

## CRB Response Update

April 26 – May 9, 2014

*The CRB project staff has decided to provide updates every 2-weeks rather than weekly. If CRB project fans would like more information on project activities, feel free to contact Rebecca Smith or Rob Hauff at 808.832.0585.*

- The Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response Project is now hiring crews. Applications are being accepted by USDA through May 19, 2014 ([see announcement on the HISC CRB Updates page](#)). For inquiries please call 808.834.3200.
- As a result of the April 14<sup>th</sup> Navy Marine Golf Course ground survey, one large mulch pile was identified as a high risk site for potential future infestation. It was decided to move this material to JBPHH site for safe disposal via the in-vessel composting process in order to prevent infestation and further spread of the beetle.
- Three groups on base (Hickam Pest Management, Navy Entomology, and Mamala Bay Golf Course Operations) have provided personnel to begin checking and servicing “on base” traps (approximately 300 traps total). This has allowed HDOA/USDA crews to focus their efforts on “off base” traps as well as more intensive mulch surveys.
- During the 2-week reporting period (April 26 – May 9), surveyors found 56 adult beetles and one larva, and visually surveyed 1 square mile for coconut tree damage and breeding sites. All but 4 beetles were trapped on JBPHH: one beetle was found in a trap near the Navy Marine Golf Course; one beetle was trapped at the Ke’ehi Lagoon Park; and two beetles were trapped along Lagoon Dr. All four of these detections did not change the buffer. Traps were checked and serviced for maintenance/repair (931 serviced) and one mulch pile near Iroquois Point was surveyed. No new breeding sites were identified in this reporting period. Known breeding sites are still limited to JBPHH.
- Based on the past two weeks of positive beetle detections in and around Ke’ehi Lagoon Park, HDOA/USDA is coordinating with HDOT (regarding access issues) to conduct intensive surveys for breeding sites in the vicinity of Ke’ehi Lagoon Park.
- An interagency ground survey/sweep of Barber’s Point golf course was completed on April 28th. Individuals from HDOA, USDA, DLNR, DOFAW, Navy Environmental, JBPPH Pest Management, USFWS and additional Navy/USAF volunteers successfully scoured the entire golf course that morning and identified potential breeding sites to be further inspected. Afternoon inspections of these sites resulted in zero positive breeding sites being identified.
- **Beetle Fact:** Adult coconut rhinoceros beetles cause damage by feeding on the sap of live coconut palms. Although the beetles prefer coconut palms, they are known to damage other plants, including hala, breadfruit, bananas, sugar cane, and various landscaping palms including Manila palms and relatives of the native Hawaiian loulou palm (*Pritchardia spp.*).