



# 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Pacific Invasives Learning Network Meeting

Hawaii Invasive Species Council  
Brownbag Series: no.1



# What is PILN?

The Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) connects these Pacific professionals to share knowledge, expertise, tools, and ideas. Multi-disciplinary project teams can work together on strategies with critical input from other teams and experts, resulting in a common vision and a plan for effective conservation action.

The PILN mission is:

to empower effective invasive species management through a participant-driven network that meets priority needs, rapidly shares skills and resources, provides links to technical expertise, increases information exchange, and accelerates on-the-ground action.



**SPREP**

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional  
Environment Programme



# 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Meeting

- Unique opportunity to share invasive species knowledge with regional partners in the Pacific
- Held in Lepa, Samoa 8/1/16 - 8/5/16
- 18 Different Countries in attendance
- Launch of three tools for Invasive Battlers
- Cultural protocols
- Individual country updates
- Workshops
- Fieldtrip



# Samoa



Lepa



## CRB Damage at a local marine reserve





Riding the bus to Lepa











# The Meeting



# New tools to help regional managers

- Battler Resource Base
  - Searchable knowledge resource database
- Pacific Invasive Ant Toolkit [www.piat.org/nz](http://www.piat.org/nz)
- Pacific Invasive Species Battler Series
  - How-to guides for practical action

<http://www.sprep.org/piln/resource-base>



# Battler Resource Base



- Guidelines
- Documents
- Case-studies
- Reports



# Pacific Invasive Ant Toolkit

- Identification
- Prevention
- Assessment
- Control
- Assistance Resources
- Outreach

The screenshot displays the Pacific Invasive Ant Toolkit website. At the top, a navigation menu includes: ABOUT THE PIAT, PROBLEM ANTS, PREVENTION, ASSESSING THE PROBLEM, HELP, LEARNING AND TEACHING, and LEGISLATION. A dropdown menu under 'PROBLEM ANTS' lists: African big-headed ant, Argentine ant, Little fire ant, Red imported fire ant, and Yellow crazy ant. Another dropdown menu lists: 5 worst threat ants to the Pacific, 13 other problem ants, What makes these ants so successful?, Identification, Invasive ant distributions, and Lifecycle of ants. A search bar on the right contains the placeholder text 'type in your search and hit enter'. Below the navigation, a 'News' section is visible with a 'GENERAL' tab and a post titled 'THANKS TO ALL THE PILN PARTICIPANTS!' dated 09 Aug, posted by Monica Gruber. The main content area features the text 'Welcome to the Pacific Invasive Ant Toolkit!' and a list of links: 'What is the Pacific Invasive Ant Toolkit (PIAT)', 'Who can use the PIAT', 'How to use the PIAT', and 'The whakapapa of the PIAT'.

# Battler Series

- Awareness campaigns
- Economic analysis
- Marine invasives in marine managed areas
- Using online databases
- National & territorial IS strategies
- Myna birds
- EDRR
- Safe use of rodent baits
- Rat eradication on small islands

## Introducing Regional Resources on Common Pacific Invasive Species Issues

Find these guides on the Battler Resource Base: [www.sprep.org/piln/resource-base](http://www.sprep.org/piln/resource-base)



### Pacific Invasive Species Battler Series

Join the fight: Protect our islands from invasive species



# Country Updates

- **Marshall Islands** – IS control efforts
- **New Caledonia** – Deer control
- **Niue** – Feral Pig control
- **Solomon Islands** – African Snail, CRB
- **Tokelau** – IS in Tokelau
- **Tonga** - Rodent
- **Vanuatu** – LFA and biocontrol

- **Samoa** – Forest Resilience
- **American Samoa** – Ants, invasive trees, myna bird
- **Fiji** – Eradication and biosecurity
- **French Polynesia** – Invasive plant control, LFA
- **Kiribati** – Myna eradication, yellow crazy ant control
- **Hawaii** – Albizia management
- **Kosrae** – Rainbow termite and other IS
- **Wallis Fortuna** – Albizia management
- **Federated States of Micronesia** – IS efforts in Yap



# Workshops

- Small Island Rat Eradication Workshop
- Pacific Ant Toolkit
- Social Marketing and Behavior change
- Biocontrol workshop





# Fieldtrip Day





# Vailima Botanical Garden

## MT VAEA ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE & FOREST RESTORATION PROJECT

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, in collaboration with its relevant partners is implementing the Mt Vaea Ecosystem Resilience and Forest Restoration project to restore the Mt Vaea Nature Reserve to its former native state by managing invasive species and replanting native plant species. Restored forest has higher biodiversity and is more resilient to natural disasters and climate change than degraded forests. The goal is to "conserve and restore the ecosystem to its original state, and provide opportunities for visitors to enjoy and explore Samoan nature in a safe and easy environment". The project assists in achieving the many frameworks housed by the Ministry including the Two Million Tree Planting Campaign 2015 - 2020.



**Pulu Vao**  
African rubber  
*Furcraea alboloba*

**Pulu Mamoe**  
Mexican rubber  
*Cordia alliodora*

**Faapaia**  
African tulip  
*Scaevola taccada*

**Tamaligil Ului**  
Siam tree  
*Albizia chinensis*

**Tamaligil Pelepele**  
Kororua tree  
*Albizia sialotiana*

### HOW YOU CAN HELP!!!

Volunteer groups, community members and NGOs have been assisting in the restoration of Mt Vaea Nature Reserve by replanting native trees. The project contributes to the achievement of the 2 million tree Campaign coordinated by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to increase the forest cover of Samoa and biodiversity enhancement. Here are some of the simple ways you can support this important project.

#### 1. KNOW YOUR WEEDS

Understanding invasive species and their impact to all aspects of life is crucial to creating a checklist of how restoring these species are. There are about 24 target weed species found in the Mt Vaea Reserve, of which 8 are trees, 10 are shrubs, 3 are vines, 2 are palms, and 1 is a herb. Other recently arrived invasive species have not yet been recorded.

#### 2. ENSURE YOU ARE WEED-FREE

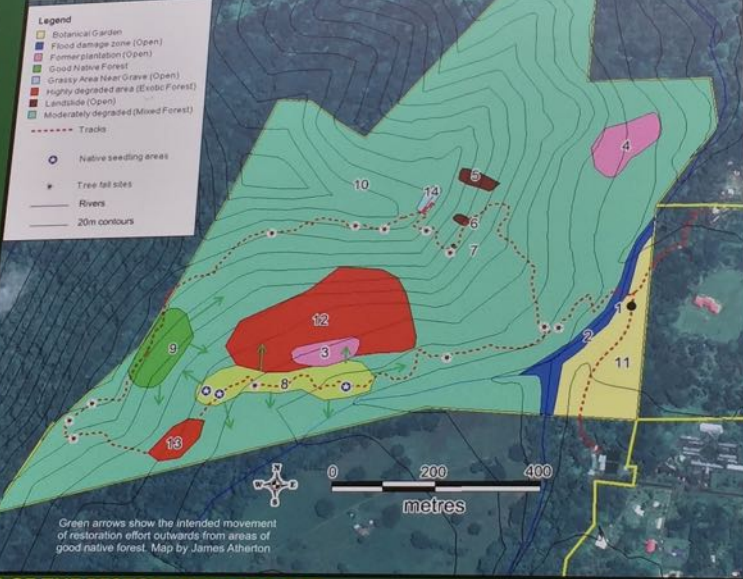
It is important that visitors do not carry any seeds of any kind or food in their reserve. Make sure you are weed free by dusting off or removing dirt from hats, clothes, pockets, boots, or pack bags at the main entrance before and after visiting the reserve. The staff assist in preventing further introduction of new invasive alien species in the Reserve. Volunteer groups, community members and NGOs had been assisting in the restoration of Mt Vaea Nature Reserve by replanting native trees. The project contributes to the achievement of the 2 million tree Campaign coordinated by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to increase the forest cover of Samoa and biodiversity enhancement. Here are some of the simple ways you can support this important project.

#### 3. PLANT A NATIVE TREE

Interested members or groups are welcomed to make appointments at the Reserves Office to organize a date for a replanting, manual weed pulling, or field tour activities. Planting a tree will also contribute to achieving the national Two Million Tree planting campaign 2015 - 2020 currently coordinated by the Ministry.

### COME JOIN US!!!

Volunteer groups planting native trees on Mt Vaea Nature Reserve - their contribution to the 2 million tree planting programme.



MAP OF THE RESTORATION PROJECT

### 5 MANAGEMENT ZONES

#### 1. NATIVE FOREST ●

"Core" areas of native Forest

These are patches of relatively good native forest, with some large fruiting native trees and with lower levels of weed invasion, at least at the canopy level.

#### 2. NON-FOREST ●

"Open" areas

These are abandoned plantation sites, landslips, open areas along the river, and areas of recent tree fall.

#### 3. EXOTIC FOREST ●

"Highly degraded"

These are almost totally dominated by invasive plants from the ground layer through to the canopy.

#### 4. MIXED FOREST ●

"Other" areas

Includes the rest of the reserve which consists of areas that are in various stages of invasion by invasive weeds but with some scattered native trees.

#### 5. BOTANICAL GARDEN ●

This area is highly invaded by invasive plants, although there are also plantings of native trees and ornamentals.

For more information, contact the National Parks and Reserves Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment on: Phone: +685 28680 or +685 67200; Fax: +685 23176; Email: [info@mnr.gov.ws](mailto:info@mnr.gov.ws)

ICRRIFS PROJECT



©Two Million Tree Planting Campaign Photo Credit: © Art Whittier, © James Atherton, ©Josef Pei



# Aleipata Marine Protected Area



# Other observations



# Pau

