

**1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA**

**AUDUBON FLORIDA**

**AUDUBON OF SW FLORIDA**

**CLEAN WATER ACTION**

**COLLIER COUNTY AUDUBON**

**CONSERVANCY OF  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA**

**EVERGLADES FOUNDATION**

**EVERGLADES TRUST**

**HENDRY-GLADES AUDUBON SOCIETY**

**NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION  
ASSOCIATION**

**SANIBEL CAPTIVA AUDUBON SOCIETY**

**SIERRA CLUB**

January 26, 2009

The Honorable Charlie Crist, Governor  
Plaza Level 05  
The Capitol  
400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Via email to [charlie.crist@myflorida.com](mailto:charlie.crist@myflorida.com) and [terri.jenkins@myflorida.com](mailto:terri.jenkins@myflorida.com)

Dear Governor Crist:

The undersigned organizations applaud the consideration you are giving to vetoing cuts to Florida Forever, as reported online in the *St. Petersburg Times*. As you know, this program is very important to Florida's environment, and indeed all Floridians. We urge you to ensure that the Florida Forever list is fully funded and new bonds for acquisitions can be issued by vetoing the cuts to Florida Forever included in SB 0002A.

Because of the bonded nature of this funding, these cuts realize a budget savings of only less than \$5 million in the current fiscal year, but will have a toll of \$250 million in lost projects. Additionally, these cuts set the stage for longer term reductions in this essential land conservation program.

Florida has a proud tradition of land conservation. Your veto would help maintain this legacy, reaffirming Florida's commitment to our land, water and wildlife.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

(Signatures waived in order to expedite delivery.)

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

Eric Draper  
Deputy Director  
**Audubon of Florida**

Governor Charlie Crist  
January 26, 2009  
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