



Makuu Street Albizia Control Project

Objective: Reduce hazards to motorists and keep the Emergency Access Route open by removing and/or treating with herbicide all albizia trees within 100 m of Maku`u Street, between Railroad Ave and Hwy 130.

Maku`u Street was highly impacted by falling albizia during Tropical Storm Iselle. It is privately owned, but links a County Emergency Access Road (Railroad Ave.) with the State Highway, preserving road access to Lower Puna. This linkage made it the only private road included in the Albizia Hazard Mitigation Plan (2015).

This project is funded by a grant in aid from the state legislature. It is a one-time chance to have albizia in this route removed at *no cost to landowner and without putting a lien on the owner's property.*

Timeline: BIISC expects to have arborists start work in March or April, 2018, if permissions are in place.

How can the community help? BIISC needs to collect permission OR proof of an unanswered hazard complaints for all of the landowners with albizia threatening the road.

- If you know how to get in touch with the owner of a property with albizia within 100 m of the road, we want to hear from you!
- If you ARE a landowner with albizia on this street, all we need is your permission to enter and deal with the trees. There will be no cost to you, and you are protected from liability for our workers by state law

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Questions? You can find more on albizia and the mitigation plan at www.biisc.org/albizia.

Can you explain the method in more detail?

This route has been evaluated by a certified risk assessment arborist. Trees that present a threat to the road will be cut down, and the stumps will be treated with herbicide (triclopyr-based product) to ensure that they do not grow back. The cut material will be left on the property, and will be the owner's responsibility to remove if desired. Trees that are farther from the road, leaning away from the road, and which do not threaten any other road or structure will be treated with an EPA reduced risk rated herbicide called Milestone. Cuts are made into the tree at intervals. A small amount of this herbicide is "injected" directly into each cut. The tree loses its leaves within three weeks and will break apart slowly over the next 2-5 years.

Aren't treated trees dangerous?

Yes, they are. Workers will post large warning signs at intervals. Although we believe dead albizia are ultimately less dangerous than steadily growing live albizia, we need to talk to each landowner to explain the risk. No one should walk, play, or spend time under live or dead albizia.

I submitted a hazard complaint for a lot on this route and have gotten no response from the owner—what information do you need from me? Please provide copies of any documentation you have, such as a copy of the certified mail return slip or returned envelope marked "address not found," your letter of complaint, and the county or state determination letter. These will help us establish that the owner had refused to respond, and that it is time to move forward.

I have a private home on a different street, threatened by albizia on my neighbor's property. I submitted a complaint a year ago. Why aren't you cutting down my neighbor's tree?

This particular project is to address highway and powerline hazards. Individual hazard complaints are addressed by the county Department of Public Works and state emergency management agency. They also have limited funds but are working through the process. We can all show our support by letting councilmembers and the Mayor's office know that it is important that the County Department of Public Works receive strong funding to address these issues.

I've been meaning to submit a hazard complaint. How do I do that?

If you have tried to work with your neighbor and they haven't removed the trees, we recommend that you begin both the state and county process at the same time. The county has an online complaint form found here: <http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/pw-complaint/>. For the state process, start by calling Emergency Operations Planner, Steve Sigler, at HEMA at (808) 733- 4300. Be sure to keep copies of any written complaint, requests for action, and take photos of the tree and the structure it threatens.

My house is along this route. Will my albizia definitely be cut down?

Only trees that threaten to fall on the road will be cut down. Non-hazardous trees will be treated with herbicide and left standing. Trees on your property that do not immediately threaten the road, but which cannot safely be treated with herbicide and left in place due to nearby structures, might not receive any treatment at all. Those trees will remain the responsibility of the owner to deal with. We do wish we could do more.