



South Florida Fire Conditions Report

Rory Feeney

Land Resources Bureau Chief
Field Operations and Land Management Division
Water Resources Analysis Coalition
May 3, 2018

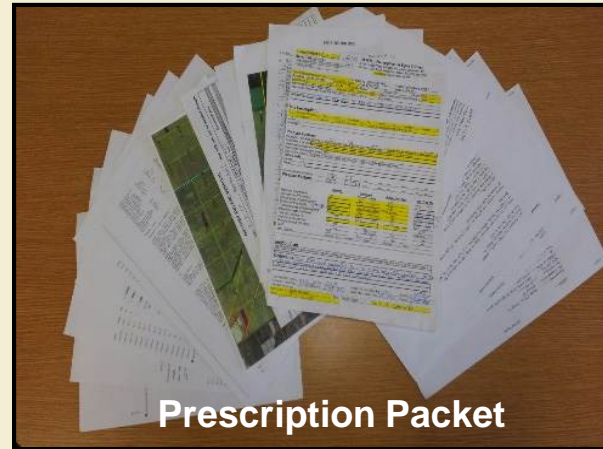
Why Does SFWMD Burn?

- Ecological integrity
- Control woody vegetation
- Fuel reduction
- Exotic plant control
- Protect endangered species
- Site prep & maintenance
- Land clearing
- Wetlands management



Certified Prescribed Burn Process

- Prescription
 - Site description
 - Required resources
 - Weather parameters
 - Desired effects
 - Safety
 - Smoke management
- Publicity & coordination
- Fire line preparation
- Secure Forestry authorization
- Setting black line
- Ignition pattern
- Mop-up



SFWMD Burn Equipment

- Protective gear
- Radios
- Drip torches
- Flame throwers
- Fire tools
- Pumper trucks
- Brush trucks
- Swamp Buggies
- Airboats
- Tractor/disk for firebreaks
- Front-end loaders for felling dead trees
- ATV's/Argos/side by sides with water and fire

Gardner Cobb Marsh January 26, 2017



Southern Glades WEA
January 5, 2017

Aerial Ignition Techniques



Jim Schuette with “ping pong ball” launcher



Potassium permanganate balls



Dupuis WEA July 6, 2011

Your SFWMD Burn Team

- 18 State Certified Burners in Land Stewardship
- Another two certified in other Sections
- Responsible for wildlands fire throughout District
- 15,000 acres, 55 prescribed burns annually
- 4-10 crew members/prescribed burn
- When conditions are right, we all burn
- Get assistance from other sections, field stations, state & federal governments, non-profit organizations, contractors, and volunteers



Chandler Slough January 23, 2015



Grassy Island, November 3, 2015



Lake Marion Creek July 8, 2015

SFWMD Fire Program Statistics

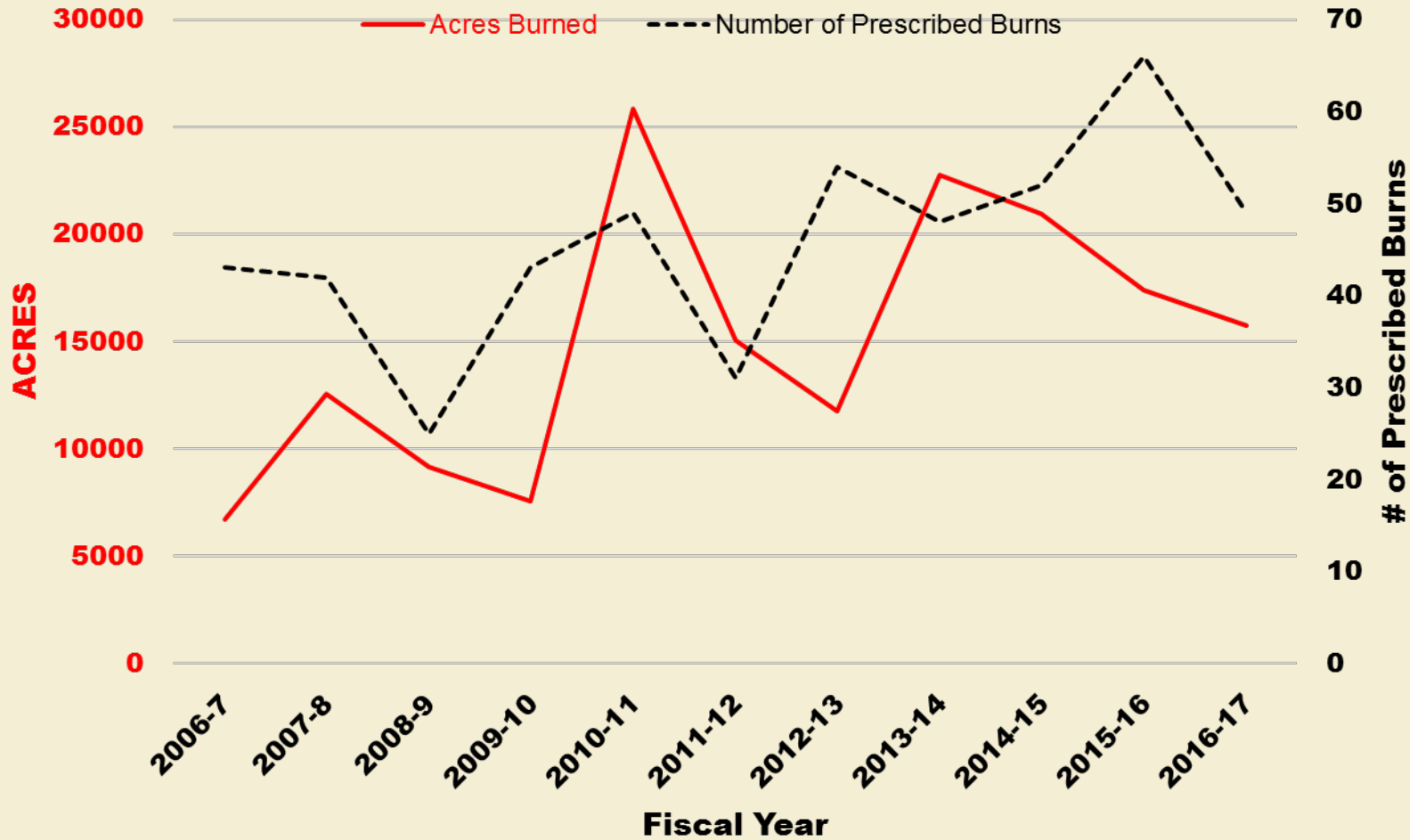
Fiscal Year	Acres Burned	Number of Fires	Acres per Fire (average)
2012-13	11,757	54	218
2013-14	22,778	48	475
2014-15	20,974	52	403
2015-16	17,363	66	263
2016-17	15,719	49	321
5-Year Average	17,718	54	336
Current	16,320	31	526



Dupuis WEA May 19, 2015

SFWMD Burn Activity

SFWMD Prescribed Fire History



KICCO April 20, 2018



Prescribed Fire on Lake Okeechobee

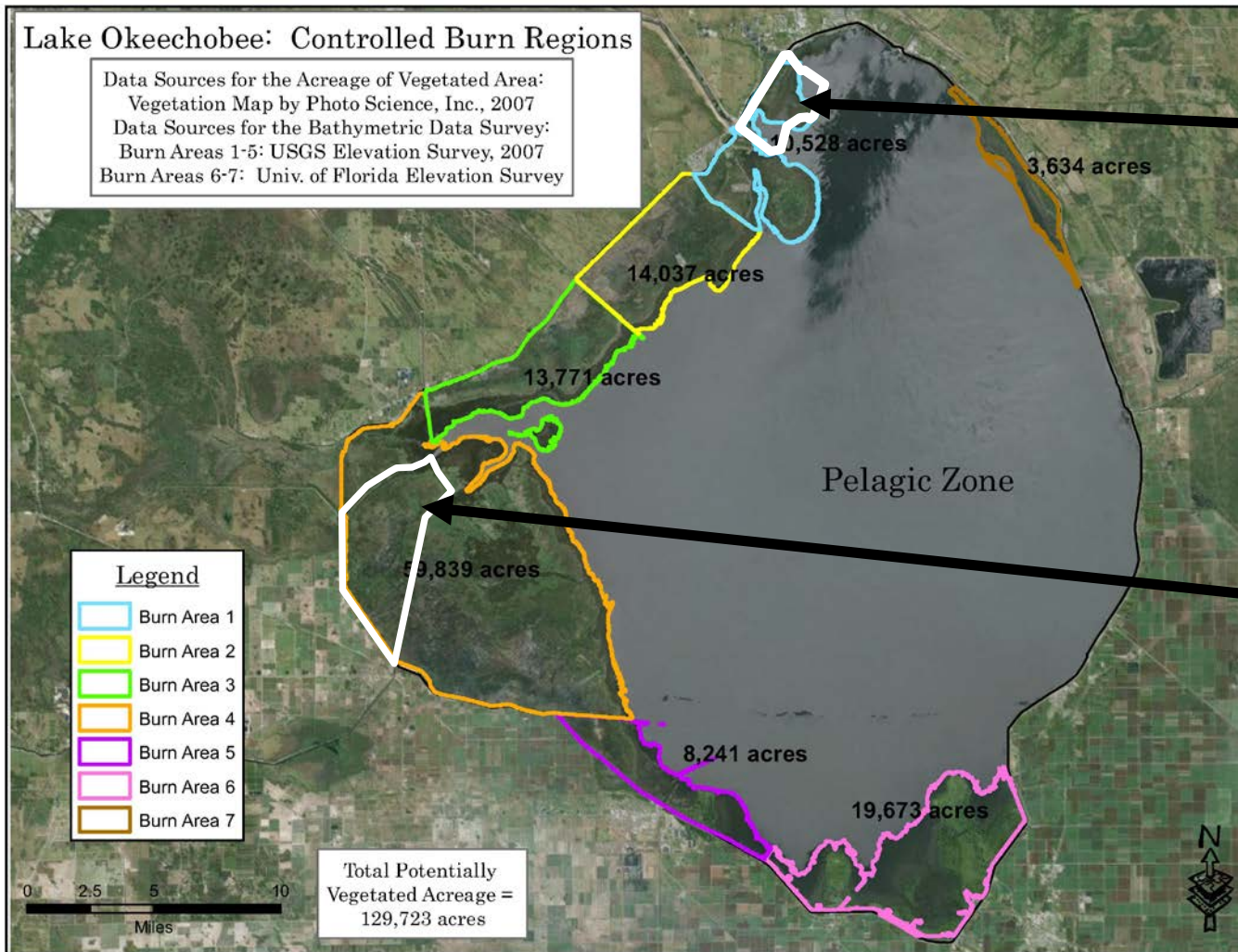
- **FFS**
 - Secures authorization
 - Day-of resources
- **SFWMD, FWC**
 - ID at risk resources
 - Seek FWS support
- **COE**
 - Disk levee firebreak
- **SFWMD**
 - Coordinate/operate aerial ignitions
 - Day-of resources



Prescribed Fire on Lake Okeechobee

Lake Okeechobee: Controlled Burn Regions

Data Sources for the Acreage of Vegetated Area:
Vegetation Map by Photo Science, Inc., 2007
Data Sources for the Bathymetric Data Survey:
Burn Areas 1-5: USGS Elevation Survey, 2007
Burn Areas 6-7: Univ. of Florida Elevation Survey



Indian Prairie
~780 Acres
Burned
March 2, 2018

Sportsmen's Cut
~ 3820 Acres
Burned
April 4, 2018



FWC Prescribed Burn Program 7/1/17-4/25/18

Wildlife Management Area	Prescribed Burn Acreage
Dinner Island Ranch	1,353
Everglades and Francis S. Taylor	4,241
Fisheating Creek	111
Holey Land	1,494
Hungryland	374
J. W. Corbett	5,066
Spirit of the Wild	797
Total	13,436

Documented Wildfires on District Properties

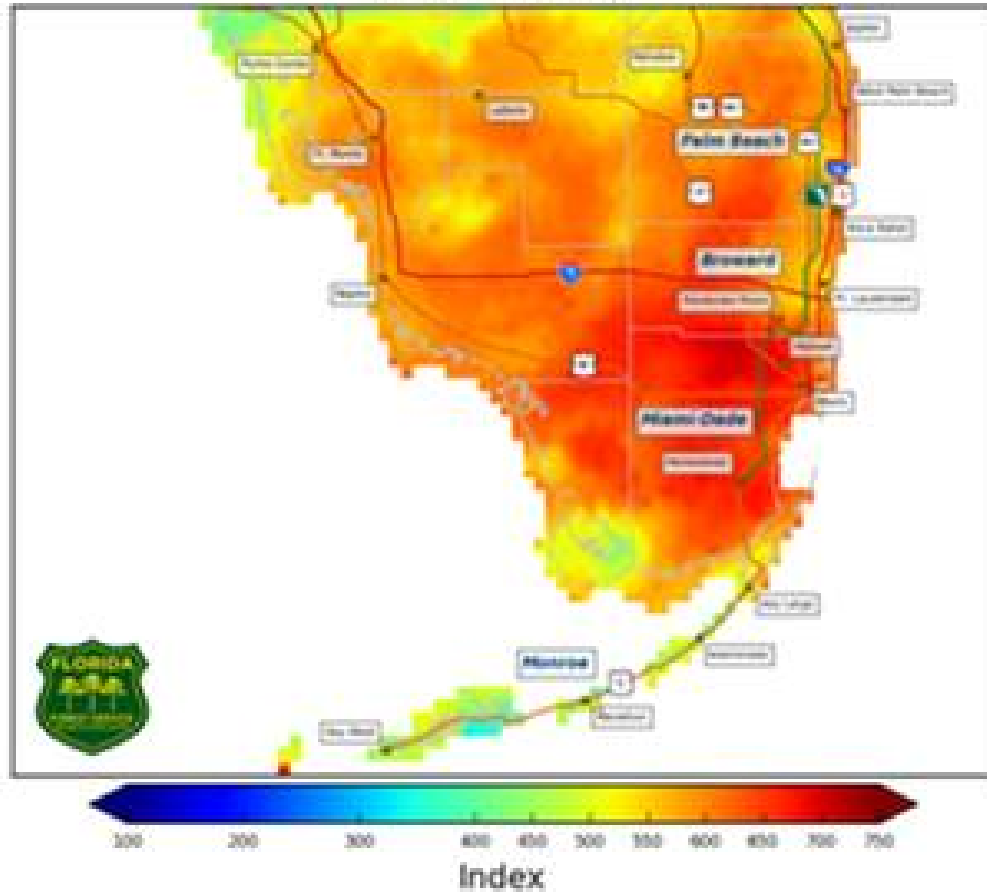
Project	Date	Acres	Cause
Frog Pond	12/14/17	165	Unknown
Abiaki	12/16/17	176	Electric lines
Dupuis	2/3/18	41	Spot-over fire
CREW WEA	2/28/18	3	Unknown
Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	3/11/18	345	Unknown
Shingle Creek	3/11/18	18	Unknown
Abiaki	3/15/18	5	Electric lines
Rocky Glades	3/28-30/18	1,530	Unknown
C-4 Impoundment	3/29/18	484	Unknown
Abiaki	4/10/18	1	Electric lines
Total	FY 2017-18	2,768	

District-wide total acres burned

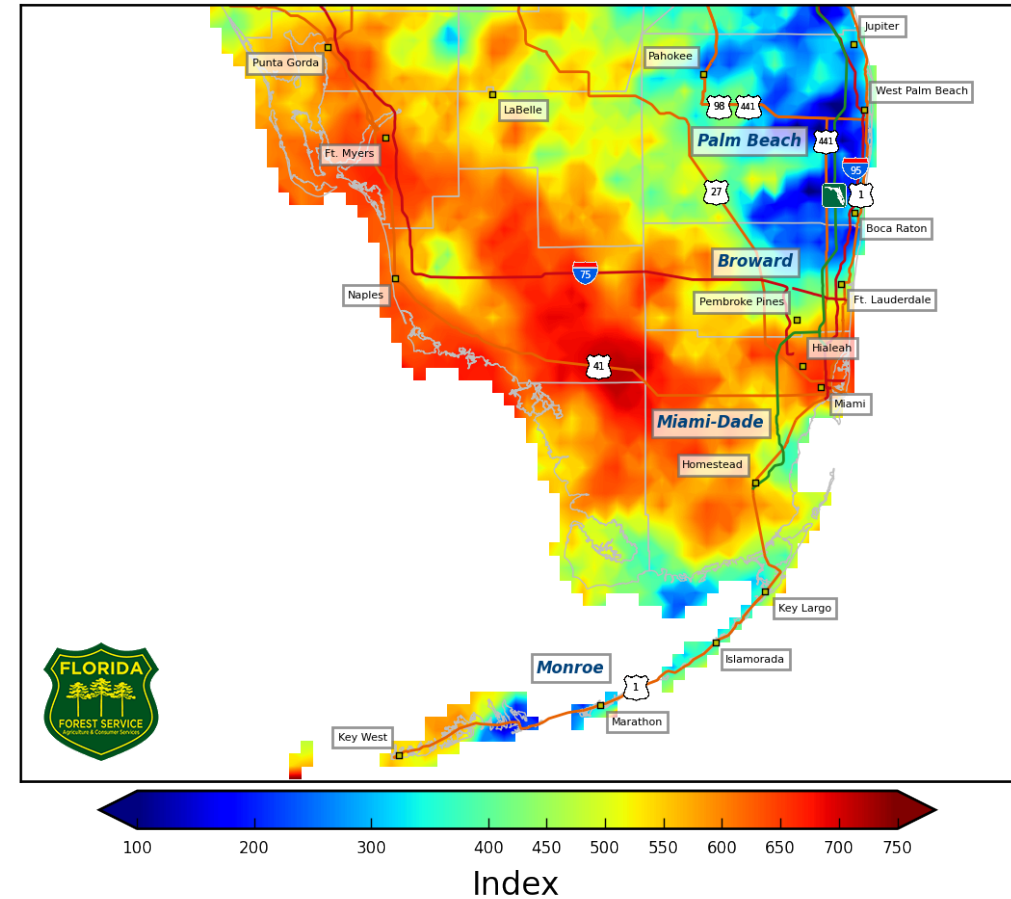
Agency	Acres
SFWMD	16,320
FWC	13,436
Interagency (Lake Okeechobee)	4,600
Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (WCA1)	36,000 (pending)
Wildfires	2,768
Total	73,124

Changes in Weather

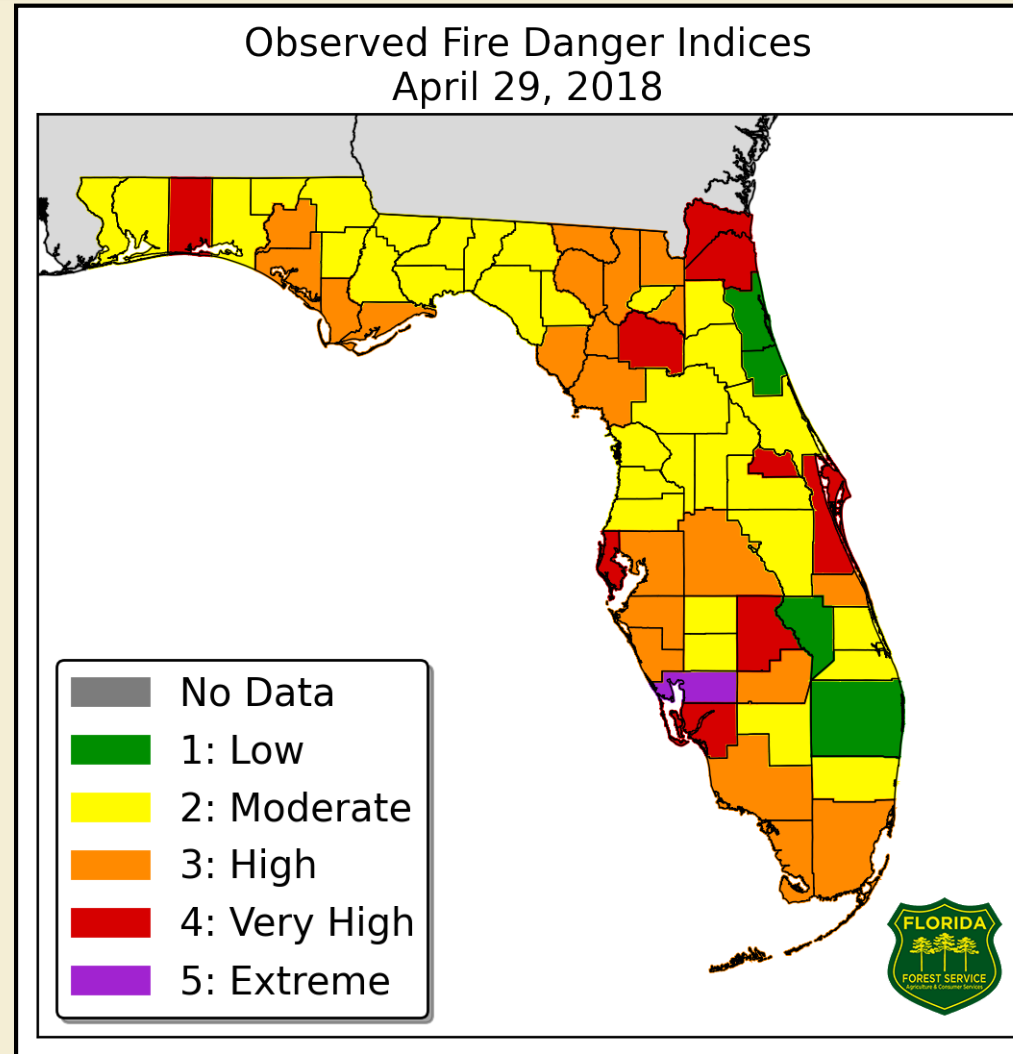
4 km Resolution KBDI
Everglades District
April 03, 2018



4 km Resolution KBDI
Everglades District
April 29, 2018



Changes in Weather



Questions?

Lake Okeechobee April 4, 2018

