

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 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 Sierra Club

Florida Wildlife Federation

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

Hendry Glades Audubon Society Izaak Walton League Florida Keys Chapter

Florida Division Izaak Walton League of America 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 Tropical Audubon Society

The Urban Environment League World Wildlife Fund

Sierra Club Miami Group South Florida Audubon Society May 24, 2011

The Honorable Jack Reed, Chairman The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Ranking Member Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Reed and Ranking Member Murkowski,

On behalf of the 53 organizations of the Everglades Coalition and our more than 6 million members nationwide, we write to urge your continued support for restoration of America's Everglades. We are grateful that the Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies has helped create the recent wave of momentum and progress for Everglades restoration. As you consider the appropriations bill that will fund the Department of the Interior for FY 2012, we urge you to provide funding at the level of the President's budget request of \$103 million for projects and initiatives related to Everglades restoration. This request will allow progress to continue on projects that are vital to the preservation of this great economic and environmental national treasure.

The Greater Everglades Ecosystem is home to some of America's greatest treasures including two National Parks, one National Preserve and 13 National Wildlife Refuges. The restoration efforts now well underway will preserve and enhance this natural and economic marvel for generations to come.

As the appropriations process advances, we ask you to remember that as the National Academy of Sciences has found, for the Everglades, to do nothing is in fact to do harm.

We appreciate your continued support and consideration of our request to sustain this monumental restoration effort and fulfill our promise to future generations.

Sincerely,

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cc: Florida Congressional Delegation