

## Animal Care and Life Support Board Report

OCTOBER 2019:

- Trash pump that is used to clean Gamefish lagoon was repaired after broken shaft seal led to seizure. Spark plug changed, oil changed, carburetor cleaned and other maintenance done simultaneously. Used after repair, functionally correctly
- 8 juvenile cownose rays were transported from Ruskin FL and are undergoing quarantine in the Life Support Building. We requested all females but one is a male and will be added to GFL instead of interactive tank to prevent sexual aggression. Following the ray tank repair 7 cownose rays will be added to the exhibit, while outgrown adults will go to GFL
- Scheduled ray tank repair project for December 1<sup>st</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> **tank will be closed to the public during this time.** Stingrays must be removed during repair. Repair will include new coping and exterior work – blue Aqua Guard interior will not be impacted
- Power was cut to Turtle Pavilion panel (line ran in construction zone) which prevents use of turtle lifting davit. We are researching ways to restore power so davit can be utilized to move turtles during temperature drops or necessary displacement during construction
- We are awaiting gate options for flow control/ backflow prevention at discharge culverts for GFL (currently using wood planks on both sides North and South) – we are discharging 100% outflow of lagoon through South culvert as the seagrass nursery is having a very high leaf turnover rate that was blocking the drains when flow was slowed from dividing between two outlets – **Shaun is working with Murray Logan?**
- Ocean pump is running well, all alarms are functioning properly
- Protein skimmer 10hp pump was losing prime during power interruptions and after cleanings, gasket was replaced and it is functioning properly
- All sea turtles are in main lagoon with Hank occasionally venturing into turtle pool on his own accord
- Animals in lagoon are still adjusting to relocated GFL feeding area for programs
- Sharks are adjusting to training sessions without audio cue from cooler on boardwalk since that access has been blocked
- Juvenile ray that was born onsite is growing while foraging on invertebrates in the lagoon still has not fed from staff but is getting more curious during training sessions of other rays
- 2 wifi security cameras were added to GFL boardwalk, awaiting Mark B. to utilize purchased antenna to increase WIFI range to allow more cameras near construction zone bordering lagoon edge. These cameras are an app based system with alert capabilities instead of only passive recording like our existing system

**Brittany Biber**

Director of Animal Care  
and Life Support

