

Program Name: Southwest Florida Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (SWF CISMA)
Project Name: Outreach and Educational Events
Project ID: 4208
Lead Agency: SWCISMA

Strategy and Biennial Report Objective Addressed: 3-D.1
Invasive Species Strategic Action Framework Goal: 1, 2, 3 and 4

Measurable Output(s): Number of events attended; Number of people attended

Project Synopsis: The mission of this group is to coordinate and increase efforts between local, state and federal agencies and landowners of all sizes. The goal is to reduce the impact of or eliminate invasive, nonnative plants and nonnative animals by combining programs and resources to address invasive species on a landscape level to achieve common goals and objectives.

Goal 4 of the SWF CISMA Annual Workplan is to provide education, and informational exchange. The CISMA members attend at least seven local events annually. During these events, we host exhibits with live invasive plants and animals, as well as non-live materials people can handle and take with them. We use these opportunities to educate the public and especially youth about the differences between native and invasive species, the impacts invasive species have on our native wildlife and habitats and how the general public can help with monitoring and removing the spread of invasive species across Southwest Florida.

The CISMA hosted its annual "Exotics Workshop" for agency and organization personnel as well as students and private landowners. This workshop provides an opportunity for people to learn current information on identification and treatment of invasive species in Southwest Florida. Following this event we hosted for individuals who may be working with large constrictor snakes in the field. During the Fall of 2015, the CISMA will hosted a Exotic Animal Workshop for local citizens in Collier County, to assist residents with identification of tegus and response protocol.

The CISMA hosted its first tegu survey, with 10 agency representatives in attendance.

Current Status:

2015: 9 Outreach Events attended, approximately 1500 people reached
2 Professional Trainings/Workshops, approximately 300 professionals trained, 30 private citizens
1 Tegu Survey in Collier County, 10 agencies involved,
Developed and mailed "Have you seen me" postcards with identification and reporting information for tegus and Burmese pythons in Collier County
Developed and printed Cane Toad identification sheets for private citizens to use for pet health

Project Schedule:

Start Date: January 2015
Finish Date: January 2016

Detailed Project Budget Information

	2014¹	2015	2016	2017	2018	Balance to Complete	Total
Federal	\$5000	\$5000					
SFWMD**							
NGO	\$900						
Local	\$2500	\$838 ²					
Total	\$8,400	\$5000					TBD

¹Each of these categories is from a grant source. The money is tied to specific projects and/or goals of the CISMA. We may receive more in 2015, but it is more likely that we will just have what is left over after this year's expenditures.

²Funds raised from Silent Auction at Annual Exotics Workshop. Funds targeted for 501c3 application.

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Hyperlink: www.FloridaInvasives.org/Southwest