



JEB BUSH
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

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October 30, 2003

The Honorable Les Brownlee
Acting Secretary of the Army
101 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0108

Dear Mr. Brownlee:

The State of Florida concurs with the Programmatic Regulations established by the United States Army Corps of Engineers to guide the 30-year Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. This concurrence letter is submitted in accordance with Section 601(h)(3) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 ("Act").

The framework established by these regulations embodies the letter and spirit of the law that launched Everglades restoration – a 50-50 partnership between Florida and the federal government to restore a more natural flow of water to the famed River of Grass.

Since passage of the Act, Florida has committed more than \$2.5 billion to clean up pollution and replenish the watery landscape of the Everglades. More than 80 percent of the land for initial restoration projects and half the total land needed to complete restoration have been acquired. Within the last month, Florida began operating a wetland treatment system to clean water before it enters the pristine marsh, donated the last of more than 42,000 acres to complete the expansion of Everglades National park, and started work on the first restoration construction project, ahead of schedule and under budget.

The Programmatic Regulations strengthen the fair and equitable partnership to save the habitat of more than 60 endangered species and replenish the underground supply of water for millions of Floridians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeb Bush".

Jeb Bush

JB/pan

cc: Mr. John Paul Woodley



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