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FAU Harbor Branch Public Forum on Indian River Lagoon Restoration Efforts Features County Officials

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (February 6, 2019) – The community is invited to attend the public forum day of the Florida Atlantic University Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute 2019 Indian River Lagoon Symposium on Friday, Feb. 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Johnson Education Center Auditorium, 5600 U.S. 1 North, Fort Pierce.

The forum, “Engaging the Public: What are the Counties Doing?” will provide panel presentations and discussions on the wide impacts of the recent harmful algal blooms (HABs) and feature representatives from each of the five major counties along the lagoon.

The threat of HABs on the Indian River Lagoon lingers and questions remain as to how HABs occur. FAU Harbor Branch researchers continue to study the lagoon to find answers and serve as experts regarding the scientific reasons behind the toxic algae crisis. Harbor Branch researchers and others will present their findings on the impacts of the HABs on the lagoon during the 2019 Indian River Lagoon Symposium technical sessions on Thursday, Feb. 7, in addition to the public forum Friday, Feb 8.

For more information on the [2019 Indian River Lagoon Symposium](#), contact Lynda Figueredo Rysavy at 561-475-0960 or lfigueredo@fau.edu, or visit www.fau.edu/hboi.

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About Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute:

Founded in 1971, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at Florida Atlantic University is a research community of marine scientists, engineers, educators and other professionals focused on Ocean Science for a Better World. The institute drives innovation in ocean engineering, at-sea operations, drug discovery and biotechnology from the oceans, coastal ecology and conservation, marine mammal research and conservation, aquaculture, ocean observing systems and marine education. For more information, visit www.fau.edu/hboi.

About Florida Atlantic University:

Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of \$6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000

undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU's world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and 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. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of critical areas that form the basis of its strategic plan: Healthy aging, biotech, coastal and marine issues, neuroscience, regenerative medicine, informatics, lifespan and the environment. These areas provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU's existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit fau.edu.