

Sarah Martin

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Submitted by:

**The Institute for Regional Conservation  
100 E. Linton Blvd, Suite 302B  
Delray Beach, FL 33483  
George D. Gann, Executive Director**



Submitted to:

**Erin P. Myers, DVM, MS  
Private Lands Biologist  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
3860 Tollgate Blvd., Ste. 300  
Naples, FL 34114**

The Institute for Regional Conservation (IRC) has continued to provide exotic species removal on pine rocklands through funding from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. This report documents the work that was completed through this program from June 2012-June 2013.

IRC has provided follow-up treatment for FLEPPC Category I and II Invasive Species on 113.9 acres on 18 different privately-owned pine rockland fragments in Miami-Dade County. In addition, 15.89 acres were treated for the first time on six privately-owned pine rockland fragments new to the program. The USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife funding has also enabled IRC to conduct several education and outreach activities, including community presentations and educational workshops, volunteer and landowner workdays, educational pine rockland tours and student service learning opportunities. This partnership has been critical to the conservation of federally-listed plant and animal species and to the restoration and conservation of the globally imperiled pine rockland habitat where they are found (and to which many are endemic). The Pine Rockland Initiative Program approaches pine rockland conservation on a grassroots level by engaging and investing local landowners, neighbors, students, volunteers, government and non-government agencies and organizations in long term restoration and conservation goals.

**Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program: IRC Pine Rockland Initiative 2012-2013 Pine Rocklands Treated for FLEPPC Category I and II Invasive Species**

<b>Pine Rockland</b>	<b>Total Site Acreage</b>	<b>New Acres Treated</b>	<b>Acres Re-treated</b>
Arlene Samalion	3.8	0	3.8
Robert Parsons	2.11	0	2.11
Church of Jesus Christ	4.7	1.73	3
IRC George Avery	2.6	0	2.6
IRC JK Small	0.9	0	0.92
Carol Huestis	4.2	4.16	0
Malotte Thompson	1.5	1.5	0
Montgomery Botanical Center Pine Rockland	1.4		1.4
Don and Barbara Powell	2.25	0	2.25
Dawn Blakeslee	9.6	0	9.6
John Pullman	3	3	2
Larry and Gloria Dunagan	3.5		3.5
Gerald and Janet Case	9.4	0	9.4
Kristina and Jason Putnam	3.5	4	0
Christine Coronado	1.5	1.5	0
John and Kristen Whelan	4.7	0	4.7
Barbara and Terry Glancy	14	0	14
Girl Scouts Camp Choe	13.7	0	13.74
Assurant Solutions, Inc	2.8	0	2.78
FPL Ludlum Pine Rockland	20.2	0	20.2
TAS Porter Russell Pine Rockland	7.75	0	7.75
TREC Pine Rockland	8.75	0	8.75
<b>Total Acreage:</b>	<b>127.26</b>	<b>15.89</b>	<b>113.9</b>



### **Education and Outreach Highlights**

#### *2012 International Pine Rockland Working Group Conference and Tour (June 2012):*

IRC Pine Rockland Initiative Program Coordinator served on the conference planning committee and assisted in the planning and implementation of the 2012 Pine Rockland Working Group Conference. Additional sponsorship for the conference was obtained from Whole Foods and two local bakeries. IRC coordinated and carried out educational field trips for conference attendees to visit seven different pine rocklands along the Miami Rock Ridge. These trips educated conference attendees on the importance of preserving pine rocklands, how to identify many of the endemic plant species, exotic species removal. The Program Coordinator gave a presentation at the conference about the IRC Pine Rockland Initiative Program funded by the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program.





*Native Plant Day Presentation 2012-2013:*

IRC attended the both the 2012 and 2013 Native plant day. At these events we set up educational booths to educate the public and highlight the importance of the IRC Partners for Fish and Wildlife Pine Rockland Initiative Program and IRC Natives For Your Neighborhood Programs.



*NatureScapes and Dark Skies Presentation 2013:*

IRC provided an educational booth at both the 2012 and 2013 NatureScapes and Dark Skies events. At these events we promoted the IRC Partners for Fish and Wildlife Pine Rockland Initiative Program and IRC Natives For Your Neighborhood Programs.



*Native Plant Society Presentation 2013:*

IRC's Pine Rockland Initiative Program Coordinator gave a presentation to the Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society on updates with the IRC Partners for Fish and Wildlife Pine Rockland Initiative and Natives for your Neighborhood programs. The presentation focused on the importance of maintaining pine rocklands as a natural habitat for many of the endangered and threatened species that reside in these habitats.



 **IRC Pine Rockland Initiative and the USFWS  
Partners For Fish and Wildlife Program**

  
Sarah Martin  
Field Biologist  
martin@regionalconservation.org

  
Rasheed Bradley  
Team Leader, Pine Rockland Initiative  
rasheed@regionalconservation.org







*Landowner Workshops and Workdays 2012-2013:*

IRC Pine Rockland Initiative Program Coordinator provided two landowner workshops and pineland tours at two neighborhood pine rocklands. (list them). The landowner workshops were attended by 15 pine rockland landowners. We addressed common pine rockland resource management challenges, and carried out several landowner volunteer workdays. At the workdays IRC taught landowners how to identify invasive plant species and the best methods to eradicate them. In addition, we illustrated the benefits of restoring pine rocklands and the endemic species that thrive in a well-managed habitat.





*Together Green Volunteer Workdays 2012-2013:*

IRC is a partners with the Tropical Audubon Society (TAS), and together through matching funds from a Toyota Together Green Grant, IRC and TAS carry out monthly volunteer workdays on the second Saturday of each month at the TAS Porter Russell Pine Rockland to treat invasive species, clean up illegally-dumped debris, and implement community outreach by inviting and informing neighbors about the importance of pine rockland conservation.



*Miami-Dade College Service Learning Projects and the IRC Pine Rockland Initiative 2012-2013:*

IRC is a partner with Miami-Dade College, and works to engage students in service learning projects through the Pine Rockland Initiative. Student service learning projects have included building and installing owl and bat nest boxes for local pine rocklands, creating educational brochures on the effects of illegal dumping for neighbors of pine rocklands, and participating in exotic removal activities in pine rocklands.

