

2016

# State of the Indian River Lagoon



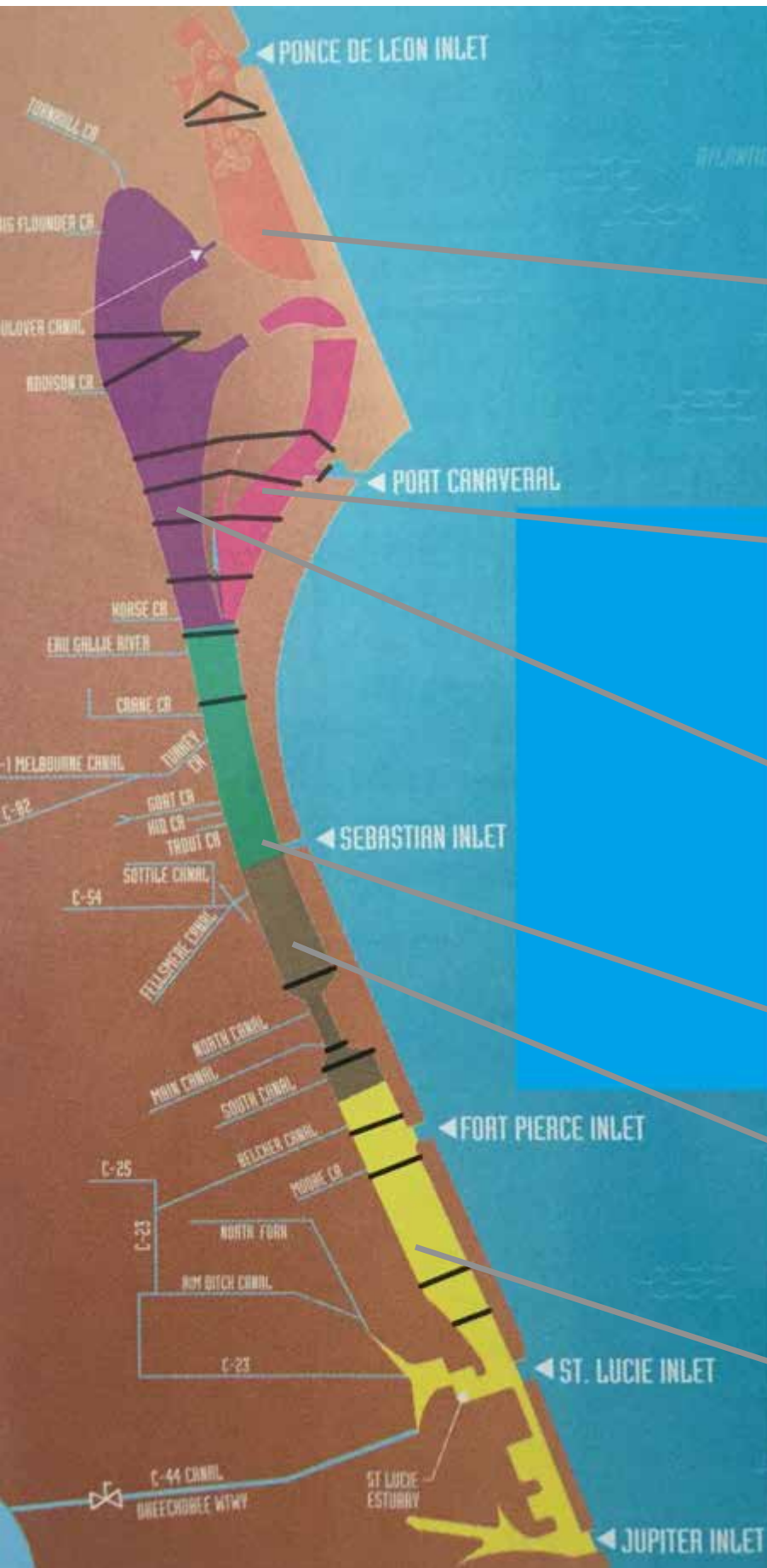
**Report  
Card  
Grade  
Here**

# The Indian River Lagoon



The Indian River Lagoon (IRL) is a 156 mile estuary system that extends from Ponce De Leon Inlet to Jupiter Inlet. It is home to over 3,500 species including about 2.2 million human inhabitants. The IRL contributes over \$3.7B to our regional economy and provides more than 15,000 jobs, many relying on tourism revenues generated by an estimated 11 million people who visit the lagoon annually.

# Indian River Lagoon Report Card 2016



## Overall Grade

**Mosquito Lagoon**  
Text why received grade here

GRADE

**Banana River**  
Text why received grade here

GRADE

**North IRL**  
Text why received grade here

GRADE

**North Central IRL**  
Text why received grade here

GRADE

**South Central IRL**  
Text why received grade here

GRADE

**South IRL**  
Text why received grade here

GRADE

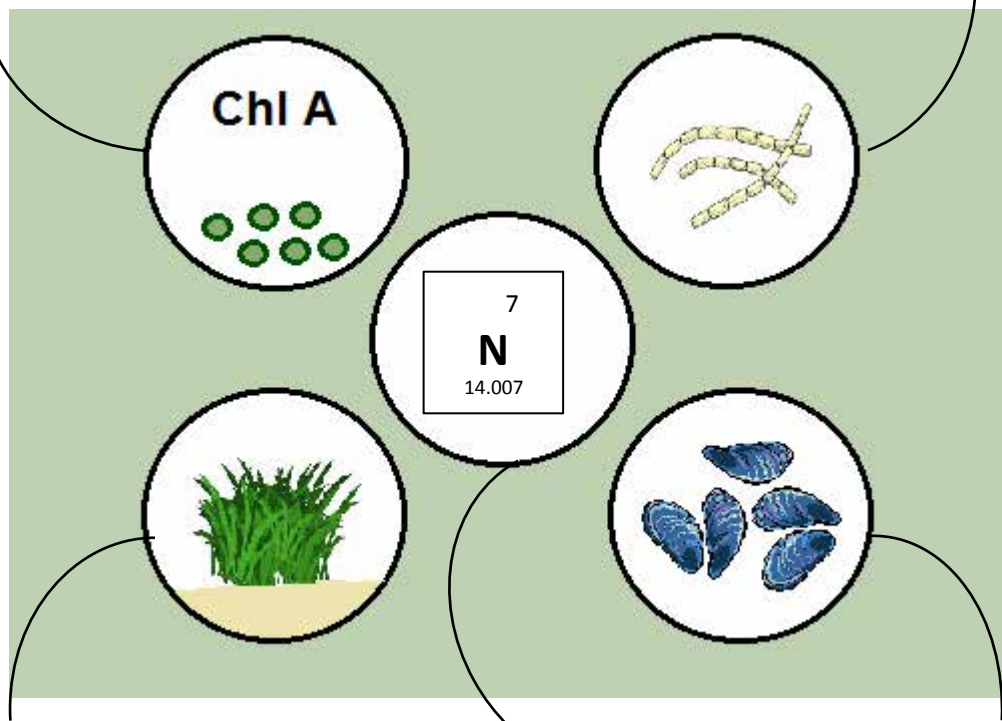
# Possible Indicators

## Chlorophyll a

is used as a measure of phytoplankton (microalgae) biomass, an indication of water quality. Higher concentrations of Chl-A are associated with reduced water clarity and reduced dissolved oxygen.

## Fecal Coliform Bacteria

are indicators of pathogens, or disease-causing organisms. Health advisories can take affect under high concentrations of fecal coliform including beach closures for the safety of public health.



## Seagrass Cover

A primary producer and indicator of the lagoon's overall health. Sea grass is essential habitat, providing shelter and food for hundreds of coastal species.

## Nutrient Loads

High levels of nitrogen and phosphorus cause a nutrient imbalance, change water chemistry, contribute to harmful algal blooms, and harm biota.

## Filter Feeders

Aid in the filtering of the water. Clams and oysters naturally filter toxins out of the water column, more clams means more water filtration.

# 2016 at a Glance

## Similarities to 2015

<This would include trends in indicators and differences from previous years>

## Seagrass

## Bacteria Levels

## Chlorophyll A Levels

## Nutrient loads

## Area covered by filter feeders

## Chemical Levels



# Acknowledgements

## Marine Resources Council

The Marine Resource Council (MRC) is a charitable organization whose mission to protect and restore the Indian River Lagoon is accomplished through community engagement. In May 2014, MRC organized the Lagoon Action Assembly (LAA) involving 100 diverse delegates from the community in facilitated consensus-building to prioritize actions to restore the IRL. One of the top priorities from this process was the production of an IRL report card.



## Contributors

Those who contributed data to the production of the report card will be recognized here.

## Supporting Partners

List and logos of all sponsoring groups