There are several major oyster reefs in Lake Worth Lagoon.

1. North of Fisherman’s Island
2. Munyon Island area
3. Audubon Islands
4. John’s Island
5. Snook Islands Natural Area
6. Ibis Isle
7. North of Hypoluxo Island

Oyster Research

Research Objectives
- Measure and compare growth, abundance, reproductive effort, and health of the Eastern oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) in Lake Worth Lagoon.

Research Timeframe
- Two years of monitoring.

Oyster Reef Locations
- MacArthur Beach State Park (Natural Site)
- Ibis Isle (Natural Site)
- Snook Islands Natural Area (Created Site)

Research Conclusions
- Oyster beds/reefs are as productive or more productive than oyster reefs in other east Florida locales.
- Created oyster reefs are as productive as natural reefs.

Recommendations
- Construct additional artificial reefs, similar to that created at Snook Island.
- Increase the amount of substrate. Additional rock or fossilized oyster shell provides a suitable substrate for larvae to attach.
- Implement smaller volunteer projects, such as Living Shorelines, and monitor those projects in conjunction with homeowners, student and community volunteers under the direction of a biologist.
- Use multiple sampling sites within an area, e.g., monitoring other islands in the Snook Islands Natural Area to better describe variation at a site (i.e., vertical distribution).


Fun Fact: On a daily basis, oyster reefs at John’s Island, Ibis Isle, and Snook Islands Natural Area, filter the amount of water approximately equivalent to 310 Olympic size swimming pools.