[DATE]

Dear [RECIPIENT],

I am reaching out to you in regards to a property you own on [ADDRESS], TMK No. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in [SUBDIVISION/NEIGHBORHOOD] on the Big Island of Hawaii.

I/We are concerned about an invasive species, Little Fire Ant (*Wasmania auropunctata*), that has been detected in our neighborhood.

LFA are small red ants that can cause painful, itchy stings that can sometimes leave welts and blister-like reactions. They are known to cause blindness in cats and dogs, who suffer from bites to the eyes. Because they can nest and travel in a variety of habitats, LFA can potentially be found in all areas of nearly any property and home, and are known to rain down from trees when disturbed, leaving painful stings on the neck and shoulders.

If left untreated, LFA can increase in number to very high densities (up to 20,000 ants/m2). On other islands in the Pacific, people have abandoned their properties due to LFA.

The lowest cost and most effective outcomes are reached through cooperation of adjacent landowners. We are hoping that everyone in our neighborhood will participate in a planned management program, working with the Big Island Invasive Species Committee, to minimize and reduce the spread of the ants here.

We hope that you will join us for our first planned treatment day on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. We will be working together to learn how to mix and apply the correct treatment, and laying out our plan for the next few months. I have also enclosed a permission letter that would allow participating community volunteers to enter your property for the sole purpose of treating LFA.

Volunteers will been trained by the Big Island Invasive Species committee to use Tango and other pesticides to control LFA. Both pesticides are delivered through an attractive peanut butter and oil mixture. These pesticides are safe for use around animals and children.

More information about LFA can be found on the Big Island Invasive Species Committee’s website: [www.biisc.org](http://www.biisc.org)

I/We greatly appreciate your response,

[SIGNATURE]