Revitalizing Action on the Hawaii Interagency **Biosecurity Plan**

INVASIVE SPECIES INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

JANUARY 26, 2023; 10:00 AM















The Need for the HIBP

The No. 1 Driver of Biodiversity Loss in Island Ecosystems is Invasive Species



Hawaii's native species, ecosystems, and climate differs from the rest of the U.S.

Hawai'i Imports 80% of Goods and 90% of Food





Climate Change

- SHIFTING RANGES
- ALTERED EFFICACY OF TREATMENTS
- NEW DIRECT PATHWAYS FOR SPECIES INTROS
- INCREASED "WEEDINESS"
- INCREASING ECOSYSTEM STRESS
- WORSENING DECLINES OF NATIVE SPECIES
- REDUCING CARBON SEQUESTRATION





Photo credit: Top - HAVO Weed Crew (NPS), 2021 Hawaii Island Wildfire (Hawaii Tribune), Hurricane Iselle damage (Hawaii Tribune), Endangered Kiwikiu (DLNR), Cargo at seaports Canva stock image, sea level rise stock image Canva, Invasive algae covered reef (DLNR)















2017 Baseline - Known Gaps

• STAFF

- Increase branch capacity on each island
- Specialist positions (pathologists, entomologists, IT)

POLICY

- Ballast water and Biofouling
- Inspect non-Ag commodities

• FUNDING

- Soft funded
- Shrinking federal grants
- HDOA and DLNR receive 1.4% of state budget

FACILITIES

- Transitional facilities for inspections
- Pacific Regional Biocontrol Facilities











JANUARY 2017 HDOA LAUNCHES HAWAI'I **INTERAGENCY BIOSECURITY PLAN**

• Comprehensive • Collaborative and multidisciplinary approach • 147 action items to addres gaps and weaknesses in our biosecurity system • A 10-year path forward

HIBP - Program Areas



PreBorder

Prevent the transport of invasive species to Hawaii. Ballast Water & Vessel Biofouling Program, Entering into cooperative agreements with other states

Border

Enhance the detection and control of pests and diseases at ports of entry. Increase HDOA PQ Inspectors, transitional facilities for inspections

PostBorder

Protect Hawaii from invasive species already present within the State. *Regional biocontrol facilities, stable funding for critical programs*

Public Awareness and Support

Enhance public awareness and support for Hawaii Biosecurity. *Centralized public reporting, communications on biosecurity messaging* How are we doing? Implementation for 68% of actions has started as of January 2023

> 39% of actions completed or ongoing



32% of actions not > started or need evaluation

Progress by Area



Measuring Progress

HIBP Progress Over Time Jan 2017 - Jan 2023



— Not started



Sep-22 Sep-21 Jan-21 May-21 Jan-22 May-22 Jan-23



Where we've made progress

- Increasing public awareness
- Successful management of harmful pest with natural enemies
- Reinstating critical programs
- Identifying and developing landscape level tools
- Conducting risk assessments for terrestrial and aquatic species/pathways
- Improved communications between federal and state agencies







Ongoing Challenges

- Federal Preemption
- Filling specialist positions
- Securing funding for BIGGER asks
- "Fast-tracking" landscape level management tools
- Competitive salaries for field positions
- Rapid or Emergency Response to new pest







Revitalizing Action

- Leadership Commitment
- Community Engagement
- Improving Communication amongst agencies and communities
- Recognize our accomplishments
- Recognize our challenges and forge ahead





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