



Photo by Pat Lynch, SFWMD



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Photo by Lutz Dirksen

Summary of the Interagency Large Constrictor Workshop Nov 5-6, 2013

For the December 17, 2013 meeting of the
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force



Photo by Lutz Dirksen



Photo by Lutz Dirksen



Photo by Graham J. Alexander, Univ Witwatersrand



Photo by Mike Rochford, U.Florida



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Exotic Reptile and Amphibian Records in Florida

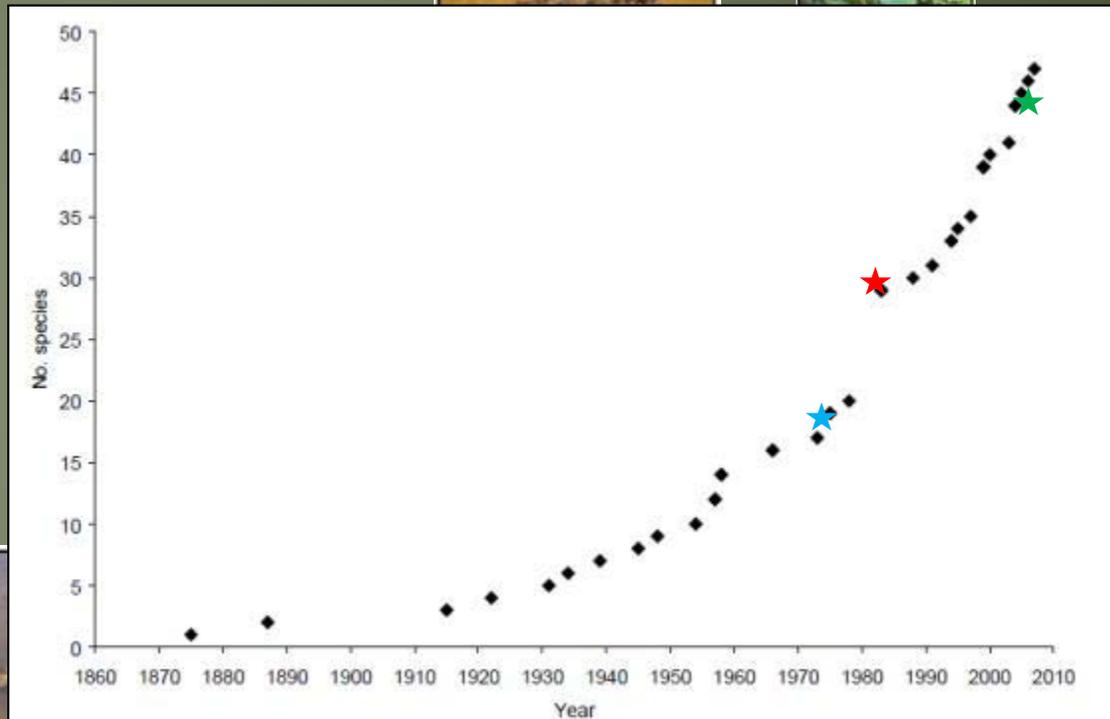


FIGURE 3. Accumulation curve of the number of exotic herpetofauna in Florida as measured by year of first record.

Science and Management of Large Constrictors

➤ Summarized current science and considered next steps

- detecting constrictors and estimating numbers
- ecosystem impacts
- tools for control
- human dimensions



➤ Looked at long-established interagency response programs to find elements we might apply in Florida



Science Summary

Photo JD Willson



(P) Detection is very low

Traps haven't worked, try new ideas (refugia)

Severe impacts to mammals confirmed;
cascading ecosystem impacts likely

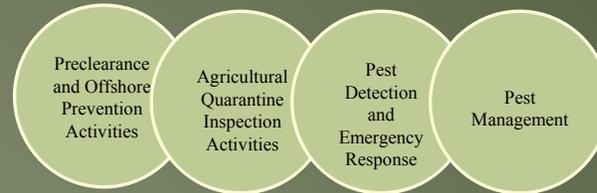


Risks to human safety of Burmese pythons are small
(other constrictor species may differ)

The public wants to be part of the solution

Summary of Response Programs

USDA Safeguarding Continuum



A formal, organized interagency management structure with high level involvement and dedicated funding is key to more-established, successful pest and invasive species control programs

Next Steps for Constrictors

- Summarize current science and acquire funding for priority science outcomes of the workshop (in progress.)



Photo Robert Reed



- Find ways to put additional skilled searchers (mostly people but also dogs) in the field.

- Gather land and resource management agencies together to discuss next steps for constrictor management in south Florida

