

Bold Action on Invasive Alien Species: A review and next steps for the IUCN *Honolulu Challenge*



Presented by Christy Martin with help from, and on behalf of, the participants of the IUCN 2016 Honolulu Challenge.

*September 4, 2021
IUCN World Conservation Congress
Marseille, France*





IUCN
World
Conservation
Congress
Hawai'i 2016

Hawai'i hosted the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress, in part to bring attention to the conservation challenges & opportunities that islands face.



The Honolulu Challenge was announced at the 2016 Congress to **catalyze bold action** on invasive species by challenging countries and organizations to **publicly commit new policies, programs, or funding** to address invasive species. Multiple **countries and organizations made bold commitments.**

Outline

- Invasive species
- The Honolulu Challenge
- Bold actions taken to meet the Honolulu Challenge
- Next Steps

Invasive Alien Species are

introduced by
humans



outside
native range



&

have **negative** impacts upon biodiversity,
ecosystem services, and human well-being



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IAS impacts to biodiversity



2nd biggest driver of
species **extinction**

Primary driver of
species **extinctions**
on **islands**



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Economic costs of IAS



global GDP

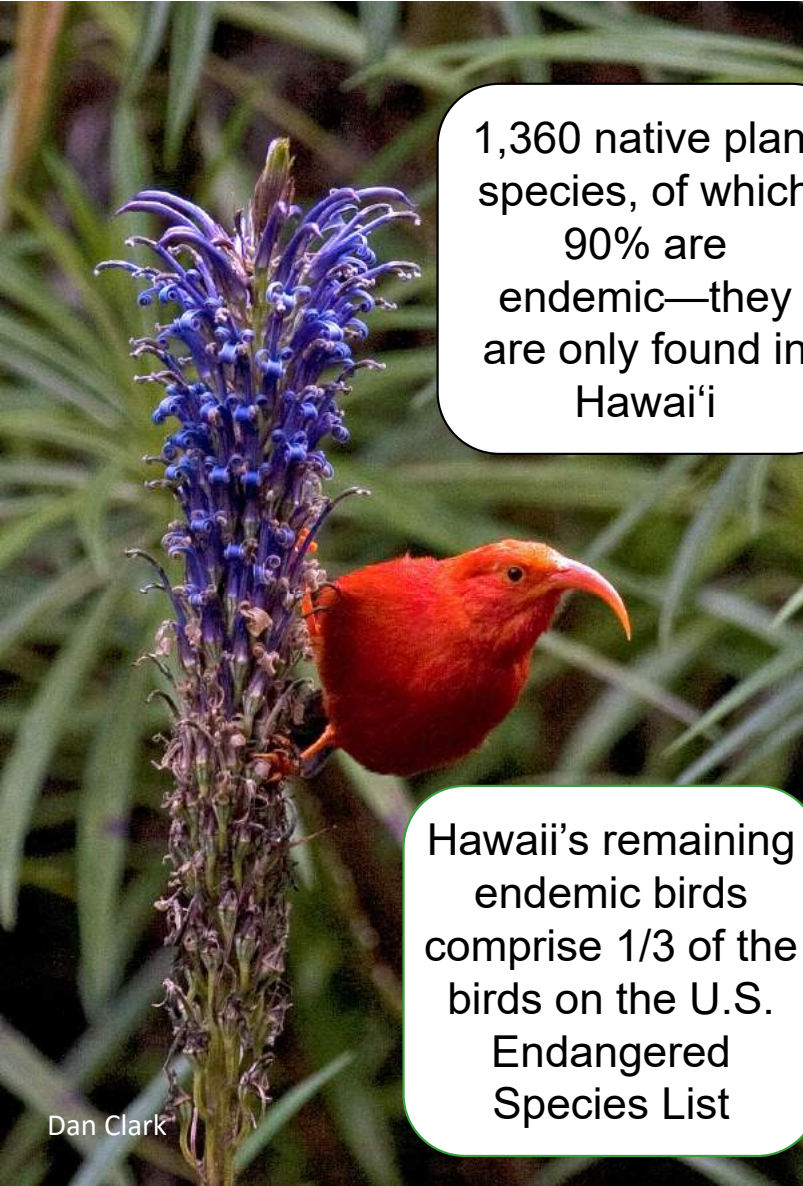
*US\$1.288+
trillion global
cost over the
past few
decades*



IUCN



Manuel Meija



Dan Clark

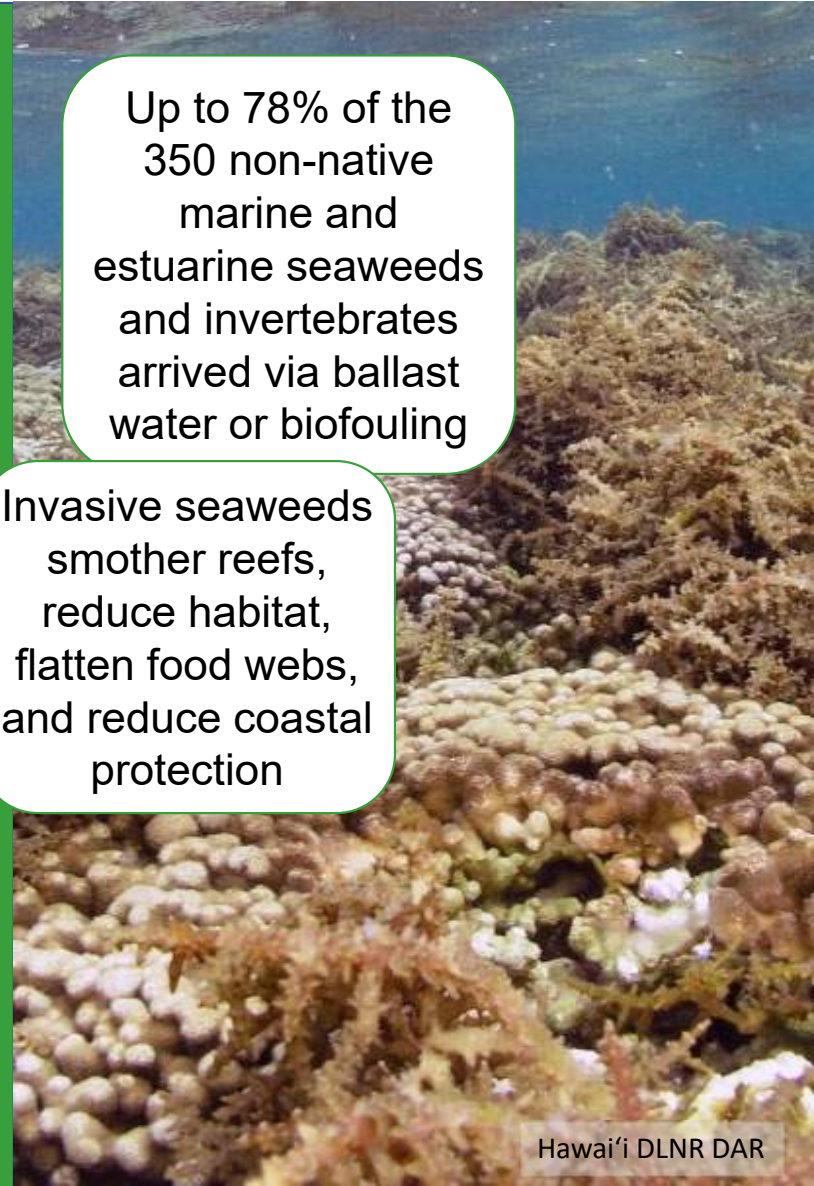
1,360 native plant species, of which 90% are endemic—they are only found in Hawai'i

Hawaii's remaining endemic birds comprise 1/3 of the birds on the U.S. Endangered Species List

Examples from Hawai'i:

Nearly 90% of endemic Hawaiian plants are classed as threatened due to impacts from invasive species

More than 95% are imperiled by multiple invasive species that cannot be mitigated under current strategies



Up to 78% of the 350 non-native marine and estuarine seaweeds and invertebrates arrived via ballast water or biofouling

Invasive seaweeds smother reefs, reduce habitat, flatten food webs, and reduce coastal protection

Hawai'i DLNR DAR

During the **2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress** in Honolulu, there has been a **call from the Union** and the host community in Hawaii, including experts, governmental and intergovernmental representatives, NGOs, and protected area managers **for greater action** on addressing invasive alien species in order to **protect biodiversity and human wellbeing** from their impacts.

“For this aim to be achieved we need to...”



JOIN

governments and NGOs that have already taken ambitious commitments to take action on invasive alien species.

THE CHALLENGE

calls for commitments from countries, organisations and the private sector to take bold, yet practical, measures that are urgently needed to safeguard biodiversity and human well-being from the devastating impacts of invasive alien species.



MAKE A COMMITMENT

and support progress towards:





Multiply efforts to develop and enact **effective biosecurity policies** and programmes for countries and islands



Enforce effective measures to address **priority pathways** of invasions, including efforts to strengthen collaboration with relevant sectors in particular agriculture and health

Greatly increase the number and scale of invasive alien species **eradications**, especially on islands and in other priority sites; by 2020 there shall be a doubling of commitments to achieve this goal





Integrate invasive alien species into planning and management for **Protected Areas** and **Key Biodiversity Areas**



Substantially increase resources for invasive alien species management and **control**



Invest in the development, application and sharing of innovative technologies, and other **solutions** to prevent further invasions, and eradicate or control invasive alien species



Institutionalise invasive alien species programmes **across government ministries**, cooperating with the private sector, NGOs, indigenous peoples and local communities, and other stakeholders on programme implementation



Engage with relevant sectors and civil society to **raise awareness** of the negative impacts of invasive alien species, including the compounded impacts under climate change, and increase **public support** for potential solutions.





Enable enhanced knowledge on invasive alien species, their impacts and pathways of invasion, through **investment in data** collection, standardization, sharing and open access.



Support assessments on the social and economic impacts of invasive alien species



Work with public and private financial institutions to **increase international financial flows** and **mobilise domestic resources** for addressing biological invasions.



The New Zealand Government commits to making New Zealand **predator free by 2050**.

The UK Government commits to **spending £2.75 million** on assisting its Overseas Territories to **develop comprehensive biosecurity** as well as making a substantial contribution to the **eradication of mice from Gough Island**.



CSIRO The Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation commits to **doubling of long term co-investment** with partners into invasive species management.

The Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas, A.C. (GECI) commits to **remove invasive mammals from all islands of Mexico by 2030**.



The BirdLife partnership aims to **remove invasive alien threats from at least a further 35 high biodiversity islands** worldwide by 2020.

Island Conservation commits to **protect more than 100 threatened species** at risk from invasive species on **40 Islands** by 2020.



The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme commits to developing **two significant Pacific multi-country invasive species projects** which will be operational **by 2020**.

The Biodiversity Consultancy commits to **helping its private sector clients** identify threats posed by invasive alien species, **prevent their introduction, and mitigate their impacts**; in line with best practice standards such as the International Finance Corporation Performance Standard 6.



IUCN and its SSC ISSG commits to **doubling the content of its online databases and decision support tools by 2020**, and making this knowledge accessible **through one single data source**

State of Hawai'i

- The *Aloha+ Challenge*: is Hawai'i's statewide commitment to achieve six integrated sustainability goals
- Near the 2030 goal of 30% of native watershed under high-level of protection
- Honolulu Challenge pledge: 2017-2027 Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan, the first such plan in Hawai'i
- 62% of actions have been initiated, completion by 2027 uncertain
- Importance of "Challenges"



Commonwealth Secretariat of Industry and Research Organisation, Australian Government



*CSIRO The Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation commits to **doubling of long term co-investment** with partners into invasive species management.*

Video URL: https://youtu.be/mLdNElc0_t4

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme



*The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme commits to developing **two significant Pacific multi-country invasive species projects** which will be operational **by 2020**.*

Video URL: [lxtw>3}syxy2fi3f=1oQ <}|PUQ](#)

Island Conservation



*Island Conservation commits to **protect more than 100 threatened species** at risk from invasive species on **40 Islands** by 2020.*

Video URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xw33syxy2fi3Wo>

Predator Free 2050, New Zealand Government

*The New Zealand Government commits to making New Zealand **predator free by 2050**.*



As an interim goal, by 2025 the Government has committed to:

- 1) Eradicate all pests from all island nature reserves.*
- 2) Develop a method for eradicating one of the key target pests from mainland New Zealand.*

Video URL: [1xtw33syxy2fi3wZYv9y6xXg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1xtw33syxy2fi3wZYv9y6xXg)

Proposed Post-2020 global biodiversity target on invasive species

Manage pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species, preventing, or reducing their rate of introduction & establishment by at least 50%, & control or eradicate invasive alien species to eliminate or reduce their impacts, focusing on priority species & sites

A promotional graphic for a virtual event. It features a close-up photograph of a frog with yellow and brown mottled skin. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image. The IUCN logo is on the bottom left, and the hashtag #IUCNcongress is on the bottom right.

**Invasive Alien Species Target
for the Post-2020 Global
Biodiversity Framework**

Virtual Event: Channel #3
6th September
20.00 - 21.30 CEST

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CONGRESS
Marseille

#IUCNcongress

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IUCN, ISSG and CBD are hosting a virtual event on the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework Target on Invasive Alien Species on Sept. 6, 2021 from 20:00 – 21:30, Virtual Channel 3.

Mahalo!

Thank you to our IUCN colleagues, **Kevin Smith** in particular, and **Piero Genovessi** of the ISSG. Thank you also to **Ben Hoffman** of CSIRO who helped coordinate videos from participants, and of course thank you to all of the participants of the Honolulu Challenge.

A deep mahalo to the agencies and foundations that believe in and support this work.



HONOLULU
CHALLENGE
BOLD ACTION ON INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES