

2019 Lake Worth Lagoon Fishing Challenge

General Rules and Definitions



Overview

Interested in helping collect valuable fisheries information while getting a chance to win a prize? If so, you'll want to participate in the 4th Annual Lake Worth Lagoon Fishing Challenge (FC) and it's FREE!

By taking a photo of your catch from the lagoon and reporting it as part of the challenge, you can win some great award prizes and at the same time, contribute to the data collection needs related to lagoon habitat restoration.

Firstly and most importantly, REGISTER for the 2019 LWL Fishing Challenge at iAnglerTournament.com. Between May 24 and July 7, 2019, when you catch a fish in Lake Worth Lagoon, take a photo that includes the fish and the [assigned challenge identifier](#). NOTE: The identifier will be posted on the 2019 LWLI FC website at the start of the challenge. Then, log the fish you catch by using the free iAnglerTournament app on your smartphone or by signing into your online account, include details and photo of your catch.

Whether you fish once a month or every day, you could be eligible to win a prize. Anglers will be scored on the quantity of their catches, and will be entered into the weekly random prize drawing even if you only fished once during the challenge, regardless of whether a fish was caught.

Registration

Register online at iAnglerTournament.com to participate. There is also a registration link with easy instructions at lwli.org. Anglers must register before entries will be counted. If you are having issues registering, please contact the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management at 561-233-2400 for assistance.

Eligibility

The challenge is open to anglers 5 years of age (as of May 24, 2019) or older. Staff members of the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management and their family members are not eligible for awards or prizes.

Anglers 5 to 15 years of age (as of May 24, 2019) are eligible for drawings and youth division prizes. Anglers 16 years of age or older (as of May 24, 2019) are eligible for drawings and adult division prizes.

Scoring

Registered anglers are scored by submitting photos and information (detailed below) about the fish they catch during the challenge.

- Anglers will receive one (1) point for each individual fish caught, logged and verified during the challenge. All catch and species identifications will be verified by a panel of fishing experts prior to awarding of points.
- Catches made prior to the start of the challenge are not eligible for points.
- Photos must clearly show a profile view of the fish and include the [assigned challenge identifier](#), posted to the FC website at the start of the challenge.

To receive 2019 FC points, anglers must log the following details with each photo submitted:

1. Acceptable photo (Photos that do not meet the requirements as stated above are not eligible for points)
2. Date of catch
3. Location of catch (GPS coordinates via app preferred; location information is gathered for habitat, not for sharing purposes)
4. Species caught (FWC Fish ID guide: <http://myfwc.com/media/4042916/11IDFL2016.pdf>)
5. FINALLY, if all 4 of the above “logging criteria” has been met, 0.25 bonus points will be awarded for each correct entry.

Prizes and Categories

Prizes will be awarded for YOUTH and ADULT Divisions in the following categories:

OVERALL:

- Top Total Points NOTE: Points awarded in this category are limited to a maximum of 25 points per species (non-sportfish). Catches greater than 25 fish of the same species are not eligible for additional points.
- Sportfish Top Total Points NOTE: No tournament limit to any sportfish identified in this category. (Sportfish: Snook, red drum, spotted seatrout, tarpon, permit and bonefish)

Participants are encouraged to submit fishing activity even if they do not catch a fish. Eligibility in random prize drawings is not dependent on catching fish.

Additional prizes in the following categories will be awarded through random drawings based on the criteria defined below:

- **Full Tournament Drawing** – Anglers are entered into this drawing when they submit their first report of lagoon fishing activity during the challenge, whether they catch a fish or not. When someone reports that they went fishing, but didn’t catch a fish, that still provides valuable information related to the environment and fishing activity. For each additional day an angler submits a valid catch, they receive an additional entry for this drawing. Limited to one (1) entry per day per registered angler.

- **Weekly Drawing** – Anglers who submit a report of their lagoon fishing activity, whether they catch a fish or not, within a specific week during the challenge. Submissions must be made within the same week fished to be eligible. Limited to one (1) entry per registered angler per week.

Week 1: May 24 through May 30, 2019

Week 2: May 31 through June 6, 2019

Week 3: June 7 through June 13, 2019

Week 4: June 14 through June 20, 2019

Week 5: June 21 through June 27, 2019

Week 6: June 28 through July 7, 2019

Challenge Boundaries

To count toward prizes and/or drawings, fishing activity must take place and fish must be caught within Lake Worth Lagoon in Palm Beach County, Florida as defined below for the purpose of this challenge (also see [map view](#)):

- The northern boundary is Jack Nicklaus Drive/AIA in the town of North Palm Beach. (Also see note below regarding western boundary in North Palm Beach).
- The southern boundary is the Ocean Ridge Natural Area in Ocean Ridge, which is located a half mile south of the Boynton Bridge at Ocean Avenue.
- The eastern boundary is the inlet/inside side of the eastern end of the north and south jetties located at Lake Worth Inlet and South Lake Worth Inlet.
- The western boundary at the C-17 (Earman River) Canal is U.S. 1 in the town of North Palm Beach, at the C-51 (West Palm Beach) Canal and the C-16 (Boynton) Canal it is the eastern side of the spillway (water control structure) closest to the eastern end of the canal (the canal's mouth). The western boundary where the water body narrows to the width of the Intracoastal Waterway in North Palm Beach is the Parker Bridge (U.S. 1).

Other Requirements

All participants must abide by **all** state of Florida laws including fishing-related (and boating-related, if applicable) rules and regulations. This includes the requirement to possess a valid Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) fishing license, unless exempt. Visit www.MyFWC.com/Fishing and www.MyFWC.com/Boating for more details, including how to purchase a saltwater recreational fishing license [online: www.MyFWC.com/License; by phone: 888-FISH-FLORIDA (347-4356)].

All fish must be caught by hook and line, no netting, spearing or sabiki rig.

Submissions of photos and other data constitute a release for the Snook & Gamefish Foundation, the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management, FWC and its partners in the Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative to use them without compensation or further notice for research, information, promotion and other public purposes, such as posting on websites or via social media.

Additional Details

Fish do not have to be harvested for the purpose of this challenge. Participants are encouraged to practice catch-and-release and follow the [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's fish handling guidance](#), especially related to species that are protected from being harvested.

Participants may also be eligible and wish to participate in the FWC's Grand Slam tournament or the FWC's Saltwater Reel Big Fish program by the following links:

<http://catchafloridamemory.com/programs/saltwater-grand-slams>

<http://catchafloridamemory.com/programs/reel-big-fish>

Participants are asked to keep a measuring device/ruler on hand to ensure they report accurate measurements of their catches.

Anglers may save the email receipts they receive for each catch, and keep the photos on their phone or computer during the challenge, in the event of any scoring discrepancies.

Winners will be announced, and prizes and awards will be distributed, at the 2019 LWL FC Awards Ceremony event on July 24, 2019 at 6:00 pm at the West Palm Beach Fishing Club.

It is the responsibility of every participating angler to know, understand, and abide by these challenge rules. Any participant who violates these rules will be disqualified. Only registered participants are eligible for points and any potential qualifying prizes. Participating anglers and their guardians, as appropriate, are solely responsible for their safety during the challenge, and safety should be the first consideration in all aspects of this challenge.