



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 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 National 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
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 Calusa Group
Sierra Club Central Florida Group
Sierra Club Florida Chapter
Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group
Sierra Club Miami Group
South Florida Audubon Society
Tropical Audubon Society
The Urban Environment League
World Wildlife Fund

Resolution Opposing Legislative Attempts to Weaken the Clean Water Act

WHEREAS the Greater Everglades Ecosystem, spanning from the Kissimmee River Valley to Florida Bay, is a significant national resource and international treasure;

WHEREAS, Florida waters support a substantial and economically significant fishing industry, which depend on clean water resources;

WHEREAS, Florida's economy depends on its multi-billion dollar tourism industry which resulted in more than 82 million visitors coming to Florida in 2008, during which tourism generated over \$4.0 billion in taxable sales, including eco-tourism and recreation in the Everglades;

WHEREAS, algal blooms in Florida, caused by polluted water, have become persistent and reoccurring, and thus pose a threat to seagrass, fish, and invertebrate communities;

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has failed to improve water quality to adequately protect plants and wildlife from negative impacts;

WHEREAS, the federal Clean Water Act was established with the goals of eliminating releases of high amounts of toxic substances into water, eliminating additional water pollution and ensuring that surface waters would meet standards necessary for human sports and recreation;

WHEREAS, federal legislation has been proposed that would vastly weaken the ability of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to meet the goals of the Clean Water Act by removing its ability to act when a state has failed to meet its goals;

WHEREAS, protecting and improving the quality of Florida's waters is necessary for the wellbeing of Florida's environment, the health of Florida's families and Florida's economy.

Therefore be it resolved,

The Everglades Coalition, with 53 organizations dedicated to protecting and restoring the Everglades ecosystem, hereby opposes attempts to weaken the Federal Clean Water Act through H.R. 2018 the "Clean Water Cooperative Federalism Act of 2011" and any other companion or substantially similar legislation or Amendments.

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