

Brett J. Cyphers Executive Director

Northwest Florida Water Management District

81 Water Management Drive, Havana, Florida 32333-4712 (U.S. Highway 90, 10 miles west of Tallahassee)

Phone: (850) 539-**5999** • Fax: (850) 539-2777

June 27, 2018

Mr. Larry Olney DEP-OSLER-MS 2500 2600 Blair Stone Rd Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

Re: Semi-Annual Progress Report 28

Dear Mr. Olney,

Please accept this submittal as the 28th semi-annual progress report for the Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank (SHLMB). This report was written in accordance with Specific Condition 27. A site inspection was conducted on June 21, 2018.

Please provide a brief description of permit requirements met and extent of work completed since the previous report:

- 1. All interim permit requirements have been met. The site continues to develop in accordance with the mitigation banking permit. An interagency review team credit release and site inspection site visit was conducted on March 28, 2018. The site was determined to be compliant with the permit conditions by FDEP and the ACOE and the credit release was granted.
- 2. Fishing and hunting continued at the SHLMB throughout the spring without incident in accordance with Specific Condition 8 and Attachment A of the permit.
- 3. In accordance with Specific Condition 8, security and law enforcement continued at the bank without any violations.
- 4. Additional longleaf pine seedlings were installed within the 37 acres of sandhill restoration adjacent to the check station in January of 2018 (Figure 1).
- 5. A total of 517 acres were burned during the first six month of 2018. A winter burn was conducted within 155 acres of oak hummock and sandhill enhancement in January (Figure 2). A second burn consisting of 362 acres was conducted in March within the hydric pine flatwoods and portions of the sandhill restoration (Figure 3).
 - 1. A total of 26.2 acres of mixed titi and fetterbush shrubs were treated in March 2018 within the hydric flatwoods surrounding Garret Pond, Dykes Mill Pond and the hydric pine flatwoods restoration adjacent to the Green Ponds (Figure 4).
 - 2. In accordance with Specific Conditions 22 and 25 surveys for exotic and nuisance species are conducted throughout the year. No exotic vegetation was observed at the SHLMB in 2018. No hog

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damage was observed during the site visit on 6/21/2018. Gaps in perimeter fencing have been fixed and the fence is patrolled weekly for damage.

3. Representative site photos are attached as Figure 5 through 9.

Restoration activities anticipated within the next 6 months:

- 1. Surveys for nuisance and exotic species will continue in the summer and fall of 2018 in accordance with specific condition 22.
- 2. Water Level gauges will continue to be measured in 2018 in accordance with Specific Condition 12.
- 3. An additional 465 acres of sandhill will be burned before mid-August 2018.
- 4. Feral hog control will continue until mid-September when hunting season starts.
- 5. Surveys for shrub reduction needs and nuisance species control will continue in 2018.

Please provide a brief description of problems encountered and solutions undertaken:

No problems occurred at the SHLMB within the last six months. The site continues to develop and site management is in compliance with permit conditions.

If you have any questions, or comments, please feel free to contact me at 850-539-5999.

Certification

I certify that this report represents true accurate and representative description of the activities and site conditions at the time of this report. This semi-annual report was written in accordance with Specific Condition 27, of the permit.

Attested by
David C. Clayton
Environmental Scientist
Qualified Mitigation Supervisor

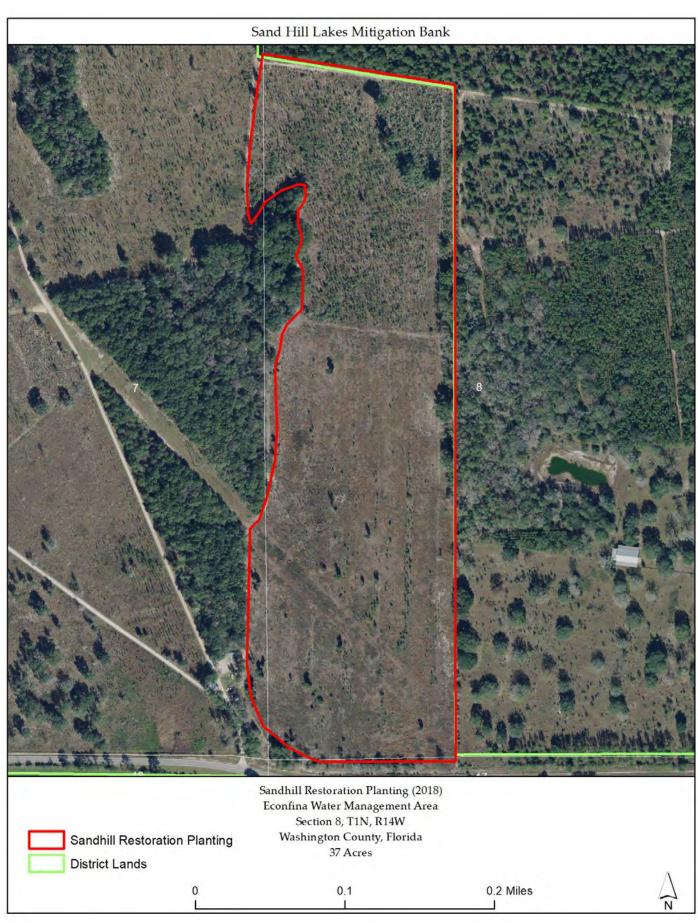


Figure 1. Longleaf pine seedling enhancement within the sandhill restoration adjacent to the FWC office (37 acres)

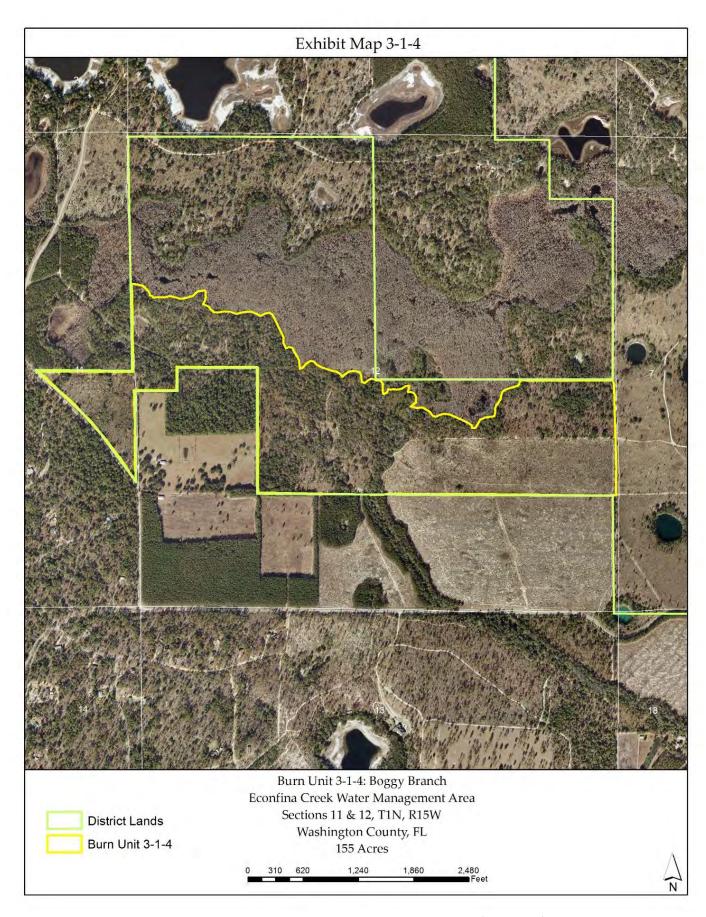


Figure 2. Winter burns conducted in oak hummock and sandhill restoration (155 acres)

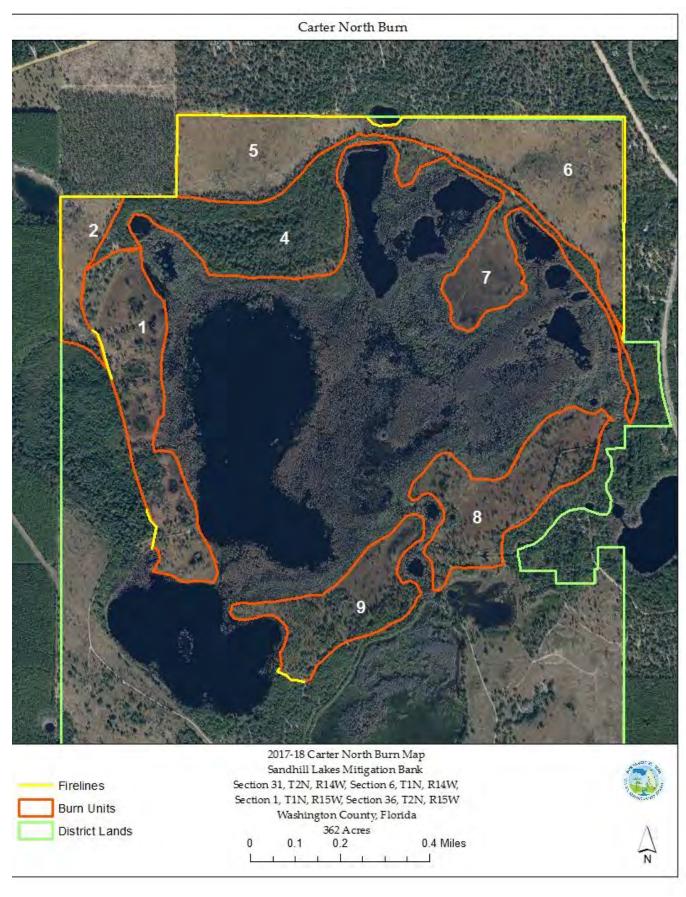


Figure 3. March burns conducted within the restored hydric pine flatwoods and sandhill restoration (362 acres)

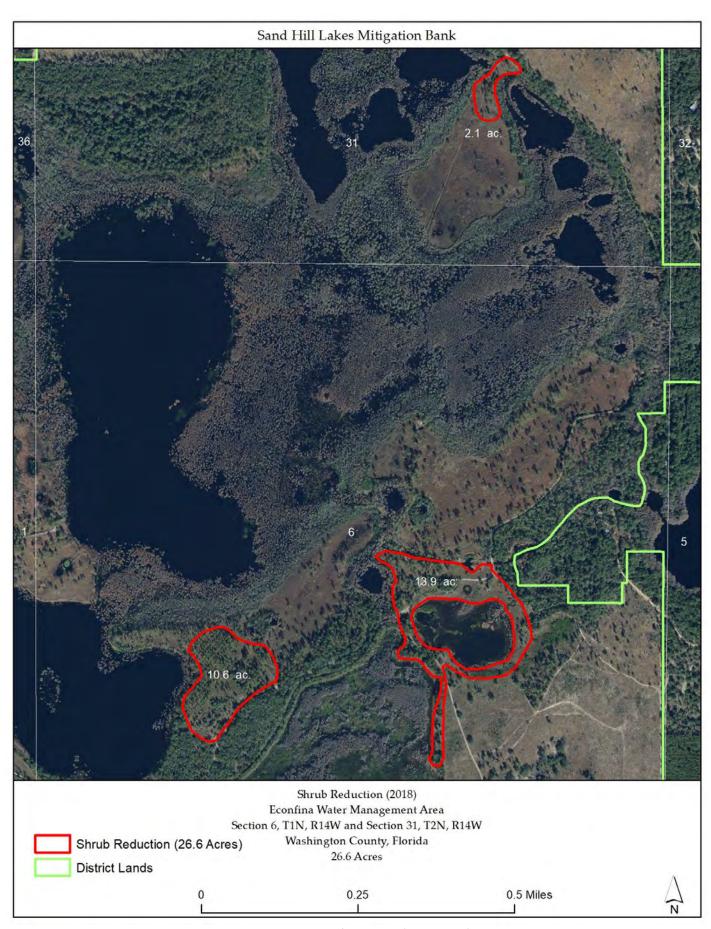


Figure 4. Herbicide shrub reduction within hydric pine flatwoods (26.2 acres)



Figure 5. 06/14/18. 12.5 Acre Hydric Slash Pine Restoration Facing West, Management Unit 3



Figure 6. 06/21/18. 38 Acre Hydric Pine Flatwoods Restoration Facing West, Management Unit 2



Figure 7. 06/21/18. Garret Pond, Facing East, Management Unit 1



Figure 8. Black Pond, Facing North, Management Unit 1



Figure 9. 6/21/28018. Black Pond - Buttonbush – Cephalanthus occidentalis