



September 2021 Newsletter

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Monthly Conservation Note

Rhythms of Nature

Twice a year I know we are near the Fall or Spring equinox, not by subtle signs of plants or animals, but by the intense glare of the sun in my eyes while driving east early in the morning. It's hard not to be blinded when I am sitting at a stop light. Solar system cycles and engineering trump biology every time. And so it is in all of nature. Unlike our ancestors, we are largely oblivious to these cycles except in some macro way: it snows, we get hit by a hurricane, it freezes, temperatures soar.

Living in southern Florida, I also know other signs the seasons are changing. As Summer passes to Fall, temperatures drop at night and humidity falls enough that I don't feel like I've been covered by a warm wet blanket when I open the front door in the morning. Bugs stop eating the plants in my garden and my pool shifts from bathtub to refreshing to forget it. But what about bird migrations, or the end of the hurricane season, or when Fall wildflowers will bloom? Who knows?

season in Montana has been stretching out by weeks. For me (admittedly not a bird person) bird migrations in southern Florida have become impossible to understand.

Rather than feeling bewildered, perhaps the best thing we can do is go old school and observe. We can use modern tools, for sure, but what we really need right now are teams of citizen scientists documenting this global change. So get outside and look around at the weird and untimely things going on. But don't look due east first thing in the morning.

George Gann

Founder and Executive Director

As modern, internet connected, largely urbanized people it's hard enough to understand nature. But with climate change upon us, many formerly obvious rhythms of nature are now muddled. I ask my son, who lives in North Carolina, "When will the leaves change color?" "Hard to say," he answers. Friends tell me the gardening



Fall is in the air as the sun sets just south of due west in the northern hemisphere.



Thank you to all who have supported IRC's programs in the last two months.

Raymond Jungles.

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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 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.

Thank you to our recent Natives For Your Neighborhood (NFYN) sponsors: [Pro Native Consulting](#), [Key West Botanical Gardens \(KWBGS\)](#), [Green Isle Gardens](#).

Pro Native Consulting is located in Miami and offers native plants for sale, as well as, consulting services. KWBGS is a frost-free native botanical garden located in Key West that also offers native plants from their nursery, a natural conservation habitat, and educational resources. Green Isle Gardens is a nursery located in Groveland offering native plants and Florida wildflowers, landscape design services, and restoration.

DONATE

Pine Rockland Initiative Crew in Action - Brazilian pepper removal at The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Papi Sawyer Property



September 16th, 2020



September 17th, 2020



September 17th, 2020



September 22nd, 2020



September 25th, 2020



September 25th, 2020

Exciting Rediscovery of a Fern Last Seen in Puerto Rico in the Early 1980s

The USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office recently announced that the fern, *Elaphoglossum serpens*, was rediscovered by José Sustache (Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources) as part of a species survey conducted through a Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (Sect 6) grant. Learn more about this find [here](#) or check out our plant page [here](#).

Check out our [Plants of Puerto Rico web resource](#) or our [Plants in Puerto Rico Facebook Page](#).



Photo credit to Omar Monsegur, USFWS biologist

IRC Nominated for Nonprofit of the Year



We are honored to be nominated for Nonprofit of the Year by the Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce!

Voting is open now through October 4. Please give us a quick vote by [clicking here](#).

"Meet Our Team" Spotlight

Welcome, George!

IRC would like to welcome our new Pine Rockland Initiative Field Crew Member, George Guillen. George is currently a student at Florida International University working on his Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science. He already has some experience with pine rockland work and research.

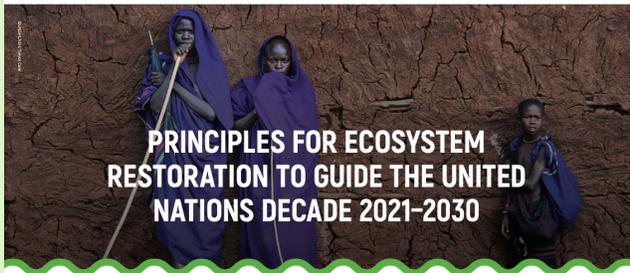
Welcome to the team, George!



"Principles for Ecosystem Restoration to guide the United Nations Decade 2021-2030" - A new publication co-authored by George Gann

IRC's Executive Director, George Gann, was involved in the development of 10 Principles to guide the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, as part of his role as International Policy Lead for the Society for Ecological Restoration. The principles were launched earlier this month at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in

Marseille, France.



You can download the publication by [clicking here](#).



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