

IAS activities and opportunities in the Pacific

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Outline

1. Broad IAS impacts on islands
2. Unique opportunities for success on islands
3. Specific Example from the Pacific
4. Regional Biosecurity Plan for Micronesia and Hawaii
5. Opportunities at upcoming international fora
 - Pacific Islands Forum – Palau, July 28 – 31
 - SIDS – Samoa, September 1 - 4



Broad IAS Impacts on Islands

1. Biodiversity (obviously, but NOT only!)
2. Food Security
3. Ecosystem Resilience (= Climate Change Adaptation)
4. Fresh Water Availability
5. Human Health (Vectors for example)
6. Cultural Resources
7. Protected Areas
8. Trade Options
9. Livelihoods +Tourism

All these are critical aspects of Sustainable, Green Development



Unique Opportunities for Success

1. On islands, efforts to prevent, eradicate and control IAS are more likely to be successful, because:
 - Limited size means eradication efforts more likely to be feasible
 - Limited ports of entry and no land borders means biosecurity efforts can be strategically concentrated = greater chance of success



Take Home Message

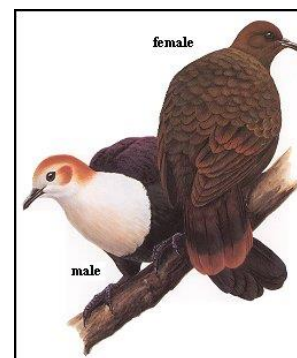
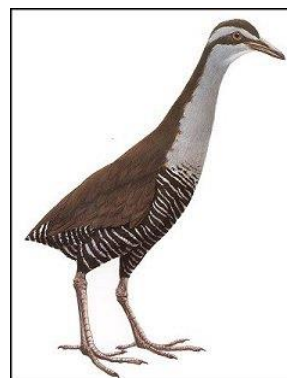
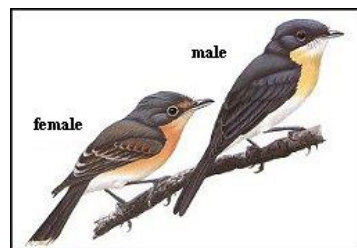
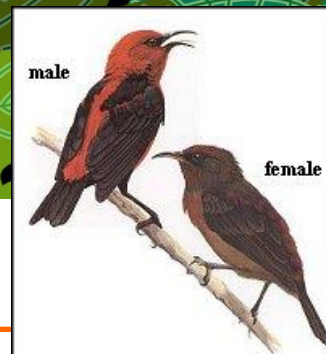
Biosecurity, eradication and control efforts on islands are more likely to be successful and have multiple, beneficial effects on other critical island issues. Therefore, funding such efforts is an effective and efficient use of resources.



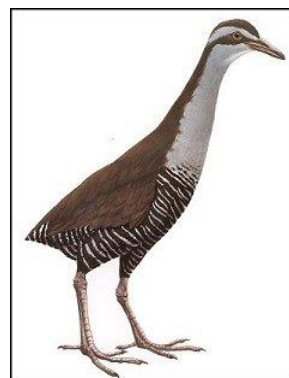
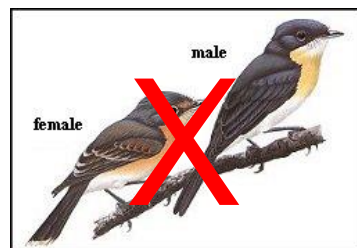
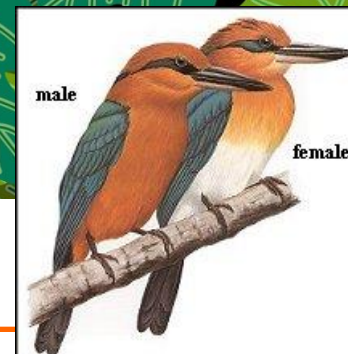
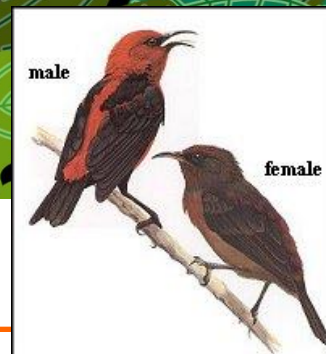
Brown Treesnake (BTS)

- Arrived on Guam after WWII
- Up to 10,000 BTS/square mile
- Unprecedented ecological damage
- Logistical constraints
- > \$5 million/year for interdiction on Guam











Why does BTS continue to do so well on Guam ?



abundant introduced prey ...



BTS Damage



**Birds, Bats,
and Lizards**

**Pets and
Poultry**



Snake Bites



**Ecological
Changes**

**Power
Outages**





BTS is Just One Threat to Micronesia





Regional Biosecurity Plan for Micronesia and Hawaii

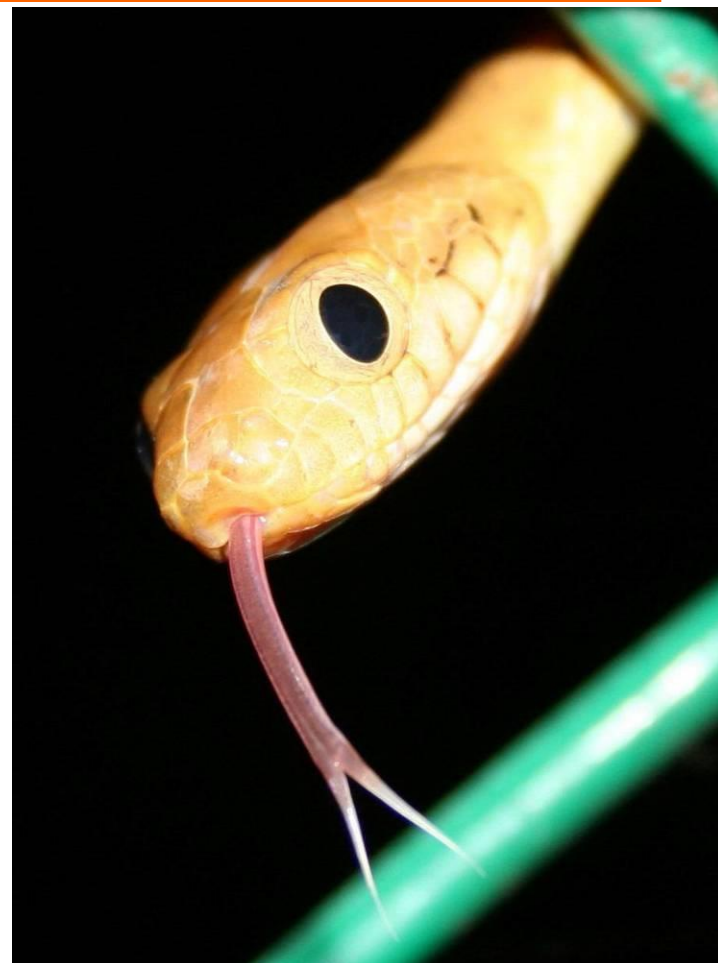
RBP





Build-up Invasive Species Concerns

- Massive increase movement of cargo, people, and potentially invasive species
 - Cascading impacts through Region
- Invasive species will island hop without intervention – biosecurity
- Regional Concerns
 - Micronesian Chief Executives Letter to DoD
- Regulatory Concerns
- Military Concerns





The RBP

- DOD-Funded \$3.7M
- Comprehensive Plan
 - Covers Entire Region
 - All Ecosystems, Taxa



- Phase 1:
 - Risk analyses, port assessments
 - Recommendations and BMPs
 - NISC Coordination
 - 4 Federal Departments and Regional Partners

- Phase 2:
 - Competitive grant awarded to University of Guam
 - UOG, SPC, Landcare NZ, others
 - Phase 2 Components
 - Independent scientific review
 - Strategic Implementation Plan
 - Extensive regional consultation



The Micronesia Biosecurity Plan (MBP) – Phase 1:

- Comprehensive Plan
- Covers Entire Region
 - All Ecosystems
 - All Taxa
- Risk Analyses
- Recommended Actions and BMPs
- Implementation Strategy



- Unique effort
 - Size and scope
 - Interdepartmental Collaboration
 - Proactivity



Phase 1 Details

Federal Team:

- Navy – Funding, Coordination of DoD efforts
- USDA/APHIS – Terrestrial and Port analyses
- Smithsonian Institute – Marine Analyses
- DOI/USGS – Freshwater Analyses
- NISC – Overall Coordination



Regional Collaborators:

- RISC
- UOG, Community Colleges
- SPC
- State of HI
- FWS, NOAA
- NGOs





Phase 1 Processes:

➤ Risk Analyses

- Species, Pathways, Vectors, Ports of Origin

➤ Port and Needs Assessments

- Number of Inspectors, Training level

- Facilities, Technologies



- Recommendations and Best Management Practices

- Identification of Implementation Obstacles

- NISC provides overall coordination



RBP Phase 2:

- Competitive grant awarded to University of Guam
 - UOG, SPC, Landcare NZ, others
- Peer review of draft scientific reports
 - To strengthen and augment the underlying science with input from regional experts making the document truly Micronesian in scope
- Development of RBP Strategic Implementation Plan
 - Through the RBP recommendations,
 - Existing biosecurity models from around the globe
 - **Extensive participatory consultations**
 - Chart an effective and realistic path to achieve maximum regional implementation of the RBP.



RBP – Next Stages

- IMPLEMENTATION!
- A potential model of effective regional collaboration and proactive biosecurity
- Applicable tool for invasive species efforts on islands around the world
- Endorsed by Micronesian Chief Executives (May, 2014)



Upcoming Opportunities

- Pacific Islands Forum (July 28 – 31, 2014, Palau)
 - Side Event on IAS***
 - Highlight broad impacts, RBP, collaborative efforts
 - Language in Communique, Declaration***
- SIDS Meeting (September 1 – 4, 2014, Samoa)
 - Language in Outcome Document***
 - Establish separate heading for IAS, highlight broad impacts
 - GLISPA High Level Side Event
 - IAS component/announcement***

***Not yet confirmed



Questions?

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