



**Johnson Education Center
HBOI-FAU, Fort Pierce, Florida**

Friday, February 9, 2018 – *Engaging the Public: Restoration of the Indian River Lagoon*

The focus of this year's public forum for the Indian River Lagoon Symposium centers on its theme of *Restoration of the Indian River Lagoon*: how the public can learn more about and participate in restoration of the Lagoon. In addition to a panel discussion on Indian River Lagoon restoration, a number of organizations will be on hand to meet with the public on the work they do and the opportunity for the public to become more involved. The University of Central Florida will conduct a small focus group on mapping and perceptions of sense of place in the IRL with interested members of the public.

0845 - 0900 Registration and Coffee & Tea

0900 - 0930 Informal Dialogue with Representatives from Various IRL Organizations

Ten IRL organizations will have displays and discuss what they are doing to restore the IRL.

0930 - 1130 Panel Presentation and Discussion on Indian River Lagoon Restoration

A panel comprised of representatives from several IRL organizations will briefly describe what they are doing to help restore the IRL and how citizens can participate in these efforts.

Moderator: Caity Savoia, Marine Resources Council

Panelists: Virginia Barker (Natural Resources Management Department, Brevard County), Vincent Encomio (The Florida Oceanographic Society), Mike Middlebrook, (Environmental Resources, St. Lucie County); Citizen Scientists: Mike Berger (The Florida Oceanographic Society), Dennis Mayo (Marine Resources Council), Marilyn (MJ) Waters (Brevard Zoo & IRL Coalition)

1130 - 1300 Informal Dialogue with Representatives from Various IRL Organizations

Ten IRL organizations will have displays and discuss what they are doing to restore the IRL.

1130 - 1300 Coastal Connections: Indian River Lagoon Study

The University of Central Florida will conduct a small focus group on mapping and perceptions of sense of place in the IRL with interested members of the public. This is part of a larger National Science Foundation project exploring restoration and resilience in the Lagoon. To learn more, visit: <https://sciences.ucf.edu/sociology/cnhcc>.