



2020 Executive Summary

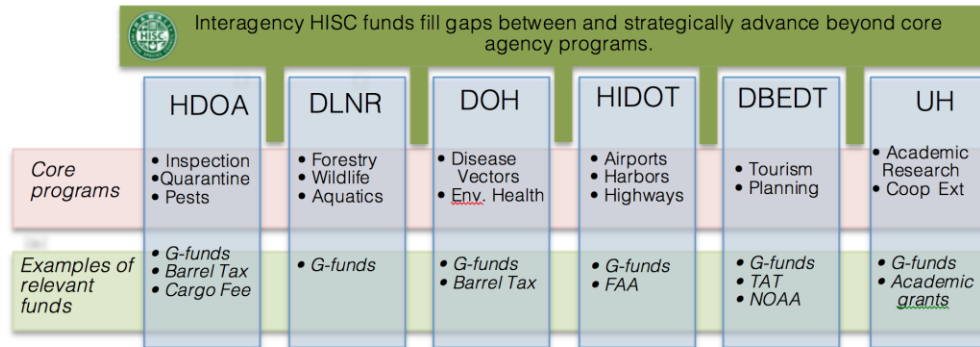
HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

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

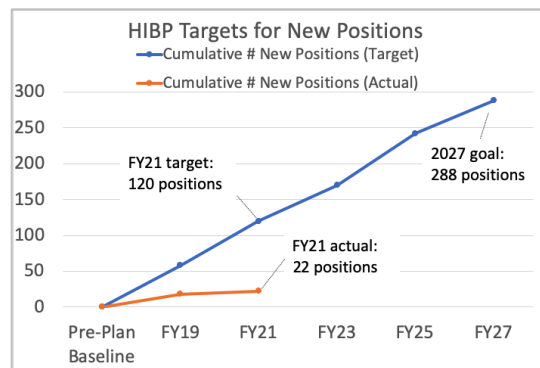


BUDGETARY ISSUES RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

- State agencies largely address invasive species through existing programs funded by departmental budgets. 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 at state agencies.
- HISC funds support interagency projects and new research that help fill the gaps between permanent programs. In 2019 the legislature provided \$5.75M to the HISC, a \$1M increase from FY19, for research and interagency projects, as well as several other specific appropriations to various agencies.

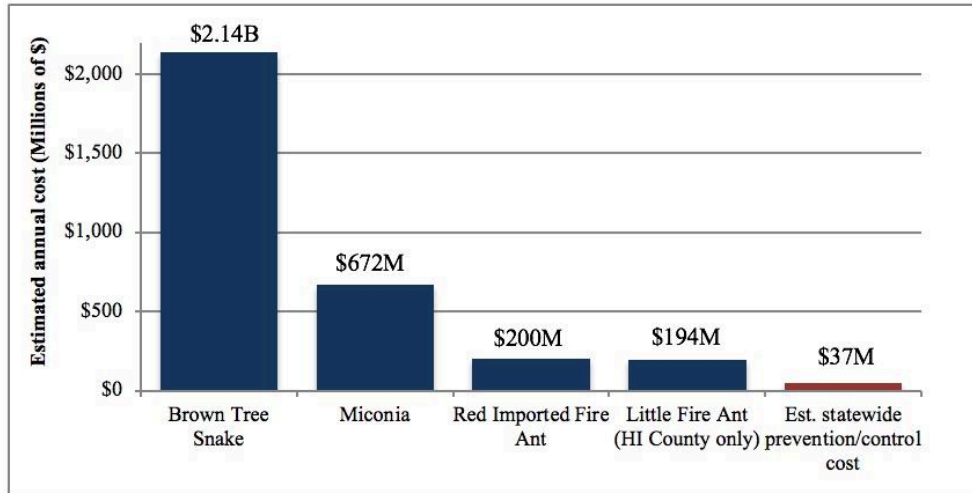


- In FY20 the HISC received 50 requests for research and interagency projects not covered by existing agency programs or funds, totaling \$8.8M
- **The primary biosecurity need moving forward is civil service capacity.** Positions will be needed at HDOA for commodity inspection and response, positions at DLNR DAR for hull inspection, positions at DLNR DOFAW for control of invasives in our most vulnerable natural areas, and funding for new biocontrol research facilities.



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: brown tree snake impact (\$2.14B/yr in infrastructure, health costs, tourism), Miconia impacts (\$672M/yr in lost water recharge, bird habitat); RIFA cost (\$200M/yr in lost tourism, agriculture); LFA cost, HI County only (\$194M/yr in costs to various sectors); estimated **additional** annual need for invasives programs (HIBP). References available in full 2019 legislative report at <http://hisc.hawaii.gov>.*

ADVICE REGARDING INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE 2020 LEGISLATURE

The primary recommendation of the HISC to the legislature in 2020 is to **continue to implement the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan (HIBP)**, the State's 10-year vision roadmap to enhance biosecurity and invasive species mitigation (<http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/plans/hibp/>).

Biosecurity Plan Legislative Goals: Past Successes (2017-18)	
• Fully restored the Vector Control Branch at Department of Health	• Appropriated planning funds for a new HDOA Biological Control facility
• Approved HDOA to use transitional facilities for commodity inspection	• Added two positions for UH Hawaii Ant Lab to expand services in Kona
• Provided stable funds to the HISC by adding annual appropriation to base budget	• Provided funds for rapid ohia death, rat lungworm, parakeets, & coffee berry borer
Biosecurity Plan Successes from the 2019 Legislature	
• 4 specialist positions for HDOA imports	• CIP funds for dog kennels, coqui barrier, predator proof fencing
• Increased HISC funding by \$1M	• Increased CIP funds for watershed fencing for invasive animals
Examples of Remaining Biosecurity Plan Legislative Needs	
• Add additional positions for commodity inspections at HDOA Plant Quarantine	• Add DLNR DOFAW field technicians for invasives control in natural areas
• Add additional positions at HDOA Plant Pest Control Branch	• Add positions and fee collection for DLNR DAR vessel hull inspection program
• Construction funds for biological control facility	• Move enforcement of HDOA import laws under the new Environmental Court

The 2020 legislative report *Budgetary and Other Issues Regarding Invasive Species* includes further details on the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan, the use of HISC funds in FY19, and provides a list of invasive species bills from the previous legislative session and their fates. For more information, visit <http://hisc.hawaii.gov>.