



Everglades Coalition

Resolution of the Everglades Coalition Opposing Burnett Oil Company's Applications to Initiate New Oil Developments in Big Cypress National Preserve

WHEREAS the Greater Everglades is recognized as one of the world's most unique and spectacular natural wonders, and Florida has a long-term interest in protecting and restoring the ecosystem due to its incredible economic and ecologic value;

WHEREAS Big Cypress National Preserve conserves over 729,000 acres of freshwater swamp and native habitats in the Greater Everglades ecosystem, and contains a mixture of tropical and temperate plant communities that are home to diverse wildlife, including endangered Florida panthers;

WHEREAS the Greater Everglades includes within it the western Everglades, most of which is protected by Big Cypress National Preserve, an integral watershed that provides over 40% of the water flowing through the Greater Everglades and into Everglades National Park and Florida Bay;

WHEREAS the western Everglades region is also home to Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Picayune Strand State Forest, and Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary among a network of conservation lands that are intrinsically linked to the health of Big Cypress National Preserve;

WHEREAS the waters of the Greater Everglades play a crucial role in flowing waters to vital estuaries and recharging the aquifers that supply drinking water to one-third of all Floridians – nearly eight million people – and thereby support Florida's tourism, fishing, and real estate economies;

WHEREAS implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) is a multi-billion dollar state and federal investment to restore the hydrology and ecology of the Greater Everglades;

WHEREAS oil and gas development poses a significant threat to Florida's water supply, wildlife, ecosystem and community health, and the success of ongoing state and federal investments in Everglades restoration;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: March 19, 2021

The Everglades Coalition opposes Burnett Oil Company's applications to initiate new oil development activity (including but not limited to the development of new oil well pads, roads, and aquifer drilling) in Big Cypress National Preserve, a protected unit of the National Park system that is vital to protecting the lands and waters of the Greater Everglades ecosystem.

Mark Perry, Co-Chair

Marisa Carrozzo, Co-Chair

1000 Friends of Florida
Angler Action Foundation
Audubon Florida
Audubon of Southwest Florida
Audubon Western Everglades
Audubon Everglades
Backcountry Fly Fishers of Naples
Calusa Waterkeeper
Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife
Center for Biological Diversity
Conservancy of Southwest Florida
Defenders of Wildlife
"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society
Earthjustice
Environment Florida
Everglades Foundation
Everglades Law Center
Everglades Trust
Florida Bay Forever
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
Lake Worth Waterkeeper
Last Stand
League of Women Voters of Florida
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
Peace River Audubon Society
Reef Relief
Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation
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
South Florida Audubon Society
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
The Florida Wildlife Federation
The Institute for Regional Conservation
The National Wildlife Federation
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation
Partnership
Tropical Audubon Society

Committed to full protection and restoration of America's Everglades

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