

# Upland Invasive Exotic Plant Control Projects

Fiscal Year 2012-2013

Over one-and-one-half million acres of Florida's public conservation land has been invaded by alien (exotic, nonnative, nonindigenous) plants such as melaleuca, Brazilian pepper, cogon grass, and climbing ferns. However, invasive alien plants respect no boundaries and millions of acres of agricultural and private land are also affected. Florida's nearly 11 million acres of public conservation land support a nature-based tourism economy valued at \$8 billion annually (total tourism spending in 2011 was around \$57 billion).

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Invasive Plant Management Section (IPMS) is the designated lead entity in Florida responsible for coordinating and funding the statewide control of invasive aquatic and upland plants in public waterways and on public conservation land. The Upland Invasive Exotic Plant Management Program was established in 1997 to address the need for a statewide coordinated approach to the terrestrial (vs. aquatic) invasive exotic plant problem. The "Uplands Program" incorporates place-based management concepts, bringing together regionally diverse interests to develop flexible, innovative strategies to address weed management issues at the local level. The Uplands Program (a subsection of IPMS) funds individual exotic plant removal projects statewide on public conservation land. Projects are considered for funding based upon recommendations from eleven Regional Invasive Plant Working Groups.

The mission of the Uplands Program is to achieve maintenance control of invasive exotic plants like cogon grass (*Imperata cylindrica*), melaleuca (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*), Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), Old World climbing fern (*Lygodium microphyllum*), and Japanese climbing fern (*L. japonicum*) on public conservation land.

Once invasive plants become established in native habitats, eradication is difficult, if not impossible to achieve; therefore, continuous maintenance of invasive nonnative plants is needed to sustain wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities while preserving native plant communities on public conservation land.

Upland invasive plants infested approximately fifteen percent of public conservation land statewide in 2013. Forty-two percent (625,000 acres) of the affected area is currently under maintenance control. The Uplands Program expended over \$5 million controlling 214,000 acres of upland invasive plants on over 80 publicly managed areas during fiscal year 2013. The Uplands Program also provided herbicide to assist public land managers with maintenance control treatments on 16,400 acres for a cost of \$276,000.

Funding for the Uplands Program is provided through the Invasive Plant Control Trust Fund as set forth in Section 369.252(4), Florida Statutes, which reads: "use funds in the Invasive Plant Control Trust Fund as authorized by the Legislature for carrying out activities under this section on public lands. A minimum of 20 percent of the amount credited to the Invasive Plant Control Trust Fund pursuant to Section 201.15(6), F.S., shall be used for the purpose of controlling nonnative, upland, invasive plant species on public lands."

Since 1997, the Uplands Program has expended over \$120 million to treat invasive plant species on 626 public management areas by funding 2,035 projects comprising over 2 million<sup>1</sup> acres. Cooperating agencies contributed over \$43 million in matching funds and in-kind services towards projects funded by the program.

<sup>1</sup>Annual maintenance figures include areas that were re-treated in previous years, so the cumulative acreage is greater than the estimated total area infested.

**IPMS FY2012-13 Uplands Project Acres and Dollars by Managing Agency**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Funds</b>
Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission	31,904	\$1,358,216
Florida Forest Service	7,232	\$392,988
Florida Park Service	15,114	\$1,101,687
Water Management Districts <sup>1</sup>	153,060	\$1,397,405
Department of Defense	125	\$48,054
National Park Service	160	\$63,381
US Fish & Wildlife Service	9,235	\$201,678
US Forest Service	322	\$84,265
Local government agencies	13,262	\$728,538
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>230,414</b>	<b>\$5,376,212</b>

<sup>1</sup>Includes \$1 million Melaleuca Program, as required by §206.606(1)(a), F.S.

**IPMS Uplands Program Projects for Fiscal Year 2012-13**

**Abbreviations used in following table:**

MGR	manager (managing agency)
CTY	county government agency
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
FFS	Florida Forest Service, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
FPS	Florida Park Service, DEP
FWC	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
FWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NPS	National Park Service
UNV	public university
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
WMD	water management district
TASK#	task assignment number (project identifier)
WG	working group (first two letters in TA#)
EC	East Coast
FK	Florida Keys
MC	Mosquito Coast
NE	Northeast
PH	Panhandle
SC	Sun Coast
SE	Southeast
SW	Southwest
TC	Treasure Coast
WC	West Central
WR	Withlacoochee River
AC	control acres
Herbicide Bank	only chemical was provided to agency
Task Amount	IPMS funds expended

TASK #	PROJECT NAME	MGR	AC	TASK AMOUNT
FK-111	Key West Botanical Garden	City	15	\$41,760.00
SW-156	Sanibel	City	545	\$54,819.85
WR-136	Loblolly Nature Park - GVL	City	30	\$7,271.20
		City Total	590	\$103,851.05
EC-090	Orange County East Prop Maint	CTY	554	\$35,981.74
EC-092	Spring Hammock Maint	CTY	43	\$21,321.70
EC-093	Orange Co Apopka Properties	CTY	202	\$36,158.50
EC-095	Spring Hammock Phase III	CTY	145	\$23,611.21
FK-109	Monroe County Techs	CTY	200	\$58,067.08
MC-127	Brevard County South	CTY	102	\$25,410.50
MC-131	Indian River Sanctuary	CTY	16	\$13,433.04
SE-180	Lox Slough Preserve	CTY	1,712	\$100,000.00
SE-181	Riverbend Park	CTY	705	\$60,306.20
SE-185	South Dade Wetlands	CTY	212	\$100,000.00
TC-148	Martin County	CTY	2,510	\$100,000.00
		CTY Total	6,401	\$574,289.97
NE-080	Four Creeks SF, Maint	FFS	77	\$26,075.00
NE-081	Four Creeks SF, Initial	FFS	128	\$57,700.00
PH-116	Blackwater SF	FFS	400	\$26,943.00
SC-128	Myakka SF	FFS	9	\$7,267.48
SW-159	Picayune Strand SF	FFS	2,303	\$79,341.88
WC-109	LWR SF/Walk-In-Water	FFS	35	\$55,911.83
WC-114	OK Slough SF	FFS	1,902	\$110,752.00
WR-141	Indian Lake SF	FFS	30	\$3,141.86
		FFS Total	4,884	\$367,133.05
EC-091	Wekiva/Rock Springs	FPS	52	\$42,071.80
FK-110	Key Largo Hammock SP	FPS	94	\$32,640.00
FK-112	Key Largo Hammock SP	FPS	126	\$19,618.00
MC-121	Blue Springs SP	FPS	108	\$13,487.43
MC-129	Wash Oaks/Deleon Springs	FPS	57.8	\$45,474.21
MC-130	Indian River Lagoon SP	FPS	63.3	\$61,182.95
NE-077	Faver-Dykes SP	FPS	130	\$20,006.70
NE-078	Suwannee River SP	FPS	62	\$6,858.70
NE-079	Ichetucknee Springs SP	FPS	30	\$6,175.00
PH-121	Maclay Gardens SP	FPS	71	\$13,280.00
SC-126	Myakka River SP	FPS	45	\$22,767.80
SC-127	Alafia River SP	FPS	40	\$24,759.21
SC-129	Myakka River SP	FPS	123	\$19,894.55
SC-130	South Fork SP	FPS	56	\$3,490.21
SC-131	Wingate Creek SP	FPS	8	\$9,248.18
SW-153	Collier Seminole SP	FPS	30	\$16,782.00
SW-157	Rookery Bay NERR	FPS	583	\$27,640.00
TC-139	Savannas PSP	FPS	156	\$21,571.36
TC-149	JDSP b,c,d,e,f	FPS	2,148	\$159,091.87
TC-153	Atlantic Ridge SP	FPS	2,192	\$74,563.13
TC-154	St. Sebastian River PSP	FPS	1,528	\$27,335.13
WC-111	Lake Louisa SP	FPS	343	\$67,545.25
WC-112	Paynes Creek SP	FPS	98	\$19,628.40
WR-137	Rainbow Springs SP	FPS	397	\$66,775.66
WR-138	Silver River SP - South	FPS	500	\$52,337.50
WR-139	Cross Florida Greenway	FPS	446	\$91,038.50
WR-140	Silver River SP - North	FPS	1,000	\$66,695.00
		FPS Total	10,487	\$1,031,958.54

TASK #	PROJECT NAME	MGR	AC	TASK AMOUNT
EC-094	Three Lakes WMA	FWC	164	\$23,306.16
FK-108	FL Keys WEA	FWC	350	\$51,255.75
PH-118	Apalachee WMA	FWC	937	\$29,638.59
PH-120	ARWEA River Maint	FWC	42	\$54,886.00
PH-122	ARWEA Saul Creek	FWC	58	\$26,967.00
SE-175	Mimosa Pigra EDRR	FWC	2,560	\$43,727.46
SE-179	Corbett WMA East Section	FWC	2,062	\$119,396.05
SE-182	Corbett WMA Central Section	FWC	4,208	\$106,260.00
SE-182A	Corbett WMA RCW E-W	FWC	3,244	\$81,690.00
SE-184	Mikania Micrantha EDRR	FWC	25	\$16,987.98
SE-186	Mimosa EDRR II	FWC	2,710	\$50,634.63
SW-155	Babcock Ranch Telegraph Swamp	FWC	2,550	\$97,695.00
TC-152	Hungryland WEA	FWC	2,727	\$72,400.00
WC-108	LWR WEA	FWC	2,000	\$72,456.68
WC-110	OK Slough WMA	FWC	3,000	\$137,670.50
WC-113	Fisheating Creek	FWC	2,112	\$271,215.00
		FWC Total	28,749	\$1,232,672.23
FK-114	Keys NWRs	FWS	2,000	\$45,757.63
MC-126	MINWR 2012	FWS	100	\$38,670.12
SW-154	FL Panther NWR East	FWS	7,135	\$117,280.00
		FWS Total	9,235	\$201,707.75
MC-128	Canaveral National Seashore	NPS	160	\$63,381.34
		NPS Total	160	\$63,381.34
EC-096	UCF	UNV	150	\$7,085.00
		UNV Total	150	\$7,085.00
PH-117	Eglin AFB	DOD	125	\$48,053.68
		DOD Total	125	\$48,053.68
PH-119	Apalachicola NF	USFS	322	\$84,265.00
		USFS Total	322	\$84,265.00
SE-177	SFWMD Melaleuca Program	WMD	142,404	\$997,457.58
SE-178	DuPuis WEA-East	WMD	7,175	\$100,000.00
SE-183	Dupuis WEA - W/SE	FWC	1,432	\$100,000.00
TC-150	SFWMD – Dupuis	WMD	948	\$100,000.00
TC-151	SFWMD Kissimmee River	WMD	1,101	\$99,947.36
		WMD Total	153,060	\$1,397,404.94
<b>Contracted Projects</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>214,163</b>	<b>\$5,111,802.55</b>
TASK #	PROJECT NAME	MGR	AC	TASK AMOUNT
MC-096	1000 Islands – Cocoa	City	50	\$1,387.19
PH-079	Angus Gholson	City	126	\$838.75
		City Total	176	\$2,225.94
MC-086	South Lake CA	CTY	16	\$2,374.38
MC-118	Brevard South Region	CTY	50	\$51.25
PH-039	Alford Greenway	CTY	880	\$364.76
SC-014	Pinellas County	CTY	2,644	\$23,002.50
SE-001	Palm Beach County	CTY	2,505	\$22,378.00
		CTY Total	6,095	\$48,170.89
SW-136	Babcock Ranch Preserve	DEP	53	\$4,387.28
		DEP Total	53	\$4,387.28
EC-059	Big Little Econ SF	FFS		\$2,385.00
MC-070	Lake George et al SF	FFS	28	\$2,519.69
NE-080	Four Creeks SF	FFS	*	\$12,471.56
PH-049	Blackwater River SF	FFS	200	\$5,595.69
WC-055	OK Slough SF	FFS	2,100	\$828.00
WR-063	Withlacoochee SF	FFS		\$1,850.00
WR-108	Indian Lake SF	FFS	20	\$205.00
		FFS Total	2,348	\$25,854.94

TASK #	PROJECT NAME	MGR	AC	TASK AMOUNT
EC-024	Wekiwa Springs SP	FPS		\$417.19
MC-066	N. Peninsula/Gamble Rogers	FPS	10	\$340.00
MC-068	SISP/IRLSP	FPS	220	\$15,896.25
SC-063	Myakka River SP	FPS	60	\$5,887.50
SC-068	Honeymoon Island	FPS		\$1,716.25
SC-087	Oscar Scherer/Lake Manatee	FPS	32	\$3,106.63
SC-106	Myakka River SP	FPS		\$2,050.00
SC-114	Hillsborough River SP	FPS	10	\$480.00
SW-080	Estero Bay/Koreshan	FPS	550	\$2,906.54
TC-082	St. Sebastian River PSP	FPS	180	\$1,995.94
TC-084	Ft. Pierce/Avalon SP	FPS	51	\$2,089.69
TC-149	JDSP	FPS	*	\$5,945.00
WC-009	Dunns Creek SP	FPS	18	\$1,804.69
WC-071	Paynes Creek	FPS	15	\$307.50
WC-098	Colt Creek SP	FPS	1,500	\$14,986.50
WR-019	Ravine Gardens/Dunns Creek	FPS	160	\$5,140.63
WR-019	Ravine/St. Augustine Trail	FPS	125	\$2,606.88
WR-072	Stephen Foster	FPS	1,500	\$546.27
WR-079	Crystal River PSP	FPS	194	\$1,200.00
WR-138	Silver River SP-skunk vine	FPS	2	\$304.88
		FPS Total	4,627	\$69,728.34
EC-060	Crooked Lake WEA	FWC	125	\$4,921.60
FK-108	FL Keys WEA	FWC	1,500	\$876.19
MC-081	Salt Lake WMA	FWC	30	\$3,355.00
NE-051	Guana River WMA	FWC	112	\$629.06
PH-118	Apalachee WMA	FWC	*	\$2,581.20
SE-115	Corbett WMA	FWC		\$17,310.60
SE-133	Everglades WMAs	FWC	1,500	\$61,312.33
TC-093	South Region WMAs	FWC		\$11,390.18
WC-113	FE Creek WMA	FWC	*	\$23,167.50
		FWC Total	3,267	\$125,543.66
<b>Herbicide Bank Projects</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,400</b>	<b>\$275,911.05</b>
<b>OPERATIONAL PROJECTS FY13</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>230,563</b>	<b>\$5,387,713.60</b>