



# Everglades Coalition

November 25, 2008

1000 Friends of Florida  
 Arthur R. Marshall Foundation  
 Audubon of Florida  
 Audubon Society of the Everglades  
 Broward County Audubon Society  
 Caloosahatche 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  
 Manrove 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!  
 Sierra Club  
 Sierra Club Broward Group  
 Sierra Club Central Florida Group  
 Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group  
 Sierra Club Miami Group  
 Tropical Audubon Society  
 The Urban Environment League  
 World Wildlife Fund

Dear Senator Nelson:

We appreciate your continued dedication to heal the Everglades and your strong support to provide critical funding for Everglades restoration. We understand that fiscal year 2009 funding legislation will be brought before Congress early next year. As you finalize this legislation, we respectfully ask the Congress to fund critical projects, with particular emphasis on construction of the Tamiami Trail component of the Modified Waters Delivery Project and the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) - projects authorized under the Water Resources Development Act of 2007.

Implementation of the CERP has been at a virtual standstill for eight years; there is a substantial amount of work to accomplish. Restoration efforts are at a critical juncture. Getting Everglades restoration back on schedule and keeping the federal/state partnership strong requires significant federal investment in fiscal year 2009 to allow substantive restoration projects to occur.

We respectfully request the following supplemental funding to the President's proposed 2009 budget for Everglades Restoration and the projects that support this effort. This critical funding will help preserve this great environmental and economic engine. In addition, it will create badly needed jobs in a time when our economy needs it most.

Delay threatens to destroy the Everglades. As projects lay dormant, the Everglades continues to decline. Failure to move forward also translates into more costs. It is essential that we have funding at the earliest date possible. The following chart highlights these funding priorities:

Everglades Restoration Project	President	Need
Modified Waters Construction (Authorized 1989)	\$60 m	\$60 m
Picayune Strand CERP Project Construction (WRDA 2007)	\$24 m	\$24 m
Indian River Lagoon-South CERP Project Construction (WRDA 07)	0*	\$15 m
Site 1 Impoundment CERP Project Construction (WRDA 2007)	0*	\$22.9 m
Kissimmee River Construction (WRDA 1992)	\$31 m	\$57 m
Canal 111 (C-111) – South Dade Construction (WRDA 1996)	\$4.5 m	\$28 m

\* President's budget requests some planning money, but no construction money. The "need" column represents capability funding for FY09 on substantive restoration work.

Thank you for your support to help restore America's Everglades, and we look forward to working with you to keep this heralded ecosystem restoration project on track.

Sincerely,

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