



# Tarpon Cove

## A Lake Worth Lagoon Restoration Project

### Lake Worth Lagoon

- 20 miles long, stretching from North Palm Beach to Ocean Ridge.
- Largest estuary in Palm Beach County.
- Separated from the ocean by Singer Island and Palm Beach Island.
- Two permanent, man-made inlets.

### Project Location

- West side of Lake Worth Lagoon, adjacent to the El Cid neighborhood, approximately one mile south of Royal Park Bridge in the city of West Palm Beach.

### The Challenge

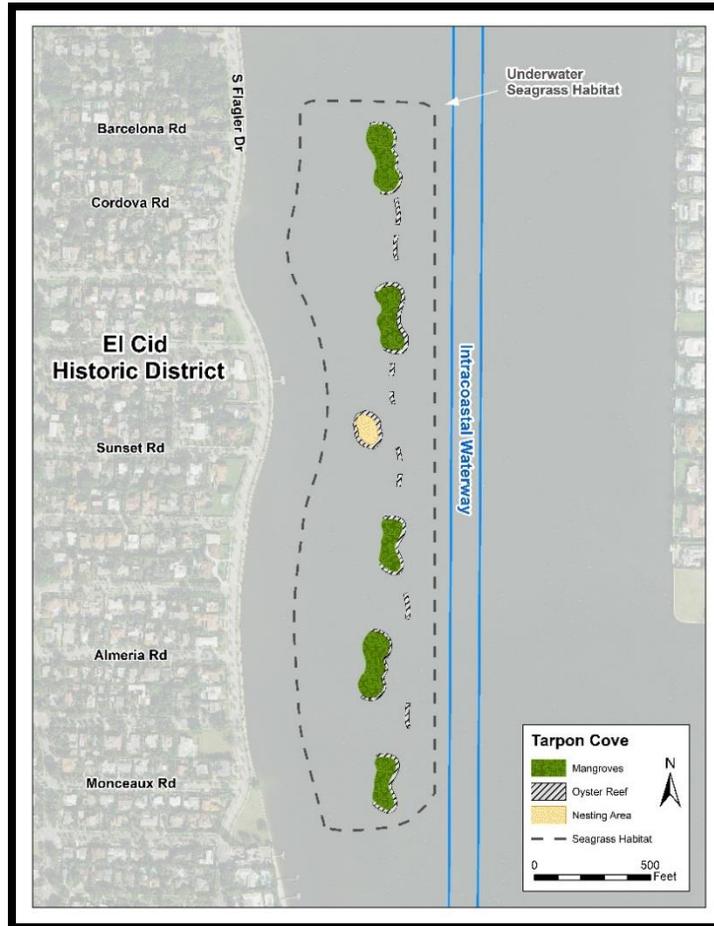
- A 15-acre historic dredge hole has accumulated fine-grained, organic-rich muck sediment that has degraded water quality and habitat.
- The muck is easily re-suspended in the water column causing increased turbidity and reducing light availability for marine plants.

### The Solution

- Fill in the dredge hole and cap muck sediments with sand.
- Create seagrass, salt marsh, mangrove, tidal flat, nesting bird and oyster habitat.

### Benefits

- Increased nursery areas and habitat for fisheries, benthic organisms and wildlife.
- Improved water quality.



Florida Manatee



Spartina and Mangroves



American Oystercatcher



### Project Overview

- The project restores a 46-acre area in the Lake Worth Lagoon by providing quality substrate for tidal and intertidal habitats.
- The project will create:
  - 2.7 acres of mangrove and tidal marsh
  - 2.1 acres of oyster reef
  - 0.3 acres of shore bird nesting area
  - 34.8 acres of seagrass habitat
- The project will be constructed in phases as funding and sand sources become available.
- Phase 1 involves sand placement in the dredged hole near Cordova Rd. and creation of islands and oyster reefs near Almeria Rd.
- Phase 1: (February 2018 – December 2019) Sand will be obtained from three nearby waterway improvement projects: Rybovich Marina expansion, Town of Palm Beach's channel dredging, and FIND's\* dredging of the Intracoastal Waterway.
- The islands will improve habitat for fisheries, birds, oysters, manatees, and sea turtles; improve water quality; and provide opportunities for wildlife observation and recreation.
- The islands and reefs will provide a natural structure to dissipate wave energy, protect coastal infrastructure, and reduce ecological impacts from storms and stormwater discharge.

### Project Partners

Palm Beach County, City of West Palm Beach, Town of Palm Beach, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Rybovich Marina, West Palm Beach Fishing Club, Marine Industries of Palm Beach County, Florida Inland Navigation District\*.

Connect with Us  
@pbcern



Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners  
Department of Environmental Resources Management  
2300 North Jog Road - Fourth Floor, West Palm Beach, FL 33411  
Phone: 561-233-2400 [www.pbcern.org](http://www.pbcern.org)