



HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

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DAVID RODRIGUEZ
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

RESOLUTION 17-3

RECOGNIZING THE RAPID OHIA DEATH ADVISORY GROUP AS THE LEAD ENTITY FOR THE RAPID OHIA DEATH RESPONSE AND SUPPORTING CLOSE COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL AND THE RAPID OHIA DEATH ADVISORY GROUP AT ALL LEVELS

WHEREAS, the disease known as Rapid Ohia Death, caused by fungal pathogens in the *Ceratocystis* genus, poses a substantial threat to Hawaii's ohia trees and native forests; and

WHEREAS, a collaborative, multi-agency approach is the most appropriate response to this complex problem; and

WHEREAS, prevention and mitigation strategies have been developed by an ad-hoc, multiagency Rapid Ohia Death Advisory Group, including staff from the US Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture, University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and the Department of Land and Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, formal recognition of this ad-hoc team as the lead entity for the Rapid Ohia Death response may aid in obtaining resources and appropriate response authorities; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes, authorizes the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to advise and coordinate invasive species-related efforts with and between state, federal, international, and private programs, and to coordinate the State's position on issues regarding invasive species; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawaii Invasive Species Council recognizes the Rapid Ohia Death Advisory Group including but not limited to the US Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture, University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and Department of Land and Natural Resources as the lead entity for the Rapid Ohia Death response; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Invasive Species Council supports close collaboration between the Council and the Rapid Ohia Death Advisory Group at all levels; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawaii, the President of the State Senate, the Speaker of the State House of Representatives, and to the directors or chairpersons of each HISC agency.

Adopted by the Hawaii Invasive Species Council on the following date: January 17, 2017				
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