

## CRB Response Update

January 27 – 31, 2014

- The Navy is finalizing its contract for a company to double grind the mulch pile where the beetles are currently breeding. Grinding will kill adult beetles and larger grubs, but small grubs and eggs are likely to survive. Plans for final destruction of the ground mulch by incineration or other means are still being developed, but grinding the mulch will buy the response several weeks before any surviving eggs or larvae develop into adults. **The grinding operation is planned to begin next week.**
- Trapping and visual surveys were carried out in the core infestation area. Each day between 5 and 7 crews were deployed. Crews were made up of agency personnel from USDA, HDOA, DLNR, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Oahu Invasive Species Committee. 214 traps have been deployed, and only 1 beetle was trapped this week. No new tree damage has been identified. No new breeding sites were found. On Friday afternoon however, there was an unconfirmed report of large grubs in mulch in central Oahu. Follow-up is scheduled for Saturday.
- Trapping continued at all ports statewide with no beetle detections. Surveys for tree damage and breeding sites at the Kona airport were conducted in response to a report of tree damage. No evidence of beetles was found.
- Several pesticides were tested this week but none was found to be effective. Tests are ongoing for effective products with an appropriate label.
- The USDA Incident Management Teams (IMTs) will be transitioning their Command and General Staff positions on February 10<sup>th</sup>, and preparations are underway for the transition. The incoming USDA team is scheduled to work on the response through March 7, 2014 at which time a long-term infrastructure is hoped to be in place.