



**Johnson Education Center
Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at Florida Atlantic University
February 13-14, 2020**

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 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. Technical sessions consisting of oral presentations will be held on February 13 and 14, with the poster session on February 13 (5:30 to 7:30 p.m.). Note that this is a departure from our previous format when all technical sessions were completed in one day.

The theme for the 2020 symposium is *Reassessing IRL Biodiversity*. In 1994, an Ad Hoc Committee established by the Indian River Lagoon National Estuarine Program (IRLNEP) convened a conference on *Biodiversity of the Indian River Lagoon* in response to the lack of management planning on this topic. The goal of that two-day conference was to assemble and synthesize information on the current status of biodiversity in the Lagoon. That synthesis contributed to management recommendations for inclusion in IRLNEP's initial Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan. Proceedings (papers based on the oral presentations, or abstracts) of that conference were published as a dedicated issue of the *Bulletin of Marine Science* in 1995 that has served as an important reference for 25 years. The focus of IRLS 2020, *Reassessing IRL Biodiversity*, will address changes in the IRL's biodiversity since the 1994 conference and gaps in our knowledge of the biota that were not considered at that time.

Oral presentations and posters on all aspects of science relating to the IRL are invited. 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. In addition to being welcome to register and attend the whole symposium, the public will be invited to attend the poster session on February 13 and the closing technical session on February 14 at no cost.

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

Program Schedule: 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 in the oral sessions, short presentations (“3 Minutes – 3 Slides”) will be scheduled as well as the more traditional 15-minute time slots. Preference for the 15-minute sessions will be given to those speakers who address this year's theme of *Reassessing IRL Biodiversity* and to speakers who are university students and earlier-career professionals. Posters will be scheduled as a dedicated session near the end of the first day, in combination with a social reception, which will also be open to the public. The technical sessions on February 14 will end no later than 3 p.m. The program schedule and other details should be posted by January 10, 2020.

IRLS 2020 Proceedings: The Steering Committee contacted the Florida Academy of Science regarding a dedicated issue based on presentations at IRLS 2020 and the Editor is receptive. All presenters (any oral format, posters) addressing the biodiversity theme will be invited to contribute to the proceedings, either with a regular paper or abstract. Manuscripts will be due March 31, 2020.

Registration: Due to the generosity of sponsors, registration fees are minimal. Early registration fees for access to all technical sessions are \$30 (\$20 for students) and are **due by October 31, 2019, for anyone submitting an abstract. For those not presenting, registration is due by January 19, 2020.** After that date, late registration fees are \$35 (\$25 for students). Late registration closes February 7, 2020 at 5 p.m., unless availability ends sooner, which is quite likely based on previous years. Registration includes access to all technical sessions, coffee breaks, lunch, and end-of-the-day reception on February 13, 2020 and is available at: <https://fauf.fau.edu/irls2020>.

Abstracts for Talks & Posters: The presenting author should send an abstract (not to exceed 150 words, along with title and authors in the format below) and the form below to dhanisak@fau.edu by **October 31, 2019**. 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 2020 – Call for Presentations
Submit by October 31, 2019

NAME: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: () _____ E-MAIL: _____

TITLE OF TALK () OR POSTER (): _____

AUTHOR(S): _____

PRESENTER: _____ () STUDENT?

If requesting a talk:

_____ I prefer a full 15-minute time slot

_____ I prefer to make my presentation in 3 minutes, using no more than 3 slides (these limits will be strictly enforced!).

Would you like to submit a manuscript if selected as a possible contribution to the IRLS 2020 Proceedings in the *Florida Scientist*, with a draft manuscript deadline of March 31, 2020?

_____ Yes

_____ No

Don't forget to register by October 31, 2019 at:
<https://fauf.fau.edu/irls2020>