



LANDMARKS

Summer 2010

Lagoon Initiative Heating Up

While summer stages around the country hummed with Shakespeare, the Indian River Land Trust set its stage for the next phase of our Lagoon Waterfront Initiative. Keeping in mind the Board's vision to *preserve* our natural resources, *protect* our scenic waterfront, and *provide* access to the river, a new opportunity emerged. IRLT acquired new property this summer for a much needed canoe and kayak launch located close to several natural areas of the Indian River Lagoon midway between the Wabasso Causeway and the Barber Bridge. This mainland property, which contains four acres of native wildlife habitat, lies alongside Quay Dock Road, a historic wagon road built in the 1890's to transport goods delivered by boat from the barrier island.

IRLT also is diligently working on two other conservation projects with a focus on protecting and

managing relatively large areas of wildlife habitat on both sides of the Indian River Lagoon. In addition, the Indian River Land Trust acquired two parcels in Winter Beach last fall that will connect to create the Toni Robinson Waterfront Trail on 40 acres of native habitat. If fully successful, these four projects will *preserve* over 200 acres of wildlife habitat, *protect* nearly two miles of frontage on the river, and *provide* access for walking, bird watching and paddling along this diverse waterway. And this is just the beginning. The Land Trust continues to map the entire Lagoon waterway in our county to identify additional environmentally sensitive waterfront parcels through a computer mapping project begun in 2009.

The stage is set, and with everyone's continued support, IRLT will be instrumental in forever protecting our Indian River Lagoon.



Test Your Lagoon Knowledge

1. The Indian River Lagoon, the most diverse estuary in North America, contains how many animal species?
a. 500 b. 1700 c. 2200
2. This estuary is located along the Atlantic Flyway, the route used by millions of birds to migrate to South America and the Caribbean.
a. True b. False
3. The Lagoon is important habitat for at least 1/3 of the U.S. population of what animal?
a. Manatee b. Snook c. Roseate Spoonbill
4. Approximately how much money is spent on recreational fishing in the Lagoon each year?
a. \$10 million b. \$56 million c. \$75 million
5. Today, how many species within the region are listed as endangered, threatened or as species of special concern?
a. 50 b. 35 c. 15
6. What is the single greatest threat to the health of the Indian River Lagoon?
a. salt intrusion b. development c. invasive species

1.) c. 2200 2.) True 3.) a. Manatee 4.) c. \$75 million 5.) a. 50 6.) b. development



SAVE THE DATE:

Celebrate Land Water Wildlife — Preserve, Protect, Provide for the Future

Thursday, November 11, 2010; 6:00 p.m.

presented by George E. Warren Corporation



Conserving Land and Water

80 Royal Palm Pointe, Suite 301
Vero Beach, FL 32960

Phone: 772.794.0701
Fax: 772.794.0795

Info@IRLT.org
www.IRLT.org

Presorted
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Jacksonville, FL
Permit No. 877