

Invasive Exotic Species Strategic Action Framework

March 4, 2014



2013 Task Force Direction

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



Goals for Today

- Review the first draft
- Finalize:
 - Objectives
 - Strategic Actions
- Identify needs/gaps



Schedule

- March 4th – Strategic Action Framework meeting
- Mid-March – Draft Framework finalized
- April 2nd – Draft Framework presented at Working Group/Science Coordination Group meeting
- May 1st - Draft Framework presented to the Task Force

Draft Framework

Vision, Goals, and Case Studies

Goal 1: Prevent the introduction of invasive exotic species.

PRIORITIZE

Objective 1A: Prioritize prevention efforts.

- Assemble technical work groups.
- Develop tool(s) to identify invasive exotic species that are the most risky or are most likely to succeed once introduced to the ecosystem.
- Utilize ecological risk assessments.
- Educate and create public acceptance of risk assessment process.

Goal 1: Prevent the introduction of invasive exotic species.

PREVENT

Objective 1B: Prevent high priority invasive exotic species from entering.

- Enhance import/export screening.
- Maximize use of existing authorities.
 - Fully leverage federal, state, and local authorities to manage pathways of introductions of invasive exotic species using both regulatory and voluntary approaches.
- Seek new authorities.
- Enhance domestic bio-security.

Goal 1: Prevent the introduction of invasive exotic species.

PREVENT, continued

Objective 1B: Prevent high priority invasive exotic species from entering.

- Utilize best management practices (BMPs).
 - Require that all activities that have the potential to introduce or disseminate invasive species on public lands include an analysis to determine the potential for the introduction or movement of invasive species.
 - Develop a prevention plan (e.g. Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plan) or appropriate set of prevention and containment practices that will be implemented to mitigate or reduce the potential for invasive species movement onto and off of public lands and privately-owned/publicly managed lands.
- Engage the public and broaden the partnership actively working to prevent the introduction of invasive exotic species.
- Encourage the use of prevention practices in partner agency contracts and by entities working on or on the behalf of all partner agencies.

Goal 2: Implement Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR).

PRIORITIZE

Objective 2A: Prioritize early detection and rapid response (EDRR) efforts.

- Provide the resources (funding and staff) to maintain a team with the full-time responsibility of assessing incipient exotic invasive species populations.
- Assemble technical expert work groups for specific species of concern.
- Utilize ecological risk assessments.

Goal 2: Implement Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR).

DETECT

Objective 2B: Ensure early reporting of new invasions.

- Expand and implement a systematic, prioritized, all-taxa monitoring and inventory plan.
- Establish and utilize a centralized reporting system.
- Develop an outreach and communication strategy.
- Compile an on-call expert list.

Goal 2: Implement Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR).

ERADICATE

Objective 2C: Eradicate newly introduced invasive exotic species.

- Update and implement the ECISMA response protocol.
- Establish a rapid response fund in addition to consistent, dedicated resources for early detection.
- Update and provide access to EDRR guidelines, model response plans, and other resources.
- Expand and enhance training programs for rapid responders.
- Establish strike teams.*
- Eliminate barriers to rapid response such as permitting issues for responders.

Goal 2: Implement Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR).

INTERCEPT

Objective 2D: Prevent new incipient populations with limited distribution.

- **ACTIONS**

Goal 3: Contain the Spread of Invasive Exotic Species.

COORDINATE

Objective 3A: Standardize containment efforts through enhanced coordination.

- Describe invasive exotic species (flora and fauna) impacting South Florida Ecosystem restoration.
- Develop a shared plan for creating an emergency response fund to help support and increase the capacity of interagency and inter-jurisdictional teams to tackle emerging invasive species issues.
- Ensure that partnership policies, mechanisms, and implementation tools help support and encourage cooperative efforts across agencies, landscapes and jurisdictions.
- Encourage the use of containment practices in contracts and by entities working on or on the behalf of all partner agencies.

Goal 3: Contain the Spread of Invasive Exotic Species.

CONTAIN

Objective 3B: Utilize existing control tools to contain invasive exotic species.

- Develop and promote best management practices to prevent the inadvertent spread of invasive exotic species.*
- Retreat areas to ensure containment.

Goal 3: Contain the Spread of Invasive Exotic Species.

INVEST

Objective 3C: Invest in monitoring, research, science, and tool development.**

- Develop tools to assist in the containment and control of invasive exotic species.***
- Conduct inventory and monitoring to improve understanding of population dynamics.****

Goal 3: Contain the Spread of Invasive Exotic Species.

ANALYZE

Objective 3D: Analyze to determine effectiveness of control efforts on invasive exotic species' populations.

- Report successes/failures and lessons learned for each species and/or geographic region.
- Augment public dissemination of control efforts to bolster support, understanding and cooperation.
- Conduct low level impact analyses.
- Conduct economic impact analyses.

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

COMBAT

Objective 4A: Reduce population of established invasive exotic species through new controls or increased utilization of existing control tools.

- Eliminate, to the extent possible, invasive exotic plants and animals from natural areas by reducing invasive exotic species densities, reducing reproductive capacities of invasive exotic species, and employing a variety of control measures.
- Ensure that control measures are not deleterious to native species.
- Continue to review and update invasive species management techniques.
- Conduct routine surveys to detect new infestations and new species.
- Evaluate effectiveness of different treatment techniques and treatment intervals on invasive plants.
- To the extent practical, integrate federal, state, and local agency invasive exotic plant and animal control programs.

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

RESTORE

Objective 4B: Reduce impacts of invasive exotic species through restoration of native habitats and species.

- Support efforts to increase the total spatial extent of natural areas and restore natural hydrology.
- Coordinate invasive species management activities with monitoring of existing rare plant and animal species and to minimize unintended impacts to rare species.
- Coordinate invasive species management with restoration activities to prevent degradation of habitat.
- Reintroduce populations of extirpated and rare species, and augment existing populations where appropriate to improve native plant and animal species abundance and diversity.
- For listed species, use USFWS Recovery Plans as guides.

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Case Studies

- Prevention
 - Yellow Anaconda
 - Ticks (Heart Water Disease)
- Eradication
 - Sacred Ibis
 - Fruit Fly
- Containment
 - Tegus
 - Gambian Pouched Rat
- Management
 - Lionfish
 - Melaleuca
 - Burmese python
 - Ambrosia Beetle/Laurel Wilt
 - Shoebutton Ardisia
- Amnesty Days

