Program Name: Invasive Exotic Species Management
Project Name: Hole-in-the-Donut
Project ID: 2507 (Formerly Project ID 2606)
Lead Agency: National Park Service

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed: Primary: 2.B.1 Secondary: 2.A.3

Measurable Output(s): Acres infested with Brazilian pepper

Project Synopsis: This project will restore approximately 6,300 acres of wetlands within Everglades National Park by removing Brazilian pepper, an invasive exotic plant species, and the disturbed substrate to limestone bedrock. Invasive exotic plants are one of the greatest long-term threats to the Everglades ecosystem. As a result of this project, approximately 6,300 acres will be restored to natural wetlands within the park as mitigation for development projects in other areas of Dade County. The amount of restoration accomplished in the Hole-in-the-Donut during any one year is dependent on the amount of mitigation activity occurring in Dade County. A vast seed source with the potential to invade and disturb other areas of the Everglades will be eradicated.

Current Status: In FY 2011, 189 acres of Brazilian pepper were eradicated at a cost of $1,508,875.29. To date 4414 acres of the Hole-in-the-Donut have been restored. During FY2011, very few development projects in Miami-Dade requested mitigation from the Hole-in-the-Donut, consequently there were insufficient funds with which to conduct restoration in FY 2012. However, over the course of FY12, the Hole-in-the-Donut has received sufficient mitigation funds to permit restoration activities to occur in FY13. At this time, it is hoped to be able to restore approximately 250 acres at an estimated cost of $3,768,294.00

Cost:
Estimated Total: $123,750,000

Project Schedule:
Restoration Start Date: 1994
Estimated Restoration Finish Date: 2020
Estimated Stewardship Start Date: 2021
Estimated Stewardship Finish Date: 2071

Detailed Project Budget Information ($1,000)

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Hyperlink: N/A
Point of Contact: Everglades CFO
Program Name: Invasive Exotic Species Management  
Project Name: Aquatic and Upland Invasive Plant Management  
Project ID: 2508  
Lead Agency: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
Authority: Chapter 369, F.S.  
Funding Source: Invasive Plant Control Trust Fund  

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed: 2.B.2  

Measurable Output(s): Acres of upland and aquatic invasive plants controlled¹  

Acres Controlled:  
- Aquatics Program: 27,471  
- Uplands Program: 91,081  

Project Synopsis: The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is the lead agency in Florida responsible for coordinating and funding two statewide programs controlling invasive aquatic and upland plants on public conservation lands and waterways throughout the state. The aquatic plant management program designs, funds, coordinates, and contracts invasive non-native aquatic plant control efforts in Florida's 1.25 million acres of public waters. The upland plant management program coordinates and funds invasive plant removal projects on 11 million acres of public conservation lands, which include federal, state, and local government owned lands.  

Current Status: It is difficult if not impossible to eradicate invasive plants once they have become established. Therefore, it is unrealistic to characterize invasive plant management as a restoration activity. It is more accurately described as management that is necessary in perpetuity. FWC strives to manage, on a continuous basis, invasive aquatic plants in public water bodies and invasive upland plants on public conservation lands within the SFWMD region at levels that support and promote healthy populations of native plants for the benefit of fish, wildlife and people.  

Cost: TBD  
- Total (operations and maintenance)¹:  
  - Aquatics Program: $8,920,350  
  - Uplands Program: $5,186,997  

Project Schedule:  
- Start Date: annual  
- Finish Date: continuous  

Detailed Project Budget Information (1000s):  

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¹Within the 16-county SFWMD region during the previous state fiscal year  
²Includes $1 million match from SFWMD for melaleuca control  
³Includes $1 million match from SFWMD for melaleuca control

Hyperlink: http://www.myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/invasive-plants/  
Contact: William E. Caton