



NORTH AMERICAN BUTTERFLY ASSOCIATION

4 Delaware Road, Morristown, NJ 07960 Tel. 973-285-0907 info@naba.org

www.naba.org

Calderon Report for Winter/Spring 2023

(James Duncan, Miami-Dade County EEL and Jeane Wharton, NABA)

The most recent funding for the project targeted the southern five acres of the preserve and supplementing the work throughout the preserve. This was a combination of work funded by North American Butterfly Association, JES Avanti Foundation, the Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation, Florida Power and Light (FPL), and the Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program.

The work accomplished this quarter are as follows:

- Continued watering early in the year and a follow up treatment in the preserves (EEL Program)
- One time clearing of all categories one and two invasive plant species plus a follow up in the southern five acres (NABA contracted Environmental Quality, Inc.)
- Chain saw all hardwoods and two follow up treatments (EEL Program)
- Chipping services through FPL Power to Care participants
- Institute for Regional Conservation treated scraped area (funded by NABA donors and members)
- Hosting FPL volunteers to hand remove chopped hardwoods out of the preserve (primarily FPL with support from NABA and EEL program)

The result of this work has been a tremendous change to the southern five acres of the preserve this quarter. This site is almost prepared for the reintroduction of fire as a management option. The following scopes of work are next steps for the public/private partnership:

- Continue mulching the large pieces of wood that remain in the southern five acres
- Prescribed burn of southern and central units (ten acres total) during summer/fall (EEL Program)
- Follow up on grasses throughout the pineland (EEL Program and outside help)
- Follow up on planting area (EEL Program and outside help)
- Butterfly inventory (Miami Blue Chapter of NABA)
- Direct seeding enhancements for pollinator improvements

The following photos demonstrate the impact that the partnership has had on the preserve and how the southern 5 acre unit has truly come back to life. A follow up report on the planting and butterfly occurrence will be forthcoming with the updated butterfly inventory.

This project is generously supported by the Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation, Florida Power and Light, the JES Avanti Foundation, the Miami Blue Chapter of NABA, the Association of Zoological Horticulture, and members of NABA.

President: Jeffrey Glassberg; Vice-presidents: James Springer, Jeane Wharton; Secretary/Treasurer: Ann James
Directors: Fred Heath, Dennis Olle, Robert Robbins, Patricia Sutton, and aforementioned officers



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Calderon Today (southern unit)



Photo 1: Southern five acres is now cleared of hardwoods and exotic plant species, re-sprayed grasses should carry a fire. A little more work is needed to get remaining hardwood material out of the forest.



Photo 2: Site of failed silver palm poaching attempt, this popular educational stop is now drastically different and resembles a pine rockland forest structure.

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Calderon Pre-Partnership (southern unit)



Photo 3&4: NABA volunteers with the southern unit in background. Up close photo of the degree of invasion.



Photo 5: Reminder of how the sensitive environmental area has been used in the past and the degree of invasion.

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