

Agenda
Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge's
Update On the License Agreement Performance Measures
with the South Florida Water Management District.

April 6, 2016
6:00 PM

Location: Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center

Goal 1. Implement and maintain a natural resources management program in WCA 1 that is consistent with and complementary to the water resources management as required by the Everglades Forever Act and the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

***Strategy.* Meet with SFWMD & COE at regular intervals to discuss water operations.**

Performance Measure

a) Meet at least quarterly with the SFWMD to actively participate in operational discussions to assist SFWMD and COE with water resource management decisions, including drought and flood management as well as compatibility with the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

Goal 2. Maintain and restore integrity of the Everglades habitat within WCA 1 with particular attention to control of invasive exotic plants and protection of tree islands.

***Strategy.* Use available measures such as prescribed fire and exotic control to enhance WCA 1 habitats.**

Performance Measure

a) Implement existing fire management plan and update at five-year interval.

b) Complete and implement integrated exotics management plan (2002) which includes annual management strategies for Melaleuca, Old World climbing fern, Brazilian pepper and Australian pine, and update at five-year interval.

***Strategy.* Acquire dedicated funds to conduct exotics control.**

Performance Measure

a) Demonstrate efforts to obtain funding for exotics control.

Strategy. Monitor and document coverage of exotic plant species in coordination with regional efforts.

Performance Measure

- a) Conduct SRF survey every two years

Strategy Achieve and sustain maintenance level control of Melaleuca, Old World Climbing fern, Brazilian pepper, and Australian pine within 15 years.

Performance Measure

- a) Percentage of infestation at sustain maintenance control will meet or exceed the following schedule.

| Species | Year 2007 | Year 2012 | Year 2017 |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Melaleuca | 20% | 75% | 100% |
| Old World climbing fern | 10% | 50% | 100% |
| Brazilian pepper | 20% | 50% | 100% |
| Australian pine | 100% | 100% | 100% |

Goal 3. Facilitate regular monitoring and research to assess the condition of the area, including water and soil chemistry parameters, as well as key biological indices.

Strategy. Maintain a policy of open research and monitoring opportunities.

Performance Measure

- a) No less than 95% of special use research permits that meet refuge criteria are approved.

Strategy. Meet with cooperators, universities, and agencies to discuss research and monitoring on the refuge.

Performance Measure

- a) Facilitate annual meeting/workshop on or before October 1, each year.

Strategy. Ensure research and monitoring to document and assess tree island and wildlife sustainability.

Performance Measure

- a) Complete research and monitoring plan, which includes tree island hydro period, fire and exotic control issues by 2003.
- b) Implement and update Research and Monitoring Plan at 5 year intervals.

Goal 4. Maintain a diverse public recreation program that includes limited access to the interior.

Strategy. Maintain a policy of collaborative public awareness and environmental education

Performance Measure

- a) Conduct an annual Everglades Day festival.

Strategy. Increase public awareness of the role that the Refuge plays in the Ecosystem and CERP.

Performance Measure

- a) Develop, implement and update at 5-year intervals and environmental education plan by December 2002.

Strategy. Expand and maintain compatible wildlife dependent recreation opportunities

Performance Measure

- a) Maintain canoe trails free of access limiting vegetation 95% of the year.

Update on non-License Agreement related issues.

Law Enforcement

Public Use

Biology/Exotic Animals

Fire