

JOSH GREEN  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



## HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

1151 PUNCHBOWL ST, #325  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

### VOTING MEMBERS

**DAWN CHANG**  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL  
RESOURCES

**SHARON HURD**  
HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**KATHLEEN HO, D.Env**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**ANIA WIECZOREK, Ph.D.**  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &  
TOURISM

**EDWIN SNIFFEN**  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Hawai'i Invasive Species Council  
June 13, 2023; 1:00 pm  
Department of Land and Natural Resources Board Room 132  
1151 Punchbowl Stree, Honolulu, HI 96813

This meeting will have the option to attend in-person or virtually. If attending in-person, the meeting will be held in the DLNR Board Room at the address listed above.

If attending virtually, the meeting will be livestreamed to the HISC YouTube channel at: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFT6SAASZIUxd\\_XgZMCjGsQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFT6SAASZIUxd_XgZMCjGsQ). Council members, legislative participants, and staff participating via online will be provided a separate meeting link.

## AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Approval of minutes from August 17, 2022 & October 20, 2022
4. Voting Council Members Introductions
5. Submittal 1: Review of previously adopted recommendations and resolutions that are relevant to future actions taken by the Council.
6. Presentation: Revitalizing Action on the 2017-2027 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan
7. Submittal 2: Requesting support and engagement to conduct an update of the actions outlined in the 2017-2027 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan
8. Public Comments
9. Adjournment

The Council may go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(4). Hawaii Revised Statutes, in order to consult with its attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Council's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities.

Testimony may be provided in person or in writing, submitted electronically to [Jack.f.Reef.researcher@hawaii.gov](mailto:Jack.f.Reef.researcher@hawaii.gov). To give Council members sufficient time to consider written testimony, please submit the testimony no later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting. Any late testimony will be retained as a part of the record.

Individuals requesting special accommodations (e.g., large print materials, sign-language interpreters) are asked to contact the staff below at least three days prior to the meeting.

**For information, contact:**

HISC Program Support Staff: 1151 Punchbowl St, Rm 325, Honolulu, HI, 96813

Jack Reef, Planner: [Jack.f.Reef.researcher@hawaii.gov](mailto:Jack.f.Reef.researcher@hawaii.gov)

DAVID IGE  
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## HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

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### VOTING MEMBERS

SUZANNE CASE  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL  
RESOURCES

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

KATHLEEN HO, D.Env  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

DAVID RODRIGUEZ  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## DRAFT MEETING NOTES

for

### Hawai'i Invasive Species Council Meeting

August 17, 2022; 1:00 PM

Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Board Room (Rm 132)  
1151 Punchbowl St, Honolulu, HI, 96813

Per Hawaii Sunshine Law guidelines, this meeting was hybrid with attendees participating virtually through a Zoom link provided by HISC Support Staff or through the HISC YouTube channel or in-person at the DLNR Board Room in the Kalamimoku Building in Honolulu, HI. Council members, legislative representatives, and HISC Resources Working Group members were provided with a Zoom link. Members of the public were able to view the meeting through the HISC YouTube Channel. A recording of the meeting can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/AznHvYVS6K0>

1. Call to order at 1:05 pm by Chair Suzanne Case

2. Introductions

- Council Voting Members Present in-person: Suzanne Case (Department of Land and Natural Resources-DLNR), Mary Alice Evans (Department of Business Economic Development & Tourism-DBEDT ); Council Voting Members Present Through Zoom: Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (Hawaii Department of Agriculture-HDOA), David Rodriguez (Department of Transportation-DOT), Kathleen Ho (Hawaii Department of Health-HDOA); University of Hawaii (UH) representative not present.
- Legislative non-voting Members Present: Representative. Nicole Lowen, Representative Tina Wildberger.
- HISC Support Staff: Chuck Chimera, Leyla Kaufman, Chelsea Arnott (DLNR-Division of Forestry and Wildlife),
- Members of the HISC Resources Working Group attending in-person: Rob Hauff (DLNR); Members of the HISC Resources Working Group attending through Zoom link: Justine Nihipali (DBEDT), Janis Matsunaga (HDOA), Christy Martin (CGAPS), Gracelda Simmons (HDOH), Mike Melzer (UH)

- YouTube: 9 viewers including: JC Watson, Franny Brewer (BIISC), Lori Buchanan (MoMISC), Chuck Chimera (HISC)
3. Approval of minutes from August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting. Correction made by Chair Case to change the year on the agenda from 2022 to 2021.
    - Discussion: None. No public comments.
    - Motion to approve: Kathleen Ho (HDOH)
    - 2nd: Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (HDOA)
    - Vote to Approve August 30, 2021 HISC Draft Notes Passes with all members present voting to approve: Suzanne Case (DLNR), Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (HDOA) Kathleen Ho (HDOH), David Rodriguez (HDOT), Mary Alice Evans (DBEDT)
  4. Submittal: Requesting approval of a recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2022
    - Discussion
      - Justine Nihipali presented on the background of the HISC budget process, members of the HISC Resources Working Group (RWG), proposal scoring process, budget allocations, drafting a recommended budget. Justine highlighted that this time applicants had limited amount of time to provide comments at the RWG meeting.
      - Chelsea presented on the HISC funding priorities. These priorities are based on the 5-year HISC/CGAPS strategic plan. These projects fill gaps between agency mandates and existing programs and advance the collective knowledge. A total of 37 proposals were received for consideration for FY 2023 (for a total of ~\$8.2 million). The HISC received \$5.75 million in recurring general funds and this year the HISC received an additional \$1.5 million with stipulation that \$0.5 million will support the Hawaii Ant Lab (HAL). The total amount that the HISC received for FY23 is subject to a 20% cut (due to the 20% cut in LNR402). This cut equals to ~\$1.5 million.
        - ◆ Changes in the process this year:
          - HISC staff assigned the relevant sectors to assign points (this change helped with consistency in scoring).
          - Proposals that scored low were not considered for discussion and funding at the Resources Working Group (after approval from working group members).
        - ◆ Break for comments or Questions. None
      - Chelsea Arnott presented the Recommended Budget
        - Proposals not recommended for funding. A total of 8 proposals were not recommended for funding.

- Recommended Project Awards (project awards are typically under \$300,000). A total of 17 project proposals were recommended for funding.
  - ◆ Question about the biocontrol Rubus proposal: what species are the targets for this project? *Rubus ellipticus* and *Rubus niveus*
  - ◆ What is the difference between the proposal “How do harbors jumpstart algal invasions” and Biofouling? Chelsea Arnott indicated that this proposal will aid legislation that will address biofouling.
- Recommended Programmatic Awards (programmatic awards support the different Invasive Species Committees - ISCs). A total of 11 programmatic proposals were received. During the RGW all programmatic proposals were lumped by ISC (the different ISCs typically send multiple proposals each addressing either outreach, control or early detection and rapid response) to facilitate the discussion. Each manager was given the opportunity to provide a quick background regarding their funding needs.

➤ Recommendation is to:

- That the HISC approve the FY22 budget for HISC support and an interagency project portfolio provided in attachment 1
- That, should the Department of Budget and Finance make any changes to the restriction on expenditures, the HISC delegate authority to the HISC Support Staff to identify best way to apply additional restrictions to project funds, or to identify best uses of any released funds, and
- That, if there are any changes in the scope or implementation of projects over the course of the year, the Council delegate authority to the HISC Support staff to make adjustments to project funds or reassign project funds from any project that does not proceed in a timely manner.

- Discussion:

- ◆ Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser: Two-line spittle bug is an important pest, she was pleased that the RWG members were able to recommend funding for that project. She also acknowledged the work DLNR and HISC have been doing to help HDOA control the coqui population in Waimanalo. The coordination between the agencies has been crucial.
- ◆ Suzanne Case: how simple is it to send proposals? Maybe there is a need to streamline the process so programs can spend more time doing the work and less writing proposals. Chelsea responded that the invasive species committees fill a gap that has been going on for decades and they are still soft funded. The process is very simple compared to other funding opportunities, but it takes time from the work they are doing. The HISC might look into funding projects on a biennium. What they get in the first year they get the second. Suzanne supported the idea.

5. Public Comments: No public testimony was submitted

- Vote to Approve FY23 HISC Budget:
  - Motion to approve: Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (HDOA)
  - 2nd: Mary Alice-Evans (DBEDT)
  - Vote to Approve FY23 Recommended HISC Budget Passes with all members present voting to approve: Suzanne Case (DLNR), Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (HDOA) Kathleen Ho (HDOH), David Rodriguez (HDOT), Mary Alice Evans (DBEDT)
6. Adjournment: at 2:14p by Chair Suzanne Case

The Council may go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 92-5(a) (4), Hawaii Revised Statutes, in order to consult with its attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Council's powers, duties, privileges, immunities and liabilities.

**For information, contact:**

HISC Support staff: 1151 Punchbowl St, #325, Honolulu, HI 96813; Fax: 587-0160  
Chelsea Arnott, Coordinator: Chelsea.L.Arnott [at] hawaii.gov  
Leyla Kaufman, Project Coordinator: leyla [at] hawaii.edu  
Elizabeth Speith, 643pest.org Report Facilitator: speith [at] hawaii.edu

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DAVID RODRIGUEZ  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## DRAFT MEETING NOTES

for

Hawaii Invasive Species Council

October 20, 2022; 9:00 AM

Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Board Room (Rm 132)

1151 Punchbowl St, Honolulu, HI, 96813

Per Hawaii Sunshine Law guidelines, this meeting was hybrid with attendees participating virtually through a Zoom link provided by HISC Support Staff or through the HISC YouTube channel or in-person at the DLNR Board Room in the Kalanimoku Building in Honolulu, HI. Council members, legislative representatives, and HISC Resources Working Group members were provided with a Zoom link. Members of the public were able to view the meeting through the HISC YouTube Channel. A recording of the meeting can be found here:  
<https://youtu.be/AznHvYVS6K0>

1. Call to order
  - a. 9:05 am call to order in person and Zoom by Chair Phyllis Shimaburkuro-Geiser.
  - b. Online live streaming on Youtube was not possible due to technical difficulties.  
This meeting was recorded and posted online: <https://youtu.be/GRHWCuOAxgM>
2. Introductions  
In person attendees: Council Members: *Suzanne Case (Co-chair), Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser (Co-chair)*; HISC Support Staff: *Chelsea Arnott (HISC)*; Attendees: *Stephanie Easley (CGAPS), Andrew Porter (CGAPS), Erin Conway, Lizzy Monaghan (DAR), Christy Martin (CGAPS), Sara Tom (DAR), Dave Smith (DOFAW)*  
Zoom attendees: Council Members: *Kathleen Ho (HDOH), David Rodriguez (HDOT), Mary Alice Evans (DBEDT)*; Leg Members: *Jhanavi Pomerantz (Senator Gabbard's office), Erin Conway (Rep. Wildberger's office), Rep. Lisa Marten, Sen Ronald Kouchi, Rep Nadine Nakamura*; Attendees: *Helmuth Rogg (HDOA), Jeomhee Hasty (DOH), David Davis, Brian Neilson (DAR), Darcy Oishi (HDOA)*; HISC Support: *Leyla Kaufman, Elizabeth Speith, Chuck Chimera*
3. Approval of minutes from August 17, 2022 meeting was deferred to the next meeting due to the technical difficulties with live streaming to YoutUBE. Minutes will be shared and approved at the next meeting.

4. Presentation: Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease and the possible risks to Hawai'i from this deadly coral disease affecting the Caribbean. (Lizzie Monaghan, elizabeth.a.monaghan[at]hawaii.gov)
  - a. Overview presentation on SCTLDD  
(Note: Recording of meeting was paused due to technical issues with zoom and in person equipment, 9:18-9:35)
  - b. DAR and collaborators are making preparedness action plans and collaborating with Pacific Partners. Emergency rules may be explored. Prevention is the current focus, including outreach to boaters and dive shops.
  - c. Question about status of VIDA (Andrew Porter, CGAPS legal fellow). VIDA regulations are not finalized until 2023 and then Coast Guard has several years to review. The state has at least 3 years before VIDA preempts state rules.
  - d. Question about the impact of emergency rules on economy. (Andrew Porter, CGAPS legal fellow) The emergency rules are very narrowly focused on ships coming in from the Caribbean through the Panama Canal. This averages 10 boats a year.
  - e. Question about discretionary DAR funding for response to SCTLDD. Currently focus is on the creation of the response plan.
  
5. Presentation: Update on the 2017-2027 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan – Accomplishments to date & challenges to implementation (Chelsea Arnott)
  - a. Presentation on the need for the HIMP; overview of the 2016 planning process for the HIMP and 2017 baseline study of gaps in staffing, facilities, and policy.
  - b. Implementation started on 65% of the 147 actions in HIMP. Implementation of the actions have slowed a bit since 2019, likely due to COVID pandemic slowdowns and the complicated nature of the remaining actions.
  - c. Preborder accomplishments include risk assessments for AIS; cooperative agreements between HDOA and other agencies; policy analysis with CGAPS legal fellows. Comment from Chair Shimabukuro-Geiser: HDOA has a marketing plan to award for speciality crops, such as Christmas trees, to encourage local sources for high risk import commodities.
  - d. Border Biosecurity highlights include DOH Vector Control branch had staffing and funding restored; HDOA avian influenza review and discuss response plans for AI; the multi-agency ports of entry/exit pest monitoring program, formerly known as Mamalu Poepoe has received funding in FY23 to expand from airports to port monitoring.
  - e. Post-border monitoring accomplishments include funding research and development of new tools to control invasive species; increased funding for watershed partnerships and HISC project; Legislation approved for 10 CTAHR extension agent positions; hiring specialist positions with HDOA; implementation of algal AIS control strategies.
  - f. Public Awareness & Support highlights include coordinating with congressional delegates; implement pest notification and reporting system; creation of products like the Saving Ohia movie and biocontrol animated videos; and hiring economist to analyze impacts of IS
  - g. HISC & CGAPS 2025 Joint Strategy



- h. Building Biocontrol Capacity in Hawaii and the Pacific with Pacific Regional Biocontrol Facilities and building the biocontrol program.
  - i. Ballast water and vessel biofouling are the two main vectors for AIS to enter Hawaii's waters. HIMP focus on SCTLD and VIDA.
  - j. Increase funding for invasive species work across the state. HISC has received \$5.3 mil for invasive species work, but this does not adequately cover the costs.
  - k. Continued investment for interagency pest surveillance at ports of entry/exit and supporting HDOA biosecurity capacity.
  - l. Annual progress reports: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/plans/hibp/>
6. Public Comments
- a. Christy Martin (CGAPS): Mahalo to Chelsea Arnott for her work in her new position.
  - b. Written and oral testimony, Dr. David Davis: Seeking assistance with HDOA and Planning and Research Department for facilitation of a field study on a product for the purpose of eradicating coqui and nematodes and development of this product. This product is not EPA registered product, but it may qualify as an EPA 25 a or b minimum risk pesticide. Estimated \$50,000 needed for a field study. Chair Shimabukuro-Geiser will initiate contact with HDOA pesticides branch and Dr. Davis about the product.
  - c. Rep. Lisa Marten: Question about hala scale on Oahu. Chair Shimabukuro-Geiser- HDOA PPC staff regularly survey for hala scale across Oahu. She can provide information on current status of control and surveys. Darcy Oishi (HDOA PPC acting manager) has limited distribution on Oahu at the UH, Waikiki, Haleiwa and a few other areas. On Hawaii Island there is a rapid response program where any detections are destroyed and there are no known locations. Biocontrol agents are being explored, in the early stages of the process. Treatment is only happening in areas where hala scale has not become established. Pesticides can be used, but because hala is used by weavers there is reluctance to use pesticides.
7. Adjournment
- a. Move to adjourn by Chair Shimabukuro-Geiser at 10:48 a.m.

**For information, contact:**

HISC Support staff: 1151 Punchbowl St, #325, Honolulu, HI 96813; Fax: 587-0160  
Chelsea Arnott, Coordinator: Chelsea.L.Arnott [at] hawaii.gov

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June 13, 2023

### SUBMITTAL

TO: Co-Chairs and Members  
Hawai'i Invasive Species Council  
State of Hawai'i

FROM: Chelsea Arnott, Program Supervisor  
Hawai'i Invasive Species Council Program Support

SUBJECT: Review of previously adopted recommendations and resolutions that are relevant to future actions taken by the Council.

### Background:

The Hawaii Invasive Species Council is an inter-departmental collaboration comprised of the Departments of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR), Agriculture (DOA), Health (DOH), Transportation (DOT), Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT), and the University of Hawaii (UH). The HISC was established in 2003 by Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in response to a 2002 State Legislative Reference Bureau study identifying the need to address a number of gaps in invasive species management statewide.

The purpose of the Council is providing policy level direction, coordination, and planning among state departments, federal agencies, and international and local initiatives for the control and eradication of harmful invasive species infestations throughout the State and for preventing the introduction of other invasive species that may be potentially harmful.

The HISC fulfills its mandate by issuing resolutions, providing plans, and strategically disbursing funds to enhance invasive species prevention, control, outreach, and research. The Council provides direction to HISC Support Staff to carry out Council directives and to administer HISC funding. The HISC is housed within the DLNR for administrative purposes only; therefore the program is administered by the DLNR Invasive Species Coordinator and is supported by other staff housed within the Division of Forestry and Wildlife. and the non-civil-service University of Hawai'i, Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit positions employed by the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i that provide technical support to the HISC

## Discussion:

The Council is co-chaired by the current Chairs of the Departments of Land and Natural Resources and Agriculture, both of whom were confirmed during the 2023 legislative session. The Council also has new representation from the Department of Transportation and three new legislative members. As such, it is important to make the current Council aware of previously adopted HISC resolutions that may be referenced or utilized to show the State's position or coordination on a particular invasive species issue or topic. Examples of past resolutions that are relevant to current events include:

- Resolution 21-1: [Supporting the Planning, Construction, & Operation of Pacific Regional Biological Control Facilities in Hawai'i and Committing Agency Engagement](#)
- Resolution 19-2: [Supporting the Keeping of Pet Cats Indoors and the Use of Peer-reviewed Science in Pursuing the Humane Mitigation of the Impacts of Feral Cats on Wildlife and People](#)

The full list of adopted HISC resolutions can be found at:

<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/reports/resolutions/>

The Council adopted recommendations at the January 27, 2021 meeting to delegate authority to the HISC Support Staff to track legislative measures, draft written/oral testimony and provide comments in legislative hearings or other documents/forums relevant to invasive species that are in line with plans or strategies previously adopted by the Council (2017-2027 Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan, HISC/CGAPS 2025 Joint Strategy). This authority allows HISC to fulfill its mandate on policy level direction through the submission of comments and testimony on invasive species-related issues. Often these issues come up with a small window to respond and immediate action is necessary. The approved recommendation is in accordance with the Office of Information Practices (OIP) document "Sunshine Law Options to Address State Legislative Issues and Measures" which offers multiple solutions to allow boards to submit comments or testimony without being subject to Sunshine Law requirements that may prevent timely submission.

## Legal Authority:

- HRS 194-2 authorizes the HISC to advise and coordinate invasive species-related efforts with and between state, federal, international, and private programs.

## Recommendations:

The Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC):

- Delegates authority for HISC Support Staff to review previously adopted resolutions and present those to the Council that need amending and/or other updates at a future Council meeting as needed.
- Agrees to the authority granted to the HISC Support Staff in the January 27, 2021 Submittal: "Requesting Council approval to delegate to Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) Support Program staff the authority to track legislative measures, provide in the Council's name written and/or oral testimony, and provide comments in legislative

hearings, and requesting that the Council delegates to the HISC Program Support Staff the authority to draft and provide in the Council's name written and/or oral comments on documents relevant to invasive species and released by other entities for input"

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June 13, 2023

### SUBMITTAL

TO: Co-Chairs and Members  
Hawai'i Invasive Species Council  
State of Hawai'i

FROM: Chelsea Arnott, Program Supervisor  
Hawai'i Invasive Species Council Program Support

SUBJECT: Requesting support and engagement to conduct an update of the actions outlined  
in the 2017-2027 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan

### Background:

In 2017, the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture launched the 2017-2027 Hawai'i Interagency Biosecurity Plan (HIBP), a multi-sector analysis of biosecurity and invasive species program needs throughout the State. The HIBP approaches the concept of biosecurity from a comprehensive perspective that includes 147 action items that, if implemented, addresses pre-border, border, and post-border needs to mitigate costs associated with invasive species. This plan was developed through consultation with multiple state, federal, and county agencies, workshops with industry partners, and public meetings. The resulting document is a 10-year roadmap for strengthening Hawaii's interagency biosecurity system through:

- new infrastructure and technology developments;
- increases in staffing and fiscal resources commensurate with needs;
- policy amendments; and
- changes in workflow processes to make our efforts more efficient.

In 2017, the Council adopted [Resolution 17-1 endorsing the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan and committing to its implementation](#) to ensure a coordinated and sustained effort to implement the 147 actions identified in the plan and designating the HISC to track progress through annual reports.

As of January 2023:

- 68% of the action items have been initiated;
- 39% have been “completed” or are “ongoing in perpetuity;”
- 29% have been initiated, however many are not progressing; and

- 32% of the actions have not been initiated or require re-evaluation.

Moving into the sixth year of implementation, there is a need to review past work, assess future needs, and realign efforts. Full progress reports which include status updates for each action are available on the HISC website: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/plans/hibp/>.

#### Discussion:

HIBP is now halfway through its 10-year timeline and there is an opportunity to reassess the plan to ensure the best and appropriate steps are being taken to move actions forward. This reassessment includes changes to funding or policy needs and coordinating efforts amongst all partners, policymakers and the public. Updating the plan will result in a shared path forward where individual agency actions contribute to an overarching strategy that provides stability over time and allows policymakers to develop and prioritize related legislation.

#### Legal Authority:

- HRS 194-2 authorizes the HISC to advise and coordinate invasive species-related efforts with and between state, federal, international, and private programs.

#### Recommendations:

The Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC):

- Direct HISC Program Support staff to work with relevant agencies and stakeholders to update the Interagency Biosecurity Plan to reflect current needs and prioritize actions across the remaining plan's timeline.
- Commit and direct staff at their respective agencies to participate in this planning process by providing their time and expertise in related meetings and requests for information and input to meet the proposed eight month timeline for this project.