



KISC

KAUAI INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY REPORT

*Life is a succession of lessons
which must be lived to be understood.*

-Helen Keller

Mahalo nui loa and a hui ho!



Keren supervising interns, Wailua Game Management Area miconia survey, Circa 2004

I want to take a moment to tell the world how grateful I am to have had the opportunity to experience Kaua'i; its people, places, and spirit. In 2001, I was lucky enough to be a part of a team that connected me to this unique place. Working in Kōke'e, one of the most beautiful and spiritual places on earth, helped me to appreciate how fragile this island ecosystem really is and it lit in me a spark that has continued to burn brightly. The opportunity to work with KISC has allowed me to see so much of this island that would not normally have been available to me; the back of Waineha Valley, Kipu Kai, Milolii and Nualolo Kai, and so many more special places.

KISC has been able to grow from only two people to nine committed and skilled staff members. We have moved from a one-room office to a top-notch facility at CTAHR. Survey and control work, once conducted from my Jeep Wrangler, is now done with a fleet of 4WD trucks.

I have learned so much over the last 12 years from so many people and I will be bringing a piece of each one of you with me as I move back to the mainland. I wish I could name each of you and what you have given to me over the years, but there just isn't enough space!

I look forward to hearing about all the great work that KISC will be doing in the future and wish you all great fortune, peace and tranquility, and endless successes in all you do. Thank you and until we meet again...

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Representative Chris Lee, KISC Manager Keren Gundersen, and Senator Mike Gabbard aerial surveyed the rugged terrain of the Wailua Game Management Area

Oct 2013 - Dec 2013

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2nd Qtr FY2014



Photo: KISC

Quarter Highlights

- **Oct 8** - Kaua'i LFA landowner/HDOA/KISC meeting to review progress at infestation site
- **Oct 15** - Keren and Tiffani attend KLIC meeting
- **Oct 16** - Keren attends Feral Cat Task Force Meeting
- **Oct 16** - Walk-through w/DOT Harbors at Cruise ship disembarking area
- **Oct 17** - Keren, Tiffani and Joe attend Kauai Conservation Alliance Meeting
- **Oct 18** - Install informational kiosk at Cruise ship disembarking area
- **Oct 21** - KISC crew removes fiddlewood from feature area at Kiahuna Golf Course
- **Oct 29** - KISC Annual Meeting
- **Oct 30** - Keren attends an ISC Manager meeting in Honolulu
- **Oct 31** - Keren attends a HISC Chairperson/ISC Manager meeting in Honolulu
- **Nov 2** - KISC participates in the annual Arbor Day event
- **Nov 6** - Keren attends Emergency Response Tabletop exercise in Honolulu
- **Nov 12** - Keren attends Māmala poepoe conference call for airport biosecurity
- **Nov 13** - Keren and Tiffani meet with Kōke'e Museum regarding future exhibits
- **Nov 14** - Tiffani attend KCA meeting
- **Nov 15** - Keren attends Feral Cat Task Force Meeting
- **Nov 19** - Keren and Tiffani attend KLIC meeting
- **Nov 21** - KISC attends RCUH Hazard Communications Training
- **Dec 3** - Keren attends meeting with Pūlama Lāna'i and CTAHR
- **Dec 5** - Keren attends Feral Cat Task Force Meeting
- **Dec 11** - Keren attends Māmala poepoe conference call for airport biosecurity
- **Dec 12** - KISC hosts Senator Gabbard and Representative Lee
- **Dec 12** - Tiffani attends KCA meeting

Outreach & Education

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Partnerships paid off this quarter in a big way with two of our newest displays. In October, KISC installed the informational kiosk at the



Delivering kiosk to port

Cruise ship disembarking area. The Hawai'i Department of Transportation - Harbors Division paved the way for this installation. This display will target visitors to Kaua'i; informing them of what species should and should not be here and how to report them if they are spotted. KISC was able to take Rep. Lee and Sen. Gabbard down to the port to take a look at the signage during a busy time when two ships were visiting.

The new mongoose "traveling" display was installed at Island School and featured in their resource center.

EDUCATIONAL EVENT

November is the time to

celebrate Arbor Day and KISC was able to, once again, participate in this popular event. Information was provided about mongoose,

little fire ants, and some of our top plant pest targets.



Mongoose display featuring skulls

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Cleve and Tiffani at Arbor Day event

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PUBLICITY AND PRESS COVERAGE

Discovery of Bingabing trees in Hanalei hit the news in November. Coverage of infestation made it to [The Garden Island](#), [Hawai'i News Now](#), the Associated Press, and the [Star Advertiser](#). These media mentions garnered several new reports of suspected Bingabing across the island (all confirmed to NOT be *Macaranga mapp*).

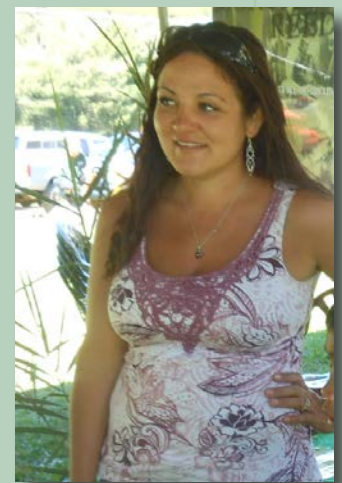
Early detection and rapid response at its best.

Employee of the Quarter: Tiffani Keanini



Tiffani joined KISC in 2009 as the KISC Outreach and Project Facilitator. She and her husband, Nate, have two daughters who love to go to the beach on Tiffani's days off. Tiffani has been able to expand KISC's Outreach Program by helping to create and implement fun and interactive displays at events throughout the island. Tiffani also works with KISC partners; leading Early Detection Workshops and providing information to them about KISC's priorities.

Congratulations, Tiffani!



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Target Updates

- **Miconia** - Ground and aerial surveys (utilizing HBT) were conducted during this quarter covering over 632 acres. 5 immature plants were found (3 in GMA and 2 in Wailua Homesteads) in known areas and 77 person-hours were expended.
- **Coqui Frogs** - Night patrols in high risk areas, such as nurseries, continue on a monthly basis. No new coqui were detected. 56 person-hours were expended covering over 49 acres.
- **Little Fire Ant** - KISC crew members continued to assist the Hawai'i Ant Lab and HDOA with treatment efforts in Kalihiwai, with surveys and treatments in "hot spots" where LFA were detected in treated areas. KISC also continues to survey for LFA island wide. 44 acres were surveyed and 161 person-hours were expended. No new LFA were detected.
- **Long Thorn Kiawe** - Work continues at PMRF and work began at the neighboring Kekaha Rifle Range. The crew was able to treat over 2,300 immature and 30 mature plants this quarter, covering 36 acres and expending 176 person-hours.
- **Mongoose** - Trapping efforts continue with assistance from DOFAW. Traps continue to be set in high-priority areas around Kaua'i with no new captures. 388 person-hours were expended. During this quarter, KISC received 8 mongoose reports, 4 of them deemed credible. KISC posts a monthly newsletter regarding mongoose work and it can be found online at: <http://www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/iscs/kisc/pests/mongoose/mongoosemonitor.htm>.

- **Arundo, False Kava & Ivy Gourd** - Other priority species work included arundo, false kava and ivy gourd. Treatments continue for these species with over 230 plants treated this quarter and 72 person-hours expended.
- **Molucca Raspberry** - KISC and HDOA continue to partner with a landowner in Lāwa'i to control *Rubus sieboldii*. 5 acres were surveyed with 300 plants treated. 32 person-hours were expended.
- **Early Detection Species** - This quarter, 24 acres were surveyed in Hanalei Refuge for birds affected by Avian Botulism. Bingabing was discovered in Hanalei and over 10 acres were surveyed as part of the population delimiting process. 49 acres were surveyed for other E.D. targets. Roadside surveys mapping *Myoporum* species began this quarter with over 800 acres surveyed and mapped.

Photo: KISC



Cleve with one of the smaller bingabing plants found in Hanalei