

Spring 2010 meeting of the Natural Areas Advisory Committee (NAAC)

15 April 2010, NATL academic pavilion, 4:00-5:00 pm
Recorded by Geoff Gallice

In Attendance:

Jaret Daniels (NATL Chair; McGuire Center, FLMNH, Entomology/Nematology)
Dan Fitzpatrick (ENSO, Entomology/Nematology)
Geoff Gallice (NATL graduate TA; McGuire Center, Entomology/Nematology)
Susan Jacobson (Wildlife Ecology and Conservation)
Doug Levey (Biology)
Erik Lewis (Facilities Planning and Construction)
Jack Putz (Biology)
Beverly Sensbach (FLMNH)
Erick Smith (Friend of NATL)
Tom Walker (NATL administrative assistant; Entomology/Nematology)

4:00 pm

1. Introductions (Jaret Daniels)

New NATL graduate student teaching assistant: Geoff Gallice (McGuire Center, Dept. Ent./Nem.)

2. Acknowledgements (Jaret Daniels)

Current NATL undergraduate teaching assistant: Elizabeth Wells
Former NATL graduate teaching assistant: Natalie Hooten

3. Mini-grant updates (Jaret Daniels)

- a. Cuban tree frogs (Michael Granatosky; UF undergraduate)
Project investigating this invasive species in NATL approved with minor suggestions.
- b. NATL interpretive signs (Susan Jacobson PI; UF Dept. Wildlife Ecol./Cons.)
Approved with revisions, pending further approval.
 1. Wading birds
 2. Frogs

4. NATL invasive plant update (Tom Walker; Appendix A)

- a. Many invasives found in NATL.
- b. Three of particular interest, each with management plan/actions taken.
 1. Cogongrass
 2. Skunkvine
 3. Coral ardisia

5. NATL graduate TA report (Geoff Gallice)

- a. NATL visitation
 1. Group visits
 - a. 1/19/2010: restoration ecology, UF
 - b. Multiple visits by Florida 4-H
 - c. Ongoing – forensic entomology, UF
 - d. Ongoing – insect classification, undergraduate + graduate, UF
 - e. 1/20/2010 – local school field trip, UF SPICE program
- Public use: people counter
 - a. Installed late November 2009

- b. Public entrance to monitor public use
 - c. >3,200 visitors since 1/1/2010
 - d. average count of roughly 35 people/day
- b. Projects
- 1. Photo-ID signs
 - a. 5x4 inch signs depicting NATL plants, primarily flowering plants
 - b. Full color photos and descriptions, scientific nomenclature
 - c. >130 signs to date and counting
 - 2. 3x2 ft. interpretive signs
 - a. 3x2 signs along SEEP trail
 - b. Butterflies of NATL sign, in the works

6. Nature trails (Jaret Daniels; Appendix B; Appendix C)

- a. New descriptive photo-sign installed 200 ft. prior to Nature Trail trailheads
- b. Revision of Nature Trail Flier
 - 1. Suggestion to place fliers in free information kiosk adjacent from HUB
 - 2. suggestion to include nearest bus routes
- c. Native bee monitoring project (Jason Graham)
 - 1. Approved unanimously (preliminary approval by Operations Committee)

7. Fiscal report: FY 2009-2010 (Tom Walker; Appendix D)

- a. Spending report approved by majority vote.
- b. Moved to purchase additional people counter for academic entrance to NATL.
 - 1. Motion approved unanimously.

8. Preliminary fiscal plan: FY 2010-2011 (Tom Walker; Appendix E)

- a. Suggestion to increase pay of undergraduate TA
- b. Plan adopted with stipulation of increased undergraduate TA pay increase, approved unanimously.

9. NAAC membership (Jaret Daniels)

- a. Don Graetz (Soil and Water Science) and Alex Cheesman (Wetlands Club) moving on
- b. Replacement for Soil and Water Science representative sought

10. NAAC vice-chair position (Jaret Daniels)

- a. Potential appointment of a NAAC vice chair proposed

11. Field trip

- a. Native bee monitoring project – Old Field Nature Trail.
- b. New way-finding sign – Cultural Plaza.

5:00 pm adjourn

Appendix A. NATL invasive plant summary.

[Home](#) [Uses](#) [Images](#) [Ecosystems](#) [Biota](#) [Management](#)

Control of NATL's invasive exotic plants

Species of concern

[Images](#)

[Treatment efforts](#)

[Spreadsheets and maps](#)

Of the 526 vascular plants known from NATL, 137 are not native to Florida, but only 20 of these are of special concern because of their potential to significantly alter NATL ecosystems. These 20 exotic species may be divided among four categories-listed below in order of decreasing threat. Each listed species is linked to its page in "[Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants.](#)"

Major threats (aggressive invasives; eradication should be vigorously pursued)

[Cogongrass](#) *Imperata cylindrica*

[Skunkvine](#) *Paederia foetida*

[Coral ardisia](#) *Ardisia crenata*

Lesser threats (eradication should be pursued)

[Air potato](#) *Dioscorea bulbifera*

[Arrowhead vine](#) *Syngonium podophyllum*

[Johnsongrass](#) *Sorghum halepense*

[Guineagrass](#) *Panicum maximum*

[Japanese climbing fern](#) *Lygodium japonicum*

[Mimosa](#) *Albizia julibrissin*

[White leadtree](#) *Leucaena leucocephala*

[Chinese tallow-tree](#) *Sapium sebiferum*

Potentially threatening (eliminate when encountered, if convenient)

[Alamo vine \(=noyau vine\)](#) *Merremia dissecta*

[Negundo chastetree](#) *Vitex negundo*

[Lantana](#) *Lantana camara*

[Paper mulberry](#) *Broussonetia papyrifera*

[Loquat](#) *Eriobotrya japonica*

[Camphortree](#) *Cinnamomum camphora*

[Jio](#) *Commelina benghalensis*

Eradicated from NATL (be alert for new patches to eradicate)

[Cat's claw](#) *Macfadyena unguis-cati*

[Elephant grass](#) *Pennisetum purpureum*

Control of invasive exotic plants Page 1 of 3

<http://natl.ifas.ufl.edu/invasiveCtrl.htm> 4/15/2010

Control of major invasives in NATL: Tactics and Results (2005 to date)

Cogongrass

Control tactics

2005-2009. During the growing season, spray 2% glyphosate (e.g., Roundup) monthly, at every site known to be infested, on all cogongrass expanses and patches that can be found.

2009. Near end of growing season, spray surviving patches with 1% imazipyr (e.g., Arsenal)

Results

2005-2009. Sites known to be infested reduced from 41 to 26. Near end of 2009 growing season (from 17 Sep to 2 Dec), 964 patches at 24 sites found and sprayed with imazipyr.

Skunkvine

Control tactics

2005 and 2009 Have Environmental Health & Safety spray masses of vines with glyphosate+diquat.

2005-2009. Find and spray new and surviving vines with 2% glyphosate.

Results

2005-2009. *First known infestation* (>1000 m2) nearly eliminated after 5 years. During fall 2009, only two vines found after 10 Sep.

2009. *Second known infestation* (ca 1000 m2) found 25 Aug 2009; EH&S sprayed masses of vines 28 Aug and 11 Sep; 38 vines found and sprayed 12 Oct.

Coral ardisia

Control tactics

2006, 2008. Volunteers (in groups and singly) and NATL TAs (undergraduate and graduate) remove many plants (including their root crowns) in numerous infested areas.

2009 (Feb-Aug) G. Celis and C. Pieteron, as part of a minigrant on the management of NATL invasives, spent most of their (heroic) efforts on finding, mapping, and removing ardisia in nearly all infested areas of NATL-w. Their total take was 1297 adults (>20cm high) and 8397 juveniles, weighing a total of 373 lbs.

2010 (3-24 Feb) R. Guggenheim (OPS) and A. Casavant (volunteer) attempted to end ardisia reproduction throughout NATL by finding all berry-bearing plants and either mechanically removing the entire plant (n=260) or just its berries (n=54). The site of each removal and harvest was marked with a pink or yellow flag.

2010 (13 Apr-31 Dec) All ardisia anywhere in NATL, and especially in the vicinity of the pink and yellow flags will be sprayed with 2% triclopyr (e.g., Garlon 4) in water with Dyne-Amic surfactant.

Results

When? (Who?)	Feb to Aug 2009 (Celis & Pieteron minigrant)		3-24 Feb 2010 (OPS & volunteer)		December 2010 (To be arranged)	
What?	Infested grid blocks	Adult plants (>20 cm)	Infested grid blocks	Adult plants (berries)	Infested grid blocks	Adult plants (berries)
NATL-west	35	1297	28	218	?	<10?
NATL-east	NA	NA	5	98	?	0?

Appendix B.

New Cultural Plaza way-finding sign.



Appendix C.

Revised Nature Trail flyer.

Appendix D.
Fiscal report: FY 2009-2010.

NATL Fiscal Plan for FY 2009-10				15 Apr 2010 Report for FY 2009-10			
Funds available for 2009-10 (excluding stipend for TA*)				Already received	Projected received		
Brought forward from 2008-09		309		309	309		
Projected income for 2009-10							
Provost	2100			2100	2100		
NATL endowment	4800			4380	4380		
Sum		6900					
Grand Total		\$7,209		\$6,789	\$6,789 \$420 less than expected		
Spending plan for 2009-10				Already spent or encumbered	Projected spent or encumbered		
Budgeted							
Routine expenses	1000			2153	2500 nature trail signs, etc \$425 wiregrass (June 2010 delivery) \$420 wiregrass (June 2011 delivery) \$244 2000 nature trail fliers		
Undergraduate assistant	3952			1132	1200 savings from federal-work-study \$\$		
Minigrant program	1000			750	1000 printing 2 new SEEP signs (\$250)		
Soil pit	500			0	0		
Sum		6452		4035	5789		
Reserved		757			1000		
Grand Total		\$7,209			\$6,789		
* The CALS dean will pay the stipend of the NATL Graduate Teaching Assistant (ca. \$20,100)							

Appendix E.
Preliminary fiscal plan: FY 2010-2011

Preliminary NATL Fiscal Plan for FY 2010-11			
Funds available for 2010-11 (excluding stipend for TA*)			
Brought forward from 2008-09		???	
Projected income for 2009-10			
Provost	2100		
NATL endowment	4240		
Sum		6340	
Grand Total			\$6,340
Spending plan for 2010-11			
Budgeted			
Routine expenses	2340		
Undergraduate assistant	1200		Assumes position held by student is on Federal Work-Study
Control of invasives	1000		May be needed in the spring of 2011
Minigrant program	1000		\$500 each
Signs for NATL-e and Unity Trail	800		Decide on new standards and buy needed signs
Sum		6340	
Reserved		???	
Grand Total			\$6,340
* The CALS dean will pay the stipend of the NATL Graduate Teaching Assistant (ca. \$21,000)			

NAAC Minutes Addenda
Record of actions proposed via email.

16 Nov. 2009

Jaret Daniels approved to serve as Chair at least until end of Spring Semester. In the absence of a self-nominated opponent, he will serve at least until Fall Semester 2011 (16 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

19 Nov 2009

Geoffrey Gallice approved to serve as NATL TA for the Spring and Summer Semester 2010 (14 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

1 Dec 2009

Funding (\$500) approved for NATL minigrant entitled “Removal and diet of the nonindigenous Cuban Treefrog (*Osteopilus septentrionalis*): with potential management practices for conservation of native treefrogs” with the stipulation that the final research design be revised slightly (9 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

16 Feb 2010

Funding (\$500) approved for NATL minigrant entitled “Design and implementation of interpretive materials for the SEEP Boardwalk Trail” (13 yes; 0 no; 1 abstain).

6 Apr. 2010

NATL Operations Committee approved the placement of a native bee monitoring station along the edge of the Old Field plot (3 replied in favor; 0 no; 0 abstain).