



Power of Partnerships: Working Across the Boundaries

- ❖ **Habitat Restoration and Enhancement**
- ❖ **Limited Resources**
- ❖ **Landscape Level Approach—Public & Private**

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On behalf of

Florida Invasive Species Partnership



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Think Locally, Act Neighborly: Managing Invasive Species Across Boundaries in Florida

1. Florida Invasive Species Partnership
2. Matrix Incentive Programs
3. Cooperative Weed Management Areas



2005
Formation of
ISWG Private Land
Incentive
Sub-Working Group



1. Summary of **existing programs** (MATRIX)
2. **Recommendations** that would improve, or better coordinate incentive programs for the **control of invasive non-native species on private lands. (CWMA)**

Challenges

- **Public Land Managers**
 - Limited funds
 - Limited staff or authority to “cross the fenceline”
 - Limited ability to assist their neighbors with invasive species control
- **Private Land Managers**
 - Provide information about the programs they administer
 - Unaware of other options that might be advantageous to the landowner
- **Private Landowners**
 - Not receiving all the available information
 - Lose interest



2006-2007 - ISWG Sub-Working Group

Gather information and test the concepts - Matrix/CWMA



The Power of Partnerships

Fighting Invasive Plants with Landscape Scale Conservation

CASE STUDY #1: Erasing Boundaries in the Florida Keys

CASE STUDY #2: Early Detection & Rapid Response in Central Florida

CASE STUDY #3: Learning from Ourselves

CASE STUDY #4: Using Sticks and Carrots in Palm Beach County

CASE STUDY #5: Stemming the Tide by Involving Nurseries

The ideas and energy are spreading like weeds

Invasive exotic plants know no boundaries

If public conservation lands managers wish to achieve long-term success, it is critical for them to reach out and collaborate with all stakeholders, including private landowners.

In Florida, many regions are exploring excellent partnership territories with public landowners and experiencing great results, unexpected benefits, political backing and unmet expectations.

Part programs involving landowner outreach, creative funding, grant matches, ordinances, tax breaks, and voluntary contributions are popping up throughout the state, spearheaded by stakeholder groups. Whether working with small landowners, large acreage farmers, or rural communities, it is happening in Florida, and could be applicable to your region. The ideas and energy are spreading like weeds.

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Attacks from invasive exotic plants can happen by air or water. Seemingly, they can also occur by land from across a fence line. Approximately 31% (1-1000) of the plant species growing outside cultivation in Florida are non-native species (Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council, n.d.), many of which started inside cultivation. The State of Florida leads the country in exotic plant imports, with 13% of all plant shipments into the United States passing through Miami (Gendronoff 1996). Consequently, it is no wonder that Florida also leads the country in creative efforts to not only remove plants on both the public and private sides of the fence. The following examples are collaborative success stories involving a wide variety of methods and participants and revealing efficiency that only landscape scale restoration can acquire. In many cases, the natural progression of early stakeholder involvement set the stage for the big step into landscape scale actions. Small achievements breed larger visions.

It is important to note: when assessing these programs that one size does not necessarily fit all. These programs were devised for their region by their stakeholders and cannot necessarily be cut and pasted into another region. However, these programs can serve as models to inspire and adapt-to developing ideas and objectives in addressing regional issues in other areas.

The Task Force is composed of biologists, planners, and natural resource managers from local, state, and federal agencies, non-profits, and public utilities. Several

CONSERVATION ISSUES

The Power of Partnerships: Landscape Scale Conservation Through Public/Private Collaboration

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ABSTRACT: Invasive exotic plants know no boundaries. If public conservation lands' managers wish to achieve long-term success, it is critical for them to reach out and collaborate with all stakeholders, including private landowners. In Florida, many regions are exploring excellent partnership territories with private landowners and experiencing great results, unexpected benefits, political backing, and unmet expectations. Pilot programs involving landowner outreach, creative funding, grant matches, ordinances, tax breaks, and voluntary contributions are popping up throughout the state, spearheaded by stakeholder groups. Whether working with small landowners, large acreage farmers, or rural communities, it is happening in Florida, and could be applicable to your region. The ideas and energy are spreading like weeds.

Key words: Cooperative threat management, outreach, invasive species, partnerships, private lands.

THE EFFICIENCY OF LANDSCAPE SCALE RESTORATION

Attacks from invasive exotic plants can happen by air or water. Seemingly, they can also occur by land from across a fence line. Approximately 31% (1-1000) of the plant species growing outside cultivation in Florida are non-native species (Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council, n.d.), many of which started inside cultivation. The State of Florida leads the country in exotic plant imports, with 13% of all plant shipments into the United States passing through Miami (Gendronoff 1996). Consequently, it is no wonder that Florida also leads the country in creative efforts to not only remove plants on both the public and private sides of the fence. The following examples are collaborative success stories involving a wide variety of methods and participants and revealing efficiency that only landscape scale restoration can acquire. In many cases, the natural progression of early stakeholder involvement set the stage for the big step into landscape scale actions. Small achievements breed larger visions.

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CASE STUDY #1: ISLAND STYLE RESTORATION: ERASING BOUNDARIES IN THE FLORIDA KEYS

The Florida Keys may qualify as the most coastal county in Florida. With no ocean on land more than 1.6 km from the point, they are inexorably linked with the health of their coastal habitats and denizens. The tightly packed upland habitats, consisting of beach dunes, coastal bays, coral rock bays, rockland hammock, and pine rockland ecosystems, provide habitat for 18 federal and 44 state endangered and threatened species.

These small landmasses also had little on the ground protection from exotic invasions, so land managers recognized the need to collaborate in order to make their restoration efforts more effective. The Florida Keys Invasive Exotics Task Force (Task Force) was organized in early 1999 to address the proliferation of invasive exotic plants in the Florida Keys. The mission of the Task Force is "to coordinate and increase efforts to eliminate invasive, non-native plants by coordinating programs and resources to develop and implement a long term exotics removal and control plan for the Florida Keys." The goals of the Task Force include documentation of existing populations, prioritization and control of infestations, use of public education, tracking of relevant legislation, and promotion of interagency cooperation.

2007

Florida Invasive Species Partnership (FISP)

**Invasive exotic species
Know no boundaries**



If landowners and land managers in Florida wish to achieve long-term success,

it is critical for them to reach out and collaborate with all stake holders, including private landowners.



Florida Invasive Species Partnership (FISP)

Goals:

- **Increase effectiveness** and decrease costs by working together
- **Provide tools** to develop a unified approach and **bridge the gap** between land owner effort
- Encourage development, implementation, and sharing of **new and innovative approaches**



Florida Invasive Species Partnership (FISP)

Objectives:

1. Incentive Program Matrix on an interactive website
2. Promote partnership efforts, such as CWMA's, to encourage collaborative efforts on a statewide, regional and local level.
3. Provide central "clearinghouse" for cooperative and innovative approaches.



Bridge the Information Gap


Incentive Program Matrix

- What is available?
 - Database development
- Where is the information found?
 - FISP Website
- How to keep information useful?
 - Matrix Maintenance

Incentive Program Matrix Dissemination: Database

Landowner Incentive Programs

Species

I am My [Pal] Show me all invasive plant programs 

-- OR --

Sho Select one or more species.

- Air Potato
- Australian Pine
- Brazilian Pepper
- Carrotwood
- Cogon Grass
- Earleaf Acacia
- Jasmine
- Kudzu
- Lygodium sp. (Climbing Fern)
- Melaleuca
- Schefflera
- Tropical Soda Apple

Back Next I'm Finished

Incentive Program Matrix

Dissemination: Database

Incentive Program:	Invasive Vegetation Removal Cost Share Program	Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)
Sponsoring Agency:	Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Agency Affiliation:	County	Federal
Geographic Coverage:	Palm Beach County	Statewide
Target or Species Treated:	Air potato, Brazilian pepper, carrotwood, earleaf acacia, Lygodium, kudzu, schefflera	Agricultural lands with resource concerns
Species Protected:	N/A	
Program Description:	For properties within 500-feet of one of the designated natural areas, the County will remove, at a cost ranging from \$100 - \$500, Australian pine & melaleuca trees. If property owner chooses not to participate, they will have to remove trees at their own cost according to a phased-in removal schedule dependent on tree species. Work will be performed by County contractor	To provide voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals.
Current Priorities:		
Application Procedure:	Continuous	Continuous, batching period usually ends around Dec. 15th each year

Incentive Program Matrix

Dissemination: FloridaInvasives.org

University of Florida IFAS/Extension
Solutions for Your Life



University of Florida IFAS
Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants



<http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu>

<http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu>

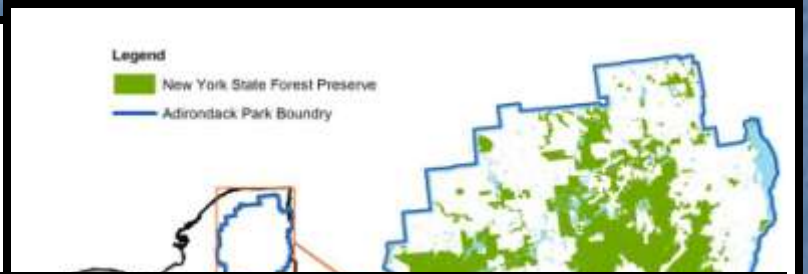
Incentive Program Matrix Maintenance



Matrix Manager – Benjamin Koubek

- What other products are out there?
- What else would be helpful to land managers?
- What is the most useful way to use this tool?

What's in a Name? CWMA, CISMA, APIPP, PRISM, Working group,...



5 Basic Characteristics

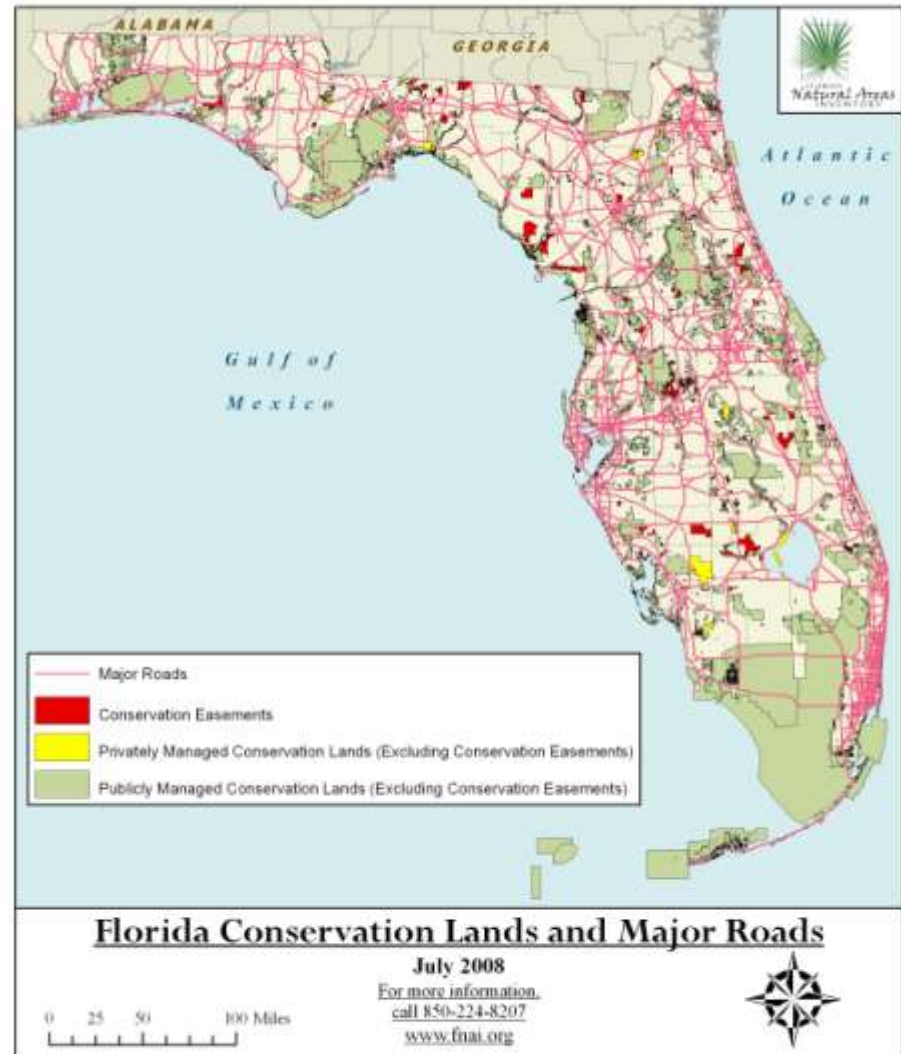
1. Geographic area
2. Majority of landowners
3. Steering committee
4. Commitment to cooperation
5. Plan



CWMA Cookbook: A Recipe for Success

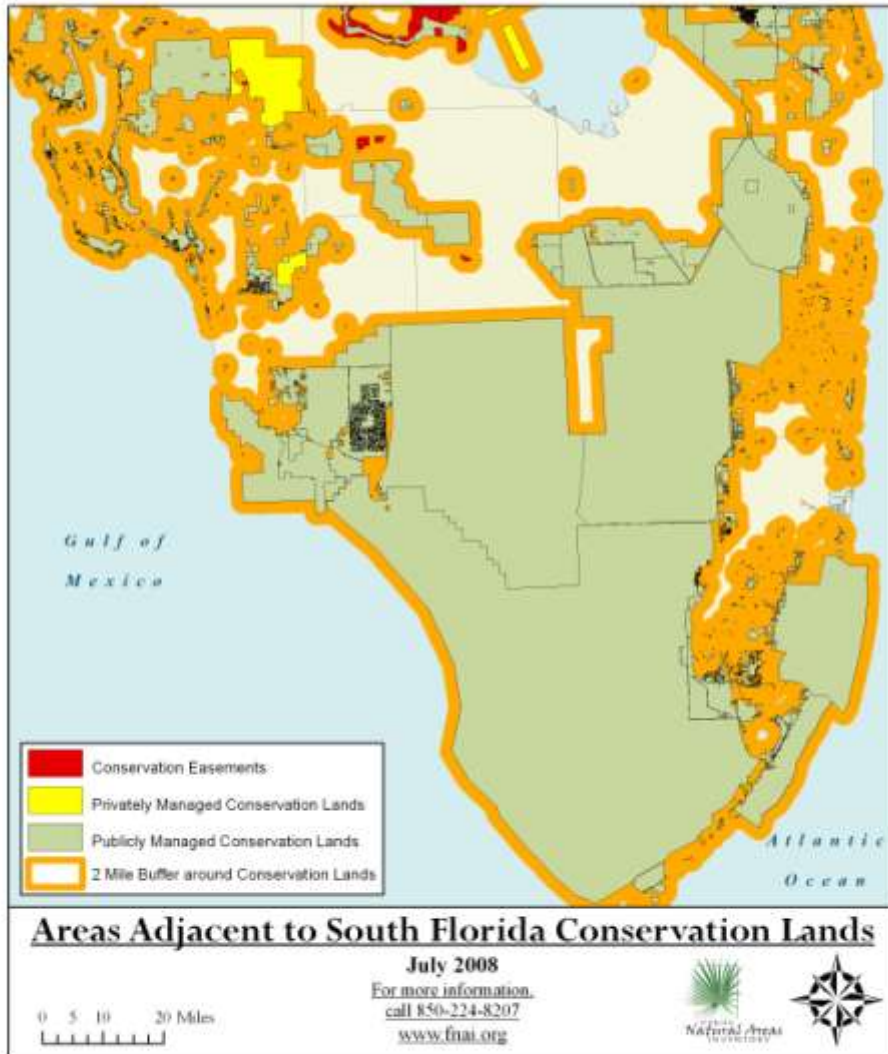
A Step-by-Step Guide on How to Develop a
Cooperative Weed Management Area
in the Eastern United States

Build on Landscape Level Approach



Potential Partners

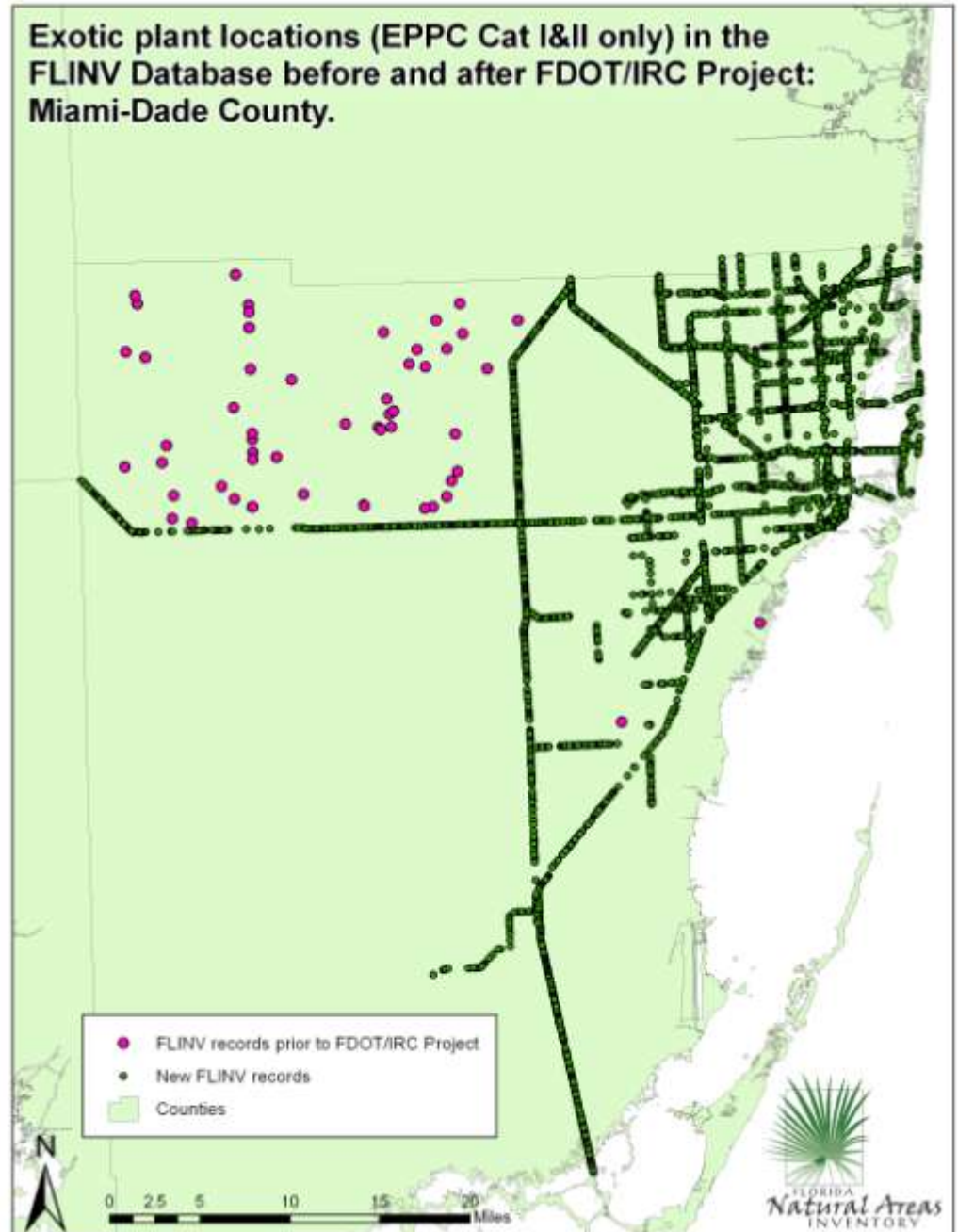
Non-submerged Land	acres	%
Federal Conservation Land	4,035,858	11.6
State Conservation Land	5,210,821	15.0
Local Conservation Land	385,161	1.1
TOTAL Conservation Land	9,632,740	27.7
Private Conservation Land	156,843	0.5
Other	24,931,697	71.8
Total Lands in Florida	34,721,280	
FNAI March 2007		



How can we
involve our
Neighbors?

Transportation Corridors and other Partners?

Exotic plant locations (EPPC Cat I&II only) in the
FLINV Database before and after FDOT/IRC Project:
Miami-Dade County.



Public/Private/NGO Efforts

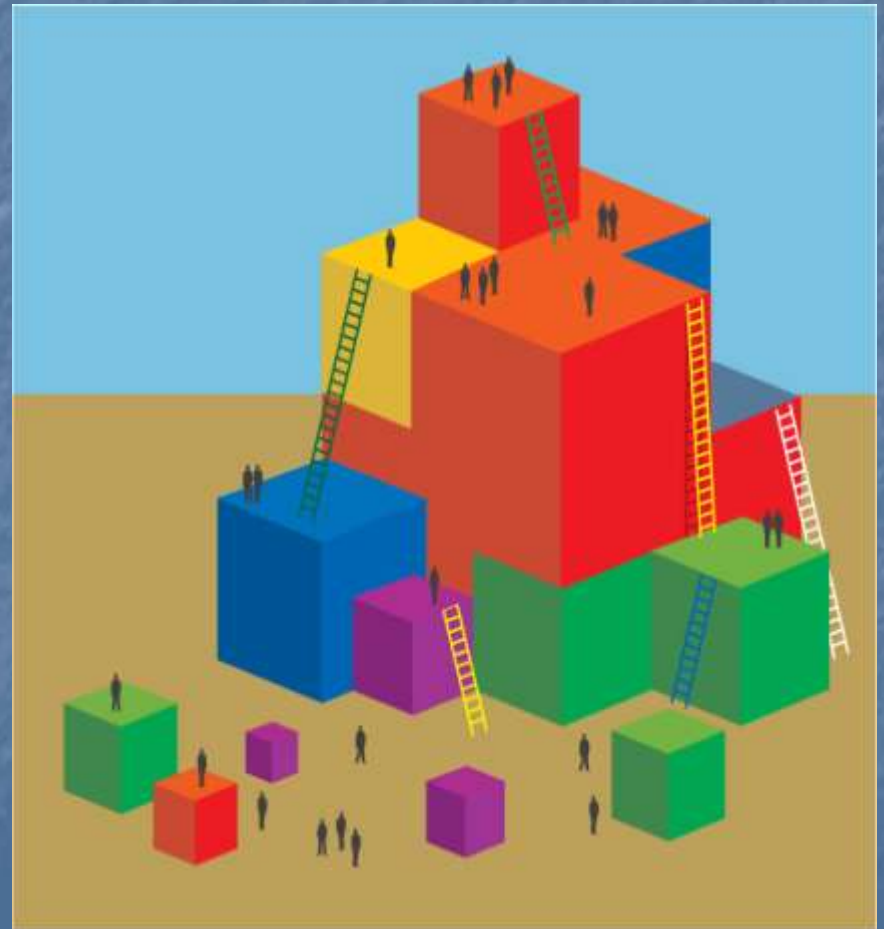


IRC – Pine Rocklands



Conservation Collier

Leverage Ideas & Resources



Sharing Strategies & Resources

1. Cookbooks – Idaho/MIPN
2. Web Design – ECISMA/FISP
3. MOU - template
4. Outreach Materials
5. High Priority Species
6. Networking
7. Work Days





4th Wednesday each Month, 1:30pm-2:30pm:

Florida CWMA conference call/WebEx

email kserbesoffking@tnc.org for call-in/log-in

Fall 2008: www.FloridaInvasives.org

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