## THE EVERGLADES COALITION

## RESOLUTION

## IN SUPPORT OF IMPLEMENTING THE INDIAN RIVER LAGOON SOUTH PROJECT

- WHEREAS, The Indian River Lagoon and the St. Lucic Estuary are a national treasure recognized by the National Estuary Program and containing the greatest biological diversity of any estuary in America.
- WHEREAS, The Central and South Florida Flood Control Project has destroyed the biological health of the Lagoon and the Estuary and resulted in annual fish kills and epidemics of lesioned fish.
- WHEREAS, The residents of Martin County have enthusiastically supported Everglades Restoration and the Indian River lagoon Plan to correct the environmental destruction caused by the flood control project.
- WHEREAS, Martin County residents have adopted a local sales tax that raised more than fifty million dollars to help buy the land for the state/federal Indian River South Lagoon Project.
- WHEREAS, The Plan for restoration was unanimously adopted by the technical team which created it and is fully supported by the local community and by state and national environmental organizations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we urge the Congress to authorize and fully fund the Indian River Lagoon South Project.

Be is further resolved, we urge the US Army Corps of Engineers to implement all project features expeditiously to restore the lagoon and the estuary and correct the damage done by the federal flood control project.

Duly Passed and Adopted this 27th day of June, 2003.

THE EVERGLADES COALITION

By:

Mary Munson

National Co-Chair

Erin Deady Florida Co-Chair