

MINUTES, CFWG

March 16, 2004 2:00; Komohana Conf. Rm A, Hilo

Coqui Frog Statewide Control Plan and Hawai'i Invasive Species Council [L. Nakahara, HI DOA] – handout and e-mail attachment

- All health, agricultural and environmental problems related to invasive species are divided to fall under 5 working groups led by a sector of state/federal government
 - o Public Outreach (Department of Health)
 - o Interagency (Department of Transportation)
 - o Resources (Department of Business and Economic Development)
 - o Prevention of pests not in Hawai'i (Department of Agriculture)
 - o Established pests (Department of Land and Natural Resources)
- Contact person for HISC: Mindy Wilkinson (see CFWG contact list)

County Emergency Declaration (ED) [B Kenoi, Mayor H. Kim, County of HI] – handout and e-mail attachment

- **Concerns:**
 - o Need to consult with Hawai'i Visitors Bureau, Hawai'i Tourism Association, and hotels regarding impact of ED on state tourism. Will ED status turn away potential visitors or draw them in?
 - o Look at the “problem” from another angle and turn it into something positive (world-wide recognition for research opportunities on biological processes, bioengineering, etc.)
 - o Negative impacts of an ED not known; all positive outcomes cannot be foreseen either
 - o ED should result in a planned, educated effort, not panic or knee-jerk reactions
 - o Unlimited use of hydrated lime by non-professionals, white residue not aesthetic, and environmental impact may be significant; however, others commented that the impact is minimal compared to chemical inputs in the commercial production of papaya and other crops
 - o ED too precipitous with unforeseen consequences

Community Reports – Representatives from the following communities shared their progress and requests for assistance

- o Wood Valley, Ka'u (Rich Reha, also by e-mail submission – M Lester)
 - o Nanawale Estates (Karen Meyer, also by e-mail submission)
 - o Koa'e Community Assn (Clive Cheetham)
 - o Hawaiian Paradise Park (John Rozett)
 - o Orchidland (Ellie Eich, John Fallis)
 - o Kukuihaele (Joel Cohen & Phyllis Tarail, e-mail submission)
 - o North Kohala Community (Bob Martin, Kim Takata)
- Someone should check into possibilities of deep resources at USDA, NRCS Resource Conservation and Development (Possible Contact on Big Island Carol Sampia, RC&D Assistant, Phone: (808) 933-6996, fax: (808) 933-6995, carol.sampia@hi.usda.gov)

CFWG Committee Reports

- G Santos: Wants to keep track of all volunteer hours and other resources used by community groups against the coqui frog (Big Island Invasive Species Committee 961-3299; see also CFWG contact list)
- B Dengler-Germain: Is available to give educational sessions on the coqui frog (USDA Wildlife Services; see CFWG contact list)
- R Siracusa: Grant money to be administered by Malama O Puna still has not been received but paperwork has been completed. Loaner sprayers' placement around the island will facilitate their use by communities.
- H Ako: Caffeine research was done to understand the mode of action on the biochemical level
- J Runnells, D Fell, and other BIAN members: Voiced concerns about the Emergency Declaration; suggested a coqui-free certification for nurseries (similar to Burrowing Nematode certification program) because diligent nurseries are being maligned for the irresponsible actions of a few