



# Everglades Coalition

## EVERGLADES COALITION RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EAA LAND ACQUISITION

1000 Friends of Florida  
Arthur R. Marshall Foundation  
Audubon Florida  
Audubon Society of the Everglades  
Audubon of Southwest Florida  
Caloosahatchee River Citizens  
Association / Riverwatch  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Clean Water Action  
Collier County Audubon Society  
Conservancy of Southwest Florida  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Ding Darling Wildlife Society  
Earthjustice  
Environment Florida  
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 National Wildlife Refuge  
Friends of the Everglades  
Hendry Glades Audubon Society  
Institute for Regional Conservation  
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  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Ocean Research & Conservation Association  
Reef Relief  
Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation  
Save It Now, Glades!  
Sierra Club  
Sierra Club Broward Group  
Sierra Club Calusa Group  
Sierra Club Central Florida Group  
Sierra Club Florida Chapter  
Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group  
Sierra Club Miami Group  
Snook and Gamefish Foundation  
South Florida Audubon Society  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
Tropical Audubon Society  
The Urban Environment League of  
Greater Miami

WHEREAS, restoration of the Greater Everglades Ecosystem is vital to protecting Florida's environment, economy, and drinking water supplies;

WHEREAS, restoration is reliant upon the ability to increase the quality, quantity, timing and distribution of freshwater flows from the Kissimmee River to Florida Bay;

WHEREAS, additional land is needed to store water during the rainy season and eliminate harmful discharges from Lake Okeechobee to the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers and provide water supply for the natural system;

WHEREAS, the South Florida Water Management District has the opportunity through a legal option to purchase a 26,100-acre parcel of land optimally located south of Lake Okeechobee, which can provide a cost effective water storage solution to help solve Florida's water crisis;

WHEREAS, time is of the essence as the contract to purchase 46,800 acres expires on October 12, 2015;

Therefore be it resolved:

The Everglades Coalition, with 56 organizations dedicated to the full protection and restoration of the Greater Everglades ecosystem, hereby endorses and strongly supports the purchase of 46,800 acres of land south of Lake Okeechobee for Everglades restoration and coastal estuary protection.

And further be it resolved, that the Everglades Coalition hereby endorses and strongly urges the State of Florida to identify necessary funds to purchase the 46,800 acres that will assist in reducing harmful discharges to estuaries, improve the health of Lake Okeechobee and increase flow to the Everglades. These funding opportunities include but are not limited to: bonding, appropriations by the Florida Legislature, and use of resources allocated by the Florida Water and Land Legacy.

Approved December 30, 2014

*Cara Capp*

Cara Capp  
National Co-Chair

Jason Totoiu  
State Co-Chair