EVERGLADES COALITION

2025 Florida Legislative Priorities

The Everglades Coalition is an alliance of nearly **60 local, state, and national conservation and environmental organizations** dedicated to full restoration of the greater Everglades ecosystem, from the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes into Lake Okeechobee, through the "River of Grass," out to Florida Bay and the Florida Keys. The Everglades is widely recognized as one of the world's most unique and spectacular natural wonders, and Florida has a compelling interest in protecting and restoring the ecosystem due to its tremendous economic and ecological value.

In 2025, the Everglades Coalition urges the Florida Legislature to:

1 Fully fund Everglades restoration.

2 Strengthen protection for all Florida waters.

3 Reinstate robust land-use planning to promote sustainable growth and utilize funding for land conservation purchasing. Prioritize acquiring key restoration areas, such as lands around the Everglades Agricultural Area and Miami-Dade County.

4 Protect Everglades restoration infrastructure from sea level rise, stronger storms, and water flow changes with resilient design and adaptive management.

5 Safeguard state parks and conservation lands from development to preserve the Everglades ecosystem.

8 Million — More than 1/3 of Florida's population depends on the Everglades for their daily water supply

1.6 Million — Number of jobs in Florida that depend on tourism

$19.6 Billion — Amount of sales, income, and value-added impacts from Florida's commercial seafood industry

$500 Million — Economic output from 3.2M visits to Big Cypress National Preserve, Biscayne National Park, and Everglades National Park

86,000 — Jobs supported by Florida's commercial seafood industry

4:1 — Every dollar invested in Everglades restoration generates four dollars in public benefits – a 4:1 ROI

40% — Percentage of American recreational fishing trips taken in Florida

For more information about our positions, scan the QR code or visit our website at EvergladesCoalition.org/PositionPapers