

Mosquito Control Management on National Wildlife Refuges Along FL's Indian River Lagoon - Doug Carlson

- a) 2 NWR refuges in area
 - i) Merritt Island
 - (1) 140K acres
 - (2) Salt marsh
 - (3) Maple bay swamps
 - (4) Grass marshes
 - ii) Pelican Island
 - (1) 5300 acres
 - (2) Mangrove swamps
 - (3) Disturbed uplands
- b) Indian River Lagoon
 - i) Lagoonal estuary
 - ii) 156 miles long
 - iii) 5 inlets to Atlantic Ocean
 - iv) Very diverse habitat and plant and animal life
- c) Impoundment management
 - i) 40,000 acres
 - ii) Created in 1950s and 60s
 - iii) Flooded during mosquito season
 - iv) Eliminates egg laying sites
 - v) Drawbacks
 - (1) Interferes with movement of water
 - (2) Changed habitat
 - vi) Benefits
 - (1) Resident fish populations thrive
 - (2) Can be managed for waterfowl
 - (3) Wading birds thrive
- d) Mosquito control in area requires good cooperation between the NWR and the local mosquito control agency
- e) Concerns from draft policy concerning control on NWR
 - i) What constitutes a health threat
 - ii) Determination of "no economic impact"
 - iii) These NWR are adjacent to residential areas
 - iv) Loss of ability to control in these areas will have an large impact on quality of life in residential areas adjacent to the NWR