

KISC MEETING

Approved Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 21, 2005
HDOA Conference Room
10:00 am to 12:00 noon

I. Welcome/Introduce Guests/New Members

- New KISC staff
 - Jackie Kozak – Outreach Specialist
 - Dave Neville – Americorps Intern
- Tad Nakamichi – USDA – APHIS - PPQ
- Carl Berg - Hanalei Watershed
- Matt Rosener – Hanalei Watershed
- Christian Tutschka – Community member

II. Review Agenda Items

III. Review and Approve Minutes from January 20, 2005 quarterly meeting. Minutes were unanimously approved as is.

IV. Outreach Presentation – Jacqueline Kozak

- Jackie hopes to be an outreach resource for all of KISC's partners and plans to connect and cooperate with the many groups and individuals involved with invasive species on Kauai to collectively raise awareness.
- Her targets include the nursery, landscaping, and tourist industries, dive shops & clubs, schools, hunting, hiking, and farming communities, as well as other conservation organizations.
- She is focusing on updating and creating educational materials, making presentations, writing publications, planning special events, and just getting the word out in any way that she can.
- She is excited about the possibilities for this new position and appreciates any feedback from KISC members on outreach ideas and strategies. Feel free to contact her at jackiekozak@verizon.net
- ***If you have any photos of commonly sold horticultural plants showing invasive tendencies in the wild, especially with recognizable Kauai landmarks, please send them to Jackie, so she may use them in a presentation to the nursery & landscaping industry as proof to encourage codes of conduct for certain species.

V. Featured Species: Coqui Frogs – film by UH-CTAHR

- The featured species this month is to expand upon the current media attention that this species is getting. With Big Island declaring a state of emergency and the state legislature debating whether or not to allocate funding to battle coqui frogs, it seems appropriate to provide as much information to the committee as possible about coqui.
- KISC is also planning a three-part Strategy Meeting to address our single population in Lawai. Efforts have been maintained for three years now and it is time to re-evaluate our methods. It is hoped that we will get county

participation in this event. We are targeting those who live near this population, funders, State and Federal agencies, and those who can influence the outcome of any proposed strategy. ***Details of this Strategic Planning meeting are below.*** Kauai needs to eradicate this single, small population quickly to prevent further infestations and the eventual unstoppable spread.

- This short film, produced by UH – CTAHR is very informative, although mainly focused on the infestation on Hawaii Island. This film will be shown at the first part of the strategy meeting, but if you cannot make the meeting and would like to view it, please contact the KISC office and we can lend you a copy.

VI. Updates:

- **Coqui Control in Lawai – Craig**
 - Efforts continue, but we feel that the population is spreading outward. When estimating the cost of using citric acid for our Lawai site, it works out to something like \$70,000 for one application only. We must come up with other methods. [CB: Can Hydrated Lime be used for treatment?] [KG: No, it has not been given a label for use as a pesticide. It can be used by private citizens to “amend the soil” but for frog use, no. KISC, as an entity that gets both State and Federal funding, cannot use this method until a label has been granted. It has also been said that hydrated lime is not that much more effective than citric acid, only less expensive. The wet slurry needs to make contact with the frog and when it dries, it has no effect.] [JP: If the lime gets re-hydrated, can it continue to kill the frogs?] [CK: No, when it dries, it changes its properties. Although, when the citric acid residue on leaves and such gets re-moisturized by a light mist, it still has properties that can affect the frogs, although at a lower percentage.][AR: Are any of this committee planning on attending the Coqui Strategy Meeting?] [Many hands were raised.]
- **Targets – Keren**
 - Miconia: Work continues in Wailua River State Park (WRSP) and Opaekaa (Wailua Game Management Area). We will be working with our partner, UH-CTAHR and Jeri Ooka on distributing the fungus *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides. f.sp. miconiae* (Cgm) on seedlings above the Experimental Station. Using this new tool on Kauai may have an impact on known seed banks with seedling populations. The Nature Conservancy will also be helping us access a small tree growing on a cliff-face in WRSP. We are awaiting word on a grant application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for monies dedicated to Miconia work.
 - Fountain Grass: At our Strategic Planning meeting last fall, it was determined that Fountain Grass would be given a higher priority. KISC has been working with HDOA regularly on this target species. Gay & Robinson have been working cooperatively on access issues and the crew feels that they are slowly making an impact. Approximately 28 acres has been treated. Last week Keren and Joe went with Sarah to Hana to observe their heli-ops on Miconia efforts. This may be a possible management method for treatment of Fountain Grass on hard-to-access steep areas. Keren will keep the committee posted as we progress with this idea.

- Long Thorn Kiawe: Due to the wet winter we experienced on the East side, the crew has spent a lot of time on this target, working with HDOA. They have successfully cut all trees from Mahaulepu to Mana Drag strip, where they are currently working. They also continue to monitor these areas for seedlings. We are finding that there is quite a large seed bank left behind where the mature trees once stood.
- Arundo: The crew has also spent some time on this target because it is primarily on the West side. They are mostly re-treating the known sites, but TNC discovered a small population on the road up to Alexander's Reservoir and the crew has treated and is monitoring that site as well.
- Ivy Gourd: Work continues in Moloaa, the core in Anahola, and at Shipwreck's on the South side. Landowners in the core have mentioned to the crew that they feel they are really having an impact and that the population is being knocked back. This is a frustrating target, as it is difficult to control, and the crew is doing a great job with this one. They also located the reported population by the airport and access issues need to be worked out due to dog kennels on the site.
- Fireweed: The crew continues to monitor Half-way Bridge with HDOA. Only occasional plants are being discovered, and we are feeling as if the dormancy of the seed may be longer than we originally estimated. HDOA has been monitoring the Kalihiwai population and report that no new plants have been discovered.
- Pampas Grass: The Koke'e population is in the monitoring stage with only occasional re-sprouts being treated. The crew discovered Pampas Grass at Kauai Lagoons. Apparently they are using it as a "feature ornamental" throughout the course. KISC is working on negotiating their removal.
- Cattails: Most of the drainage trench digging has been accomplished and the infestation area in Makaweli is beginning to dry out. The crew has just begun spraying accessible areas. We are getting great cooperation and feed back from the taro farmers of that area.
- False Kava: The small population at Kahili Mountain is still being monitored. The crew is still finding small re-sprouts most likely coming from runners that persist. They also treated a fairly large patch in Kalihiwai that was purposely planted, thinking that it was real kava. The landowners have been cooperative and have actually helped with the treatments.
- Coqui Frogs: Our work with coqui has been hampered by cold, wet weather and broken equipment. We are back on line and are back to spraying weekly with the help of Craig.
- Mongoose: The position for Mongoose Rapid Response has been approved with RCUH, the funding has been secured through HISC and I am hoping to fill this position by the end of May. This time of year has historically been a busy "sighting" time. Mongoose breed twice a year and possibly they are on the move looking for mates at this time of year.
- Little Fire Ant: Paki continues with his ant survey. He is focusing on nurseries and resorts now. No new specimens have been found. We are also doing outreach and including this species as a focus at various fairs. KISC continues to work with HDOA on the small infestation in Kalihiwai. Several more treatments have been made and thorough surveys have been conducted. Upon surveying just last Tuesday, no LFA were detected. We will continue to treat and monitor this site.

- Adopt-a-trail: The crew has worked the first two miles of the Kalalou trail a couple of times. The public that they have met have had positive feedback. It is a great change of pace for the crew and they get to enjoy the beauty of the coastline while conducting outreach. We will be working with Wayne Souza regarding posting a sign.
- Budget –*Keren*
 - Our current draft budget for FY06 is at about \$627,000. This budget is heavily supported by the HISC funding and includes the Outreach position and support. Not included in this figure are pending funds this year from Kauai County (\$50K), and a NFWF grant (\$80K). These monies are uncertain, but we should know by the end of May.

VII. New Items:

- Election of new KISC Chairperson
 - Tim Flynn of the National Tropical Botanical Garden has volunteered to be KISC's new chair for FY06. No other candidates came forward to vie for this position. Tim was unanimously elected.
 - Discussion re: Chair for FY07. KISC would like to see a commitment for a "Chair elect" for the next fiscal year. This position can collaborate with the current year's chair and KISC can fully utilize an ongoing partnership growth. Ideally this position would be in the State or Federal sector as agreed upon by the committee. Jayme Patrick (USDS-WS) stepped forward to be considered as a candidate. It was agreed that KISC would put the discussion out to the list serve for possible candidates and we will elect this position at the next KISC meeting in July.

VIII. Announcements:

- Coqui Frog Strategic Planning Meeting (3-part):
 - April 26, 8 am to 10 am, HDOA Conference Room. This meeting is to get "everyone on the same page". We will show the CTAHR movie again and discuss the history, site, and current strategies of the Lawai population
 - May 3, 7 pm to 8 pm. Site visit. This meeting will be at the population in Lawai and will focus on site logistics. You will also get a chance to hear the calling frogs.
 - May 6, 8 am to 10 am, HDOA Conference Room. This will be the climax of the meetings. We will be discussing all possible strategies and methods for eliminating this population.
 - **These meetings are not open to the general public. We are targeting those who can help us strategize and/or provide the means to accomplish them. If you are interested in attending, please call or email the KISC office so that we can plan on accommodating everyone.**
- Nat'l Geographic's "Strange Days": April 20, 27 (PBS). Touted to be a "must see"
- KISC Office / Base yard Blessing Event: May 6, 4 pm to 6 pm. Pau hana. Please join us.
- Banana Poka Round-up: May 29, Kokee.

IX. Other Business

- **KRCP** has been noticing an alarming spread of *Buddleja asiatica* in and around Kokee (and possibly island-wide). The majority seem to be in seedling form except for two large diameter plants in Kokee (which they have already

controlled). The seeds of this plant are wind-dispersed. **[Paul Massey suggested including this information.] The common name for this species is Dog tail. Check out this link for more information: http://www.hear.org/pier/species/buddleja_asiatica.htm. If you see this plant anywhere, please report it to KRCP (335-9975).**

- **Hanalei Heritage River** has been aerially mapping the upper Hanalei valley with the help of USGS and NRCS. With the aid of an EPA grant, they are doing an inventory of vegetation, soil types and invasive species. Their goal is to prioritize weeds, develop a management plan and create an agricultural non-point-source pollution model. They would like to then come back and present their findings to KISC for possible partnership assistance.

X. Next Meeting – Thursday, July 21, 2005

Attendees: Allan Rietow (TNC, KISC), Christy Martin (CGAPS), Carl Berg (Hanalei Watershed Hui), Matt Rosener (Hanalei Watershed Hui), Christian Tutschka (community member), Sherri Paul (DOFAW), Ellen Coulombe (KRCP), Sarah Newton (TNC), David Neville (KISC), Kekoa Aana (KISC), Craig Kaneshige (HDOA), Eric Garcia (HDOA), Joe Kona (KISC), Joseph Kona (KISC), Jayme Patrick (USDA-WS), Tad Nakamichi (USDA-APHIS-PPQ), Anthony Doth (USDA-APHIS-PPQ), Keren Gundersen (KISC), Jin Wah Lau (KISC), Jeri Ooka (UH CTAHR), Jackie Kozak (KISC).

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