PETTING ENTIRE POPULATIONS AT RISK

The Conservancy, has limited resources to devote to large long-term conservation challenges such as invasive plant management. To economically meet its goals, the program has utilized various types of relatively cheap labor, such as individual volunteers, volunteer groups, conservation corps crews, and short and long-term intern, as well as more expensive qualified staff. Each labor group has its strengths and limitations, and knowing those boundaries is important in order to utilize them effectively and not waste resources unnecessarily in each phase of an eradication program. However, shifting from one labor force to another poses significant operational challenges, especially on an island. Having sufficient infrastructure to properly train, house, equip, and supervise each labor group is essential. When the labor group is mismatched with the project, you miss the opportunity to put the entire population at risk by not eliminating every individual plant.