

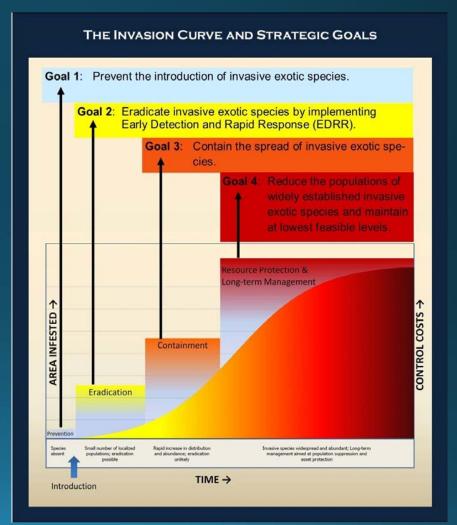
LEADERSHIP • PARTNERSHIP • RESULTS

WRDA 2020 Adam Gelber, OERI September 28, 2021

Invasive Exotic Species Strategic Action Framework

- The Framework has 4 Goals based on the Invasion Curve.
- The initial Framework was completed in 2015.
- Updated in 2020.
- Includes a set of companion documents:
 - Case Studies
 - Priorities
 - 2020 Progress Report
 - FY 2014 and FY 2019 Snapshot Budgets
- Available at:

www.evergladesrestoration.gov/invasive-exoticspecies-strategic-action-framework



Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020

- 2019: Suppressing Looming Invasive Threats Harming Everglades Restoration "SLITHER Act" was introduced.
- 2020: The Slither Act was Included in WRDA 2020, Section 504, as "Invasive Species Risk Assessment Prioritization and Management."
 - Amended Section 528 of WRDA 1996 to add specific duties to the Task Force related to invasive species.

WRDA 2020 Direction, Part 1

<u>Develop and update, as appropriate, a Priority List of Invasive Species that:</u>

- Reflects an assessment of ecological risk that the listed species represent.
- Includes invasive plants and animals that:
 - Significantly impact the structure and function of ecological communities, native species, or habitat within the South Florida Ecosystem, or
 - Demonstrate a strong potential to reduce, obscure, or otherwise alter key indicators used to measure Everglades restoration progress.

WRDA 2020 Direction, Part 2

The Priority List of Invasive Species shall be used by the Task Force and its member organizations to focus cooperative and collaborative efforts to:

- Guide applied research;
- Develop innovative strategies and tools to facilitate improved management, control, or eradication of listed invasive species;

WRDA 2020 Direction, Part 2, Continued

The Priority List of Invasive Species shall be used by the Task Force and its member organizations to focus cooperative and collaborative efforts to:

- Implement specific management, control, or eradication activities at the appropriate periodicity and intensity necessary to reduce or neutralize the impacts of listed invasive species, including the use of qualified skilled volunteers when appropriate; and
- Develop innovative strategies and tools to prevent future introductions of nonnative species.

Discussion?