

KISC MEETING

Approved Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 17, 2006
HDOA Conference Room
10:00 am to 12:00 noon

I. Welcome/Introduce Guests/New Members

[Attendees: Jayme Patrick (USDA-APHIS-WS, acting chair), Mike Wysong (NTBG), Sarah Newton (TNC), Nicolai Barca (TNC), Mindy Wilkinson (DLNR-DOFAW), Lehua Prevet-Lafayette (KISC), Jeff Schlueter (KISC), Kristin Hall (KISC), Craig Kaneshige (HDOA), Sherri Paul (DLNR-DOFAW), Tony Doth (USDA-APHIS-PPQ), Mike Mitchell (USFWS), Scott Giarman (Kauai United Way), Ellen Coulombe (NTBG), Keren Gundersen (KISC), Ronson Arakaki (KISC), Joe Kona (KISC), Jackie Kozak (KISC)]

II. Review Agenda Items

III. Review and Approve Minutes from April 27, 2006 regular meeting.

Minutes were approved unanimously by committee. Please see

<http://www.hear.org/kisc/pdfs/20060427kiscmeetingminutes.pdf> for the posting.

IV. Featured Species: Pampas Grass – Kristin Hall

Cortaderia spp. is a severe pest in California, New Zealand, and Maui. Pampas grass is a giant tussock-forming perennial grass with saw toothed leaves and white to pink flower plumes. It can crowd out native vegetation, damage grazing lands, and pose fire hazards. *C. jubata* can produce seeds by self pollination and *C. selloana* requires both sexes for cross-pollination. To date, only *C. selloana* has been identified on Kauai and has not found to be reproducing by wind-blown seeds due to only female plants being found here. All known populations, outside of Kauai Lagoons Golf course, have been either eliminated or are being currently monitored for re-sprouts. Check out: <http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20060817pampasgrass/> for more information and pictures.

V. Updates:

- Target Overview – Kristin Hall

Work continued on all of our targets and they are all showing signs of decline with many of them being in the monitoring stage. We conducted 5 aerial-surveys for Miconia in the Wailua Game Management Area and in the Wailua portion of the Halelea Forest Reserve. Only three immature plants were spotted, all within our known infestation buffer. Ground crews were able to locate and dispatch two of the plants but assistance from TNC will be needed for one located in steep terrain. A continuance of a partnership project with Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) will take place at the end of August focusing on clearing Long Thorn Kiawe with heavy machinery.

Click on: <http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20060817kiscfieldupdate/> to see more.

- Coqui Control in Lawai – Keren Gundersen, Craig Kaneshige

Over the last couple of months there has been much activity not only at the frog site, but with funding agencies and interested governing bodies. In May and June Keren and Craig gave updating presentations to both the Mayor and the County Council.

This presentation re-caps the information given:

<http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20060817kauaicoquiupdate/>.

Kauai County is now considering the budget shortfalls for this project and may be funding over \$400,000 over the next three years.

- **HISC/CGAPS update – *Mindy Wilkinson***
 Due to HISC funding being cut this year we are stressing a focus on Early Detection and Rapid Response. By transferring efforts on targets that are wide-spread to focus on early introductions, the long-term benefits will be high. Since many of the KISC targets are in the monitoring stage and not widely naturalized (as Miconia on the Big Island), this will leave much room for early detection work.
 Also, coming up on September 7, will be a listening session for the Cooperative Conservation Initiatives. The sessions will focus on issues, programs and policies mentioned frequently at the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation. This will hopefully enhance efforts to better fund local and state-wide efforts such as KISC.
- **Outreach activities – *Jackie Kozak***
 A lot has been going on with outreach! We've received great publicity being front page news in The Garden Island News, Hawaii Landscape, the Advertiser and more. There has been a huge interest in KLIC adopting the Codes of Conduct and she is now working with the National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) to have them adopt their own "Codes" as well as to formulate a list of plants for removal and de-accessioning. We will soon have a new state-wide Miconia rack-card (just in time for the County Fair). KISC also has a display up at the Princeville Library focusing on Apple Snails to coincide with Penny Levin's State-Wide Apple Snail Strategic Plan. Jackie was able to participate in keiki programs on the North Shore increasing awareness and aiding their education programs. The HISC Outreach Working Group is now finalizing their two-year interim plan. If interested in commenting, please contact Jackie (jackiekozak@hawaiiintel.net). The Kauai Conservation Conference was such a huge success; we are already taking names for those interested in helping to organize for next year. Finally, we are working on our Early Detection plan and will be conducting workshops to help train those interested on Kauai. Check out <http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20060817kiscoutreachupdate/> to get the update.

VI. **New Items:**

- **Early Detection – *Kristin Hall***
 At the last meeting Kristin presented the Prevention Field Guide she developed as an Early Detection tool to be able to spot plants most likely to invade from other islands. This has proven to be just the stepping stone in our efforts to increase our capacity for Early Detection. Due to a decrease in funding this year, we have been charged with ramping up detection of incipient species to better respond to and eradicate new arrivals. This ability to detect and eradicate quickly will, in the long run, prove to be a far more economical way of addressing this issue. ***We would like to form a Early Detection Working Group*** to help formulate an island-wide roadside survey-strategy based on protocol outlined by Forest and Kim Starr on Maui. By using on-island partnerships we can better utilize expertise available here. Please contact Kristin (kristinhall@hawaiiintel.net) if you are interested in participating in this working group. [MW: Be aware that Fireweed was discovered in the Central DOFAW nursery and can possibly be transported in potted plants used for out-planting. It was already discovered on Oahu but quickly identified.]
- **Forum: Vertebrate Trapping**
 - **Panel/Presenters: *Jayme Patrick – USDA Wildlife Services***
 Jayme discussed conflicts presented by introduced vertebrates to Hawaii and the role that USDA-Wildlife Services plays in addressing those conflicts. Please see Jayme's presentation to see details of their methods and various projects:
<http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20060817usdawstrappingonkauai/>.

Mike Wysong – NTBG

Mike's role at the National Tropical Botanical Garden includes trapping wild chickens in Lawai, doing remote control efforts in Limahuli Valley on cats to protect native birds, as well as vertebrate control work in a 6 acre Dry-land Forest Preserve on Big Island. The Garden also is part of an urban trapping group working with local hunters in Lawai Valley. So far 30 pigs have been removed.

Keren Gundersen – KISC

Most of KISC's vertebrate trapping have been focused on Mongoose. Responding to sightings is labor intensive and time-consuming. Check out http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20060817kiscvertebratetrapping/index_files/v3_document.htm to review KISC's methods and tools.

- **The following topics were briefly discussed or addressed in the presentations:**
 - Trapping for varying objectives (ie, modifying the trapping strategy according to the objective such as detection, population reduction, total eradication, etc)
 - Animal care and handling; euthanasia (methodology, safety)
 - Translocation considerations
 - Social issues- public relations, trap damage and theft

[MM: Has anyone tried using "Sherman Traps" for mongoose? This would create more of a tunnel (closed sides) and perhaps they would go in.] [KG: Not that I know of. The Tomahawk traps were decided upon by a working group consisting of USDA-WS, USFWS, DOFAW and KISC because of their durability. We had discussed using Hagaruma traps (base plate with inverted wire cage with funnel), but determined that these would not hold up to a mongoose trashing around inside of it.] [KG: After this discussion, it was determined that we would form a **Vertebrate Trapping Working Group** to discuss further methods and ideas regarding various trapping issues. This meeting will be posted on the list-serve. Please look for the announcement.]

- Farm Bureau Fair Sign-ups (sign-up sheet was passed around and will be emailed to the list).

VII. Announcements:

- August 24 – 27 Kauai Farm Bureau Fair

VIII. Next Meeting – October 12, 2006: Strategic Planning Meeting

(Reminder and agenda will be posted to the list-serve)

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