

Invasive Woody Vegetation Control in Holey Land Wildlife Management Area



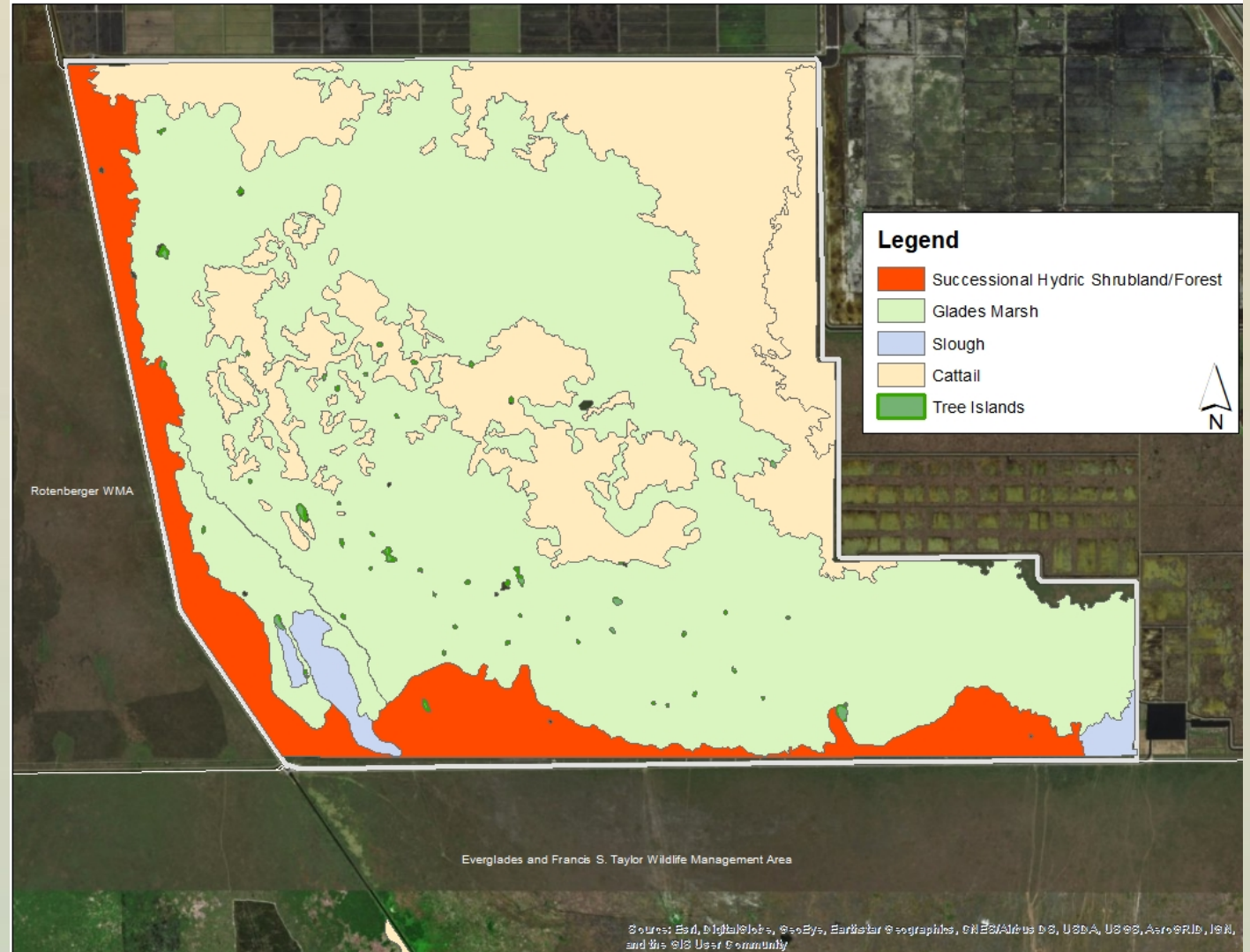
Ashley Taylor

Lead Area Biologist-Holey Land and Rotenberger Wildlife Management Areas

Sunrise Field Office

Holey Land Wildlife Management Area

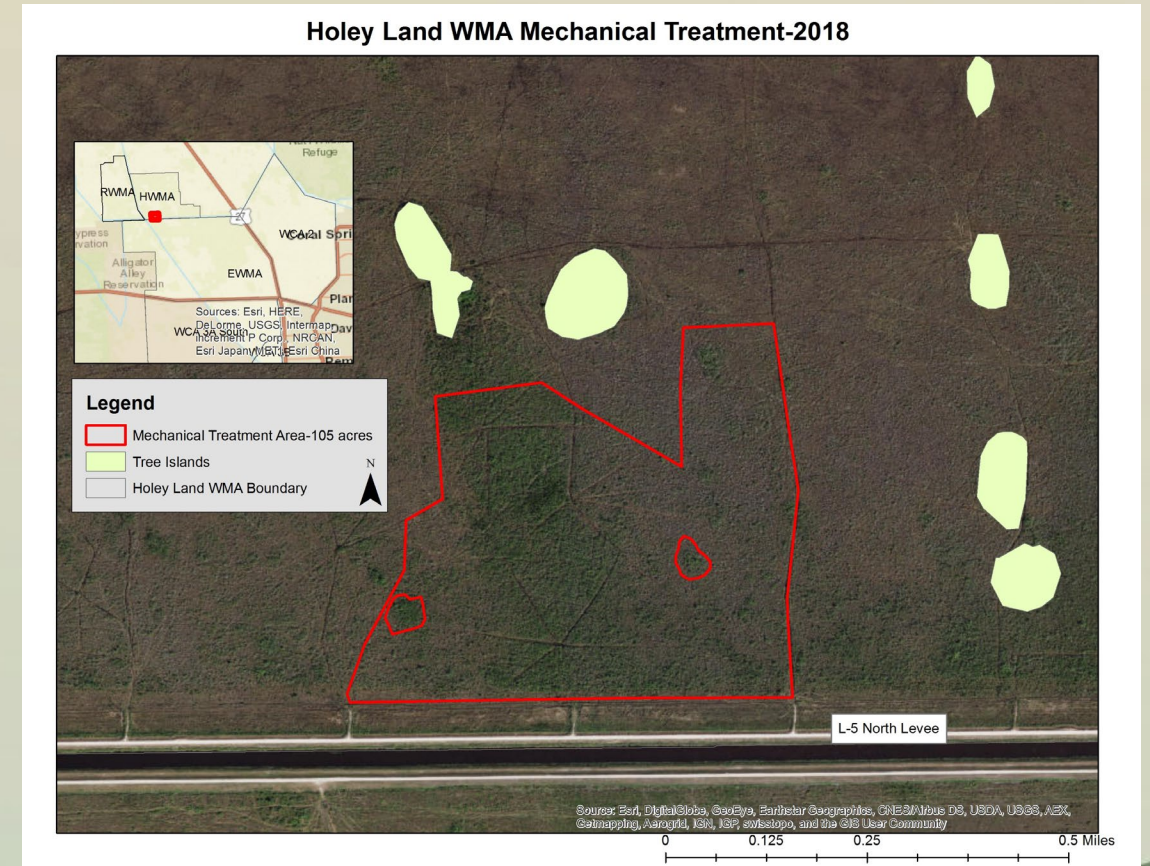
- Within the Everglades Complex of WMAs
- 35,350 acres
- *Fun Fact-Holey Land WMA got its name from its use as a practice bombing range during World War II.
- Comprised of sawgrass marsh and fresh water sloughs interspersed with cattail, Carolina willow, and hydric hammock tree islands.
- 2,500 acres of forested area along the southern and western border



Project Goal



- To restore a portion of the woody encroachment back to sawgrass marsh.
- 105-acre unit
- Mechanical vs. Chemical Treatment
- Two \approx 1-acre areas were excluded to create a mosaic of habitat types



Equipment and Project Specifications

- Mechanically treated in the Spring of 2018 during the dry season when water levels were at their lowest.
- Equipment: Caterpillar 299 skid steer with a Denis Cimaf mulching head
- Vegetation was cut just above soil level approx. 1" above.
- "Backdragging" was required
- Mulched vegetation was no larger than 3" in diameter.





3/27/2018



5/10/2018



Successes!



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)





Project Goal





Wildlife Use of the Treatment Area



88°F 11°C



TC4

55°F 12°C

02-13-2019 09:15:09



02



TC3

5



TC4

53°F 11°C

01-28-2019 09:16:10



Future Management Plans

- Prescribe burn the unit as soon as weather, water levels, and fuel loading conditions are ideal.
- Continue biannual photo monitoring and camera trapping.
- Chemically spot treat any woody species that reestablish within the unit.



2019 Mechanical Treatment



Questions?

