



Everglades Coalition

1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA
ARTHUR R. MARSHALL FOUNDATION
AUDUBON OF FLORIDA
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE
EVERGLADES
AUDUBON OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
CALOOSAHATCHEE RIVER CITIZENS
ASSOCIATION/ RIVERWATCH
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 CONSERVATION ALLIANCE
FLORIDA DEFENDERS OF THE
ENVIRONMENT
FLORIDA KEYS ENVIRONMENTAL FUND
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
FLORIDA OCEANOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
FLORIDA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
FRIENDS OF THE ARTHUR R. MARSHALL
LOXAHATCHEE WILDLIFE REFUGE
FRIENDS OF THE EVERGLADES
HENDRY GLADES AUDUBON SOCIETY
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE FLORIDA
DIVISION
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE FLORIDA KEYS
CHAPTER
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE MANGROVE
CHAPTER
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA
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
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL RESOURCES DEFENSE
COUNCIL
THE OCEAN CONSERVANCY
THE PEGASUS FOUNDATION
REEF RELIEF
SANIBEL-CAPTIVA CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION
SAVE IT NOW, GLADES!
SIERRA CLUB
SIERRA CLUB BROWARD GROUP
SIERRA CLUB CALUSA GROUP
SIERRA CLUB CENTRAL FLORIDA
GROUP
SIERRA CLUB FLORIDA CHAPTER
SIERRA CLUB LOXAHATCHEE GROUP
SIERRA CLUB MIAMI GROUP
THE SNOOK AND GAMEFISH
FOUNDATION
SOUTH FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY
TROPICAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT LEAGUE
WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ALTERNATIVE 4 FOR CENTRAL EVERGLADES PLANNING PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Everglades Coalition is committed to the restoration of America's Everglades, and protecting lands critical to the future of Florida's environment, drinking water, economy, recreation and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Everglades Coalition has previously supported Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) goals to: 1) restore habitat in the central Everglades, focusing on the "River of Grass"; 2) deliver "new" sources of clean water to the central Everglades and Everglades National Park (ENP); and 3) reduce damaging discharges to the east and west coast estuaries.

WHEREAS, removal of the L-29 along the bottom of WCA-3B is consistent with long term restoration goals and represents a clear step forward in Everglades restoration as it removes a barrier to sheet flow and will improve fishery conditions;

WHEREAS, Alternative 4 is the only alternative in CEPP which will begin more natural flow into Water Conservation Area (WCA) 3B and ENP, re-establish ridge and slough topography, and improve ecological connectivity, all of which are priority tenets of Everglades restoration;

WHEREAS, restoration of the Everglades should not significantly increase the footprint of levees in sensitive wetlands;

WHEREAS, restoring the natural flow path of the Everglades, as proposed in Alternative 4, will reduce soil oxidation and loss in WCA 3B, increase biological connectivity, improve the mosaic of landscapes essential to the food chain, and provide more corridors and habitat for fish and wildlife.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Everglades Coalition supports CEPP Alternative 4, with the WCA 3B river training structure implemented with a minimal footprint, as the best alternative for the environment. The Coalition requests that it be designated the Tentatively Selected Plan in the Project Implementation Report because it most comprehensively and meaningfully advances restoration goals, achieves ecosystem benefits, and increases ecological connectivity and water conveyance between ENP and Water Conservation Areas 3A and 3B.

Approved December 27, 2012

Dawn Shirreffs, National Co-Chair
954-961-1280 x 205
dshirreffs@npca.org

Jennifer Hecker, State Co-Chair
239-262-0304 x 250
jenniferh@conservancy.org