

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

Loxabatchee 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

Tropical Audubon Society

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATIVE PASSAGE OF A STATEWIDE BAN ON WELL STIMULATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF PRODUCTION OR RECOVERY OF OIL OR NATURAL GAS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

WHEREAS, the Everglades ecosystem has competing demands for water, including from oil and natural gas extraction, and water quality and quantity are critical for Everglades restoration; and

WHEREAS, the Everglades has a unique hydrology and geology that needs protection. The flat topography, rain-driven aguifer recharge, porous limestone, and inconsistent confining layers of the Greater Everglades region are extremely sensitive to potential adverse impacts from well stimulation treatments.

WHEREAS, well stimulation is the treatment of a well to modify the permeability of the underground geologic formation for the purpose of oil and gas production or recovery. The term means any treatment performed by injecting fluids at any pressure into the geologic formation and whose purpose or effect is to fracture or dissolve such formation to increase the production or recovery of an oil and gas well. This terms includes hydraulic fracturing, matrix acidizing, and acid fracturing of oil or natural gas wells. The term does not include routine cleaning and maintenance procedures that do not affect the integrity of the well or the formation; and

WHEREAS, well stimulation methods may involve the use of millions of gallons of fresh water that are not able to be returned to the ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, such well stimulation treatments may involve the use of hundreds of chemicals, some of which may be carcinogenic, or otherwise could be harmful to human health, the natural environment and Everglades restoration; and

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry has exemptions from provisions in major federal environmental statutes intended to protect human health and the environment that otherwise protect the Everglades ecosystem including: Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and Toxic Release Inventory under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act; and

WHEREAS, the use of well stimulation exposes adjacent lands and surface waters to the risk of contamination through open pit storage, truck storage on roadways, and activities during well development; and

WHEREAS, there have been over one thousand (1,000) documented cases of water contamination near fracking sites according to state data as reported in Environment Florida Research & Policy Center, *Fracking by the Numbers*, p. 10. (Available state data in Colorado, New Mexico, and Pennsylvania -individually cited for each state in the report).

WHEREAS, well stimulation has the additional documented risk of releasing air pollutants, including dangerous gases and methane, a powerful greenhouse gas; and

WHEREAS, protection of the Everglades ecosystem is better accomplished by prevention of contamination and environmental degradation, rather than attempting to clean up contamination and restore degraded environments after the fact;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

The Everglades Coalition, with its over 60 member organizations committed to the protection and restoration of America's Everglades, hereby supports legislation to ban the use of any well stimulation treatment performed for the purpose of exploration or production of oil or natural gas in the State of Florida and urges passage of SB 442 by Senator Dana Young and HB 451 by Representatives Mike Miller and Janet Cruz as originally filed.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2017

Cara Capp

National Co-Chair

Cara Capp

Michael J. Baldwin State Co-Chair