



# Everglades Coalition

January 21, 2016

1000 Friends of Florida  
Arthur R. Marshall Foundation  
Audubon Florida  
Audubon of Southwest Florida  
Audubon of the Western Everglades  
Audubon Society of the Everglades  
Backcountry Fly Fishers of Naples  
Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association/  
Riverwatch  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Clean Water Action  
Conservancy of Southwest Florida  
Defenders of Wildlife  
“Ding” Darling Wildlife Society  
Earthjustice  
Environment Florida  
Everglades Coordinating Council  
Everglades Foundation  
Everglades Law Center  
Everglades Trust  
Florida Conservation Voters Education Fund  
Florida Defenders of the Environment  
Florida Keys Environmental Fund  
Florida Native Plant Society  
Florida Oceanographic Society  
Friends of the Arthur R. Marshall  
Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge  
Friends of the Everglades  
Hendry-Glades Audubon Society  
International Dark-Sky Association,  
FL Chapter  
Izaak Walton League of America  
Izaak Walton League Florida Division  
Izaak Walton League Florida Keys Chapter  
Izaak Walton League Mangrove Chapter  
Last Stand  
League of Women Voters of Florida  
Loxahatchee River Coalition  
Martin County Conservation Alliance  
Miami Pine Rocklands Coalition  
Miami Waterkeeper  
National Audubon Society  
National Parks Conservation Association  
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 Florida Chapter  
Sierra Club Broward Group  
Sierra Club Calusa Group  
Sierra Club Central Florida Group  
Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group  
Sierra Club Miami Group  
Snook and Gamefish Foundation  
South Florida Audubon Society  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
The Florida Wildlife Federation  
The Institute for Regional Conservation  
The National Wildlife Federation  
The Urban Environment League of  
Greater Miami  
Tropical Audubon Society

The Honorable Ken Calvert, Chairman  
Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies  
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum, Ranking Member  
Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

On behalf of the 61 members of the Everglades Coalition committed to the protection and restoration of America’s Everglades, we greatly appreciate your committee’s support for Everglades restoration in fiscal year 2016. The amount of \$64.6 million for the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) will allow key projects under the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and others, such as combatting invasive species like the Burmese python and numerous plant species, to move forward. Also the \$2.5 million for land acquisition for the Everglades Headwaters Conservation Area will allow federal agencies and private landowners to continue conserving one of the last remaining grassland and longleaf pine savanna landscapes in the country.

We are witnessing significant progress in Everglades restoration, and we will continue to build on that momentum in 2016 as we celebrate the National Park Service’s centennial with groundbreaking of the 2.6-mile bridge on Tamiami Trail and the next phase of the C-111 South Dade project, both important restoration projects for restoring natural hydrologic conditions in Everglades National Park and Florida Bay. Agencies within DOI are taking a lead role and working together with other federal agencies and the state of Florida to fulfill the goals of CERP and their commitment to manage the resources of the Greater Everglades Ecosystem in the federal interest.

We greatly appreciate your continued support and commitment to Everglades restoration as we move forward with this monumental restoration effort, fulfilling our promise to future generations.

Sincerely,

*Cara Capp*

Cara Capp  
National Co-Chair

Jason Totoiu  
State Co-Chair

*Committed to full protection and restoration of America’s Everglades*