



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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9th Annual Lionfish Round-Up in Martin County hopes to break records

Stuart, FL – (May 30, 2019) — With 8 years of lionfish removal and education under its belt, this year's Lionfish Round-Up in Martin County will again benefit Sea-Life Habitat Improvement Project, Inc. (aka SHIP) and looks to exceed past years totals. SHIP is a 501.c.3 public charity on the Treasure Coast and is dedicated to creating reef projects that will provide a sustainable fishing and diving destination, as well as support endless marine research opportunities. This year's event will take place June 22nd at the beautiful Jupiter Pointe Marina.

"Last summer the event was challenged by sloppy weather and poor diving conditions, which led to a lower than expected diver turnout," said Kathy FitzPatrick, Martin County's Coastal Engineer.

"Nevertheless, 22 divers removed 288 lionfish on tournament day. We have a goal this year to exceed our 2017 results, when 78 divers removed 941 lionfish. We look forward to another event at the beautiful Jupiter Pointe Marina. If diver's have clear conditions and Mother Nature cooperates, we could see record breaking lionfish this year. We are hearing reports that they have been plentiful on the reefs and the Round-Up is needed."

Diver's will be eligible for thousands of dollars in cash prizes and best of all the reward of

knowing that they are contributing to the health of our reef systems. Diver will be asked to attend one of our “Diver Briefing” meetings. They can choose to attend our briefing on Thursday, June 20th at Pirates Cove Resort & Marina or Friday, June 21st at Blue Pointe Bar & Grill at Jupiter Pointe Marina. Both meetings will take place from 5-7pm. Divers who have not pre-registered, can register at the meeting. Not a diver? You can assist by becoming a sponsor or just come out and enjoy the party. Folks can see the fish that the divers bring, have some tasty samples, visit with our vendors, enjoy the entertainment of Bamboo with Mark & Rui, libations poolside and if you are feeling lucky, participate in our raffle and silent auction. Pacifico and Tito’s are providing a celebration cocktail for our divers, so come out to toast their success. Proceeds will help to fund future reefing projects on the Treasure Coast.

For more information, contact April Price, (772) 285-1646, or visit; www.McLionfish.com

Sea-Life Habitat Improvement Project, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 public charity and is dedicated to deploying a large military type ship for an Artificial Reef and the enhancement to our artificial reef systems on the Treasure Coast of Florida.