



Lake Worth Lagoon E-News



Published quarterly by the [Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management](#) (PBC ERM)

Summer 2011

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[Environmental Times Newsletter](#)

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ERM [Lake Worth Lagoon](#) web page

[Online Narrated Presentation](#): Ibis Isle Restoration Project

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Public Use Facilities Under Construction at Snook Islands Natural Area

Construction of the public use facility adjacent to the Snook Islands Natural Area, within the City of Lake Worth, continues at a brisk pace. The old 550 foot bridge has been removed and construction of the new fishing pier will begin shortly. Resurfacing of the roadway leading into the site and the stormwater retrofits are nearly completed. The fishing pier and floating docks are expected to be completed this September followed by the proposed boardwalk, kayak launch, shade shelter and remaining project elements by the end of 2011. The project is funded by the Florida Inland Navigation District Waterways Assistance Program, Metropolitan Planning Organization Water Taxi Program, and PBC Parks and Recreation Bond Funds for Waterway Improvement Projects. View the [project fact sheet \(PDF\)](#) and a [video](#) of the dismantling of the old Lake Worth Bridge.



Restoring the Lagoon: South Cove Natural Area Update

Work continues on South Cove Natural Area, a major Lake Worth Lagoon restoration project adjacent to Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach. The first stage of the project tackled the challenge of dealing with the muck sediments covering the lagoon bottom. The next step of the project is to create mangrove islands, oyster reefs, and public use facilities. The County anticipates construction of the islands, oyster reefs, shoreline planters and the boardwalk to begin in July or August 2011. Project completion is scheduled for February or March 2012. Read more in the summer issue of [Environmental Times \(PDF\)](#) and [view the project fact sheet \(PDF\)](#).



South Lake Worth Inlet Restoration Project Completed

The South Lake Worth Inlet Restoration Project was completed in June. The project includes a recently constructed sand transfer plant. When originally built in 1927, it was the first fixed sand transfer plant in the world. Its purpose is to move sand from the north side of the inlet to sand-starved beaches to the south. The project also included renovating the north and south jetties and installing a new Bird Island seawall. [View the project fact sheet \(PDF\)](#).



Mangroves in the Classroom: Seedlings Graduate to Restoration Projects

During the 2010-11 school year, over 2,000 Palm Beach County students grew more than 3,000 red mangrove seedlings in the classroom. These students participated in the *Mangroves in the Classroom* program, a partnership between Kids Ecology Corps and the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM). The program engaged students in efforts to restore and protect wildlife habitat in Lake Worth Lagoon and other coastal waters. Now that the school year has come to an end, these mangroves have graduated from the classroom to local habitat restoration projects to support fish and wildlife. Read more in the summer issue of [Environmental Times \(PDF\)](#).



New Online Narrated Presentation Showcases Ibis Isle Restoration Project

Are you interested in learning more about Lake Worth Lagoon and habitat restoration efforts? You can now view a 5-minute narrated presentation online. The presentation describes Lake Worth Lagoon, the challenges of muck sediments, and the award winning Ibis Isle Restoration Project. View the [Audio Presentation](#).



Four Projects Considered for Waterway Assistance Program Funding

Department of Environmental Resources Management staff recently presented four projects to the Florida Inland Navigation District's (FIND) Board of Commissioners, requesting funding through their Waterway Assistance Program. The grant program was established by the Florida Legislature and the District for the purpose of financially cooperating with local governments to alleviate problems associated with the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway and associated waterways within the District. Three of the four projects fall within Lake Worth Lagoon:



- [Grassy Flats Restoration \(PDF\)](#)
- [Bryant Park Wetlands Restoration and Boat Ramp Facility \(PDF\)](#)
- [John's Island Oyster Reef, Phase 2 \(PDF\)](#).

The fourth project, [Lake Wyman Restoration and Public Use \(PDF\)](#), is located south of the Lagoon in the City of Boca Raton. Awards will be announced in mid-September.

Barge Deployed at Everglades Island

An 80 by 30-foot barge situated off of Bryant Park in Lake Worth is now an artificial reef southwest of Everglades Island. The barge was scuttled in approximately 18 feet of water and placed 500 feet east of the Intracoastal Waterway. Mangrove snapper and snook have already found a home within the sunken bridge materials that make up the [Everglades Island Inshore Artificial Reef \(PDF\)](#). View the article "[Abandoned barge becomes Intracoastal reef north of Southern Boulevard.](#)"

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