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FAU's Harbor Branch To Celebrate Estuaries Day on September 25

BOCA RATON, FL (September 20, 2010)—Learn about estuaries, including the one in your own backyard—the Indian River Lagoon—when Florida Atlantic University's Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute in Fort Pierce hosts a National Estuaries Day celebration on Saturday, September 25. This is the third year Harbor Branch has held this event designed to recognize the importance of our nation's coastal and inshore marine environments.

The celebration will be based at the Harbor Branch Ocean Discovery Center located directly across from the main gate at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, 5600 US 1 North, in Ft. Pierce. This family event will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will feature indoor and outdoor fun and activities including:

- “Living Lagoon,” Indian River Lagoon marine life displays and touch tank
- Hands-on water quality exploration station
- Eco-Boat tours of the Indian River (cost is \$10 per person, space is limited)
- Kids’ arts and crafts table
- Ocean Discovery Center interactive ocean science exhibits
- Lagoon information tables
- Local wildlife and environmental artists
- Fun and games

The Harbor Branch marine mammal stranding ambulance will be on-hand. Food, drinks and raffle tickets will be available for purchase. In addition, the gift shop will be open and will showcase some of its new merchandise. Admission to the event is free. For more information, call 772-242-2293.

About Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute:

Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at Florida Atlantic University is a research institute dedicated to exploration, innovation, conservation and education related to the oceans. Harbor Branch was founded in 1971 as a private non-profit organization. In December 2007, Harbor Branch joined Florida Atlantic University. The institute specializes in ocean engineering, at-sea operations, drug discovery and biotechnology from the oceans, coastal ecology and conservation, marine mammal research and conservation, aquaculture, and marine education. For more information, visit www.hboi.fau.edu.

About Florida Atlantic University:

Florida Atlantic University opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University serves more than 28,000 undergraduate and graduate students on seven campuses and sites. Building on its rich tradition as a teaching university, with a world-class faculty, FAU hosts 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering & Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.