

Strengthening Partnerships

Increasing linkages between the
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
and
The University of Florida/IFAS
Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation (WEC)

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Goals for today's presentation

- To provide the Commissioners with a brief overview of ongoing and planned interactions between FWC and WEC
 - To provide the Commissioners with an understanding of potential opportunities for “value-added” potential of future collaborations
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Note ongoing conversations between FWC and WEC

The University of Florida/IFAS
Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

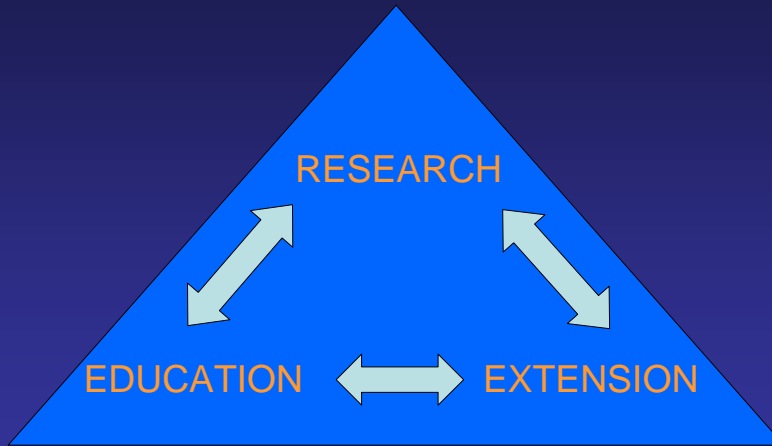
22 professorial faculty members
(statewide)

70-80 Graduate students
(a moving target!)

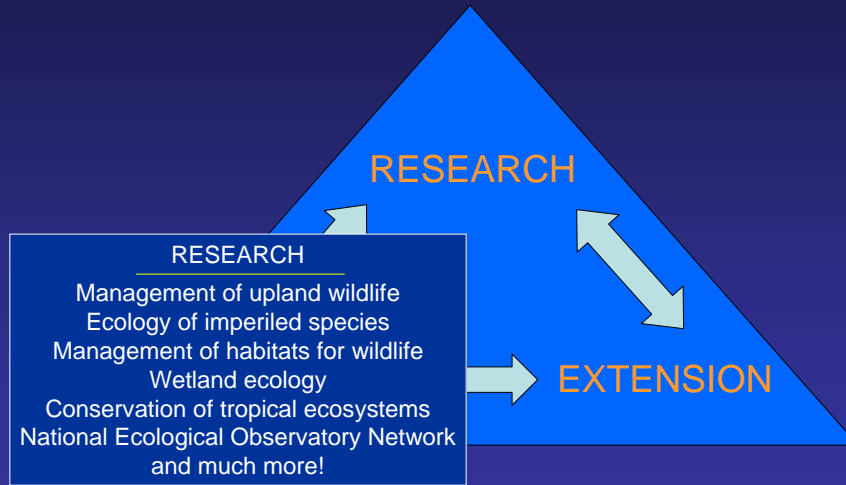
150 Undergraduates



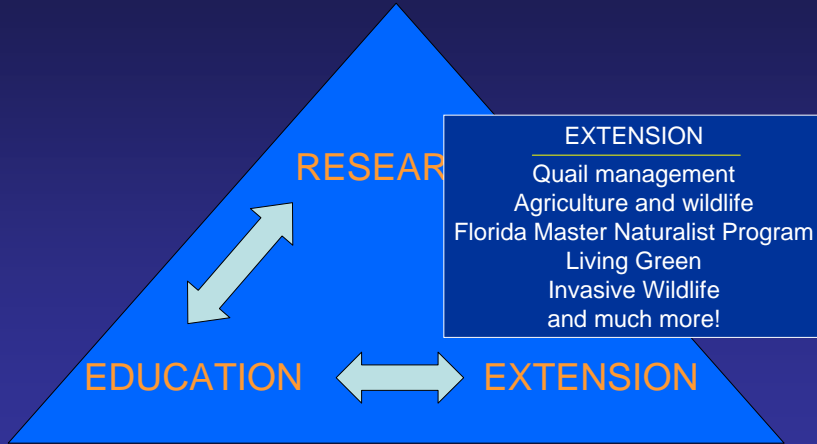
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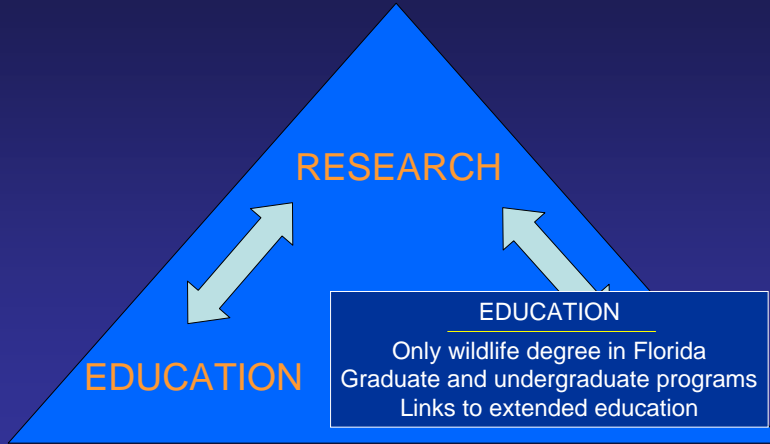
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Some Existing Collaborations between FWC and WEC

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Upland ecosystem restoration and upland wildlife conservation and management

Promoting better management of public and private lands



Key WEC faculty

Bill Giuliano
Madan Oli
Franklin Percival
Holly Ober

Quail management on the Webb Wildlife Management Area



Public education - Deer, turkey, and quail management workshops



Some Existing Collaborations between FWC and WEC

Wetland ecology



Conservation, management,
and ecology of
alligators



Hydrologic regimes
and management
in the Everglades



Ecology, demographics,
and breeding biology
of wood storks

Key WEC faculty

Peter Frederick
Wiley Kitchens
Franklin Percival
Frank Mazzotti

Some Existing Collaborations between FWC and WEC

Conservation of imperiled species



Conservation and ecology of gopher tortoise

Key WEC faculty
Debbie Miller,
Lyn Branch,
Rob Fletcher,
Steve Johnson,
Wiley Kitchens



Conservation and ecology of snail kites



Conservation and ecology of beach mice



Conservation and ecology of snowy plover

Some Existing Collaborations between FWC and WEC

Human dimensions of wildlife



Boater education
and manatee
conservation

Key WEC faculty

Perran Ross
Bill Giuliano
Susan Jacobson
Debbie Miller



Implementing
objective-based
vegetation management

Facilitating
stakeholder
involvement



Directions for the future

Education and training

- Linkages with FWC to improve WEC curriculum
- Graduate fellowships targeted to FWC needs
- FWC internships for WEC students
- Direct involvement of FWC in WEC courses

Research

- Stronger research partnerships to increase research focused on FWC issues
- Joint FWC-WEC proposals for research funding

Extension

- Developing linkages between IFAS extension and FWC outreach program