



COORDINATING GROUP ON
ALIEN PEST SPECIES

2023 Bio for Christy Martin, Program Manager for the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS)

Christy Martin has worked on local and regional marine and terrestrial invasive species issues for more than twenty years. She is the program manager for the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS), a partnership of agencies and organizations working to protect Hawaii from the impacts of invasive species. Her work includes strategic communications, messaging, and policy work with decision-makers and partners at the local, national, and regional levels, to advance progress on CGAPS's priorities. Christy also coordinates public outreach campaigns and conducts research on Hawai'i resident awareness and opinions on invasive species issues.

Related to her communications work, she led the logo designs and branding for the five newly-formed Invasive Species Committees, and the logo for Hawaii's bid to host the International Union for the Conservation of Nature-World Conservation Congress (IUCN WCC) which was adopted for use at the 2016 IUCN WCC in Hawai'i. She also coordinated the logo for the subsequent 2016 IUCN WCC Honolulu Challenge, among others. She was the executive producer of several invasive species television and radio ads, video shorts on biocontrol, biofouling, and other topics, and the 3-time Emmy Award-winning documentary, *Saving 'Ōhi'a, Hawaii's Sacred Tree*.

In 2019, Christy and several partners co-founded the Pacific Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change (Pacific RISCC) management network, whose aim is to focus research and communications on the confluence of invasive species and climate change in the Pacific Islands region. Christy continues to serve on the Pacific RISCC core team and participate in cross-RISCC meetings as new regional networks form.

Christy was born and raised in Hawai'i and attended the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where she received a Liberal Studies BA in Marine Ecosystems and a Masters in Public Administration. Prior to her invasive species career, she spent ten years teaching marine science topics for the Waikīkī Aquarium and Hawai'i Pacific University.