



PACIFIC INVASIVES LEARNING NETWORK

# SOUNDBITES – OCTOBER 2013

Pacific Invasives Learning Network

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The monthly electronic newsletter of the Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) – reporting on invasive news from PILN teams and the Pacific Invasives Partnership. Past issues are available online: <http://www.sprep.org/piln>

## Ia orana, Ka'oa and Bonjour Invasive Battlers

**YOUR PILN SOUNDBITES** for October was compiled in Tahiti where the inter-island biosecurity workshop for the different archipelagos of French Polynesia took place. The workshop highlighted the important role of communities in protecting islands from the introduction, establishment and spread of invasive species. The month also saw capacity building activities for marine invasive species in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Sadly, we report here the extinction of the last Mariana crow in captivity in Guam. Driven to extinction by the Brown Tree Snake and human activities. In October we caught up with some of our invasive species champions in French Polynesia, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Thank you everyone for your hard work this month. Ia manuia...



9th PACIFIC ISLAND  
CONFERENCE ON  
NATURE CONSERVATION  
AND PROTECTED AREAS

2-6 December 2013

## PILN TEAMS AND COUNTRY UPDATES

### French Polynesia archipelagos hold invasive species workshop



Participants of the inter-island biosecurity training in Tahiti

**Miconia, Little Fire Ants, Rosy-Wolf Snail** are serious invasive species causing environmental, health and economic harm to French Polynesia and other islands of the Pacific. The vastness of the archipelagic country makes coordination a real challenge, compounded by the diversity of cultures and languages. The importance of this issue led to a three-day workshop dealing with biosecurity, law, early detection, surveillance and establishing an island-wide network for French Polynesia. Participants from the five archipelagic groups of Marquesas, Society, Australes and the Tuamotu and Gambier, attended the workshop that was held at the Mahina commune on Tahiti. The workshop was facilitated by Marie Fourdrigniez

of the Department of Environment (DIREN) and the Invasive Species Committee. The workshop was a key component of a project grant of Fonds Pacifique for SPREP and the Mahina Commune on the Little Fire Ant and Waste. The Little Fire Ant was probably introduced in the early 1990s in Tahiti but its presence was only confirmed in 2004. Efforts to contain the ant were not successful and most of the island of Tahiti is now infested with them. Little Fire Ants have spread to the neighbouring island of Moorea, where recent surveys have confirmed five infested sites. The chance of Little Fire Ants infesting other iconic islands and sites like the Marquesas, Raiatea and Borabora is very high, therefore efforts to manage their spread are a high priority. Most of the participants had not seen the Little Fire Ant and other invasive species. They were given the opportunity to see the Little Fire Ant and some also braved the experience of getting bitten by the ants. One of the participants described the sting by the ant as painful as a syringe shoved in your arm and leaving it there for an hour. The administration of law in French Polynesia is complicated with the three levels of governments (the municipals, the French Polynesia government and the government of France). To properly manage the issue, one needs to be aware of the jurisdictions of these laws. What the participants acknowledge is that regardless of the various laws, it is important that everyone works together, as ultimately the laws are there to protect the environment and the people.

## French Polynesia – catching up with Eliane Gargant



*What is the latest on invasive species management in French Polynesia?*

We recently secured funding from the governments [French Polynesia and France] to implement the Invasive Species Strategic plan. We formed an invasive species group within the environment department (DIREN) that will be responsible for the implementation of the strategy.

*What are some of the actions within the Strategy that this group will be working on?*

One of the key issues that they are working on is identifying the various invasive species found in French Polynesia and mapping their distribution. The invasive species group presented the preliminary result at the workshop where there was good news and some not so good news. Some islands, like Tahiti, Moorea and Nuku Hiva have high numbers of invasives. Other islands remain invasive species free. There is also a lot of community effort to control invasive species and working with associations, like SOP-MANU has been beneficial for these islands.

Establishing a network within the country is also an important action of the invasive species group and I am very pleased that there are so many people from the islands here at the workshop and who are very interested in this network. This will be the first of its kind and we hope that we can expand this from invasive species to threatened species.

## Guam – welcome new battler and fare-welling the last Mariana crow from Guam!



Julie Duay is the new recruit to fight the invasive brown tree snake

**Guam Division of Aquatic** and Wildlife Resources Brown Treesnake Project recently welcomed Julie Anne Duay on board to assist with the Kontra I Kulepbla (Challenge the snake!) awareness campaign. Julie recently completed a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science from the University of Guam Entomology Department. Her thesis project was on the invasive banana bunchy top virus. Julie is motivated and eager to control invasive species and protect Guam's natural resources.

The Mariana crow or aga (*Corvis kubaryi*), an endemic species to the islands of Guam and Rota in the CNMI, was almost driven to extinction on Guam by the brown treesnake in the mid-1990s. Efforts to translocate Mariana crows, chicks and eggs to Guam from the CNMI were successful in creating a population of 14 crows in northern Guam. However, in 2005, translocation efforts were halted due to the decline of the Rota population. The crow population of 14 crows in the wild on Guam were then driven to extinction in 2012; increased shotgun hunting in crow territories on Andersen Air Force Base is thought to be the main cause. The last crow on Guam was in captivity and was used as a mentor for raising chicks. Plans were made to transfer him to Rota to be reunited with other crows, however he recently passed away (autopsy results pending). Guam is now without the charismatic, endemic Aga.



The last crow on Guam died recently – ending its existence on island

DAWR had two proposals accepted under US Federal Aid's State Wildlife Grant Program to complete a pilot study on the eradication of Little Fire Ants (*Wasmannia auropunctata*, LFA) from selected sites on Guam. Guam currently has 12 known LFA sites and will be collaborating with Hawaii to train staff and establish eradication protocols. Another project accepted is to continue monitoring for coqui frogs on Guam and promoting the 475-PEST hotline for reporting new species found on Guam.

Guam is preparing to present a case study on the Ko'ko' for Cocos Restoration Project at the 9th Nature Conservation conference to be held in Fiji December 2-6, 2013.

## Samoa – listing of invasive species on island



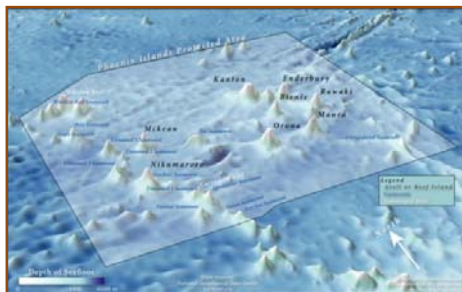
Talie Foliga chair of the sub-committee to document invasives

### *Meeting on invasive species inventory*

A sub-committee of the Samoan National Invasive Species Task-Team (SNITT) convened a meeting to coordinate documenting and updating invasive species information for Samoa. The first step is to compile existing information from published and unpublished reports before a list of potentially invasive species (not yet found on island) is compiled.

A report from the sub-committee will be discussed in the next SNITT meeting scheduled for December, 2013.

## Kiribati – USD\$5 million investment to World Heritage Site



Endowment for Phoenix Islands Protected Area Conservation Trust supports long-term success of the multi-use protected area that sustains Kiribati's people and hosts some of the world's most pristine coral reefs. One of the most pristine, ambitious and globally-important protected areas in the world received a vital boost of financial support today, with the investment of \$5 million toward an endowment to support its long term viability and management. The Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA) Conservation Trust announced the initial capitalization of the trust fund, which will provide ongoing support for Kiribati's 408,250 square kilometer multiple-use marine

protected area (MPA), the world's largest and deepest UNESCO World Heritage Site. The funds were received in two contributions of \$2.5 million each from partners, the Republic of Kiribati (pronounced Kirr-i-bas) and non-profit organization, Conservation International (CI) through its Global Conservation Fund (GCF). The release of these two gifts also marks CI and partners' Commitment to Action through the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) to the Phoenix Islands Protected Area. CGI convenes global leaders to create and implement innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges.

## Vanuatu – Invasive Species Committee and stakeholders meet



Participants of the invasive species stakeholder consultations in Vanuatu

The Invasive Species Committee for Vanuatu held a meeting on the 16 October, following a 2-day training on the Ballast Water Management Convention. The meeting was chaired by Sylverio Bule, the Director of Biosecurity Vanuatu.

The group highlighted some of the key invasive species that they are grappling with and the negative impacts on Vanuatu's environment. Introductions of these invasive species have been primarily through international ports. Vanuatu is blessed with a number of projects that are addressing some of the key invasive species issues.

The Global Environment Facility – Invasive Species project has a number of activities focusing on establishing the coordination mechanism within the country as a priority. Part of the project also involves the development of a Vanuatu invasive species strategy. Live and Learn, is an international non-governmental organisation based in Vanuatu and is implementing an invasive species project that includes education and public awareness. Merremia vine is one of the problematic species in Vanuatu and efforts to control it will be part of Live and Learn's project activities. Through an AusAID funded project, the Quarantine Division is working on priority invasive weeds through identifying effective biocontrol.

## Reducing the risk of invasives from shipping in Vanuatu



The Vanuatu Minister for Infrastructure and Utilities Hon. Johnson Binaru handing out a certificate to Sylvério Bule

A two-day training was held from 14-15 October in Port Vila, Vanuatu for Government agencies, private sector and stakeholders to understand the threats posed by invasive species brought in through ship's ballast water. Ballast water is water taken in by ships to help stabilise them during a voyage from one port to the next. When a ship is empty it takes on ballast water so that it is able to sail safely through open waters. When a ship takes on a load of goods or cargo, it has to get rid some of the water otherwise it gets too heavy. The water is pumped out into the harbour and with it are possible invasives. Some of the animals and plants will find the conditions in the harbour too harsh and unlikely to survive,

whereas others will survive and may become invasive to coastal areas.

The training aimed at minimising invasive introductions that could harm the coastal areas of Vanuatu. The training was opened by the Director General for the Ministry of Infrastructure and Utilities, Johnson Binaru who announced Vanuatu's commitment to marine safety.

"The Government has recently established a Maritime Safety Regulator office, because we want to ensure safe operations of vessels in Vanuatu waters", says Johnson.

He thanked the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) for providing this training.

"Marine invasive species are bad news for our fisheries. We are struggling to deal with the crown of thorns starfish at the moment. So any additional marine invasives will not be good for us", he adds.

This training follows a similar one held the week before in Solomon Islands.

"We are pleased to offer this training for Vanuatu. It is part of the training that we are rolling out in partnership with the International Maritime Organisation," says Anthony Talouli, SPREP's Pollution Advisor.

"One of the good things about this training is bringing in the various organisations including the private sector to understand Vanuatu's obligations under the ballast water convention.

"Ballast water is an important part of a ship's operation, as it helps stabilize the ship during its voyage. But because there is a risk of ballast water spreading invasive species, we also need to deal with environmental impacts".

The convention on ballast water provides a number of guides for countries with ships or have ships come to ports.

"Ships will need to comply with the convention and other requirements by countries that they are travelling to before they are allowed to come to port.

"Discharging ballast water in ports and harbours of countries is a risky process as the chances of introducing an invasive species is high", adds Talouli.

## Images from the Vanuatu Ballast Water Training and Invasive Species Committee meeting



## Solomon Islands - training on the Ballast Water Management Convention



Participants of the Ballast Water Management training

A two-day training on invasive species transported through ballast water training was held in Honiara, Solomon Islands from 8-9 October for government and private sector agencies. Ballast water is seawater that is taken on board by ships to ensure that they remain stable when sailing through open waters. When a ship is not carrying cargo, it takes on seawater for stability. When a ship is about to take cargo on board, it discharges the seawater. The taking up and discharging of seawater often includes taking up marine animals and plants. While most of the animals and plants do not survive a journey from one country to another, some that

survive may establish in harbours and ports. Those animals and plants not native to the country can spread from ports and harbours causing problems for local species. Ballast water is one way invasive species are introduced to the country. There are many examples of invasive plants and animals causing economic and environment harm.

“While there are not many documented cases in the Pacific Islands, there are plenty of examples from New Zealand, Australia and America where animals like mussels are brought in ballast water and then released into the water causing problems”, says SPREP’s Pollution Advisor, Anthony Talouli.



Minister for Environment, Hon. Bradley Tovosia (far left) handing out a certificate to a participant.

“There has been a case in Marovo Lagoon last year where there was an algal bloom and this caused a lot of fish being killed”, says Agnetha Vave-Karamui, from the Solomon Islands Department of Environment. “We are not sure of the cause of this fish kill but a similar result could be seen if a harmful organism was released from ballast water”, Vave-Karamui adds.

The Marovo Lagoon fish kill shows how important this training is. It highlighted the need to put in place measures for ships to follow so that they don’t discharge species that will cause problems for Solomon Islands.

The ballast water management convention is an international agreement to deal with the spread of invasive species. Because ballast is an important part of shipping operation, there are other important international and regional agreements that countries need to be aware of. The safety of the ship and its crew on the open sea is also important so countries need to make sure that they do not put ships at risk of capsizing. The training helps the Solomon Islands to understand ballast water issues and the convention with its guidelines. Other international agreements and principles provide support to the ballast water convention.

“The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea is one important instruments that helps the ballast water convention”, says Posa Skelton, SPREP’s PILN Officer.

“The law of the sea convention states countries obligations, rights and liabilities with regards to protecting the marine environment from pollution and introduction of alien or new species”.

“The agreement on biological diversity is also another good instrument that contains decisions made by countries, including the Solomon Islands, to safeguard our marine environments”, adds Dr Skelton.

The ballast water training covers compliance, monitoring and enforcement as an important part of the convention. The training highlighted the need for Solomon Islands to start thinking about how it can take measures to further protect its marine environment. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) in partnership with the Australia Maritime Safety Authority and the Government of the Solomon Islands collaborated to provide the training to

the 30 participants. The International Maritime Organisation provided the materials and funding assistance for the training.

### Images from the Solomon training workshops



## PACIFIC INVASIVES PARTNERSHIP (PIP) – NEWS

### IUCN-ISSG identifies 100<sup>th</sup> world worst invasive species



The Giant Salvinia is the 100th worst invasive species globally

Experts identified a new addition to the world's 100 worst invasive species. The Giant Salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*) was chosen by the community of invasion biologists (over 650 experts from over 60 countries). This aquatic fern is native to south-eastern Brazil. It is a free floating plant that does not attach to the soil, but remains buoyant on the surface of a body of water. The fronds are up to 4 cm long and broad, with a bristly surface caused by the hair-like strands that join at the end to form eggbeater shapes. The Giant Salvinia is often grown as an ornamental plant

but has escaped and become a noxious pest in many regions worldwide.

### Pacific Invasives Partnership all banner up

A new banner has been prepared for the Pacific Invasives Partnership in time for the upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> Nature Conservation Conference, scheduled in Suva, Fiji from 2-6<sup>th</sup> December, 2013.

The new look banner highlights what PIP is and its role in supporting capacity building and regional coordination of invasive species management in the Pacific. PIP has been active in representing invasive species issues in regional forums including the Pacific Forum Leaders Meeting.

The banner is part of a series of banners to market invasive species efforts in the region.

### CABI welcomes action to protect against invasive species

CABI welcomes action that the EU has recently taken to protect member states against the adverse impacts of invasive alien species. The draft regulation on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species will help to coordinate management and preventative measures across the whole of the EU, leading to what will effectively be a joint battle against IAS – a problem that costs the EU at least 12 billion Euros each year. Read more on CABI ...cabiinvasives.wordpress.com

### A RARE merge with TNC

The Nature Conservancy and Rare today announced their intent to merge, combining forces to accomplish greater conservation outcomes together than either organization could alone. Further information on this can be found on the Nature Conservancy website: [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org)

### Pacific Invasives Initiative – read all about it!

The Pacific Invasives Initiative has released its quarterly Newsletter (Sept. 2013). There are many useful and interesting articles including the recently concluded Island Biosecurity Training, Tonga's National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan and more. A copy can be obtained from the PII team ([pji@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:pji@auckland.ac.nz)).

### **Tropical rodent eradication review in Auckland**

In late August, a Tropical rodent eradication review was launched with the convening of a meeting of an international group of experts at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. The goal of the review is to develop recommendations for improving the success rates of tropical island rodent eradications. More than 30 experts in island rodent eradications, island ecology, rodent ecology, and toxicology came together at the meeting to review historical data, analyse successful and unsuccessful projects, and discuss new ideas and approaches to increase the success rates of rodent eradications on tropical islands.

Eradicating invasive alien species from islands is a tool proven to protect biodiversity and help restore ecosystem processes. Worldwide, there have been more than 400 successful eradications of invasive rodents from islands and about 50 unsuccessful attempts. Analysis of historical eradications reveals that efforts to eradicate rodents from tropical islands have been less successful than projects in higher latitudes. “There is increasing demand for eradications to help counteract the growing extinction crisis, particularly in tropical areas where biodiversity is greatest, said Bill Waldman, CEO for Island Conservation. “This review will improve the rate of success by ensuring that the island restoration community has the best eradication advice from the world’s experts.”

The tropical rodent eradication review is being led by a consortium of groups including Island Conservation, Pacific Invasives Initiative (PII), Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), BirdLife International, Conservación de Islas, New Zealand Department of Conservation and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). The first stage in the review included an analysis of completed rodent eradications to evaluate the lessons of past projects. The review is expected to conclude with publication of recommended best practice guidelines for tropical rodent eradications that will also be made available through the PII Resource Kit (<http://www.pacificinvasivesinitiative.org/rk/>).

For more information please contact: [Brad.Keitt@islandconservation.org](mailto:Brad.Keitt@islandconservation.org) - Brad Keitt, Director of Conservation, Island Conservation

## **VACANCY AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Micronesia Conservation Trust**

MCT is currently recruiting for a Conservation Program Manager. Closing date is November 11, 2013. For more information contact Lisa Andon – [deputy@ourmicronesia.org](mailto:deputy@ourmicronesia.org).

**The Rapid Response Facility (RRF)** invites small grant applications for UNESCO inscribed natural World Heritage sites, and tentative sites facing emergency threats to their biodiversity. The RRF is a unique small grant programme jointly operated by Fauna & Flora International and UNESCO World Heritage Centre. With a target processing time for grant applications of just 8 working days, the RRF provides rapid support to enable conservation practitioners to respond quickly and effectively to emergencies in some of the world’s most important sites for biodiversity. For more information visit – [www.rapid-response.org](http://www.rapid-response.org)

### **Craig S. Harrison Conservation Grants – Pacific Seabird Group**

The objective of the Conservation Fund is to advance the conservation of seabirds by providing funds or supplies to individuals from developing countries as well as those from elsewhere working in those developing countries primarily in or bordering the Pacific Ocean, (1) for conservation and restoration activities that benefit seabirds in the Pacific Ocean; and (2) to help develop within-country seabird expertise in developing countries within or bordering the Pacific Ocean.

Send an email to Verena Gill ([verena.gill@gmail.com](mailto:verena.gill@gmail.com)) and Craig Harrison ([charrison@hunton.com](mailto:charrison@hunton.com)), briefly explaining what you want to propose and where you want to do the work. That way, you can get a rapid determination from them of whether your proposal is eligible for consideration for funding. If they determine that your study is eligible, then fill out and send the application form, the proposal/budget, and the letter of reference, as described below, to Verena Gill and Craig Harrison. Please note that applications/proposals may be submitted at any time—there is no fixed deadline for submission. All applications/proposals will be evaluated whenever they are submitted.

### **SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme)**

SPREP has a number of vacancies and tender opportunities available. Please check out the SPREP's Job Vacancies page for further information. <http://www.sprep.org/Human-Resources/Job-Vacancy/>

### **SPC (Secretariat of the Pacific Community)**

SPC has vacancies and consultancy opportunities. Please check out the SPC's website for further information. [www.spc.int/job.html](http://www.spc.int/job.html) - or contact Christine Croombes ([recruit@spc.int](mailto:recruit@spc.int)).

## **INVASIVE NEWS GLOBAL**

### **Montana Nearing End Of 10-Year Project To Remove Non-Native Trout In South Fork Flathead Drainage.**

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is now more than three-quarters finished with a 10-year project aimed at treating alpine lakes above the South Fork Flathead River drainage to purge the presence of non-native trout. Ecology: Gene tweaking for conservation: It is time to weigh up the pros and cons of using genetic engineering to rescue species from extinction, say Michael A. Thomas and colleagues. [http://www.nature.com/news/ecology-gene-tweaking-for-conservation-1.13790?WT.ec\\_id=NATURE-20130926](http://www.nature.com/news/ecology-gene-tweaking-for-conservation-1.13790?WT.ec_id=NATURE-20130926)

### **Wildlife face 'Armageddon' as forests shrink**

Species affected by rainforest fragmentation are likely to be wiped out more quickly than previously thought, scientists have warned. A study found that some small mammal species on forest islands, created by a hydroelectric reservoir, in Thailand became extinct in just five years. It also showed that populations in the fragmented habitats were also at risk from another threat - invasive species. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-24229723>

### **New biological agent to fight invasive weed**



University of Rhode Island's entomologists reached a milestone in their efforts to control the invasive weed swallow-wort this month with the first release of a biological agent to fight the pest. Swallow-wort is an aggressive invasive weed that forms dense patches in a wide variety of habitats and may have negative impacts on insects including the monarch butterfly.

### **Evidence-based policy in invasive species management**

Hundreds of invasive species experts gathered last week, 23-27 October, in Qingdao China at the 2nd International Congress on Biological Invasions. High on the agenda was how policy makers can respond to the accelerating risk posed by invasive species as international trade increases and climate change opens up new opportunities for invasion. Read more on CABI's invasives blog ([cabiinvasives.wordpress.com](http://cabiinvasives.wordpress.com)). The moth (*Hypena opulenta*) found in Ukraine was tested and found to be a suitable biocontrol for this weed. Read more on the University of Rhode Island website (2013, September 27).

### **Hunt is on for the tegu lizards in Florida**



The Argentine tegu lizard doesn't grow nearly as big as a Burmese python but it may be a greater threat to South Florida's native animals. At a maximum size of four feet, a tegu can't gobble down a full-grown deer or alligator with its rapier-sharp teeth. But the invasive, black and white reptiles have the potential to cause even more ecological damage than the 18-foot snakes that have drawn international media attention in recent years. And now, scientists say, it's too late to eradicate them. Read more here: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/09/27/3654929/hunt-is-on-for-tegu-lizards-in.html#storylink=cpy>. Image by Mario Sacramento



## International partners launch plan to tackle invasive lionfish

The International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), through its Regional Lionfish Committee, is urging Caribbean countries to adopt a regional roadmap to control the invasive lionfish. Regional Lionfish Committee co-chair and lead author Ricardo Gomez Lozano said a Regional Strategy for the Control of Invasive Lionfish in the Wider Caribbean had been developed to help control the introduced reef pest.

## INVASIVE SPECIES PUBLICATIONS

- L. Gibson, A. J. Lynam, C. J. A. Bradshaw, F. He, D. P. Bickford, D. S. Woodruff, S. Bumrungsri, W. F. Laurance. Near-Complete Extinction of Native Small Mammal Fauna 25 Years After Forest Fragmentation. *Science*, 2013; 341 (6153): 1508 DOI: 10.1126/science.1240495.
- Gloria M. Luque, Céline Bellard, Cleo Bertelsmeier, Elsa Bonnaud, Piero Genovesi, Daniel Simberloff and Franck Courchamp. 2013. The 100th of the world's worst invasive alien species. *Biol Invasions* DOI 10.1007/s10530-013-0561-5. *Invasion Note*.
- James K. Wetterer. 2013. A South American fire ant, *Solenopsis* nr. *saevissima*, in Guadeloupe, French West Indies. *Biol Invasions* DOI 10.1007/s10530-013-0534-8
- Ngerel a Biib. The Palau Conservation Society Newsletter is now out. Contact Yalap for a copy or your PILN Coordinator.
- A special edition on the *Avian Conservation & Ecology* – on Quantifying Human-related mortality of birds in Canada. <http://www.ace-eco.org/issues/view.php?sf=4>
- Pacific Invasives Initiative News is out. Items covered include – Island Biosecurity Training | Capacity Development Strategy | Tonga-NISSAP | IEAG Meeting | Follow up Invasive Plant Training | Invasive Plant Equipment | and much more. Please contact the PII team for a copy – [pii@list.auckland.ac.nz](mailto:pii@list.auckland.ac.nz)
- Issue 33 of *Aliens: The Invasive Species Bulletin* is now available for download. <http://www.issg.org/index.html>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

2013	Event	Participating Partner
<b>November</b>		
14-17 Nov.	Asia-Park Congress. Japan	SPREP
20-22 Nov.	AWMS Annual Conference. Massey University, Palmerston North, NZ.	
20-22 Nov	Non-indigenous species in the North-East Atlantic (Ostend)	
25-29	Pacific World Heritage Workshop. Suva, Fiji	UNESCO
28-29	BirdLife Pacific – Technical Advisory Group Meeting (Suva, Fiji)	BirdLife, PII, IUCN, SPREP, PILN, USP and other partners
<b>December</b>		
2-6 Dec	9 <sup>th</sup> Pacific Island Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. Suva, Fiji	
9-13 Dec	Wrap-up meeting of 9 <sup>th</sup> Pacific Island Conference on Nature Conservation & PAs.	
	20 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals. University of Otago, NZ	
13 Dec	Fiji Invasive Species Taskforce	FIST
<b>2013</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Participating Partner</b>
<b>December</b>		
3-6 Mar	26 <sup>th</sup> Vertebrate Pest Conference (USA)	
24-28 Jun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Science Incubator – exploring weeds and their management from novel viewpoints (Hotel Hospital del Benasque, Pyrenees)	

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