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HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

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MEETING NOTES

for

Hawaii Invasive Species Council

October 20, 2022; 9:00 AM

Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Board Room (Rm 132)

1151 Punchbowl St, Honolulu, HI, 96813

Per Hawaii Sunshine Law guidelines, this meeting was hybrid with attendees participating virtually through a Zoom link provided by HISC Support Staff or through the HISC YouTube channel or in-person at the DLNR Board Room in the Kalanimoku Building in Honolulu, HI. Council members, legislative representatives, and HISC Resources Working Group members were provided with a Zoom link. Members of the public were able to view the meeting through the HISC YouTube Channel. A recording of the meeting can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/AznHvYVS6K0>

1. Call to order

- 9:05 am call to order in person and Zoom by Chair Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser.
- Online live streaming on Youtube was not possible due to technical difficulties.

This meeting was recorded and posted online: <https://youtu.be/GRHWCuOAxgM>

2. Introductions

In person attendees: Council Members: *Suzanne Case (Co-chair), Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (Co-chair)*; HISC Support Staff: *Chelsea Arnott (HISC)*; Attendees: *Stephanie Easley (CGAPS), Andrew Porter (CGAPS), Erin Conway, Lizzy Monaghan (DAR), Christy Martin (CGAPS), Sara Tom (DAR), Dave Smith (DOFAW)*

Zoom attendees: Council Members: *Kathleen Ho (HDOH), David Rodriguez (HDOT), Mary Alice Evans (DBEDT)*; Leg Members: *Jhanavi Pomerantz (Senator Gabbard's office), Erin Conway (Rep. Wildberger's office), Rep. Lisa Marten, Sen Ronald Kouchi, Rep Nadine Nakamura*; Attendees: *Helmuth Rogg (HDOA), Jeomhee Hasty (DOH), David Davis, Brian Neilson (DAR), Darcy Oishi (HDOA)*; HISC Support: *Leyla Kaufman, Elizabeth Speith, Chuck Chimera*

3. Approval of minutes from August 17, 2022 meeting was deferred to the next meeting due to the technical difficulties with live streaming to YoutUBE. Minutes will be shared and approved at the next meeting.

4. Presentation: Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease and the possible risks to Hawai'i from this deadly coral disease affecting the Caribbean. (Lizzie Monaghan, elizabeth.a.monaghan[at]hawaii.gov)
 - a. Overview presentation on SCTLD
(Note: Recording of meeting was paused due to technical issues with zoom and in person equipment, 9:18-9:35)
 - b. DAR and collaborators are making preparedness action plans and collaborating with Pacific Partners. Emergency rules may be explored. Prevention is the current focus, including outreach to boaters and dive shops.
 - c. Question about status of VIDA (Andrew Porter, CGAPS legal fellow). VIDA regulations are not finalized until 2023 and then Coast Guard has several years to review. The state has at least 3 years before VIDA preempts state rules.
 - d. Question about the impact of emergency rules on economy. (Andrew Porter, CGAPS legal fellow) The emergency rules are very narrowly focused on ships coming in from the Caribbean through the Panama Canal. This averages 10 boats a year.
 - e. Question about discretionary DAR funding for response to SCTLD. Currently focus is on the creation of the response plan.

5. Presentation: Update on the 2017-2027 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan – Accomplishments to date & challenges to implementation (Chelsea Arnott)
 - a. Presentation on the need for the HIMP; overview of the 2016 planning process for the HIMP and 2017 baseline study of gaps in staffing, facilities, and policy.
 - b. Implementation started on 65% of the 147 actions in HIMP. Implementation of the actions have slowed a bit since 2019, likely due to COVID pandemic slowdowns and the complicated nature of the remaining actions.
 - c. Preborder accomplishments include risk assessments for AIS; cooperative agreements between HDOA and other agencies; policy analysis with CGAPS legal fellows. Comment from Chair Shimabukuro-Geiser: HDOA has a marketing plan to award for specialty crops, such as Christmas trees, to encourage local sources for high risk import commodities.
 - d. Border Biosecurity highlights include DOH Vector Control branch had staffing and funding restored; HDOA avian influenza review and discuss response plans for AI; the multi-agency ports of entry/exit pest monitoring program, formerly known as Mamalu Poepoe has received funding in FY23 to expand from airports to port monitoring.
 - e. Post-border monitoring accomplishments include funding research and development of new tools to control invasive species; increased funding for watershed partnerships and HISC project; Legislation approved for 10 CTAHR extension agent positions; hiring specialist positions with HDOA; implementation of algal AIS control strategies.
 - f. Public Awareness & Support highlights include coordinating with congressional delegates; implement pest notification and reporting system; creation of products like the Saving Ohia movie and biocontrol animated videos; and hiring economist to analyze impacts of IS
 - g. HISC & CGAPS 2025 Joint Strategy

- h. Building Biocontrol Capacity in Hawaii and the Pacific with Pacific Regional Biocontrol Facilities and building the biocontrol program.
 - i. Ballast water and vessel biofouling are the two main vectors for AIS to enter Hawaii's waters. HIMP focus on SCTLD and VIDA.
 - j. Increase funding for invasive species work across the state. HISC has received \$5.3 mil for invasive species work, but this does not adequately cover the costs.
 - k. Continued investment for interagency pest surveillance at ports of entry/exit and supporting HDOA biosecurity capacity.
 - l. Annual progress reports: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/plans/hibp/>
6. Public Comments
- a. Christy Martin (CGAPS): Mahalo to Chelsea Arnott for her work in her new position.
 - b. Written and oral testimony, Dr. David Davis: Seeking assistance with HDOA and Planning and Research Department for facilitation of a field study on a product for the purpose of eradicating coqui and nematodes and development of this product. This product is not EPA registered product, but it may qualify as an EPA 25 a or b minimum risk pesticide. Estimated \$50,000 needed for a field study. Chair Shimabukuro-Geiser will initiate contact with HDOA pesticides branch and Dr. Davis about the product.
 - c. Rep. Lisa Marten: Question about hala scale on Oahu. Chair Shimabukuro-Geiser- HDOA PPC staff regularly survey for hala scale across Oahu. She can provide information on current status of control and surveys. Darcy Oishi (HDOA PPC acting manager) has limited distribution on Oahu at the UH, Waikiki, Haleiwa and a few other areas. On Hawaii Island there is a rapid response program where any detections are destroyed and there are no known locations. Biocontrol agents are being explored, in the early stages of the process. Treatment is only happening in areas where hala scale has not become established. Pesticides can be used, but because hala is used by weavers there is reluctance to use pesticides.
7. Adjournment
- a. Move to adjourn by Chair Shimabukuro-Geiser at 10:48 a.m.

For information, contact:

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