

Statement From Everglades Foundation

June 30, 2008

The Everglades is a natural treasure not just for the people of Florida, but also for the entire nation. The Everglades Foundation applauds the South Florida Water Management District's Governing Board for ratifying the statement of principles signed last week by the district, Governor Charlie Crist and U.S. Sugar Corporation.



“Today’s vote is a triumphant victory for every Floridian who desires clean water and a vibrant Everglades ecosystem. We are one step closer to achieving the dream of restoring the Everglades,” said Kirk Fordham, CEO, Everglades Foundation. “Governor Crist’s leadership and bold vision and the governing boards vote marks another monumental step in returning this delicate ecosystem back to its natural state- America’s River of Grass.”

The State of Florida’s plan to purchase 187,000 acres of land for Everglades restoration is a bold, landmark move. It will drastically improve the health of one of America’s most unique and troubled ecosystems.

“The Governor’s plan has tremendous benefits, providing water during dry seasons, protecting fish, birds, alligators and other unique flora and fauna in the Everglades.” said Dr. Tom Van Lent, Senior Scientist, Everglades Foundation. “It will also improve the cleanliness of the water flowing to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers as water flows to the eastern and western ends of the Florida peninsula.