



Pacific Islands Forestry Committee (PIFC) 2018 WFLC Fall Meeting Report-Out

Committee Leadership

2017 - 2018

Chair: Irene Sprecher (HI)
Vice-Chair: Marylter Sibanuz (FSM)
Secretary: Lajtik Rufus (RMI)
Immediate Past Chair: Joe Mafnas (GU)
State Forester Liaison: N/A

2018 - 2019

Chair: Irene Sprecher (HI)
Vice-Chair: Marylter Sibanuz (FSM)
Secretary: TBD
Immediate Past Chair: Joe Mafnas (GU)
State Forester Liaison: N/A

Key Accomplishments from 2017-2018

- Held PIFC Executive Committee meeting in the Republic of Palau in October 2018; included a business meeting, a day with Pacific Island partners, a field tour to Ngardok Nature Preserve ForestGEO plot, and review of corporate and government partnership successes and emerging opportunities in ecosystem services, including carbon, water, and tourism.
- Initial draft developed of a moodle Urban Forestry/Arborist course with the University of Guam.
- First cohort of Kupu Pacific Resiliency Fellows successful <http://www.kupuhawaii.org/pacific-resiliency-fellows/>.
- Provided Pacific Island representation and participation at WFLC/CWSF Spring and Fall meetings.
- Continued to encourage Pacific Island projects be submitted in the LSR grant competition; reviewed potential opportunities and limitations for greater numbers of applications for WUI competitive grants.
- Developed an initial draft informational paper on Island fire concerns and management needs.

Emerging Issues and Priorities

- PIFC Professional Workshop from April 15-19, 2019 in Honolulu, HI.
- Finalize Urban Forestry/Arborist moodle and explore use of the application for other tropical forestry courses via the moodle platform.
- The three year LSR Pacific Island competitive grant set-aside is set to expire after the 2019 grant cycle.
- Western Governor Association's (WGA) Biosecurity and Invasive Species initiative.
- Possible convening of an Islands forum and/or presentation at a future NASF meeting.
- NASF performance measures – connecting islands with measures.
- Adaption, response, and mitigation to climate change impacts in the islands.
- CORSIA aviation agreement – carbon neutral growth by 2020.

Recommendations for Action by State Foresters

- Approve the 2019 PIFC work plan and budget.
- Approve continuation of the Pacific Island LSR competition grant set aside for an additional three years, excluding the State of Hawaii and Guam.
- Support mentorship of PIFC members for the WUI competitive grant opportunities.
- Consider involvement with the WGA Biosecurity and Invasive Species Initiative.