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.
IPMA

• Our Mission is **not to** differentiate between upland and wetland programs.

• Our Mission is **not to** promote competitive advantages or collusion.

• 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 19 organizations for 2017.**

- **Leadership is comprised of 5 Member BOD (2 yr terms).**
IPMA 2015 – 2016 MEMBERS

- Alligare, LLC.
- 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.
- Levy Timber, LLC.
- Native Creations, Inc.
- Sandhill Growers, Inc.
- Southeast ChemTreat, Inc.
- Walker Exotic Tree Eradication, Inc.
- FL Aquatic Plant Management Society.
Accomplishments for FY 2016-2017

• Successful in advocating for a $3M increase in FWC Trust Fund to $38.6M. (Current FY)

• Successful in initiating conversations for funding of FDEP lands (independent of FWC Trust).

• Successful strengthening of IPMA relationship building with Key Legislators.
FY 2016-17 (Cont.)

- Provided support for IFAS BioControl Funding.

- Because IPM (FWC) Trust Fund is not dissolved but has been stripped of legislation for annual funding:

  Represented invasive plant management as part of Land/Waterway Management mandate within the evolving Land Acquisition Trust Fund (LATF).
Important Dates for 2017 Session
(FY 2017-18 Budget)

• November 8, 2016  General Election
• November 22, 2016  Organizational Session
  (legislators officially sworn into office)
• December 5-9, 2016  Interim Committee Week (House)
• December 12-16, 2016  Interim Committee Week (Senate)
• January 9-13, 2017  Interim Committee Week (Joint)
• January 23-27, 2017  Interim Committee Week (Joint)
• February 6-10, 2017  Interim Committee Week (Joint)
• February 13-17, 2017  Interim Committee Week (Joint)
• February 20-24, 2017  Interim Committee Week (Joint)
• March 7, 2017  2017 Regular Legislative Session Convenes
• May 5, 2017  60-Day Regular Legislative Session Ends
2017 Legislative Session Theme (FY 2017-18 Budget)

• Legislative Budget Commission has met to forecast the Long-Range Financial Outlook:
  Revenue Flat for FY 2017-18.
  Estimated Revenue Shortfall of >$1 B for next 2 years.
  Due to Education and Healthcare cost increases.

• As a result House Speaker Richard Corcoran is making reducing current spending levels the focus of his administration!! Asked each department for a 10% cut.
2017 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.

• New Senate President and Speaker of the House.

• 25% New Senators and Congressman.
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 (160 species).
• Florida has 2825 native plant species.
Message to Legislators: 
State Funding is Good Governing

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

• The FWC is lead agency for Florida’s Invasive Plant Management Program(s).
  – 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.
Message- State Funding (Cont.)
Good Governing

• IPMA supports FWC’s budget request to fund the IPM 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:
Continuing Message for FY 2017-18

Invasive plant management is a key component of LATF implementation!!!
What Has Been Invested by The State of Florida

- IPM (FWC) Trust Avg: $38 M
- SFWMD Yearly Avg: $13 M
- FDEP Yearly Avg: $2 M
- IPM Fund 1997-2016: $211 M
- IPM Match 1997-2016: $75 M

Public Cons Lands Infested: 1.6 M ac
PC Lands now in Maintenance: 0.8 M ac

The tax waste for stopping maintenance is huge!! Compounds annually!
e.g., herbicide application, biocontrol, mechanical control
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 has been Accomplished (ROI)?
Message:
What Infrastructure was Created?

• The model for govt. contracting.

• IPM in Florida is something that Government does well!!

• Vibrant network of applicators, suppliers, and manufacturers.

JOBS!
Advocacy Strategy Summary

- Freshman Legislator IPM Benefit/Consequence General Education.
- Customize IPM Message to Senate President and Speaker of the House.
- FWC IPM Trust Protection.
  - NGO Grassroots Effort or Not?
- Land Acquisition Trust Fund (LATF) Representation for IPM (all aspects).
- Other Agency IPM Budget Support (IFAS Research, Quarantine, FDEP, FDACS).
- Private Property IPM Initiative through LATF or FDACS.
2017 Session Budget Versions

- Legislature must pass a balanced Budget each year.

- FY 2016-17 Budget was $82.3 B (July 1 to June 30).

- FY 2017-18 Budget Versions:
  - Senate: $83.2B
  - House: $81.2B
  - Gov’ner: $
Proposed FY 2017-18 Budget Items

House

- **FWCC**
  IPM - $37.32M
  UF-CAPEd - $18,750
  IFAS Research - $633,129
- **DACS**
  IFAS Quarantine - $540,000
- **DEP**
  IPM (State Parks) - $314,854
- **FDACS**
  IPM - $0
  IFAS Assessment -

Senate

- **FWCC**
  IPM - $38.45M
  UF CAPEd - $25,000
  IFAS Research - $844,171
- **DACS**
  IFAS Quarantine - $720,000
- **DEP**
  IPM (State Parks) - $314,854
- **FDACS**
  IPM - $0
  IFAS Assessment -
IPMA Relevance for FY 2016-20??

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

- Represent IPM 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.

- FDACS Private Lands IPM?
Thank You for 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).

• visit your website: FLIPMA.Org
RENEWED 2017 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.
- Levy Timber, LLC.
- Native Creations, Inc.
- Sandhill Growers, Inc.
- Walker Exotic Tree Eradication, Inc.
- FL Aquatic Plant Management Society
- FL Exotic Pest Plant Council
- S FL Aquatic Plant Management Society