

Implementing the Invasive Exotic Species Strategic Action Framework:

Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR)



Goal 1: Prevent the introduction of invasive exotic species.

Goal 2: Eradicate invasive exotic species by implementing Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR).

Goal 3: Contain the spread of invasive exotic species.

Goal 4: Reduce the populations of widely established invasive exotic species and maintain at lowest feasible levels.

AREA INFESTED →

CONTROL COSTS →

Prevention

Species absent

Small number of localized populations; eradication possible

Rapid increase in distribution and abundance; eradication unlikely

Invasive species widespread and abundant; Long-term management aimed at population suppression and asset protection

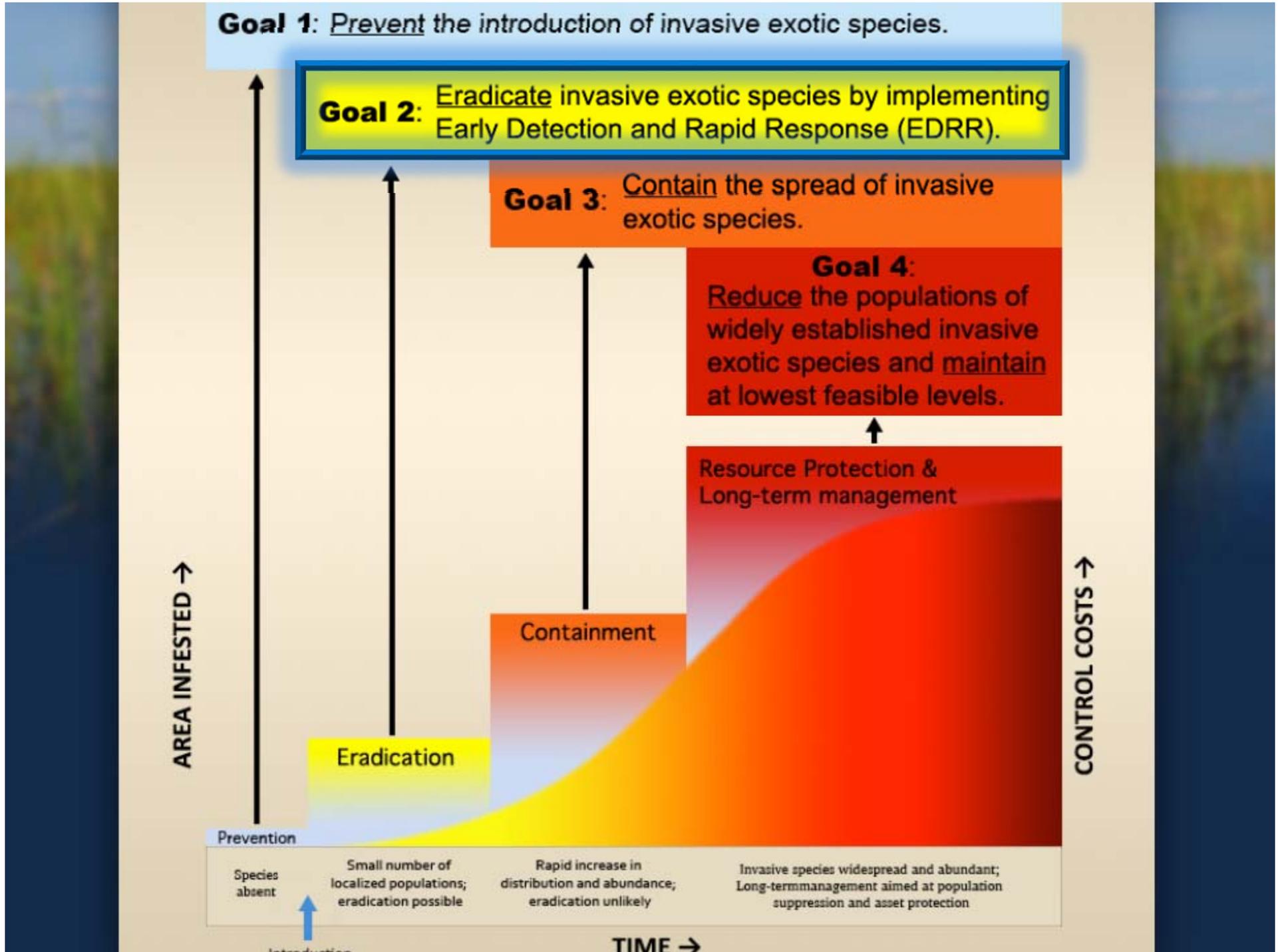
Eradication

Containment

Resource Protection & Long-term management

TIME →

Introduction



Eradicate invasive exotic species by
Goal 2: implementing Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR)

Obj 2A: Prepare & monitor to enhance early detection.

•**Priority Strategy 2A5:** Establish rapid assessment & response programs/processes/cooperatives/tool that allow for nimble reactions for eradication.

Obj 2B: Ensure rapid assessment of new non-native species.

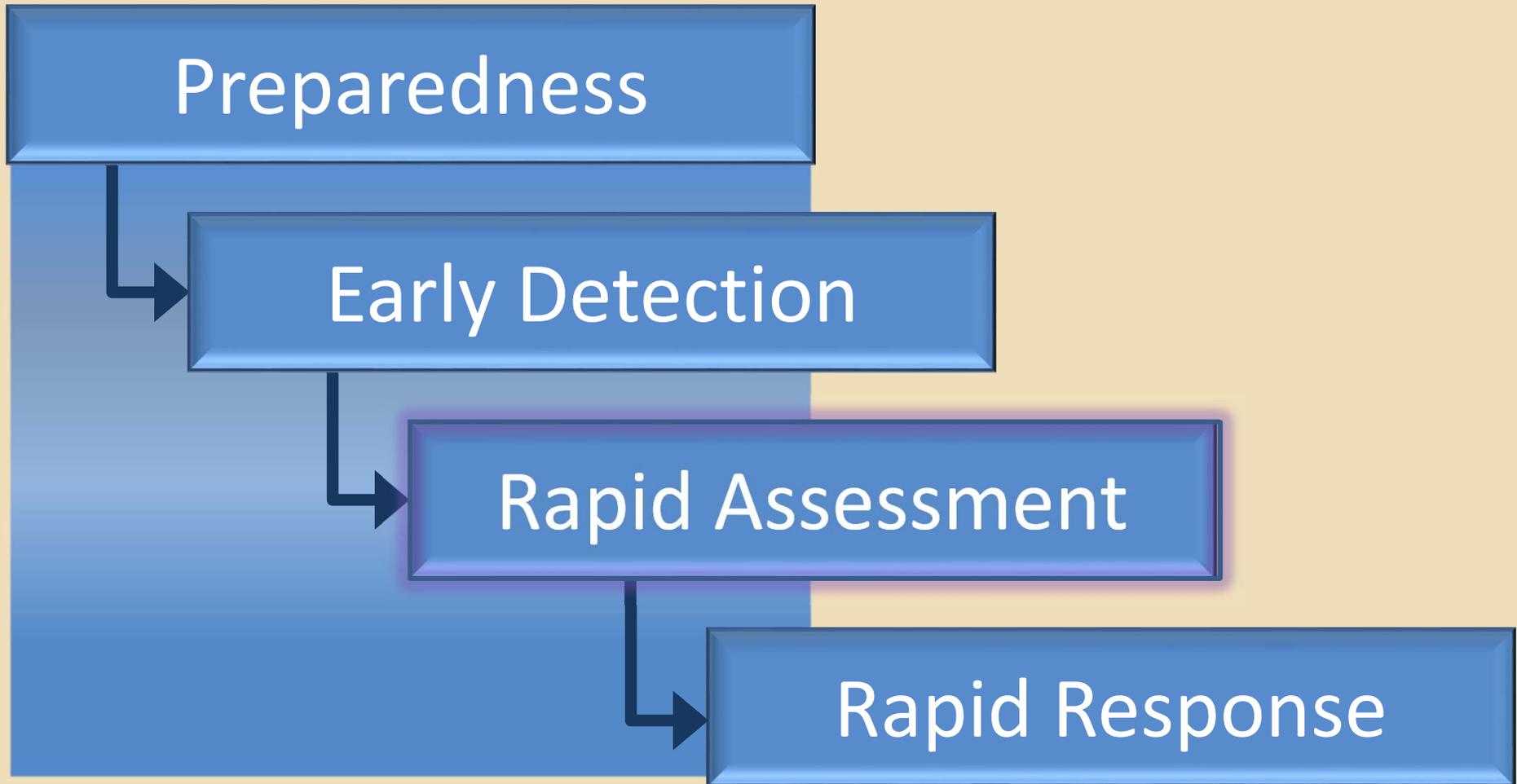
•**Priority Strategy 2B1:** Rapidly assess status & potential threat of new species and develop a response/no response plan.

Addressing priority strategies 2A5 and 2B1

US Geological Survey – Greater Everglades Priority Ecosystem Science

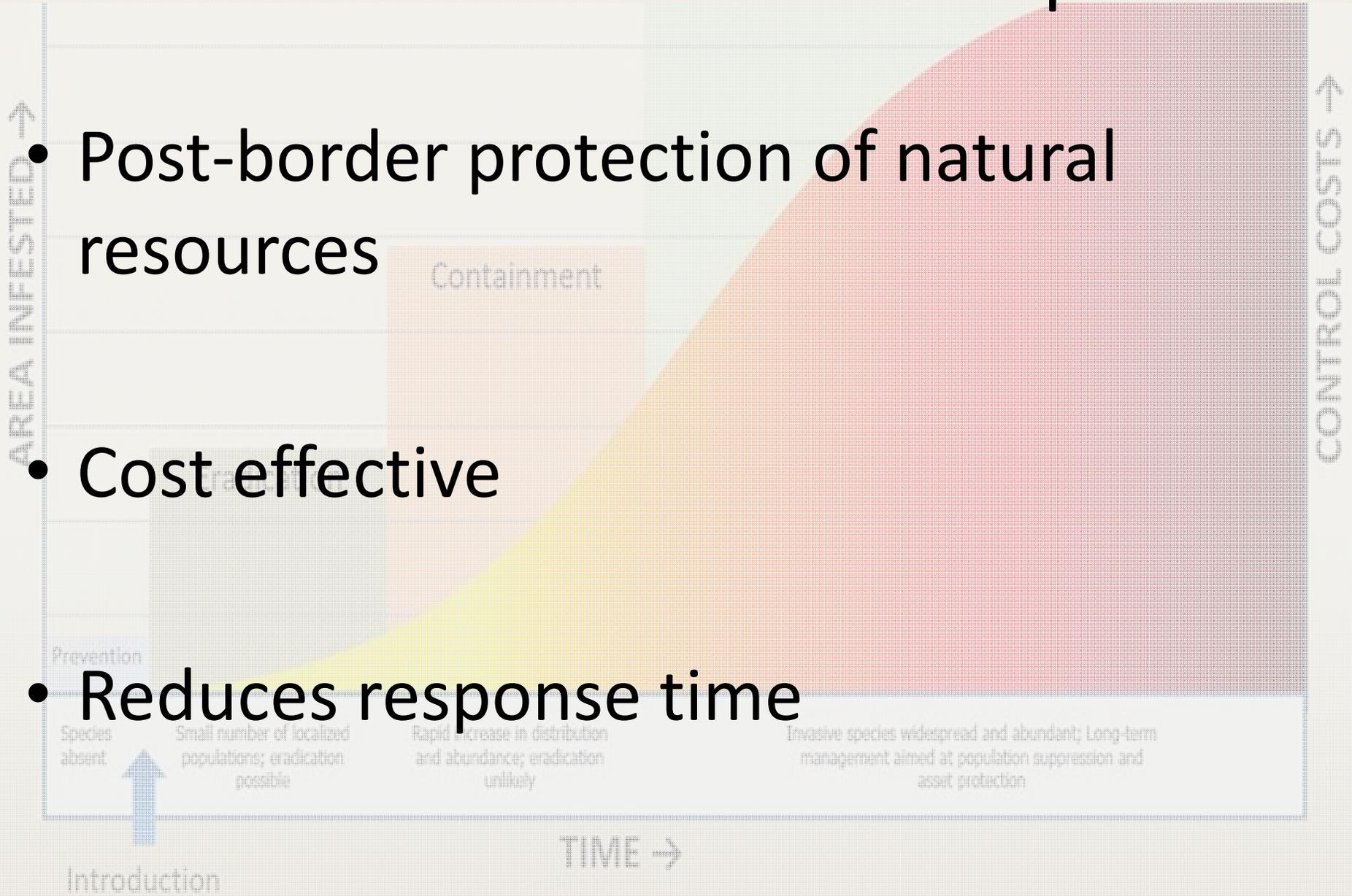
- USGS/FAU Cooperative Agreement –
Florida Center for Environmental Studies
 - Oct 2015, USGS/CES Technical Meeting:
“Improving the EDRR Decision
Framework for the Greater Everglades”

Four general stages of EDRR process



The U.S. Department of the Interior. 2016. Safeguarding America's lands and waters from invasive species: A national framework for early detection and rapid response.

Benefits of established EDRR protocol



- Post-border protection of natural resources

- Cost effective

- Reduces response time

EDRR success for the Greater Everglades

–Sacred Ibis



Everglades CISMA

May 27 at 8:37am · 🌐

<http://m.focustaiwan.tw/news/asoc/201605260014.aspx>



Taiwan seeking to reduce ecological impact of alien bird
| Society | FOCUS TAIWAN - CNA ENGLISH NEWS

Taipei, May 26 (CNA) Taiwan is taking steps to deal with the problem of an

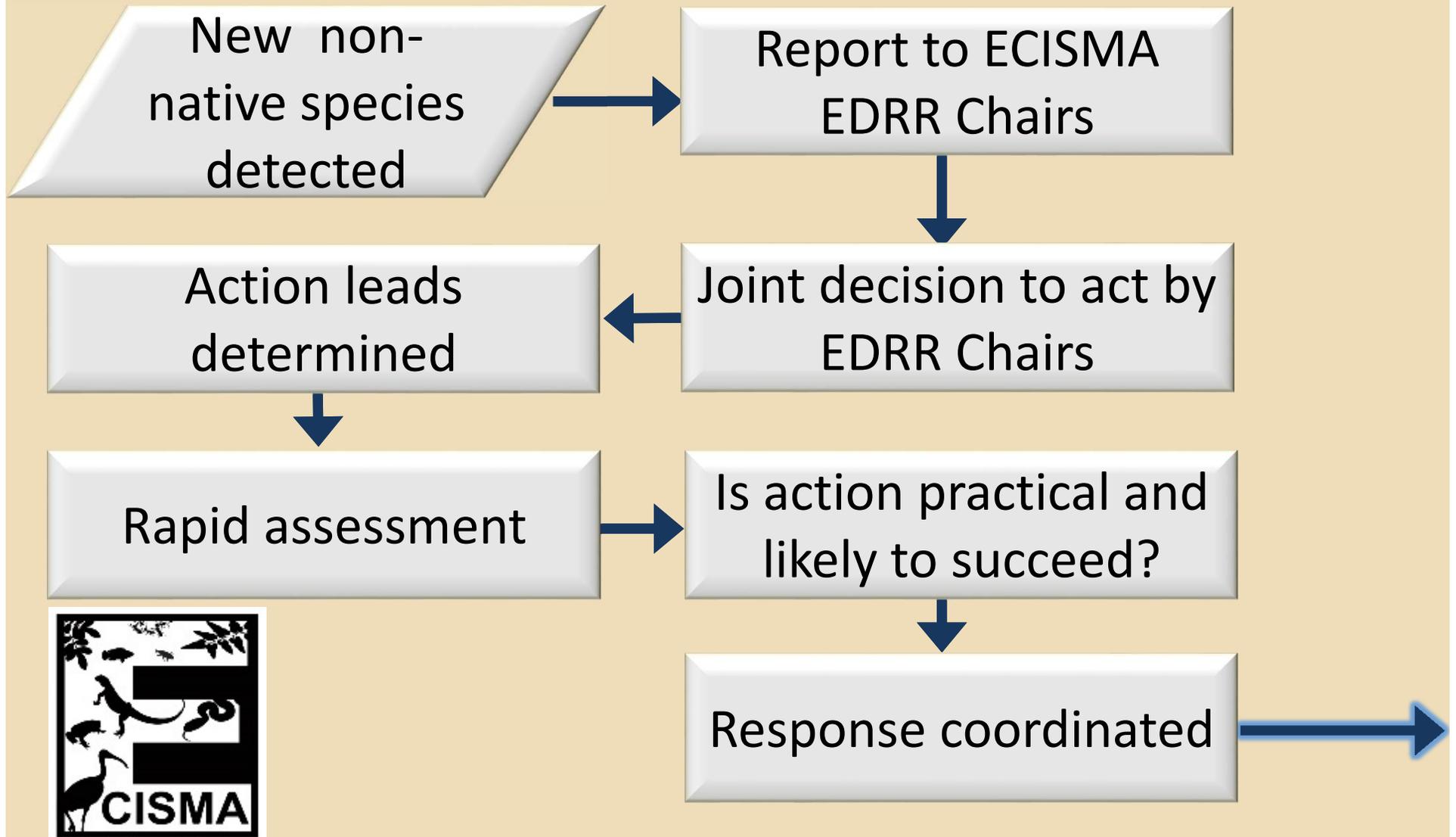


Everglades CISMA Good thing ECISMA did EDRR on this species

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Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area

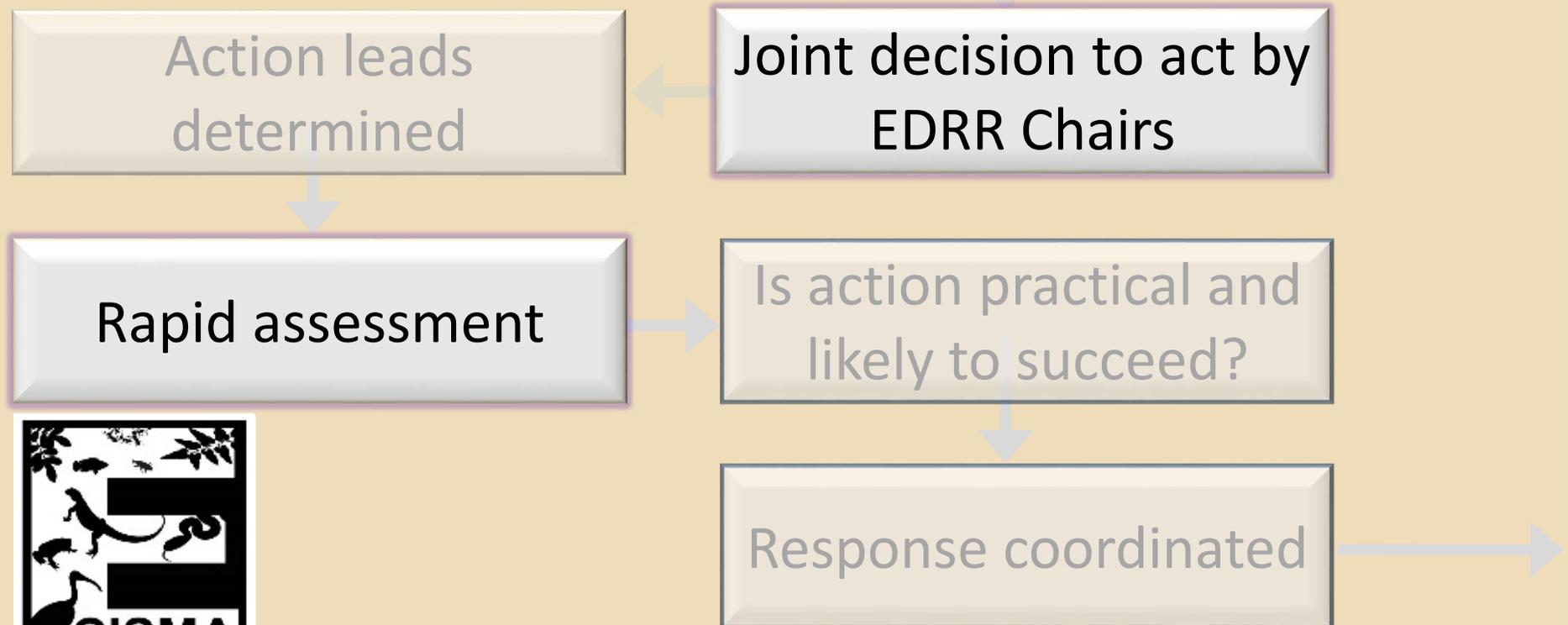
Abbreviated Rapid Response Action Planning Protocol



Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area

Abbreviated Rapid Response Action Planning Protocol

Decision-making process currently lacks transparency and standardization



Greater Everglades Ecosystem Rapid Response Screening Tool



Greater Everglades Ecosystem Rapid Response Screening Tool (GEERReST)

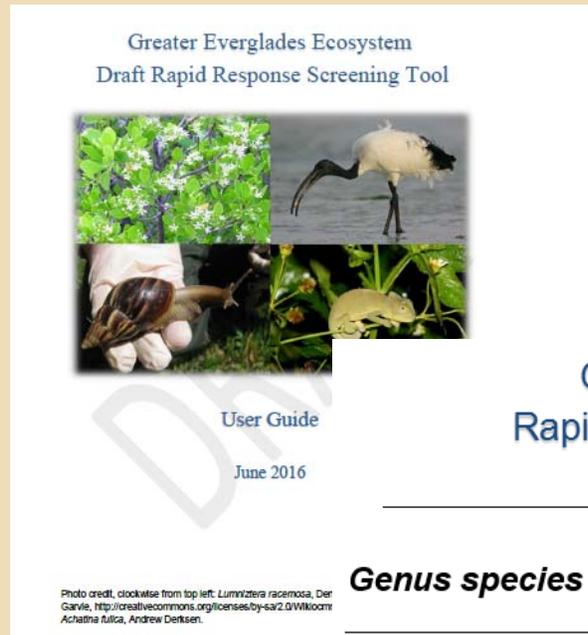
- Decision support tool – so that decisions to act are quick, transparent, standardized, and defensible
- Can be used across all agencies and cooperators
- Across all taxonomic groups

GEERReST Development

- Existing invasive species ranking systems
 - South Australia/New South Wales Weed Risk Management System
 - USFWS Ecological Risk Screening Summary
 - Lake Champlain Basin Rapid Response Action Plan
 - Copp GH, et al. Risk Assessment Protocols & Decision Making Tools for Alien Species in Aquaculture
- Information from the literature
- Participant input during USGS/CES EDRR Technical Meeting

GEERReST Toolkit

- User guide
- Report template
- Excel calculation form



Greater Everglades Ecosystem Rapid Response Screening Tool Report

Genus species

Assessor name, affiliation: Please provide the name and affiliation of the person performing the screening assessment and affiliation.

Date: Please provide the date the assessment was performed.

| Assessor name | | Date | |
|---|--|------|--|
| Affiliation | | | |
| Recommendation Consult spreadsheet "Action Matrix" | | | |
| Invasion assessment score | | | |
| Feasibility of control score | | | |

GEEReST Process

Series of questions under two sections:

–**Invasiveness**

- Current distribution
- Invasion potential (Invasion history elsewhere, climate matching, dispersal and reproductive potential)
- Impacts (Native species interactions, animal/human health, habitat alteration)

GEEReST Process

Series of questions under two sections:

–**Feasibility of control**

- Species/population characteristics
- Habitat characteristics
- Methodology and regulatory constraints

GEEReST Process

Uncertainty

- Each question assigned estimate of uncertainty
- Uncertainty codes from Generic Nonindigenous Aquatic Organisms Risk Analysis Review Process
- Meant to categorize level of epistemic uncertainty (reflects lack of knowledge)

| Category | Screening question | Response | Uncertainty | Score | Uncertainty Score |
|--|---|----------|-------------|----------|-------------------|
| B. Hazard Status | | | | | |
| | BQ1 Is species on Injurious/Prohibited/Regulated/Noxious lists described in User Guide? | | | | |
| C. Current distribution in Greater Everglades | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | CQ1 Has species been detected in more than one location in the Greater Everglades Ecosystem? | | | | |
| D. Invasiveness | | | | 0 | 0 |
| 1. Invasion history elsewhere | DQ1 Is species invasive elsewhere (outside of Greater Everglades Ecosystem)? | | | | |
| 2. Climate suitability | DQ2 What is the climate suitability for this species within the Greater Everglades Ecosystem (Climatematch categorical ranking)? | | | | |
| 3. Dispersal potential | DQ3 How likely are long-distance dispersal events by <i>natural</i> means? (answer a-e below) | | | | |

GEEReST Process

- Score calculated for both sections
- Assessor directed to matrix that compares scores and provides context for management action

| | | | |
|---------------|--|------|--|
| Assessor name | | Date | |
| Affiliation | | | |

Recommendation **Consult spreadsheet "Action Matrix"**

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------------|-------------------------|---|
| Invasion assessment score | 216.00 | High | Low Uncertainty | Information is adequate to support recommendation |
| Feasibility of control score | 125.00 | Medium | High Uncertainty | Caution - insufficient information to support recommendation |

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|--|
| A. Taxonomy | Taxonomic group | |
| | Scientific name | |
| | Common Name | |

| Invasion Assessment | Feasibility of Control | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Negligible (≤24) | Low (25-60) | Medium (61-158) | High (159-376) | Very High (≥376) |
| Negligible (≤36) | Limited Action | Limited Action | Limited Action | Monitor | Monitor |
| Low (37-100) | Limited Action | Limited Action | Limited Action | Monitor | Monitor |
| Medium (101-196) | Limited Action | Monitor | Monitor | Coordinate Rapid Response | Coordinate Rapid Response |
| High (197-336) | Limited Action | Protect Priority Sites | Protect Priority Sites | Coordinate Rapid Response | Coordinate Rapid Response |
| Very high (≥337) | Limited Action | Protect Priority Sites | Protect Priority Sites | Coordinate Rapid Response | Coordinate Rapid Response |

Next steps

- Continued validation
 - Additional testing on species with known status
 - Updating as new information obtained
- Second USGS/CES Technical Meeting to be arranged
 - Opportunity for potential assessors to evaluate GEERReST

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