



# January 2017 Newsletter

Happy New Year from Everyone at IRC!

## IRC Completes Prescribed Burn on John Kunkel Small Pineland

Only 2% of the original Pine Rockland ecosystem remains in Miami-Dade's urban corridor and the enduring fragments stand vulnerable to habitat destruction, invasive pest plants and lack of fire. IRC continues its dedication to long-term habitat restoration of this imperiled ecosystem by actively working to minimizing these threats. We implement the [Pine Rockland Initiative Program](#) and own and manage two pinelands in southern Miami-Dade County. In December, Craig van der Heiden, through a partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service completed a prescribed burn on our John Kunkel Small pineland in Homestead. Fire is a fundamental management tool in Pine Rockland restoration. We look forward to monitoring the vegetation regrowth after the fire.



To see additional photos from the burn, [click here](#).

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## IRC Moderates Breakout Session at 32nd Annual Everglades Coalition Conference

IRC's Chief Conservation Strategist, George Gann, moderated a breakout session titled "Plant and Animal Biodiversity: Including a Critical Element of Everglades Restoration" on Friday, January 6 in Ft. Myers. Panelists included Todd Hopkins of [Peninsular Florida Landscape Conservation Cooperative](#), Sandy Koi of [Tropical Audubon Society](#), and Jennifer Rehage of [Florida International University](#).



The session was well attended and resulted in great dialogue between panelists and attendees about making biodiversity a priority in Everglades Restoration as the water is sent south. To see additional pictures, [click here](#). To read more about the Everglades Coalition, [click here](#).

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## Recent Events



### Release of New International Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration at the Convention on Biological Diversity COP13

IRC's Chief Conservation Strategist, George Gann, gave a talk titled "Report on Global Launch of International Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration" to the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration. The meeting was part of the UN Biodiversity Conference, which was held in Cancun, Mexico. To read the international standards, [click here](#).



### Annual Imperiled Butterflies of South Florida Working Group Meeting

IRC Entomologist, Sandy Koi, gave a presentation titled "Butterfly Diversity on the Homestead Air Reserve Base" at the Imperiled Butterflies of Florida Work Group annual meeting held at Zoo Miami.

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## Upcoming Events

### Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society January Monthly Meeting

IRC's Chief Conservation Strategist, George Gann, will give a talk titled "Rare Plants and Everglades Restoration" at the Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society's monthly meeting to be held on **Tuesday, January 24 at 7:30 p.m.** at Pinecrest Gardens.

### Everglades Day

Join IRC at the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge on **Saturday, February 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** for the 18th Annual Everglades Day. This free event will include exhibits, wildlife presentations, nature walks, guest speakers and walking tours.

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