Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of Hawaiʻi Invasive Species Awareness Week

WHEREAS, the Hawaiʻi Invasive Species Council was established by HRS 194-2 in 2003, "...for the special purpose of providing policy level direction, coordination, and planning among state departments, federal agencies, and international and local initiatives for the control and eradication of harmful invasive species infestations throughout the State and for preventing the introduction of other invasive species that may be potentially harmful"; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiʻi Invasive Species Council has prioritized invasive species outreach efforts to increase awareness about the unique threat that invasive species pose to Hawaiʻi as an island state, and our high number of rare and endemic native species; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiʻi Invasive Species Council acknowledges that a key priority of Governor Neil Abercrombie's "New Day in Hawaiʻi" Plan is to improve the prevention, management, and response systems for invasive species; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiʻi Invasive Species Council, which is co-chaired by William Aila, Jr., Chairman of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, and Russell Kokubun, Chairman of the State Department of Agriculture, has prioritized invasive species outreach efforts during "Hawaiʻi Invasive Species Awareness Week," recognized in March 2013 to coincide with the "National Invasive Species Awareness Week";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and **I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor** for the State of Hawaiʻi, do hereby proclaim March 4-8, 2013, as

"HAWAIʻI INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK"

in Hawaiʻi and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the importance of preventing and controlling harmful invasive species, in order to protect out natural resources, our economy and our way of life.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawaiʻi, this twenty-eighth of February, 2013.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawaiʻi

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawaiʻi