

Program Name: Infrastructure
Project Name: A.R.M. Loxahatchee NWR Prescribed Fire Program
Project ID: 2304
Lead Agency: USFWS Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed: 2.A.3

Measurable Output(s): Acres of habitat improved including contribution to the reduction of hazardous fuels, with a secondary benefit of invasive exotic plant reduction.

During Fiscal Year 2013 the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge conducted prescribed fire on 9,192 acres of the Refuge for a total cost of \$89,939.

Project Synopsis: Fire is a natural part of the Everglades ecosystem. Fire also can be used to help control been altered. A prescribe fire program will help to improve habitats by reducing fuel loads and mimicking natural fire frequencies and intensities where appropriate. The overall result will be an improvement in wildlife habitat on the refuge.

Project Status: As of June 24, 2014 we have burned 315 Acres of this year’s total project goal. The prescribed fire program at the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge tries to closely replicate the natural fire occurrence pattern at the refuge. This natural pattern is what the plants and animals on the refuge are adapted to and depend on to flourish.

The natural fire season at the refuge is typically from late May through early September, as the rainy season brings lightning to the refuge. The bulk of our burning at the refuge takes place in August, and if current weather patterns prevail this will be the case in 2014.

Below is a map which outlines areas which will be targeted for prescribed fire during the upcoming burning season.

Expected Accomplishments: With an operating budget similar to FY 2013 it is anticipated that we will accomplish a similar amount of burning during FY2014. Of the areas highlighted on the map below, the southern ½ of Loxburn 14 Loxburn 11 and Loxburn 5 will be given the highest priority.

Project Schedule:

Start Date 2002 Finish Date: recurring

Detailed Project Budget Information (1000s)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Federal	170	176	175	170	225	90	90	1,096
State								
Other								
Total	170	176	175	170	225	90	90	1,096

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