

Guam Invasive Species Council

Import Data Harmonization Committee Report

Date: May 30, 2018

Chairman: Derrick Guerrero, Guam Customs & Quarantine Agency

Committee Members:

Johnric Mendiola, Guam Customs & Quarantine Agency

Carmen Babauta, Biosecurity Division, Guam Department of Agriculture

Joseph Santos, Northern Guam Soil & Water Conservation District

Erica Pangelinan & Linda Reyes, Southern Guam Soil & Water Conservation District

Vince Acfalle; Paul Santos & Joshua Candolets, Port Authority of Guam

Manny Cruz & Antonette Pitter, Bureau of Statistics & Plans

Michael Brown, USDA APHIS PPQ

Aubrey Moore & Roland Quitugua, University of Guam

Chuck Ada, Guam International Airport Authority

Overview:

During the October 26, 2017 GISC meeting, Derrick Guerrero from the Guam Customs & Quarantine Agency was nominated to chair the Import Data Harmonization Committee (IDHC) by the GISC Chair and Co-Chair. On April 4, 2018, the IDHC convened its first of six meetings spanning a six week period. The following outline illustrates the progress and recommendations presented by the IDHC to the GISC:

- I. Establish the Scope and Purpose of the Import Data Harmonization Committee
- II. Establish the goals and objectives of the IDHC
 - A. Identify the shortfalls related to the collection of the Guam Invasive Species Inspection Fee (GISIF)
 1. GISIF obstacles
 - Outstanding payments
 - No invoicing system and policy in place
 - Lack of accountability for both carriers and government
 - Incomplete Treasurer's report for funding and expenditures
 2. Data correlation
 - Accurate account of import data (in tons) versus billing not established
 - Government need for data to assess proper billing and invoice of GISIF

- Statistical need of import data for GISC and members to conduct timely threat assessments
 - Government need to modernize current import and export data tracking systems currently in place
- B. Create Short-term solutions
1. GISIF *as recommended by the IDHC*
 - Establish an invoicing policy and system that will be maintained internally by the Biosecurity Division of the Guam Department of Agriculture
 - Establish an inter-agency MOU to efficiently and accurately assess the GISIF
 2. Import data *as recommended by the IDHC*
 - Establish empirical data needs of GISC members and stakeholders
 - Establish an inter-agency MOU to effectively compile the import data to enable the timely threat assessment of invasive alien species and actively prevent incursions from occurring
- C. Create Long-term solutions
1. Enabling Legislation *as recommended by the IDHC*
 - Recommend revisions and additions to 5 GCA Chapter 70 allowing for more stringent data declarations of carriers
 - Harmonizing of imports and commodities to streamline commerce and invasive species prevention and mitigation efforts
 - Imposing of penalties for violations of Chapter 70
 2. Modernize Customs import data gathering *as recommended by the IDHC*
 - Establish a harmonizing system that enables the itemization of empirical import data to allow for real-time threat and risk assessments relating to invasive species
 - Allow for the sharing of needed import data for GISC members and industry stakeholders through vetted process
 - Enabling of real-time identification for gaps in pathways, conveyances and commodities arriving on Guam
 - Allow for the efficient and accurate assessment, billing and invoicing of the GISIF
 3. Inclusion into the Guam Invasive Species Management Plan (GISMP) *as recommended by the IDHC*
 - Formal inclusion of the February 19, 2016 Interagency Biosecurity Work between Guam Customs and the Guam department of Agriculture into the GISMP pursuant to PL 31-43 § 70130(k); 5GCA Chapter 70 § 70130(k) Duties of the Council

Hereby submitted on May 31, 2018 by the IDHC Chairman, Derrick Guerrero