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B.S. Institution and Specialization:
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Ecology, University of Florida (current)



Current Project Description:

I am looking at the effects of herbicide and prescribed fire treatments on longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) seedling growth, woody shrub control, and understory species diversity in a longleaf pine flatwoods restoration.

Objective:

Improve ecological restoration methods for longleaf pine flatwoods ecosystems.

Specifically:

- Compare effects of over-the-top applications of sulfometuron methyl (Oust), imazapyr (Arsenal), and hexazinone (Velpar) on longleaf pine seedling growth and survival over a 5-year study period.
- Compare herbicide treatment effects on the diversity and abundance of native understory plants and target woody shrubs over a 5-year study period.
- Study treatment interactions with prescribed fire in the 5th year after herbicide application.

Brief Description:

The study, initiated in late 2001, is located in Point Washington State Forest, a 15,000-acre State Forest in Walton County, Florida. The site is a 20-acre mesic/wet flatwoods which was formerly a slash pine plantation. Funding for the project was provided by the Florida Division of Forestry.