

Brevard County Marine Advisory Council (BMAC)
Space Coast Room, Building C, Government Center, Viera, Florida

Members Present:

Jerry Butz
Mike Cunningham
Gary Hanlin
Jim Mazza
John Mongioi
George Reynolds

Members Absent

Doug Jaren
Rick McCrary

Staff Present:

Matt Culver, NRMO Boating & Waterways Program Coordinator
Eddie Leonard, Marine Science Extension Agent, Agriculture & Extension Services
Liz McDuffee, Administrative Assistant, NRMO

Public Present:

Steve Wayne, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Ron Morgan

I. Call to Order

Chairman Mike Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes

Gary Hanlin moved to approve the November 20, 2008 meeting minutes and Jim Mazza seconded the motion. The 11/20/08 minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Agenda Items

1. New Business

a. BMAC Recognition

Mike Cunningham read a resolution that was presented to the BMAC by the Board of County Commissioners at its 1/13/09 meeting (see Attachment A). Mr. Cunningham stated that the Board's recognition of the BMAC says a lot about what has been accomplished in the last 10 years by both the present and past members. The resolution specifically referenced BMAC's accomplishments, including the boat pump-out survey, the Brevard Boaters' Guide and the 2007 Recreational Boating Characterization Study. The Board of County Commissioners also recognized the BMAC's efforts in developing the Brevard Comprehensive Maritime Management Master Plan which is one of the first of its kind in the State. Mr. Cunningham asked the County Commissioners to display the Resolution as well as the "Citizens For Florida Waterways George Reynolds Award" that the BMAC received in October, 2008, in a public location. Both awards will be displayed at the Natural Resources Management Office until further notice.

b. BMAC appointments

Mr. Cunningham told the BMAC members that he had received a resignation email from Finnarr Murphy who represents District 3. Mr. Murphy has other obligations this year and will not be able to continue serving on the BMAC. Mr. Cunningham sent Mr. Murphy a letter of appreciation for his service and asked him to stay in touch. His knowledge and expertise are still valuable to the BMAC. In addition, Wayne Mozo was not reappointed by District 5 and his expertise will be greatly missed as well. At this time, the D-3 and D-5 Commissioners have not appointed replacements. All other BMAC members have been reappointed.

c. Honda Research and Development

Mike Cunningham stated that Honda Research and Development has recently located in Grant on the old Bombardier site. Mr. Cunningham visited the facility to welcome them and dropped off copies of the Brevard Boaters' Guide. Mr. Cunningham will meet with the facilities' President next week and will ask for a representative to meet with BMAC to give an overview of what they are doing and what they anticipate their impact on Brevard County will be.

2. Old Business

a. Brevard Race Week

Jerry Butz stated that during the 11/20/08 BMAC meeting, he was asked to help develop a proposal for a Brevard County Race Week. Mr. Butz sent an email with his proposal to NRMO staff and the BMAC members and asked for input from the BMAC (see Attachment B). Mr. Butz stated that his commitment from the November meeting was to create two anchor events. The first weekend event is an ISAF Grade 4 international match race. The second weekend event is the Rockledge Centennial Cup race. With those two events as the bookends, the rest of the week can be filled with other water activities.

The BMAC members discussed name recognition. It was felt that there would be more name recognition with "Cocoa" than with "Brevard." Jerry Butz said that he has done research when naming other events and determined that "Cocoa" is nationally known. However, Mr. Butz is working with the Brevard County Parks and Recreation Department to reserve parks for the events and felt that Brevard County's participation should be noted in some way. Mr. Butz is hoping to book Lee Werner Park for the weekend events. Matt Culver suggested having booths set up from organizations such as Brevard County Watershed Program, the Agricultural Extension Office, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Mr. Butz stated that the events do not all need to occur at Lee Werner. Other parks such as Kelly Park and Rotary Park could also be used. Gary Hanlin asked who would coordinate the rest of the week's activities. Mr. Butz answered that he will organize and operate the two weekend events, but someone else needs to step forward to coordinate the rest of the week's events. Mr. Hanlin stated that he was not able to volunteer as a coordinator. Mr. Butz said that Ron Morgan has been very active in getting people organized. Mr. Morgan stated that Claudia Massa has volunteered to help coordinate the events. Mr. Morgan handed out a list of suggested events for the week (see Attachment C). Mr. Morgan stated that he discussed the proposed event with members of the Cocoa Beach Surfing Club and they suggested calling the National Kidney Foundation because it

sponsored one of the Surfing Club's board races. Mr. Morgan also sent a package to Tony Sasso that included the BMAC meeting minutes when this topic was first discussed. Mr. Morgan suggested notifying Cocoa Beach, Port Canaveral, and other municipalities for their recommendations and requirements. He mentioned that there would be a need for additional police due to large crowds. Mr. Morgan stated that there have been no negatives from anyone he has talked to. He plans to talk to the Florida Institute of Technology, the University of Central Florida, and the University of Florida regarding scull racing participation. Mike Cunningham stated that he liked the Cocoa name for recognition as long as Brevard County doesn't mind. Perhaps it could be called Cocoa Regatta, Brevard County International Race Week. Jerry Butz clarified that the event will be bigger than a regatta. Matt Culver added that if the Parks' facilities were used, the Parks and Recreation Department should probably be mentioned. George Hanlin added that "Space Coast" could also be considered or that "on the water" could be added to the title. The BMAC agreed that any preliminary naming ideas should be run by department heads. Another consideration should be how much effort each organization is putting into the event. Jerry Butz suggested "Brevard Waterfest sponsored by ...". Mike Cunningham suggested putting logos of all sponsors on signage and pamphlets. Mr. Butz asked the council members to help determine the name for the week-long event. Suggestions included:

- Brevard County Boating Week
- Brevard County Racing Week
- Cocoa Boating Week
- Cocoa Racing Week
- Cocoa Regatta, Brevard County International Race Week (It was noted that the event is larger than a regatta.)
- Space Coast ...
- ... on the water
- Brevard Waterfest, sponsored by ...

Matt Culver stated that Debbie Coles, Environmental Management Program Supervisor in the Natural Resources Management Office, is familiar with fund raising and that he will talk to her to see if she is available to help out. Jerry Butz stated that the weekend events are self funding. Ron Morgan stated that we will need sponsors for prizes for the other events and suggested contacting Ron Jon Surf Shop. Mr. Morgan also suggested holding an ocean paddle board event and possibly inviting an expert from Hawaii. There also is a need for sponsors for other items such as funding for crowd control, gas for boats, etc. George Reynolds made a motion to move forward on the project. John Mongioi seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The BMAC was asked to forward ideas to Jerry Butz and Ron Morgan.

b. Derelict Vessels (DVs) Landfill Fee Waivers

Doug Jaren stated that he is still having a problem with being charged for disposing of derelict vessels at the landfill. Mike Cunningham stated that he had a meeting with Euri Rodriguez, Director of Solid Waste, and Peggy Busacca, County Manager, and was told if that happens to stop right at the landfill entrance and call Mr. Rodriguez immediately. Mr. Jaren stated that his problem is that a third party carrier picks up the destroyed derelict vessel and it is not apparent from looking at it that it

is a boat. Gary Hanlin suggested giving a special invoice to the hauler to give to the landfill specifying that it is a derelict vessel.

c. Comprehensive Maritime Management Master Plan Workgroup Update – Matt Culver

The first CM3P Work Group that focused on increasing ramp, marina, dry stack and managed mooring field options has completed its recommendations. The final draft is now being written and will be presented to the BMAC in an upcoming meeting. The second work group had its first meeting on January 14th. It is focusing on retaining working waterfronts. John Mongioi and Eddie Leonard, who were on the first work group, are also members of the second group. The group meets every other Wednesday from 5 to 8 PM. Mr. Culver will bring updates back to the BMAC.

d. Florida Forever Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts Grant Update – Matt Culver

Brevard County has applied for a grant to purchase the Blue Crab Cove which includes Docs Bait Shop and The Crab Shack. Brevard's application was ranked second in the state, so Mr. Culver is optimistic about the project. If awarded, the funding will go to preserve the last working waterfront in Brevard. The Florida Communities Trust Governing Board is meeting on January 29th to finalize the rankings. Ernie Brown and the grant writer are planning on attending the meeting to answer questions. The Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency has agreed to supply the grant match up to \$1.5 million. The whole process will take approximately one year. All seven of Brevard's legislative delegation signed a letter of support. Some of the delegates also wrote individual letters of support. Gary Hanlin suggested that, if Brevard gets the grant, a thank you letter should be written to Representative Debbie Mayfield thanking her for her husband's effort in this area.

e. Derelict Vessels – Matt Culver

There are 10 to 12 derelict vessels that have been permitted and are ready for removal. The close for contractors' bids is at the end of this month.

f. Mooring Field Analysis – Eddie Leonard

Matt Culver, Ernie Brown, Jim Fletcher, Eddie Leonard, and Bob Swett and Thomas Ruppert (University of Florida) had an initial meeting to discuss data collection and determine what data already exists. This background work is being done now so that when the college becomes fully staffed for this project in July, we are ready to hit the ground running. At least one more background meeting will occur before the project starts. Mr. Leonard handed out the most recent draft of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission changes in boating regulations. Mr. Leonard stated that it is moving forward as legislation, so if the BMAC members want modifications they need to move quickly. The draft leaves mooring time frames as options in each jurisdiction. It also places restrictions on mooring that is adjacent to a facility (like a marina). Boaters can moor but they can't leave their boats unattended. Matt Culver stated that the BMAC may want to schedule this item for the next BMAC meeting.

IV. Reports

1. Staff Report – Matt Culver, Natural Resources Management Office (NRMO)

a. BMAC stationery

This item is still pending. It is not clear if the BMAC can generate its own stationery and, if it can, for what situations it is authorized to use it.

b. Stem-to-Stern Conference

Ernie Brown is planning on approaching the Board concerning funding for the BMAC members and NRMO staff to attend the Stem to Stern Conference.

2. Staff Report – Eddie Leonard, Agriculture & Extension Services

a. Mr. Leonard handed out his plan of work for the BMAC to review (see Attachment D). He stated that he added sedimentation to the plan after George Reynolds' input at the last meeting. Mr. Leonard asked the BMAC to send questions to him or to bring them up at the next meeting.

b. Matt Culver and Eddie Leonard attended the West Coast Artificial Reef Symposium in Sarasota last year. The State Artificial Reef Summit is going to be held in Brevard in late September or early October in 2009. Mr. Leonard said that he is one of the organizers and is expecting a good turnout because the International Artificial Reef Symposium is being held in Rio de Janeiro right after the Florida Summit in Brevard.

V. Public Input

Steve Wayne

Mr. Wayne stated that a new officer for the north end of the County was finishing up training this week. The officer will make an introductory visit to the BMAC at a future meeting.

VI. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by George Reynolds and seconded by Jerry Butz. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

ATTACHMENT A

Brevard



County

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

WHEREAS, THE BREVARD COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL, established by the Board of County Commissioners on November 9, 1999, provides recommendations and guidance to the Board on marine related issues to insure a well-maintained, safe, healthy and friendly marine environment for the residents and visiting users of our marine resources; and

WHEREAS, THE BREVARD MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL focuses on environmental concerns, educational needs, commercial activities, boaters safety, navigational information, and ongoing reviews of existing marine programs around the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, since THE BREVARD MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL'S inception, the Council has accomplished numerous projects, including a boat pump-out survey, production and distribution of the Brevard Boaters' Guide, and the 2007 Recreational Boating Characterization Study; and

WHEREAS, THE BREVARD MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL'S Comprehensive Maritime Management Master Plan (CM3P), is one of the first of its kind in the State and is addressing marine issues that balance the environmental, recreational, and economic uses of Brevard's waterways that include the mooring field siting suitability analysis and preservation of working waterfronts; and

WHEREAS, these efforts have resulted in streamlining and improved waterway management to include cleaner waterways, reduction of derelict vessels, improved navigational marking, increased economic vitality, recreational enjoyment, and safer boating; and

WHEREAS, THE BREVARD MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL is continuing to work in cooperation with County, State, and federal agencies so that the overall mission can be accomplished for the good of all Brevard County residents and visitors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, does hereby unanimously commend

THE BREVARD MARINE ADVISORY COUNCIL

for their accomplishments and continued service to Brevard County residents.

DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED, in regular session, this 13th day of January, A.D., 2009.

ATTEST:

Scott Ellis
SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

Chuck Nelson
CHUCK NELSON, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

Mcduffee, Elizabeth M

From: Jerry Butz--Boaters Exchange [jerry@boatersexchange.com]
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2008 8:43 AM
To: Mcduffee, Elizabeth M; 'Al Pappas'; Brown, Ernest N; Culver, Matt; 'Doug Jaren'; 'Finnbarr P. Murphy'; 'Gary Hanlin'; 'George Reynolds'; 'Jim Mazza'; 'John Mongioi'; 'Leonard,Edward E'; 'Mike Cunningham'; 'Mike Huck'; 'Ron Morgan'
Subject: Proposal: Brevard County Race Week

As a follow-up to the suggestion last night, here is a very rough draft proposal for a Brevard County Race Week, (or perhaps we call it a Cocoa Race Week for better name recognition outside our region and to get the support of the mayor's office):

Purpose: Schedule a series of water-based events during a 10 day period, anchored by major events on the first and second weekends.

Weekend #1, May 8, 9, 10: ISAF Grade 4 international match race, with attendees invited from around the US.
Background: As the London Summer Olympic Games approach in 2012, the country is gearing up for the "newest" event added to the games, Sailboat Match Racing. This event is somewhat unique in that it is actually fun to watch and easy to understand. It's compared to a mix between drag car racing and tennis, with sailboats mixed in. Events and clinics are being held around the world, led mostly by North Sails. Two similar events have already been staged in Cocoa, with tremendous success—all involved can't wait to get back to Cocoa to do it again. The event is structured with a clinic on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, with races Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday. Great fun—I get energized just thinking about it.

Weekend #2, May 16, 17: 43rd Annual Brevard Challenge sailboat race for the Rockledge Centennial Cup.
Background: Sailboats from around Brevard come to Cocoa to compete in the oldest sailboat regatta in Brevard County, with sailboat racing along the Cocoa/Rockledge waterfront. The winning boat has their name engraved on the Centennial Cup trophy, on display at Rockledge City Hall (much like the Auld Cup awarded during the Americas Cup racing, only better). In the past, Fleet 45 (catamaran sailboats) has participated in this event.

These above events are already scheduled. The task ahead of us is to contact the other water-based organizations to "fill in" events for Monday, May 11 through Friday, May 15, or add events to the two weekends. There's nothing wrong with different fleets having their events on the same days. The following events could be added: board sailing, kite sailing, dragon boats, sculls, model boats, powerboat races, powerboat demonstrations, poker run, Coast Guard Aux demonstrations, kayaking tour, etc. Most of these events are self-funded, so no additional funds would be required. However, having access to county facilities (i.e. Coast Guard Aux building) would facilitate the success of these events.

Mike Huck, Ron Morgan, feel free to recommend any other ideas, or get in touch with these other water-based organizations to fill in additional events.

This is just a rough draft, but with some legwork over the next 2 months, we can put together a rock-solid event filled with many reasons for people to come to Brevard to participate in these activities.

Best regards,
Jerry Butz
Boaters Exchange
IRYC
ECSA

Brevard Race Week

11-22-08

Jerry,

Ron Morgan

Many thanks for your magnificent planning start to our "Brevard County Race Week".

May would be a perfect time to avoid the winter cold and the summer storms.

With our County theme we can invite each of our major cities to sponsor an event in their area, getting publicity for them and interest from their residents. They could give us good coverage in their monthly Newsletters that they put out. The County could also give us some good coverage. Of course, we make Florida Today a semi-partner in Race Week and have them sponsor a Florida Today prize. Brevard Parks & Rec. should be a partner in all events.

Each weekday could have a separate event. Off the top of my head, here are some starting suggestions. We'll have to determine what sounds feasible and what kind of cooperation that we can expect from the participating cities and organizations.

Each weekday could have a separate event. We could use IRYC, ECSA and SSCA sponsorship on any event.

Monday - **Wind surfing** - North side of the 520 in the Banana River sponsored and coordinated by Cape Canaveral and Ron Jon

Tuesday - **Kite surfing** - South side of the 520 in the Banana River sponsored and coordinated by Cocoa Beach and Cocoa Beach Surf Company

Wednesday - **Bathtub vs. Raft Race** and separate **Rowboat Racing** (noonish time frame) at Cocoa Waterfront Park sponsored by Cocoa, the Cocoa Village Merchants & Whitley Bay Yacht Club. Prizes given to everybody racing and band playing music at the Cocoa Pavilion.

Wednesday - **Power Boat Race** in Indian River sponsored by the new Sebastian Marina, Melbourne Beach, Sebastian, Malabar, Grant-Valkaria.

Thursday - **Catamaran Race** at Eau Gallie Causeway sponsored by IRYC, Eau Gallie Yacht Club, Satellite Beach, Indian Harbour Beach and Indialantic.

Friday - **Scull Racing and Kayak Racing** at the Melbourne Causeway sponsored by Melbourne, Palm Bay and the **Colleges & Universities**.

(This event would have to be dovetailed with any Graduation ceremonies in May.)

Friday - **Small sailboat racing** near Melbourne causeway sponsored by MYC.

Saturday/Sunday - One tall ship on display Port Canaveral.

Saturday - First Annual Brevard Race Week Fishing Tournament from Port Canaveral

Sponsored by the Port Authority, & P. C. Yacht Club & Canaveral Merchants Assoc.

Starts with 20 - 30 boat Race starting just east & south of the channel buoy to 5 miles off-shore. Winners judged by GPS location tracking at the finish wave.

Boats picked by drawing from those boats registering for the race.

More than 20-30 boats might be hard to manage from the floating start line.

I'm trying to come up with something for Titusville on the Indian River with their great long waterfront area. Maybe a good site for the **Dragon Boats, Paddleboards** and **Outrigger Canoes - men's, women's and coed.** **Ocean paddleboards** could run from Cocoa Beach to Indialantic. 3 prizes - 1st. to Pineda Cswy., 1st. to Eau Gallie Cswy. and 1st. to Melbourne Cswy. In the future a match race between Native American, Hawaiian

and **Samoan War Canoes** - that might be a first in the U.S.. Also possibly **Jet Ski racing** on Lake Washington.

See following related web info.:

Quiksilver Molokai to Oahu Paddleboard Race, starts on **Molokai** and finishes on **Oahu**. Some 70 participants from **an international field** journey to Molokai to compete in this **32-mile race**, considered to be the world championship of long distance paddleboard racing. Race begins at Kaluakoi Beach on Molokai at 7am and finishes at Maunaloa Bay, Oahu, around 12:30pm. Call tel. **808/638-8208**. Mid- to late July.

Outrigger Canoe Season, all islands. From May to September, nearly every weekend, canoe paddlers across the state participate in outrigger canoe races. Contact tel. **808/261-6615** or www.y2kanu.com for this year's schedule of events.

The **Alcatraz Challenge**, men's, **women's and coed outrigger canoe races**, presented by He'e Nalu O Marin Outrigger Canoe Club. East Beach, Crissy Field, San Francisco. Races 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., awards 1:30 p.m.

www.alcatrazchallenge.com.

Plan of Work for Edward E. Leonard, Abbreviated for BMAC 15 Jan 2009

I. Improving the Quality of Surface Waters

Situation

The natural resources of Brevard County are a major part of the allure and economy of this area. These resources are being increasingly taxed by a growing population and less than ideal human impacts. The population of Brevard has increased 12.2% since the year 2000 to a current population of 534,359 (U.S. Census Bureau). Upland practices have a major impact on the water quality within the Indian River Lagoon system. Mitigation of these impacts can be achieved, in part, by proper management of storm-water runoff. Runoff is thought to be a major contributor to the degradation of coastal habitats due to increased introduction of nutrients, primarily nitrogen and phosphorus. This process, known as coastal eutrophication, is of great concern to scientists and is considered one of the biggest threats to coastal ecosystems (Howarth 2). One mechanism being used to reduce the loading of nutrients in the estuary is the use of wet detention systems, also known as storm water ponds. These ponds are intended to improve the quality of water being release to the estuary by removing nutrients and pollutants through natural biological processes. Because these ponds sequester nutrients and other chemicals, they can develop serious problems such as overgrowth of aquatic plants, algae blooms, and even fish kills. Many of these problems can be prevented by using best management practices in ponds and surrounding landscapes. If cared for properly, these areas can provide opportunities like fishing and wildlife viewing while adding a significant amount of aesthetic beauty to the neighborhood. Many of Brevard's citizens are unaware of how to properly manage these ponds, who is responsible for their management, and what legal standards must be met. Because of the lack of understanding, residents are often resistant to management techniques. Pond problems, and the attempts made to correct them, can reduce the effectiveness of these systems, reduce enjoyment of the pond, and even cause serious financial burdens. For instance, many people wish to allow no littoral zone plant growth because they believe that large numbers of dangerous animals will be attracted to beneficial vegetation. Littoral zone vegetation helps reduce nutrient load in the pond and is often a requirement of the original construction permit. Removal or destruction of these plants could harm the overall health of the pond and put the landowner in violation of his or her permit. This program will familiarize citizens with pond ecosystems and expand understanding of the pond's purpose and function. The program will encourage both homeowners and surface water managers to adopt practices that will reduce nutrient loading. The results of this program will be improved overall health and effectiveness of wet detention systems and financial savings to landowners.

Sources:

Howarth, Robert et al. 2000. Nutrient Pollution of Coastal Rivers, Bays, and Seas. *Issues in Ecology*. Number 7.

United States. United States Census Bureau, Brevard County QuickFacts. July 2007. available at <http://www.census.gov/>

Target Audience:

Brevard County homeowners' associations and residents living in developments with wet detention systems for storm-water control and surface-water control device managers

Program Objectives

Improve the water quality within the Indian River Lagoon by reducing the rate of nutrient

II. Enjoy and Protect Brevard's Marine Resources

Situation

The waterways of Brevard County are one of its greatest resources. The estimated economic value of the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) Estuary to Brevard County residents and visitors is over \$1.25 billion annually. Recreational fishing, boating, and other water related activities generate over \$215 million in annual output for Brevard County's economy. Additionally, over three thousand jobs worth an estimated \$100 million owe their existence to the IRL. Fishing is one of the most popular of these activities. Thirty-seven percent of days spent recreating on the waters of the IRL are spent fin-fishing (Hazen and Sawyer 2008). Managers wish to recruit and retain participants in the sport of fishing for several reasons. Increasing license sales will increase funding for research and management and, more importantly, exposure to the resource has been shown to improve attitudes and action toward conservation. Continued interest in fishing is dependent on good fish stocks and a healthy ecosystem. Several tools are currently in use to maintain and improve fish stocks in all Florida waters. Of increasing interest to scientists and fishery managers is encouraging catch-and-release fishing and ethical angling. In fact, federal and state agencies have recently created new rules mandating the use of several catch and release tools and techniques. Currently these rules only affect people fishing in the Gulf of Mexico but action to expand these rules to the Atlantic coast fisheries is already underway. Proposed Amendment 16 to the snapper/grouper management plan is pending at the Atlantic states Marine Fisheries Service. The increased importance of ethical angling and resource stewardship for fisheries management, as well as the pending regulations create a need for extensive education outreach. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has requested assistance from all conservation educators in spreading the word on these tools and techniques.

Sources:

Indian River Lagoon Economic Assessment and Analysis Update, Executive Summary. August 18, 2008. 11pgs.

Program objectives:

Increase utilization and stewardship of Brevard County's Marine resources by increasing the number of anglers practicing catch and release fishing and ethical angling techniques thereby reducing bycatch and release mortality.

Increase recruitment and retention of boaters and anglers by increasing access to aquatic resources

Target Audience:

Charter fishermen, tour operators, local fishermen and boaters

Educational Methods and Activities:

Fishing captains and/or eco-tour operators will be educated on the benefits of ethical angling practices and Indian River Lagoon ecosystem and will pass this knowledge to their clientele.