



# Everglades Coalition

## EVERGLADES COALITION CLIMATE CHANGE RESOLUTION

1000 Friends of Florida  
Arthur R. Marshall Foundation  
Audubon of Florida  
Audubon Society of the  
Everglades  
Broward County Audubon  
Society 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  
Natural Resources  
Defense Council  
The Ocean Conservancy  
The Pegasus Foundation  
Sanibel-Captiva  
Conservation Foundation  
Save It Now, Glades!

WHEREAS, The world's scientific community has reached consensus that climate change is occurring and that human greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels, used to generate electricity and power vehicles, is a main cause of climate change.

WHEREAS, Florida, its wildlife, and natural lands are especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including salt-water intrusion, sea-level rise, more intense storms and storm surges, droughts and fires.

WHEREAS, Efforts to restore the Everglades, consistent with the findings of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, and other reports, are more urgent than ever. Restoration will recreate the freshwater flow of water south from Lake Okeechobee to the Everglades, which in turn will increase levels of peat, which can serve as a defense to sea-level rise, and provide a freshwater head to stave off salt-water intrusion.

WHEREAS, The electric utility sector is responsible for 42% and the transportation sector is responsible for 36% of greenhouse gas emissions in Florida.

*Therefore be it resolved:*

The Everglades Coalition resolves and recommends the following:

1. That federal and state efforts to implement Everglades restoration plans and projects be prioritized and accelerated.
2. That federal legislation be passed this year to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that is aligned with Governor Crist's goal for Florida of an 80% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels by the year 2050, and that Florida and municipalities strive to meet the same goals.
3. That any cap and trade legislation contain a natural resources section intended to provide dedicated funding to help wildlife and the habitats they rely on, to cope with the adverse impacts of climate change. This includes directing a portion of the funding to the restoration of the nation's aquatic ecosystems, including the Everglades.
3. That the Florida Legislature pass a renewable portfolio standard (RPS) to achieve 20% renewable energy generation by 2020, and that this standard include truly renewable energy resources, consistent with HB 7135, which does not include nuclear or coal derived energy.

4. That the State of Florida and the state's electric utilities aggressively pursue programs to maximize the benefits of energy efficiency and conservation as the fastest and most cost-effective means to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the need for additional power plants.

5. That the Florida legislature adopt the strong vehicle emissions standards approved by the Florida Environmental Regulatory Commission, to significantly reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector. We support future efforts to explore alternative transportation methods which do not rely on fossil fuels.

Approve January 8, 2009



Mark Perry  
State Co-Chair



Sara Fain  
National Co-Chair