



Everglades Coalition

1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA
ARTHUR R. MARSHALL FOUNDATION
AUDUBON OF FLORIDA
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE
EVERGLADES
AUDUBON OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
CALOOSAHATCHEE RIVER CITIZENS
ASSOCIATION/ RIVERWATCH
CLEAN WATER ACTION
CLEAN WATER NETWORK
COLLIER COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY
CONSERVANCY OF SOUTHWEST
FLORIDA
DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE
DING DARLING WILDLIFE SOCIETY
EARTHJUSTICE
ENVIRONMENT FLORIDA
THE ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION
EVERGLADES COORDINATING COUNCIL
EVERGLADES FOUNDATION
EVERGLADES LAW CENTER
FLORIDA CONSERVATION ALLIANCE
FLORIDA DEFENDERS OF THE
ENVIRONMENT
FLORIDA KEYS ENVIRONMENTAL FUND
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
FLORIDA OCEANOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
FLORIDA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
FRIENDS OF THE ARTHUR R. MARSHALL
LOXAHATCHEE WILDLIFE REFUGE
FRIENDS OF THE EVERGLADES
HENDRY GLADES AUDUBON SOCIETY
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE FLORIDA
DIVISION
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE FLORIDA KEYS
CHAPTER
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE MANGROVE
CHAPTER
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA
LAST STAND
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
FLORIDA
LOXAHATCHEE RIVER COALITION
MARTIN COUNTY CONSERVATION
ALLIANCE
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL RESOURCES DEFENSE
COUNCIL
THE OCEAN CONSERVANCY
THE PEGASUS FOUNDATION
REEF RELIEF
SANIBEL-CAPTIVA CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION
SAVE IT NOW, GLADES!
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SIERRA CLUB CALUSA GROUP
SIERRA CLUB CENTRAL FLORIDA
GROUP
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THE SNOOK AND GAMEFISH
FOUNDATION
SOUTH FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY
TROPICAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT LEAGUE
WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

Everglades Coalition Resolution Urging the SFWMD Water Supply Plan Updates to Protect Water for the Environment and Encourage Water Conservation

WHEREAS, the Everglades ecosystem, spanning from the Kissimmee River Valley to Florida Bay, is a significant national resource and international treasure,

WHEREAS, restoration of the Everglades has commenced to return the abundance of wildlife once found in the Everglades, to recover thousands of acres of marshes and estuarine habitat, and to benefit Florida and National Parks and ecosystem-based economies,

WHEREAS, the National Research Council recently reported that many of the Everglades ecosystem attributes most directly influenced by hydrologic factors continue to decline,

WHEREAS, while we await progress from Everglades restoration, our ecosystems require adequate amounts of water to sustain habitats and temper further ecological deterioration,

WHEREAS, the South Florida Water Management District 2012 water supply plan updates for the Lower East Coast and Lower West Coast articulate the agency's strategy for the next twenty years to update rules, operations, and demand management to protect water for ecosystems in the Everglades,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the SFWMD water shortage management plan is to protect water resources from harm and to assure the equitable distribution of available water resources among all water users including natural systems during times of water shortage,

WHEREAS, the natural systems must be protected from harm under Florida law and should be acknowledged and accommodated as such.

Therefore, be it resolved:

1. The Everglades Coalition, with 57 organizations dedicated to protecting and restoring America's Everglades, hereby urges the SFWMD to update the LEC and LWC Water Supply Plans to develop and update rules, plans, and operations to prioritize natural systems for restoration and protection from harm, including the establishment and updating of MFLs, MFL recovery and prevention strategies, water reservations, and Restricted Area Allocation Rules, to increase protections for Lake Okeechobee, Biscayne Bay, the Water Conservation Area, Everglades National Park, Florida Bay, the Caloosahatchee Estuary, the Loxahatchee River, and other waterbodies. These solutions must offer both immediate and long-term benefits.
2. The Water supply plans should be updated to improve water management during water shortages and protect water resources from harm. The SFWMD should focus on improving demand management, especially in agricultural areas, to cause no harm to water resources during droughts that exceed the severity of a one in ten year event, as mandated by law. Water conservation efforts should be prioritized.