

Weekly CRB Update: February 3-7, 2014

- Grinding of the main infested mulch pile by the Navy contractor was delayed due to heavy rains which prevented the staging of the machinery. Staging is currently underway and grinding is scheduled for Monday the 10th. The response crews worked with golf course staff this week to consolidate small mulch piles for grinding to eliminate high risk breeding areas.
- On-going insecticide trials have not yet identified a chemical that effectively kills all life stages of the beetle.
- Due to the lack of effective insecticides, steam sterilization will be explored as an alternative treatment method.
- Trapping and visual surveys continued in the core infestation area. Crews made up of agency personnel from USDA, HDOA, DLNR, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Oahu Invasive Species Committee have deployed over 280 traps so far, including high risk sites outside of the infested area. This week 17 beetles were trapped; all were on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), except one which was trapped near the Navy Marine Golf Course, on the opposite side of Nimitz Highway. The University of Hawaii is assisting with building additional traps for response efforts.
- Two additional breeding sites were found in small mulch piles located at the golf course on JBPHH with the known infestation.
- A suspected breeding site on Sand Island is being verified as of Friday afternoon.
- One adult was found in the main terminal and turned into airport officials.
- To date, no beetles have been confirmed outside the 2 mile radius of the main infestation at the golf course.
- The new USDA Incident Management Team (IMT) 'Team Alpha' arrived and is transitioning through February 10th when the 'Team Delta' returns to the mainland. The incoming USDA team is scheduled to work on the response through March 7, 2014 at which time a long-term infrastructure supported by the state is hoped to be in place.