

**Florida Keys Invasive Upland Plant Working Group
Project Ranking Criteria for FDEP/BIPM Upland Invasive Plant Management Program
Proposals and their Florida Keys Invasive Upland Plant Working Group Project
Ranking Form**

Project must meet all minimum eligibility criteria of the Upland Invasive Exotic Plant Management Program: Must be on public land managed for natural resources conservation purposes. Follow-up monitoring and maintenance of project site is available in perpetuity. Plants treated must be upland species on Florida EPPC list (Category I or II) or Task Force agrees that an unlisted species is a serious threat in the Keys.

Project must address the following statewide criteria: Cooperative cost-share/matching funds available through the proposer. Proposed target species; a) are recognized as highly invasive (see EPPC list) b) have established Current Control Technologies (CCT's) Proposed project will benefit specific threatened or endangered species that inhabit the site. Project site must have relatively high restoration potential: a) native species will re-colonize naturally b) native seed bank is proven to be present and/or c) re-vegetation planting is practical and already funded Public education/outreach programs will further the awareness of exotics issues.

Project should address the following regional (Keys) criteria: Project focuses on populations that threaten adjacent healthy native habitats. Project fosters cooperation among FKlETF members. Project targets the Keys most invasive species (Australian pine, Brazilian pepper, lather leaf, seaside mahoe) or new populations of invasive species. Project does not include substantial densities of exotics for which CCT's have not been developed. Project manager is committed to total eradication (measures of commitment include active management, development of management plans with timelines and measures of success, and active participation in the FKlETF). Project is highly visible and fosters awareness of exotics issues.

Florida Keys Invasive Upland Plant Working Group Project Ranking Form

Project Title: _____ Proposed By: _____

Score

_____ Cost-sharing/Matching funds >1:1=5, (<1-.75):1=4, (<.75-.5):1=3, (<.5-.25):1=2, (<.25-.01):1=1, 0:1=0

_____ Target species recognized as highly invasive and control method developed Cat. I with CCT's developed=5 Cat. II with CCT's=4 Cat. I without CCT's=3 Cat II without CCT's=2 Not on EPPC list but group recognizes invasiveness in Keys=1 Not on EPPC list and not recognized as invasive in Keys=0

_____ Benefits threatened or endangered species (consider direct vs indirect benefits, number and status of species affected, etc.) 5-0 points

_____ Restoration potential (consider native vegetation on site, seed bank present, secured funds for replanting, etc.) 5-0 points

_____ Public education program linked to project (consider visibility, interpretation, signage, etc.) 5-0 points

_____ Project helps protect adjacent healthy natural areas Project abuts natural area=3 Project within 1 mile of natural area=2 Project within 10 miles of natural area=1 Project not within 10 miles of natural area=0

_____ Project manager committed to total eradication (consider history of effective exotics management, management plan addresses exotics, active participation in FKlETF, etc.) 1 or 0

_____ Project fosters cooperation among FKlETF members Project receives direct contribution of funds, goods, or services=1 Project does not receive direct contribution of funds, goods, or services=0

_____ Total (Max=30, Min=0)