

Kaua'i Island Conservation Partners Sanitation Protocol

The described procedures below provide guidelines to limit transmission of the fungal pathogen *Ceratocystis* through field activities. *Ceratocystis* has been determined to be the pathogen causing Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death. Humans can be a vector of transmission and there are steps we can take to limit our role in unintentionally spreading the fungus to new areas.

Roles and Responsibility

Supervisor: Ensure all field leaders and coordinators understand and abide by the protocol.

Field Supervisors/Leaders: Ensure all staff are trained and instructed to follow this recommended protocol. Ensure necessary supplies and time to carry out sanitation procedures are provided daily/weekly. Training is available from DOFAW.

Staff: All staff, regardless of position or frequency in the field, are required to follow this protocol. This includes contractors, researchers, interns and/or volunteers.

Sanitation Schedule

Sanitation procedures are to be conducted before operations begin and at the close of operation for each work site, prior to moving to a new location. At a minimum, complete sanitation is to be conducted at the end of each work week, and prior to every trip to an uninfected area. Ad hoc sanitation may be required based on interaction with suspect 'ōhi'a trees in otherwise healthy forest or when transferring ("hopping") between distinct 'ōhi'a forest work sites.

Decontamination Protocol

Sanitation of Outerwear: Soap and Water

Hand/machine wash all outerwear (rain jacket, rain pants, backpacks, vests, hats, etc.) with soap and water. Rinse with clean water and hang dry. All other clothing should be laundered with detergent in hot water, if possible (DAILY).

Sanitation of Tools: Disinfectant

Wash equipment to remove visible dirt, plant material, sawdust, and other contaminants. Spray entire surface thoroughly with 70% rubbing alcohol .

Sanitation of Boots: Disinfectant

Thoroughly scrub/wash all visible dirt, plant material, etc. from boot surfaces. Be sure to pay special attention to the sole grooves and any crevices that may trap soil. Spray with 70% rubbing alcohol. Pay special attention to cleaning and disinfecting spiked boots and tabs.

Protocol Continued.

Sanitation of Vehicle

Wash vehicles with detergent, paying particular attention to removing dirt and organic material from the undercarriage, truck bed, bumpers, mud flaps, and wheel-wells. Clean all dirt and organic material from interior of vehicle. Wash floor mats with soap and water then spray floor mats with 70% rubbing alcohol. Changing and bagging or using totes to store dirty clothes or boots can help alleviate vehicle decontamination.

Dedicated On-Island Gear

Dedicated gear is a separate set of gear that is devoted to prevent cross-contamination of sites. Dedicated gear should be cleaned following the decontamination protocol listed above and stored separately from regular work gear.

Dedicated Gear includes but is not limited to: Footwear (e.g. leather and rubber boots), rain gear, backpack, and safety chaps.

INTER-ISLAND DECONTAMINATION PROTOCOL

Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death is currently confirmed on both Hawai'i Island and Kaua'i.

Dedicated Inter-Island Gear (Work trips from Kaua'i Island to other islands)

Maintain a dedicated set of clean gear to be used for work trips to other islands. Store gear separately from regular work gear. If dedicated gear or borrowing gear from an on-island agency is not an option, it is recommended that work trips to other islands be carefully considered.

DO NOT MOVE TOOLS INTER-ISLAND: This includes chainsaws, machetes, pruners, clippers and any other equipment or machinery that could have come into contact with infected 'ōhi'a wood.

To learn current ROD confirmation locations, how to identify the symptoms of ROD infected trees, and keep current with the latest decontamination recommendations please visit rapidohiadeath.org

