

ANNOUNCEMENT: "Mangrove Forest Ecology, Management and Restoration" training workshop, March 2-5, 2009, Hollywood, Florida, USA.

The seventh "Mangrove Forest Ecology, Management and Restoration" training workshop will be held at the Anne Kolb Nature Center, in Hollywood, Florida, USA, March 2-5, 2009. The training site is within a 500 ha mangrove restoration project at West Lake Park operated by Broward County. The award-winning project was designed by Roy R. "Robin" Lewis III, who will be teaching the course. Mr. Lewis has taught this very successful course in Cuba, Nigeria, Thailand, Vietnam, India and Sri Lanka.

The workshop includes an introduction to mangrove forest ecology, management options and problems, and restoration design issues. The class programs are all presented in a PowerPoint format, and each student is provided with a print out of the presentation and additional handouts including monitoring reports for typical restoration projects. Case studies of 5 successful mangrove restoration projects, and several unsuccessful projects, are discussed. Field trips are taken within the 500 ha West Lake Park mangrove restoration project (now 19 years old) and a new project just six years old, for a comparison. Participants are invited to bring pending project designs to the course for professional review and critique.

The emphasis is on cost-effective successful mangrove management and restoration, and cost figures for typical projects are discussed and explained. The Ecological Mangrove Restoration (EMR) method of mangrove restoration is emphasized as the best approach to successful restoration at minimal cost (see Erftemeijer and Lewis 2000; Lewis 1999, 2000a, 2000b, 2005; Lewis and Marshall 1998; Lewis and Streever 2000; Lewis et al. 2005, Lewis and Gilmore 2007, Stevenson et al. 1999 and Turner and Lewis 1997). Planting of mangroves is discussed in light of the many failures of this alone to successfully restore mangroves.

Cost for the course not including travel to Ft. Lauderdale, lodging or food is \$850, due by January 1, 2009 to Coastal Resources Group, Inc., P.O. Box 5430, Salt Springs, Florida, USA 32134-5430. Two qualified students will be allowed to attend for free, and can apply at any time for the two fee-waived positions. This course is organized by the Coastal Resources Group, Inc., a US based 501(c)3 tax exempt corporation, and will be taught in conjunction with the Mangrove Action Project (www.mangroveactionproject.org). Lodging close to the training site is available at the SleepInn in Dania Beach, Florida. Reservations need to be made early. Each participant is responsible for making their own reservations. No formal application forms are needed. Receipt of the necessary registration fee in advance of the registration deadline is all that is needed along with the contact information for the registrant.

More information can be provided by Robin Lewis at LESRRRL3@aol.com and www.mangroverestoration.com.

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