

# **Invasive Species on Islands - A new look at an old problem – cooperation the key to success.**

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National Invasive Species Council**





## National Invasive Species Council (NISC)

- An inter-Departmental Council created by E.O. 13112
- Composed of 13 member Departments and Administrations
- Invasive Species: “An alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.”
- Invitation to Micronesia







## Invasive Species and Islands

### Islands are more vulnerable

- Have low species diversity, but higher % endemism than continents.
- Species tend to have evolved in the absence of predators.
- “Empty niches”
- Endemics have small populations with restricted distributions.



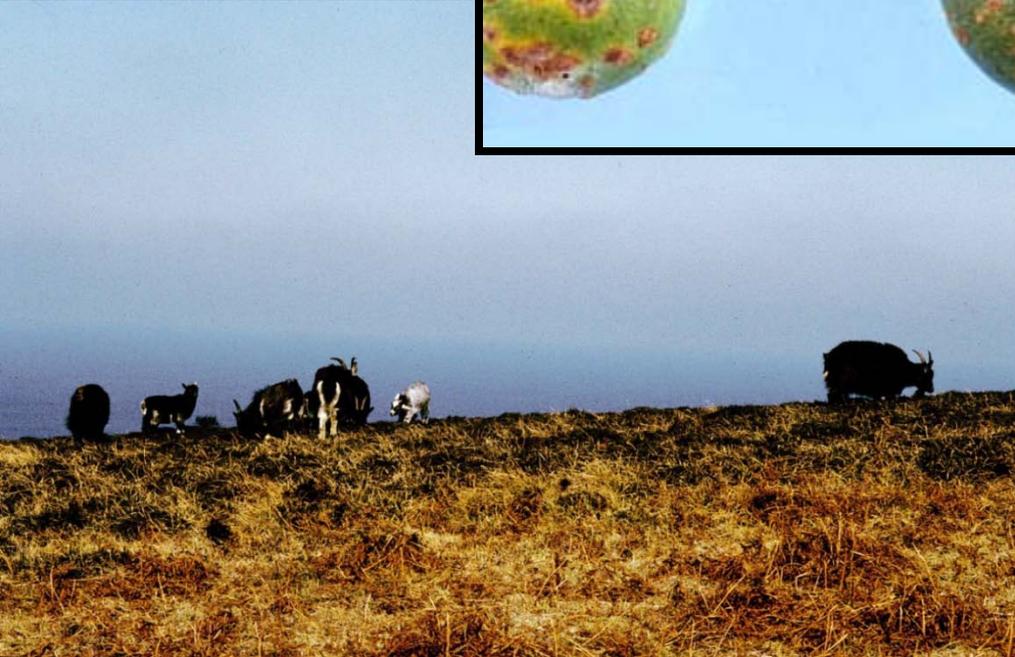


# Invasive Species and Islands

## ➤ Invasive Species Directly Impact Efforts to Address:

- Climate Change Adaptation
- Food Security
- Biodiversity
- Sustainable, Green Economy Development

## ➤ Cross-Cutting, Multidisciplinary Response Needed





# Micronesia Regional Invasive Species Council (RISC)



- Created by Micronesia Chief Executives
- Small islands
- Limited Resources
- Unique biota
- Strong ties
- Cooperative effort



## The Micronesia Biosecurity Plan



- DOD-Funded \$3.5M
- 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



## Unique Collaborative Efforts

### ➤ RISC

- Multilateral Collaboration
- Directly Report to MCEs
- Model Internationally

### ➤ MBP

- Size and scope
- Interdepartmental, Multilateral
- Proactive
- One Guam, Green Guam
- Wellington Declaration





## Moving Forward - Outreach



### International

- NISC working with partners
  - Capitalize on partner expertise
  - Highlight RISC and MBP
    - CSD/SIDS,CBD,WCC

### U.S.

- Model of Collaboration on Invasive Species
- U.S. Leadership on:
  - Multi-lateral cooperation in Pacific
  - Proactive effort – directly benefits other global priority issues

# Questions?

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