



August 2022 Newsletter

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Monthly Conservation Note

Small But Mighty! A Synopsis of IRC's Program

An IRC board member recently said to me, “Man, your ship has come in!” and I could not agree more. IRC’s program is both focused and rapidly expanding in many key areas.

Our Pine Rockland Initiative in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties, led by Alex Seasholtz, has grown significantly in the last year, continuing our partnerships with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and others, but also taking on larger and more complex projects, such as the restoration of the most degraded portions of Florida City Pineland. Our ecological restoration crew has also been branching out, carrying out the initial stages of restoration of key biodiversity patches in the City of Delray Beach, and strategic vine control at historic Simpson Park in the City of Miami.

In Palm Beach County, our Restoring the Gold Coast program is about to launch

South Florida Water Management District’s Corridors of Invasion project where we document invasive plant threats in the Everglades. With support from the National Parks Conservation Association and more than a dozen collaborators, we are pushing forward with our 20-year review of IRC’s seminal Rare Plants of South Florida project. Lauren Trotta is doing an amazing job handling the vast amount of data we are compiling.

Cara has been hard at work upgrading wildlife data on Natives For Your Neighborhood, and both Lauren and Cara are updating data on the Floristic Inventory of South Florida. In the Caribbean, Carlos Trejo and teams of volunteers curate botanical Facebook pages for both Puerto Rico (12 thousand members) and the Yucatan (19 thousand members), and we are contributing to the Global Tree Assessment for Puerto Rico

Phase II, with funding from the Community Foundation of Palm Beach and Martin Counties, New York Life, and many partners, including the City of Boca Raton, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, and the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach. Cara Abbott and Kelly McLoughlin are heading up this coastal biodiversity restoration effort. We are also contributing to the development of a new management plan for Delray's beach dune ecosystems.

Throughout southeastern Florida we have just finished field work for year four of



trees. In January we filed a petition to list the ghost orchid under the Endangered Species Act.

On the global front, I am honored to be among the authors of the upcoming Standards of Practice for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Last (but not least!) thanks to all of our staff, associates, board members, and supporters. Without all of you, none of this would get done!

George Gann
Founder and Executive Director



Thank you to all who have supported IRC's programs with a \$20 or larger donation in the last month: Sharyn Ladner, George Gann, Dannette Rivera and Jose Garcia.

Thank you to our **Monthly Sustainers** who donate \$25 or more each month: Barbara McAdam, Lindsay Boehner and Valerie Seasholtz.

IRC has an E-Trade account. Please contact us about giving gifts of stock.

While we get funding for some great projects, those funds rarely cover all

Thank you to our recent Natives For Your Neighborhood (NFYN) Sponsor, Indian Trails Native Nursery, for their continued support! **Indian Trails Native Nursery** is a wholesale native nursery that provides a variety of plants for gardens and pollinators, as well as, consultation services.

of our costs, so we really do need your support to continue our important work.

Donations allow us to provide important conservation services such as improving our free online resources, increasing protection of rare plants and animals, restoring native ecosystems, and advocating for better public policy.



Ruddy Daggerwing. Photo by Dennis de Zeeuw.

DONATE

Clash for the Coast - A Do Good Delray Event Benefiting IRC

IRC and Door 2 Door Strategies have partnered with a purpose to bring you "Clash for the Coast" - a Do Good Delray Event. This fundraiser will benefit IRC's Restoring the Gold Coast program. Join us at the Delray Beach Market for:

- A high intensity chef vs. chef competition (using a secret native plant)
- A fun environmental team trivia challenge
- An opportunity to meet IRC staff and learn about the important conservation work we are doing all over South Florida

Get your ticket NOW for this can't-miss event on Tuesday, October 11 at 5:30PM! Tickets options are:

- \$25 General Admission (light bites and 1 drink voucher)
- \$35 VIP Admission (light bites, 2 drink vouchers and a free trivia answer)

A promotional poster for the "Clash for the Coast" event. At the top, it features the logos for "The Institute for Regional Conservation" and "DOOR 2 DOOR STRATEGIES". Below the logos, a banner reads "HELP IRC RESTORE OUR COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS". The central focus is a shield-shaped logo with "CLASH FOR THE COAST" written in bold, black letters. The shield contains a chef's hat, a lightbulb with a question mark, and a pair of crossed knives. To the right of the shield is a circular logo for "do good delray". Below the shield, the event details are listed: "TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11 @ 5:30PM". A text block states: "A HIGH INTENSITY CHEF VS CHEF COMPETITION WILL TAKE PLACE ALONG SIDE A FUN TEAM TRIVIA CHALLENGE AT THIS EPIC FUNDRAISER FOR IRC!". At the bottom, it says "hosted by DELRAY BEACH MARKET" and "TICKETS: \$25 GENERAL ADMISSION AND \$35 VIP TO REGISTER VISIT WWW.REGIONALCONSERVATION.ORG". The background of the poster shows a beach scene with waves crashing onto the shore.

Want your logo included on our upcoming advertising for Clash for the Coast? We still have a couple sponsorship spots available!

[Click here](#) for more information on

Rare Plant Spotlight



Lilium catesbaei

Pine Lily

IRC South Florida Status: Imperiled

Illustrated By: Lauren Trotta

IRC's Biodiversity Conservation Fellow, Lauren Trotta, is continuing to make progress on our twenty year review of the [Rare Plants of South Florida](#). Here's a spotlight on one of the many imperiled plants being reviewed: [Pine Lily](#) (*Lilium catesbaei*).

Stunning blooms of this species, the shape and vibrancy of fireworks, can be found in sunny, open-canopy wet flatwoods and savannas from now through the Fall. The Pine Lily is broadly distributed, but not particularly abundant across the Southeastern Coastal Plain. In South Florida the best place to search for blooms is in fire-maintained pinelands as far south as Collier and Palm Beach counties.

Pine Rockland Initiative Update



IRC's Ecological Restoration Team, along with several wonderful volunteers, recently assisted Lydia Cuni and Noah Frade of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden with augmenting rare species populations on private pine rockland conservation areas throughout Miami-Dade County. These sites included IRC owned J.K. Small Pineland and Robert Moreno's pine land (pictured above). Many of the species planted were rescued from sites that are slated for development. Augmented species included *Argythamnia blodgettii*, *Croton linearis*, *Ipomoea microdactyla*, *Ipomoea tenuissima*, *Solidago odora* var. *chapmanii*, and *Lantana canescens*.

Upcoming Events

Climate and Art Delray Beach 2022

IRC is honored to be a part of this year's Climate and Art Delray Beach 2022 event!

Join Cara Abbott on Friday, September 2 at 9 AM at Orchard View Park for a habitat restoration talk and walk.

Join George Gann on Saturday, September 3 at 8 AM at the Delray Beach Pavilion (located at the intersection of Atlantic Ave. and A1A) for a talk on beach conservation efforts.

[Click here](#) for a full list of events.



An advertisement for 'Beach Restoration Volunteer Day at Red Reef Park'. The top half shows a person in a yellow shirt standing on a beach with coastal vegetation. The text 'BEACH RESTORATION VOLUNTEER DAY AT RED REEF PARK' is overlaid in large, bold, orange and green letters. Below this are three small photos showing people participating in restoration work. The text 'RESTORING THE GOLD COAST PHASE II KICKOFF!' is written in green, followed by 'WITH IRC SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24TH FROM 8:30-11:30 AM'. At the bottom, there is a sign-up link: 'volunteermatch.org/search/opp3582074.jsp'. To the right of the link are social media icons for Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook. On the far left is a logo for the Institute for Regional Conservation, featuring a stylized tree and the text 'Institute for Regional Conservation'.

Restoration Volunteer Day at Red Reef Park on September 24

We will be officially kicking off Phase II of our Restoring the Gold Coast program with a restoration volunteer day at Red Reef Park in Boca Raton on Saturday, September 24 from 8:30-11:30 AM.

Come out and join us for a fun morning of restoration activities! We will be cutting back encroaching sea grapes, removing invasive species, and adding to native coastal biodiversity by planting things like the federally endangered *Jacquemontia reclinata*. We will also have supplies for trash pickup along the beach.

To register, [click here](#). For additional information, email IRC Coastal Biodiversity Restoration Intern, [Kelly McLoughlin](#).

Clash for the Coast

Help us raise funds for Restoring the Gold Coast through a unique fundraiser held at the Delray Beach Mark on Tuesday, October 11 at 5:30PM.

For more information, [click here](#).

To get your tickets, [click here](#).



We are a nonprofit conservation organization exempt from taxes under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)3.

The Institute for Regional Conservation | [Website](#)

