



# Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program

LEGACY PROJECT NUMBER 10-437

## **Utilizing Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMAs) to Effectively Reduce Re-infestation of Invaders on six (6) Military Bases and Adjacent Lands in Florida**

PHASE I MONITORING REPORT FOR NAS KEY WEST  
Kris Serbesoff-King and Perrin Penniman

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I. Overview:

The Nature Conservancy coordinated a Keys Invasive Species Task Force workday on June 12, 2010. This project was designed to remove priority invasive plants from a public beach area that is directly adjacent to NAS Key West conservation lands. By removing these plants, a nearby seed source was removed thereby reducing re-infestation from this source onto NAS Key West. Approximately one linear mile of infested area was treated. The majority of infestations were latherleaf (*Colubrina asiatica*) and beach naupaka (*Scaevola taccada*).

II. Discussion:

The workday restoration site is looking good. Only a few areas of the site had resprouts of invasive plants present and needed to be retreated. The two dozen native plants that the volunteers had planted were alive and also doing well.

We also revisited the cleared area where invasive plants had been piled for later chipping. Not a lot was sprouting in this cleared site. This is likely because the debris wasn't chipped and removed from the site until the fall allowing for the material to dry out in place and act effectively as mulch. As we drove away, an endangered Lower Keys Marsh Rabbit was spotted along the roadside.

III. Photo Monitoring Results:



Boca Chica Beach roadway between beach and NAS Key West - 6 months after treatment



Boca Chica Beach Site C – 6 months after treatment



Boca Chica Beach Site D – 6 months after treatment (both photos above)



Boca Chica Beach Native plants – 6 months after installation



Boca Chica Beach – Endangered Lower Keys Marsh Rabbit