

# **January 2025 Newsletter**

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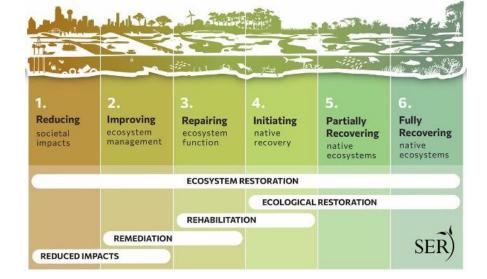
# **Conservation Note**

#### **Focus on the Planet**

The ground below our feet is our turf, our home, our responsibility. But so is the whole planet. In this time of hyper-focus on the United States and the new administration, it is important to remember that all the cumulative actions that we take, and the actions that everyone else takes, will determine the condition and course of the world in the future. Does the United States and the United States government have an oversized role in this? Yes, it does. But so too does the aggregation of our individual actions, and those of people in every corner of the planet.

As we go forth in this year of change, let us remember that we are also agents of change. And what we do individually matters. Conservation is a long game, and restoration is a tool of hope. Ecosystem restoration teaches us to reduce our societal impacts and engage in restorative activities along a continuum of opportunities. Nature is fragile, but with our help it is also resilient. Working together we can reduce harm and allow nature to heal, resulting in better conditions for ourselves, our families, and the planet as a whole. But no matter what happens, we must not stop striving for the future we believe in – a healthy, sane home for both people and nature.

George Gann Founder & Executive Director



The Restorative Continuum includes a range of activities and interventions that can improve environmental conditions and reverse ecosystem degradation (FAO et al. 2024).

# **Upcoming Events**

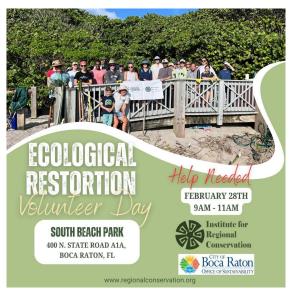


#### 2/15 - Ecological Restoration Day

Join us for a volunteer day restoring Orchard View Park in Delray Beach. We need your help to remove nonnative plants from the natural area at the park.

We look forward to continuing our restoration efforts at Orchard View Park with continued support from the City of Delray Beach. Check our event page periodically for updates and upcoming events.

Click here for more details.



## 2/28 - Ecological Restoration Day

Join us for a volunteer day restoring South Beach Park in Boca Raton. We need your help to remove nonnative plants and install native plants to the beach dune system.

We look forward to continuing our restoration efforts at South Beach Park with continued support from the City of Boca Raton. Check our event page periodically for updates and upcoming events.

Click here for more details.

## **Recent Events**

# Volunteer Day at Atlantic Dunes Park, Delray Beach

On January 18th, IRC facilitated a volunteer event at Atlantic Dunes Park in Delray Beach. With 20 volunteers we were able to remove 3 very large invasive Brazilian-pepper trees, several large Australian umbrellatrees, and Oyster plants from the tropical hammock system. We also removed garbage from the park and opened up some overgrown spaces for native vegetation to receive more sunlight.

For more photos click here.







IRC long time volunteer Vinnie Ardillo and Kent Edwards, Sustainability Manager of Delray Beach, standing next to two large debris piles of nonnative vegetation removed from the park!



**Thank you** to all who have supported IRC's programs with a \$20 or larger donation in the last month: Bill Petry, Carol Thomas, Antonio Garcia, Cheryl Solomon and Deborah Riley.

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

If you're interested in being a sponsor of Natives For Your Neighborhood, please reach out to <u>Katherine</u> <u>Hardial</u>.

The Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society is a new NFYN sponsor and has a new online plant store.

IRC has an E-Trade account. Please

Seasholtz.

While we get funding for some great projects, those funds rarely cover all of our costs, so we really do need your support to continue our important work.

Consider supporting our efforts which 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. Click the button below.

contact us about giving gifts of stock.



<u>Creeping-cucumber</u> (Melothria pendula)

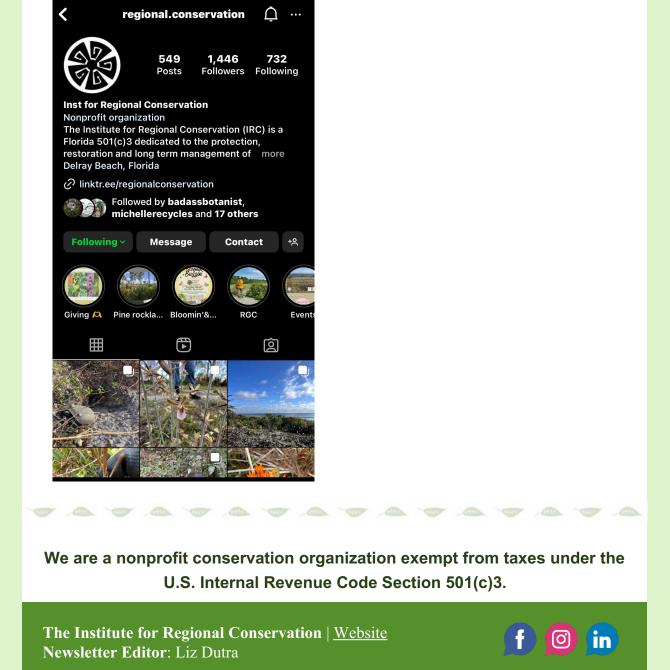
#### PLEASE DONATE

Your donations empower us to enhance our free online resources, safeguard rare plants and animals, restore native ecosystems, and champion more effective public policies for conservation.

## Follow us on Social Media

The best way to stay up to date on all things IRC is to follow us on social media! Every week we spotlight native plants for "Wildflower Wednesday" and give a glimpse into one of our many unique projects from our "From the Field Friday" posts. You can also follow our socials where we share our event photos and lots of relevant information about the environment and beyond.

So, if you haven't already, follow us on **Instagram**, **Facebook** and **LinkedIn**!



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