By: Jon Oetting, Conservation Planner, Florida Natural Areas Inventory

The Florida Natural Areas Inventory is pleased to announce the publication of the Atlas of Florida's Natural Heritage: Biodiversity, Landscapes, Stewardship and Opportunities.

This encyclopedic, richly illustrated Atlas is sure to become a standard reference for anyone involved in the conservation, management, study, or enjoyment of Florida's rich natural resources. We hope the Atlas will inspire, educate, and raise awareness of and interest in biodiversity and conservation issues.

The "Elements of Biodiversity" section characterizes the diversity and distribution of species and communities across the state. The "Biodiversity Conservation" section outlines major challenges threatening Florida's natural resources, some notable efforts to prioritize places for conservation, and Florida's landmark conservation strategy – the acquisition and management of conservation lands. Finally, "Notable Natural Areas" shifts the emphasis to place, and ties together the individual elements of natural heritage to highlight several outstanding natural places in Florida.

"We think this atlas will be a valuable reference for anyone involved in or interested in conservation in Florida," noted Gary Knight, FNAI Director and Senior Editor of the Atlas.

For sample pages and ordering information, please visit www.floridasnaturalheritage.org.
Inducing private wildfire risk mitigation: Experimental investigation of measures on adjacent public lands


Increasing private wildfire risk mitigation is an important part of the larger forest restoration policy challenge. Data from an economic experiment are used to evaluate the effectiveness of providing fuel reductions on public land adjacent to private land to induce private wildfire risk mitigation. Results show evidence of “crowding out” where public spending can decrease the level of private risk mitigation. Findings also indicate that spending on private mitigation efforts increase when information about individual expenditures are made available and spending on public land fuel reductions are conditional upon a threshold level of private mitigation effort being achieved.

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Upcoming Events


- Florida Society of American Foresters and UF School of Forest Resources Symposium: Managing Public Lands and Waters—Doing more with Less, November 8-9, 2011 in Gainesville FL. For more information contact Dr. Pat Minoge at pminogue@ufl.edu or (850)875-7142.

- Florida Ag Expo, November 9, 2011 in Balm, FL. For more information contact the Gulf Coast REC, Christine Cooley at 813-634-0000 x 3101 or ccooley@ufl.edu.


- Forest Stewardship Workshop: Invasive Exotic Plant ID and Control, November 30, 2011 in Gainesville, FL. For more information contact Chris Demers at 352-846-2375, cdemers@ufl.edu.

- UF Water Institute Symposium: Complex Challenges, Integrated Solutions, February 15 - 16, 2012 in Gainesville, FL. For more information contact University of Florida Water Institute, Wendy Graham, or wgraham@ufl.edu or go to waterinstitute.ufl.edu/symposium2012/
Upcoming Events

• The 21st International Pepper Conference, November 4-6, 2012 in Naples, FL. For more information contact the Hendry County Extension, Gene McAvoy, 1-863-674-4092 or gmcavoy@ufl.edu.