

Lake Worth Lagoon Fishing Challenge

General Rules and Definitions

2017



Overview

Interested in helping collect valuable fisheries information while getting a chance to win a prize? If so, you'll want to participate in this free fishing event. By taking a photo of your catch in the lagoon and reporting it as part of the challenge, you'll be eligible for some great awards and you'll be contributing to the data collection needs related to lagoon habitat restoration.

It's easy to participate! Just register for the challenge at iAnglerTournament.com. Then, log the fish you catch using the free iAnglerTournament app on your smartphone or by signing into your online account.

Between May 26 and July 9, 2017, when you catch a fish in Lake Worth Lagoon, be sure to snap a photo that includes the fish and the assigned challenge identifier (*will be shared with registered anglers, posted to the challenge website and shared on the event Facebook page at the start of the challenge*).

Whether you fish once a month or every day, you could be eligible to win a prize. Anglers will be scored on the quantity of their catches, and will be entered into a prize drawing even if they report they went fishing only once during the challenge, regardless of whether they caught a fish.

Registration

All interested anglers must register online at iAnglerTournament.com to participate. Registration is open until 12 p.m. of the final day of the challenge (July 9, 2017). Anglers must register before entries will be counted. If no access to the Internet is available to an interested participant, they should contact the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management for assistance.

Eligibility

The challenge is open to anglers 5 years of age (as of May 26, 2017) or older. Current staff members of the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management and their family members are not eligible for awards or prizes.

Anglers 5 to 15 years of age (as of May 26, 2017) are eligible for drawings and youth division prizes.

Anglers 16 years of age or older (as of May 26, 2017) are eligible for drawings and adult division prizes.

Scoring, Categories and Prizes

Registered anglers are scored by submitting photos and information about the fish they catch during the challenge.

Submissions must be made via the iAnglerTournament app or by signing into an online iAnglerTournament account prior to the close of the challenge. Catches made prior to the start of the challenge are not eligible for points.

Photos must clearly include the assigned challenge identifier (*will be shared with registered anglers, posted to the challenge website and shared on the event Facebook page at the start of the challenge*).

Anglers will receive one (1) point for each individual fish caught, logged and verified during the challenge.

To receive points, anglers must log the following details with each photo submitted: 1) date of catch, 2) time of catch, 3) species caught, 4) location of catch (GPS coordinates via app preferred; location details are gathered to relate to habitat, not for sharing purposes) and 5) length of catch.

All catches and species identifications will be verified by a panel of fishing experts prior to awarding of points and are subject to change. Photos that do not meet the requirements as provided will not be eligible for points.

Prizes will be awarded for youth and adult divisions in the following categories:

- Overall (top total points)
- Sportfish (top total points for the following species: snook, red drum, spotted seatrout, tarpon and bonefish)

Participants are encouraged to submit fishing activity even if they do not catch a fish. When someone reports that they went fishing, but didn't catch a fish, that still provides valuable information related to the environment and fishing activity. Eligibility in prize drawings is not dependent on catching fish.

Additional prizes in the following categories will be awarded through drawings based on the criteria defined below:

- Lagoon-wide (full length of challenge) – Anglers are entered into this drawing when they submit their first report of lagoon fishing activity during the challenge, whether they catch a fish or not. For each additional day an angler submits a valid catch, they receive an additional entry for this drawing. Limited to one (1) entry per day per registered angler.
- Lagoon-wide (weekly) – Anglers who submit a report of their lagoon fishing activity, whether they catch a fish or not, within a specific week during the challenge (May 26 – June 1, June 2 –8, June 9 –15, June 16 –22, June 23 –29 and June 30 – July 9) are entered into a drawing for that specified week. Submissions must be made within the same week fished to be eligible. Limited to one (1) entry per registered angler per week.

Challenge Boundaries

To count toward prizes and/or drawings, fishing activity must take place and fish must be caught within Lake Worth Lagoon in Palm Beach County, Florida as defined below for the purpose of this challenge (also see [map view](#)):

- The northern boundary is Jack Nicklaus Drive/AIA in the town of North Palm Beach. (Also see note below regarding western boundary in North Palm Beach).
- The southern boundary is the Ocean Ridge Natural Area in Ocean Ridge, which is located a half mile south of the Boynton Bridge at Ocean Avenue.

- The eastern boundary is the inlet/inside side of the eastern end of the north and south jetties located at Lake Worth Inlet and South Lake Worth Inlet.
- The western boundary at the C-17 (Earman River) Canal is U.S. 1 in the town of North Palm Beach, at the C-51 (West Palm Beach) Canal and the C-16 (Boynton) Canal it is the eastern side of the spillway (water control structure) closest to the eastern end of the canal (the canal's mouth). The western boundary where the water body narrows to the width of the Intracoastal Waterway in North Palm Beach is the Parker Bridge (U.S. 1).

Other Requirements

All participants must abide by **all** state of Florida laws including fishing-related (and boating-related, if applicable) rules and regulations. This includes the requirement to possess a valid Florida fishing license, unless exempt (e.g. Florida residents under 16, 65 or older). Visit www.MyFWC.com/Fishing and www.MyFWC.com/Boating for more details, including how to purchase a saltwater recreational fishing license [online: www.MyFWC.com/License; by phone: 888-FISH-FLORIDA (347-4356)].

All fish must be caught by hook and line.

Submissions of photos and other data constitute a release for the Snook & Gamefish Foundation, the West Palm Beach Fishing Club and the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management and its partners in the Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative to use them without compensation or further notice for research, information, promotion and other public purposes, such as posting on websites or via social media.

Additional Details

Fish do not have to be harvested for the purpose of this challenge. Participants are encouraged to practice catch-and-release and follow the [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's fish handling guidance](#), especially related to species that are protected from being harvested.

Participants are asked to keep a measuring device/ruler on hand to ensure they report accurate measurements of their catches.

Anglers may wish to save the email receipts they receive for each catch, and keep the photos on their phone or computer during the challenge, in the event of any scoring discrepancies.

In the event of a tie (based on points), the winner will be determined based on which angler submitted the first approved catch in the relevant award category.

Winners will be announced, and prizes and awards will be distributed, at an event to be held on July 13 at the West Palm Beach Fishing Club in West Palm Beach.

It is the responsibility of every participating angler to know, understand, and abide by these challenge rules. Any participant who violates these rules will be disqualified. Only registered participants are eligible for points and any potential qualifying prizes. Participating anglers and their guardians, as appropriate, are solely responsible for their safety during the challenge, and safety should be the first consideration in all aspects of this challenge.