FLORIDA INVADER: Yellow Anaconda

Report sightings:
1-888-Ive-Got1
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The Yellow Anaconda’s head is distinctively marked with five broad, dark stripes.

The Yellow Anaconda’s body is yellowish tan, and marked with abundant large, round dark spots. Spots on the lower sides of the body may have light-colored centers, but the centers are never bright orange like the side spots of Green Anacondas.

Young Yellow Anacondas look nearly identical to adults.

The Yellow Anaconda (Eunectes notaeus) is native to tropical South America. This species is not established in Florida, but escaped or released pets have been encountered in the wild. Yellow Anacondas grow to 15 feet long, only about half the size of Green Anacondas. They are large, nocturnal predators that kill prey by constriction. Yellow Anacondas could prey on nearly all fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals native to Florida, and several threatened and endangered species could be at risk. Yellow Anacondas are semi-aquatic and prefer still waters; the habitats found in the Everglades would provide a hospitable environment for these snakes. Females can breed within their first few years of life, and give birth to up to 80 live young. Lifespan ranges from 10-20 years.

This project was made possible in part by a grant from the South Florida National Parks Trust and the Ferris Greeney Family Foundation, and by the USDA-RREA. Photos/illustrations by USGS, Monica McGarrity (UF), Patrick Lynch (SFWMD), Helder Duarte, and Patrick Jean. This document is UF/IFAS Publication Number WEC290, first published September 2010.
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Footnote

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