

**Program Name:** Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program  
**Project Name:** **Conservation Land Acquisition and Management**  
**Project ID:** 2809  
**Lead Agency:** Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program

**Strategy and Biennial Report Objective Addressed:** 2-B.4

**Invasive Species Strategic Action Framework Goal:** 4

**Measurable Output(s):** Acres acquired, acres treated – The EEL Program acquired 593 acres and managed/eradicated invasive exotic species on 8,558 acres from July 2012 to June 2016)

**Project Synopsis:** The Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program was established in 1990, amid growing concern about the continued loss of pine rocklands and other natural areas unique to southeast Florida. Miami-Dade County voters approved a referendum for a two-year property tax increase that initially funded and established the EEL Program to acquire, protect and manage environmentally endangered lands for this and future generations. Although the State of Florida had established land acquisition programs for preserving conservation lands by 1990, Miami-Dade County’s EEL Program was among the first in the state that was approved at a local level for this purpose. While EEL Funds have adequately supported the program since its inception, EEL Funds will be depleted by 2024, possibly sooner. Recurring revenue sources need to be identified and secured to assure that acquisition and management can continue.

**Current Status:** Since its inception, the EEL Program has acquired and manages more than 20,800 acres of land within the Greater Everglades Ecosystem, including pine rockland, tropical hardwood hammock, salt marsh, mangrove and freshwater wetlands. The EEL Program manages an additional 2,800 acres of environmentally sensitive lands owned by the county Parks Department. Over 20,000 acres of land within the EEL Program’s inventory are within the CERP C-111 and BBCW project footprints. The primary effort of management activities is eradication of invasive exotic plant species and restoration of native habitats at a cost in excess of \$3,000,000 per year.

**Project Schedule:**

Start Date: May 18, 1990

Finish Date: N/A – these lands are meant to be maintained in a restored state in perpetuity

**Detailed Project Budget Information**

	1990 - 2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Balance to Complete	Total
<b>Federal/ State grants</b>	13,251,000	152,000	130,000	100,000	100,000		
<b>Local (for management)</b>	42,573,440	3,000,000	3,000,000*	3,000,000*	3,000,000*	3,000,000* per year	
<b>Local (for acquisition &amp; administration)</b>	114,789,425	2,000,000	5,500,000*	3,000,000*	1,000,000*	>\$100,000,000*	
<b>Total</b>	<b>170,613,865</b>	<b>5,152,000</b>	<b>8,630,000*</b>	<b>6,100,000*</b>	<b>4,100,000*</b>		<b>TBD</b>

\* Dependent on availability of funds

Contact: Janet Gil, Program Director

Hyperlink: [www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands.asp](http://www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands.asp)

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**Pictures:**



Map of project area:

