes suggested and outlined by the FSP Committee during their last meeting. The ML&P Conservation District Use Permit (CDUP) issued from DLNR is linked with the Committee's approval for the Honolua Wao Kele FSP Management Plan, thus the CDUP is waiting on the Committee's determination on the plan. ML&P is not able to perform any work outside of the FSP plan until the CDUP is approved.

Major changes to the management plan:

- The first project year will utilize three different planting methods to determine the most beneficial and cost effective method. They included new planting of deep harrowed rows, ripped furrow rows, augur planting holes, and differing planting densities.
- ML&P has reviewed soil tests on surrounding similar use property for chemical residues.
- Consideration of soil compaction.
- Increased monitoring components and reporting requirement (monitoring over the length of the contract). Will provide a monitoring report at the end of the project that outlines the results of the 3 methods and any other monitoring results.

**Discussion:**

- The plants at the Ana Palomino's farm are certified to be weed free when delivered to ML&P.
- The major labor costs are in getting the equipment up to the site, not the labor force itself. Plant reimbursement is at a State share of \$2/plant.
- The Budget practices fall below the allowable FSP hold down rates.
- The price for planting still seems a high estimate given the land has nice soil, the rows will be ripped, and dibble tubes used.
- Dunbar has offered to supply koaia seeds to ML&P to incorporate in plantings.
- The plant materials lab on Molokai will be able to provide ML&P with approximately 30 bails of pili grass for experimental purposes.

Mrs. Webster was asked to leave for Committee deliberation.

**Motion to approve the Honolua Wao Kele FSP Management Plan. Moved by K. Friday, seconded by Dunbar.**

**Further Discussion:**

- ML&P has addressed all of the Committee's requests and the plan has improved from the previous document.
- Joy had supplied comments via staff concerning the ML&P plan. The planting density is still too dense. The area planted at 5ft x 5ft would be more appropriate and provide for the coverage that ML&P is interested in. Under section IV Alaeloa silty clay, 7 to 15 percent slopes (AeC) there should be a correction to the sentence 'To lower pH and boost micronutrients...' to exclude 'lower pH' from statement. With the soil pH at 4.5-4.6 it is not recommend to further lower the pH, and the composting will not lower pH.

**Passed unanimously.**

Other Business

The next FSP Committee meeting will be March 7-8, 2008 in Volcano, Hawaii. Members and representatives from the Urban & Community Forestry Committee, Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Commission, and Legacy Land Conservation Commission will be present for consultation.

**Motion to adjourn. Moved by Dunbar, seconded by K. Friday.**