



**Institute for
Regional
Conservation**

October 2025 Newsletter

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Conservation Note **IRC Helps REVIVE Take Root**

Attending the Society for Ecological Restoration ([SER](#)) World Conference in Denver this year was an inspiring and energizing experience, with a strong presence from IRC at the event! We were proud to see our organization so well represented, with Executive Director George Gann, Board Chair Robert Heinzman, and me in attendance. During the conference, SER announced [REVIVE](#), a powerful new global initiative designed to scale up ecological restoration efforts and ensure projects around the world deliver measurable, high-integrity outcomes. IRC is proud to be the main partner for this new program, and we are thrilled to support and witness the launch of this transformative global mission.

Naturally IRC's mission aligns with REVIVE's goals, as we bring decades of experience in standards-based restoration and regional conservation. For more than 40 years, IRC has been working to restore and protect biodiversity in South Florida, the Caribbean, and around the world using standards-based, science-driven approaches. Our experience—from the Pine Rockland Initiative to coastal and urban restoration—demonstrates how global restoration frameworks like REVIVE can succeed when grounded in strong local knowledge, data, and community engagement.

Throughout the conference, the IRC team had the opportunity to connect with restoration practitioners, researchers, and funders from around the world who share our vision for credible, results-oriented restoration. It was rewarding to see how IRC's work fits into and plays a central role in this broader global effort to heal the Earth. We left Denver even more motivated to strengthen IRC's role in REVIVE and to continue building partnerships that turn global restoration goals into thriving, resilient ecosystems here at home.

Liz Dutra
Conservation Program Manager



Photo caption: Board Chair, Robert Heinzman,
Conservation Program Manager, Liz Dutra
Executive Director, George Gann



Photo caption: Board Chair, Robert Heinzman,
Executive Director, George Gann



Photo caption: George Gann presenting the program REVIVE at SER2025

"Back to Natives Bash" Thanks for the Support



Thank you so much to all of our supporters who attended our fundraiser, donated, and sponsored IRC! We are so grateful for the continuous support for the past four years for this fundraiser. We were thrilled to showcase the mission of IRC to make a lasting difference in the restoration of South Florida's native wildlife.

Check out more [photos from our annual fundraiser.](#)

Special Thank You to Our Sponsors!

4th Annual Fundraiser


**The Institute for
Regional Conservation**

BACK TO NATIVES BASH!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION
OF PALM BEACH
Knowledge. Stewardship. Culture.



**TELFORD
COOLING**
AIR CONDITIONING • POOL & SPA HEATING • TOTAL COMFORT DELIVERED



ERIN L. DEADY, P.A.



**Neglected
Plants**



AccountingCrew
ACCOUNTING

**Kenneth Brown & Elizabeth SanJuan, Patty Phares,
Kimberlee Pompeo, Jan Kinder, Maria Rowley,
Laurie Franz, Shaun Telford, Audra Wilson,
Leah Materna-Laurel**



**5th ANNUAL
do good delray**



**DELRAY BEACH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
and HERITAGE GARDENS**



CENTRAL PARK TAEKWONDO
ASPEN NYC-DELRAY, FL

We would like to thank
Central Park Taekwondo, Telford Cooling, Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach, Erin Dedy, P.A., Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce, Accounting Crew, Neglected Plants, Kenneth Brown and Elizabeth SanJuan, Patty Phares, Kimberlee Pompeo, Jan Kinder, Maria Rowley, Laurie Franz, Leah Materna-Laurel for sponsoring for our annual fundraiser.

Thank you for your generous support!



Upcoming Events



Two Events!

Thursday, November 13th at 5pm - Cocktail Party

Saturday, November 16th at 7am - BioBlitz at Midtown Beach

The Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach is kicking off the Kelly Williams and Andrew Forsyth Biannual BioBlitz with a cocktail reception held at Preservation Headquarters on November 13th at 5 pm.

Through the generosity of Kelly Williams and Andrew Forsyth, the BioBlitz series will provide an ongoing opportunity to monitor the park's natural habitats as they evolve through restoration. Members and supporters will enjoy cocktails and conversation as we share early findings from the inaugural survey and preview what's to come in this exciting environmental initiative.

On Sunday, November 16, the Williams and Forsyth BioBlitz will be held at Midtown Beach at 7 am. People of all ages and levels of experience are welcome. Staff will be on hand to assist as we document the island's rich coastal biodiversity.

For more information and to register for the Thursday cocktail reception, please [click here.](#)
For more information about the Sunday BioBlitz, please [click here.](#)



From cocktail hour to coastal exploration,
the Williams & Forsyth BioBlitz invites you
to raise a glass and your curiosity.

Join us for two connected experiences
that recognize the island's vibrant ecology.

Williams & Forsyth BioBlitz

Celebrate the season's first BioBlitz
Thursday, November 13th at 5:00 pm
Preservation Foundation Headquarters
311 Peruvian Avenue, Palm Beach

BioBlitz at Midtown Beach

A morning in the wild to document the plants,
birds, and other wildlife that share our shores
Sunday, November 16th at 7:00 am
Chilean Avenue Public Beach Access
360 S. Ocean Blvd, Palm Beach



Registration Required

Please do so online via the QR code or
email rsvp@palmbeachpreservation.org

More about IRC & SER's REVIVE Launch

IRC is proud to be a founding supporter of REVIVE, a bold new initiative of the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) unveiled at SER's 11th World Conference on Ecological Restoration ([SER2025](#)) in Denver, Colorado. REVIVE is designed to accelerate and scale high-quality, high-impact ecological restoration to address the urgent global crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and ecosystem degradation.

REVIVE is built on a six-part strategy to expand restoration capacity worldwide by equipping practitioners, investors, and policymakers with the knowledge, tools, and standards needed to ensure effective, lasting results. The initiative focuses on:

- **Restore:** Creating an accelerator to support 100 exemplary projects as blueprints for standards-based restoration.
- **Empower:** Expanding training and certification for restoration professionals worldwide.
- **Validate:** Quantifying the benefits of restoration and certifying projects at the highest level.
- **Innovate:** Driving innovative, evidence-based practices to achieve restoration at scale.

- **Value:** Mobilizing investment and monitoring systems to ensure credible, inclusive financing.
- **Enable:** Advancing policies that embed ecological restoration into funding and regulation.

For IRC, this partnership reflects more than four decades of leadership in ecological restoration and conservation. “As one of the founding supporters of REVIVE, the Institute for Regional Conservation is proud to help build the foundation for a new era of restoration,” said George Gann, IRC’s Chief Conservation Strategist and SER’s Global Policy Lead. “The standards and knowledge base are here—we now need to amplify them to meet the scale of today’s challenges.”

REVIVE builds on SER’s International Principles and Standards for Ecological Restoration , first published in 2016 with leadership from IRC. These standards provide the global foundation for quality restoration, reducing risks for investors and practitioners while improving outcomes for biodiversity, climate resilience, and communities.

The success of REVIVE depends on a coalition of governments, philanthropies, corporations, and local organizations. IRC joins SER and fellow originating partner [Soul Forest](#) in calling for funders, technical collaborators, and policymakers to support this groundbreaking initiative. Learn more at <https://www.ser.org/page/revive>.



Recent Events

Saturday, October 25th - Ecological Restoration Day at Gopher Tortoise Preserve, Boca Raton

We hosted another volunteer event at Gopher Tortoise Preserve with 24 volunteers where we installed 330 native scrub plant species. This was the second installation event where participants actively participated in restoring critically endangered scrub habitat. A few species installed included largeflower false-rosemary, sand pines, and coastal plain staggerbush.



In addition, our volunteers helped remove non-native Lima ([*Sida cordifolia*](#)), and Madagascar-periwinkle ([*Catharanthus roseus*](#)). Thank you to all of our volunteers for being a part of the important work with IRC! A special thank you to Michael Kohner for donations of native plant species.

Stay tuned for more volunteer events next season (late 2025- early 2026).



Thank you to all who have supported IRC's programs with a \$20 or larger donation in the last month: Mary Rose.

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

A special thank you to all our event sponsors and ticket purchasers!

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.

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.



[Skyblue clustervine](#)

[*\(Jaquemontia pentanthos\)*](#)

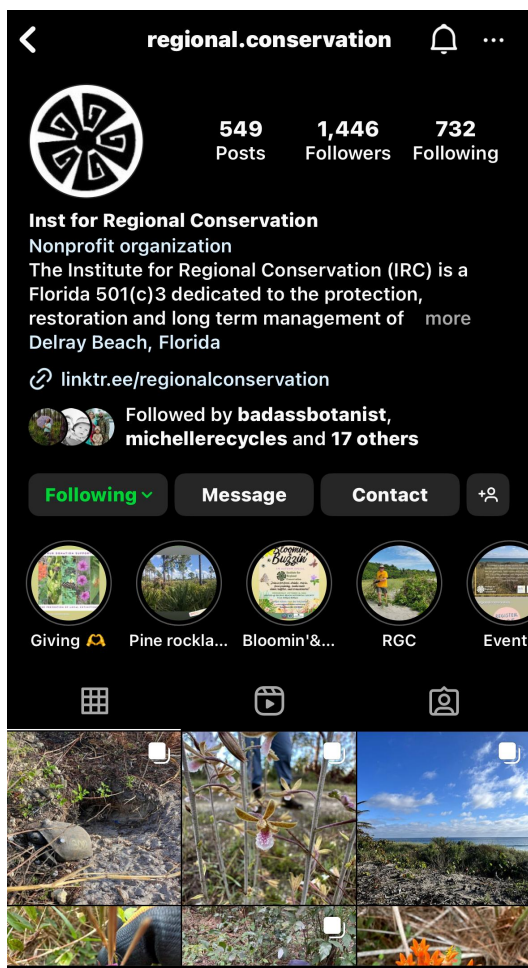
Photo credit: Michael Kohner

Special Thanks to Michael Kohner for his continued support and donation of native plants for our events!

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.

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