



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
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
Hendry Glades Audubon Society
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
National Wildlife Refuge
Association
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
South Florida Audubon Society
Tropical Audubon Society
The Urban Environment League
World Wildlife Fund

March 26, 2010

The Honorable James Moran
Chairman, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations, 2476 Rayburn HOB, Washington DC 20515

Dear Chairman Moran,

On behalf of the Everglades Coalition, we write to urge continued support for restoration of America's Everglades. The Everglades Coalition is an alliance of 53 National, State, and local organizations dedicated to full restoration of the greater Everglades ecosystem and collectively we have more than 6 million members nationwide. We are grateful that the Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies has helped create the wave of momentum and progress that Everglades restoration is experiencing. Adequately funding the Department of Interior's projects in Fiscal Year 2011, and appropriating *\$15 million* for the Modified Water Deliveries project, will enable this progress to continue, and move us closer to achieving ecological benefits.

This past year has brought momentum with the groundbreaking of three critical projects: Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park ("ModWaters"), Picayune Strand, and C-111 Spreader Canal Western project. We are encouraged by President Obama's budget for Everglades restoration, which is a \$6 million increase from the funds appropriated in FY2010, and clearly shows his commitment to preserving this unique ecosystem.

Important efforts to build upon the one-mile bridge along Tamiami Trail under ModWaters by authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to develop the next steps have also seen progress. The National Park Service will reveal its draft plan this spring, and we are optimistic that it considers many more miles of bridging, which science has shown is what we need to restore water flow into Everglades National Park.

The President's budget recommends \$8 million for ModWaters, yet DOI needs \$30 million to complete the project, and move on to the next phase. While we certainly recognize the serious nature of this year's budget constraints even for a project that is a priority for the Secretary of the Interior, we urge you to increase this figure to \$15 million so we can complete ModWaters promptly and begin the next steps.

Thank you for your continued support of this restoration plan for the benefit of all Americans.

Sincerely,

Sara Fain, National Co-Chair
305-546-6689
sfain@npca.org

Mark Perry, State Co-Chair
772-225-0505 x103
mperry@fos-cc.org

www.evergladescoalition.org

Ph: 954-961-1280 ♦ Fax: 954-985-5047 ♦ 450 N. Park Rd, #301, Hollywood FL 33021