

KISC QUARTERLY MEETING APPROVED MINUTES

Thursday, January 25, 2006
10:00 am to 12:00 noon
HDOA Conference Room
4398A Pua Loke St.
Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii

I. Welcome/Introduce Guests/New Members

- New KISC Americorps Interns: *Bretty Manary & Eric Twedt*.

[Attendees: Mike Hawkes (USFWS), Mike DeMotta (NTBG), Scott Giarman (Kauai United Way), Eric Twedt (KISC), Brett Manary (KISC), Joe Kona (KISC), Ronson Arakaki (KISC), Jeff Schlueter (KISC), Jackie Kozak (HISC), Jayme Patrick (USDA-WS), Lea Bukoski (USDA-PPQ), Tad Nakamichi (USDA-PPQ), Tim Flynn (NTBG), Mindy Wilkinson (DLNR), Laurie Ho (GIRC&D), Bill Spitz (County of Kauai, OED), Tony Doth (USDA-PPQ), Keren Gundersen (KISC), Craig Kaneshige (HDOA), Jeri Ooka (CTAHR), Paul Massey (Roots Botanical Garden)]

II. Review Agenda Items

III. Review and Approve Minutes from October 12, 2006 strategic planning meeting. Meeting minutes approved without change.

IV. Guest presentation: "Rare Plants: A Last Stand" – *Mike DeMotta, NTBG*

Mike is the Collection Manager at NTBG's North Shore garden at Limahuli. Here he is trying to dispel the perception of native plants being hard to grow. Everything needs care, even ornamental plants. Here, habitats have changed that make it harder for native plants to thrive. Insects and grazing animals are also challenging these plants in their native habitats. For some rare plants, where there may be only a few individuals left in the wild, their final stand may be what we have in cultivation. Mike's outstanding slide presentation showing various native plants, some of them extremely rare and endangered, was a fascinating example of how most of these plants can thrive in cultivation.

V. Updates:

- NFWF Grant (Miconia) – *Keren Gundersen*

A huge amount of progress was made last year with this National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant toward Miconia. The majority of this grant was earmarked for aerial surveys with the rest going toward outreach. Over 4,000 acres were surveyed and Miconia posters were created to install on the new Kuilau Ridge Trailhead sign. See <http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20070125nfwfgrantupdate/> for the re-cap.

- Coqui Control in Lawai – *Keren Gundersen*

The good news is that the county approved the bill asking for \$290,967 to control Coqui frogs in Lawai. A budget was outlined and with the assistance of Mindy Wilkinson (DOFAW) and Lyle Wong (HDOA) testifying before the council, the council members finally passed the bill on January 10. KISC will continue to work with the partnerships in the Kauai Coqui Working Group with the ultimate goal of no calling frogs by fall of this year. Methods will continue to include habitat modification with heavy machinery, and applications of hydrated lime and citric acid. See:

<http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20070125coquifrogupdate/>

- HISC Outreach activities – *Jackie Kozak*

We will be celebrating National Invasive Species Awareness Week here on Kauai during the week of March 4th. So far, we have 3 volunteer events planned, as well as a panel

on invasive species as part of NTBG's "Science in the Garden" lecture series. I will be sending educational packets to schools, so that teachers can touch upon this topic during the week. Additionally, I will be sending articles to the local papers to highlight invasive species issues, projects, and volunteer opportunities for the community. Please email me if you are interested in adding an event to the week's schedule (jackiekozak@hawaiiantel.net). See the presentation for other "Bits and Pieces" on outreach. <http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20070125hiscoutreachupdate/>

- **Mongoose update – Jayme Patrick**

During the month of November, we had five credible sightings. One came in every week. One was from a visitor who saw the same mongoose 8 days in a row but she called it in a month later. Traps were on the ground within 24 hours. All of the reports were old – from a couple of days to a week. We are working on how this time-lag can be reduced. We are using tracking tunnels, cat traps, hagaruma traps, fish bait as well as additional methods. The goal: to trap or capture a print or picture. We've invested in 3 digital camera traps with infra-red and LCD flashes. We set up 3 bait stations using pig carcasses with cameras. They are all enclosed in wire mesh (to reduce predation by other animals) and in remote sites for about 6 days. We even added adhesive to the edge of the trap to try to collect fur. So far we have collected no evidence of mongoose activity. We are continuing in Lawai and at the airport where we have had repeated sightings.

[PM: How far do they range?][JP: Up to 5 miles.][BS: I have observed mongoose being hand-fed in Kona. They may have semi-domesticated mongoose there. They love kibbles!][JS: Would human scent affect traps?][JP: Yes, we've thought about that and are implementing some bio-security to prevent that. They are attracted to rat scents.]

USDA-WS update: We are working with HDOH sampling passerines for West Nile Virus and Avian Influenza. These are birds that mainly work in flight-flocks. We are currently interviewing candidates within the next few weeks to fill some vacancies that we've had for awhile. We also have observed 3 trumpeter swans within the last month or so. We are not sure as to where they came from and wonder if they could have migrated here. They are now over at Kauai Lagoons. We also had a sheep on the runway that we had to remove.

- **Early Detection – Jackie Kozak**

Through the HISC Outreach Working Group, we are developing a comprehensive curriculum for education on early detection. This will be done through workshops and can be tailored for either specific groups (i.e. Young Brothers, Farm Bureau) or the general public. We hope to couple these workshops with a field guide as well as volunteer events and incentives like T-shirts. As far as our upcoming Road-side Survey; the working group has been discussing several options to carry out the survey and data collection. See <http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20070125earlydetectionupdate/> for the options. The working group has completed the nursery surveys and finalized the survey list. This list, however, may change as unknown plants are discovered.

[TF: What can we do when we survey nurseries and find something undesirable?][MW: The purpose of the nursery surveys was to develop a list for the roadside survey. If plants are undesirable perhaps this is something that can be discussed as the Voluntary codes of Conduct are expanded.][TF: Can Hawaii eventually have a "White List"?][MW: Australia currently uses this to screen things before they come in. Hawaii legislature currently supports quarantine by supporting a user fee and white list. HDOA, however, doesn't presently support it, but it is under investigation.][TF: Can Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) do anything about this? Can HISC bypass the state and work with CBP?][TD: Absolutely. If we are talking about commercial shipments.][MW: The model that the Feds use is the same as the state: they use a Noxious Weed List. The possibility to get weeds domestically is high. We need both National and International shipments regulated.][LH: Can the state noxious weed list be updated?][MW: There is a request made to HDOA right now for an update. Some bills are also being introduced regarding a white list and the noxious weed list. HDOA is okay with the noxious weed

changes but the white list needs to be put with the appropriate branch (Plant Quarantine). These may require a rule change.][LH: Isn't there another way around it? Why are weeds brought in anyway?][TF: Some people like them. They are fast or easy to grow.][JK: Support from Landscape Architects is also needed. We need to work with the Green Industry and encourage dialogue between consumers and nurserymen.][MW: Whenever you have the most volume, you'll have the biggest risk. Peer outreach is important.]

- HISC Update – *Mindy Wilkinson*

DLNR has submitted a budget to the legislature to restore the \$4 million to HISC next fiscal year. As far as any other legislative updates, I am sending updates to the All-ISC Announce List. The next HISC Outreach Working Group meeting is on Monday, January 29. If you are interested in any other HISC working group, just let Mindy know. HISC now has a program of three staff including a HISC Coordinator, Chris Buddenhagen, and a Grants Manager, Karmin Kime.

New Items:

- Suitable Habitat Modeling – *Jeff Schlueter*

Please view Jeff's presentation on the Suitable Habitat Model that he has been working on in collaboration with Aaron Kogan (MISC), and Kristin Hall. This model was devised to try to answer the question "Are we looking for plants where we should be looking?"

<http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20070125habitatsuitabilitymodel/>

- "A Day in the Life of the Field Crew" – *Ronson Arakaki, KISC Field Assistant*

It was recently posed by a KISC member: "What exactly does the crew do all day?" So, one of our Field crewmembers took up the challenge of showing everyone exactly what they do. On this day, the crew worked on Coqui frogs, so his photo essay shows the progress throughout their shift. Click on this link to see what they are up to at the frog site: <http://www.hear.org/kisc/presentations/20070125adayinthelife/>

- Request for partnership updates at quarterly meetings

At the other ISC meetings across the state, one thing that is on every agenda is to have brief updates from their partners. KISC would like to invite our partners to participate in our meetings by giving these 5 -10 minute updates. An invitation will be drafted and sent asking for partnership participation at the next KISC meeting and every meeting after. [The membership voted on this and it was passed unanimously.]

- Nomination and/or volunteer of next KISC chair elect - *Tabled*

- KISC Meeting Schedule

- February 15, 8:00 - 10 am: *Coqui Frog Working Group Meeting*
- April 19, 10 am to Noon: *Quarterly Meeting*
- July 19, 10 am to Noon: *Quarterly Meeting*
- October 18, 9 am to Pau: *Strategic Planning Meeting*
- TBA: *Fountain Grass Working Group Meeting*
- TBA: *Vertebrate Trapping Working Group Meeting*

VI. Announcements:

- Celebration of National Invasive Species Week: Three volunteer work days: March 5th, 6th, and 10th – all with the National Tropical Botanical Garden. (Jackie will be sending announcements regarding these events.)

VII. Next Meeting – Thursday, April 19, 2007

Pau