

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 22, 2019

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
Dear Mr. President,

We write to thank you for the Administration's support of Everglades renewal and restoration projects during the 115th Congress, and to encourage your continued support as we work together to revitalize this critical ecosystem. During this last Congress you approved \$158 million in funding for Everglades restoration projects and \$692.2 million for Herbert Hoover Dike (HHD) restoration, but there is still much work to be done. In 2000, 68 Everglades restoration projects were authorized but 19 years later no single project has been completed.

The Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir is a key component of the restoration of the Everglades ecosystem. Its construction will allow water to flow south from Lake Okeechobee, alleviating some of the environmental impacts of Lake Okeechobee releases. The EAA Reservoir was authorized in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2018 along with an expedited review of the Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule (LORS), which is necessary to adjust the schedule to provide more water during the winter months, when our estuaries need it, and less during the summer months when releases damage our ecosystem. The prompt construction of the EAA Reservoir is vital to restoring the Everglades ecosystem.

In 2018, Florida experienced one of the worst outbreaks of Red Tide and Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) in state history. Your quick response in sending key administration personnel to assess the damage and work to find solutions to abate the harm to our economy now was critical, and we are looking at solutions to prevent similarly devastating outbreaks from happening again. We thank you for your attention to Florida and its environment.

The Florida Everglades are a unique and treasured ecosystem. We look forward to your continued support in completing these important infrastructure projects and, again, thank you for your help in 2018.

Sincerely,


Francis Rooney
Member of Congress

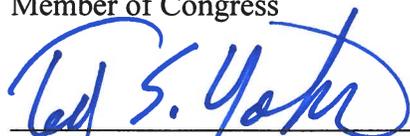

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress



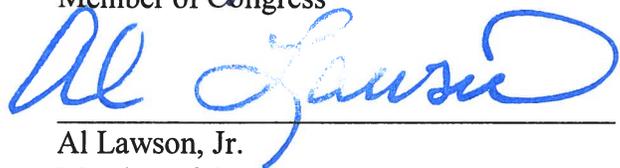
Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress



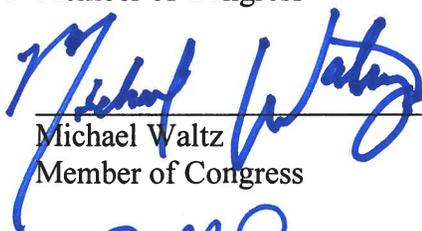
Ted S. Yoho, D.V.M.
Member of Congress



John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress



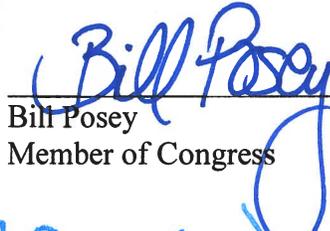
Al Lawson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Michael Waltz
Member of Congress



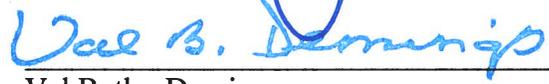
Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress



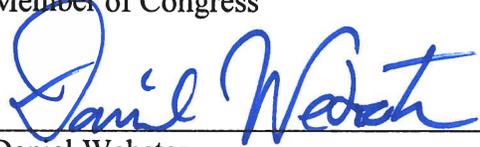
Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



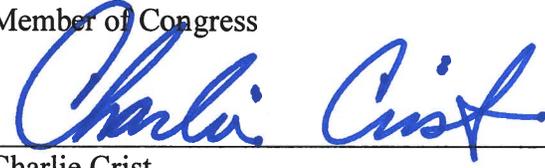
Val Butler Demings
Member of Congress



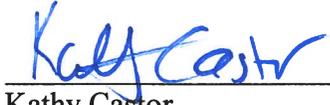
Daniel Webster
Member of Congress



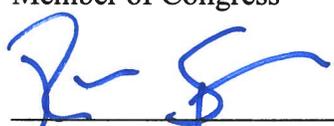
Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



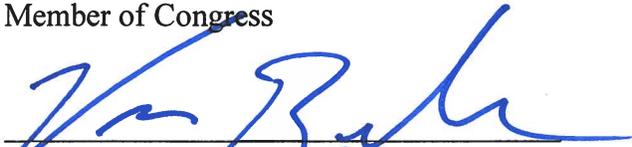
Charlie Crist
Member of Congress



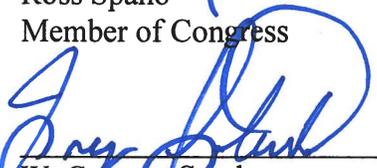
Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



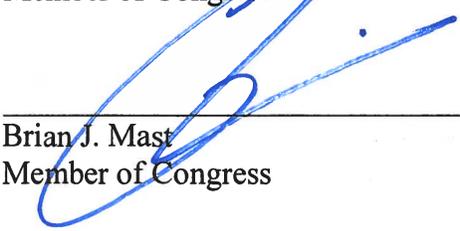
Ross Spano
Member of Congress



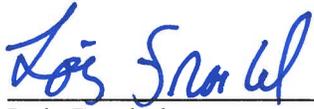
Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Brian J. Mast
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



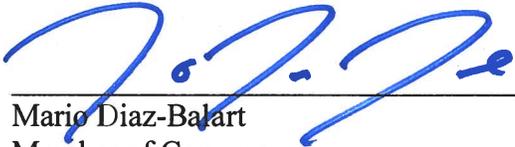
Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress



Debbie Mucarsel-Powell
Member of Congress



Donna Shalala
Member of Congress