

Developing an EDRR program for invasive vertebrates in the Everglades CISMA

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UF logo here
Go Gators!
(Beat UGA)

UT logo here

Need for vertebrate EDRR

- From evergladescisma.org
 - More than 45 introduced herp species
 - 13 introduced birds
 - 22 introduced mammals
 - More than 50 species of fishes

Cuban Treefrog eating
Squirrel Treefrog

Purple Swamp Hen
“Tastes just like chicken”

What is EDRR?

- ED=Early Detection: Reveals the extent of the problem by identifying incipient populations of introduced species that can be targeted for eradication efforts.
- RR=Rapid Response: Carefully planned, decisive action to eradicate (e.g., **Kill, Kill, Kill!**) incipient populations of introduced/invasive species.

Klowden (the short guy)
with
dead monitor

Essential components of EDRR

- A National EDRR System for Invasive Plants in the United States
 - Detection and Reporting
 - Identification and Vouchering
 - Rapid Assessment
 - Planning and Rapid Response
- Public Education

Habitatitude logo here

“Don’t let it loose”
sticker here

Detection and Reporting

- UF-IFAS Extension ED Program
 - “Train the trainer” (County Agents, others)
 - Targeting Master Naturalists and Master Gardeners
 - 20 hour program (PP pres., videos, group project)
 - General background on invasive vertebrates
 - Impacts—ecological, economic, environmental
 - Species accounts
 - Natural history, impacts, distribution, identification (similar species)
 - Evaluation instrument
 - Reporting system linked with a RR program, at some point

ED Component for ECISMA

- Identification of target audience
 - *Task 1*
- Species to include in training
 - *Task 2*
- Standardized training
 - Developed a “canned” training module for broad use among ECISMA partners
 - PP with speaking notes, video?
 - Species accounts, identification, “range” maps
 - Preserved specimens?
 - Evaluate with focus groups
 - *Task 3*

ED Component for ECISMA

- Additional products
 - ID decks, reference sheet
 - Online resources
 - Species accounts
- Reporting system
 - ECISMA web site
 - Hotline?