

Coqui Frog Control Updates

You have undoubtedly noticed (heard) that the coqui calling season started in April/May in Volcano. Coqui control in the makai, lower elevation neighborhoods of Volcano, warm enough to support large, widespread breeding populations, is an undertaking for residents immediately around their homes. However, neighborhood Volcano Coquistadores are still controlling coqui in portions of Volcano Village and Mauna Loa Estates, as well as throughout most of the Volcano Golf Course subdivision. This article describes the status of coqui frog populations, control strategies, and which Volcano Coquistadores to call for assistance with frog control in each of these three Volcano neighborhoods. The Coquistadores are realists; they recognize that a full-scale coqui invasion throughout Volcano community is inevitable. The goal of our control efforts is intended to delay this noisy consequence as long as possible in areas still relatively quiet.

Volcano Village: The accelerating coqui invasion in Volcano Village makes it no longer possible to control these noisy pests throughout the entire Village. For example, the Village Coquistadores have given up on almost all of Old Volcano Highway, the lower portions of Wright Road, Haunani Road, and Anuheia Circle, as well as localized hotspots elsewhere in the Village.



Tim Tunison catching coqui frogs.

There is a dedicated squad of Village Coquistadores controlling coqui on Kalanihonu Road and Loop, Rohner Lane, and the mauka portion of the east fork of Anuheia Circle: Paul Freeman, Vicki Arthur, and Greg Santos, with assistance from two other residents of the neighborhood. here is also a dedicated pair of Village Coquistadores (Kris Scanlon and Julie Williams) controlling frogs in much of Cymbidium Acres, emphasizing Ke Koa Nui Blvd. There is also a brave solo Coquistadore (Marybeth Weber) working hard to control frogs on portions of `Ainahu, Elepaio, Ho`onanea, and Kili-noe. I support these neighborhood Village Coquistadores by spraying

frogs high up in tree ferns or dense patches of ginger out of reach for their hand-capture efforts or small sprayers. I also work at controlling all frogs along Keonelehua Ave, the western half of Laukapu Road, and Elepaio Road, as well as the connecting portions of Haunani and Wright Roads, with the exception of a few uncontrollable coqui "hotspots. I also respond to calls from neighbors in the Village, with one or a few frogs in otherwise quiet surrounding areas, such as `Iwi Road, upper Haunani Road, and upper Wright and Ama`uma`u Roads, outside the small, control neighborhoods of the Village I mentioned above. I wish I had time to patrol these areas, but depend on your reports of frogs present. If you want to report frogs to the Village Coquistadores for removal, and the offending frogs are in the parts of the Village described above still targeted for coqui control, contact me, Tim Tunison, by phone or text at 769-7258. I can pass on your report to the Coquistadores working in the Village areas mentioned above or take action myself if you have just a few frogs located in areas of the Village we have not given up on yet but do not have a dedicated squad of Coquistadores. Neighbors of Paul Freeman on Kalanihonua and Kalanihonua Loop reporting frogs can call him directly at 985-7595.

Mauna Loa Estates: Like Volcano Village, Mauna Loa Estates has noticeably infested areas yet still some relatively quiet areas. The control strategy in MLE is also similar to

Volcano Community Association (VCA) Mission Statement

To improve and protect the quality of life in Volcano, County and State of Hawaii, on behalf of all residents of the area. To promote the social and educational advancement, increase recreational opportunities, ensure health, protect natural environment, and develop community spirit. Also, it will undertake any consonant project the community may be moved to assign to it.

However, it will remain nonpartisan and nonsectarian.

that in the Village. The Mauna Loa Coquistadores are no longer trying to control frogs in heavily infested areas. If there are frogs in your yard or bordering your property in a relatively quiet area, the Mauna Loa Coquistadores, led by John Hoover (985-9906) and Terence Spencer, would be happy to help you if there aren't too many noise makers. In turn, you can help them greatly by trying to locate the calling frog(s), ideally to within 6 ft. or so. Of course, try this only if you can step outside and move about safely at night!

Volcano Golf Course: The Volcano Coquistadores are still committed to keeping the Volcano Golf Course subdivision as quiet as possible. Diane Ware is the head Coquistadore for this neighborhood. Diane reports that it is still fairly quiet in

this neighborhood with cooler nighttime temperatures to inhibit calling. However, she expects to hear more frogs as it warms up this summer. Call Diane at 967-8642 to report calling frogs in the Volcano Golf Course subdivision. Without a strong sprayer to reach frogs high in vegetation, Diane mostly hand captures frogs but greatly appreciates assistance from her neighbors with both catching and spraying frogs.

The most effective way to slow down the inevitable coqui invasion and keep your immediate surroundings as quiet as possible for as long as possible, is to get together a small hui of Coquistadores for your immediate neighborhood. That way you can share the work, support each other, and make coqui control a social activity. Plus, hunting down coqui is more effective with multiple

perspectives on pinning down the exact locations of frogs. The Kalanihonua Road and Loop hui is a good model for neighborhood control.

submitted by Tim Tunison.

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For more background information on the coqui frog (and other flora and fauna) as an invasive species please visit the website:

<https://www.biisc.org/coqui/>



Time to join or renew your membership?

Membership Form -- Volcano Community Association

Name(s) _____
Mailing address _____
City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____
Email (important) _____
Phone(s) _____ (day) _____ (eve) _____ (cell) _____
Your information will be kept private and will only be used for VCA official business.

VCA is a Group of Volunteers serving the wider Community. We welcome your help! Please check your interests:

<input type="checkbox"/> 4 th of July	<input type="checkbox"/> VCA table at Farmers Market	<input type="checkbox"/> Volcano Long Range Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc. Grunt Work
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Annual dues \$15 individual \$25 family (2 household members) \$ _____
Additional donation for printing and mailing of brochures and guidebooks, etc..... \$ _____
Membership Card Expires: _____ (office use only) Total amount received: \$ _____

Please make your check out to the Volcano Community Association, and send with this form to:
Volcano Community Association, P.O. Box 600, Volcano, HI 96785
You can also join or renew at www.volcanocommunity.org

Mahalo!

The Voice of the Volcano Community Association is published by the VCA Board of Directors: Jim Buck, Carol Caseylittell, Anne Farahi, Sher Glass, Aubrey Hawk, Mary Narito & Evelyn Wight
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