



Institute for  
Regional  
Conservation

## September 2017 Newsletter

### IRC Makes an Impact at the 2017 Society for Ecological Restoration Conference

IRC's Chief Conservation Strategist, George Gann, attended the 7th World Conference on Ecological Restoration in Iguassu, Brazil earlier this month. Here are a few photos that highlight how IRC helped send a strong regional conservation message at this meeting of 1,000 delegates from around the world:



Above: IRC cosponsored the invitation-only Forum on Biodiversity and Global Forest Restoration, at which George facilitated the thematic section on operationalizing the SER International Standards to help improve biodiversity conservation within the global forest restoration agenda. The forum was attended by delegates of SER, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), World Resources Institute, Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), and many universities and institutions from Latin America. IRC is a co-publisher of the [International Standards](#).



Above: IRC and SER Board Member Kingsley Dixon (far left) was the moderator for a panel on restoration finance with the CFO of the World Bank and representatives from the Secretariat of the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity, Permian Global and the Brazilian Biodiversity Fund. Kingsley, George and colleagues later met with the panelists over dinner to discuss ways to mainstream ecological restoration and the International Standards at a global scale.



Above: At the final session of the conference, George Gann presented a media release that introduced the conference Call to Action, which urged leaders in Brazil and around the world to stop ecological degradation and to fulfill the promise of restoring ecosystems. Additional information on the Call to Action can be [accessed here](#). As some may remember, IRC's founding event was a five-month study tour of deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon in 1985 (see photo below). "It was both rewarding and humbling to deliver the Call to Action," said George. "The Brazilians have done an amazing job moving the conservation agenda forward in the Amazon and throughout the country. But there is so much more to do. Now is a pivotal time for conservation in Florida, Brazil and around the world. The stakes have never been higher."



Above: IRC founders in the Amazon 1985. Board members George Gann (third from left), Robert Heinzman (fourth from left), and Donna Shore (far right).

## Volunteers Needed For Lake Ida Parcel Restoration Event

IRC is excited to announce the first of our six volunteer days at the Lake Ida Parcel in Delray Beach on Saturday, October 21 from 9:00 am- 12:00 pm! Volunteers will help hand-pull invasive plants and remove debris/trash from the site.

Participants are **REQUIRED** to wear close-toed shoes (NO FLIP-FLOPS!) and long pants. All volunteers will get a free t-shirt when you check-in! We will provide all necessary tools, gloves, and refreshments. The meeting point is still being determined, so check back soon for directions on where to park.

See the flyer below for more information; contact [admin@regionalconservation.org](mailto:admin@regionalconservation.org) with questions and RSVPs.

# Volunteers needed for Lake Ida Parcel Restoration Event!

**When: Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>  
9:00am - 12:00pm**

**Volunteers of all ages needed to help hand-pull invasive plants and clean up debris/trash from the site.**

## **Participants Will:**

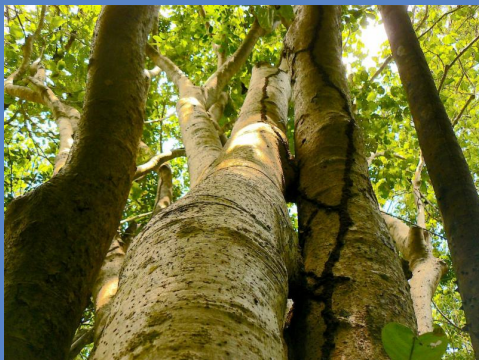
- **Be REQUIRED to wear close-toed shoes and long pants.**
- **Receive a free t-shirt.**
- **Be provided with gloves and all necessary tools.**
- **Be given water and light refreshments.**

**Meet at a location TBA and check in before being taken to the site.**

**Send RSVPs to  
[admin@regionalconservation.org](mailto:admin@regionalconservation.org) or  
305-247-6547**



**The Institute for Regional Conservation**



*Pisonia horneae*, named after Frances W. Horne (1873-1967), an American illustrator who spent 45 years painting 750 watercolors of plants from Puerto Rico. Photo Credit: Rosimar Rivera Colón.

## **New Paper Published by IRC Senior Botanist, Carlos Trejo**

In the midst of all the chaos and tragedy in Puerto Rico caused by Hurricanes Irma and Maria, IRC's Senior Botanist, Carlos Trejo, and his colleague Marcos Caraballo-Ortiz today published scientific names for two endemic Puerto Rican trees, long known but never described in the scientific literature. These trees are named to honor two incredible women

for their unrecognized work on Puerto Rican botany: Frances W. Horne and Dr. Ana Roqué de Duprey. Enjoy some good news and check out the EurekaAlert by the AAAS, and the paper by Marcos and Carlos.

The full text can be [accessed here](#).