



2017 Executive Summary

# HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

PROVIDING STATE POLICY DIRECTION, COORDINATION, AND PLANNING TO PROTECT HAWAII FROM THE IMPACTS OF INVASIVE SPECIES



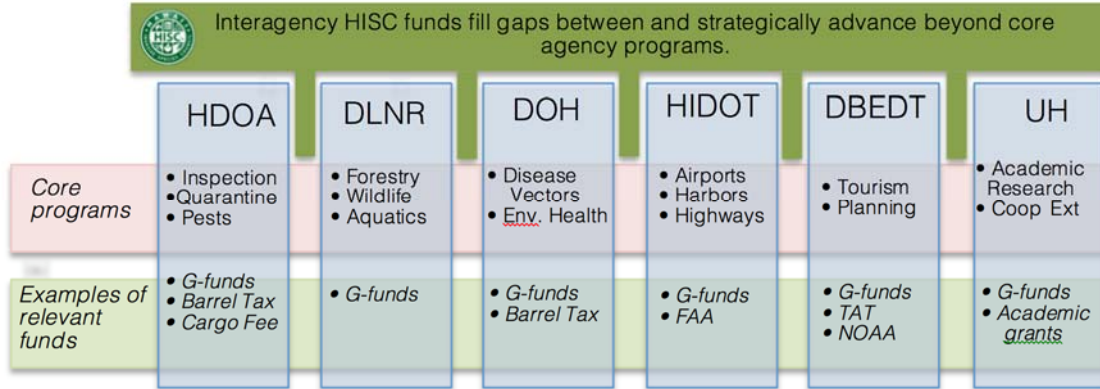
SUZANNE D. CASE DLNR    SCOTT ENRIGHT HDOA    KEITH KAWAOKA DOH    LEO ASUNSCION DBEDT    DR. KEN GRACE UH    DAVID RODRIGUEZ DOT

The HISC is an interagency board created by Chapter 194, HRS. Appointed HISC legislative participants include:

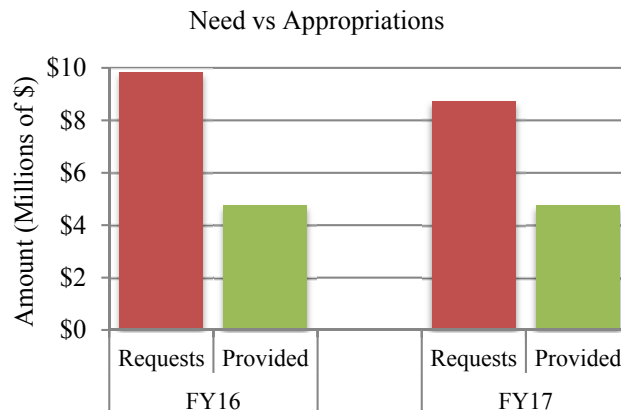
- Senators Ronald Kouchi, Mike Gabbard, J. Kalani English, and Lorraine Inouye
- Representatives Derek Kawakami, Chris Lee, Kaniela Ing, and Richard Onishi

### BUDGETARY ISSUES RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

- State agencies largely address invasive species through existing programs funded by departmental budgets. HISC grants support interagency projects and new research that help fill the gaps between agency mandates.
- A 2015 report by the Legislative Reference Bureau found that in FY14, \$19.6M (0.15% of a total \$13B state budget) in state funding was provided for invasive species programs across all state agencies. This includes an appropriation for the interagency HISC budget.

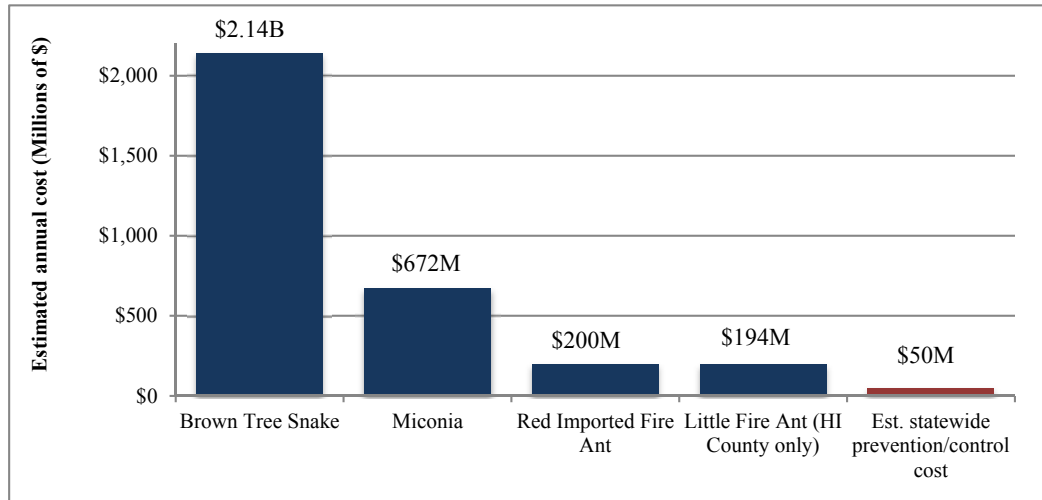


- **The HISC receives roughly \$10M in project requests annually.**
- The legislature appropriated \$4.75M to the HISC in FY16-17, comprised of \$750,000 in the base budget and \$4M provided by SB1299 (2015).
- **In 2017, the HISC budget will drop by 84% (to \$750,000) unless legislative action is taken to increase funding in the base budget for FY18.**



## THE COST OF INACTION: ECONOMIC DAMAGES FROM INVASIVE SPECIES

Economic impacts from a sample of invasive species below, including estimated damages from species that are already in Hawaii (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).



*L to R: potential brown tree snake impact (\$2.14B/yr in infrastructure, health costs, lost tourism), miconia impacts (\$672M/yr in lost water recharge, bird habitat); red imported fire ant cost (\$200M/yr in lost tourism, agriculture); estimated Little Fire Ant cost, HI County only (\$194M/yr in costs to agriculture,*

*nurseries, residents, other sectors); estimated **additional** annual need to support invasive species programs (\$50M, LRB, 2002). References available in the full 2017 legislative report available on <http://hisc.hawaii.gov>.*

## ADVICE REGARDING INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE 2017 LEGISLATURE

**Implement the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan:** The Hawaii Department of Agriculture partnered with a broad range of state, county, and federal agencies as well as industry and NGO stakeholders to produce a comprehensive, coordinated approach to invasive species prevention, detection, and control. The Biosecurity Plan is a 10-year vision and roadmap of how to enhance biosecurity and includes over 100 action items. This plan includes key themes, such as:

- E-manifest technology for import inspection
- Increase DLNR capacity for aquatic and terrestrial invasive species control
- Increased, stable funding for Hawaii Ant Lab and the Invasive Species Committees
- Restructure the HISC as the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority
- Fully restore the Vector Control Branch at Department of Health
- Increase HDOA capacity to allow more interisland and interstate inspections

**Utilize the Recommendations of the Legislative Reference Bureau:** In 2015 the Legislative Reference Bureau published a thorough report on invasive species management in Hawaii. Key recommendations from the report include:

- Develop & implement a comprehensive biosecurity plan
- Increase invasive species funding both at departments and the interagency HISC
- Restructure the HISC to provide staff and additional coordination resources
- Provide a dedicated, stable funding source for invasives & rapid response

The 2017 legislative report *Budgetary and Other Issues Regarding Invasive Species* includes further details on the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan, the use of HISC funds in FY16-17, and provides a list of invasive species bills from the 2016 session and their fate.

For more information, visit <http://hisc.hawaii.gov>, or contact the HISC Program Supervisor at [Joshua.P.Atwood@hawaii.gov](mailto:Joshua.P.Atwood@hawaii.gov)