



Indian River County Conservation Lands Program

5500 77th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32967
Phone: (772) 226-1873
E-mail: bpowell@ircgov.com

Press Release-Immediate
Beth Powell, Conservation Lands Manager

PRESCRIBED BURN PLANNED FOR THE ANSIN TRACT – CR 510 & 512

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FL – Indian River County is working with the Florida Forest Service, Okeechobee District, to conduct a prescribed fire on the Ansin Farmstead Conservation Area (County Road 510 & 512) sometime during the month of August, 2017. The prescribed fire is being conducted in an effort to reduce wildfire threat and to restore native pine flatwoods habitat. The 18 acre prescribed fire will be conducted by the Florida Forest Service along with the assistance of the Indian River County Emergency Services Department.

Fire is an important tool for land managers in restoring and maintaining scrub, flatwoods and other native habitats. The prescribed fire will benefit many species like the Gopher Tortoise (a state listed Threatened species).

Grant funding from the Florida Communities Trust was used to purchase the Ansin Tract Conservation along with IRC Environmental Bond Funds in February 2006. The 28 acre conservation area includes pine flatwoods, scrub and bottomland forest. Approximately 18 acres of the site is composed of a pine flatwoods and scrub communities consisting of longleaf and slash pine which is a pyrogenic or “fire dependent” community. Prescribed fire mimics natural wildfire regimes, but does so under a written prescription by certified personnel. The prescription includes important safety considerations such as wind direction, temperature, humidity and fuel load, as well as appropriate staff and equipment to protect adjacent properties. Firelines or firebreaks are installed in select locations prior to the burn and wind direction is utilized to burn the habitat in the manner prescribed under the burn authorization.

For more information and to watch the progress of the restoration efforts on this and other conservation areas, go to www.ircgov.com/conservation or find and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ircConservation.



Beth Powell, Conservation Lands Manager

Indian River County
5500 77th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32967
772-589-9223
[Bpowell@ircgov.com](mailto:bpowell@ircgov.com)
www.ircgov.com/conservation

Melissa Yunas, Wildfire Mitigation Specialist

Florida Forest Service, Okeechobee District
(Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, Okeechobee, Highlands, and Glades Counties)

EMAIL Melissa.Yunas@freshfromflorida.com
Office Line (772) 467-3008
Cell Phone (772) 260-0053
Dispatch (863) 467-3220
Twitter @FFS_Okeechobee
Pictures <http://picasaweb.google.com/melissa.yunas.pio>
Website <http://www.floridaforestservice.com/index.html>

