

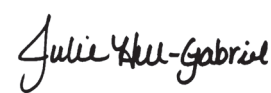
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# Renewal of Life for the Everglades: Moving Forward Together

Thank you for joining us at the 2011 Everglades Coalition Conference in Weston, Florida, the largest annual forum for Everglades restoration and conservation. Hosted this year by Defenders of Wildlife, Florida Wildlife Federation and National Wildlife Federation, we are excited to highlight the importance of the health of the Everglades for the wildlife that call it home.

Our 26th Annual Conference theme, “Renewal of Life for the Everglades: Moving Forward Together,” recognizes both the importance of restoring the abundance of life that makes the Everglades an international natural treasure, and the need to work cooperatively to advance our common goals of Everglades restoration. Building on recent successes and momentum, please join in and help determine new ways to keep us moving forward.

We welcome you to the 26th Annual Everglades Coalition Conference!



National Co-Chair  
Audubon



State Co-Chair  
Florida Oceanographic Society

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## THE EVERGLADES COALITION:

The Everglades Coalition is an alliance of 53 conservation, environmental, and civic organizations dedicated to full restoration of the Greater Everglades ecosystem, from the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes into Lake Okeechobee, through the Water Conservation Areas, the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries and Everglades National Park, to Florida Bay, Biscayne Bay, and the Florida Keys. Through consensus the Everglades Coalition is dedicated to:

- **Advocating for the restoration, protection and enhancement of the Greater Everglades ecosystem;**

- **Supporting and providing education and public understanding regarding all aspects of the Everglades ecosystem;**

- **Supporting and sponsoring research in the protection, restoration and enhancement of the Everglades;**

- **Facilitating the coordination of information resources, strategies and efforts among Everglades Coalition members.**

# EVERGLADES COALITION MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

# SPONSORS\*

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  
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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 the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee  
National Wildlife Refuge  
Friends of the Everglades

Hendry-Glades Audubon Society  
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  
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

## 2011 Conference Hosts:



## Trustee of the Everglades



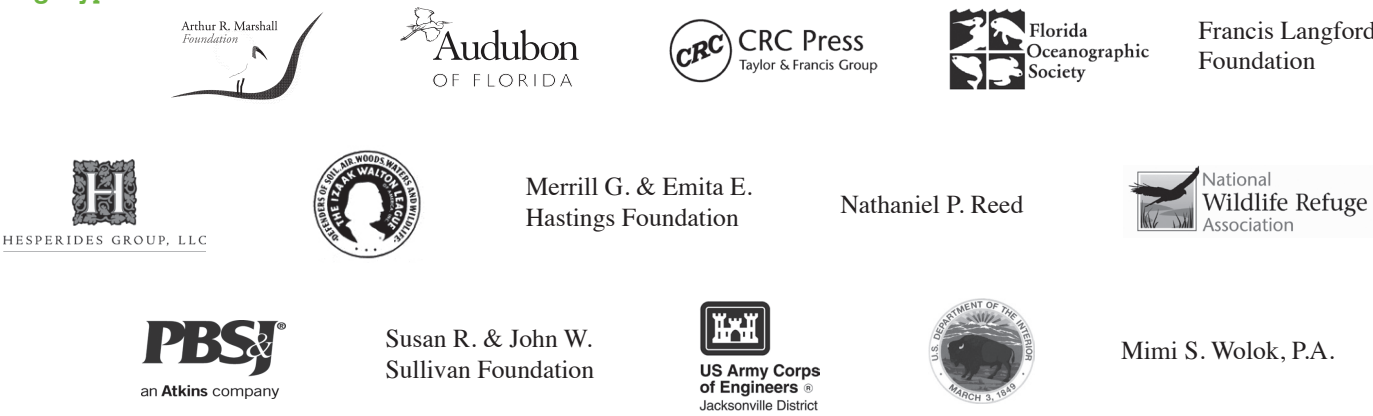
## Okeechobee



## Pay-Hay-Okee



## Big Cypress



## Saw Grass Roots

- 1000 Friends of Florida
- Audubon of Southwest Florida
- Ayres Associates
- Collier County Audubon Society
- Conservancy of Southwest Florida
- Friends of the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
- Friends of the Everglades
- Patrick and Jody Gleason Environmental Fund
- Martin County Conservation Alliance
- Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation
- South Florida Audubon Society
- South Florida Science Museum
- St. Thomas University School of Law Environmental Sustainability Program
- Tropical Audubon Society.

## In-Kind Donations

Clyde Butcher • Everglades Foundation • William Tippet • National Parks Conservation Association  
Greater Ft. Lauderdale Convention and Visitor's Bureau • Walt Disney World Theme Parks

\*As of the time of printing

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

1:00pm – 7:30pm	Conference Check-In and On-Site Registration
6:00pm – 7:30pm	Opening Reception <b>Society Lounge</b> <i>Welcome remarks</i> <i>Speaker: Jack Seiler, Mayor, City of Ft. Lauderdale</i> <i>Hosted by Defenders of Wildlife, Florida Wildlife Federation and National Wildlife Federation</i>
7:30pm	Dinner on your own

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

7:00am	Conference Check-In and On-Site Registration
7:45am – 9:00am	Breakfast <b>Society Lounge</b> <i>Speaker: Jerry Montgomery, Vice-Chair, South Florida Water Management District Governing Board</i>
9:00am – 10:30am	<b>Plenary Session I: Wildlands and Wildlife: Landscape Level Planning Initiatives in the Greater Everglades Ecosystem</b> <b>Grand Ballroom AB</b> A variety of conservation and planning efforts are underway in several regions within the Greater Everglades Ecosystem that seek to provide a vision and guidance for the future of natural landscapes, agricultural lands and built communities. While each is unique, to various degrees these landscape level initiatives address wild-life and wildlands conservation, as well as matters such as land use, water resources, economic development, or transportation. The proposals include Northern Everglades initiatives, the Babcock Wildlife Corridor, the Conservation Cooperative Blueprint pilot project, the Landscape Conservation Cooperative, land acquisition opportunities in southwest Florida and other large scale plans. This plenary provides descriptions of the initiatives and a forum for discussing issues, priorities and coordination among them. <i>Moderator: Laurie Macdonald, Defenders of Wildlife</i> <i>Panelists: Thomas Eason, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; Keith Fountain, The Nature Conservancy; Frank Jackalone, Sierra Club; Paul Souza, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</i>
10:45pm – 11:15pm	<b>Speaker</b> <b>Grand Ballroom AB</b> <i>Adam Putnam, Commissioner, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services</i>
11:15am – 12:15pm	<b>Plenary Session II: The State of Florida’s Role in Restoration</b> <b>Grand Ballroom AB</b> The Florida Legislature and state agencies play crucial roles in Everglades restoration. Project funding, land acquisition and water management all depend on harnessing state support. How will new leadership in Tallahassee affect Florida’s commitment to restoration goals? <i>Moderator: Eric Draper, Executive Director, Audubon of Florida</i> <i>Panelists: Adam Putnam, Commissioner, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Carol Wehle, Executive Director, South Florida Water Management District; Nick Wiley, Executive Director, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; Trudi Williams, Florida State Representative</i>
12:30pm – 2:30pm	Lunch <b>Global Ballroom AB</b> <i>Hosted by the Arthur R. Marshall Foundation and the National Wildlife Refuge Association</i> <i>Speakers: Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works and U.S. Senator Bill Nelson</i>
2:30pm – 4:00pm	Breakout Sessions A <b>Everglades 101: The History of the Everglades and the Basics of Restoration</b> <b>Key Largo</b> This informative and interactive panel discussion will provide a historic overview of the Everglades ecosystem and an introduction to the process of restoration, with a particular emphasis on stakeholder and citizen participation. Panelists representing a variety of interests – from community organizers to elected officials – will share their knowledge and experiences to paint a complete picture of this diverse and changing ecosystem. Participants will receive a toolkit of strategies to enable continued participation in the Everglades restoration public input process. <i>Moderator: Kathy Aterno, Clean Water Action</i> <i>Panelists: Alan Farago, Friends of the Everglades; Joel Curzon, Author, “Light Fading: Reflections on the Imperiled Everglades”; Paulette Burdick, Commissioner, Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners</i>

**Our Environment and our Economy** **Amphitheater**  
Everglades restoration and improving the health of our environment provide substantial benefits to Florida’s economy. Articulating the indivisible connection between our environment and our economy is important to sustain support for restoration and gain support from new advocates. This panel will discuss the economics of the Greater Everglades Ecosystem, from the headwaters of the Kissimmee River to Florida Bay and the Florida Keys, and from the St. Luice Inlet to the beaches along the Gulf of Mexico. Presentations will focus on the real value of natural ecosystems, the economics of Everglades restoration, the past and future role of agriculture in the Everglades and the economic impacts of environmental conditions on tourism-based coastal communities.

*Moderator: Tammy Hall, Chair, Lee County Board of County Commissioners*  
*Panelists: Edward A. Hanlon Jr., Ph.D., University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences; John Marshall, Arthur R. Marshall Foundation & Florida Environmental Institute, Inc.; Bobby McCormick, Ph.D., Mather Economics*

**Revitalizing “No Net Loss”: How the Clean Water Act Can Better Help the Everglades** **Key West**  
The Everglades’ shallow wetlands are undervalued and easily written off, resulting in significant losses of wetlands and their unique habitat, water quality, flood storage, and recharge functions. We will discuss these overlooked functions and how the failure to properly value these wetlands translates into lost Clean Water Act (CWA) protec-tions in two key respects: first, through loss of CWA jurisdiction due to two recent Supreme Court decisions; and second, by discounting the true costs of their destruction and mitigation. We will also discuss actions to address both threats, including an EPA/Corps rulemaking to restore CWA jurisdiction, and scientifically-sound functional assessments disclosing the true cost of shallow wetland destruction and mitigation.

*Moderator: Jan Goldman-Carter, National Wildlife Federation*  
*Panelists: Brad Cornell, Audubon of Florida/Collier County Audubon Society; Jason Totoiu, Everglades Law Center; Tori White, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

**4:15pm – 5:45pm** **Plenary Session III: Clean Water for the Everglades** **Grand Ballroom AB**  
Providing sufficient clean water for the Everglades is essential for protecting the health of wetlands, native plant communities, and wildlife habitat. This panel will discuss and analyze the recent legal, policy and scientific develop-ments concerning water quality in Florida and the Everglades. Potential solutions will then be examined for ways to improve the quality of water flowing to the Everglades, and strategies for implementing these solutions.

*Moderator: Rae Ann Wessel, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation*  
*Panelists: David Guest, Earthjustice; Jennifer Hecker, Conservancy of Southwest Florida; Charles Lee, Audubon of Florida; Bob Perciasepe, Deputy Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

**6:30pm – 7:30pm** **Reception** **Atrium**  
*Hosted by Audubon of Florida*  
**7:30pm – 9:30pm** **Dinner** **Global Ballroom AB**  
*Hosted by the Everglades Foundation*  
*Speaker: Bob Perciasepe, Deputy Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Ken Salazar, Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

**7:45am – 9:00am** **Breakfast** **Society Lounge**  
*Hosted by Sierra Club*  
*Speaker: Dr. Tom Houck, University of Florida*  
**9:00am – 10:30am** **Plenary Session IV: Building a Resilient Ecosystem: Shaping Restoration to Withstand New Challenges** **Grand Ballroom AB**  
The deepwater horizon oil spill brought renewed awareness to the importance of ecosystem restoration for making fragile ecosystems more resilient to negative impacts. Other challenges, from sea level rise to economic downturns, can also cause us to periodically rethink the goals and priorities of Everglades restoration.This panel will discuss how unexpected and anticipated challenges alike have impacted the success of Everglades restoration and the ensuing lessons on how to better respond. How should restoration efforts be prioritized to prepare for new threats and challenges? What can we learn from other ecosystem restoration initiatives? Can



cooperation between restoration partners allow flexible decisionmaking and faster reactions? Do the tenets of adaptive management help to better prepare for new challenges?

Moderator: Richard Grosso, Professor of Law, Shepard Broad Law Center, Nova Southeastern University

Panelists: Eric Buermann, Chair, Governing Board, South Florida Water Management District; John Hankinson, Executive Director, Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force; Don Jodrey, Senior Attorney and Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, U.S. Department of the Interior; Brian Moore, Legislative Director, National Audubon Society; Col. Alfred Pantano, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District

10:45am – 12:15pm Breakout Sessions B

Managing Lake Okeechobee for the Benefit of the Everglades: Water Policies, Water Quality and the Impact on Coastal Estuaries Key Largo

A key to south Florida restoration will be moving Lake Okeechobee’s water back to the Everglades where it can be beneficial, and away from the estuaries, where unnatural releases cause harm. The initial challenge is the deteriorating quality of the water in the Lake, with a second significant challenge being the vast amounts of water that must be re-routed and cleaned. The panelists will discuss the most promising projects to meet these challenges and what time frames to expect for achieving improvements.

Moderator: Paul Gray, Audubon of Florida

Panelists: Mayor Mick Denham (Invited), Sanibel Island; Kevin Powers, Governing Board, South Florida Water Management District; Charles Lee, Audubon of Florida

Safe Passage for Wildlife: Conservation Minded Transportation Planning, From RADS to Regional Planning Biscayne

This panel will highlight the significant impacts transportation infrastructure and vehicular traffic bring to the Greater Everglades Ecoregion. Transportation programs and policies can have a tremendous impact on wildlife and natural resources and pose some of the greatest conservation challenges of this century. Roads and highways affect wildlife in many ways – resulting directly in roadkill and indirectly causing degradation, fragmentation and loss of habitat. Panelists will review several specific projects and planning processes that may have noteworthy implications for CERP.

Moderator: Elizabeth Fleming, Defenders of Wildlife

Panelists: Laurie Macdonald, Defenders of Wildlife; Nancy Payton, Florida Wildlife Federation; Dan Smith, University of Central Florida; John Wrublik, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

After the Groundbreaking: Implementing the Second Phase of the C-111 and BBCW Projects in the Southern Everglades Key West

In 2010, the South Florida Water Management District began construction on the first phases of the C-111 Spreader Canal and Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands projects. However, more freshwater than can be delivered by phase one of these projects is needed to truly restore both Florida Bay and Biscayne Bay. This panel will examine the current status of these two CERP projects, explore how we can maintain momentum to move forward with the federal–state partnership to plan and implement the vital second phases, as well as discuss opportunities outside of CERP to bring ecological benefits and wildlife abundance back to these critically important estuaries.

Moderator: Kahlil Kettering, National Parks Conservation Association

Panelists: Tom Teets, South Florida Water Management District; Craig Grossenbacher, Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management; Steve Kopecky, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Mark Lewis, Biscayne National Park; Dr. Jerry Lorenz, Audubon of Florida

12:30pm – 2:30pm Lunch Global Ballroom AB

Hosted by National Parks Conservation Association  
Speaker: Former Senator Bob Graham

2:30pm – 4:00pm Plenary Session IV: Tamiami Trail: Delivering the Promise of Everglades Restoration Grand Ballroom AB

Bridging Tamiami Trail to deliver more natural freshwater flows to Everglades National Park is an essential ecosystem restoration case study. With a one mile bridge under construction and a plan for additional bridging under development, this effort is at a critical juncture. This panel will discuss the ecological needs for bridging and beneficial operations, the lessons learned from the twenty year saga of the Modified Water Deliveries project, and consider how the Tamiami Trail Next Steps project can be implemented to provide needed benefits.

Moderator: Kirk Fordham, Everglades Foundation

Panelists: Dan Kimball, Superintendent, Everglades National Park; David Policansky, National Research Council; Terrence “Rock” Salt, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works; Debbie Weatherly, Everglades Trust

4:15pm – 5:45pm

Breakout Sessions C

Florida’s Sea Level Rise Solution: Push Back on Water with Water Key West

Given the projections for sea level rise and its potentially negative impacts on Florida’s natural resources, built environment, and economy, Everglades restoration can be considered an effective tool in staving off the effects of sea level rise. To date, Everglades restoration is the only authorized, funded, and shovel-ready project slated to help protect Florida’s investments. Originally, CERP did not anticipate the rate of acceleration of sea level rise now projected. Everglades modelers can now show how a two-foot change in sea level rise will impact the environment, with and without the implementation and benefits of CERP. This panel of climate experts will discuss how CERP will provide resilience for both the built and natural environments. Could there be an expanded view of how CERP will protect Florida’s resources and if so, are there other sources of funding that could be considered?

Moderator: Jim Murley, Florida Atlantic University/ Tropical Audubon Society

Panelists: Margaret Davidson, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Nancy Gassman, Broward County Climate Change Task Force; Glenn Landers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Jayantha Obeysekera, South Florida Water Management District; Kenneth Mitchell, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Eric Swain, U.S. Geological Survey

Do We Have a Shared Vision of Restoration Success? What is your opinion and why does it matter? Key Largo

Throughout the Everglades restoration program, different understandings about what constitutes restoration success have been a major source of debate. The Everglades Coalition has served as an important forum for exploring differing viewpoints and for setting goals for restoration initiatives. Much has changed in the decade since the restoration program was federally authorized, including greatly improved scientific knowledge about the Everglades ecosystem, and a greater awareness of the challenges of achieving full restoration. To understand how Coalition member organizations define restoration success, we broadly distributed a survey to the Coalition membership and to meeting attendees. In this panel, we discuss the findings of the survey and the implications of these findings for the future of Everglades restoration.

Moderator: John C. Ogden, Tropical Audubon Society

Panelists: Rebecca Garvoille, Florida International University; Dr. Laura Ogden, Florida International University; Dr. Rosanna Rivero, Everglades Foundation; Dr. Tom Van Lent, Everglades Foundation

Money Talks: Navigating Federal Funding for Restoration Biscayne

Last year, economic stimulus efforts gave Everglades restoration and Florida’s economy new life. In the face of increasingly challenging financial times, creative new approaches must be taken to secure federal authorization and appropriations and sustain ongoing efforts. This panel explores key opportunities on how the Federal partners can deliver the promise of restoring America’s Everglades as a legacy for our children and grandchildren.

Moderator: Sarah Barmeyer, National Parks Conservation Association

Panelists: Chris Adamo, Office of Senator Debbie Stabenow (Invited); Coby Dolan, Office of Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz; Shannon Estenoz, U.S. Department of the Interior; Harry Glen, Office of Representative Bill Young (Invited); Fowler West, Everglades Trust

6:30pm – 7:30pm

Reception with Silent Auction Atrium

Hosted by Florida Oceanographic Society

7:30pm – 10:30pm

Dinner Global Ballroom AB

Hosted by Defenders of Wildlife, Florida Wildlife Federation & National Wildlife Federation  
Speakers: Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz;  
Ann Mills, Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Annual Awards Ceremony

10:30pm – 12:00am Celebrate with the piano favorites of Joe Dragon Global Ballroom AB

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

Breakfast on your own

8:00am – 2:00pm

Field trip Meet in Hotel Main Lobby

Exploration of Stormwater Treatment Area 3/4 in the Everglades Agricultural Area

# AWARD WINNERS

**James D. Webb Award:**

**Ray Judah, Lee County Board of County Commissioners**

Commissioner Ray Judah was first elected to the Lee County Board of County Commissioners in 1988. In the nearly 20 years that Judah has served as a Commissioner he has always taken a particular interest in environmental issues. He has a strong background in environmental science, with a bachelor’s degree in zoology and a master’s degree in natural resources from California State University at Humboldt. Before joining the Commission, he had worked as a biologist, marine biologist, land use planner, and environmental specialist. He has chaired the 10 County Coalition for Responsible Management of Lake Okeechobee, and was a co-founder of the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed land trust. He led the effort to create the Conservation 20/20 initiative to purchase environmentally sensitive land.

Commissioner Judah’s commitment to protecting the environment, and in particular water quality, is deep and life-long. He has exerted very strong leadership to restore the Caloosahatchee and coastal estuaries from the devastating excessive releases of polluted water from Lake Okeechobee, recently working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to re-evaluate the Lake Okeechobee water release schedule. He supported the purchase of land along the Caloosahatchee for the development of a filtration marsh that will treat polluted Lake Okeechobee water as it flows south, assisted collective efforts to buy the U.S. Sugar lands as a strong vocal and active advocate and has insisted that the new fertilizer law for Lee County be strengthened. We are happy to recognize the unfailing support that Commissioner Judah has exhibited for the Everglades as he continues to lead the way in environmental protection in southwest Florida.

**John V. Kabler Award:**

**Mark Oncavage**

Mark Oncavage became an environmental activist in 1979 when he intervened before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to stop large amounts of radioactive materials from being released into Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County. Mark’s legal efforts paid off when an amendment to the operating license required that massive cutting and welding work be done with robotics rather than hand tools in a highly radioactive work environment and prevented thousands of gallons of primary reactor coolant from being dumped into the Turkey Point canals in Miami. In 1982, Mark testified before Congress on citizen activism and nuclear power. Mark continued his work on energy and the environment during Sierra Club’s efforts to stop Homestead Air Force Base (AFB) from becoming an international airport. Thanks to Mark’s enlisting of a coalition of partners, Homestead AFB did not become Homestead International Airport.

Mark is currently a petitioner before the NRC regarding the licensing of proposed Turkey Point new nuclear units 6 & 7 and during his decades of environmental activism, Mark has been active in developing the Combined Structural and Operational Plan for Everglades restoration, the Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team, the South Miami-Dade Watershed Study and Plan, the River of Grass planning process, and the Everglades Coalition. He has also served on Sierra Club local, state and national committees related to conservation and energy, while continually working to protect Biscayne National Park and Everglades National Park from significant environmental degradation. As an activist on energy and the environment, Mark Oncavage is truly “one of a kind.

**George M. Barley Conservationists of the Year:**

**Nancy Marshall**

Through her work in forming new partnerships and connecting children with the Everglades, Nancy Marshall has made a great contribution to Everglades restoration and protection. Nancy serves as the President of the Arthur R. Marshall Foundation, and has had numerous accomplishments within the Marshall Foundation over the last 10 years. As Vice President of Marketing, she promoted this newly-formed, grass-roots environmental non-profit organization and took the helm as its leader. Their community outreach has gone from zero to reaching close to one million people per year. Marshall Foundation programs, such as the “Children’s Photography Project-The Everglades through the Eyes of Children,” have received national attention thanks to her commitment to creating a greater opportunity for those under-served students in our community who might not have the chance to learn nature photography, visit a national wildlife refuge or be exposed to new career opportunities.

At the direction of Nancy, the Marshall Foundation hosted the 2010 Everglades Coalition Conference and established a community-based planning committee, representing more than two dozen local organizations. The committee helped incorporate new features at the 25th Annual Conference, including the 78 mile River of Grass Canoe Expedition, The Everglades: Nature’s Classroom and The Changing Face of the Everglades exhibit. Nancy’s endless hours of dedication, day in and day out for many years has, in countless and immeasurable ways, made a visible impact on the future of Everglades restoration and protection.

**Dr. Paul C. Parks**

Dr. Paul C. Parks, a recent member of the state Environmental Regulation Commission (ERC) and a key figure in Everglades and Lake Okeechobee issues, died October 6, 2010 at his home in Wakulla County at the age of 75. Governor Charlie Crist, who appointed Parks to the ERC in 2008 noted that Paul “distinguished himself by his thoughtful insights in making Florida’s pollution laws both effective and practical,” and went on to state that “his pioneering efforts will benefit Florida’s natural resources for generations to come.”

Parks joined the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) as chief chemist in 1973 and pointed out the continuing degradation of water quality in Lake Okeechobee. In 1977, Parks took the helm as the head of law enforcement at FDEP. In 1985, he became director of research and information at the Florida Defenders of the Environment, helping develop state rules dealing with dairy industry water quality. In 1988, he worked as the Everglades specialist for Florida Wildlife Federation and lobbied the Legislature on environmental issues during the 1990s. In August 2010, he was inducted into the Florida Wildlife Federation’s Hall of Fame. The Everglades community has lost a true champion in Dr. Parks, but his legacy of always relying on good science to advance ecosystem protection and restoration- particularly concerning the Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades- lives on.

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