

JOSH GREEN  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



## HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

1151 PUNCHBOWL ST, #325  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

### VOTING MEMBERS

DAWN CHANG  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL  
RESOURCES

SHARON HURD  
HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

KATHLEEN HO, D.Env  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

ANIA WIECZOREK, Ph.D.  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

MARY ALICE EVANS  
BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &  
TOURISM

EDWIN SNIFFEN  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## APPROVED MEETING NOTES

for

Hawai'i Invasive Species Council

June 13, 2023; 1:00 PM

Hawai'i 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>

### MEETING NOTES

#### 1. Call to Order

- Chair Chang called the hybrid meeting to order at 1:10pm.

#### 2. Introductions

List of Attendees:

- Council Voting Members:
  - Dawn Chang, Co-Chair (Department of Land and Natural Resources); Sharon Hurd, Co-Chair [Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (HDOA)]; Tammy Lee (Department of Transportation); Mary Alice Evans (Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism); Kathleen Ho (Hawai'i Department of Health);
- Legislative Non-Voting Members:
  - Representative Lisa Marten (District 51); Representative Nicole Lowen (District 7); Representative Luke Evslin (District 16); Senator Lynn DeCoite (District 7); Meg Turner and Jhanavi Pomerantz on behalf of Mike Senator Gabbard (District 21).
- Support staff:

- Chelsea Arnott (HISC), Darcy Oishi (HDOA), Dave Smith (Forestry and Wildlife); Rob Hauff (Forestry and Wildlife); Eizabeth Speith (HISC), Chuck Chimera (HISC), Jack Reef (HISC);
- Other Participants: Christy Martin (CGAPS);
- Other Attendees: Laurie Buchanan MoMISC, one unidentified member of public in person

### **3. Approval of minutes from August 17, 2022 & October 20, 2022**

- HISC approved the minutes from both August 17, 2022 and October 20, 2022. A Motion of approval was put forth by Member Evans and seconded by Member Ho for each item. No opposition.

### **4. Voting Council Members Introductions**

- The members of the Committee, voting and non-voting members, introduced themselves and highlighted important issues to consider:
  - Dawn Chang
    1. Prior to her current position, she had worked on the Biosecurity Plan and is excited to continue working on the Plan as a Council Member. Co-Chair Chang emphasized that prevention is a key strategy in managing invasive species.
  - Sharon Hurd
    1. HISC serves such an important purpose in invasive species, including biosecurity
  - Tammy Lee
    1. Wants to be part of solution and take training to ID species. Important to address biofouling;
  - Mary Alice Evans
    1. Currently part of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development which has supported HISC as best as possible;
  - Kathleen Ho
    1. HISC has been part of protecting public health, suppressing vector borne diseases, grant funding, expertise in vector control. Member Ho is happy to collaborate with HISC and work on climate change and potential future vector born illnesses;
  - Senator DeCoite
    1. Raised concerns regarding Axis Deer and invasive pests. Excited to work with colleagues to fund Biosecurity measures. There are opportunities to learn Best Practices from South Africa.
  - Rep Lisa Marten
    1. Work with constituents to address invasive species such as Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB), Coqui Frogs. Work with Hawai'i Ant Lab. Prevention as important as it only gets more costly if the problem continues;
  - Rep Lowen:
    1. There are important and difficult issues to address including Little Fire Ant and Rapid 'Ō'hia Death;
  - Rep Evslin – D-16 Kaua'i:

1. Numerous issues to be concerned with on Kaua'i including newly discovered CRB, feral cats, mosquitos impacting akikiki and how the forest is silent; and
- Meg Turner on behalf of Senator Gabbard District 21 highlighted the Senator's chairmanship of the Ag/Environment Committee and that he has been part of HISC since its formation.

**5. Submittal 1: Review of previously adopted recommendations and resolutions that are relevant to future actions taken by the Council.**

- Chelsea Arnott presented the item detailing the purpose of HISC and previous Resolutions adopted by the Council.
- Laurie Buchanan from Molokai Invasive Species Council inquired about the purpose of the document. Chelsea Arnott responded that this item is to make the new Council aware of previous Resolutions, and that members can approve potential amendments if desired. In addition, HISC is taking action to delegate authority to HISC staff to advocate for matters formally supported by HISC;
- Senator DeCoit inquired as to the rules regarding the submittal testimony from staff and how to differentiate "personal" testimony versus "professional" during public meetings;
- Chair Chang clarified that any formal DLNR testimony comes through the Chair's offices, but that any staff has the ability to submit testimony on a personal level;
- Recommendations:
  - The Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC):
    1. Delegates authority for HISC Support Staff to review previously adopted resolutions and present those to the Council that need amending and/or other updates at a future Council meeting as needed; and
    2. Agrees to the authority granted to the HISC Support Staff in the January 27, 2021 Submittal: "Requesting Council approval to delegate to HISC Support Program staff the authority to track legislative measures, provide in the Council's name written and/or oral testimony, and provide comments in legislative hearings, and requesting that the Council delegates to the HISC Program Support Staff the authority to draft and provide in the Council's name written and/or oral comments on documents relevant to invasive species and released by other entities for input."
- HISC moved to Approve the item. Motion to Approve from Evans, seconded by Ho. No Opposition.

**6. Presentation: Revitalizing Action on the 2017-2027 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan**

- Chelsea Arnott, Darcy Oishi, and Christy Martin co-presented on this item which summarized the history of invasive species, need for action to address problems, and current status of the Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan.
- Presentation retitled "Requesting support and engagement to conduct an update of the actions outlined in the 2017-2017 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan."

**7. Submittal 2: Requesting support and engagement to conduct an update of the actions outlined in the 2017-2027 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan**

- Senator DeCoite asked if HDOA had competitive salaries for its staff (entomologists) as invasive species cannot be solved if quality people are leaving for better opportunities, jobs should be fun. Specific plans need to be presented to legislators. Additionally, pictures are helpful when describing the issues;
- Co-Chair Hurd responded salaries are important but that it also takes more than money to retain workers. The “FarmBill” may be an opportunity;
- Dawn Chang said DLNR can tailor their “duties description” to attract local residents and recruit Hawaiian applicants who are already invested in “protecting and enhancing” natural areas;
- Lisa Marten mentioned that certain jobs can be filled by training existing staff, such as DLNR’s DOCARE program;
- Co-Chair Hurd referenced that dog handlers are an important job classification to potentially be developed;
- Public Comment:
  - Laurie Buchannon MoMISC: She works with community at the Post-Border level. Discussed the job recruiting practices of the tourism industry. Supportive of this item’s Recommendations. MoMISC needs Bio-Security help on Molokai.
- The Recommendations of staff are set forth below:
  - The Hawai‘i Invasive Species Council (HISC):
    1. Direct HISC Program Support staff to work with relevant agencies and stakeholders to update the Interagency Biosecurity Plan to reflect current needs and prioritize actions across the remaining plan’s timeline.
    2. Commit and direct staff at their respective agencies to participate in this planning process by providing their time and expertise in related meetings and requests for information and input to meet the proposed eight-month timeline for this project.
  - HISC approved the item with an amendment (additional action) for staff to develop a Bio-Security legislative package of priority items for the 2023 legislative session and report to HISC in November;
  - A Motion of approval was made by Member Evans and seconded by Member Ho. No opposition.

## **8. Public Comments**

- None.

## **9. Adjournment**

- Chair Chang adjourned the meeting at 3:10pm.