

RESOLUTION NO. 2011- 107

**A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION SEEKING FUNDING ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION TO CONDUCT INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES REMOVAL AT COUNTY PARKS**

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission allows local governments to make application through a grant program to help in the removal and control of invasive plant species; and

**WHEREAS**, the deadline for the County submitting the application is May 13, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has reviewed the completed Grant application; and

**WHEREAS**, after a review of the Grant application, the County has determined that nothing contained in the Grant application negatively impacts the interests of the County; and

**WHEREAS**, after a review of the Grant application and accompanying materials, the County has determined that none of the requirements, restrictions, and/or obligations associated with award of the Grant, or the Grant itself, negatively impact the interests of the County; and

**WHEREAS**, after a review of the completed Grant application and accompanying materials, the County has determined that an award of a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission grant to assist in control and removal of invasive plant species at County-owned parks serves the overall interests of the County.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida that:**

**Section 1.** The above Recitals are incorporated by reference into the body of this Resolution, and such Recitals are adopted as Findings of Fact.

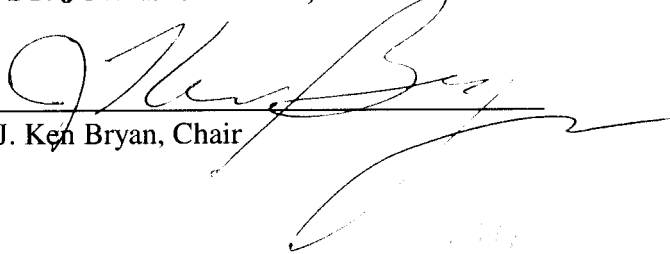
**Section 2.** The Board of County Commissioners hereby approves and authorizes the County Administrator, or designee, to submit a completed application based on the approved guidelines for grant submittal (attached hereto, and incorporated herein), on behalf of the St. Johns County Environmental Division for a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission grant to assist with the control and removal of invasive plant species on County-owned parks.

**Section 3.** The Board of County Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Administrator, or designee, to execute any other paperwork necessary, and/or associated with the application for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission grant.

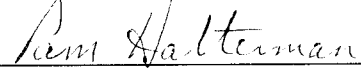
**Section 4.** To the extent that there are typographical or administrative errors or omissions that do not change the tone, tenor, or context of this Resolution, then this Resolution may be revised without subsequent approval of the Board of County Commissioners.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2011.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By:   
J. Ken Bryan, Chair

**ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK**

By:   
Deputy Clerk

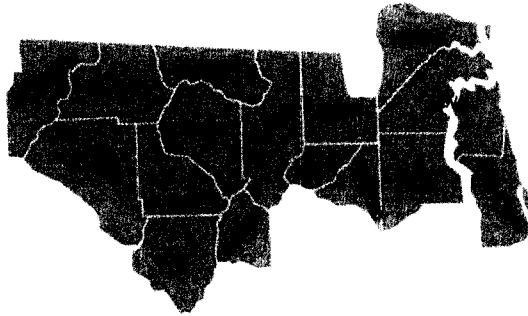
RENDITION DATE 5/5/11

## Northeast Invasive Upland Plant Working Group

### Ranking Criteria

4 February 2010

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission funds individual invasive plant removal projects on public conservation lands throughout the state under the Upland Plant Management Program, Florida Statute 369.252. Projects are considered based on recommendations from Regional Invasive Plant Working Groups; the working groups actively select projects for upland invasive plant management at a local level. The Northeast Florida Invasive Upland Plant Working Group ranks and submits exotic weed control projects to FWC that are located within 16 northeast Florida counties.



#### Minimum criteria:

1. Cooperative cost-share (i.e. in-kind services) and/or matching funds must be available through the management steward.
2. Project must be on public conservation land.
3. Plant species eligible for control must be a non-aquatic species that is recognized as having high invasive potential with current control technologies already established for its control or is listed on the current Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council's (FLEPPC) Category I or Category II priority list (review current listing at: <http://www.fleppc.org/list/list.htm>).
4. Follow-up maintenance and monitoring for control of site by site manager is available in perpetuity.

#### Group Specific Ranking Criteria Score Sheet:

1. Is a cash match included in the proposal and what percentage of total cost is the match?
  - a. 0 points = no match
  - b. 1 point = 1-15% match
  - c. 2 points = 16-40% match
  - d. 3 points = > 40% match

2. Is an in-kind match available? In-kind services include those services directly applied to the project that are beyond the requirements of writing the proposal (i.e., heavy equipment costs, treatment of x acres of infestation by staff, creating access for contractors, etc.).
  - a. 0 point = 0 match
  - b. 1 point = 1 - 15% match
  - c. 2 points = 16 - 30% match
  - d. 3 points = 31 - 45% match
  - e. 4 points = 46 - 60% match
  - f. 5 points = > 60% match
  
3. Does the project control invasive species that are or will directly affect state or federally listed species? Listed species are defined as flora and fauna listed by the state of Florida as Endangered, Threatened, or Species of Special Concern; or by the Federal government as Endangered or Threatened (some species may be listed by the state and federally).
  - a. 0-5 points subject to reviewer discretion
  
4. Does the project directly benefit rare natural communities as listed by Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI)? A rare natural community is defined as a FNAI listed S1, S2, or S3 community type (see the following link for the list of communities and their rank: <http://www.fnai.org/trackinglist.cfm>).
  - a. 0 points = not a S1, S2, or S3 community type
  - b. 1-3 points = is a S3 community type and subject to reviewer discretion
  - c. 4-6 points = is a S1 or S2 community type and subject to reviewer discretion
  
5. Does the proposal have a long-term recovery plan for the infested areas? The recovery plan should detail actions and dedicated funding by the project manager/agency to continue control efforts following the project proposal.
  - a. 0-5 points subject to reviewer discretion
  
6. How likely is it that the recovery plan will succeed in eradicating exotic weeds and fostering native vegetation colonization within the project area?
  - a. 0-5 points subject to reviewer discretion
  
7. Is there a public education and/or outreach program underway? What type of program is it (exotic weed specific, topic during a general presentation, website, kiosk, pamphlet, ect.)? How effective is the program in increasing awareness of invasive, exotic weeds?
  - a. 0-5 points subject to reviewer discretion
  
8. How has the project worked cooperatively with other agencies, working groups, or private landowners?
  - a. 0-5 points subject to reviewer discretion
  
9. What is the potential for escape to other adjacent conservation lands? In ranking this criteria, refer to the distance to nearby public conservation lands and the mode and distance of dispersal. For example, species that spread primarily through seed and spore dispersal may travel greater distances than species that spread vegetatively. Also consider the landscape scale, how far is the nearest conservation land and are there any likely travel corridors for spread. The idea behind this question is that lands with greater potential for exotics escaping need greater control efforts than those lands that already have established control and therefore less negative impact to neighboring conservation lands.
  - a. 0 points = no potential for escape

- b. 1 point = low potential for escape
  - c. 2 points = medium potential for escape
  - d. 3 points = high potential for escape
10. Does the project control a recent invader to your local area, i.e. is the species encroaching from surrounding counties? Local area is considered the county in which your conservation land resides in. This question addresses the need for early detection and rapid response in order to control or eradicate newly found species.
- a. 0 points = not a new species for your local area
  - b. 5 points = yes it is a new species for your local area
11. Is one or more of the target species a high-risk species? High-risk species of the Northeast Region Working Group include Chinese tallow (*Sapium sebiferum*), Cogon grass (*Imperata cylindrica*), Japanese climbing fern (*Lygodium japonicum*), Chinaberry (*Melia azedarach*), Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) and Air potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*). What is the extent of the infested area(s) and percent cover of the high-risk species?
- a. 0-5 points subject to reviewer discretion
12. Will the infestation location be submitted to FNAI and/or EddMaps?
- a. 0 points = no
  - b. 1 point = yes

### **Ranking Procedure:**

Proposals will be submitted electronically to the liaison by the due date. Everyone who submits a proposal should attend the ranking meeting or send a delegate to present the proposal to the group. Everyone attending the meeting will rank all the submitted proposals excluding projects they submitted. Other working group members may also attend the ranking meeting and rank proposals if they wish. Maintenance and initial project proposals will be ranked together with the same criteria score sheet.

At the annual ranking meeting, a delegate for the proposal will be given no more than 15 minutes to present the control project to the group. The group may then ask questions to the delegate in order to assign scores to the above questions. Each attending member will submit his or her scores to the working group liaison who will calculate the average points (rounding to the nearest whole number) for each question before summing the total for each 12 questions. There is potential to score 53 points, more points translate to a higher ranking (#1 being the highest ranked with the most total points). In the case of a tie of the total averaged points, total raw points will determine the higher priority project. In the case of a further tie, priority order of projects will be determined by a flip of a coin.