



Everglades Cooperative Invasive
Species Management Area

EVERGLADES CISMA

Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area

- Year Formed: **2006**
- How Were Our Geographic Boundaries Determined?
The Everglades Protection Area plus Big Cypress National Preserve, HoleyLand/Rotenberger WMA's, Miccosukee ,Seminoe Tribal Lands and South Dade Wetlands
- Who are our Partners?
The Nature Conservancy, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Power and Light, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, Seminole Tribe of Florida, South Florida Water Management District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. National Park Service, Florida Department of Transportation, Miami-Dade County, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and the Everglades Foundation
- What Is Our Mission?
To improve the effectiveness of invasive species control by sharing information, innovation and technology across borders



2010 Everglades Invasive Species Summit



EVERGLADES CISMA

How We Function:

Coordination & Integration

- Annual Everglades Invasive Species Summit
- Quarterly Steering Committee Meetings
- Sub Committee Meetings (EDRR, Operations, Outreach etc.)
- Contractor Standard Operating Procedures
- Digital Aerial Sketch Mapping (DASM)
- Engineering Prevention
- Prioritize Biocontrol Release Sites

Early Detection Rapid Response

- Priority Plant/Animal List
- EDDMapS
- EDRR Plan
- EDRR Network

2010 Everglades Invasive Species Summit



EVERGLADES CISMA

How We Function:

Reporting

- Annual Work Plan
- Annual Report
- Newsletter
- WEEDAR

Outreach

- Don't Let it Loose (Billboard Campaign)
- EvergladesCISMA.org
- Invasive Reptile ID Deck
- Online Large Reptile Observer Training
- ECISMA Newsletter



EVERGLADES CISMA

Synergy

Everglades CISMA members have a history of working together (FLEPPC, Plant Biologists of South Florida, Pine Rockland Working Group etc.), sharing experience, information and resources to control invasive species.

Early Detection Rapid Response Strategies

1. Grant Funded Contract:

- Sacred Ibis EDRR (Everglades Foundation/USDA-ARS)
- *Lumnitzera racemosa* (FFWCC Invasive Plant Management Section)

2. Volunteer:

- Nile Monitor
- Tegus Lizards
- African Pythons
- *Lumnitzera racemosa*



EVERGLADES CISMA

An Example of an Everglades CISMA Success Story

The Rapid Response to *Lumnitzera racemosa* an Austral-Asian Mangrove Species

- *Lumnitzera racemosa* escaped cultivation from Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and spread into Matheson Hammock County park. ECISMA initiated a coordinated rapid response and organized six volunteer workdays to treat, delimit and map the infestation
- ECISMA members participated in the early detection and rapid response to this new invasive plant infestation and created a new partnership between ECISMA and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden.
- Participating member organizations of ECISMA and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden provided the tools and materials for surveys and treatment.
- FWC Invasive Plant Management Section has contracted Habitat Restoration Resources to carry out the chemical treatment of the remaining *Lumnitzera* on Fairchild and Matheson Hammock and is ACTIVE.



EVERGLADES CISMA

Lesson Learned From Less Successful Efforts

Remain Determined!

1. **Uniform Contractor SOP's still not completed**
2. **Exotic Freshwater Fish issues:**
 - **Professional differences of opinion**
 - **Agencies have conflicting wildlife policies and strategies**
 - **The need to determine response priorities**
 - **The need to refine a risk assessment protocol**
 - **Issues related to eradication -vs- control**



EVERGLADES CISMA

What Would Make ECISMA More Successful?

- 1. Develop a EDRR Data reporting system**
- 2. Implement Standards of Operating Procedures for Contractors**
- 3. Increase use of WEEDAR for uniform exotics control data reporting**
- 4. Expand ECISMA agency/grant funding of EDRR and ongoing control efforts**
- 5. Continue to encourage the commitment of cooperators**

2010 Everglades Invasive Species Summit



EVERGLADES CISMA