

WR Committee

From: James Leary <learyj@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 3:30 PM
To: WR Committee
Subject: Re: WR-5, Watershed Management and Protection
Attachments: LEARY CORRESPONDENCE TO WRC_MARCH_20_2018_lrysigned.pdf

Aloha Shelly,
Please find attached my response to The WRC request regarding my proposal the WR-5 Watershed Protection Grant Program. I hope this is considered satisfactory. thank you for the opportunity to participate in the process.

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!!! Please be aware my former email (leary@hawaii.edu) has been spoofed and is being used by other parties to send out malware!!! This is now defunct and should immediately be **quarantined!** Please use extreme caution clicking on unfamiliar links!!! Thank you for your attention and my sincere apologies for this inconvenient hazard!



On Fri, Mar 16, 2018 at 8:45 AM, WR Committee <WR.Committee@mauicounty.us> wrote:

Mr. Leary,

Please review attached correspondence for response to the Maui County Council's Water Resources Committee. The hard copy is being mailed to you as well.

Thank You,

Water Resources Committee staff



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Chairperson Alika Atay
Water Resources Committee
County Council, County of Maui
200 S. High St. Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

Subject: WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION (WR-5)

March 20, 2018

Dear Chair Atay and WRC Members,

I serve the State of Hawai'i as Faculty Research and Extension Specialist of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa with tenure in the Department of Natural Resource and Environmental Management. I'm stationed on the island of Maui with a specialization in invasive plant science and management. I have 20 years of research experience and scientific knowledge gained on weed biology and management in managed and natural areas across the state. I'm driven to develop and share smarter designs and best practices to sustain healthy, functional landscapes beyond our generation. Thus, I have a vested interest to maintain strong working relationships with Maui stakeholder groups charged with these management missions. On Maui, I enjoy collaborations with our State and Federal partners, private members of the ranching community, the Watershed Partnerships and the Maui and Molokai Invasive Species Committees.

In October 2017, I received a pre-award notification by the Maui County DWS for FY2019 Watershed Protection Grant Program for the proposal submitted "*Bio-Economic Models Prioritizing Mauka Catchment Basins of the East Maui Watershed for Protection Against Miconia Invasion*". The mission of this project is to design cost-effective management decisions to protect the mauka catchment basins in the East Maui Watershed (EMW) against incipient miconia incursions. This is currently pending final approval for funding and is my first proposal submitted. I claim no prior history of awards with this grant program but do appreciate the on-going support sustaining my collaborators and the future opportunities to partner with the DWS serving Maui County.

I am responding to your correspondence via email received March 16 requesting information in preparation for the upcoming WRC meeting scheduled for March 20, 2018.

Please note my responses (*in italics*) to each point

1. Provide a list of your funding sources, including monies received from the county or the state, for invasive species eradication.

I am a research scientist and do not have a management mission to eradicate any species. I am matching this pending proposal with research funding provided by the Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

2. For each invasive species addressed by your program, indicate the amount your watershed partnership has allocated and spent towards eradication for the past three years.

This question is not applicable to my professional responsibilities. Nor do I have a history of funding from this program dating back to this time period.

3. For the same three-year period, provide a list of organizations that received funding or compensation from your watershed partnership for invasive species eradication efforts and the amounts paid or provided for each organization.

This question is not applicable to my professional responsibilities. Nor do I have a history of funding from this program dating back to this time period.

4. For Question No. 3, provide a brief description of the work done or services rendered.

This question is not applicable to my professional responsibilities. Nor do I have a history of funding from this program dating back to this time period.

5. For the requests below, please provide a matrix summarizing your eradication efforts for the prior three years. Include in the matrix the following information:

a. For each invasive species addressed by your program, indicate the number of infestations reported to you.

I provide research support to the management efforts for several of the Watershed Partnerships and the MISC. Target species include: miconia, strawberry guava and others. As prior grantees of the WR-5 program, they would be the direct source of this information

b. For each infestation, indicate the date you were notified of the infestation, the location and approximate size of each infestation, and the population of the infestation and area of coverage.

My research focuses on the management of incipient populations, typically at densities less than one weed per acre and broadly covering 1000s of acres

c. For each infestation, indicate the eradication method used— that is, whether a mechanical or chemical method was used.

My research focuses on the performance of discrete chemical treatments surgically applied to individual plants occupying remote locations.

d. Whenever mechanical methods were used, describe the method, personnel employed, hours expended, and period of treatment.

Not applicable

- e. Indicate the person or persons who supervised the chemical application; their certification or license with the State of Hawaii to apply pesticides or herbicides, if applicable; whether restricted pesticides or herbicides were used; and the name of the person or persons applying the chemicals.
- f. For each infestation, indicate the date treatment began and was completed at each site. Indicate if the infestation and treatment are ongoing.


I do not apply or supervise the application of restricted use pesticides.

- g. For each infestation, indicate whether the infestation has been completely resolved and if so, the date it was resolved.

Per the proposal submitted, my research focuses on developing tactics and strategies for spread containment and resource protection as the most economical and environmentally responsible forms of management when eradication is not feasible.

I appreciate the opportunity to respond to this request and feel these answers will be strengthened by the new knowledge gained in this proposed FY2019 project. Miconia management in the East Maui Watershed is an evolving problem and we must invest in intellectual resources if we are going to make the best decisions addressing a difficult problem. I look forward to learning new outcomes, sharing ideas and collectively developing the best path to a long-term future protecting the watershed against invasive plant species.

Sincerely,



James Leary

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cc: Mike White, Chair, Maui County Council
Robert Carroll, Vice-Chair, Maui County Council
Stacy Crivello, Presiding Officer Pro Tempore, Maui County Council
Alika Atay, Member, Maui County Council & Chair, Water Resources Committee
Elle Cochran, Member, Maui County Council
Don S. Guzman, Member, Maui County Council
Kelly T. King, Member, Maui County Council
Riki Hokama, Member, Maui County Council
Yuki Lei Sugimura, Member, Maui County Council