

# Bahamas Prescribed Fire Training and Demonstration Project

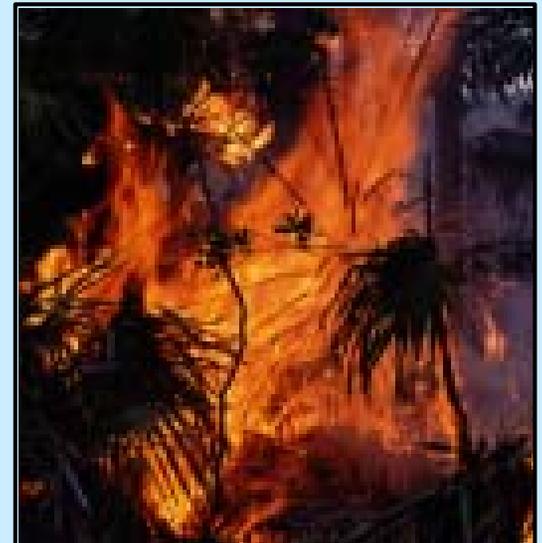


*The Nature  
Conservancy* 

SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH

# Pine Rocklands

- Lower Florida Keys ~ 2,000 acres
- Everglades National Park ~ 20,000 acres
- Miami-Dade County ~ 60 fragments  
<4% of original area
- **Bahamas ~ 350,000 acres**



# Background

- Ongoing fire management work in Keys and throughout Florida
- “Latin America and Caribbean Fire Learning Network,” 2002
- Site visit to Bahamas with conservation partners, 2003
- “Fire Management Assessment of the Caribbean Pine (*Pinus caribea*) Forest Ecosystems on Andros and Abaco Islands, Bahamas”
  - Available on PRWG website  
<http://fl.water.usgs.gov/Miami/pineland/index.html>





# Even-Aged Pine Stand Structure: North Andros



# Frequent Human-Caused Fire: North Andros

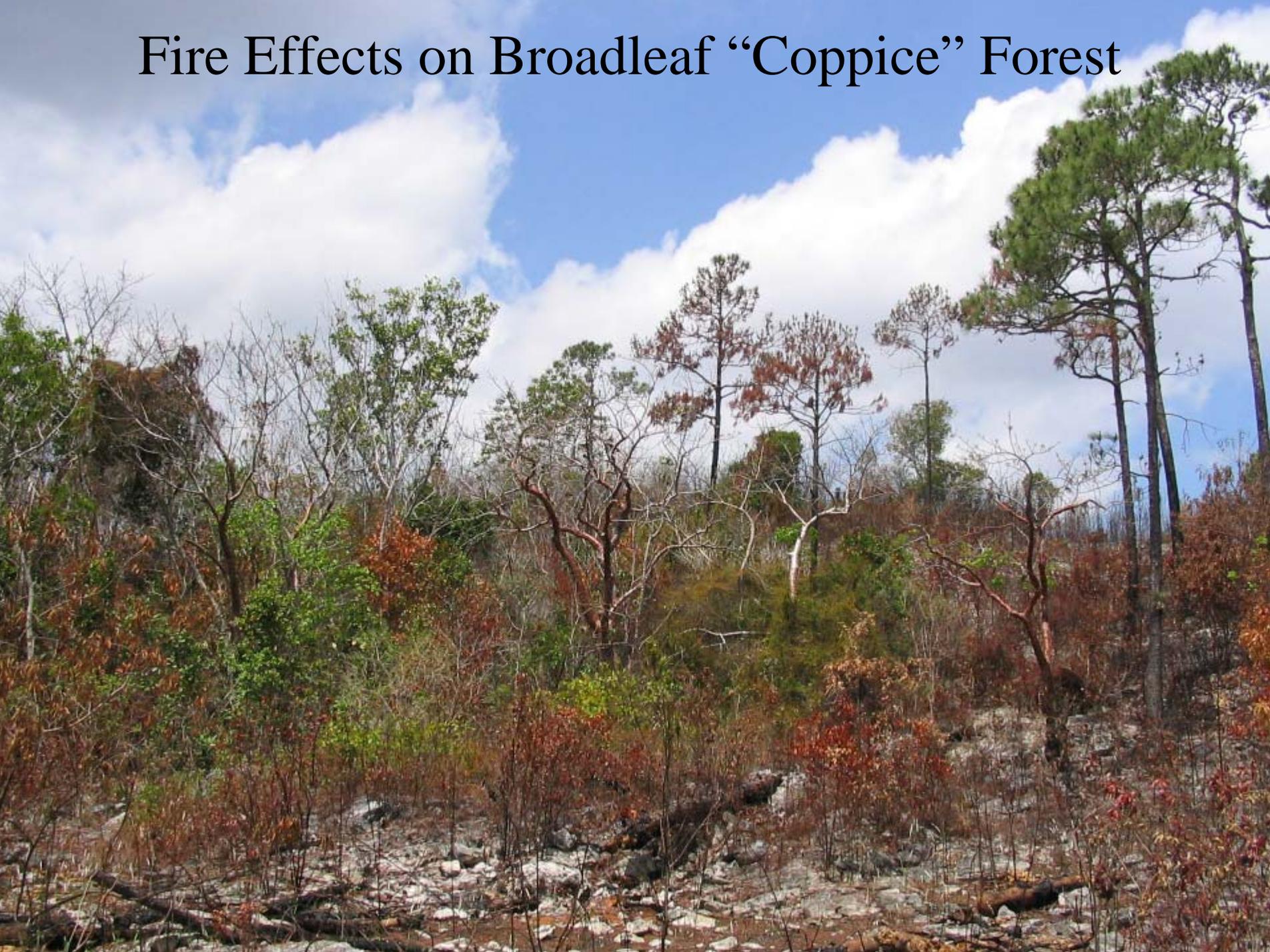


# Agricultural Burning: North Andros





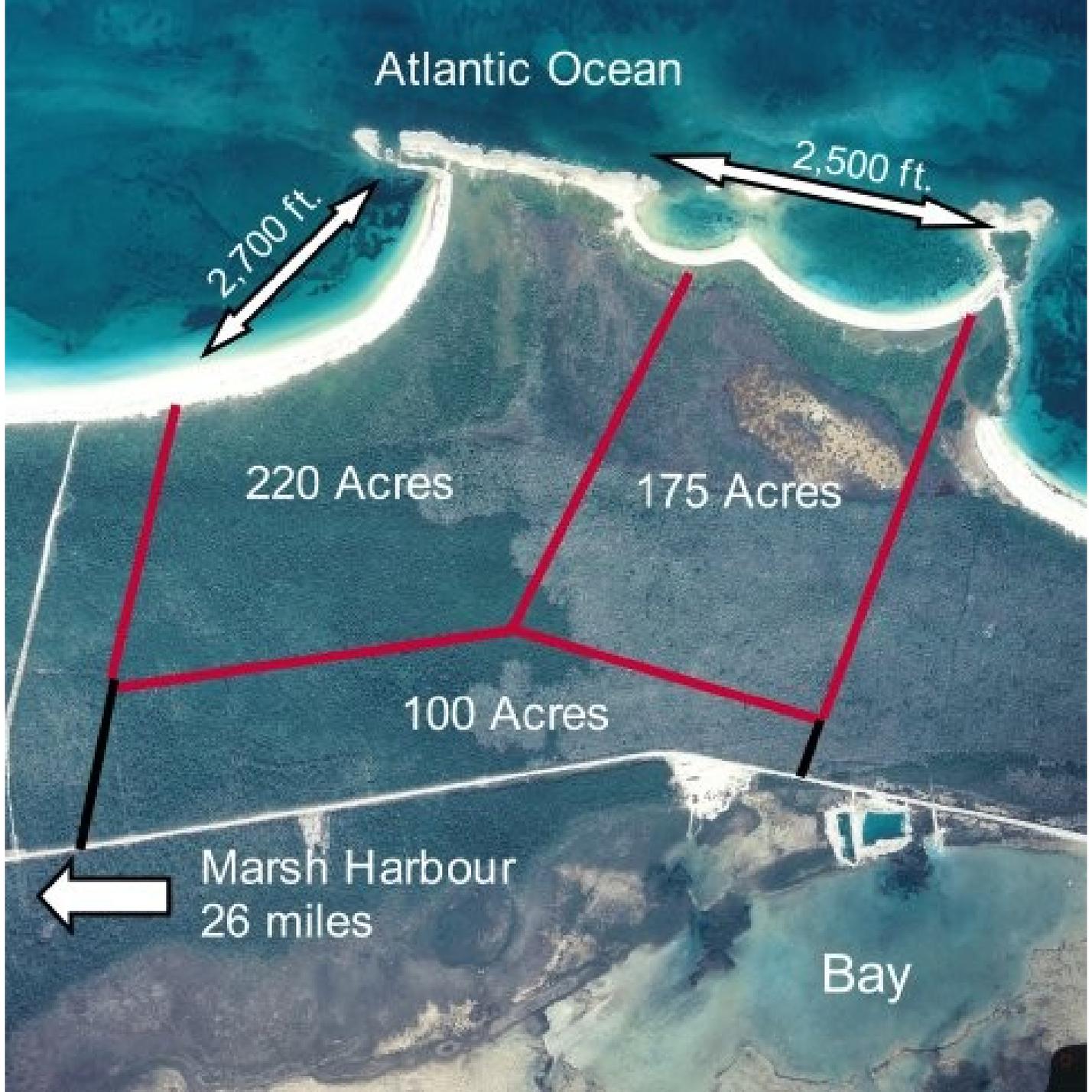
# Fire Effects on Broadleaf “Coppice” Forest











Atlantic Ocean

2,700 ft.

2,500 ft.

220 Acres

175 Acres

100 Acres

Marsh Harbour  
26 miles

Bay

# Prescribe Fire Training and Demonstration Burns

- Train Bahamians in safe, effective prescribed fire planning and implementation
- Demonstrate the effectiveness of prescribed fire as a land management tool for the Bahamas
- Research fire effects on forest structure and rare species









**Abaco National Park**

# Bahama Parrot





CASUARINA/BAHAMA PALM  
VOLUNTEER FIRE-RESCUE

L8000

ABACO













**November 2005**



# Fire Management Planning

- Create a fire management plan for the Abaco National Park (ANP) and surrounding area as a pilot effort
- “Workshop” fire management planning at ANP with people from other pine islands and the U.S. to help prepare for plans at other sites
- Build support for comprehensive fire management efforts in the Bahamas



