

1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA

AUDUBON

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**CALOOSAHATCHEE RIVER
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RIVERWATCH**

**CONSERVANCY OF
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA**

EVERGLADES COALITION

EVERGLADES FOUNDATION

EVERGLADES LAW CENTER

EVERGLADES TRUST

**FLORIDA WILDLIFE
FEDERATION**

**NATIONAL PARKS
CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION**

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

**SANIBEL CAPTIVA CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION**

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

TROPICAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

June 27, 2008

The Honorable Charlie Crist
Governor
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Governor Crist:

We thank you for the tremendous achievement you announced on Tuesday. The plan to purchase these critical Everglades Agricultural Area lands promises to be, as you so eloquently put it, the missing link we have been seeking for the restoration of America's Everglades.

Indeed, this bold initiative is Florida's gift to America. This monumental step is true to the vision and conservation legacies of Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Harry Truman.

It also sends a clear signal to Washington that the people of Florida are committed to saving this national treasure. Governor Crist, we stand ready to work with you to help achieve an equally robust commitment to Everglades restoration from Congress and the current and future Administrations.

With your leadership this week, the State's actions bring our shared dreams within reach.

Again, we thank you for all you are doing for America's Everglades.

Sincerely,

(Signatures waived in order to expedite delivery.)

Charles G. Pattison, AICP
Executive Director
1000 Friends of Florida

April H. G. Smith, Esq.
Director, Ecosystem Restoration
Audubon

The Honorable Charlie Crist
June 27, 2008
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