THE INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

ADDING ANOTHER VOICE

FY2015-16 Successes
FY2016-2017 Update

Jim Burney
IPMA President
Invasive Plant Management Association (IPMA)

- IPMA’s Mission is to foster sustained State funding for invasive plant control measures as an integral part of managing Florida’s natural lands and waters.
Our Mission is not to differentiate between upland and wetland programs.
Our Mission is not to influence the contracting policies of State agencies.
Our Mission is to add an economic voice to what some feel is strictly an ecological problem.
Invasive Plant Management Association

- **501(c)(6) not-for-profit corporation.**

- **Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.**

- **Membership is 15 companies at this time.**

- **Leadership is comprised of 5 Member BOD (2 yr terms).**
Strategic Advocacy Effort

- Contract with Lewis, Longman & Walker, PA.
  - Assist to develop message and strategy
  - Identify key legislators
  - Facilitate meetings
  - Advocate

- Focus on funding first, then voice other concerns.

- Co-Advocate with other organizations.

- Incorporate a CCE for distributing political contributions.
Message to Legislators
What is an Invasive Exotic Plant?

- Not all exotic plants are invasive pests (25,000 species).
- Some introduced species become naturalized (1300 species).
- Some naturalized species become invasive pests (150 species).
- Florida has 2825 native plant species.
Message to Legislators: Consequences of Inaction

Economic
- Navigation and Flooding.
- Fire Hazards.
- Agriculture losses.
- Utilities costs.
- Loss of Tourism.
- Loss of Recreation.

Ecological
- Loss of Biodiversity.
- Shift in Vegetation Communities.
- Change in Fire Ecology.
- Loss of Critical Habitat.
- Degradation of water quality.
Message to Legislators: State Funding Importance

• Invasive plant control is an integral part of managing Florida’s natural lands and waters!

• The FWC administers Florida’s Invasive Plant Management (Trust) Program.
  – This program coordinates and funds invasive plant control on public conservation lands and waters.

• FDEP, FDACS, FFS, IFAS, etc. also conduct management activities and critical research.
• IPMA supports FWC’s budget request to fund the IPM Trust in the amount requested each Session.

• IPMA supports other Agencies’ budget requests for funding invasive plant management, including:
  – Field Operations, Biological Control/Quarantine, Inspection.

• The IPM Trust was funded through Florida’s documentary stamp tax; Now “Unsecure”; So:
New Message for FY2015-20??:

Invasive plant management is a key component of LATF implementation!!!
## What Has Been Invested

by The State of Florida

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IPM (FWC) Trust Avg:</td>
<td>$32 M ($38 M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFWMD Yearly Avg:</td>
<td>$10 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDEP Yearly Avg:</td>
<td>$0.4 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPM Fund 1997-2014:</td>
<td>$135 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPM Match 1997-2014:</td>
<td>$45 M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Public Cons Lands Infested: 1.8 M ac
PC Lands now in Maintenance: 0.66 M ac
Message:
What has been Accomplished (ROI)?

- Tourism has been sustained/improved.
- Recreational opportunities have been provided.
- Public safety has been protected.
- Agriculture and silviculture have been protected.
- Environmental mandates met.
Message: What Infrastructure was Created?

- The model for govt. contracting.
- Professional organizations.
- Vibrant network of applicators, suppliers, and manufacturers.

JOBS!
Accomplishments for FY 2014-2015

- Successful in keeping the FWC Trust Fund from being swept.
- Successful in advocating for a $3M increase in FWC Trust Fund to $34.6M.
- Successful in initiating conversations for funding of FDEP lands (independent of FWC Trust).
- Successful strengthening of IPMA relationship building with Key Legislators.
• IPMA relationship strengthening with key Legislators.

• Focus shifted to represent invasive plant management as part of Land Management mandate within the newly established Land Acquisition Trust Fund (LATF).

• IPM (FWC) Trust Fund is not dissolved but has been stripped of legislation for annual funding.
## Senate and House Budget Versions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>FWCC</strong></th>
<th><strong>Senate</strong></th>
<th><strong>House</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Invasive Plant Management</td>
<td>$24.0 m</td>
<td>$38.5 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Management Funding Increase</td>
<td>$7.2 m</td>
<td>$13.1 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMA Land Improvements</td>
<td>$1.5 m</td>
<td>$4.7 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAS Invasive Exotic Plant Research</td>
<td>$0.8 m</td>
<td>$0.8 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>DACS</strong></th>
<th><strong>Senate</strong></th>
<th><strong>House</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-native invasive plant species</td>
<td>$2.0 m</td>
<td>$2.0 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAS Invasive Exotics Quarantine Facility</td>
<td>$0.7 m</td>
<td>$0.9 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Management Funding Increase</td>
<td>$0.0 m</td>
<td>$13.4 m</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>DEP</strong></th>
<th><strong>Senate</strong></th>
<th><strong>House</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control of Invasive Exotics (State Parks)</td>
<td>$0.3 m</td>
<td>$0.3 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Management (WMDs)</td>
<td>$0.0 m</td>
<td>$18.0 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Management Funding Increase</td>
<td>$13.2 m</td>
<td>$7.1 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Approved FY 2015-16 Budget (Current)

- FWC IPM Program $38.5 M (+ $3.6 M)
- FDEP $ 0.3 M
- SFWMD $10.0 M
- IFAS BC/Quarantine $ 0.0

- Land Acquisition Not Enough?
- Other Management Not Enough?
FY 2016-2017 Update

• House and Senate:
  – Passed Budgets.
  – $1 Billion Apart.
  – Negotiations Set for March 8 Final.
  – May need Special Session.
  – Land Acquisition is Controversial.

• Both Agree On:
  – FWC;
    $38.45 M
  – DACS/IFAS;
    $844,171
  – FDEP;
    $314,854
  – IFAS Quarantine;
    House $720,000
    Senate $0
IPMA Relevance for FY 2016-20??

- Need for continued Legislator briefing on benefits of State Funded IPM and economic consequences of inaction.

- Constant need to represent Management funding within the Land Acquisition Trust Fund (LATF). Every Session will be a food fight!

- Possible participation in the Budget process at the Committee level.
Join Us as Another Voice

- IPMA membership is not quite at that needed to be sustainable and include other efforts.
- IPMA will be in need of future committee members and skills.
- IPMA has now been proven to represent the voice of invasive plant management (Aq & Terr).

- If Interested please Contact: jburney@avcaquatic.com or visit our website: FLIPMA.Org
IPMA 2014 – 2015 MEMBERS

• Applicators Network, Inc.
• Aquatic Plant Management
• Aquatic Vegetation Control
• Brewer International, Inc.
• Crop Production Services
• Dow Chemical, Inc.
• EarthBalance, Inc.
• Environmental Quality, Inc.
• Florida Best, Inc.

• Helena Chemical Company
• Kestrel Ecological Services
• Lake and Wetland, Inc.
• Native Creations, Inc.
• Southeast ChemTreat, Inc.
• Walker Exotic Tree Eradication, Inc.
• FL Aquatic Plant Management Society.