CFEOR Endorsed Projects

Spatial and Temporal Nutrient Loading Dynamics to Newnans Lake

St. Johns River Water Management District is funding a project that examines spatial patterns and processes of nutrient loading to Newnans Lake, a shallow, hyper-eutrophic lake located in Alachua County. Matt Cohen, Assistant Professor of Forest Water Resources and Watershed Systems at the University of Florida, is leading the project.

The project focuses on efforts to delineate pollutant loads based on contributing land uses and better discriminate between natural and anthropogenic sources of critical pollutants. A significant proportion of the forests surrounding the lake have been conserved by the St. Johns River Water Management District and others. The water related ecological services provided by these forests will also be investigated.

The project has wide general applicability to water bodies that are in the developing stages of Total Maximum Daily Load determination. For more information contact Matt Cohen at mjc@ufl.edu.

(Left) Plumes of urban runoff from East Gainesville add pollutant loads to Newnans Lake.

(Right) Graduate students Lauren Long and Elizabeth Deimeke measure the pollutant load of Little Hatchet creek.

Photo Credit: Larry Korhnak
Upcoming CFEOR Meeting

There will be a CFEOR Steering Committee meeting sometime in September or October at the Austin Cary Memorial Forest in Gainesville, FL. More information on dates and agendas will be coming soon. If you have anything that you would like on the agenda, please contact Laura Sadowski at lap322@ufl.edu or 352-846-0546.

Upcoming Conferences

- **Florida Forestry Association 2007 Annual Meeting**
  “Extreme Makeover: Forestry Addition”
  September 5-6 at Sawgrass Marriott Resort in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
  For more information visit [http://www.floridaforest.org/](http://www.floridaforest.org/)

- **Southeastern Society of American Foresters (SESAF) 2007 Annual Meeting**
  “Keeping Forests in Forests: The Dilemma of Private Forests in the 21st Century”
  September 23-25 at Sandestin Beach Hilton in Destin, FL
  For more information visit [http://www.sesaf.org/annual07.php](http://www.sesaf.org/annual07.php)

- **NEW: Florida Firewise Conference**
  Protecting Florida Communities from Wildfire
  October 2-3 at Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando, FL

- **Deer and Turkey Management Short Course-UF/IFAS Extension**
  October 4-5 at UF’s North Florida Research & Education Center-Quincy, FL

- **3rd Annual Florida Quail & Dove Management Short Course-UF/IFAS Extension**
  October 19 at Turner-Civic Center in Arcadia, FL
  Visit: [http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/Agricultural/wildlife_and_conservation.html](http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/Agricultural/wildlife_and_conservation.html)

- **Confronting the Cogongrass Crisis Across the South**
  November 7-8 at Arthur R. Outlaw Mobile Convention Center in Mobile, AL
  For more information contact Nancy Loewenstein at loewnj@auburn.edu

- **Public Land Acquisition & Management Partnership Conference**
  Hosted by the Southwest Florida Water Management District
  December 5-7 Hyatt Hotel in Sarasota, FL
Recent Research Findings

Gopher Tortoise Response to Habitat Management by Prescribed Burning

Researchers evaluated effects of a dormant-and-growing season prescribed fire on habitat and gopher tortoise use of degraded longleaf pine forests surrounding military training areas. Woody cover initially was reduced in the forests postburn, and they found more new burrows in burned forest sites. Once shrub cover was reduced, tortoises started using forested habitat that had become overgrown. However, shrub reduction may be temporary, as woody stem densities increased postburn. Thus, the one-time use of fire to manage tortoise habitat may not rapidly restore the open canopy, sparse woody midstory, and abundant herbaceous vegetation that this species requires. Repeated prescribed fires or additional management techniques may be needed for complete restoration.