



## A PERFECT MATCH: INCREASING IMPACT IN INVASIVE SPECIES OUTREACH THROUGH EXTENSION AND CISMA COLLABORATION

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**UF** | IFAS Extension  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

# Today's Topics

- Who, What, Why Collaborate?
- How?
- Impacts
- What's next?

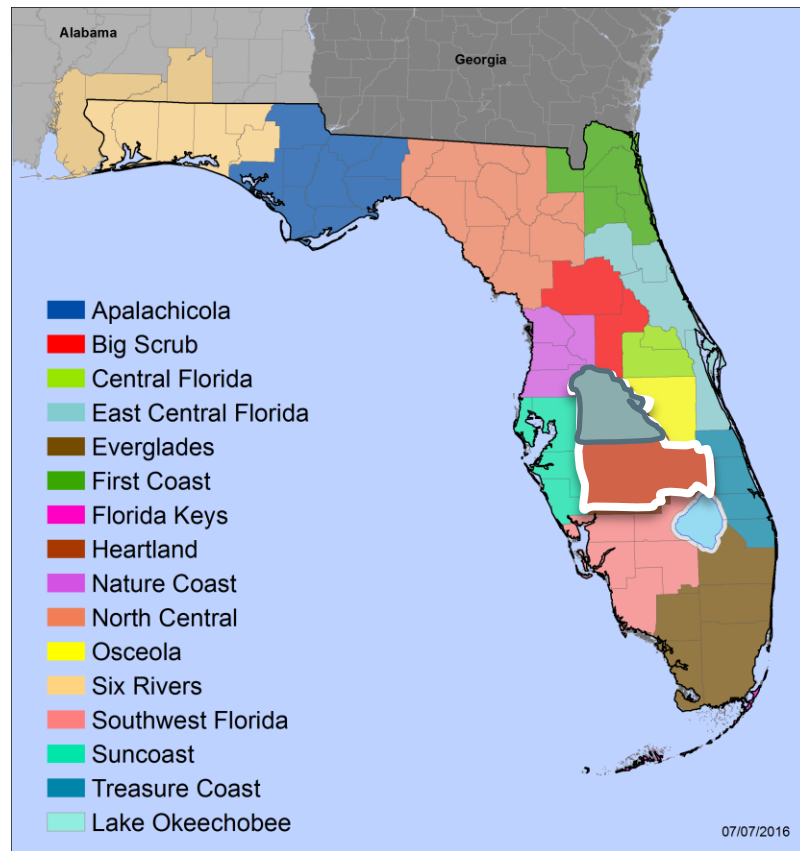


# Where are we?

## Heartland CISMA

- Polk, Highlands, Hardee, DeSoto & Okeechobee

## UF/IFAS Extension Polk County



# CISMAs and Extension: Who?

## CISMA

### Collaboration

- Federal agencies
- State agencies
- Local agencies
- Non-government organizations (NGOs)

## UF/IFAS Extension

### Partnership

- State
- Federal
- County government

Thousands of faculty members, scientists, educators, and volunteers

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# CISMAs and Extension: What?

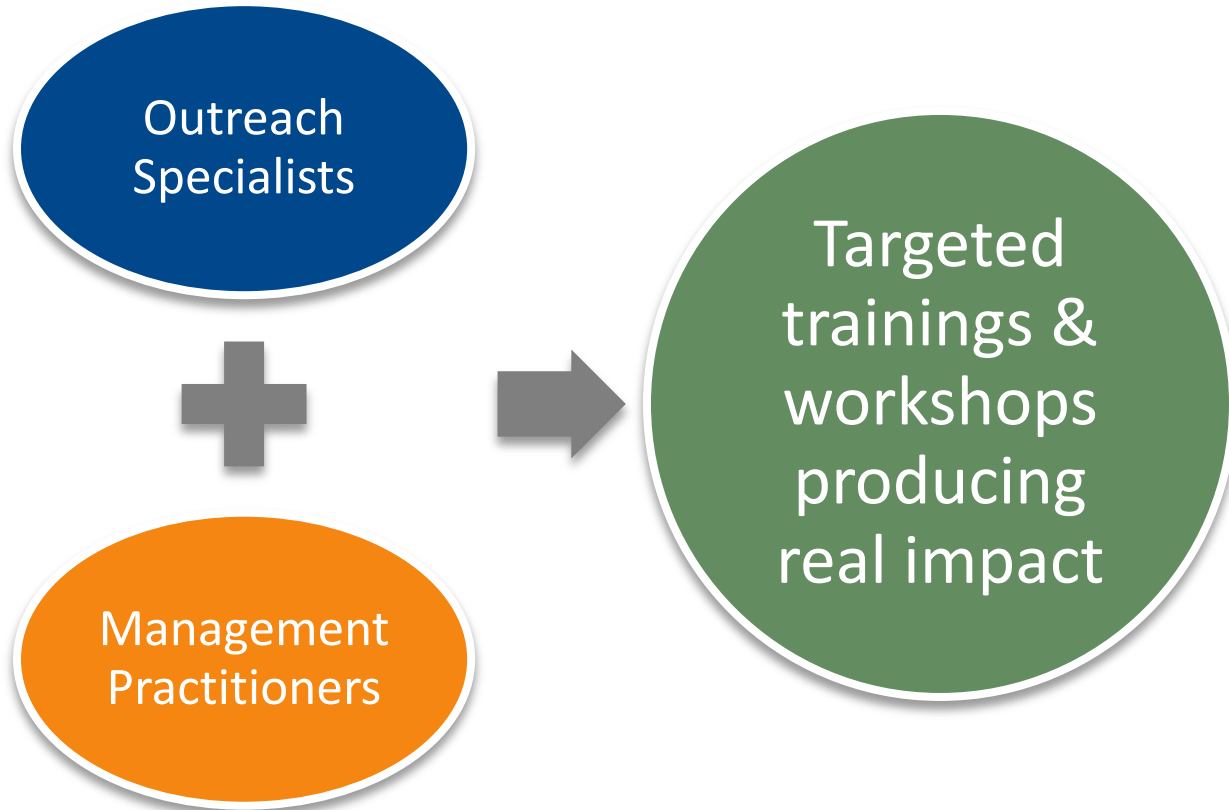
## **CISMA**

Connect private landowners and public land managers with invasive species expertise and assistance programs

## **UF/IFAS Extension**

Develop and provide scientific knowledge and expertise to the public

# CISMAs and Extension: Why?



# CISMAs and Extension: How?

## CISMA

- Mix of professions
- Technical experience
- Current and emerging issues

## UF/IFAS Extension

- Research and data
- Improve educational design
- Not selling anything

Larger network of presenters

Sounding board for innovative topics and projects

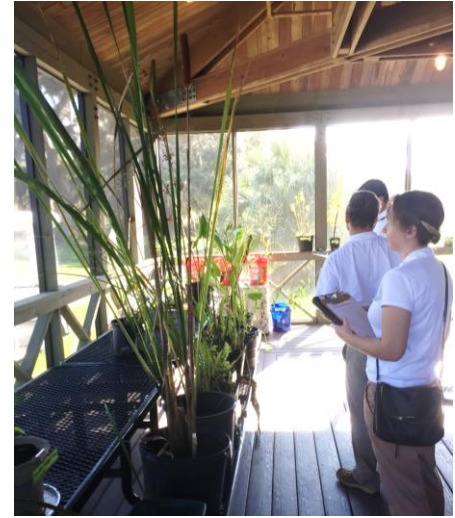
# Hands On Training

- Native and Pasture Grass ID Workshop
- Garden of Evil
- EDRR Field Day



# Workshops

- Annual Invasive Species
- Aquatic Species Identification and Management
- Forest Stewardship



# Aquatic Species Management Workshop

September 22, 2016

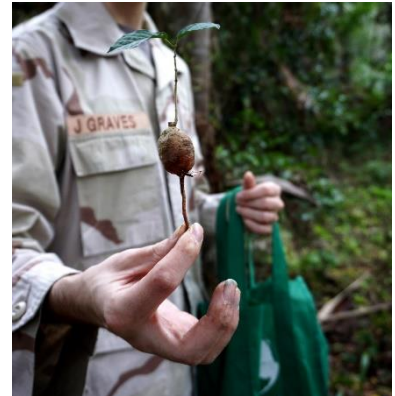
9:00AM - 4:30PM

- Exotic Fish Identification
- Lygodium Treatment in Wetlands and Aquatic Systems
- Managing Aquatic Plant Communities for Improved Fish Habitat
- Oxycaryum cubense (Cuban bulrush): History, Identification, and Management
- Freshwater Algae in Central Florida
- **In-The-Field** Aquatic Plant Identification
- **Up-Close Exotic Species Identification** at our "Garden of Evil"

**CEUs approved:** Aquatic Pest Control (5) and Private Applicator Ag Pest Control (5)  
Max Approved: 5.

# Workdays

- Early Detection / Rapid Response Days
- Air Potato Mega Raid
- Weed Warrior Wednesdays



# Impact:

- **445 workshop attendees**
  - **10 workshops**
  - **5 years**

**“By far the most organized and informative sessions in the state. Thank you”**

**“I can’t say enough about the value of CISMA in guiding us in our treatment of exotics.”**

# Impact:

**“Every time I attend one of these trainings, I learn something that makes me rethink my approach. I’m definitely changing how I do my work with what I learned today.”**

**“We feel our staff will be better equipped to properly identify plants in the field. Likewise they made some good connections that can help locally if they get stumped.”**

# Where do we go from here?

- Planning:
  - Central Florida Invasive Species Workshop (April 2018)
    - *Learning from our neighbors*
  - Forest Stewardship Workshop (Sept. 2018)
  - Weed Warrior Wednesday (Caesarweed pulls)
  - *Aquatic Species Identification and Management, TBA 2018*

# Summary

**Overlapping Goals**

**=**

**Opportunities for Collaboration**

# Any Questions?

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