

## **Pacific Invasives Learning Network Network sound bites, September 2006**

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.

### Guam

- Diane attended the Environmental Education Sub-committee Sept 12th meeting. EEC is working on an education strategy for Guam, and may be able to work in invasive species into a curriculum.
- RISC attended the 6th Executives' Summit held in July; PILN was welcomed by the Executives and RISC was directed to continue to participate.
- GISAC meeting was held Sept 7; PILN final presentation was presented and handouts describing the meeting outcomes were disseminated to the group.
- Diane started the Biosecurity Awareness Plan and continues to coordinate the purchase of collateral for the project as well as attaining additional funding for long-term monitoring.
- Where We Live Talk Show - Diane is going to do one on Cocos Island Guam Rail Project (waiting on the right timing); Dave is arranging to do a show on the Listen Up Guam! Program.

### Pohnpei

Pohnpei carried out their final strategic planning session on 6 September.

### Samoa

- The monitoring of the rattan eradication continues, new plants and new seedlings have been found, visible now that the older plants have been killed and removed.
- Work is going on in the Aleipata islands monitoring rats and yellow crazy ant distribution as part of the planning to restore the islands.

### American Samoa

- The National Park have just re-surveyed the unique lowland dry forest plots on Ta'u which were established just before hurricanes Heta and Olaf. This is the only research in the Pacific on hurricane impact.
- The crew are still working hard on the tamaligi eradication and have killed about 1800 tree which is around 85% of the tamaligi population in the park. They expect to achieve 100% by next March.

### Marshall Islands

SPREP is supporting a 3-day planning workshop multi-agency workshop among relevant stakeholders to raise public awareness on issues related to invasive species and to initiate development of an interim protective plan to prevent possible introduction of destructive alien species into the fragile island ecosystem.

### Palau

- Joel Miles is now officially the invasive species coordinator – congratulations Joel!
- Joel and a team are helping train Yap workers on herbicide application methods, supported by SPREP. In October Yap will assist Palau with record keeping and reporting software for invasive weed control and eradication.
- The pond at Malakal was re-treated for Tilapai and over 300 dead fish were recovered, showing the importance of monitoring when finishing eradication programmes.

## Niue

Niue has drafted three work plans: Objective 1: To reduce the Wedelia, Mimosa, Woodrose and Chain-of-Hearts infestations in Niue by 90% by October 2009. Objective 2: Establish community-based pilot programs to manage *Merremia peltata*; Objective 3: To increase Public Awareness and community involvement in managing Invasive Weeds in Niue.

## PILN Coordination.

- I am working on a 3-year Darwin Initiative proposal with Kiribati, Samoa and two UK organisations (the Central Science Laboratory and the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust) to work on developing strategies for myna bird management.
- The IUCN are interested in combining a 3 day workshop on marine invasive species with the next PILN meeting scheduled for February 2007.
- I am working with RARE on developing social marketing / public awareness courses for PILN members.
- The Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust is discussing academic links with the University of the South Pacific, University of Papua New Guinea and SPREP with a view to integrating their Island Species-led Action course into the courses and training programmes.

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