

**1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA * AUDUBON * AUDUBON OF FLORIDA *
COLLIER COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY * CONSERVANCY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
EVERGLADES FOUNDATION * EVERGLADES LAW CENTER * EVERGLADES TRUST
FLORIDA WILDLIFE FEDERATION * NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION * SIERRA CLUB * THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
WORLD WILDLIFE FUND**

March 19, 2009

The Honorable Kathy Castor
United States House of Representatives
317 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0911

Dear Congresswoman Castor:

We deeply appreciate your support for passage of the omnibus appropriations legislation for FY 2009. We realize there were many difficult issues involved in the approval of this vital bill.

We thank you for supporting the Everglades funding in this legislation.

Many challenges lie ahead, and we look forward to working with you and your excellent staff in the future.

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

David Anderson
Executive Director
Audubon of Florida

Alan Keller
President
Collier County Audubon Society

Jennifer Hecker
Natural Resource Policy Manager
Conservancy of Southwest Florida

Kirk Fordham
Chief Executive Officer
Everglades Foundation

The Honorable Kathy Castor
March 19, 2009
Page 2 of 2

Richard Grosso
Executive Director/General Counsel
Everglades Law Center

E. Thom Rumberger
Chairman
Everglades Trust

Manley Fuller
President
Florida Wildlife Federation

John Adornato
Regional Director
National Parks Conservation Association

Malia Hale
Director, National Restoration and
Water Resources Campaigns
National Wildlife Federation

Jonathan Ullman
So. Florida/Everglades Senior Field Rep.
Sierra Club

Jennifer Conner
Assist. Director for Policy & Special Projects
The Nature Conservancy

Debra Harrison
Director, South Florida Program
World Wildlife Fund