



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
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 Defenders of the
Environment
Florida Keys Environmental Fund
The Florida Native Plant Society
Florida Oceanographic Society
Florida Sierra Club
Florida Wildlife Federation
Friends of Arthur R. Marshall
Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge
Friends of the Everglades
Izaak Walton League
Florida Keys Chapter
Florida Division
Izaak Walton League of America
Mangrove Chapter
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
The Ocean Conservancy
The Pegasus Foundation
Sanibel-Captiva
Conservation Foundation
Save It Now, Glades!
Sierra Club
Sierra Club Broward Group
Sierra Club Central Florida Group
Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group
Sierra Club Miami Group
South Florida Audubon Society
Tropical Audubon Society
The Urban Environment League
World Wildlife Fund

September 9, 2009

The Honorable Jeff Miller
The Honorable Allen Boyd
The Honorable Corrine Brown
The Honorable Ander Crenshaw
The Honorable Ginny Brown-
Waite
The Honorable Cliff Stearns
The Honorable John Mica
The Honorable Alan Grayson
The Honorable Gus Bilirakis
The Honorable C. W. Bill Young
The Honorable Kathy Castor
The Honorable Adam Putnam
The Honorable Vern Buchanan

The Honorable Connie Mack
The Honorable Bill Posey
The Honorable Thomas Rooney
The Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
The Honorable Kendrick Meek
The Honorable Robert Wexler
The Honorable Debbie Wasserman-Schultz
The Honorable Lincoln Diaz-Balart
The Honorable Ron Klein
The Honorable Alcee Hastings
The Honorable Suzanne Kosmas
The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart

Dear Members of the Florida Delegation,

We write to request your help with language that will benefit Everglades Restoration in the Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill. Specifically, our concern is with respect to language in the Senate version of the bill, which prohibits "new starts."

We understand that this will be interpreted to exclude two critical Everglades restoration projects; Site 1 Impoundment and the Indian River Lagoon Restoration. It is also our understanding that the House version does not have this restriction. We respectfully request that you contact the Conference Committee leadership and members to ask that they adopt the House language with respect to this provision. This will provide critical funding for key restoration projects.

Everglades restoration is the largest ecosystem restoration project ever attempted, aimed at restoring a unique international treasure. The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), passed in 2000, outlines the steps to achieve a restored Everglades and make significant improvements to the quality of our water. After a number of delays in implementation of CERP, the imperative construction stage has begun. We are on the brink of witnessing the ecological benefits CERP will achieve.

www.evergladescoalition.org

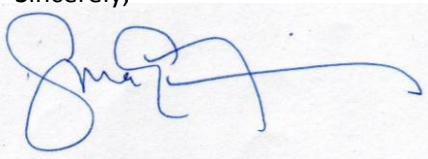
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Members of the Florida Delegation

While each piece of the restoration project is important, moving forward on individual pieces will not achieve this goal alone. Therefore, while we understand the Senate's concern about funding new projects, Everglades restoration is a comprehensive program and is a modification to the Central and South Florida Project, authorized originally in 1948. We appreciate your continued support of this monumental effort.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



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Mark Perry
State Co-Chair
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