

Kaua'i Mongoose Monitor



February 2013



Sticking a pin in it

Although credible reports have been steadily coming into the KISC office, finding areas to set traps is a bit more complicated. Immediate response to sightings is not always possible due to the location of the sighting; busy roadways, public areas, remote areas, and residential areas with known cat populations are all difficult trapping areas.

However, as news of the KISC and DOFAW response and trapping effort spreads across Kaua'i, property access has become easier to obtain. Permissions from large landowners (like Grove Farms and Hawaiian Homelands) have been obtained, keys have been secured, and gates have been accessed. The port at Nawiliwili has been set with 40 traps covering Young Brothers as well as the Matson receiving areas.

Now, as we near the one-year anniversary of the first capture, hopes are running high that success can be repeated. Although records and outreach have not been consistent over the years regarding mongoose on Kaua'i, analysis of the sightings reported per month since 1968 consistently tell us that more reports are received during the month of March. This activity could reflect a breeding cycle or activities associated with seeking mates.

For now, outreach will be stepped up to help pin-point active animals and priority areas for trap placement. A Spring dog-deployment is also being planned as a flexible rapid response activity.

Look for more public service announcements and outreach. And help spread the word to report sightings to 821-1490.

KISC "War Room" Map: Orange pins (1968-2002), Yellow pins (2003-2011), Blue pins (2012), Green pin (2013)

February 2013 Mongoose Sightings

- **Feb. 1** - Nawilwili/Niumalu area. Person had historic accounts of several sightings including witnessing a chicken killing. (*Questionable*)
- **Feb. 9** - Anahola on Kuhio Highway. Animal seen by two people. (*Credible*)
- **Feb. 12** - Maha'ulepu on a trail near Shipwreck's. 2nd-hand report. (*Questionable*)
- **Feb. 12** - Nawiliwili near Marriott entrance on side of road. (*Credible*)
- **Feb. 15** - Maha'ulepu on trail near Shipwreck's. (*Credible*)



Signage posted in Maha'ulepu trail area



February Trapping Effort

- Six trapping locations
- 2,180 trap-days
- 194 combined person-hours
- Chickens captured: 13
- Toads captured: 5
- Rats captured: 22
- Cats captured: 7
- Birds captured: 1 (dove), 1 (cardinal)



Capture Protocols

Chickens: Re-locate
Toads: Re-locate
Rats: Euthanize humanely
Cats: Turn in to Humane Society
Birds: Release

