RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in 2007 a blue-green algae bloom occurred in every basin in central, southern, and southwestern Florida Bay

WHEREAS, the present algae bloom likely covered 300 square miles of Florida Bay at one time

WHEREAS, algae blooms in Florida Bay have become persistent and reoccurring, and thus pose a threat to the Bay seagrass, fish, and invertebrate communities

WHEREAS, the Florida Keys supports a substantial and economically significant fishing industry, which depends on the health of the Bay

WHEREAS, Florida Bay is an integral part of the Everglades ecosystem

NOW, THEREFORE, the Everglades Coalition resolves to

1. Join the angling and conservation groups in calling on Governor Crist to visit Florida Bay and view the current algae bloom in order to provide the leadership needed to work toward avoiding future blooms of this magnitude.

2. Support the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board’s offer to host a workshop to address Florida Bay’s health and the opportunities to remedy it.

Adopted January 10, 2008

Drew Martin
National Co-Chair

Mark D. Perry
State Co-Chair