



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

MAR 02 2011

Mr. Mike Renda
Invasion and Restoration Biologist
The Nature Conservancy
574 South Beach Road
Hobe Sound, Florida 33455

Dear Mr. Renda:

Congratulations on receiving the Coastal America Partnership Award for the Treasure Coast Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area Partnership. The award recognizes outstanding partnerships that make a significant contribution toward the restoration and protection of our Nation's coastal environment. It is the only environmental award of its kind presented by the Administration.

Through your unique and collaborative team of Federal and State agencies, county governments, and nonprofit and educational institutions, an outstanding environmental victory was achieved for coastal Florida. Your project team is to be commended for working collaboratively to implement a comprehensive and cooperative approach across boundaries to address the threats of invasive species through four coastal counties in Florida.

As a direct result of your efforts, a priority list of species for early detection and rapid response actions has been created and outreach is ongoing to engage multiple user groups in your effort. Your team's innovative ecosystem-based management of these special lands will serve to enhance the entire coastal area as more native species are encouraged to propagate.

The Federal partners of Coastal America applaud and support you in your efforts to improve our coastal environment. Please accept our sincere congratulations and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar