

Summary of BIISC Committee Meeting Sept 30, 2010 and report on fall progress towards Goals (agenda with powerpoint links in next section)

What: Big Island Invasive Species Committee (BIISC) Committee Meeting
Where: Hunter Education Center, 66-1220 D. Lalamilo Road, Kamuela, HI-
When: September 30, 2010, 9am-Noon

The opening oli aloha, composed for BIISC, was presented by Kanoë DeRego, BIISC PIPES intern from the University of Hawaii. Kanoë composed the oli to create a lasting link between the goals and landscape images of BIISC staff and the Hawaiian culture which is so interconnected with the natural resources BIISC works to protect and renew.

Jan Schipper, BIISC manager, stated that the purpose of holding the meeting outside Hilo was to get new community input, engage different audiences, and let the local community know what we're doing in their vicinity. Jan presented some basic background information, then the BIISC 2011 action plan. Goals of the new action plan include outreach with the agricultural and green industries, and monitoring of project effectiveness and ecosystem response.

Jan reviewed some of the past BIISC weed targets: *Rauvolfia vomitoria*, Miconia, and red mangrove. Rapid response targets include: smokebush, *Cryptostegia* (rubber vine), Pampas grass, *Pawlawnia* (a success story) and *Pereskia*.

The Early Detection species prioritization process discussed at the April 2010 BIISC committee meeting has had to be put on hold awaiting statewide consensus on a common plan for species prioritization.

Jan also discussed BIISC priority areas for protective work, including Kohala, Wai Kele o Puna, and miconia work in Honaunau and Honokaa.

Pat Conant from the Department of Agriculture presented a pest update on the coffee berry borer, small hive beetle, and naio thrips. The first two of these pests have had devastating industry impacts, and the thrips serious impact to native species. The Department has been surveying the extent of the recently reported coffee cherry borer. Areas on the windward side and northern Hawaii island have been surveyed. Pat also talked about the small hive beetle, which is becoming a very serious pest for beekeepers, in conjunction with the varroa mite. Pat mentioned the nettle caterpillar biocontrol release and that the fireweed biocontrol environmental assessment has been completed.

Melora Purcell of the Kohala Watershed Partnership, talked about *Rauvolfia vomitoria*, a primary weed target for joint efforts.

Other staff of BIISC discussed their progress in data operations, remote sensing tools, early detection surveys, and outreach education. The state coqui coordinator

warned that coqui pest populations are beginning to get established in the Waimea area but there is still a chance to control them.

BIISC is interested in facilitating community partnerships and citizen volunteers to detect new and potentially invasive species. These “eyes and ears” networks are modeled after a Maui Program hosted by USGS, PBIN. Training workshops will be held, and identification materials provided on an on-going basis. Sightings of pests can be reported to www.reportapest.org among other contact methods. Members of the audience were enthusiastic about this idea, commenting that they are always thinking about their watersheds as they hike, and would like protocols and methods to monitor and report. Websites for information were discussed, such as www.hear.org, and Flickr mystery plants.

AGENDA and Presentation Links:

9am-10am BIISC Today & Strategy for Partnering with Kohala

- ┆ Opening Oli Kanoe DeRego, BIISC intern
- ┆ Unveiling an Action Plan for invasive management on Hawaii Island, and the importance of Kohala - Jan Schipper, Project Manager, BIISC

See powerpoint Jan BIISC Sept 30th.

<http://www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/iscs/biisc/pdfs/20100930actionplan2011.pdf>

- ┆ Update on *Rauvolfia vomitoria*: what we know and why NOW is the time to act - Melora Purell, Coordinator, Kohala Watershed Partnership

see <http://www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/iscs/biisc/pdfs/20100930rauolfia.pdf>

10:30-11:30 Project Updates – Island Wide with emphasis on North and South Kohala

- ┆ BIISC Intern Report, Development of BIISC oli Kanoe DeRego

See <http://www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/iscs/biisc/pdfs/20100930internreport.pdf>

- ┆ Update on Early Detection – Jimmy Parker & Bobby Parsons, BIISC

Early Detection Team

See <http://www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/iscs/biisc/pdfs/20100930earlydetection.pdf>

- ┆ Coqui in Waimea

See

<http://www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/iscs/biisc/pdfs/20100930coquipresentation.pdf>

- ┆ Advances in Weed Mapping – Jean Franklin, Spatial Analyst, BIISC

See

<http://www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/iscs/biisc/pdfs/20100930remotesensing.pdf>

- ┆ Outreach Action Plan – Page Else, Outreach Specialist, BIISC

See <http://www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/iscs/biisc/pdfs/20100930outreach.pdf>

- ┆ “Eyes and Ears Network” – what is it and why Waimea? – Page Else and

Jan Schipper

Handout: Waimea EE brochure (WaimeaEE.pdf)

11:30-Noon Public Q&A and Discussion.

Report on Progress Made During October-December 2010.

Eyes and Ears Citizen training workshops were held in Volcano on November 15th and in Waimea November 30th. Prior to the workshops, booths were manned at community Farmers Markets to spread the word on invasive species.

The Waimea Community Association website has resources on coqui and a request to build a volunteer list. Response has been slow and so efforts have shifted towards encouraging response at the neighborhood rather than the community level so that the scope of engagement is more manageable for the volunteers.

The BIISC crew worked one week in October and November with the KWP crew to control Rauvolfia. The field crew has also worked on rapid response targets including rubber vine, smokebush, and pampas grass.

Meeting Attendees:

Sherm Warner, Waimea Community Association President; Ann-Marie LaRosa, USFS; Hans Sim, DOFAW; Melora Purcell and Barrie Moss, Kohala Watershed Partnership; John Pipan, KWP consultant; Pamala Sullivan and Kathy Kawakami, Pohakuloa Training Area; Rob Shallenberger, The Nature Conservancy; Hans Sim, Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Carolyn Wong and Matt Wung, NRCS; Spencer Nakata, Mauna Kea Soil and Water District, Terry Niven, Waimea Nature Park; Didi Diaz (entomologist); David Benitz, National Park Service; Laila Jayyousi and Pat Conant, Hawaii Department of Agriculture; Lloyd Case, Hawi; Karun Thanjavur; Rachel Abel; Pelika Bitelmann; Kathy Rawk; Christina Hoffmann.

BIISC Staff: Jan Schipper, Raymond McGuire, Page Else, Jean Franklin, Ken Temple, Shannon Karratti, Bobby Parsons, Jimmy Parker, Zethus Lorenzo, Dustin Figuora, Kanoe DeRego