

**REQUIREMENTS FOR DEP'S COOPERATIVE UPLAND
INVASIVE-EXOTIC PLANT CONTROL PROGRAM
PANHANDLE INVASIVE UPLAND PLANT WORKING GROUP**

Program Goals

*A. Contain the spread of invasive exotic plant species in Florida's Public Lands; **1st Priority***

*B. Reduce the number of acres infested with invasive exotic plants statewide; **2nd Priority***

Minimum Criteria

A. Project must be on public land--city, county, state, or federal--which is managed primarily for conservation purposes.

B. Plant species to be controlled must be species not covered by the Cooperative Aquatic Plant Control Program.

C. Project proposal and final project report will be submitted in standardized format.

D. A Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) exists between the managing entity and DEP to allow work to begin.

E. Follow-up monitoring and maintenance of control site by managing site steward is available in perpetuity [including maintenance agreement such as Department of Transportation's (DOT's)].

PANHANDLE INVASIVE PLANT WORKING GROUP

PROPOSAL NAME: _____ **Proposal Ranking Criteria**

(Score 10) _____The primary target exotic species is listed as a category one invasive plant by the Exotic Pest plant council.

(Score 5) _____The primary target exotic species is listed as a category two invasive plant by the Exotic pest Plant Council.

(Score 1 to 20) _____Severe infestation based on acres infested and average percent coverage. Use chart below to determine score.

Acres Infested

Avg % Coverage 1-10 11-50 >50

1-10% 1 5 10

11-40% 3 8 14

41-70% 7 12 18

>70% 10 15 20

(Score 0-20) _____ Is there a management plan (or detailed site proposal) for the site? Management plans should include: -control methods for invasive exotics. -restoration of the site. -future strategies to enhance native habitat and prevent re-infestations of invasive exotics.

(Score 0-20) _____ Describe both quantitatively and qualitatively your public education effort. This description can include the use of pamphlets, mass media, presentations, signage, etc.

Estimate the number of people who will be informed by these efforts.

(Score 0-10) _____ If invasive exotics plants on adjacent or nearby lands are a potential source of reintroduction; has adjacent landowner(s) provided documentation of their control strategies/methods for invasive exotics plants or this is an isolated population.

(Score 0-10) _____ Is this a population of a species new to the area that could expand and cause greater problems in the future (i.e., new Chinese tallow or tropical soda apple) or a species uncommon to the panhandle region (i.e., skunk vine).

(Score 0-10) _____ Are matching funds available? Are in-kind services, partners or volunteers being used? (50% = full ten points) (25% = five points) (10% = two points)

(Score 0-10) _____ Does the site have a high recovery potential? For example, do native plants already exist on site that will reestablish themselves on the site after control of invasive exotic plants is achieved, or is replanting of native plants easily achievable and funded?

(Score 0-5) _____ Is the invasive exotic plant infestation a threat to other nearby conservation lands?

(Score 0-10) _____ Will this project benefit listed plant or animal species or rare habitats? Describe species, status, and habitat classification (FNAI).