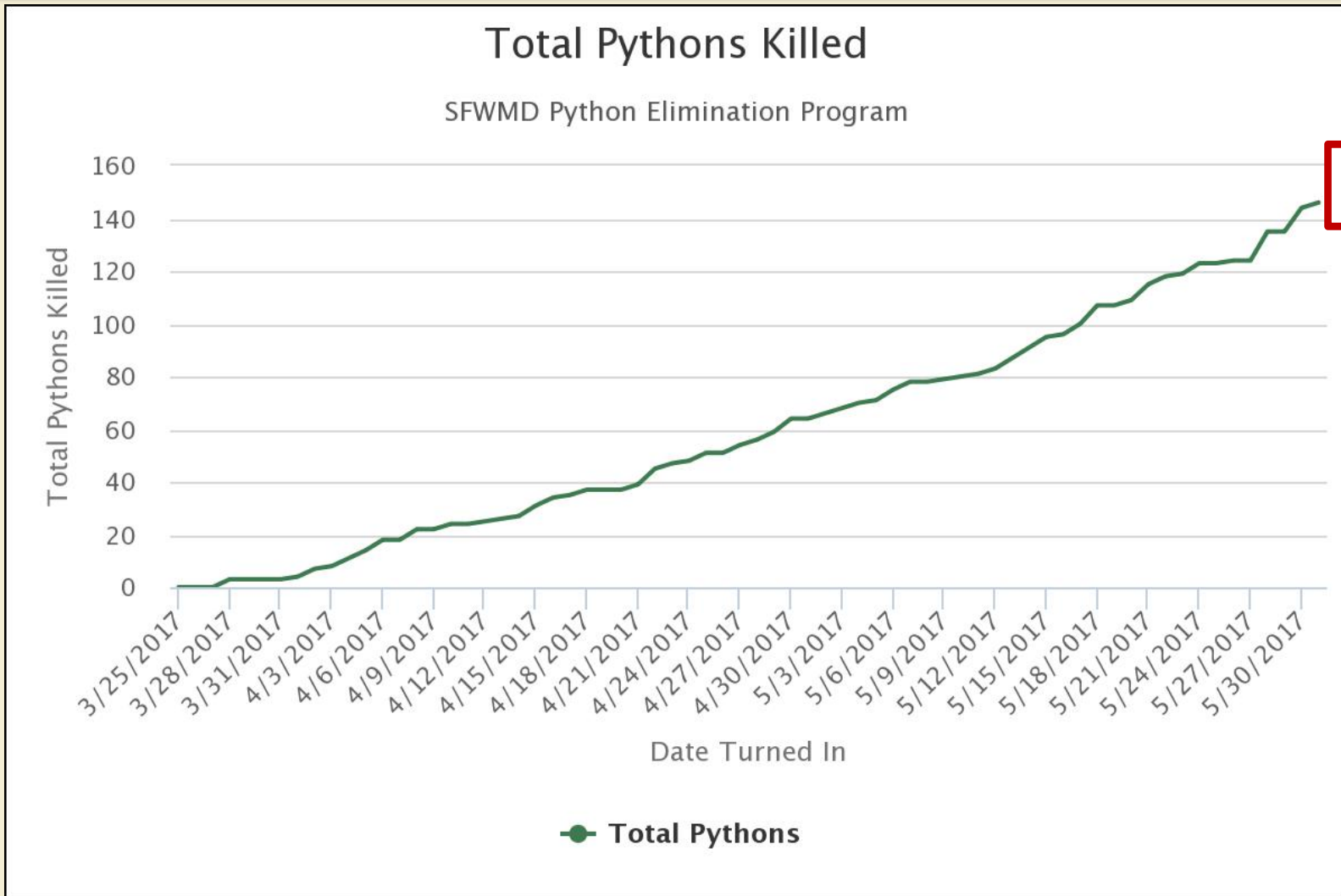# Python Pilot Program Updates

Rory Feeney
Land Resources Bureau Chief
Governing Board Meeting
June 8, 2017

sfwmd.gov

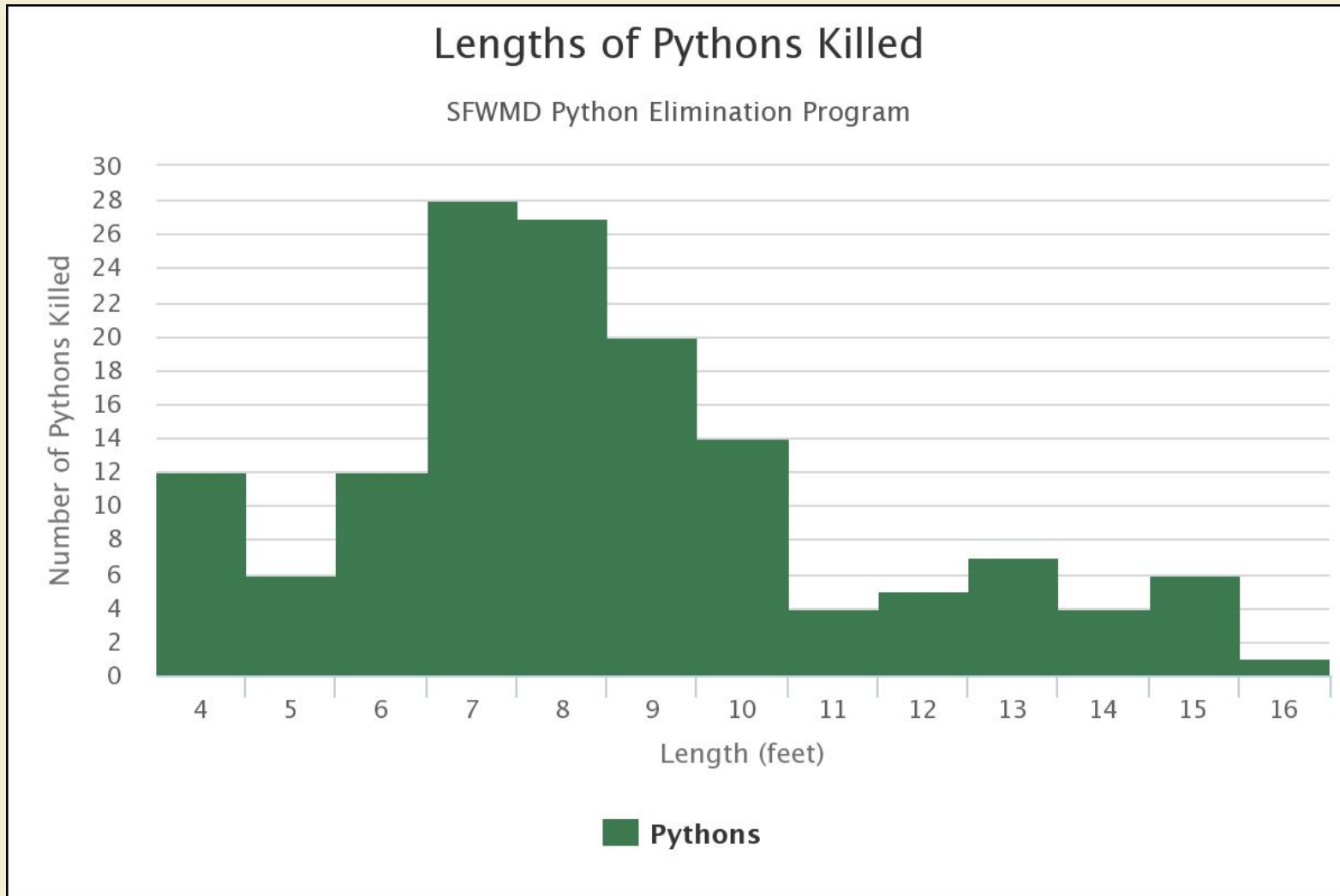# Program Statistics (March 25-June 1, 2017)

- Total Pythons: 158

- Total length: 1,369 feet (roof of Empire State Building=1,250')

- Total weight: 3,725.2 pounds

- Total hours: 3,003

- Hourly pay: $24,054

- Cash payment: $25,450

- Total program cost: $49,504

- Remaining budget balance: $125,496

Program Statistics
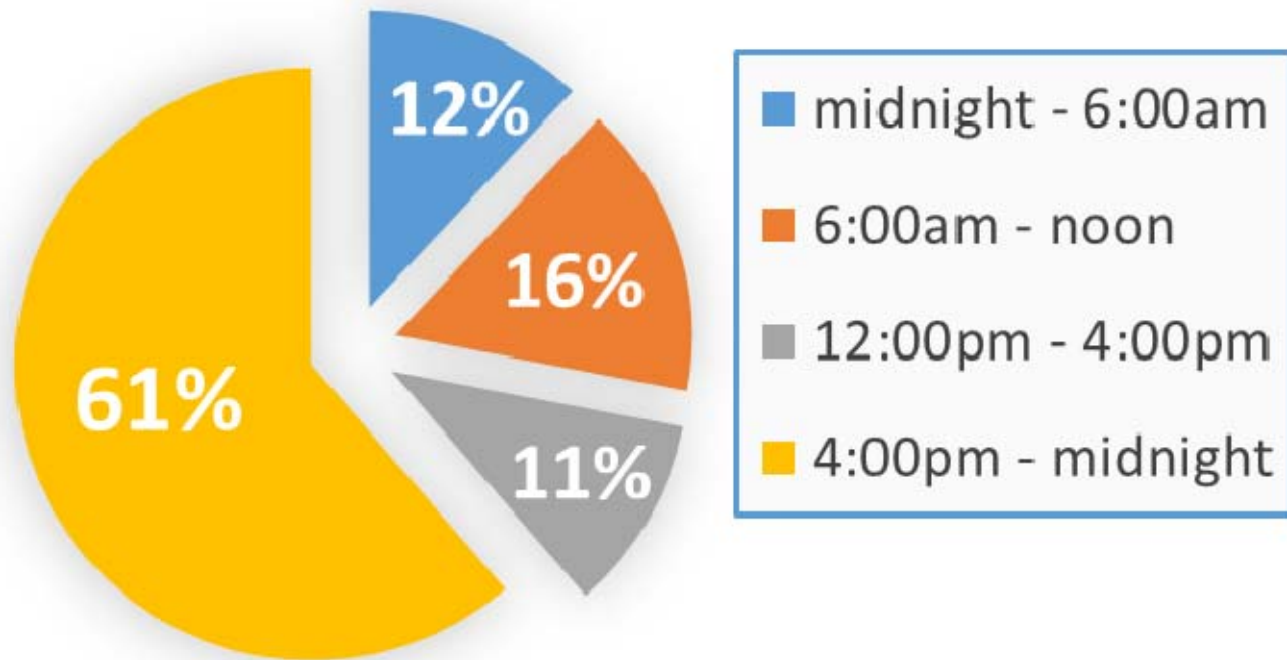

Total Pythons Killed

SFWMD Python Elimination Program

158

Program Statistics

Lengths of Pythons Killed

SFWMD Python Elimination Program

Program Statistics

Python Catches by Hour

- 12% midnight - 6:00am
- 16% 6:00am - noon
- 11% 12:00pm - 4:00pm
- 61% 4:00pm - midnight
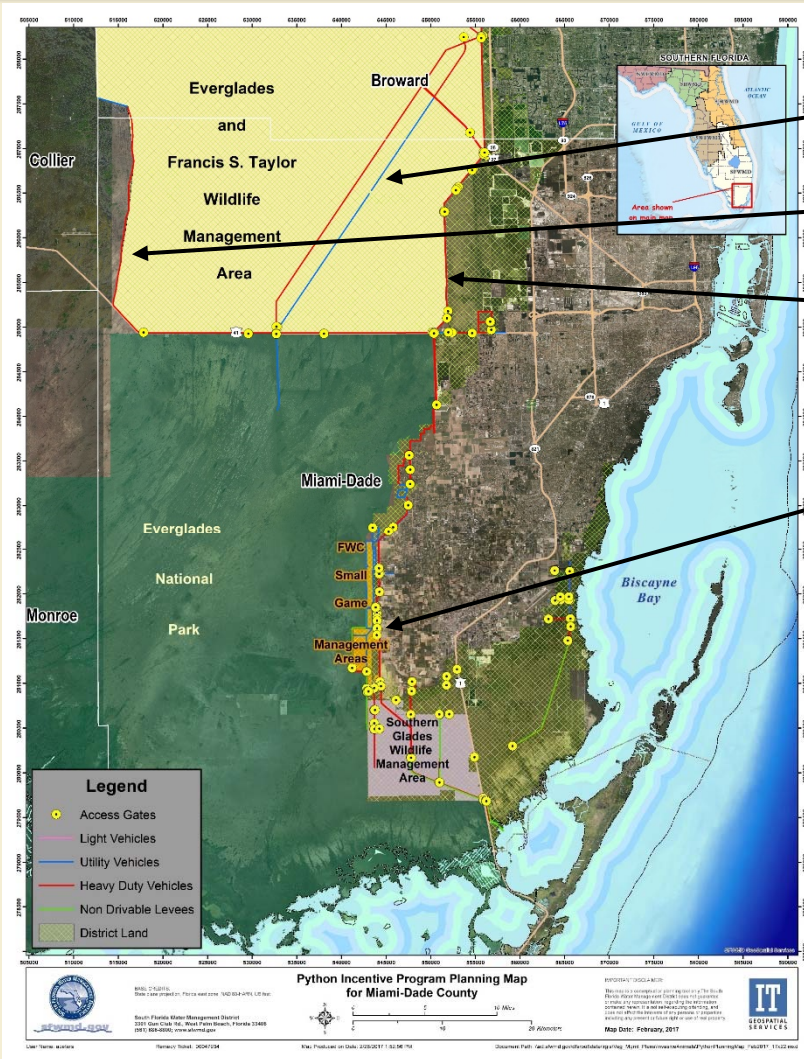
Program Statistics

L-67 (28 pythons)

L-28 Tieback (62 pythons)

L-30 (10 pythons)

Rocky Glades (27 pythons)

Various other locations in Project area (31 pythons)

Total : 158 pythons

Python Program Phase II
Options for Time and Range

➢ **Option #1 (status quo)**

- Continue the program June 17th through September 30th in current range and scope of work.

➢ **Option #2**

- Pause the program and restart during colder months (i.e. November 2017 through March 2018) in current range and scope of work.

➢ **Option #3**

- Continue the program June 17th through September 30th in Miami-Dade, and expand to Broward and Collier Counties.

Python Program Phase II
Options for Bounty Payment

➢ **Option #1 (status quo)**

- Continue on site cash payments.

➢ **Option #2**

- Bounty payments mailed to participants using existing District vendor check payment system.

➢ **Option #3**

- Continue cash payments at Homestead Field Station and issue checks at additional drop off locations.

Python Program Phase II
Options for Survey Payment

➢ **Option #1 (status quo)**

- Continue $8.10/hour with maximum of 8 hours/day.

➢ **Option #2**

- Replace hourly payment with flat rate of $45/day for minimum survey time.

➢ **Option #3**

- Replace hourly payment with per diem of $35/day for 1-4 hours worked or $65/day for 5-8 hours worked.

Python Program Phase II
Additional changes

➢ Replace low performing participants with new recruits from prequalified pool (currently evaluating 5 participants).

➢ Add an additional 10 participants from prequalified pool to bring total program to 35 hunters.

➢ Field Station drop off times Monday through Thursday and two hours on Saturday. Decreases overtime and increase cost avoidance.

➢ FWC Executive Order to include new Wildlife Management Areas in additional counties.

Python Program Phase II
Staff Recommendations

➢ Continue the program June 17th through September 30th in Miami-Dade, and expand to Broward and Collier Counties.

➢ Bounty payments mailed to participants using existing District vendor check payment system.

➢ Continue $8.10/hour with maximum of 8 hours/day.

➢ Recommendations will streamline program processes and increase efficiencies while maintaining current payment to python hunters.

It takes a village…

- ➢ **Many thanks to the hunters and hard working team at the South Florida Water Management District!**

  - Homestead Field Station staff

  - Land Stewardship staff

  - District Headquarters staff

    - Budget and Procurement

    - Office of Communication

    - Office of Counsel

    - Land Resources Bureau

    - Mike Kirkland - Python Project Manager and Scientist

Questions?

Tom Rahill, Lt. Governor Lopez-Cantera, and Omar Gomez with 15' 10" python in Miami-Dade