

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



HISTORY OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The public involvement activities for this *Exotic Plant Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* (EPMP/EIS) fulfill the requirements of the *National Environmental Policy Act* (NEPA) and National Park Service (NPS) *Director's Order 12* (NPS 2001a).

THE SCOPING PROCESS

The National Park Service divides the scoping process into two parts: internal scoping and external (public) scoping. Internal scoping for this EPMP/EIS involved discussions among NPS personnel regarding issues, management alternatives, mitigation measures, appropriate level of documentation, lead and cooperating agency roles, available references and guidance, the purpose and need for the plan, and other related dialogue.

Public scoping is the early involvement of the interested and affected public in the environmental analysis process. The public scoping process helps ensure that people have been given an opportunity to comment and contribute early in the decision-making process. For this EPMP/EIS, project information was distributed to individuals, agencies, and organizations early in the scoping process, and people were given opportunities to express concerns or views and identify important issues or even other alternatives.

Taken together, internal and public scoping are essential elements of the NEPA planning process. The following sections describe the various ways the NPS conducted internal and public scoping for this EPMP/EIS.

INTERNAL SCOPING

Representatives from the nine parks participated in the internal scoping meetings in Homestead, Florida, from July 9 through July 11, 2003. In December 2003, the NPS met with various federal, territorial, state, and local government agencies to determine the scope of issues and a range of alternatives to be considered and analyzed in this EPMP/EIS. In December, two meetings were held in the Virgin Islands (one on St. John and one on St. Croix) where four agency representatives voiced their concerns. In Florida, one meeting with government representatives was held in West Palm Beach; 26 agency representatives were in attendance. The results of the meetings were captured in an internal scoping report, now on file as part of the administrative record. The letter inviting representatives of the various agencies and the list of those agencies invited to attend the government partnership scoping meetings is provided in appendix T.

The purpose and objectives of internal scoping were to fulfill the internal scoping requirements of NEPA and NPS *Director's Order 12* (NPS 2001a) and to



provide an understanding of the exotic plant management plan development. Based on this understanding, the nine parks, the NPS Southeast Regional Office, and the NPS Washington Environmental Quality Division worked collectively to confirm the purpose and need for action in the south Florida and Caribbean parks, identify exotic plant management issues and concerns, and create objectives for taking action.

PUBLIC SCOPING

The public scoping process began on January 22, 2004, with the publication of a notice of intent in the *Federal Register* (Federal Register, Volume 69, Number 14). Six public scoping open houses were held in March 2004 at the following locations:

Virgin Islands

Cruz Bay, St. John, March 1, 2004 (4:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.)

Christiansted, St. Croix, March 2, 2004 (downtown Christiansted, 12:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.)

Christiansted, St. Croix, March 2, 2004 (St. Croix Yacht Club, 5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.)

Frederiksted, St. Croix, March 3, 2004 (5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.)

Florida

Naples, March 3, 2004 (3:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.)

Homestead, March 4, 2004 (3:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.)

The scoping meetings were held in an open house format. Open house participants were encouraged to submit comments at the meetings or to email or mail their comments to the NPS before the close of the scoping comment period on April 1, 2004. The addresses for submitting comments were on all news releases and the project newsletter for the benefit of people who could not attend one of the open houses. Public input (received at either the open house or by mail or email) expressed concerns, raised issues, or commented on the preliminary alternatives to manage exotic plants in the nine parks. A total of 40 pieces of correspondence (letters, emails) were received, and many contained more than one comment, for a total of 144 individual comments. In response to public input expressed during the scoping process, the interdisciplinary planning team refined the issues to be addressed in this EPMP/EIS. A Public Scoping Report was prepared based on these comments and is part of the administrative record for this EPMP/EIS.

Public Notification

The notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement was published in the *Federal Register* on January 22, 2004.



A newsletter was mailed in February 2004 to the project’s mailing list of government agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals based on lists received from each park. The newsletter summarized the nature and extent of the exotic plant problem in the parks, the purpose of and need for an exotic plant management plan, the objectives for this EPMP/EIS, how exotic plants are controlled in the parks, and the preliminary alternatives. The newsletter also contained important information (dates/times/locations) about the public scoping open houses.

New releases and paid ads announcing the scoping open houses were published in the following newspapers:

Publication	Date Published
Everglades Echo	Tuesday, February 17
Golden Gate Gazette	Tuesday, February 17
Florida Keys Keynoter.....	Wednesday, February 18
Upper Keys Reporter	Friday, February 20
Homestead News	Friday, February 20
South Dade Newsleader.....	Tuesday February 17
St. Croix Avis	Tuesday, February 17
Virgin Islands Daily News.....	Monday, February 16
St. Croix Source (online) http:// www.stcroixsource.com	Thursday, February 12
St. John Source (online) http://www.stjohnsource.com	Thursday, February 12

AGENCY CONSULTATION

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was first notified of the proposed EPMP/EIS in December 2003 at the beginning of the scoping process when several regional offices were invited to attend government partnership meetings in Florida. Issues and concerns raised during the meetings by representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service were incorporated into the development of this EPMP/EIS. In accordance with Section 7 of the *Endangered Species Act* (16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), the National Park Service conducted informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Letters dated November 15, 2005 and November 22, 2005 were sent to the South Florida field office and the Boqueron field office in Puerto Rico, respectively, requesting verification of the list of threatened and endangered species that may occur within the project area. In a letter dated January 3, 2006, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provided a list of federally listed, proposed, and candidate species that could potentially occur the project area or that could be affected by actions planned therein. Both the letter of request from the National Park Service and the reply from the South Florida

regional office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are included in appendix T. Consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will continue with submission of a biological assessment to the ecological services offices in south Florida and Puerto Rico.

NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

A scoping letter requesting attendance at a government partners meeting was sent to the following tribes in November 2003: Miccosukee Tribe of Florida, Seminole National of Oklahoma, and Seminole Tribe of Florida. No members were in attendance at the December 2003 government partners meetings and no comments or feedback were received.

FLORIDA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

A scoping letter requesting attendance at a government partners meeting was sent to the Florida State Historic Preservation Office in November 2003: No representatives of the office were in attendance at the December 2003 government partners meetings and no comments or feedback were received. A copy of the EPMP/EIS will be submitted to the office as the EPMP/EIS will be used to fulfill the requirements of Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act* as well as to comply with the provision of the *National Environmental Policy Act*.



LIST OF PREPARERS AND CONSULTANTS

Name	Title	Education/ Responsibility	Experience
National Park Service			
Elsa Alvear	Environmental Protection Specialist	B.S., M.S. Biology responsible for NEPA compliance, document review	14 years
Rafe Boulon	Chief, Resource Management, VI National Park and Coral Reef National Monument	B.A. Marine and Environmental Science and MS Biological Oceanography. Responsible for technical expertise on management of natural and cultural resources of Virgin Islands National Park; description of exotic plant distribution, and document review.	24 years
Jim Burch	Supervisory Botanist	BA, Biology; MS, Plant Taxonomy; Ph.D., Plant Ecology. Ecosystems of southern Florida, tropical botany, local disturbance ecology.	20 years
Daniel Clark	Supervisory Exotic Plant Specialist	B.S. General Biology, UCSD, M.S. Agriculture UF. Responsible for Caribbean parks exotic vegetation program operations description, technical expert, and document review	13 years
Brien Culhane	Chief of planning and compliance	B.A. Environmental Sciences. Expertise: NEPA and NHPA compliance, park planning, public involvement.	31 years
Zandy Hillis-Starr	Chief of Resource Management	B.A. Zoology/Tropical Marine Biology	20 years
Todd Kellison	Fishery Biologist	Ph.D. Marine Science. Responsible for description of exotic plant program in Biscayne National Park, technical expertise on natural resources within park, and review of document.	12 years
Shelby Moneysmith	Biological Science Technician	B.S. Biology	5 years
Michael Mayer	Environmental Protection Specialist Environmental Quality Division	B.S. Wildlife and Fisheries Biology, M.S. Wildlife Conservation, J.D. Environmental Law. Responsible for NEPA policy, guidance, and technical review.	10 years
Tony Pernas	Supervisory Exotic Plant Specialist	Environmental Studies Florida International University Responsible for exotic vegetation program operations description, technical expert, and document review	17 years
John Stiner	Chief Resource Management	M.A. in Biology Ornithology, Ecology	17 years

Name	Title	Education/ Responsibility	Experience
Jonathan Taylor	Supervisory botanist	B.S. Marine Science, M.S. Wetland Plant Ecology. Responsible for Everglades National Park and Dry Tortugas National Park exotic vegetation program operations description, technical expert, and document review.	21 years
Miranda Thomas	Student Intern	B.A Environmental Science, Ecology and Biodiversity, and English. Responsible for document preparation and review.	1 year

P a r s o n s

Timberley Belish	Document lead	B.S. Biology and M.S. Ecology and Evolution. Responsible for: purpose and need, alternatives, essential fish habitats including corals, soundscapes sections; document preparation and review.	15 years
Jacklyn Bryant	Environmental Scientist	B.S. Natural Resources Management and M.S. Watershed Sciences. Responsible for soils and water quality and hydrology analysis.	12 years
John Hoesterey	Project Manager	B.A. Zoology and M.S. Geography and Environmental Science. Responsible for project management and document review	30 years
Kathy Kuhlman	Senior Environmental Scientist	BS and MS in Botany. Responsible for: purpose and need; alternatives; special status species, wildlife and vegetation sections.	20 years
Scott Lowry	Senior Technical Editor and Writer	B.S Psychology; J.D; M.A. and Ph.D. English. Responsible for public health and safety, conflicts with other plans and policies, analysis of visitor use and experience	15 years (3 in environmental writing and editing)
Greg Matthews	GIS Specialist	B.S. Resource Management. Responsible for: GIS analysis, cartographic output, data collection and flow charting.	7 years
Nicole Winterton	Environmental Scientist	B.S. Environmental Science. Responsible for air quality and wilderness sections.	5 years

R E D , I n c . C o m m u n i c a t i o n s

Juanita Barboa	Editor	B.S. Technical Communications. Responsible for editing document.	15 years
Stephannie Lambert	Graphic Designer	B.F.A. Graphic Design. Responsible for map design, photo manipulation and design, cover and divider design.	8 years
Cheryl Priest	Desktop Publisher	Denver Medical and Business College. Responsible for formatting and layout.	14 years
Susan Hale	Public Involvement Specialist	U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, Environmental and Occupational Health Technician.	18 years



LIST OF RECIPIENTS

This EPMP/EIS was sent to the agencies, organizations, and businesses listed below. This document was also mailed to other entities and individuals who requested a copy.

FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

U.S. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
U.S. Air Force
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
U.S. Coast Guard
U.S. Council on Environmental Quality
U.S. Department of Agriculture (Agricultural Research Service, APHIS)
U.S. Department of the Army
U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Federal Highways Administration
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration
U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service
U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
Seminole Tribe of Florida

United States Senate

Senator Mel Martinez
Senator Bill Nelson

United States House of Representatives

Delegate to Congress Donna M. Christian-Christensen, U.S. Virgin Islands
Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz, District 20
Representative Connie Mack, District 14
Representative Lincoln Diaz-Balart, District 21
Representative Kendrick Meek, District 17
Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, District 18
Representative E. Clay Shaw, Jr., District 22

VIRGIN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

Lieutenant Governor Vargrave A. Richards

VIRGIN ISLANDS SENATE

Senator Craig W. Barshinger
Senator Lorraine L. Berry
Senator Roosevelt David
Senator Liston A. Davis
Senator Adlah, Jr. Donastorg
Senator Pedro Encarnacion
Senator Juan Figueroa-Serville
Senator Louis P. Hill
Senator Neville A. James
Senator Norman. Jn.Baptiste
Senator Shawn-Michael Malone
Senator Terrence Nelson
Senator Usie R. Richards
Senator Ronald E. Russell
Senator Celestino A. White, Sr.

STATE OF FLORIDA GOVERNMENT

Governor John Ellis “Jeb” Bush

Florida State Senate

Senator Jeffrey H. Atwater, District 25
Senator Mandy M. Dawson, District 29
Senator Larcenia J. Bullard, District 39
Senator Rudy Garcia, District 40

Florida House of Representatives

Representative Rafael Arza, District 102
Representative David Rivera, District 112
Representative Ken Sorenson, District 120

STATE OF FLORIDA AGENCIES

Bureau of Invasive Plant Management
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry
Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Conservation Service
Department of Community Affairs
Department of Environmental Protection
Department of Health
Department of Natural Resources
Department of Transportation
Division of Forestry
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
Geologic Survey
Inland Navigation District
Marine Research Institute
Parks and Recreation
Regional Planning Councils
Spaceport Authority

State Clearinghouse
State Historic Preservation Office
Water Management Districts

FLORIDA CITIES AND COUNTIES

Mayor, City of Edgewater
Mayor, City of Everglades City
Mayor, City of Florida City
Mayor, City of Homestead
Mayor, City of Miami
Mayor, City of Naples
Mayor, City of Oak Hill
Mayor, City of Sanibel
Mayor, City of Titusville
Brevard County Commissioners
Brevard County Natural Resources Division
Broward County Commissioners
Broward Soil and Water Conservation District
Collier County Commissioners
Collier County Environmental Services Department
Collier County Natural Resources Department
Miami-Dade County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County / Department of Environmental Resource Management
Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation
Monroe County Commissioners
South Dade Soil and Water Conservation Service
Volusia County Council
Volusia County Department of Environmental Management
City of Cocoa Beach
City of Coral Gables
City of Edgewater
City of Everglades City
Everglades City Chamber of Commerce



City of Florida City
City of Fort Myers
City of Homestead
Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce
Key Largo Chamber of Commerce
City of Key West
City of Marco Island
City of Miami
City of Miami Beach
City of Miami Dade
City of Naples
City of Oak Hill
City of Plantation
City of Pompano Beach
City of Titusville
Titusville Area Chamber of Commerce

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS AGENCIES

Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Department of Agriculture
Environmental Resource Station
St. Johns River Water Management District
Indian River Lagoon National Estuary
Program

LIBRARIES

Glades County Public Library
Lee County Public Library
Monroe County Library
Edgewater Public Library
Florida City Public Library
Homestead Branch Library
Key Biscayne Branch Library
Key Largo Branch Library
South Miami Branch Library

Oak Hill Public Library
South Dade County Library

MEDIA AND PUBLICATIONS

Biscayne Bay Times
Coastal Angler Magazine
Daytona Beach News-Journal
Everglades Echo
Florida Hunter Magazine
Florida Keys Keynoter
Florida Scuba News
Florida Sportsman Magazine
Florida Today
Historic Titusville News
Homestead News
Islamorado Free Press
Keys Radio Group
Miami Herald
Miami News Times
Naples Daily News
News Observer
Orlando Sentinel
Orlando Weekly
Palm Beach Post
Redland Country News
Soundings Magazine
South Dade Newsleader
South Dade Newsleader
Southern Boating Mag
Spaceport News
Sun Sentinel
The Observer
The Orlando Sentinel
WWUS Radio



SCHOOLS

George T. Baker Aviation School
National Outdoor Leadership School
Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric
Rural Volunteers Centre
University of Florida Institute for Food and
Agricultural Science
University of Florida Institute for Food and
Agricultural Science, Center for Aquatic
and Invasive Plants
Auburn University
East Carolina University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida Atlantic University
Florida International University
Florida State University
New York University
Nova University
Nova Southeastern University
University of Florida
University of Miami
University of the Virgin Islands
University of the Virgin Islands Coop, Extension
Service
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Miami-Dade Community College

ORGANIZATIONS

Exotic Plant Management Team
Invasive Plant Working Group
Noxious Exotic Weed Task Team
American Cetacean Society
Archeological and Historical Conservancy

Audubon of Broward County
Blue Ribbon Coalition, Inc.
Environmental Defense Fund
Everglades Coordinating Council
Everglades for Everyone
Fish & Game Unlimited of Homestead
Florida National Scenic Trail
Florida Native Plant Society of Dade County
Florida Sea Grant
Florida Trail Association, Inc.
Florida Wildlife Federation
Friends of Everglades
Friends of the Fakahatchee Preserve State Park
Friends of Virgin Islands National Park
Homestead Yacht Club
Izaak Walton League of America, Inc
Miami Springs Boat Club
Natural Resource Conservation Service
Ocean Reef Club
Reef Relief
Riviera Village Property Owners Association
Sierra Club
Sierra Club Miami Group
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force
South Glades Anglers
SW Florida Shrimp Association
The Nature Conservancy
Tropical Everglades Visitors Association
Turtle Coast Sierra Club
Wilderness Express
Wilderness Watch

BUSINESSES

Community Partnership for Homeless, Inc.

Connections of St. John

Cruzan Gardens

Earthwise Production

Everglades Research Group, Inc.

Fairchild Tropical Garden

Islamorada, Village of Islands

Kea Environmental

Lewis Environmental Services

Maho Bay Camps

Museum of the Everglades

Shady Lane Nursery

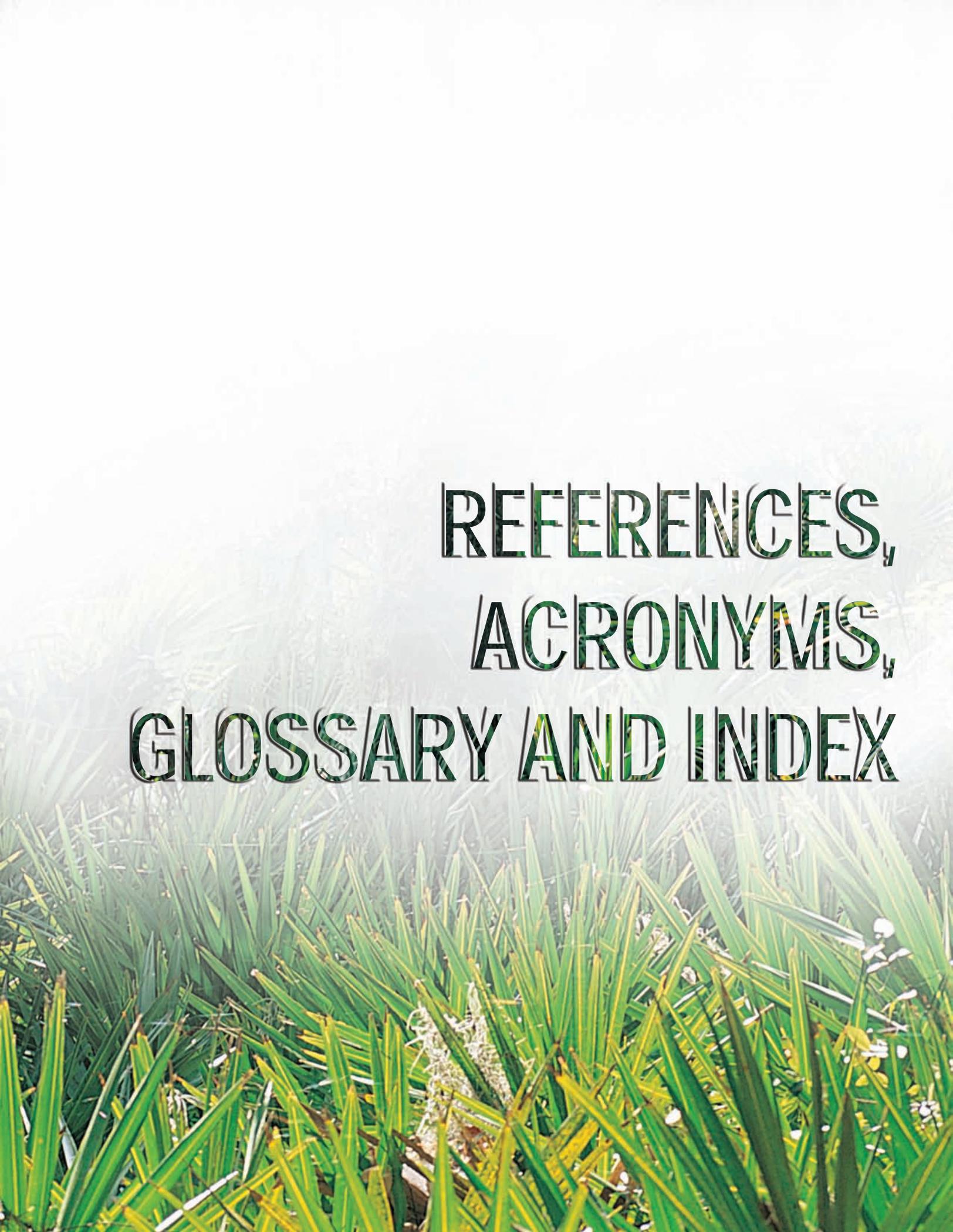
St. George Village Botanical Garden of St. Croix

SW Ranchers United Inc.

The Garden Spot

Thunderbird Wildlife Consulting





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ACRONYMS,
GLOSSARY AND INDEX**

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A C R O N Y M S

APCAM	Alien Plant Control and Monitoring
APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
ASMIS	Archeological Sites Management Information System
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPMP	Exotic Plant Management Plan
EPMT	Exotic Plant Management Team
FLEPPC	Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council
GIS	geographic information system
GPS	global positioning system
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
KSC	Kennedy Space Center
MINWR	Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge
NASA	National Atmospheric and Space Administration
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NPS	National Park Service
PL	public law
RED	Registration Eligibility Decisions
SLN	special local needs
USC	United States Code
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



G L O S S A R Y

Adjuvant—An ingredient added to a herbicide formulation or spray mixture to aid or modify the action of the herbicide.

Ahermatypic—Describing a type of coral that does not contribute substantially to building the matrix or calcareous framework of a coral reef; nonreef-building

Allelopathy—A plant's ability to produce secondary chemical compounds that can leach from leaves, seeds, or roots into the soil and suppress the germination or growth of native plant species. The release of a substance by one plant that inhibits the germination or growth of another plant.

Allergen—A substance that causes an allergic reaction.

Alluvia—Soil that contains clay, silt, sand, or gravel deposited by running water.

Ambient—The surrounding area or environment.

Arable—Land that is fit for cultivation.

Arthropods— Invertebrate animals with jointed legs, including insects, crustaceans, and spiders.

Avifauna—All bird species.

Benthic—Animals dwelling on the bottom of a water body. These organisms inhabit the sediment on lake, river, or ocean bottoms, as well as the sediment in marshes, tidal flats, and other wetlands.

Biodiversity—The sum of all living organisms and the habitats in which they live.

Biological control—The three types of biological control are described below:

Classical – biological control involves the use of insects from within the pest's own region. Typically, this means traveling to the country of an exotic species' origin and bringing back a natural enemy of the exotic species. There must be a great deal of research done prior to this to ensure that the natural enemy cannot feed on or affect other nontarget species in addition to the intended exotic.

Augmentation – is an increase in the population of the natural enemy of a particular pest. This can include mass breeding (rearing) and release, or developing better, more efficient enemies who can find and then attack their prey more effectively. This method is very management-intensive and should be considered a short-term solution to be later replaced with a more sustainable approach.

Conservation – is the identification and alteration of factors limiting the effectiveness of the natural enemy in order to enhance the success of their attacks. This involves activities that either reduce factors interfering with their survival or successful hunting, or increasing factors that are beneficial to their survival and efficiency in attacking (Orr et al. 1997).

Bivalve—A mollusk whose shell is two pieces joined by a muscular hinge. Clams and oysters are bivalves.

Cambium—The layer of cells in plant roots and stems that produces new tissue responsible for increased girth; for example, bark.

Chemical treatment—Treatment method that involves the use of herbicides to destroy a target plant species, usually an exotic plant.

Cistern—A small tank (usually covered) or a storage facility used to store water for a home or farm.



Clutch—A nest of eggs or the number of eggs produced or incubated at one time.

Commensal—Living with another animal, but not deriving nourishment directly from the host. A symbiotic relationship where only one organism benefits.

Crenulated—Small, rounded projections forming a distinct edge.

Crustacean—A class of invertebrates, including crabs, lobsters and shrimp, that have a segmented body, a hard external skeleton (exoskeleton), two sets of antennae and one pair of legs per body segment.

Deciduous—Having leaves that fall off or are shed seasonally to avoid adverse weather conditions such as cold or drought.

Detritus—Dead or decaying plant material.

Drawdown—Lowering of the surface elevation of a body of water by pumping or otherwise withdrawing water.

Ecotonal—A zone of transition between two different ecosystems, for example, where the sea meets the land.

Epiphytic—A plant that naturally grows on another plant but does not derive nourishment from it. One organism living within or upon another without causing harm.

Estuary—The thin zone along a coastline where freshwater systems and rivers meet and mix with a salty ocean (such as a bay, mouth of a river, salt marsh, lagoon).

Ethnography—A branch of anthropology that studies and describes modern human cultures (rather than human behavior or physical attributes).

Evapotranspiration—The return of moisture to the air both through evaporation from the soil and transpiration—loss of water vapor from a plant's surface.

Exotic plants—Plants that are not native to the ecosystem under consideration and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Plant species that are nonnative, invasive plants.

Fate—Referring to the eventual disposition of the chemical in the environment, whether it degrades or persists.

Foredune—A dune ridge built up behind a coastline. Generally higher and more extensive than a beachridge.

Glyphosate—An herbicide that inhibits a specific enzyme that plants need to grow. Roundup® is one herbicide based on glyphosate.

Graminoids—Grasses and grasslike plants.

Halophyte—A plant that is adapted to grow in salty soil.

Hermatypic—Reef-building corals.

Herptofauna—A collective term for reptiles and amphibians.

Horticulture—Farming using human labor and simple tools such as digging sticks and hoes.

Hydrophytic—Growing wholly or partially in water. Hydrophytic plants can thrive in waterlogged conditions. Hydrophytic means 'before the first water-adapted' or 'water-loving.'



Hypersaline—Very saline brines. Salt concentration greater than sea water.

Karst topography—A landscape characterized by sinks, solution valleys, and other features produced by groundwater activity; it commonly develops in limestone.

Leachate—Contaminated water that leaks from a disposal site such as a landfill or dump.

Lignin—Fairly common in plant materials especially those that are stiff or woody in nature. It is difficult for bacteria to decompose lignin. Only fungi can decompose it easily.

Mechanical treatment—Treatment method that physically destroy, disrupt growth, or interfere with the reproduction of noxious and exotic plants. These methods can be accomplished by hand, hand tool, power tool, or heavy equipment, such as bulldozers, and may include manual pulling, digging, hoeing, tilling, cutting, mowing, and mulching exotic plants.

Meiofauna—Tiny animals measuring between 0.1 and 1 millimeter.

Microbe—A microorganism; a very tiny and often harmful plant or animal.

Midden—A prehistoric refuse heap, usually composed of shells.

Monotypic—Consisting of a single species; having only one representative.

Mollusk—Invertebrate animals with soft, unsegmented bodies, such as clams and snails, usually enclosed in a calcium shell.

Ornamental—A plant species or cultivar that is grown in gardens and parks for its beauty (in its end use), rather than commercial or other value.

Passerine—Relating to the largest order of birds, which includes more than half of all living birds and consists primarily of perching songbirds, whose young are hatched in an immature and helpless condition.

Pelagic—Refers to fish and animals that live in the open sea, away from the sea bottom.

Periphyton—Microscopic underwater plants and animals that are firmly attached to solid surfaces such as rocks.

Phenol—A caustic, poisonous acidic compound.

Piscivorous—Fish that feed on other fish.

Prescribed fire—Treatment method used to alter fire regimes in order to control exotic plants. This method changes some element of a system's ecology.

Riverine—Located on or inhabiting the banks or the area near a river or lake.

Rhizomatous plants—Plants that have a thick, underground, horizontal stem that produces roots, and whose shoots develop into plants (e.g., guinea grass).

Rookery—A nesting colony of birds.

Sclerophyllous—Leathery type leaves with a thick waxy cuticle that reduces water loss in plants.

Sheet flow—A condition of flooding that occurs overland in places where there are no defined channels.

Silviculture—Manipulation of forest vegetation to accomplish a specified set of objectives. It controls forest establishment, composition, and growth.

Turbidity—A measure of water cloudiness caused by the amount of suspended matter in the water.



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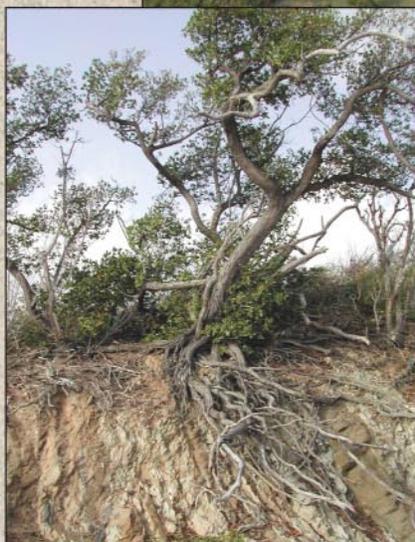
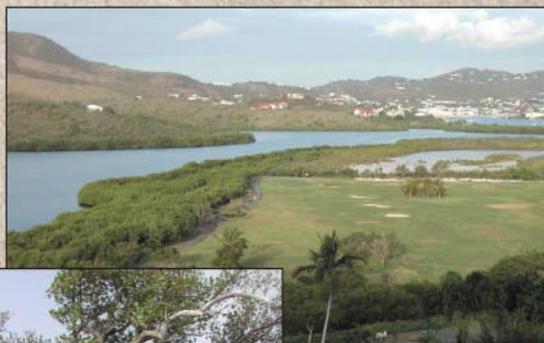


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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SOUTH FLORIDA AND CARIBBEAN PARKS
EXOTIC PLANT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT