

Micronesia Regional Invasive Species Council

Tamdad Sulog
Chairman
Regional Invasive Species Council
P.O. Box 463
Colonia Yap FSM 96943

July 06, 2017

Nikolao Pula, Director Office of Insular Affairs U.S. Department of the Interior 1849 C Street, N.W. Mail-Stop 2429 Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Pula,

As Chair of the Regional Invasive Species Council for the Western Pacific, I am pleased to submit a letter of support for Dr. Moore's grant proposal to support his work towards biological control of coconut rhinoceros beetle (CRB) on Guam and Palau.

Without a reducing the high populations of CRB on these islands, it is just a matter of time before this pest spreads within Micronesia. If it gets onto the smaller islands and atolls where coconut is the "tree of life" this will be a humanitarian tragedy.

RISC has been asked, via a communique from the recent Micronesian Forum, which is a meeting of all the Micronesian Governors, to help find a solution to the rhino beetle problem. Dr. Moore is offering a promising solution, and I urge your office to fund his proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Chief, Yap Agriculture and Forestry

