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.
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 18 companies for 2018.

- Leadership is comprised of 5 Member BOD (2 yr terms).
2018 Strategic Advocacy Effort

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

• Focus on funding first, then voice other concerns.

• Senate President and Speaker of the House.

• 25% New Senators and Congressman in 2017.
**Important Dates for 2017 Session**  
*(Current FY 2017-18 Budget @ $34.3M)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 8, 2016</td>
<td>General Election</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 22, 2016</td>
<td>Organizational Session <em>(legislators officially sworn into office)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>December 5-9, 2016</td>
<td>Interim Committee Week (House)</td>
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<td>December 12-16, 2016</td>
<td>Interim Committee Week (Senate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 9-13, 2017</td>
<td>Interim Committee Week (Joint)</td>
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<td>January 23-27, 2017</td>
<td>Interim Committee Week (Joint)</td>
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<td>February 6-10, 2017</td>
<td>Interim Committee Week (Joint)</td>
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<td>February 13-17, 2017</td>
<td>Interim Committee Week (Joint)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 20-24, 2017</td>
<td>Interim Committee Week (Joint)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 7, 2017</td>
<td>2017 Regular Legislative Session Convenes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 5, 2017</td>
<td>60-Day Regular Legislative Session Ends</td>
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2018 Legislative Session Theme (FY 2018-19 Budget)

• Legislative Budget Commission met 2017 to forecast the Long-Range Financial Outlook:
  Revenue Flat for FY 2017-18.
  Estimated Revenue Shortfalls even before Irma.

• So, tight Budget plus financial stresses due to Irma and School Safety Measures. Where will the money come from??

• Lawsuits and timing now forcing “planning” for dedicated distribution of Trust money within LATF.
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, Research, Education.
Continuing Message for FY 2018-19

Invasive plant management is a key component of LATF and dedicated funding level of $50M* is warranted to provide smart ROI.
What Has Been Invested by The State of Florida

- IPM (FWC) Trust Avg: $36 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
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.
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 Both IPM Messages to Senate President and Speaker of the House.
- IPM ROI. LATF Dedicated Funding.
- Representation for IPM (integrated approach).
- Other Agency IPM Budget Support (IFAS Research, Quarantine, FDEP, FDACS).
- Private Property IPM Initiative through LATF or FDACS.

Objective-Target Audience-Message-Results
2018 Session IPM Results

• Legislature must pass a balanced Budget each year.

• FY 2017-18 IPM Funding was $34.3 M (July 1 to June 30).

• FY 2018-19 IPM Budget Versions:
  • Senate: $33.3 M
  • House: $34.3 M
  • Gov’ner: $34.3 M

Passed: $34.3 M
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Funding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UF/IFAS Quarantine Facility</td>
<td>$540,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEP (State Parks) IPM</td>
<td>$314,854</td>
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<tr>
<td>UF/IFAS Aquatic Plant Education Program</td>
<td>$18,750</td>
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<tr>
<td>UF/IFAS Invasive Exotic Plant Research</td>
<td>$633,128</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida Forever:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>FDEP Land Acquisition</td>
<td>$ 95.0 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDACS Cons Easements</td>
<td>$  5.8 M</td>
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<td>$100.8 M</td>
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Accomplishments for FY 2018-2019

• Success in advocating for keeping current FWC Trust Funding at $34.3M. No cuts!

• Initiated conversations for dedicated IPM budget item within LATF ($50M).

• Successful strengthening of IPMA relationship building with new Legislators and Leadership. Turnover.
FY 2018-19
(Cont.)

• Provided support for IFAS, BioControl/Quarantine, and other Agency 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).
IPMA Relevance for FY 2018-20?

• 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 sustainable but more required to 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 2018 MEMBERS

- Applicators Network, Inc.
- Aquatic Vegetation Control
- Brewer International, 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