



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

A RESOLUTION OF THE EVERGLADES COALITION SUPPORTING THE PRESERVATION OF THE RICHMOND PINE ROCKLANDS

WHEREAS The Richmond pine rocklands are the largest globally imperiled tracts of pine rocklands outside of Everglades National Park and

WHEREAS Recent studies by the U.S. Geological Survey recently found only 1.5% of America's pine rocklands remain in south Florida and

WHEREAS Overdevelopment of south Florida and severe fragmentation of habitat have reduced imperiled pine rocklands throughout south Florida and

WHEREAS Pine rocklands are considered to be more biologically diverse than even our vanishing coral reefs and

WHEREAS The Richmond pine rocklands are home to dozens of rare and federally protected plants and animals including the eastern indigo snake, gopher tortoise, rim rock crowned snake, Audubon's crested caracara, Florida burrowing owl, little blue heron, southeastern American kestrel, tri-color heron, white crowned pigeon, wood stork, Florida bonneted bat, Bartram's scrub hairstreak butterfly, Cassius blue butterfly, Ceraunus blue butterfly, Florida leafwing butterfly, Miami tiger beetle, Florida brickell bush, Deltoid spurge, Small's milkpea, Carter's small flowered flax, tiny polygala, bracted colicroot, Blodgett's wild mercury, little strongbark Bourrerria Cassinifolia, Florida pineland crabgrass, Everglades bully, one nerved enodia, wild-potato Morning glory, Rockland's morning glory, skyblue clustervine, pineland lantana, sand flax, wild sweet basil, Everglades poinsettia, Bahama wild coffee, Florida skullcap, pygmy spikemoss, wedglet fern, southern ladies tresses, least halberd fern, common white pine tillandsia, giant wildpine tillandsia, golden leather fern, Lamarck's trema, pineland golden trumpet, pink-pink orchid, locustberry byrosnima, Rocklands spurge, white sunbonnets, satin-leaf, silver palm, Christmas berry, Blodgett's swallowwart, Caribbean crabgrass, Miami cave crayfish, Atala hairstreak butterfly, great white heron, big brown bat, bald eagle and

WHEREAS Climate change is forecast to trigger sea-level rise in south Florida over the coming years and

WHEREAS Everglades National Park is expected to be adversely affected by rising sea water damaging its pine rockland habitat and destroying saltwater intolerant plants and animals and

Committed to full protection and restoration of America's Everglades

WHEREAS The Richmond pine rocklands are significantly higher in elevation than Everglades National Park pine rocklands and can serve as “Lifeboat Habitat” for rare and endangered plants and animals living in the vanishing pine rocklands of south Florida and

WHEREAS The Richmond pine rocklands are already severely fragmented and facing a proposed \$1 billion worth of commercial development and

WHEREAS Most of the Richmond pine rocklands are already designated critical habitat by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and

WHEREAS The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is considering approving draft Habitat Conservation Plan for a mixed use development known as “Coral Reef Commons” in the Richmond pine rocklands and

WHEREAS The proposed “Coral Reef Commons “ development includes a 900-unit apartment complex, a big-box anchor store, additional smaller retail stores, and land set aside for the construction of a school and

WHEREAS Proper management of pine rocklands requires periodic burns and creates potential smoke and fire hazards potentially incompatible with shopping centers, residential developments and schools yet therefore:

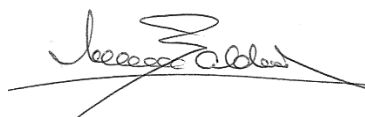
BE IT RESOLVED That the Everglades Coalition opposes the further destruction of the Richmond pine rocklands, including the approval of “Coral Reef Commons” which would result in the take of several federally listed species. Instead, we urge the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Miami-Dade County to work to preserve and restore the Richmond pine rocklands and not allow any further commercial development in this globally imperiled habitat so it may be enjoyed by future generations of Floridians and continue to serve as a home to the dozens of rare and endangered plants and animals found there.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of May, 2017.

Sincerely,



Mark Perry
Co-Chair



Michael J. Baldwin
Co-Chair

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