

The Pine Rockland Working Group presents:  
**Pine Rockland Conference 2008**

***“Rockland Forests in a Changing World”***

**February 27<sup>th</sup> – March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008**

**Miami Florida • Andros Bahamas\***



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**Conference Sponsors and Organizing Committee:** The Nature Conservancy, Florida International University, Institute for Regional Conservation, Miami-Dade County and Everglades National Park.

**Introduction:** The mission of the Pine Rockland Working Group (PRWG) is to maintain and restore the pine rockland natural community, its associated species and the natural processes, most notably fire, upon which they all depend. Through this collaborative, interdisciplinary, international effort, the PRWG seeks to increase basic understanding of the ecosystem and appropriate management practices by identifying, obtaining support for, and communicating the results of new research and coordinated monitoring efforts.

**Conference Purpose:** The purpose of this conference is to bring together the members of the PRWG and other individuals or groups that have an interest in pine rockland and related natural communities. This Conference is a continuation of the collaborative efforts begun in February 2004 with the “William B. Robertson, Jr., Memorial Pineland Fire Ecology and Management Workshop” and continued in February 2006 with the “Pine Rockland Conference 2006: Bridging the Gaps between Florida and the Bahamas.”

**Who Should Attend?:** The conference encourages participation from scientists, educators, managers, planners, policy makers, naturalists, students and anyone else involved in planning, conservation, restoration, tourism, and interpretation of the pine rockland ecosystem in South Florida, the Bahamas and Turks and Caicos.

**\* A valid passport is required to enter the Bahamas and the U.S.A.**

# Pine Rockland Conference 2008: Preliminary Schedule

## February 27 (Wed.) Two field trip options: Florida Keys or Florida mainland

Field trip sites, meeting times and locations to be determined

## February 28 (Thrs.) Pine Rockland Conference at Florida International University

University Park Campus, MARC Bldg., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor "Pavilion" Room

Park in Green or Blue Parking Garage

Morning Introductions, presentations and discussions

Mid day Lunch break at nearby Graham Center

Afternoon Presentations and discussions

Early Eve. Poster session and reception with complimentary appetizers and a cash bar.

--- BAHAMAS PINE FOREST WORKSHOP (PASSPORT REQUIRED) ---

--- ADDITIONAL DETAILS WILL BE CIRCULATED BY JAN 7, 2008 ---

## February 29 (Fri.) Bahamas Pine Forest Workshop participants travel to Central Andros

Travel arrangements to be determined.

## March 1 (Sat.) Field trip to Andros Blue Holes National Park and vicinity

Field trip logistics to be determined

## March 2 (Sun.) Bahamas Pine Forest Workshop

Detailed workshop agenda to be determined. Content will include fire, invasive species and other natural area management topics.

## March 3 (Mon.) Return travel from Andros

Travel arrangements to be determined

## **Suggested Miami Hotel:**

Hyatt Place - Miami Airport West [www.hyattplace.com](http://www.hyattplace.com)  
3655 NW 82nd Ave.  
Miami FL, 33166  
P. 305-718-8292 Ext 5103 Wendy Blandon  
F. 305-718-8295  
Wendy.blandon@hyattselect.com

**Please contact Wendy Blandon directly, use Group Name: "The Nature Conservancy"**

Rooms may be booked at a reduced rate of \$129 + taxes and fees.

A block of 20 rooms are reserved checking in Tuesday Feb 26, checking out Friday Feb 28. Other check in/out dates may be negotiable. The special rate for booking ends Friday Jan 25.

Hyatt Place provides a free Miami Airport shuttle that runs hourly. The hotel provides free parking.

Hyatt Place will provide one free round trip shuttle to and from FIU on Thursday Feb 28 for the entire Conference program that day and evening. Specific departure times to be determined.

## **Pine Rockland Conference 2008: Call for Abstracts by Jan. 25th, 2008**

The Conference Organizing Committee invites submissions of abstracts for oral presentations to be given during the day of February 28<sup>th</sup> and for posters to be presented that same evening during the reception/poster session. Abstract submissions will be used to select oral presentations and organize the oral and poster presentation sessions. An effort will be made to include as many oral presentations as possible but it is anticipated that there will be more abstracts than there is time available. No limit on the number of posters is anticipated. Typical oral presentations should be limited to 15 minutes in duration with an additional 5 minutes for questions.

Please specify your preference for an oral presentation, a poster, or if you are willing to do either.

Submit abstracts as MSWORD documents using Times New Roman font in 12-point font size.

Please provide:

1. Presentation/Poster Title
2. Presenter/Author(s) Name(s)
3. Organization/Affiliation
4. Email Address
5. Daytime Telephone Number
6. Abstract Body (not to exceed 300 words)

Abstract submissions should be directed to Maya Vaidya at Everglades National Park via email to [mayavati\\_vaidya@nps.gov](mailto:mayavati_vaidya@nps.gov) by Jan. 25, '08. Maya may be reached by telephone at (305) 242 7055.

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Miami, Florida • Andros, Bahamas\***

Registration Form

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please select all of the following options that apply:

- Mainland Florida Field Trip (Wed., Feb 27<sup>th</sup>). Select only one field trip option.  
**-- OR --**
- Florida Keys Field Trip (Wed., Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>). Select only one field trip option.
- Conference Daytime Sessions (Thurs., Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>)
- Conference Evening Poster Session/Reception (Thurs., Feb 28<sup>th</sup>)
- Bahamas Pine Forest Workshop (Feb 29<sup>th</sup> – March 3<sup>rd</sup>)  
**\* A valid passport is required**

**Please fax this registration form to Gina Whelchel at The Nature Conservancy by January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Fax # 305-745-8399.**

If you have questions please contact Gina at [gwhelchel@tnc.org](mailto:gwhelchel@tnc.org) or by calling 305-745-8402 ext102.