



Douglas E. Barr  
Executive Director

## Northwest Florida Water Management District

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

(850) 539-5999 • (Fax) 539-2777

June 23, 2011

Ms. Victoria Tauxe  
DEP-OSLER-MS 2500  
2600 Blair Stone Rd  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

Re: Progress Report 14

Dear Ms. Tauxe,

Please accept this submittal as the 14<sup>th</sup> semi-annual progress report for the SHLMB.

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

1. Fishing continues at the SHLMB without incident. The water levels at the lakes are down due to the drought. Power line and Garret Pond are close to total draw down.
2. In accordance with Specific Condition 8, security and law enforcement continues at the bank without incident.
3. Surveys for feral hogs continued during the spring of 2011. No hogs have been observed.
4. The small patch of torpedo grass was observed and treated during the fall sampling at the Dry Pond Boat Launch has not returned.
5. Representative site photos were included for wetland areas (Appendix 1).

**Restoration activities anticipated within the next 6 months:**

1. Water Level gauges will continue to be measured in 2011 (Figure 9).
2. Surveys for nuisance species will continue in the fall of 2011.
3. Tree counts for long leaf pine planted seedlings were determined in the area surrounding Cat pond and Little Deep Edge. The tree counts within in the area of Deep Edge Pond were within the permit requirements of less than 200 trees per acre. However, the tree densities surrounding cat pond were in excess of 400 trees in approximately 35 acres. The area will be included in a summer burn in 2012 to reduce tree densities. If tree densities do not approach 200 trees per acre the planted long leaf pine in the area will be thinned by hand by the fall of 2012. (Figure 10).

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4. Planted slash pine trees located within the wet flatwoods restoration area (Management Unit 3) were determined to be 430 tree per acre. The trees will be harvested to a density of less than 200 trees per acre by December of 2011.
5. The density of shrubs will be thinned in 100 acres associated with Management Unit 10 adjacent to the Green Ponds. Shrub densities have increased to the point of impacting the understory community and will be thinned to help support the development of the understory (Figure 11).
6. A twenty four acre sand hill restoration adjacent to the entrance will be treated for Bahia Grass cover. This area was a former slash pine plantation with little to no native cover. The area will be treated to remove the Bahia grass and seeded with a grass lander following the removal of the Bahia grass (Figure 12).
7. A twenty four acre sand hill restoration adjacent to Green Head Branch will be treated for Bahia and centipede grass, worm wood and have hardwoods and sand pine removed (Figure 13).
8. Shrubs within the wet flatwoods (165 acres) are currently being treated to reduce shrub cover further. The first treatment in 2011 will be completed by the second week in July. A September treatment is scheduled if needed (Figure 14).
9. Sand Pine seedlings that have emerged since the removal of the sand pine plantation (383 acres) will be eradicated during the fall of 2011.
10. District staff will be planting 12,000 native groundcover plant species, which are being grown at DEP's nursery. These species include rayless sunflower, rayless goldenrod and sneezeweed.
11. A total of 30 acres (40,000) tublings of upland wire grass will be added to the developing sand hill south of Boggy Branch. The area is being converted from a sand pine plantation to a sand hill community.
12. A total of 200,000 wet prairie wire grass and tooth ache grass seedlings will be planted in the winter of 2011/12 in the 165 acres of restored wet flatwoods at the SHLMB.
13. Fuel levels will be observed at the SHLMB and areas with sufficient fuels will be burned.

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

No real problems were observed at the SHLMB this year. The site continues to develop and thrive.

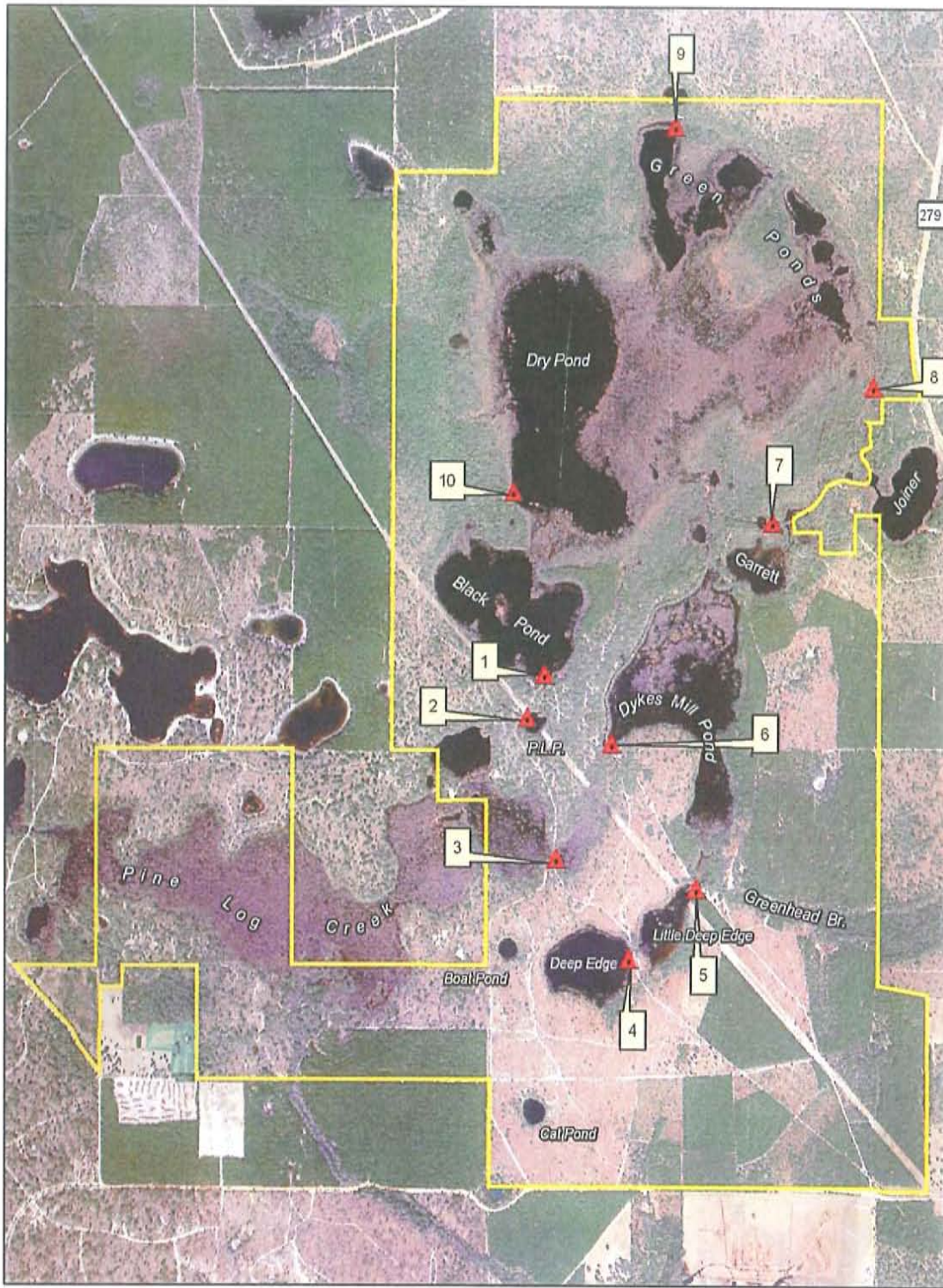
Thank you for your consideration of this submittal. If you have any question or comments, please feel free to contact me at 850-539-5999.

Sincerely,



David Clayton  
Environmental Scientist  
QMS

Figure 9 - Water Level Staff Gage Locations



▲ = Staff Gage (Installed 2005)

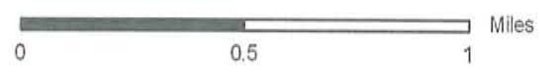


Figure 10. Planted Tree Density Monitoring: Long Leaf Pine

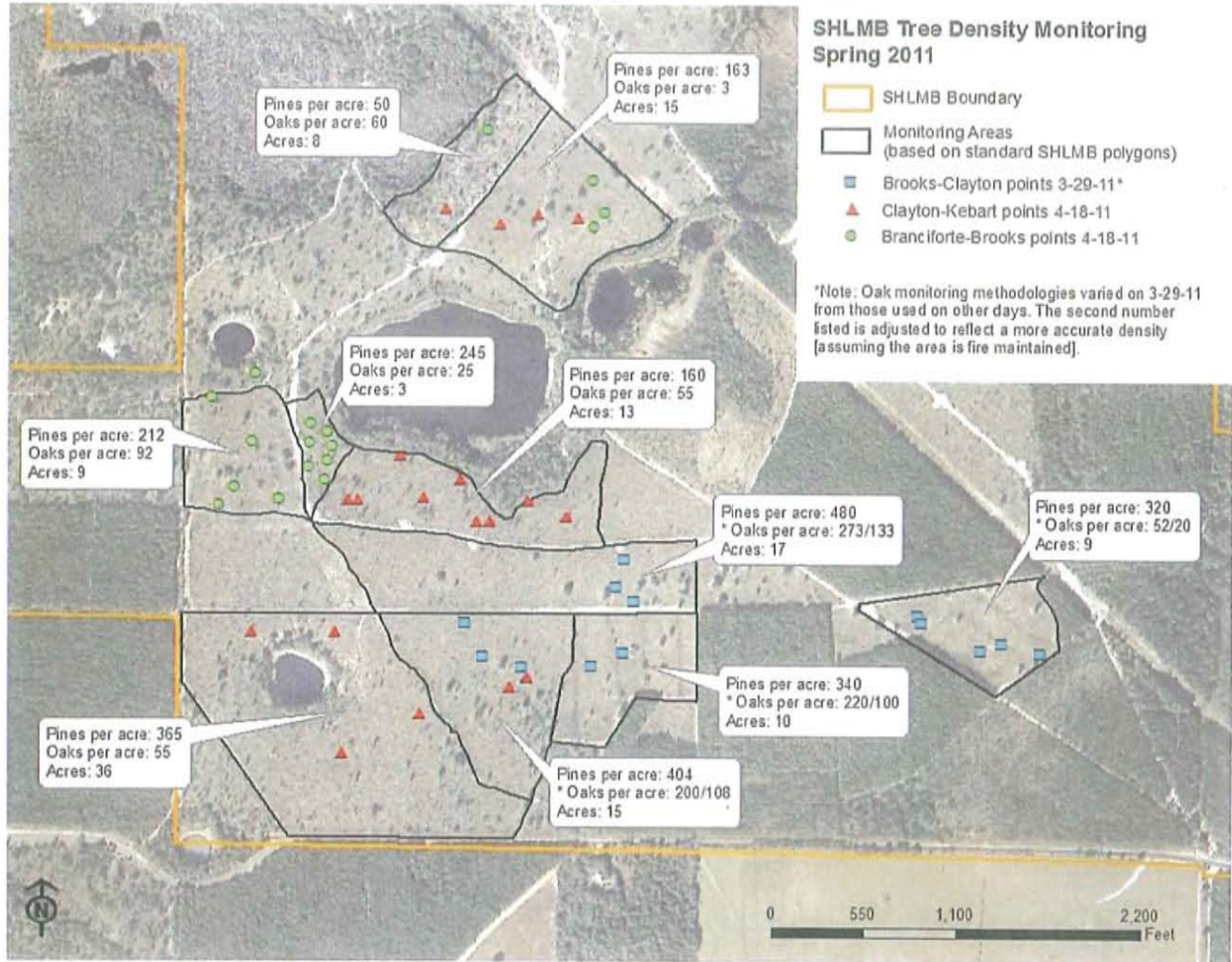


Figure 11. Hardwood Eradication in restored Sand Hill (100 acres)

SHLMB Herbicide Activities - 2011

SHLMB Boundary      Herbicide Areas

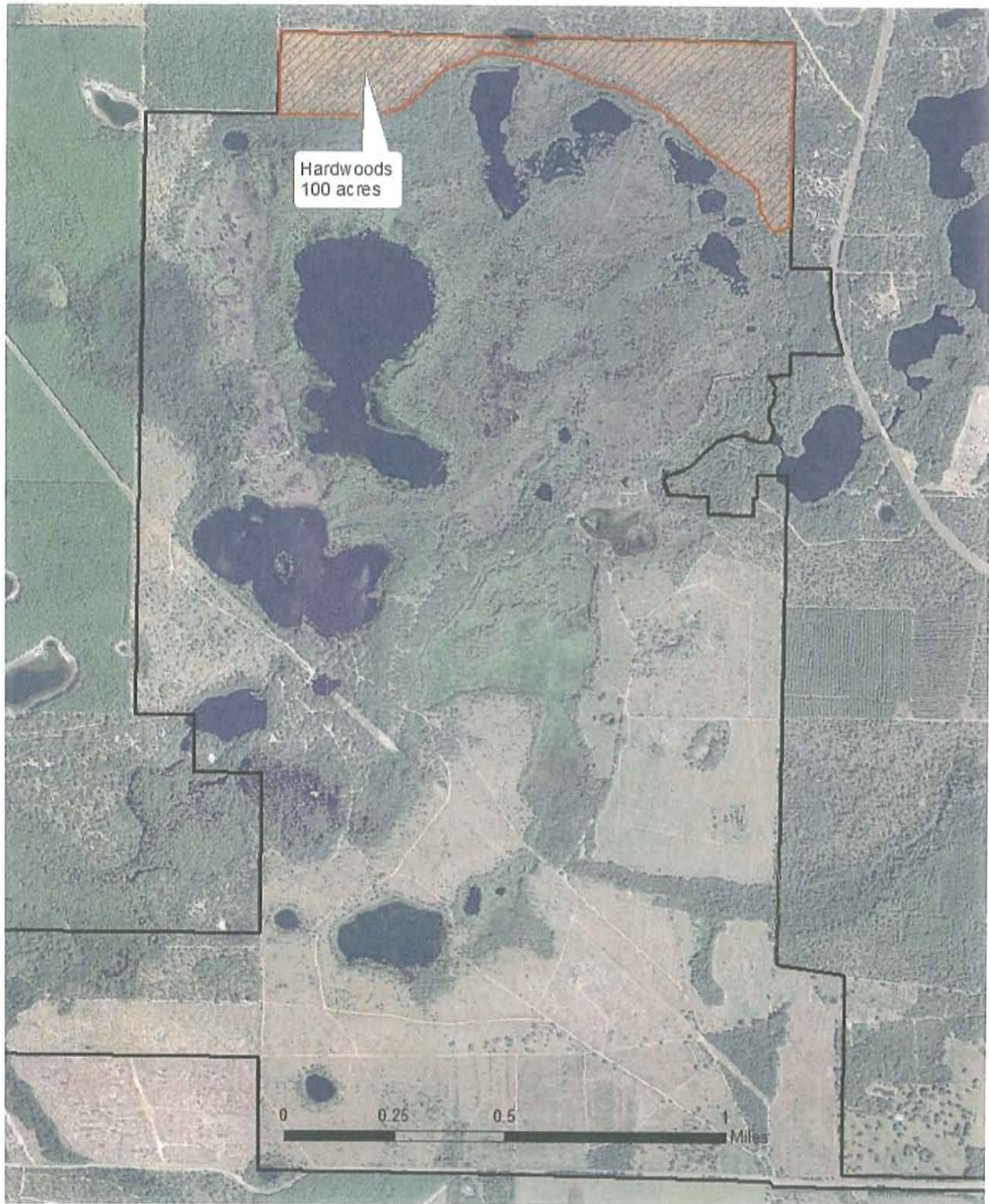


Figure 12. Bahia Grass Eradication (24 acres)

SHLMB Herbicide Activities - 2011

SHLMB Boundary      Herbicide Areas



Figure 13. Hardwood and Exotic Grass Eradication in Developing Sand Hill (24 acres)

SHLMB Herbicide Activities - 2011

□ SHLMB Boundary      ▨ Herbicide Areas

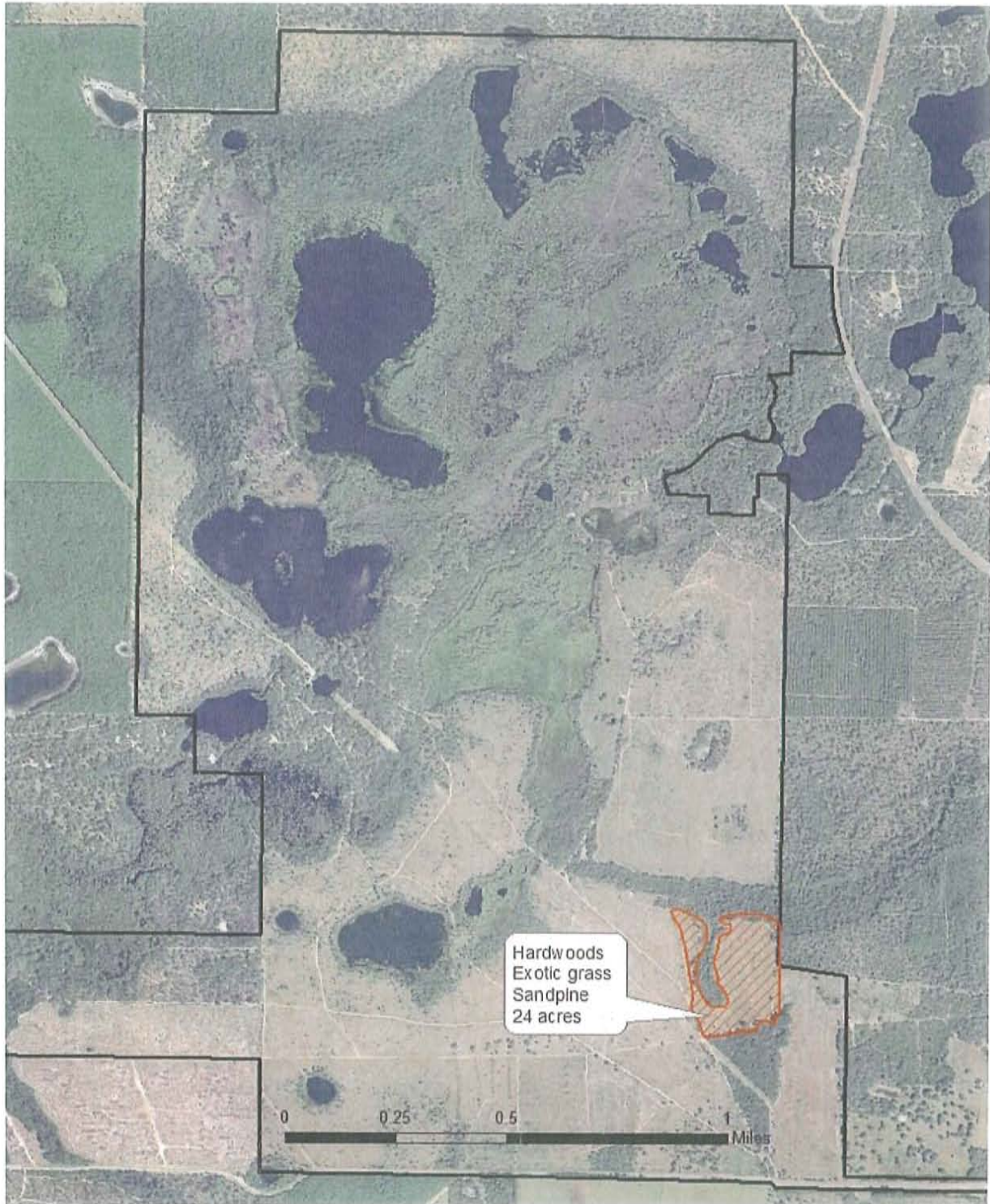
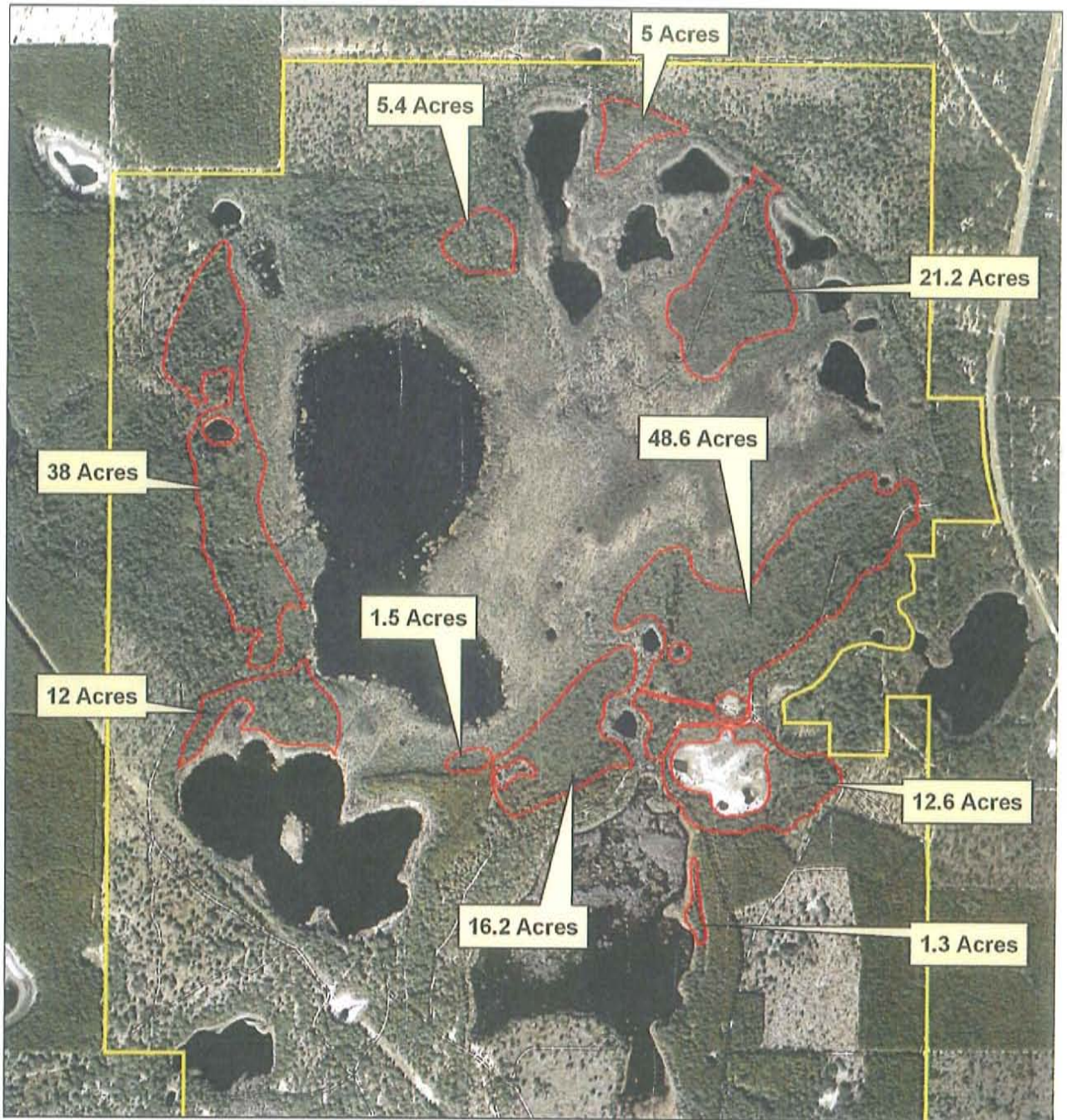
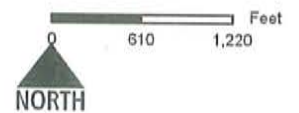


Figure 14. Shrub Reduction in Wet Flatwoods Restoration Areas (165 acres)  
Brush Reduction



Northwest Florida Water Management District  
Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank (SHLMB)  
Brush Reduction (Gyro-Track Mulching) - ~165 Acres  
Section 6, Township 1 North, Range 14 West  
Washington Co., Florida





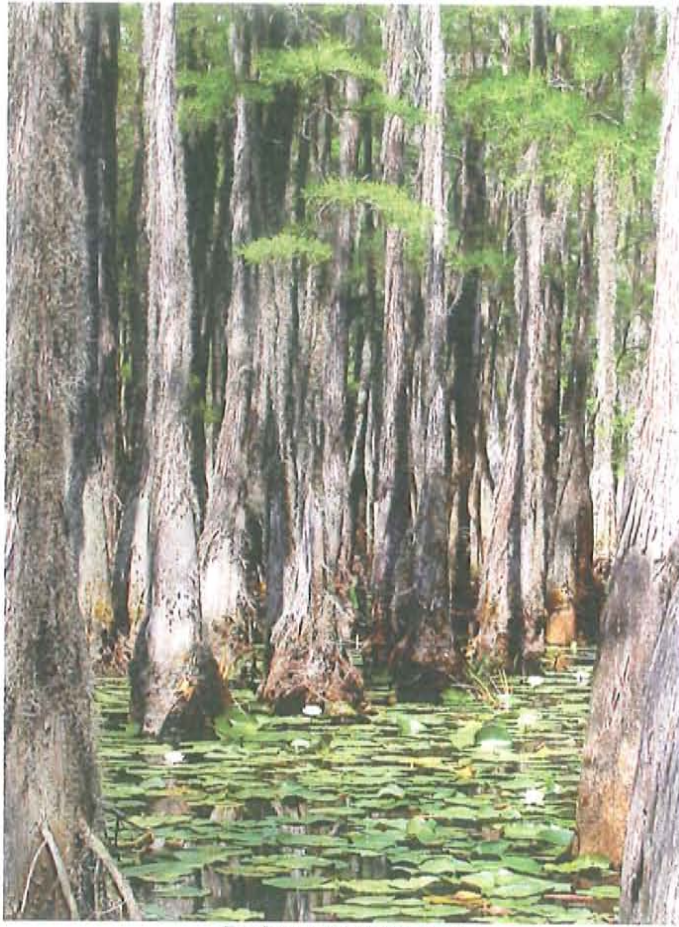
**Appendix 1: Representative Site Photos**



**Green Pond**



**Black Pond**



**Dykes Mill Pond**



**Wet Flatwoods Restoration**



Reflections: Green Pond



Reflections: Green Pond



**Wet Flatwoods Restoration: 11.2 acre site**



**Wet Flatwood Restoration 16.2 acre site**