

Invasive Exotic Species Strategic Action Framework

November 19, 2014





2013 Task Force Direction

- July 9, 2013 Task Force Meeting
 - The Working Group recommended the development of a Comprehensive Invasive Exotic Species Strategic Action Framework (2013) that includes a cross cut budgeting tool (2010)
 - OERI to hold a high-level partnership workshop to discuss Strategic Action Framework
 - Provide coordination support for federal invasive species efforts (2010)

Why a Strategic Action Framework?

- Help decision-makers understand the connections between goals, strategies, and tactics;
- Maximize the extent to which the current capacity for partnership is leveraged to meet common goals;
- Help decision-makers make wise and timely investment decisions in the battle against invasive exotics; and
- Define success and provide for accountability.



Goals for Today

- Request Task Force Approval:
 - Final Draft IES Strategic Action Framework
- Update The Task Force:
 - Preliminary Action Assessment (Working Draft) and next steps
 - Cross-cut budget
- Request Task Force Feedback on Next Steps



What We Did

- Held a series of 8 day-long workshops with invasive exotic species experts:
 - Task Force member agencies
 - Other partners (CPB, Zoo Miami...)
- Developed a framework for strategic action that describes the problem and outlines solution pathways
 - This document can guide our collective work in the future
- Developed a working draft of a Preliminary Action Assessment
 - Prioritizes strategies
 - Preliminary inventory of existing efforts
 - Preliminary identification of gaps

What We Learned

- This is a complex problem that needs interagency coordination
- Considerable work is currently being done by agencies and partners
- We CAN be more effective; a strategic approach will enhance our collective efforts;
- We do not know everything! Science has to help us find solutions;
- We are spending most of our time and effort “In the Red Zone”;
- We need to spend more time and effort in the blue and yellow zones;
- When you prioritize everything, you prioritize nothing;
- Some important gaps are related to governance and coordination; which means that filling them should be “low hanging (and inexpensive) fruit”.

Where We Are

- IES Strategic Action Framework**

- Goals

- Objectives

- Strategies

- Case Studies

- Preliminary Action Assessment Working Draft**

- Prioritized List of Strategies

- Cross-cut Budget**

UNDERWAY

- Web Portal**

Draft Framework, Preliminary Action Assessment, Cross-Cut Budget, and Web Portal



The Invasion Curve

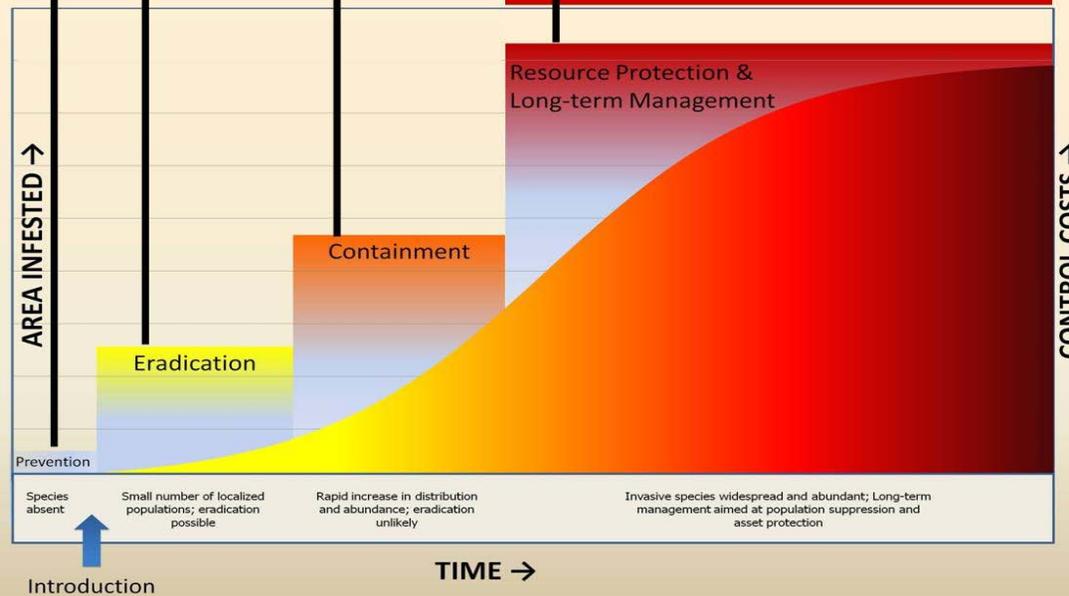
THE INVASION CURVE AND STRATEGIC GOALS

Goal 1: Prevent the introduction of invasive exotic species.

Goal 2: Eradicate invasive exotic species by implementing Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR).

Goal 3: Contain the spread of invasive exotic species.

Goal 4: Reduce the populations of widely established invasive exotic species and maintain at lowest feasible levels.





Strategic Action Framework

- Describes how invasive exotic species affect the South Florida Ecosystem: The Everglades, the regional economy, and Native American culture
- Explains pathways and why Florida is at particular risk
- Lays out a vision and key principles
- Delineates four strategic goals based on the Invasion Curve
- Provides objectives, strategies, and case studies for each goal area



Strategy Prioritization Results

- Priority Strategies: “The Top 11”
 - Common themes: tool development, improved monitoring, rapid risk assessment...
 - We have got to turn our attention to Goal 2 (Eradication through EDRR)
 - Integration of programs amongst agencies was also ranked highly

Preliminary Action Assessment Working Draft

- The IES Team created a preliminary list of current and needed actions under each priority strategy;
- The resulting Preliminary Action Assessment is a “living” piece of the Framework and is expected to evolve and change;
- The Assessment could be a starting place for an implementation plan.



Cross Cut Budget

- Currently Under Construction;
- Federal FY 2014 (Oct 1 2013-September 30, 2014) and State FY 2014 (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014);
- Rolled up by Goal and Plants vs. Animals;
- Geographic Boundary same as TF;
- Many agencies have already provided data: USACE, FDACS, SFWMD, 7 DOI refuges;
- Anticipated completion: February 2015



Recommended Next Steps

- OERI offers briefings to executive leadership of individual agencies/entities on the IES Framework.
- Following the Cross-cut Budget finalization (February 2015) and leadership briefings, the TF convenes an executive level leadership group to discuss implementation of the IES Framework.

Web Portal

www.EvergladesRestoration.gov