



Institute for Regional Conservation

July 2025 Newsletter

In This Issue...

- Conservation Note
- Upcoming Events
- From the Field Update
- New Staff Members
- Spotlight on our NFYN Sponsors
- Thank you to our sponsors

[View as Webpage](#)



Conservation Note

Summer Heat

From the Yucatan to Puerto Rico and Florida, summer is upon us – a reminder of how hot things can get. Thankfully, it has been quiet on the hurricane front in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico, but this can be a concern if we forget and take our luck for granted. That calm can lull us into a false sense of security. I still remember Hurricane Andrew—August 1992, the first named storm that year. As someone who lived through it, I never take those swirling clouds on the horizon lightly. A storm can form quickly and catch us off guard.

Rainfall in South Florida is a bit off so far this year, almost 20% down from the running 10-year average, but not so bad.

Elsewhere, others haven't been so lucky. Across the U.S. and around the world, devastating floods, tornadoes, and other extreme weather events are becoming more common as our climate changes. Many of these disasters barely make the news. Just last week, while traveling to visit my son and his fiancée in Durham, North Carolina, he mentioned their home had narrowly avoided being swept away by a flash flood. I hadn't heard; there is so much going on that damaging microevents like these go largely unreported.



Photo left: Log deposited on rock by flooding on the Eno River, North Carolina



Photo right: Signs of beaver logging along Spirit Creek, North Carolina

Meanwhile, just as I write this, the U.S. Department of Energy has released a report suggesting that the negative impacts of human-driven climate change are overstated. It even goes so far as to claim—quite nonsensically—that sea level rise is not accelerating. This flies in the face of overwhelming scientific consensus, built over decades, and hard to defy measurements with rain gauges and thermometers, that human activity is warming the planet and intensifying extreme weather. For those of us encountering serious weather, these kinds of politically motivated reports are not just misleading—they're dangerous.



Photo: Site of a former beaver dam completely obliterated by flooding along Spirit Creek

The bottom line is that we must be prepared for whatever may come our way, as well as do whatever we can to help our neighbors and others in need.

Stay safe and take care.

George Gann

Upcoming Events

Saturday, August 2nd - Ecological Restoration Day at Galaxy Sand Pine Scrub Preserve

Join us for an exciting ecological restoration volunteer day where we will learn about IRC's RUN (Reviving Urban Nature) Program. We need your help to install native plants at the Galaxy Sand Pine Scrub Preserve in the City of Boynton Beach. This is a new restoration site where we plan to revive the native biodiversity in an area where invasive plants were removed. During the event we plan to remove some additional nonnatives that are encroaching in the restoration area.

We are excited about this new opportunity to collaborate with the City of Boynton Beach. We hope you will join us. To find out more information, visit our events page [here](#).



Saturday, August 23rd - Ecological Restoration Day South Beach Park, Boca Raton

Join IRC for an ecological restoration volunteer event with the City of Boca Raton at South Beach Park. We will be planting native species at one of our existing dune restoration sites. We will remove invasive species at this site to make room for native biodiversity to rebound.

We hope you will come volunteer with us and help install native plants. To sign up for this event, visit [here](#).



Saturday, August 30th - Ecological Restoration Day South Beach Park, Boca Raton

Join us for an ecological restoration volunteer event at Gopher Tortoise Preserve in Boca Raton, FL. This is another new restoration site as part of our new RUN (Reviving Urban Nature) Program. With the help of our volunteers and the City of Boca Raton, we will be installing native species the new Gopher Tortoise Scrub Preserve habitat where we will enhance the biodiversity and health of the ecosystem.

We are looking forward to this new restoration site that is nestled within the urban matrix of Boca Raton. To sign up for this event, please visit [here](#).



IRC Fundraiser - Save the Date!

IRC will be holding a fundraiser on October 17th at the Delray Beach Historical Society. Join us for an evening of raffles, art, and activities to support the work our organization does. This event will be held from 5pm-9pm.

Updates From the Field



Jacquemontia reclinata Reintroduced at a Historic Site at Red Reef Park

IRC has had a long-time partnership with Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden to improve coastal strand habitat to allow for reintroductions of the federally endangered *Jacquemontia reclinata* plants throughout different locations within Palm Beach County.

Recently, IRC has installed several plants at a historical *Jacquemontia* site which is serving as one of our new restoration sites in Boca Raton, Florida.

Our conservation program manager, Liz Dutra, and Biodiversity Restoration Intern, Kayla Mosteller, have implemented measures to support the growing *Jacquemontia* population in South Beach Park and Red Reef Park in Boca Raton. They have maintained the health of each installation and will continue to create an



environment for population growth of *Jacquemontia* at restoration sites by planting additional species.



Welcome New Team Members



Field Technician Maddie Robuck



Field Technician Eric Gomez

We're thrilled to welcome two new field technicians to our ecological restoration team! Madison Robuck and Eric Gomez who have added tremendous capacity to our team. Their passion and dedication will help strengthen our on-the-ground efforts, increase our capacity to restore and protect native habitats, and support the continued growth of our mission. We're excited to see the impact they'll make in the field! Welcome to the IRC Team!



Natives For Your Neighborhood Sponsor Spotlight



[Amelia's Smarty Plants](#) is a local garden center located in Lake Worth specializing in a large selection of native plants, pottery and much more!

We thank Amelia's Smarty Plants for being a proud sponsor of our Natives For Your Neighborhood program.

Interested in becoming a [Natives For Your Neighborhood](#) sponsor? Please email our administrator, Stacy Brown at sbrown@regionalconservation.org for more information.



Thank you to all who have supported IRC's programs with a \$20 or larger donation in the last month: Thomas Herfort, Amy Leonard, and Allen Shuey.

Thank you to our **Monthly Sustainers** who donate \$25 or more each month: John Campanola, James Duncan, Maria Rowley, Lindsay Bohner and Valerie 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

If you're interested in being a sponsor of Natives For Your Neighborhood, please reach out to [Stacy Brown](#).

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

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.



Yucca aloifolia
(Spanish-bayonet)

Photo credit: Liz Dutra

Special Thank You Spotlight

We want to specially want to thank Susan Learner for raising funds for our programs as she so generously hosted a fundraising campaign for her birthday through her social media platform.

We want to thank the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for their generous donation and support of IRC's programs.

PLEASE DONATE

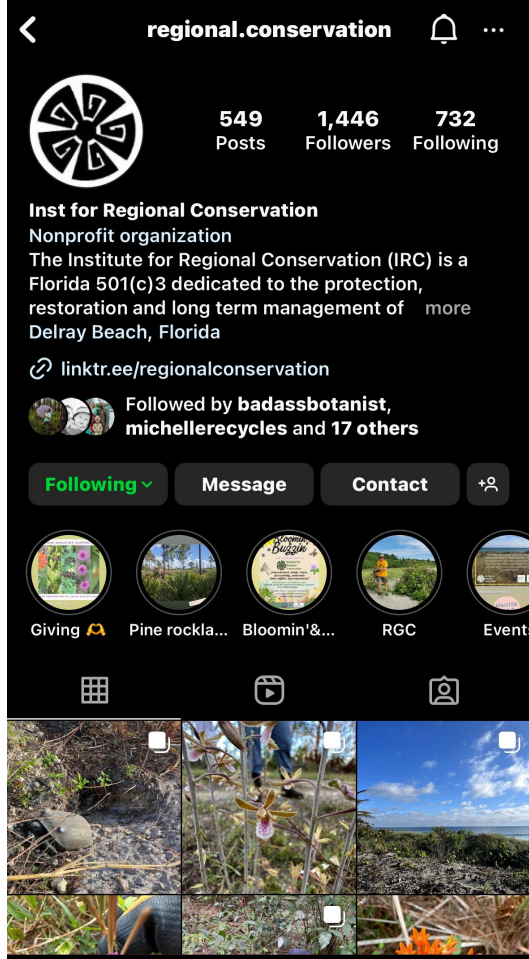
Your donations empower us to enhance our free online resources, safeguard rare plants and animals, restore native ecosystems, and champion more effective public policies for conservation.



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](#)!



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](#)
 Newsletter Editor: Liz Dutra, Conservation Program Manager



The Institute for Regional Conservation | 100 E Linton Blvd Suite 302B | Delray Beach, FL 33483 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!