

Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida

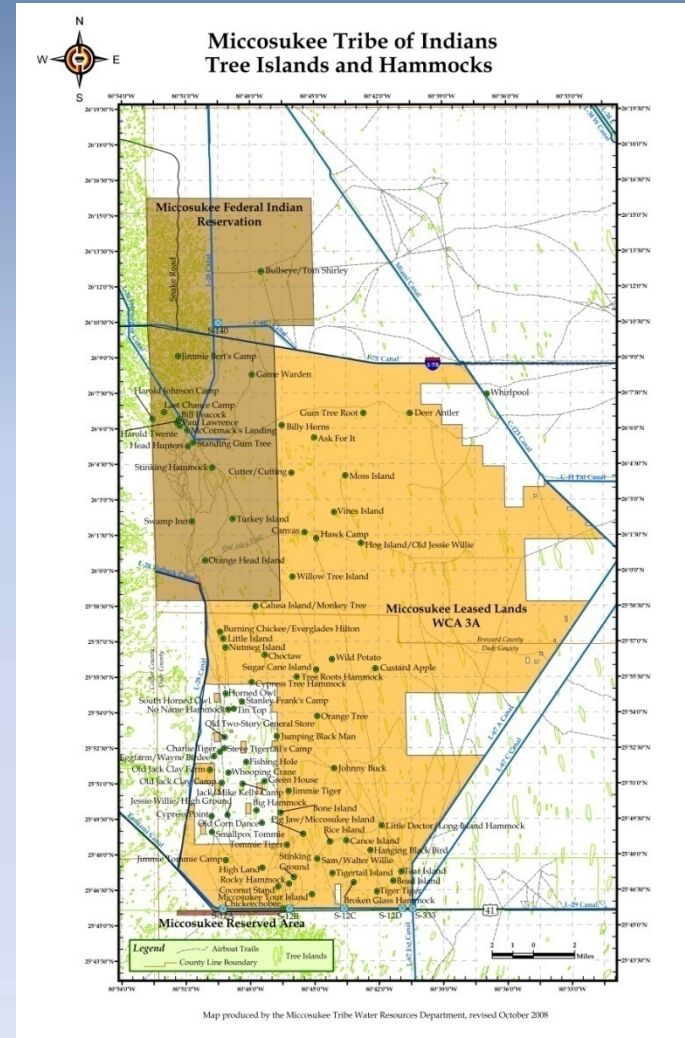
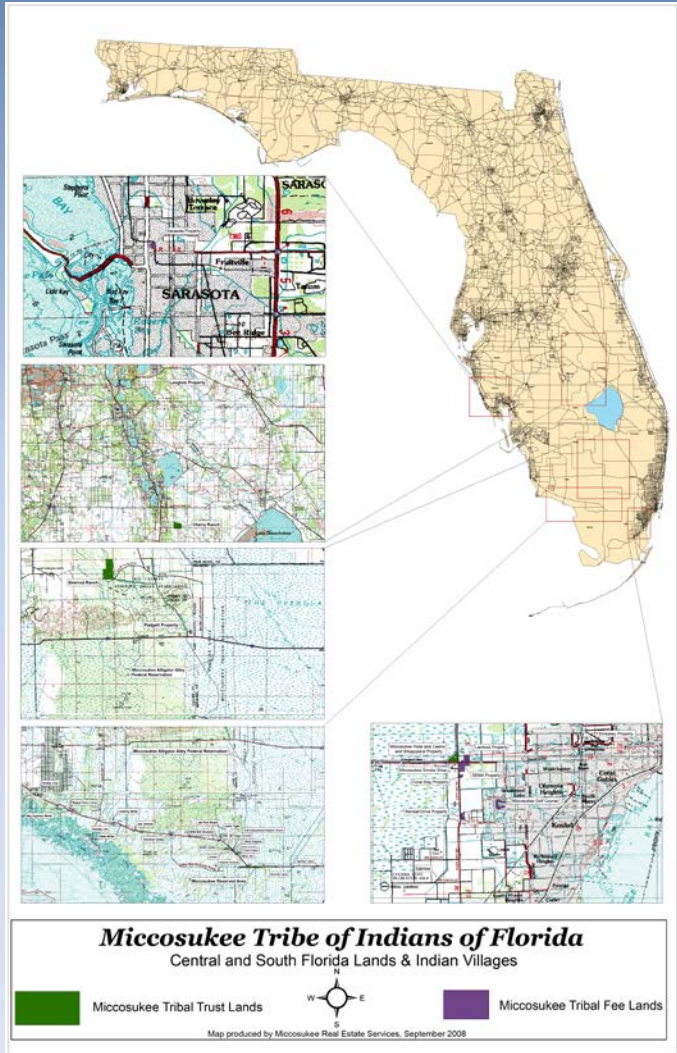


Rory Feeney, Fish and Wildlife Director

Amy Castaneda, Water Quality Technician



Invasive Species Programs





- **Priority Animals**

- Burmese Python, exotic Apple Snail, Asian walking catfish, and Cichlid sp.

- **Newly Detected Animal Species**

- No significant detections

Priority Animal Species

- Exotic python reporting and public outreach program
- **Description**
 - The Burmese python *Python molurus bivittatus* population has become an alarming problem in south Florida; particularly near the Miccosukee Reservation. The Tribal community and department staff have been responding to live python observations and road kill notifications along US41, Krome Ave and Water Conservation Area 3A South.
- **Objective**
 - To gauge the occurrence and distribution of Burmese pythons, suppress the expanding population, and provide community education/awareness.
- **Partners**
 - ECISMA Group, Auburn University, SFWMD
- **Start/End Dates**
 - 2007 - ongoing
- **Status**
 - >30 pythons reported during 2010. Probably only a fraction of actual sightings. Ten 12' pythons found along the L-28 tieback levee. Most active during Spring and morning hours. Two Burmese Pythons found in trees inside the “Triangle” area of the Reservation.
- **Funding:** n/a
- **Annual Summary**
 - Hunting pressure and cold stress decreased the amount of snakes observed along US41; however, overall numbers still remains high. Unless long term genetic options are used, continued maintenance may be the only option to suppress the migration of pythons.

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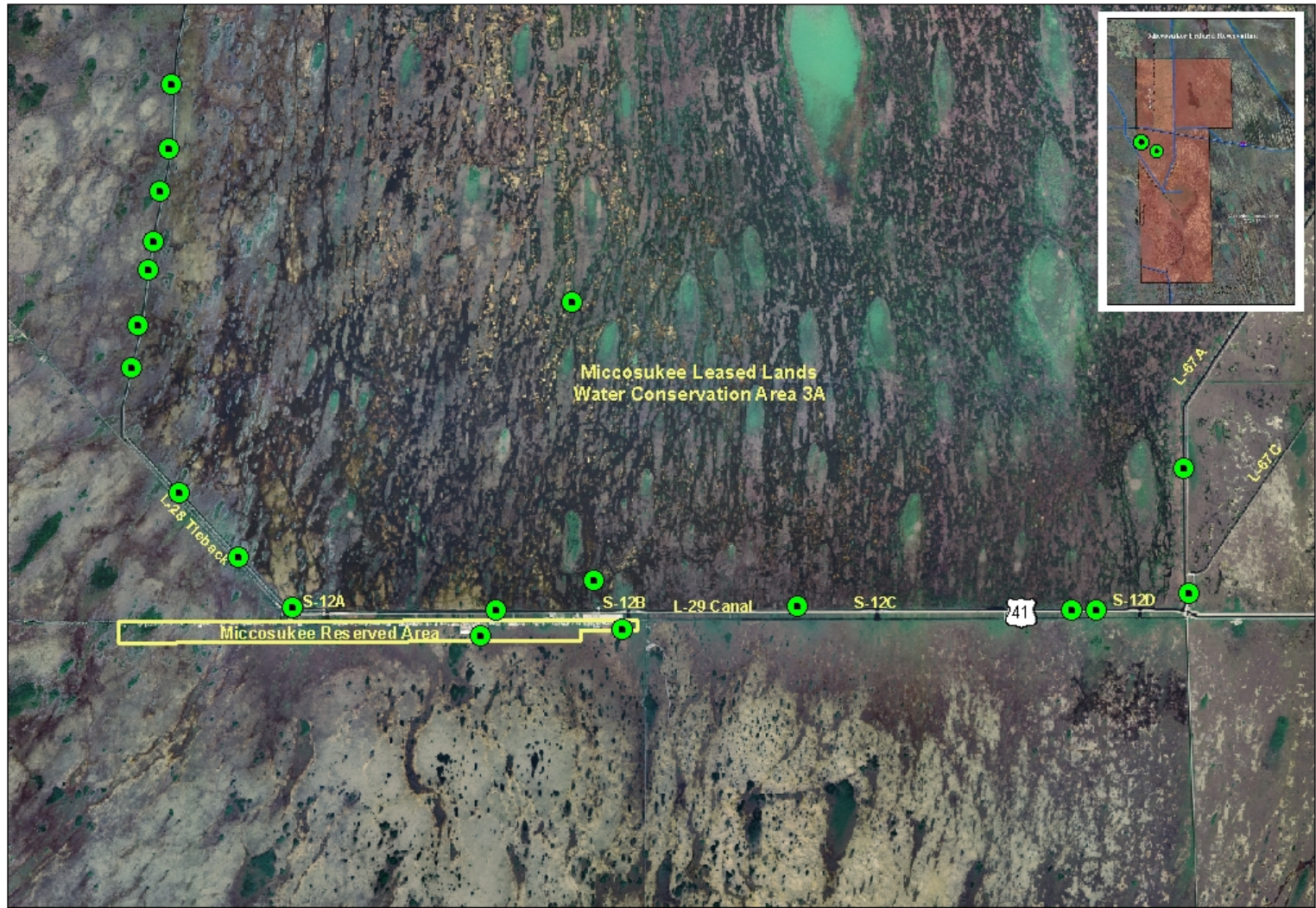


L-67 C




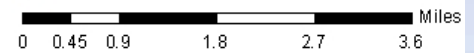
L-28 Tieback


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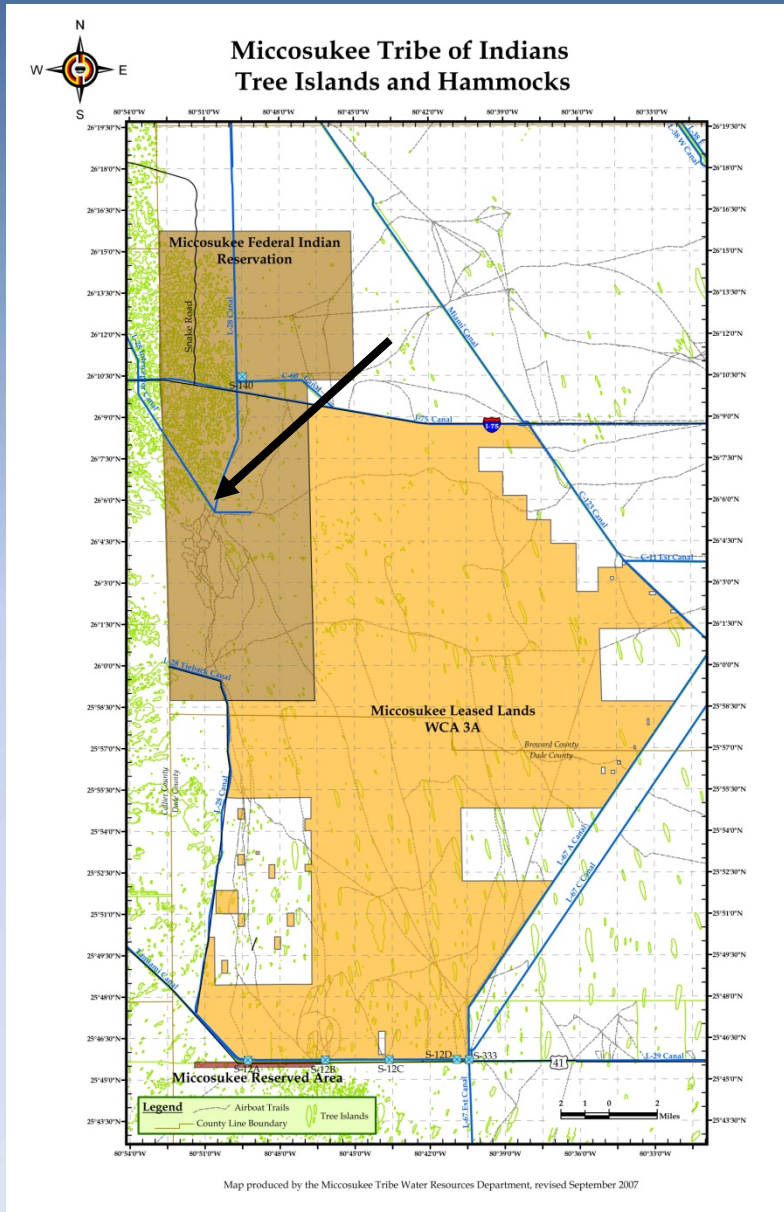
**Burmese Python sightings
January - December 2010**

 Python sighting



 Map produced by the Miccosukee Fish and Wildlife Department 2010

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Exotic species found:

- Mayan cichlids
- Oscars
- Tilapia
- Grass Carp
- Walking catfish
- *Plecostomus sp.

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Restocking efforts continue in the Old Tamiami Canal



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Announcement

Join Us For The 2011...

Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area



EVERGLADES NONNATIVE FISH ROUND UP



SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2011

Miccosukee Arches
SW 8th St. & SW 172 Ave.
Miami-Dade County, FL

The Everglades ecosystem is home to at least 22 non-native freshwater fish species. These non-native fish may be causing detrimental changes to our native fish communities, particularly as the number of new species continues to increase. All but one of these fish were introduced illegally as the result of releases of unwanted pets and food fish, or due to the flooding of aquaculture ponds.

The Everglades CISMA is hosting the Everglades Non-native Fish Round Up to raise public awareness about the negative impacts of releasing non-native fish into Florida waters, and to encourage anglers to target these non-native species for consumption. The roundup will also gather data into non-native fish distribution and abundance that can assist in their management.

The Round Up will be a one day event open to all anglers (shore or boat) fishing in the Everglades area. Prizes will be awarded for largest fish, largest aggregate catch (weight), and will include a junior division. We also will award a "Slam" prize to the angler that catches the greatest number of non-native species.

For registration and full event rules visit:
www.EvergladesCISMA.org/roundup

J.D.'s Custom Baits
www.jdscustombaits.com



Official sponsors of the 2011 Everglades Nonnative Fish Round Up

EVERGLADES NONNATIVE FISH ROUND UP

The intent of the 2011 Everglades CISMA Non-Native Fish Roundup is to raise awareness of the potential negative environmental consequences of releasing non-native fish and to gather information on non-native fish and their ranges throughout the Everglades.

Rules and Regulations

Registration: The registration fee is \$25.00 per person. All on-line registration must be completed by 9:00 PM, June 24th, 2011. Individuals may register in person on June 25th, 2011 between 6 and 7 am. Multiple anglers fishing from the same boat must distinguish their catch from one another using supplied colored zip-ties. Participants will receive an Everglades CISMA Non-Native Fish Round-up T-shirt as well as merchandise from our sponsors. Cash only will be accepted the day of the event.

2011 Everglades CISMA Non-Native Fish Round-Up Start/Stop: The 2011 Everglades CISMA Non-native Fish Round-Up will begin at 7:01 am on June 25th 2011 and lines must be out of the water by 3:00 PM. The 2011 Everglades CISMA Non-native Fish Round-Up Committee reserves the right to amend the start and finish times of the 2011 Everglades CISMA Non-native Fish Round-Up and will use good faith and judgment to ensure a successful event for all participants.

Check-In/Weigh-Ins: Scales will be positioned at the Miccosukee Arches and will officially open at noon the day of the Round-Up. In order to be eligible for weigh-in all anglers must have checked in before 3:20 PM. All anglers will be responsible to disclose general location of fish caught for the ECISMA non-native fish database.

Boundaries: The boundaries are all legal freshwater fishing areas in the greater Everglades area (Broward, Collier, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Palm Beach counties).

Weather: The 2011 Everglades CISMA Non-native Fish Round-Up is an all weather event. All anglers, boat owners, and all other participants are responsible and encouraged to be familiar with the current local weather conditions and forecasts to determine if the conditions permit the safety of the boat, crew, anglers, and guests. The 2011 Everglades CISMA Non-native Fish Round-Up Committee reserves the right to postpone the event and use a back-up date.

Cash and Prize Awards: (Awards will be given upon the completion of weigh-in)

Largest Fish: There will be a 1st place prize of \$300 and a plaque for the single largest (weight) fish. There will be a 2nd place prize of \$200 and a plaque for the second largest (weight) fish. There will be a 3rd place prize of \$100 and a plaque for the third largest (weight) fish. Junior division prize of \$75 and a plaque will be awarded to the junior angler with the largest (weight) fish.

Most Fish: There will be a 1st place prize of \$300 and a plaque for the most (weight) fish. There will be a 2nd place prize of \$200 and a plaque for the second most (weight) fish. There will be a 3rd place prize of \$100 and a plaque for the third most (weight) fish. Junior division prize of \$75 and a plaque will be awarded to the junior angler with the most (weight) fish.

Non-Native Slam: There will be a single prize of \$300 as well as a junior prize of \$100 for the angler that brings in the greatest variety of non-native fish species. In the event of tie the aggregate weight of the combined fish will determine the winner.

*Cash Prizes listed above are based on an entry of 70 anglers. Prizes will be re-calculated on date of event after registration closes.

Federal and State Regulations: All fish must be caught in compliance with all state of Florida regulations and only within legal fishing areas. The weight and/or length of the eligible fish submitted for weigh-in is subject to state of Florida and/or federal laws. Any person or boat without valid permits and/or licensing are in violation of state and/or federal law and may have their fish disqualified at time of weigh-in. Native fish are not eligible to be weighed. Miccosukee and Seminole Indians may harvest fish with traditional methods.

Grass Carp: Possession of grass carp is illegal. Grass carp must be returned immediately to the water unharmed as they were released intentionally for aquatic plant control purposes.

Additional Regulations: All fish must be treated humanely and must be brought to the weigh-in DEAD and on ice. Any fish brought in alive or not on ice will be disqualified. We encourage anglers to keep and consume their fish after the weigh-in.

Waiver Disclaimer: It is expressly understood that participants in the 2011 Everglades CISMA Non-native Fish Round-Up enter at their own risk and that Everglades CISMA and all participating organizations, Officers, Event Sponsors, and Committees and all other persons connected directly or indirectly with the operation of said event, shall be exempt from any liability for liable, slander, loss, damage, negligence, harm, injury, or death suffered by any participant, entrant, vessel, and equipment, companions, and guests, boat captains, mates, crew members, which may occur during or in conjunction with the 2011 Everglades CISMA Non-native Fish Round-Up. By signing the official registration form, the boat owner, captain and mate(s), anglers and guests consent that ECISMA may use, without payment or restriction photographs, video footage, in which he or she may appear for any purpose including but not limited to resale, advertising, commercial or promotional material.

Protest: Any protest must surface verbally at the time of the incident, at the weigh-in station.

Participants: Any and all participants entering the 2011 Everglades CISMA Non-native Fish Round-Up agree that all decisions made by the 2011 Everglades CISMA Non-native Fish Round-Up committee/rules committee shall be final and binding in any manner requiring their action.



The ECISMA is a formal partnership between federal, state, and local government agencies, tribes, individuals, and various interested groups that manage invasive species and is defined by a geographic boundary.

For more information about invasive species in south Florida, upcoming PISC Initiative 104 Anniversary Days, and tips on how you can help, visit:

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Priority Animal Species

- GIS Mapping and removal of Island Apple Snail (*Pomacea insularum*)
- **Description**
 - The Island applesnail (*P. insularum*) was identified, marked with GPS and treated with vegetable oil or crushed to prevent maturation of the egg cluster. The area of interest was the L-29 Canal between the S-12A and S-12B structures.
- **Objective**
 - To gage the distribution of *P. insularum* and determine what type of studies are required within WCA3A.
- **Partners**
 - Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute and University of Florida
- **Start/End Dates**
 - July 2008 - ongoing
- **Status**
 - Over 166 cluster mapped and treated. *P. insularum* observations up to 5 miles in north of US41 in WCA3A. Survey conducted with UF inside the Triangle, yielded low densities of natives and zero exotic apple snails.
- **Funding:** n/a
- **Annual Summary**
 - L-29 Canal is a strong vector in the distribution of exotic snails. Presence of native snails is lacking in areas where exotics are occurring. *Insularum* appears to be more drought tolerant than natives. *Insularum* has yet to appear in the “Triangle” area of the Reservation.

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Exotic Apple Snail Egg Cluster Locations
April 2011

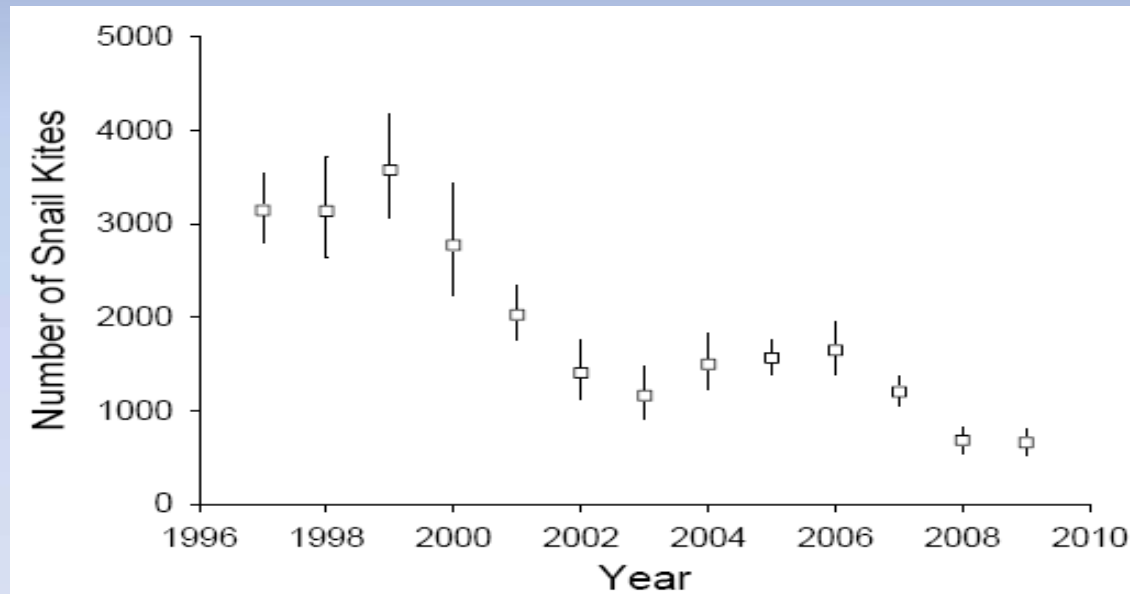
Map produced by the Miccosukee Fish and Wildlife Department 2011

 *Pomacea insularum*

0 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 Miles

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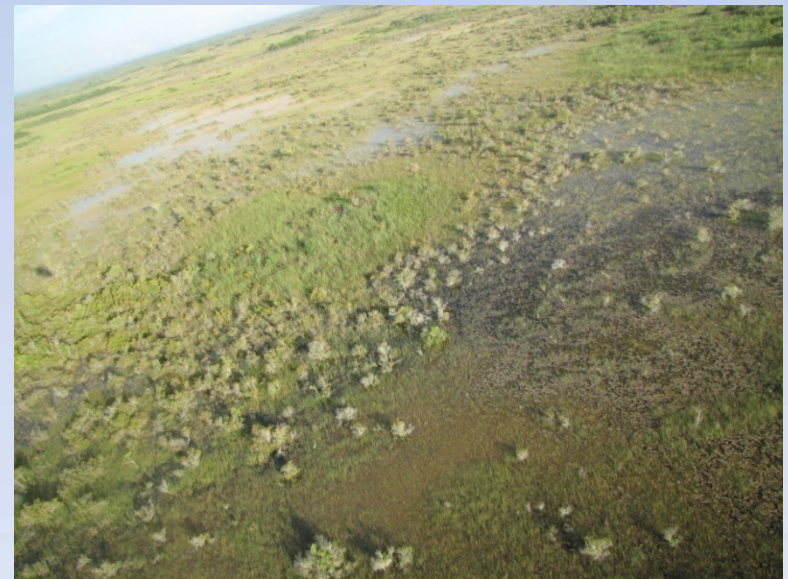
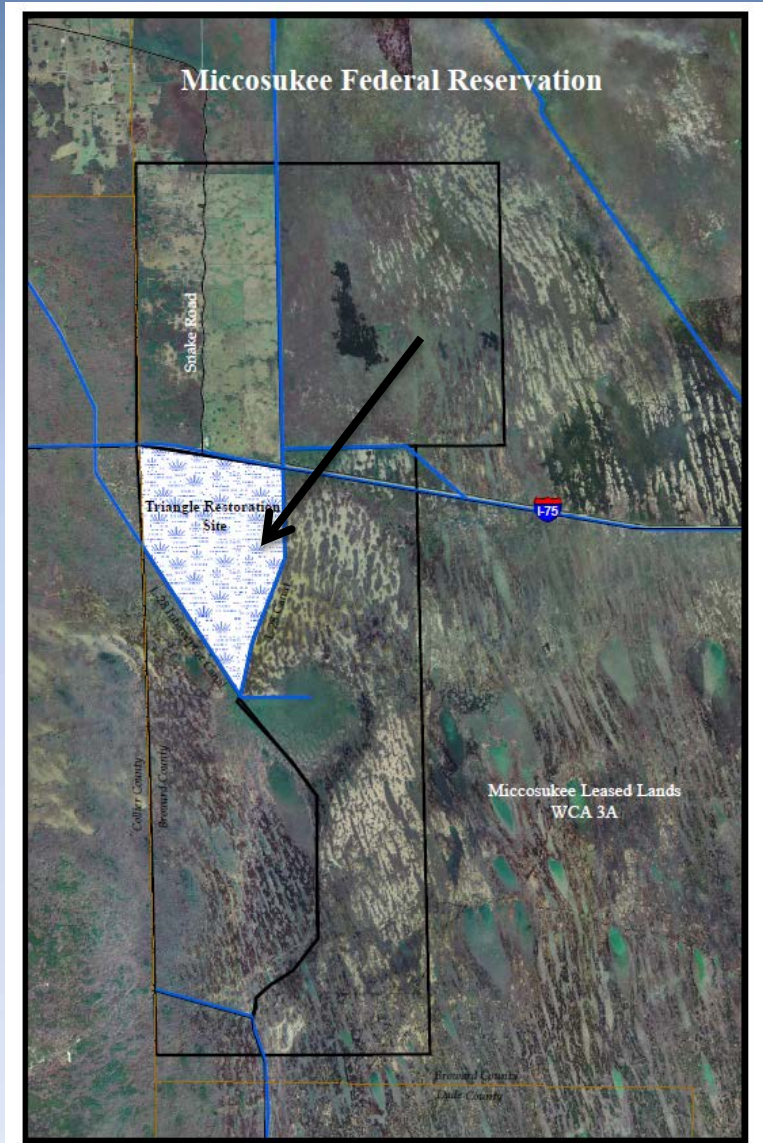
Based on research that was done by Florida Atlantic University (FAU), one of the main sources of low snail kite survival is their inability find prey of specific size. This is especially hard for juvenile kites that have difficulty handling mature exotic snails and experience significantly lower net daily energy balances when feeding on exotic snails *P. insularum* versus native *P. paludosa* (Cattau et al. 2010), (Figure 3). The energy imbalance leads to the hypothesis that wetlands invaded by *P. insularum*, such as Lake Tohopekaliga, may function as ecological traps for the snail kite in Florida by attracting breeding adults but simultaneously depressing juvenile survival.



So what are we going
to do about it?

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Tribe partnered with SFWMD to return over 8,000 acres of Tribal lands back to a rain driven system



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Special thanks to:

University of Florida
and

Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute

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Show me the money!!

- US Fish and Wildlife Service Tribal Wildlife Grant pending for 2012.
 1. Will restock thousands of native apple snails to prime Snail Kite habitat.
 2. Grow mercury safe gar and bowfin.
 3. Continue to research methods of exotic fish control.
 4. Educate Tribal youth in sustainable fisheries techniques.

Invasive Species Programs

- Eradication of Melaleuca in the Triangle
- Description
 - Locate and remove Melaleuca quinquenervia using manual and chemical controls
- Objective
 - Eliminate the presence of Melaleuca in the triangle to restore the natural habitat
- Partners
 - Miccosukee Land Management Department and Wildlife Department
- Start/End Dates
 - May 2011 – ongoing
- Status
 - Assigned - planned, authorized and on-going
- Funding (FY): n/a
- Annual Summary
 - About 1330 melaleuca trees and saplings have been cleared and treated
 - About 35-40% of the Triangle has been visited and cleared

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Questions?

