



# Everglades Coalition

1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA  
ARTHUR R. MARSHALL FOUNDATION  
AUDUBON FLORIDA  
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES  
AUDUBON OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA  
CALOOSAATCHEE RIVER CITIZENS  
ASSOCIATION / RIVERWATCH  
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
CLEAN WATER ACTION  
COLLIER COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY  
CONSERVANCY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA  
DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE  
DING DARLING WILDLIFE SOCIETY  
EARTHJUSTICE  
ENVIRONMENT FLORIDA  
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  
INSTITUTE FOR REGIONAL CONSERVATION  
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  
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL  
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  
SNOOK AND GAMEFISH FOUNDATION  
SOUTH FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY  
TROPICAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT LEAGUE OF  
GREATER MIAMI

April 2, 2014

Office of Attorney General  
State of Florida  
The Capitol PL-01  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

**RE: Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Blueprint Amicus Brief**

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

The leadership of six states joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in a historic plan to effectively manage under-treated sewage, industrial discharges and, most important, agricultural pollution in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

The waters of Florida, and across the country, suffer from similar sources of pollution as Chesapeake Bay – too much nitrogen and phosphorus from fertilizer, sewage and animal manure. Algal blooms proliferate; toxic dead zones arise; and waters are rendered unfit for swimming, fishing or drinking. The impacts of this pollution are linked to lost jobs, decreased property values, and diminished quality of life from the Panhandle to the Keys. Nowhere has the extent of this water quality problem in Florida been more apparent than in the Everglades ecosystem in the last 12 months.

If the Everglades is to be restored, we must effectively deal with not only the storage and movement of water through the region but also the quality of that water. Water quality in the Everglades will never be improved if regulated industries do not stop pollution at its source instead of sending it flowing into state waters. The *Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Blueprint* is helpful as a collaborative process for other states to emulate.

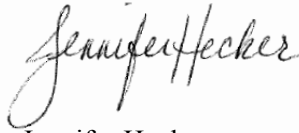
The Everglades is the hallmark of Florida – a unique ecosystem found nowhere else on earth – that provides our state with clean drinking water, incredibly biodiversity, and countless recreational opportunities for Floridians and visitors alike that bolster our tourism economy. We need to do everything possible to protect the waters of the Everglades, including supporting and encouraging fruitful collaboration between the state and the US EPA.

To show the citizens of Florida that you are committed to ensuring Florida's water bodies are clean and healthy, the Everglades Coalition respectfully asks you to reconsider the state's involvement in the American Farm Bureau Federation, Et. Al v. Environmental Protection Agency, (3d. Cir. 2014).

Sincerely,

*Cara Capp*

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Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam  
Chief Financial Officer Jeff Atwater  
U.S. Senator Bill Nelson  
U.S. Senator Marco Rubio