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FAU Harbor Branch Featured in Upcoming ‘Sea Rescue’ Episodes

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (April 30, 2013) – Florida Atlantic University Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute (HBOI) will be featured on two upcoming episodes of the popular national television show “Sea Rescue” on local ABC stations at 10:30 a.m. (WPBF West Palm Beach) and noon (WPLG Miami) on the following Saturdays: May 4 and July 13.

Both episodes will feature marine mammal rescue efforts that included members of the FAU Harbor Branch Marine Mammal Research and Conservation (MMRC) Program.

“Sea Rescue” airs nationally on over 95 percent of the country’s ABC affiliates on Saturday mornings during *Litton’s Weekend Adventure*. The show is hosted by environmental journalist and “Good Morning America” weather anchor Sam Champion.

Currently in its second season, Sea Rescue tells the stories of marine animal rescue, rehabilitation and release by the dedicated men and women of SeaWorld’s wildlife rescue teams and partner organizations including the Florida Atlantic University Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute (HBOI).

MMRC is a first responder for the National Marine Fisheries Service Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Network, which also includes the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Marine Mammal Conservancy, SeaWorld, Georgia Aquarium Field Station and Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute. MMRC rescue efforts are funded in part by the Florida “Protect Wild Dolphins” and “Protect Florida Whales” specialty license plates.

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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.hboi.fau.edu.

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 three signature themes – marine and coastal issues, biotechnology and contemporary societal challenges – which provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU's existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.