

## MoMISC Meeting Minutes

Date: August 12, 2010, Thursday  
Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am  
Place: TNC Molokai Office, 23 Pueo Place, Molokai Industrial Park

### I. Call to Order – **Bob Joy, Chair**

- ◆ Introductions  
Lori introduced -- Tavita Togia-Ecologist; National Park of Samoa and Stephen Anderson-Natural Resources Program Manager; Haleakala National Park will be at our meeting and give us a brief update on what's happening in their preserves.
- ◆ Approval of May Minutes. From this meeting on will approve current minutes. Bill moved and Glenn 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### II. Molokai Updates - **Lori**

- ◆ Upside-Down jelly Fish, Mangrove – **keeping it under control. Lori feels MoMISC should be doing until DLNR does it.**
- ◆ Rubber vine – **No mature plants. Conducting surveys.**
- ◆ Australian Tree Fern – **All known mature trees are gone except for 1 residence. Growing out a native hapuu for that residence.**
- ◆ Albizia—**Only retreated only 4 trees in June. Natives did germinate from seed spreading, but has been eaten by deer.**
- ◆ Gooseberry survey, Gourka, Halawa protocol—**expanded survey to more areas. Detected false mangosteen (Gourka) with fruit and 25 were removed. MoMISC also connected with Philipo Solotario and conducted cultural protocol for MoMISC's work in Halawa. Philipo pointed out a weed. A type of Piper (awa/pepper family).**
- ◆ Tumbleweed—**Finally got permission to survey inside quarry. Kama removed over 750 occurrences. Will be conducting follow-up survey this quarter. Lori thinks it may be coming from Maui with imported construction material.**

### III. MISC/CGAPS (Maui Nui/Statewide) Updates

- ◆ CGAPS/ ISC-HDOA —**See Teya's Report**
- ◆ National Parks Update—**Powerpoint presentation by Tavita Togia-Ecologist, National Park of Samoa on Albizia removal.**

### IV. Old Business

- ◆ Bo Tree—**Since the May meeting, Lori generated a report for Kalae occurrence. The owner will be taking it to his family. Lori is working on funding and seeking local vendors. PMC has also removed their two trees in July. Mulch went to adjacent homestead. Lori will follow up with the homesteader. Puu O Hoku Ranch removed their one tree in June. Another tree was removed near Moloka'i Electric. Last trees to be removed are 1 in Mango Lane (Landowner has given permission) and 3 in Kalae. Bill Garnett to submit an article about Bo Tree removal.**
- ◆ Tree Daisy—**Status quo for now. Same landowner as Kalae Bo tree owner**

- ◆ Fireweed—**Three mapped occurrences. 1) Naiwa occurrence removed; 2) Puu O Hoku occurrence has around 30, which were removed; 3) Kualapuu 1 occurrence removed and surveyed regularly. Bill will continue to monitor all 3 populations.**
- ◆ BanBTV Survey –**MISC came for 4 days and surveyed and removed. East Moloka'i still no occurrences. Newest occurrences is now at the Ag. Park. Bill Garnett got approval from Puu O Hoku Ranch to do a rare Hawaiian banana refuge project at the Ranch. Bill is responding to Hawaiian banana becoming very scarce throughout Hawaii because of BBTV.**
- ◆ Water Lettuce—**Arleon detected on East Moloka'i. It is all over. This will not be a MoMISC target.**
- ◆ Monsanto Workshop—**Completed this past July. Trained them especially for fireweed.**
- ◆ Hana Hou Intern—**Keani Acasio was the summer intern.**
- ◆ MoMISC Con Con Abstract—**Lori presented and was part of a panel.**
- ◆ Mexican Poppy—**Bill is still surveying.**

V. New Business, Committee Members Concerns or Other Activities

- Snowflake coral—**will be conducting removal for Kaunakakai wharf occurrence.**
- Arundo—**Lori keeps it on her radar, because it is a well known bio fuel plant, and Moloka'i is often a target for this industry.**
- DLNR rule changes—**that will affect invasive plants**
- **Bob shared the Dispatch's MoMISC article Aug 4<sup>th</sup> issue.**
- **MISC will be doing a TNC/MoMISC partnership article that will be featured in the fall newsletter.**
- **MoMISC will be conducting Miconia aerial survey in August.**

VI. Approval of minutes/Next Meeting Date: **November 4, 10 am-12noon, TNC Molokai Office**

May 10, 2010 Attendance: Lori Buchanan, Kamalani Pali–MoMISC; Bill Garnett-Rare Plant Species Recovery Molokai; Ella Alcon-County Council Liaison; Ed Misaki, Wailana Moses-TNC Molokai; Butch Haase-Molokai Land Trust; Jessica Ludgate, Wallace Jennings--NRCS; Bob Joy, Glenn Sakamoto-Plant Material Center; Tavita Togia-Ecologist; National Park of Samoa; Stephen Anderson-Natural Resources Program Manager; Haleakala National Park;

Past Attendees: Lori Buchanan, Kamalani Pali–MoMISC; Teya Penniman-MISC; Bill Garnett-Rare Plant Species Recovery Molokai; Bill Puleloa-DOAR-Molo Biologist; Chevalier "Chevy" Levasa-USDA PHSS Molokai Officer; Bob Joy, Glenn Sakamoto--Plant Material Center; Donald Maum, Mycogen Biologist; Ray Foster, Monsanto; Ella Alcon-County Council Liaison; John Neizman-DoFAW; Mindy Wilkinson-Invasive Species Coord. (DLNR); Cecile Walsh DOAR AIS; Christy Martin CGAPS PIO; Karl Buermeyer – USFWS; Jeff Herod—USFWS; Jesse Rogers-KalaNPS (SCA); Carolyn Girard—Molo Times; Ed Misaki, Wailana Moses-TNC Molokai; Glenn Shishido, DOFAW; Bob Yonahara-Maui DOA; Kali Arce-UH Extension Service; Alton Arakakai-UH Extension Service; Dayanti Karunaratne-Molokai Times; Debbie Kelly, Charity Dudoit-MLSWCD, Mapuana Hanapi-MoMISC, Ray Foster-Monsanto; Kuhea Paracuelles-MC Environmental Coordinator, Rob Hauff-DOFAW Forest Health Coordinator, Joey Joao-MR Contract Hunting, Carl Brito-DOT Molokai Airports, Teya Penniman-MISC; Kathy Davis-QLCC; Butch Haase-Molokai Land Trust; Fred Richardson, Kathy Coelho, Kristian Coelho-Puu O Hoku Ranch; Wallace Jennings, Jessica Ludgate-NRCS; Tavita Togia-Ecologist; National Park of Samoa; Stephen Anderson-Natural Resources Program Manager; Haleakala National Park

MISC / CGAPS Updates – MoMISC Meeting 8/12/10, by Teya Penniman

CGAPS: A few agency highlights that I noted:

HDOA/PPC: HDOA reported that the biocontrol agent for nettle caterpillar is getting established. It was just released on Maui. The agent for fireweed is in the final process of the Environmental Assessment at the State level, then it goes to the Board of Agriculture and then to the federal agencies. The EA public process for the strawberry guava agent had about equal numbers of people who wrote letters, but about 4500 people signed petitions opposing its release.

USFWS: The NEPA document for the build-up in Guam has been released – it's 10 volumes. Public comments will be due August 30<sup>th</sup>. USFWS received "add-on" funding of about \$1 million this year, which is funding projects for each of the ISCs, including LFA surveys on Molokai, LFA outreach in Maui County, and coqui frog work in Maliko.

Farm Bureau: reported that changes to use of herbicides in and near water will take place soon. All users will have to get a general state permit for their uses that occur in, around, or near water. There are concerns that typical uses by Invasive Species Committees may not fall within the general permits, which could make getting separate permits extremely complicated. There are also concerns that there won't be enough time for the State (DOH) to get its program together, relative to the date these new rules take effect.

NISC: Phil Andreozzi reported on the draft \$2.7 million Micronesian Biosecurity Plan, which covers all taxa, all ecosystems, for Palau, the Marshall Islands...

At the All ISCs meeting following CGAPS there was a discussion about how to proceed with holding a workshop on clarifying agency roles and responsibilities for Early Detection / Rapid Response. A workshop will be scheduled later this year.

Maui Conservation Alliance: The MCA has established several "Working Groups" to make progress on identified priorities, including a focus on Ungulate issues. One topic that came up at the first meeting of this group (8/9/10) was black buck on Molokai. It was stated at the meeting the black buck had tested positive for TB – this needs to be confirmed.

Funding: The Hawaii Invasive Species Council is in the midst of its budget process. Each Working Group meets and then submits a proposed budget to the Resources Working Group, which hashes out an overall proposed budget to submit to the HISC. The Public Outreach Working Group has met. Meetings are scheduled for the Established Pest WG (where the ISCs get most of their funding) and Prevention WG. There is about the same amount of funding as last year, according to the budget proposed by Paul Conry. All funding for the HISC this year is coming from the Natural Area Fund. MISC / MoMISC will be requesting stable or possibly reduced funding from the HISC. Reduced funding may be necessary to help support the stabilization of BIISC, which now has a strong new leader.

Despite the potential for reduced funding at the state level this year, MISC / MoMISC will survive intact because of strong support from the County of Maui, the National Park Service, USFWS, USFS, and the USFS/ARRA funding we received.

## Bo Tree, Explosion Waiting To Happen Why we should be concerned about the Bo Tree?

The Bo Tree (*Ficus religiosa*) existed in Hawaii majestically for years. It has never produced viable seeds, until recently. Enter the Bo Tree wasp pollinator and now the seeds have become viable. Hundreds of seeds around these majestic Bo Trees on Moloka`i, are now germinating and spreading (mainly by birds who eat the fruit)! Although the Bo Tree is an important religious tree in India, the potential devastation to our ancient native forest can be disastrous.

Why should we be concerned? In its habitat, the Bo tree is a dominant canopy, especially because it has the ability to become an emergent tree, meaning it can poke above the height of the other trees in the forest. The largest tree recorded was at least 200 feet tall! Potentially it could cause millions of dollars of damage to homes, power lines, and structures, just like its close cousin the "strangler fig." I am working with MoMISC to detect and control this tree. Please help us if you suspect you have a Bo Tree.