



**Johnson Education Center
Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at Florida Atlantic University
February 22-23, 2024**

Call for Technical Presentations

The Indian River Lagoon (IRL) Symposium is the result of a multi-institutional, multi-agency effort to provide a forum for discussing Indian River Lagoon science and its application to the management of the lagoon. The symposium is open to scientists, decision-makers, students, education and outreach professionals, and the interested public. The intent is to facilitate better communication among these groups so that the gaps between research and its application can be narrowed. Oral presentations and posters on all aspects of science relating to the IRL are encouraged.

The theme for the 2024 symposium is *IRL Fish*. The IRL is home to a wide variety of fish species, ranging from small forage fish to large predators. Fishing attracts anglers and tourists, contributing to the local economy, and is a cultural tradition for many communities around the Lagoon. The health of the IRL fish populations can serve as an indicator of the overall health of the lagoon. Changes in these populations can signal environmental issues such as pollution, habitat degradation, and climate change.

Program Schedule: Technical sessions consisting of oral and poster presentations will be held all day on February 22. The *Indian River Lagoon 2024 Update* will focus on the current status of IRL fish and will be held on February 23 from 8:30 to noon. The Update is suitable for the public as well as researchers and resource managers.

Venue: Harbor Branch (for directions, see <https://www.fau.edu/hboi/about/location-maps/>) is located along the Indian River Lagoon in Fort Pierce, Florida, centrally located between the cities of Fort Pierce and Vero Beach.

Registration Information: Registration, required for all participants, includes access to all sessions on both days, coffee breaks, lunch, and end-of-the-day reception on February 22. Registration will begin in December after the abstract deadline (the link will be sent out at that time and posted on the IRLS website at: <http://www.indianriverlagoon.org/symposium.html>). **For those submitting abstracts, please register by December 8.** For those not presenting, registration is due by January 27, 2023.

Early registration fees are \$50 (regular) and \$25 (students) and are due for all participants by January 19, 2024. Late registration fees are \$65 (\$40 for students). Late registration closes February 7, 2024, at 5 p.m., unless availability ends sooner, which is quite likely based on previous years (e.g., IRLS 2023 hit the enrollment cap on January 26, 2023). Students: Note that when you first connect to the site, the default registration is the full participant amount, but once you designate yourself as a student, you will then see the lower rate.

Abstract Solicitation: The technical program will include oral presentations and posters on current scientific research on the Indian River Lagoon and its management. To encourage as much participation as possible, there will be three types of presentations: short oral presentations (“3 Minutes – 3 Slides”), 10-minute oral presentations (which includes time for a short Q&A), and posters. Although this meeting is open to anyone interested in sharing their knowledge, activities, and ideas, contributions by university students and early-career professionals are encouraged. Preference for the 10-minute sessions will be given to those speakers who address this year's theme of *IRL Fish* and to speakers who are university students and earlier-career professionals.

Abstracts for Talks & Posters: The presenting author should send **an abstract in Word format** (not to exceed 150 words, along with the title and authors in the format below) **and the form below** to dhanisak@fau.edu by **November 30, 2023**. Abstracts will be acknowledged as received. For abstract guidelines, see sample abstract below from IRLS 2013.

Sample Abstract (Times Roman, 11 pt; underline presenting author if is not the first author listed)

Brevard Oyster Partnership for the Indian River Lagoon (Oyster PIRL): Brevard Residents Will Help Restore Our Lagoon by Raising Native Eastern Oysters along Their Waterfronts

Jody B Palmer¹, Virginia Barker², Samantha Anderson¹, and Holly Abeels³

¹Brevard Zoo, Melbourne, FL; ²Brevard County Natural Resources Management, Melbourne, FL; ³Brevard County Extension Office, Cocoa, FL

Contact email: jpalmer@brevardzoo.org

Brevard Zoo is partnering with Brevard County to lead a community based oyster restoration project that will engage County residents living along the Indian River Lagoon. Participating residents will hang predator exclusion modules from their docks and raise oysters from highly vulnerable baby spat to thick-shelled young adults. On a bi-weekly basis, participants will collect information on oyster recruitment, growth rates and survivability and enter their data into a website organized by Brevard Zoo staff and volunteers. Their oyster data will help identify areas where large scale oyster reefs (to be populated by the young adult oysters raised by program) will both thrive and improve lagoon water quality.

Indian River Lagoon Symposium 2024 – Call for Presentations
Submit by November 30, 2023

NAME: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: () _____ E-MAIL: _____

TITLE OF TALK () OR POSTER (): _____

AUTHOR(S): _____

PRESENTER: _____ () STUDENT?

FORMAT:

- _____ I prefer to make my oral presentation in 3 minutes, using no more than 3 slides (these limits will be strictly enforced!).
- _____ I prefer to make my oral presentation in a full 10-minute time slot
- _____ I prefer to make my presentation as a poster

Don't forget to send your abstract in Word format and to register!