

Kaua'i Mongoose Monitor



November 2012

Working Hard for the Money

The hardworking mongoose response crew works 5 days per week responding to mongoose reports, setting and checking traps, and conducting outreach and education with the public everywhere they go. Matt Kirk (pictured below), worked his last day on November 16, as a temporary hire with KISC, after completing his term. Jamie Harris (pictured on the next page) is an emergency hire with DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife, supervised by Thomas Kaiakapu. Pat Gmelin, the KISC Mongoose Response Project Leader is heading up and coordinating this work and with his team they decide priority trapping areas, bait rotation, and constantly look for new ways to trap mongooses.

To give this work perspective, collection and trapping data is outlined on the next page. It is labor-intensive, and mostly unrewarding work (as far as mongoose captures go). This team has been doing an outstanding job and they are much appreciated for their enthusiasm and diligence. Kudos to this work force!

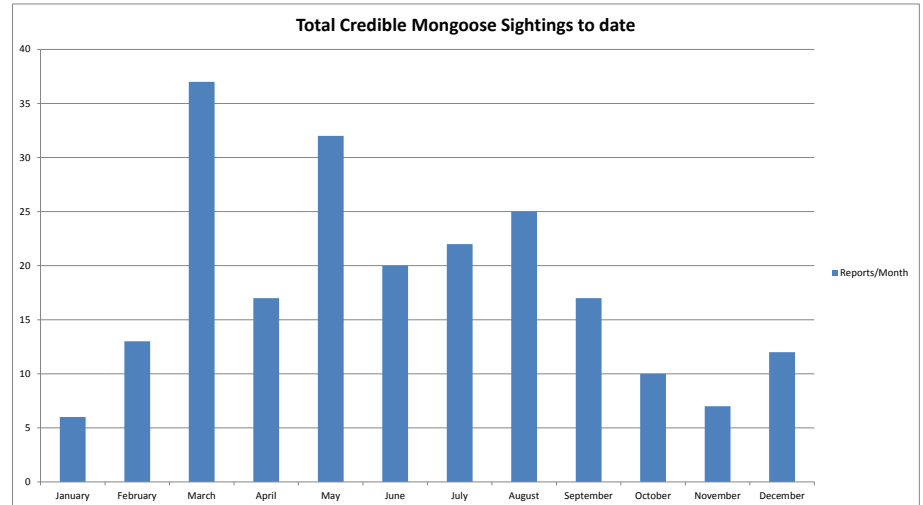


Mongoose reports have slowed

Only three credible reports were called into KISC during the month of November, but analysis of the sightings show a drop during this season. This analysis (mongoose sightings from 1968 to present) cannot be counted as very scientific, however, because there have been varying degrees of response effort and outreach. Experience shows that increased outreach efforts (news articles, press releases, public service announcements, etc.) have a direct correlation to increased mongoose reports. Advertising the phone number, for ease of reporting, also increases credible sighting reports.

Sightings received during November 2012

- Sept 23 - (Reported this month) Koloa Tree Tunnel (credible)
- Nov 6 - Lumahai Bridge area(credible)
- Nov 11 - Pakala near the surf spot (credible)



Stats for November 2012

Number of traps deployed	159
Trap days for November	3,180
Rats	30
Chickens	13
Cats	4
Toads	4
Cardinals.....	2
Shama thrush	1
Pigeon.....	1
Pig.....	1
Frog	1
African snail.....	1



*Covered trap with feather attractant (above).
Jamie Harris (below), Pat Gmelin (lower left)*

