

Program Name: Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR) Venom Response Program
Project Name: MDFR Rapid Response and Invasive Species Removal
Project ID: 2609
Lead Agency: Miami-Dade County

Strategy and Biennial Report Objective Addressed: 2-B.2, 2-B.3, and 2-B.4
Invasive Species Strategic Action Framework Goal: 2, 3 and 4

Measurable Output(s):

Number of incidents to which personnel respond
 Number of non-native species removed from environment

Project Synopsis:

The Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Venom Response Program has been involved in removal of non-native species from Miami-Dade County since the inception of the program in 1998. In that time we have removed 100s of animals that have been reported by citizens on Miami-Dade County. The program operates with three persons on a rotating 24 hour schedule. As the unit is staffed 24 hours, personnel are available to remove non-native animals that have been reported within the boundaries of Miami-Dade County. These removals are coordinated with the local, state and federal agencies and the animals removed are turned into the state of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for final disposition. These activities have been solely funded via county government. Prior to coordination with the cooperating agencies, the program was operating as a de facto Early Detection and Rapid Response entity.

Current Status:

Personnel from the unit are currently actively engaged in removal of exotic species during the course of their normal 24 hour workday, and respond to complaints of non-native species regularly (more than 100 calls per year). Recovered 2 new species in 2014, a Madagascar leaf nosed snake and a Taiwan beauty snake this year.

Project Schedule:

Start Date: October 2014
 Finish Date: Ongoing

Detailed Project Budget Information

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Balance to Complete	Total
Federal							
SFWMD**							
Local	*\$40,000	*\$750,000	*750,000				1,540,000
Total	*\$40,000	\$750,000	*\$750,000				1,540,000

* \$40,000 Staff Hours for removal, \$300-\$400,000 total personnel cost, \$300,000 for anti-venom and other medication expenses.

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Hyperlink: <http://www.miamidade.gov/fire/about-special-venom.asp>