

## **ERIC B. GUNTHER**

Eric B. Guinther is an ecologist with emphasis in botany and aquatic biology with over 46 years of experience conducting environmental studies throughout the central Pacific Basin. His responsibilities at *AECOS* include corporate and project management, as well as the production of environmental survey reports, water quality assessments, and plant and animal identifications. Mr. Guinther does the final review of all *AECOS* reports prior to sending to clients. His educational background encompasses geology and botany in addition to his major area of study in invertebrate zoology. In recent years, Mr. Guinther has been involved mostly with conducting plant surveys to document potentially sensitive species (native or listed species) as well as invasive and potentially invasive species, conducting surveys assessing the distribution of aquatic biota, and interpreting water quality data to assess the impact of projects on the natural environment.

Mr. Guinther has conducted marine, terrestrial, and coastal zone surveys for *AECOS* throughout the Hawaiian Islands and in other parts of the western and central Pacific, including Guam, American Samoa, Kwajalein Atoll, Canton Atoll, Fanning Atoll, Christmas Island, Yap, Saipan, Tinian, Palau, and Japan. He has completed numerous terrestrial botanical resource and aquatic resource (streams and wetlands) surveys in the Hawaiian Islands. His work in Guam included field and literature wetland resource surveys for Naval held lands.

Mr. Guinther is exceptional at field identification and the use of taxonomic keys. He has authored or been lead author on hundreds of reports. He has prepared biological and impacts analyses sections for numerous EAs and EISs. He has participated in ESA botanical species consultations with resource agencies on behalf of clients.

Recent projects underway or completed include numerous botanical surveys for private and public clients on Lanai, Maui, Hawaii, Oahu, and Kauai. He was a technical advisor to the TMDL studies for Kawa, Kaneohe, and Waialeale streams funded by the State of Hawaii, Dept. of Health, and is recently served as botanist for stream improvements under an Army Corps project involving Honolulu urban stream (Manoa and Palolo streams) and an assessment of the impacts of invasive plants on Kawai Nui Marsh on windward Oahu.

Mr. Guinther has completed the 40-hour basic health and safety training required for hazardous waste workers under OSHA 1910.120 and continues to maintain his certification through the annual refresher courses. He is also certified in Standard First Aid, CPR/AED and Wilderness First Aid.

Mr. Guinther is an active participant at Na Pohaku o Hauwahine in Kailua, a community project to restore native vegetation and marsh habitat in Kawai Nui Marsh.