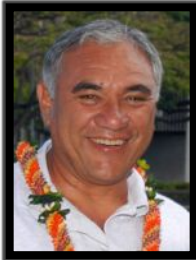




2015 Executive Summary

HAWAI'I INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

PROVIDING STATE POLICY DIRECTION, COORDINATION, & PLANNING TO PROTECT HAWAI'I FROM THE IMPACTS OF INVASIVE SPECIES



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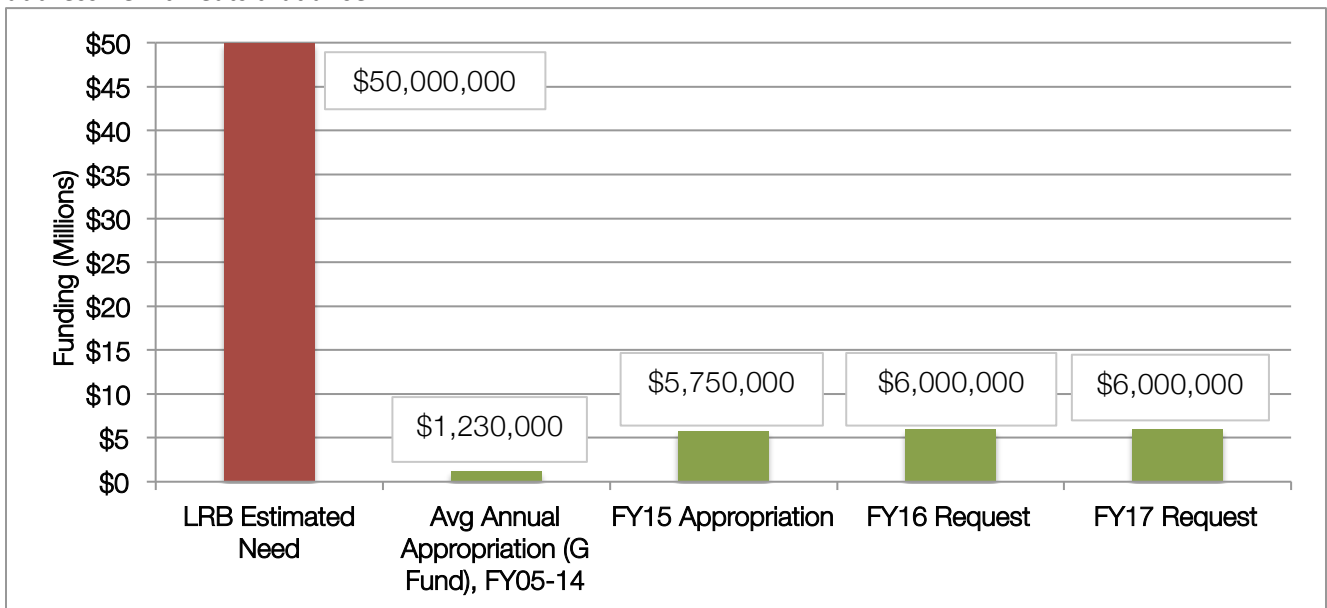
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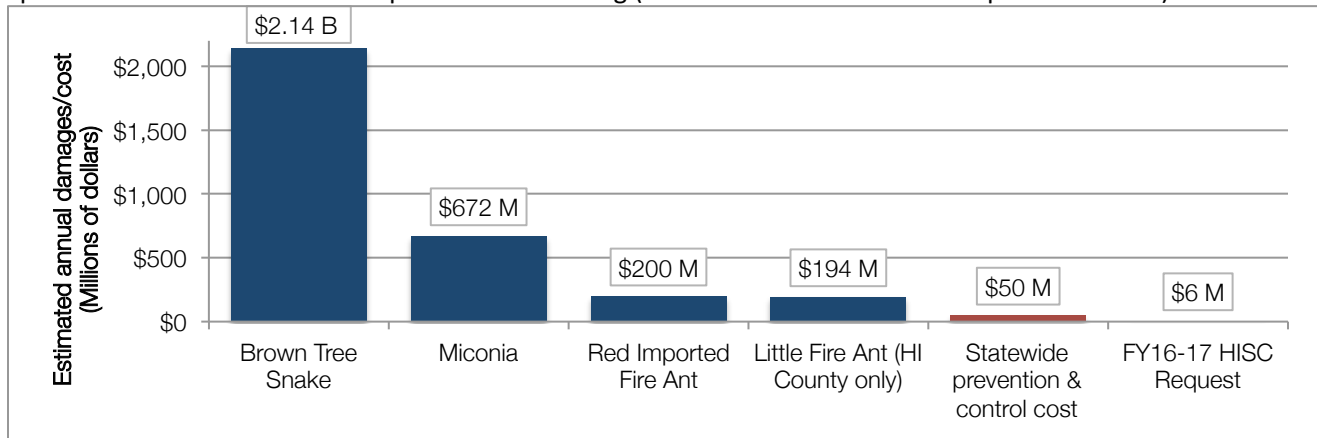
Budgetary Issues relating to Invasive Species: Funding Needs

- A 2002 Legislative Reference Bureau study estimated the total amount of funding needed to protect Hawai'i from invasive species at **\$50,000,000**
- State agencies address invasive species issues both within departmental budgets and in the interagency budget for the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council. HISC funds allow the State to strategically expand upon existing departmental programs to quickly and effectively address new invasive species threats.
- Interdepartmental spending on invasive species, via the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council, totals **\$5,750,000 in general funds** in FY15. This includes \$750,000 appropriated in the FY14-15 biennium budget and \$5,000,000 appropriated by Act 102 in 2014. FY15 projects provided **1:1 leverage of non-state funds**.
- The HISC is requesting **\$6,000,000 annually in general funds** in the FY16-17 biennium budget, via DLNR as the Council's administrative host. This amount will maintain momentum in current project areas and address new threats that arise.



The Cost of Inaction: Economic Damages from Invasive Species

Economic impacts from a sample of high-risk species are presented below, including estimated damages from species that are currently present in Hawai'i (miconia and little fire ant) as well as potential damages from species that have so far been kept from establishing (brown tree snake and red imported fire ant).



From left to right: potential brown tree snake annual costs (\$2.14B in infrastructure, health costs, and lost tourism, Shwiff et al 2010); estimated miconia annual costs (\$672M in lost groundwater recharge and valuation of bird species with lost habitat, Burnett 2007); potential red imported fire ant annual cost (\$200M in lost tourism, agriculture, and infrastructure damage in Hawai'i, Gutrich et al., 2007); estimated Little Fire Ant annual cost, HI County only (\$194M in costs to agriculture, nurseries, residents, other sectors, Motoki et al., 2013); estimated annual need to support state, federal, county, private invasive species programs (\$50M, LRB, 2002); annual request of the HISC in the FY16-17. Full citations available in Section II of the 2015 HISC legislative report.

HISC-funded Project Highlights, FY14-15

Research Projects

- Development of a pilot program utilizing detector dogs for finding Little Fire Ants
- Development of cost-effective biocontrol agents for widespread plant pests, including albizia, Himalayan ginger, miconia, and Christmasberry
- Research for new control methods for Little Fire Ants and Coconut Rhinoceros Beetles

Prevention Projects

- Development of <http://www.reportapest.org> as an online public reporting tool for pest sightings
- Support for the Hawai'i-Pacific Weed Risk Assessment to assess the invasiveness of nonnative plants
- Training for civil servants joining the Brown Tree Snake Rapid Response Team

Control Projects

- Control of Little Fire Ant, including support for the Hawai'i Ant Lab and the O'ahu and Maui interagency response teams
- Control of Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle on O'ahu
- Detection and control of incipient pests through support for the Invasive Species Committees (ISCs)
- Control of new vertebrate pests, including axis deer on Hawai'i Island and mongoose on Kaua'i

Outreach Projects

- Community-based outreach in each county through support for the ISCs
- Development of a series of panel discussions on invasives for local TV broadcast

The HISC is a cabinet-level, interdepartmental collaborative created by Chapter 194, HRS, comprised of the directors, chairpersons, or designees of DLNR, HDOA, DOH, DOT, DBEDT, and UH. For more information, visit <http://hisc.hawaii.gov>, or contact HISC Support Staff:

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