

February 2010

Volume 20 | Number 2

**Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council
25th Annual Symposium**

Changes in Latitude



April 5-8, 2010, Crystal River, Florida

CEUs will be available! Register at www.fleppc.org or fill out and return the enclosed form.

Symposium Program at a Glance

Tuesday, April 6th

Vendor Expo

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Magnolia Ballroom

Chair's Welcome Address

8:20 – 8:40 AM, Sabal Ballroom, Florida EPPC Chair, Jon Lane

Keynote Address

A warmer and weedier future? Challenges and new opportunities in a changing world
Jeffrey Dukes, Ph.D., Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Session I: Climatic Influence on Invasive Species

9:40 – 10:20 AM, Sabal Ballroom

Session II: Invaded Landscapes: Updates on Mapping and Invasive Assessment Programs

10:40 - 12:00 AM, Sabal Ballroom

Lunch 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Session III: Invasive Plant Management Strategies

1:00 – 2:20 PM, Sabal Ballroom

Workshops 2:40 – 5:00 PM

EDDMaps: Invasive Species Mapping Made Easy!

Chuck Barger, Karan Rawlins, University of Georgia and Kristina Serbesoff-King, The Nature Conservancy, Sabal Ballroom A

Invasive Plant Field Identification Drs. Colette Jacono and Kenneth Langeland, University of Florida/IFAS, Pine Room

Natural Areas Weed Management Preparation

Class Ken Gioeli, University of Florida/IFAS, Sabal Ballroom C

Poster Session

6:00 – 7:00 PM, Magnolia Ballroom

Evening Social Event

7:00 – 10:00 PM, Magnolia Ballroom

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council

OFFICERS

Jim Burney, Chair
jburney@avcaquatic.com

Scott Ditmarsen, Past Chair
scditmarsen@dow.com

Jim Burch, Chair-Elect
Jim_Burch@nps.gov

Hillary Burgess, Secretary
hburgess@fairchildgarden.org

Dianne Owen, Treasurer
downen@fau.edu

Karen Brown,
Editor, Wildland Weeds
kpbrown@ufl.edu

DIRECTORS

Adam Grayson
goatsby@gmail.com

Dustin Hormann
dhormann@earthbalance.com

Todd Olson
Todd@avcaquatic.com

Ben Gugliotti
bgugliotti@LCWA.ORG

Patricia Howell
phowell@broward.org

Robert Farley
RLFarley@pbsj.com

Jackie Smith
jackie.smith@myFWC.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

By-Laws
Sandra Vardaman
smvardaman@alachua.fl.us

Education Grant
Jennifer Possley
jpossley@fairchildgarden.org

Finance
Ellen Donlan
edonlan@sfwmd.gov

FNGLA/FLEPPC Liaison
Doria Gordon
Dgordon@tnc.org

Legislative
Matthew King
Mking@co.palm-beach.fl.us

Local Arrangements
Mike Bodle
mbodle@sfwmd.gov

Merchandise
Tony Pernas
Tony_Pernas@nps.gov

Nominations
Jim Burney

Outreach
Robert Farley

Plant List
Keith Bradley
Bradley@regionalconservation.org

Research Grant
Betsy von Holle
vonholle@mail.ucf.edu

Symposium Program
Jon Lane
Jon.S.Lane@usace.army.mil

Field Trips
Donna Watkins
Donna.Watkins@dep.state.fl.us

Vendors
Bill Kline
wnkline@dow.com

Webmaster
Chuck Barger
bugwood@uga.edu

TASK FORCE CHAIRS

Australian Pine
Tony Pernas

Brazilian Pepper
Jim Cuda
jcuda@ifas.ufl.edu

Carrotwood
Chris Lockhart
chris@habitatspecialist.com

Chinese Tallow
Drew Leslie
Drew.leslie@myFWC.com

Dioscorea
Bill Overholt
billover@ufl.edu

Grasses
Greg MacDonald
pineacre@ufl.edu

Lygodium
LeRoy Rodgers/
Kris Serbesoff-King
Kserbesoffking@tnc.org

Skunkvine
Brian Nelson
brian.nelson@swfwmd.gov

Melaleuca
Francois Laroche
Flaroche@sfwmd.gov

Wednesday, April 7th

Vendor Expo

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Magnolia Ballroom

Track 1 Note: There are two concurrent sessions on Wednesday morning.

Session IV: Cropping up in Florida: Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas and the Florida Invasive Species Partnership

8:20 – 10:00 AM, Sabal Ballroom A

Session Moderator: Kristina Serbesoff-King,
The Nature Conservancy

Session V: Invasive Grasses

10:20 – 11:20 AM, Sabal Ballroom A

Track 2

Session VI: Assorted Topics on Invasive Species

8:20 – 10:00 AM, Sabal Ballroom C

Session VII: Vendor Introductions

10:20 – 11:20 AM, Sabal Ballroom C

Field Trips 12:00 – 6:00 PM

- Rainbow Springs State Park
- Crystal River Preserve State Park
- Cross Florida Greenway Spoil Islands
- Withlacoochee State Forest Demonstration Project

Symposium Banquet

7:00 – 10:00 PM, TBD

Thursday, April 8th

Session VIII: Collaboration: The Key to Success

8:20 – 10:00 AM, Sabal Ballroom

FLEPPC Business Meeting

10:20 – 11:00 AM, Sabal Ballroom

Session IX: Control Strategies

11:00 AM - 12:20 PM, Sabal Ballroom

Symposium Adjourns 12:20 PM

Natural Areas Weed Management Examination

FLEPPC Board of Directors Meeting
Plantation Inn - Crystal River, FL
October 20, 2009

11/2/09 – corrections inserted from KSK re EDDMapS.

The meeting was called to order at 10AM.

Attendees: Donna Watkins, Jon Lane, Jim Burch, Jim Burney, Bob Farley, Karen Brown, Todd Olson, Bill Kline, Pat Howell, Dustin Hormann. On conference call: Ben Gugliotti, Dianne Owen (for her report), Mike Bodle (for his report), Kris Serbesoff-King, Matt King.

Note: The speaker-phone was not working well so those attempting to call-in, especially with cell phones, had difficulty hearing any discussion. In turn, attendees could not hear those calling in. Most callers eventually gave their reports and then hung up. A quorum was present.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved from the last board meeting – Jim Burch motioned/ Bob Farley seconded. Karen Brown took minutes for the current meeting.

Chair Activities

Symposium conference calls are to resume on Wednesday, Nov. 18th, 10-11AM.

Jim Burney will provide call-in information prior to the meeting.

Three position papers have been written this year. I'm catching up on FLEPPC stuff today. The only revision that I have is the clarification of Position Papers drafted by us. I think that we only drafted two papers: comments on the USDA issuance of a permit for growing Eucalyptus for biofuel and support for

NAPRA. I was including our Arundo donax comments, but that has already been included in previous minutes.

Correspondence: many plant ID calls are received, questions from homeowners re: invasive plants, etc., were received and forwarded or handled by Jim Burney.

Jim Burney gave a FLEPPC update at the Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society (FAPMS) training conference in Daytona last week. Jon Lane will ask FAPMS for a return presentation at our next symposium.

Treasurer's Report – Dianne Owen

Dianne Owen called in. The report was submitted during the meeting. The proposed budget for FY 09/10 was submitted. FY 08/09 had a net loss - \$6,579., including a symposium loss of \$1,150. Grant dollars expended totaled approximately \$11,000. Grants and symposium are the biggest expenses. We need to reduce these expenses to avoid future losses. Grant awards may need to be reduced (both Education and Research). Dianne thinks we should look for outside grants to support the FLEPPC mission, especially stimulus money. No specific suggestions but she will look for possibilities.

The board reduced several budget requests to reduce the overall proposed budget. It was noted that the 2010 symposium should be much less expensive but it is difficult to predict what profits might be made, given the current state of the economy. Donna Watkins made a motion to accept the FY 09/10 budget of \$58,655, acknowledging that it is \$2K over our proposed income, based on changes to Dianne's report. Bob Farley seconded the motion. If it becomes necessary, cash reserves (\$50K in checking, savings, and CDs) will be used for the proposed expenditures above the budget.

Dianne has 27 membership

renewals to send Karen for the magazine. She reminds people quarterly of membership renewals due. Hillary also sends reminders with the newsletter.

Editor's Report - Karen Brown
Report available.

The Fall issue of Wildland Weeds was published and mailed. It contained the 2009 Invasive Plant List. SE-EPPC has been billed for their membership contribution toward the magazine. The plant list also was designed and printed in brochure format and delivered to users. 8,000 have been distributed so far. A poster of the list will be produced to use with the FLEPPC display. The number of complementary shipments of multiple copies of each magazine issue needs to be reviewed to reduce costs. Karen will work on this.

Secretary's Report - Hillary Burgess

Hillary absent; report submitted via e-mail and presented by Karen. The quarterly newsletter was sent out and included reminders for members labeled as recently expired or in the grace period.

Committee Reports

Bylaws - Sandra Vardaman

Sandra Vardaman is still willing to chair. No report. Karen will check and see if last bylaws changes were made on the website.

Checklists - Donna Watkins

Everyone should let her know of any needed changes. People with checklists can just change the dates for the upcoming symposium (April 5th – 8th, 2010) on the spreadsheets and the form will automatically calculate the corresponding dates.

Control and Evaluation – LeRoy Rodgers

Projects being arranged include one on cogongrass at Withlacoochee Forest; on Nov. 6th, Leroy Rodgers and Jim Burney and Brian Nelson will meet to look for plots and other projects to set up for C&E; Vince Morris, Division of Forestry will assist. Jim Burch will send the names of new committee volunteers to assist on this (Donald Filipiak and Kenny Sullivan). Jim also received the names of three people who would like to volunteer on Jim Cuda's Brazilian Pepper Task Force and will forward those to Dr. Cuda.

Education Grants–Jennifer Possley Report available.

The next FY Request for Proposals will go out in early November. Other grants are proceeding well.

Finance – Ellen Donlan

Waiting for Strategic Planning Committee. Mike Bodle is asked to provide a copy of next year's hotel contract for Treasurer and the Finance Committee.

Legislative – Matt King

Q-37 comments are being sent to USDA/APHIS. A final copy will be posted on the FLEPPC website.

Merchandise – Tony Pernas, not present-no report.

Nominations – Jim Burney

Jim Burney requested that board members start thinking of nominees. First call will be mid-November. We will need a final slate by January/February since the symposium is in April. Jim will check with Hillary as to when the newsletter must go out in order for new slate to be announced, per the bylaws.

Outreach – Bob Farley

Bob received authorization from his employers to print some outreach materials for FLEPPC as an in-kind service, in exchange for acknowledgement of their contribution on symposium or other materials. Karen and Bob will survey what people currently have in the way of materials. Karen stated that membership brochures need to be reprinted. Bob feels we should keep track of events attended. Katy Roberts has done this in the past and Karen will send Bob her contact information. Bob thought maybe IFAS Research and Education offices would allow a permanent FLEPPC display.

Plant Industry Liaison – Doria Gordon Report available.

The Florida Nursery, Growers, and Landscape Association (FNGLA) is meeting in November to review plant species not recommended by UF-IFAS Assessment. Doria and Kris Serbesoff-King gave a presentation to the Association of Zoological Horticulture's annual meeting in September about the use of voluntary codes of conduct and the weed risk assessment to reduce cultivation of invasive plants in Zoological Gardens. An extended abstract was submitted for the conference proceedings. The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens has developed voluntary codes that they will implement. Walt Disney World's Animal Kingdom and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Miami have signed the codes of conduct.

Plant List – Keith Bradley (not present; report given by Karen). 2009 Invasive Plant Lists are done, printed in WWs Fall issue; brochure version printed and distributed in bulk to various users. Jim Burney received e-mail correspondence asking if there

is a "To Be Watched" list. Pat Howell says there is one but they have not agreed to publish it yet. Pat says there has been some debate (financial benefits of naming them now); plant industry might not want more species listed. Jim Burney will forward his email request from the SW FL Exotics meeting planner to Pat Howell for discussion with the committee.

Research – Betsy Von Holle, not present-No report.

Scholarship – Tony Pernas, not present- No report.

SOPs are due. \$778 was raised for the scholarship committee at the symposium.

Strategic Planning –Jonathan Taylor, not present

Jonathan contacted committee members to see if they were still willing to serve on this committee, which was initiated by past-chair Alison Fox. Donna Watkins and Kris Serbesoff-King are still available; LeRoy Rodgers, Roger Clark, Brian Nelson, and Dan Clark are other members of the committee.

Symposium Local Arrangements – Mike Bodle

The Plantation Inn, scheduled for 2010, is changing ownership but they should honor the signed contract. Mike agreed to send a copy of the contract to the Treasurer and the Finance Committee. There was no penalty in the contract for not making the room block. Donna will talk to the hotel regarding lunch availability for the field trip. A tour is scheduled after the board meeting to review meeting rooms, vendor rooms, set-up styles, etc.

Symposium Program – Jon Lane

The initial symposium announcement will be on the FLEPPC website shortly. LeRoy will take care of workshops (Natural Areas certification). A theme was discussed: Changes in Latitude (climate change) and Weedonomics / Recessanation (economic effects) were both discussed. Keynote presentation and the first session would follow the chosen theme. Jim Burch expressed that we should look for something that would attract other disciplines. Changes in latitude could encompass economic changes, changes in attitude, etc. The board voted to accept Changes in Latitude as the conference theme. Bob Farley offered to handle an art competition for the theme art. Prize money would need to be budgeted: \$250 was decided as the prize amount and added to the proposed budget. Donna does not plan to offer lunches for field trips in order to keep costs down for FLEPPC and for attendees, and for simplicity in planning and executing.

CEUs – Ben Gugliotti

Karen to send Ben Gugliotti the contact info for Katy Roberts so that he can begin fulfilling this duty. Jon Lane will get abstract info to Ben to determine the number of CEUs to request from FDACS. Donna reiterated that field trips earn CEUs, too. Kris S-K said he will need the agenda and abstracts and time allotments in order to request CEUs. Jim Burney will add Ben to future conference call symposium planning meetings.

Symposium Field Trips – Donna Watkins, Report available.

Keith Morin is working on a Crystal River Preserve trip. Michael Meisenburg offered to lead an as-yet identified trip. Two other potential sites have not yet been vetted (Withla-coochee State Forest and Rainbow

Springs State Park).

Training

It was agreed that Natural Areas training and the opportunity for test taking should be included again during this symposium.

Vendor-Bill Kline

Bill Kline has received the vendor checklist and other information from former committee chair, Todd Olson. He will be viewing the vendor rooms after the board meeting during the hotel tour. He hopes to tap into other groups to increase vendor participation. Bill also is the industry liaison for SE-EPPC. He will be looking for industry sponsorship of the FLEPPC symposium. Bill recently attended a national forestry meeting where there were more than 100 vendors; he will solicit some of them as new vendors for the FLEPPC symposium (forestry suppliers and many others). Karen brought up the outside support received at the SE-EPPC symposia from agencies such as the National Park Service regional office in Atlanta, the state Division of Forestry, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, BASF, a private foundation, and others. She asked the SE-EPPC board if a letter of request was available but there is none; the support has been recurring for several years. Tony Pernas has mentioned that details are needed outlining how the symposium would benefit the specific agency or other group, and that as much advance notice as possible should be given.

*Website – Tony Pernas, not present- no report.**Liaisons with other organizations*

SE-EPPC Liaison – Karen Brown/ Tony Pernas-No report.

Eddmaps - Kris Serbesoff-King reported.

Kris, Chuck Barger and Alison Higgins will be training CISMAs in Florida on EDDMapS. Each participating CISMA will identify one person to help with plant ID in their region. Keith Bradley has been verifying all plant specimens but if there were a significant increase in occurrence reports, there could be too many for one person. If they locate someone in each region to assist with plant identification, it would help keep Keith from being overloaded and would provide local commitment and expertise. Jim Burney asked if the CISMA plant ID contacts could help with queries FLEPPC receives about local invasive plant ordinances. He will send an email to Kris to follow up on that. Kris requested a CISMA session during the symposium workshop sessions or during the main symposium from Jon Lane.

NA-EPPC Liaison – Matt King / Tony Pernas- not present.

Jim Burch attended the Natural Areas Association meeting in Vancouver, WA and participated in the NA-EPPC session, in which Jim shared FLEPPC activities, including the 2011 co-hosting with FNPS, the grants that we funded, Wildland Weeds magazine and increased SE-EPPC participation, position papers development; 2009 revised invasive plant list. Next NA-EPPC meeting (2010) will be in Tallahassee. Damon Waitt asked if our board members knew they could attend NA-EPPC board meetings. Jim Burch did not attend the board meeting because his flight left before that, but the minutes will be sent to him.

Florida Invasive Species Partnerships – Alison Higgins, not present- no report.

Old Business

Dan Ward was awarded his plaque for Lifetime Achievement during a lunch in Gainesville attended by Karen, Ken Langeland, Mary Langeland, and David Hall.

Florida Native Plant Society Draft Codes of Conduct – Jim Burney will forward these to board members again for review, together with Matt's and Doria's comments. Matt King pointed out a few references in the draft codes to the FLEPPC plant list being used in a legislative fashion, which is not its intended use. Bob Farley said that contractors are required to abide by construction documents and contracts; the FLEPPC list is used frequently and is also mentioned in local ordinances. FDOT and other agencies and groups refer to our list in local ordinances. Dustin says people see the FLEPPC list as us being the bad guys who tell people which plants are bad. They are used for specs in contract documents. It was pointed out that the FLEPPC list is seen as a regulatory list, even though it has no regulatory authority, and that perhaps a disclaimer should be put on the new list (future printings) although a supply has just been printed. Although government regulatory listings of prohibited and/or noxious weeds are indicated for each plant on the list, it does not specifically state that the list is non-regulatory. The 2009 Invasive Plant List that was printed in the Fall 2009 Wildland Weeds has a sidebar describing appropriate uses of the FLEPPC list. An article describing proper uses of the list was published in Wildland Weeds in 2002 and a PDF file of the article is on the plant list section of the website. It was decided that the Plant List Committee should discuss adding a disclaimer to future issuances of the list. Karen will send to Keith Bradley.

Co-hosting the 2011 symposium with the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) annual conference at the Sheraton/Maitland Hotel. Jim Burch participated in the conference call. Karina Veaudry of FNPS took the lead. She is very experienced at this and much information is already online. Co-hosting would be advantageous to both groups. Split in proceeds still needs to be worked out; Karina's summary offered several options. Kristina also participated, as well as Mike Bodle and LeRoy Rodgers.

New Position Paper Committee: Jim Burch (from previous minutes) is to frame a committee with a definition and SOPs. He will get a copy of the position paper on Eucalyptus from Jim Burney.

Student Chapter: no report from Corrie Pieteron. Karen stated that since there are not that many students from Florida, she had suggested the group be widened to encompass the SE-EP-PC.

Hotel tour: Janet Mayo – sales person to give us a tour of facility. Neville O'Gane – catering manager of hotel, spoke to Bill Kline. Jenean Chavey, Sales Manager, spoke to Jim Burch.

Next board meeting – options discussed due to poor performance of speaker phone: Net Meetings; MS Live Meetings, Webinars. Karen will ask Kris for costs of Webinars. Donna prefers videoconference calls (without speaker phones). PolyCom at the UF-IFAS Extension offices worked well before and is free so we will try that for the next board meeting. January 19th (Tuesday) – 9AM. Karen: Find out if PolyCom can be used at UGA for Bill Kline.

3:15 - Motion made to adjourn – Donna Watkins. Seconded by Pat Howell.



25th Annual Symposium of the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council

Monday, April 5th through Thursday, April 8th
Plantation Golf Resort and Spa • Crystal River, Florida

Changes in Latitude

Name: _____ Date: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

\$ _____ **Registration:** CURRENT MEMBERS: \$100.00 on or before March 22, \$120.00 after March 22

RENEWING MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS:
\$130.00 on or before March 22, \$150.00 after March 22
(this rate automatically includes a one-year membership)

STUDENTS: \$45.00 student (with valid student ID)

\$ _____ **Vendor Registration:** \$300.00 includes vendor table and registration for one person

- \$ _____ Donation for coffee/hospitality breaks (minimum \$100)
- \$ _____ Donation to research and education grants program
- \$ _____ Donation for door prizes

\$ _____ **Annual Banquet:** \$25.00 per person

\$ _____ **Field Trip** \$20.00

- _____ Lunch Choice if applicable (see notes on each trip below)
- _____ Field Trip Choice (see options below)

\$ _____ **Donation to FLEPPC** (FLEPPC is a 501(C3) non-profit organization)

\$ _____ **TOTAL**

_____ **Workshop Choice** (see options below)

Make check or money order payable to **Florida EPPC**
FLEPPC Fed. ID#65-0140632

Mail Registration Form and Payment To:
FLEPPC 2009 Symposium
P.O. Box 23426
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307

If paying by credit card, please complete the following:

Credit Card Type: _____
(Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express only)

Card Number: _____

Amount: \$ _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Billing Address: _____

Signature: _____

Symposium Field Trips

Field Trips: Please choose one field trip option. Estimated time frame for all trips roughly noon until 5:30 p.m. April 7, 2010. All field trips cost \$20 and include lunch.

_____ Trip 1: Crystal River Preserve/Crystal River Archaeological State Parks

Participant limit: 22

Transportation: Vans/carpools

Lunch Plan: Lunch will be provided at field trip site by the Friends of Crystal River State Parks

Description of Trip:

Crystal River Archaeological State Park has Native American burial mounds, temple/platform mounds, a plaza area, and a substantial midden. The six-mound complex is one of the longest continuously occupied pre-Columbian historical sites in Florida. Crystal River Preserve is in transition between temperate and sub-tropical zones with plant communities that occur in each. It has over 15,000 acres of estuarine tidal marsh and over 600 hammock and marsh islands in addition to coastal uplands. This preserve serves the important functions of protection of estuarine water quality, wildlife habitat, storm surge protection, and outdoor recreation. It has a history of commercial forestry, cattle operations and use as a lease hunt club. The flatwoods, marsh and hammock areas to the north are slowly recovering with the elimination of heavy ground disturbance, reintroduction of fire as a landscape process and maintenance control of Brazilian pepper and cogon grass in some areas. Long term goals include the elimination of bahia grass from pasture areas, centipede grass from trails and openings, and reestablishment of longleaf pine as a dominant overstory in mesic to dry flatwoods sections. The group will then take a brief boat ride on the Crystal and Salt Rivers to see the preserve from the water and understand management challenges associated with exotic control on separated islands in a vast estuarine marsh matrix. The Pre-history of the area including the use of the coast by native Americans will also be presented. A visit to the Ozello area in the southern end of the Preserve will make the greatest exotic challenge, proliferation of Brazilian pepper on state and private lands, obvious. The history of exotic control efforts on the preserve, as well as current control program and limitations, will be outlined in this section of the trip. Stops will include sites at various stages of treatment.

Special Concerns: Water and bathrooms available at both ends of the tour. Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, hat, appropriate shoes, money for gift shop.

.....

_____ Trip 2: Rainbow Springs State Park

Participant limit: 25

Transportation: Vans/carpools

Lunch Plan: Lunch will be provided at field trip site by The Friends of Rainbow Springs State Park

Description of Trip:

Rainbow Springs is Florida's fourth largest spring and, from the 1930s through the 1970s, was the site of a popular, privately-owned attraction. The field trip will visit two areas: the historic garden and the Griffiths' sandhill which was converted to a sand pine plantation. The tour will begin at the head spring and historic gardens which have been rejuvenated by removing invasive exotics and incorporating new native plantings and non-invasive ornamentals into the garden. However there is still a serious problem with a multiplicity of exotics. Some of the original invasive plantings as well as new arrivals like skunk vine need constant treatment. The garden will require ongoing invasive exotic plant control. The goal is to control the worst exotics. The group will then continue to the Griffiths property to see the beginnings of a long term restoration project. The Griffiths sandhill, where staff has been treating cogon grass, was converted to a sand pine plantation before the park acquired it. It is possible that the cogon grass was introduced to the site during logging. When the park acquired the property in 2004 the cogon grass covered more than 100 acres of the plantation. The plantation has many gopher tortoises, very little native groundcover and will need long term restoration. The first phase is cogon grass control. This will be followed later with sand pine removal, groundcover seeding and longleaf pine planting. Participants will see a comparison of two situations: exotics in a natural area that will someday be restored and exotics in a garden area that will need perpetual invasive exotic plant control.

Special Concerns: Water and bathrooms available at both ends of the tour. Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, hat, appropriate shoes, money for gift shop.

Trip 3: Cross Florida Greenway Spoil Islands

Participant limit: 16

Transportation: Vans/carpools

Lunch Plan: Place order below; pick up boxed lunch prior to departing Plantation Inn

Lunch choice includes one sandwich, one drink, cookies and chips; please choose one sandwich and one drink; condiments will be on the side.

Sandwich (choose one):

Roast Beef
Turkey
Ham
Veggie Pita

Drink Choice (choose one)

Coke
Diet Coke
Water
Sprite

Description of Trip: The Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway (Greenway) is 110 miles long, spanning from Yankeetown on Florida's west coast to just south of Palatka on the St. Johns River near Florida's east coast. Generally 300 yards wide to about one mile wide, the Greenway traverses four counties, Citrus, Levy, Marion, Putnam. Most of the Greenway lands were originally acquired for constructing a commercial shipping channel across the state. The shipping canal, which later became the barge canal, was deauthorized by Congress in 1990 and all lands and structures were transferred to the State of Florida to be managed as a public recreation and conservation area. The Greenway is managed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection/Office of Greenways and Trails. The Withlacoochee Bay Trail located just south of Inglis on the western end of the Greenway extends 5 miles west from the Felburn Park Trailhead to the Gulf of Mexico along the southern side of the former barge canal. This 12' multiuse paved trail runs adjacent to the barge canal for the first 2.5 miles then switches its path to the southside of the "berm" that was created by the canal's excavation. The westernmost 2.5 miles of the trail runs through tidal marsh and hydric hammock natural communities. Continuing west into the Gulf of Mexico is a series of 9 spoil islands that are remnants from the dredging of the canal. Exotic plants in this area of the Greenway include Chinese brake fern, cogon grass, Australian pine, Brazilian pepper and skunkvine. Skunkvine is the 8th most common invasive plant species observed on the Greenway. The largest infestation occurs along the ruderal barge canal banks near Inglis Lock

where it covered several acres of trees and shrubs prior to eradication treatments. Australian pine, Chinese brake fern and Brazilian pepper have been documented on the spoil islands. Discussions will include the history of OGT's invasive plant management program and how exotic species, listed species and natural community inventories are used to guide management actions. OGT's invasive plant eradication efforts in this area of the Greenway focus on protecting listed bird habitat and excellent natural communities. The spoil islands are home to a black-crowned night-heron rookery. American oystercatchers are known to use several of the islands as well as least terns and Wilson's plovers. Control of skunkvine on Inglis Island helps maintain an excellent ranked mesic hammock natural community.

Special Concerns: Water and bathrooms will be available before and after the boat tour. Please bring sunscreen, hat, appropriate shoes and personal life jacket if preferred, otherwise life jackets will be provided. Boat trip is weather dependent. Field trip will include site visits to Inglis Island and Withlacoochee Bay Trail if weather is not conducive for boat trip.

.....

_____ Trip 4: Withlacoochee State Forest Demonstration Project

Participant limit: 35

Transportation: Vans/carpools

Lunch Plan: Place order below; pick up boxed lunch prior to departing Plantation Inn

Lunch choice includes one sandwich, one drink, cookies and chips; please choose one sandwich and one drink; condiments will be on the side.

Sandwich (choose one):

- Roast Beef
- Turkey
- Ham
- Veggie Pita

Drink Choice (choose one)

- Coke
- Diet Coke
- Water
- Sprite

Description of Trip:

The Withlacoochee State Forest is Florida's third largest state forest, spanning over 157,000 acres in many distinct management tracts. The Division of Forestry provides for multiple-use of the forest resources which includes timber management, wildlife management, ecological restoration, and outdoor recreation. Invasive plant management is a major component of DOF's management plan, with cogongrass and natalgrass being two priority invasive species for control. Field trip leaders will present results of control demonstration plots using commonly used as well as some proposed herbicides for these species. Participants will learn which methods, herbicides and rates are most successful for controlling cogongrass and natalgrass. Documentation of results will be provided for the cogongrass field trial plots. Other field trip highlights include a brief presentation on management challenges at the forest and a birding stop at a red-cockaded woodpecker nesting cluster.

Special Concerns: Water and bathrooms will be available at both ends of the tour. Walking to the trial plots will involve a short, off-trail hike through a beautiful sandhill community, so long pants and sturdy shoes are recommended. Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, hat.

Symposium Workshops

Workshops will take place April 6th and are included in registration.

Workshop 1: Natural Areas Weed Management Preparation Class

Led by Ken Gioeli, University of Florida/IFAS

Individuals planning to take the Natural Areas Weed Management Certified Pesticide Applicator examination should attend this three-hour training session. Participants will receive an overview of pest plants and their recommended chemical controls, a review of chemical control methodologies, herbicide characteristics and their behavior in the environment, and methods for herbicide dilution and rate calculations. Limit 30 participants

Workshop 2: Invasive Plant Field Identification

Led by Drs. Colette C. Jacono and Kenneth A. Langeland, University of Florida/IFAS

Join us for a two-hour, hands-on workshop to learn and share the features and tips for successful field recognition of invasive plants in Florida. We will study an assortment of aquatic, wetland, and upland species. New additions to the FLEPPC Category I and II lists as well as other lesser-known species to be watched for will be highlighted. Limit 40 participants

Workshop 3: EDDMaps: Invasive Species Mapping Made Easy!

Led by Chuck Bergeron, Karan Rawlins, University of Georgia and Kristina Serbesoff-King, The Nature Conservancy

EDDMapS is a tool for reporting and mapping invasive species. Workshop attendees will learn the “ins and outs” of this growing web-based invasive mapping tool. Attendees will learn how to enter data, discuss the importance of early detection lists, and learn ways to recruit local verifiers and monitoring volunteers in your area. Limit 40 participants

For information on CEUs and the program agenda, watch our website at www.fleppc.org

For program questions, contact Jon Lane, Jon.S.Lane@usace.army.mil

For payment questions, contact Dianne Owen, dowen@fau.edu



25th Annual Symposium of the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council
Monday, April 5th through Thursday, April 8th
Plantation Golf Resort and Spa • Crystal River, Florida

Changes in Latitude

REGISTRATION FORM ENCLOSED

ALSO INSIDE...

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

SYMPOSIUM FIELD TRIPS & WORKSHOPS

OCTOBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES

FLEPPC
P.O. Box 23426
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307