

Pacific Invasives Learning Network
Network sound bites, March 2007

We have a suggestion from the Network which we'd appreciate your ideas and comments on:

- ✓ A regional publication to show what is going on, i.e. current activities at each site (country) with respect to addressing invasive species. For example, Rat Eradication as the heading and list activities for each country. The second part of the publication could highlight each of the countries. To have more pictures than words.

Email me (jillk@sprep.org <<mailto:jillk@sprep.org>>) if you think this would be useful, what we should include and where should we publish it....

Network activities

Not all teams and their achievements are included here and for those missed out it just means I failed to catch up with you in time, so apologies.

Pohnpei

In January, the Conservation Society of Pohnpei - Island Conservation - PII - PILN - TNC project to develop skills in the eradication of rats off tropical atolls was a great success, with participants coming into Pohnpei from all over the region to work together on the experimental eradications. The 1-day symposium at the end of the project involved a further group of Micronesia region resource managers who had the opportunity to learn about the project and the problem of invasive mammals, specifically rats. We are already planning a number of spin-off exchanges (which I'll share with you when they are confirmed). Congratulations to all involved.

Palau

After the Pohnpei symposium, Island Conservation agreed to allow Karl Campbell to visit Palau to briefly assess the possibility of eradicating crab-eating macaques. After a weekend on the island of Angaur, his conclusions are positive: he thinks there is a good hope of eradicating these difficult and very damaging invasive species. The Palau NISC and its partner agencies will now begin serious planning for this effort.

Samoa

The first step into the marine environment was taken in the form of a 4-day workshop in March on marine invasive species for MPA managers, hosted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Samoa and funded by the IUCN. Twenty participants from American Samoa, Australia, Fiji, Hawaii, Kiribati, Kosrae, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia and Samoa met to learn and share their knowledge of marine invasive species

in the region. The meeting report will be ready in the next 2 weeks and will be distributed to anyone interested, let me know if you'd like to see it.

PILN Coordination.

In February I visited French Polynesia, to meet with the proposed PILN team and also to meet with the new French Polynesian government to discuss the idea of hosting the 2007 PILN meeting there and assisting them to develop their invasive species action plan. Fingers crossed!

PILN gratefully acknowledges the support of TNC, NFWF, CEPF, SPREP and all PILN teams and Partners.