

FSCL STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF EVERGLADES RESTORATION

April 28, 2021

With two major reservoirs under construction and the most ambitious - an 18,000-acre combination Reservoir and Water Treatment Marsh south of Lake Okeechobee under design - it is exciting to see Florida's Congressional delegation prioritizing the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). The bi-partisan energy for something so important to Florida and the country is crucial for its success. We are also encouraged by the actions taken by the Florida Legislature to accelerate important CERP storage and restoration projects north of Lake Okeechobee and the subsequent Congressional authorization of the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project. Lastly, we are pleased that the Herbert Hoover Dike rehabilitation is on track for completion in 2022. These actions will help everyone realize the benefits that were promised when CERP was approved by Congress in 2000 as a plan to "restore, preserve, and protect the south Florida ecosystem while providing for other water-related needs of the region, including water supply and flood protection. "