

**Hawai'i Invasive Species Council
Public Outreach Working Group (POWG)**

Wednesday, November 19, 2008, 9:30a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

*Hawaii Department of Agriculture - 1428 South King Street Conference Room
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814*

Attendees: Priscilla Billig, Chris Buddenhagen, Jacqueline Kozak, Christy Martin, Darcy Oishi, Evelyn Wight, Lissa Fox, Sara Pelleteri, Stephanie Joe, Rachel Neville, Chris Dacus

1. Call to Order

2. Introductions

3. Approval and Discussion of minutes

4. Biocontrol briefing by Darcy Oishi/Department of Agriculture

Court ruling requires biocontrol introductions to perform at the minimum an Environmental Assessment due to court ruling 'Ohana Pale Ke Ao v. Board of Agriculture, Civil No. 051-144K (Hawaii 3rd Cir. Dec. 16, 2005). All new animal introductions require an environmental assessment since animals are white listed in State of Hawaii while plants do not require an EA since they are black listed in the State of Hawaii. Public trust of government and the lack of public outreach were important issues.

Biocontrols are feasible when the pest distribution is too wide and it's beyond traditional control methods such as chemical and mechanical.

In selecting biocontrol candidates critical factors include pest specificity, from same region as the pest, controls pest in home region and external professional reviews. Species seen as biocontrol failures such as Mongoose do not meet these criteria and would not be utilized.

Biocontrol is not a silver bullet and does not eradicate the pest except in extreme cases. Successful biocontrols reduction reproductive potential and/or reduce growth rate. Weed targets require multiple biocontrols and seed production is the top priority.

Two of Hawaii's successful weed biocontrols were the Ivy Gourd and the Opuntia.

One common concern is the evolution of a biocontrol. Biocontrol evolution typically becomes more host specific ie more effective.

5. Outreach Specialist Reports

Sara Pelleteri/DLNR DAR – Illegal pet amensity and undesired pets event at Honolulu Zoo tentaitively 2/28/09.

Jacqueline Kozak/HISC-Kaua'i Weed of Week radio outreach, new show on KKCR, 11/8 Arbor Day 400 pax in 90 minutes, Invasive Bounty netted a Salvinia report on Arbor

Day, Newell Shearwater blessing, Lehua rat outreach to Ni‘ihau and Kaua‘i communities, NTBG workshop with Kaua‘i Landscaping Industry Council to address HASLA’s plant list, DOFAW developing outdoor curriculum for Kauai schools.

Lissa Fox/MISC – coquifreemaui.org is online, Miconia workshop 5/4 – 5/7, Maui County MISC featured the “Wheel of Misfortune”, Malama Iki award for native plant nursery, Lloyd second biocontrol article, new modules for Hoike including evolution and ethics, Biocontrol training for MISC staff.

Priscilla Billig/HISC – HISC electronic newsletter on feral cats and research & technology grants, ISC brochure in draft format, RIFA brochure draft, query letter to national magazines to write invasive stories regarding Hawaii, local radio NPR and KTUH university report

Evelyn Wight/TNC – Revise HISC POWG meeting notes from “ProHunt” to “Forest Recovery Project”, Oahu Garden club presentation, Unique Challenges in Conservation radio show called Going Green

Jody Smith/UH (given by Christy Martin) – working on new Backyard Conservation brochure with good plant/bad plant, new UH website invweed at CTHAR, Zoo Project working on graphics currently, billing to the state needs to be completed by 3/31/09

Christy Martin/CGAPS – Permit problems with Lehua rock rodenticide treatment by helicopter, KIRC feral cats/mice plan, radio ads for deadbird reporting end 11/30/08, will there be more funding for deadbird outreach?, public had difficulty reaching 211 for reporting bird pickups, governor approved funds for Pest Hotline jingle, Don’t Dump a Pest to coincide with Habitade campaign, \$17,750 in current funds, Silent Invasion to revisions to start in April/May

Stephanie Joe/US Army – referring two US Army Environmental staff to attend HISC POWG, snail sniffing dogs coming to Oahu.

Chris Dacus/HDOT – HDOT in final stages of letting a contract for the development of the HDOT statewide invasive program, Hawaii Landscape Architects meeting with KLIC on 12/5 for the last green industry association to adopt the HASLA invasive list, working on Hawaiian plant initiative with USFS Christian Giardina.

7. Set Next Meeting/Adjourn

Next POWG meeting is scheduled for January 21st 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Hawaii Department of Agriculture Quality Assurances Division 1851 Auiki St. Honolulu, HI 96819.