



Everglades Coalition

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 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
North Carolina Outward Bound School
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

Resolution in Support of Advancing Southern Everglades Restoration for the Health of the Greater Everglades Ecosystem

WHEREAS the historic Greater Everglades was a vast, diverse, and connected watershed spanning from the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes to the Florida Keys, and;

WHEREAS at least 50% of the natural habitat and 70% of the historic water flow of the Everglades have been lost to decades of development, and;

WHEREAS each region of the Greater Everglades continues to suffer with inadequate water flows from the current broken water system, including the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries inundated with polluted Lake Okeechobee releases, the iconic wetlands of Everglades National Park still in desperate need of rehydration, and downstream Florida and Biscayne Bays parched for freshwater flow, and;

WHEREAS restoration seeks to recreate the natural hydrology of the Everglades and improve the quality, quantity, timing, and distribution of water throughout the ecosystem, and;

WHEREAS improving the hydrology of the Southern Everglades is critical to the health of the entire ecosystem; as the amount of water that can healthfully flow into Everglades National Park and Florida Bay is a limiting factor in moving harmful flood water away from upstream tree islands and the coastal estuaries, particularly in times of extreme high water conditions, and;

WHEREAS, several projects in the Southern Everglades have been ongoing for decades, representing significant taxpayer investment for benefits that have yet to be achieved for Everglades National Park and the surrounding ecosystem, and;

WHEREAS, the Modified Water Deliveries, C-111 South Dade and C-111 Spreader Canal Western Projects, Tamiami Trail bridging, and the Central Everglades Project, South components will create a network of restoration infrastructure needed to reestablish the historic beneficial freshwater flow through Shark River and Taylor Sloughs into Everglades National Park and Florida Bay;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

The Everglades Coalition, with its 61 member organizations committed to the health and restoration of America's Everglades, **supports state and federal agencies in the**

Committed to full protection and restoration of America's Everglades

expeditious completion of critical restoration projects in the Southern Everglades, including:

- Completing construction of C-111 South Dade.
- Completing construction of the 2.6 mile bridge along Tamiami Trail.
- Advancing the next increment of the Modified Water Deliveries to raise water to beneficial levels in the L-29 canal at the northern boundary of Everglades National Park.
- Expediting the timeline to develop and implement the Combined Operating Plan for the C-111 South Dade, Modified Water Deliveries, and C-111 Spreader Canal Western projects with a focus on achieving ecological benefits.
- Signing the Project Partnership Agreement for the C-111 Spreader Canal Western Project.
- Completing the Project Management Plan for the Central Everglades Project south components, leading to a signed Project Partnership Agreement and construction groundbreaking.
- Initiating and advancing planning for storage reservoir in the Everglades Agricultural Area.

We further emphasize the importance of a strong state-federal partnership to successfully complete these projects, and a commitment to sound science to guide restoration policy.

Committed to full protection and restoration of America's Everglades

Committed to full protection and restoration of America's Everglades

450 N. Park Road # 301, Hollywood FL 33021 | www.evergladescoalition.org | info@evergladescoalition.org