February 10, 2022

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Ongoing Leadership and Investment in America’s Everglades

Dear President Biden:

On behalf of the Everglades Coalition, an alliance of more than sixty national, state, and local conservation organizations, we deeply appreciate your leadership on protection of land, water, and wildlife across the nation, as well as your focus on a climate resilient future. Thank you for investing $1.1B in Everglades restoration as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act! Our community is grateful for this historic investment, and excited to collaborate with the Biden Administration to continue the important work of restoring America’s Everglades.

The Greater Everglades is comprised of the diverse habitats and sweeping watershed that includes over 2.5 million acres of federally protected lands and waters at Everglades National Park, Biscayne National Park, Big Cypress National Preserve, and fourteen National Wildlife Refuges; 2,800 nautical miles of marine habitat at the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary; and environmentally and culturally significant Tribal Lands. The health of significant waterbodies like the Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee River, St. Lucie River, Florida Bay, and Biscayne Bay are intrinsically linked as regions among the Greater Everglades.

Advancing Everglades restoration is firmly aligned with your vision for a climate resilient future for our nation. Everglades restoration will help protect our water supply from saltwater intrusion, strengthen our shorelines to protect inland communities from more frequent and intense storms, and help sequester tremendous amounts of carbon through restoration of wetland, mangrove, and seagrass habitat. At the same time, Everglades restoration implementation will create tens of thousands of jobs for Floridians while providing ecosystem benefits to bolster Florida’s important fishing and tourism economies.

President Biden, thank you for advancing a bold vision for America’s Everglades by allocating $350M in your FY22 budget request and $1.1B of the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to implement restoration. While these tremendous investments are historic and will have great impact on the Everglades restoration program, we know there is more to do. We look forward to your FY23 budget request and stand ready to assist your Administration in any way possible as we work to achieve our shared goals for America’s Everglades.

Sincerely,

Marisa Carrozzo, National Co-Chair
National Parks Conservation Association

Mark Perry, State Co-Chair
Florida Oceanographic Society

The Everglades Coalition is a 501(c)3 alliance of local, state, and national conservation organizations dedicated to the full protection and restoration of America’s Everglades.

evergladescoalition.org