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Florida Institute of Oceanography: Hurricane Irma Update

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.–

Hurricane Irma's impact to the FIO facilities in St. Petersburg was minimal with no significant structural damage or storm surge flooding occurring. Scheduled cruises should resume by Monday, Sept 18.

Keys Marine Lab: The Keys Marine Lab staff and facility sustained significant damage from Hurricane Irma. Nearly all staff experienced damage at their homes and will be given paid administrative leave to make repairs and arrangements. Storm surges between 2 - 3 feet on Long Key caused flooding in most of the KML ground level buildings. Some wind damage occurred to roofs and the fence outlining the property was knocked down. We are currently having the entire electrical system examined and are awaiting a detailed third party damage assessment and safety report which will give us better idea of what will be necessary to get KML operational again. We are also working on insurance claims and releasing our reserve funds to get the lab running again as quickly as possible.

Stay tuned for more updates on the FIO Website, Facebook and Twitter pages.

The Florida Institute of Oceanography is an Academic Infrastructure Support Organization (AISO) established by the [Florida Board of Governors](#) to support excellence in marine science, technology and education through infrastructure, programs, information and people, to its 30 member institutions, including two State agencies. FIO operates multiple research vessels and the Keys Marine Laboratory in Layton, Fla.

FIO is hosted by the [University of South Florida](#) and is located in St. Petersburg at the College of Marine Science.