## RESTORE \& PROTECT




## Informing with Science

The Everglades Foundation's science team is comprised of Ph.D. scientists with vast expertise in hydrology, water quality, and ecology. We are the leading science-based nonprofit organization that works to inform decision-makers with the goal of advancing Everglades restoration projects that maximize environmental and economic benefits.


## AMERICA'S EVERGLADES

America's Everglades provides drinking water for 9 million Floridians, habitat for more than 70 federally threatened or endangered species, and includes 14 National Wildlife Refuges and four National Parks, including Everglades National Park - a World Heritage Site, a UNESCO International Biosphere Reserve, and a Wetland of International Importance.

The greater Everglades stretches 240 miles from Shingle Creek, across Lake Okeechobee, and down to the Florida Keys.

The remaining Everglades suffers from insufficient flows of clean freshwater and continued habitat degradation.

Historically, the Everglades supported healthy populations of wading birds, American alligators, and American crocodiles.

The Everglades Foundation was established in 1993 with the sole mission to restore and protect this globally unique ecosystem.

50\% of the original Everglades was lost due to manmade alterations of the historic flow of water to benefit agriculture and development.

Everglades restoration will rebuild critical habitat and send freshwater south to the Everglades and Florida Bay, while supporting our waterbased economy.


# EVERGLADES RESTORATION IS ALL ABOUT MATER 

At the heart of Everglades restoration is the water that connects our habitats, our communities, and our economy in Florida.

## Water for our unique

 environmentAll facets of the 3-million-acre Everglades ecosystem depend on freshwater, as do the nearly 2,000 species of plants and animals who live there.

## Water for daily consumption

The Everglades provides the daily drinking water supply for 9 million Floridians and countless tourists.

## Water to fuel Florida's economy

The Everglades provides the freshwater that is vital to Florida's tourism, real estate, and recreation industries.

The overriding goal of Everglades restoration is to send water south to the Everglades and Florida Bay, to:

> Eliminate harmful discharges of polluted water to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries.

Protect the ecosystem that supports nature and supplies water for the people of South Florida.


## THE WORLD'S LARGESTECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT

In 2000, The Everglades Foundation, along with committed partners, helped drive Congressional authorization of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), the largest ecosystem restoration project in the world. CERP is a 50/50 costshared program between the State of Florida and the federal government to restore the southerly flow of clean freshwater across a region roughly twice the size of the state of New Jersey. The Foundation works tirelessly to secure the funding needed to modernize South Florida's woefully outdated water infrastructure, restore the


Mac Stone
flow of desperately needed clean water south to the Everglades and Florida Bay, and reduce harmful discharges of toxic algae and other pollutants to the coastal estuaries. The completion of CERP will also help mitigate the effects of climate change by amplifying carbon sequestration, protecting drinking water, providing storm surge resilience, aiding species and habitats in adapting to climate change, and supporting our economy and quality of life.

## RECENT RESTORATION SUCCESSES

## Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir "The Crown Jewel of Everglades Restoration"

The South Florida Water Management District started construction in April 2020 on the stormwater treatment area (STA). The STA, which filters and cleans water, is a pivotal component of the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir. Completion of the EAA Reservoir, together with other projects completed and those underway, will send desperately needed freshwater south to the Everglades and Florida Bay. No project will play a bigger role in reducing algae-causing discharges from Lake Okeechobee, with the added benefit of massive carbon sequestration to help mitigate the impacts of climate change.


## Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM)

The Everglades Foundation's science team has played an integral role in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) development of the Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM). The manual presents a historic opportunity to increase the volume of water sent south to the Everglades from Lake Okeechobee in the dry season. Our science has helped shape a new plan that will result in a dramatic reduction of harmful discharges to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries, in addition to sending freshwater south to the Everglades and Florida Bay.


## C-44 Reservoir

We have celebrated the ribboncutting of the new $\mathrm{C}-44$ reservoir. This vital reservoir and its Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) are now able to capture polluted water before it is cleaned and released to the St. Lucie Estuary. The STA alone can treat 46 billion gallons of water each year.


## Tamiami Trail

With the construction of 3.3 miles of bridges and elevating the $6.5-\mathrm{mile}$ roadway between them, the flow of freshwater south to Everglades National Park is increasing by 220 billion gallons each year. This keeps downstream wetlands hydrated for three additional months during the dry season.


Picayune Strand
Nearly restored, Picayune Strand is a 55,000 -acre parcel, between Alligator Alley and Tamiami Trail, that had been fully drained and prepared for development. This region is now providing habitat to a growing population of Florida panthers and black bears, among other native species.


# PREPARINGFOR THE FUTURE 

## Everglades Literacy Program

The Everglades Foundation's education team has created and implemented the world's only comprehensive, free K-12 Everglades curriculum. As of 2022, more than 150,000 students and 4,300 teachers in 27 counties have benefited from the program, which gives teachers the tools and knowledge to ensure the next generation understands the ecological and economic value of America's Everglades.

## John Marshall Everglades Internship

Donor generosity also enables the 10 -week John Marshall Everglades Internship named in honor of the late Everglades champion John Marshall. The paid internship immerses a select group of qualified undergraduate students in Everglades science, policy, and the vital importance of restoration and protection of this precious ecosystem through inperson, practical experiences.

## ForEverglades ${ }^{\circledR}$ Scholars \& Fellows

Through the support of generous donors, the ForEverglades Scholars \& Fellows program benefits full-time graduate students working to advance Everglades restoration through innovative research in earth sciences, biological sciences, engineering, geography, economics, and planning and resources management.

## A Message from Eric Eikenberg, CEO, The Everglades Foundation

Thank you for your interest in the work of The Everglades Foundation. Since 1993, the Foundation has been the leading champion for the restoration of America's Everglades. With the passage of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), we have brought our science and political know-how to the process to ensure that the 68 projects in CERP will deliver clean freshwater to the people of Florida to sustain our way of life, our economy, and our remarkable environment.

While substantial progress has been made and the pace of restoration is accelerating, there is still much to be done to secure our way of life into the future. Everglades restoration requires that we remain actively engaged with our state and federal leaders. We reach deep into our local communities to build appreciation for this extraordinary landscape - the Everglades -- that sustains our clean water-based economy. There is a 4:1 ROI on Everglades restoration projects, which are vital for our environment and our economy.

Together, we can ensure the largest ecosystem restoration project on the planet is completed in our lifetime. We hope you will support this effort, propelling the science, advocacy and education that are restoring and protecting the Everglades - and with your help, guaranteeing abundant freshwater for America's Everglades. Join us now!
nos
Eric Eikenberg


## About The Everglades Foundation

The Everglades Foundation was founded in 1993 in response to a massive seagrass die-off in Florida Bay. Co-founders Paul Tudor Jones II and the late George Barley engaged scientists from the outset and quickly discovered the seagrass die-off in their back yard was linked to a much larger water problem that spanned more than 200 miles, from Orlando to the Florida Keys, and encompassed both coasts, from the Gulf Coast to the Atlantic shores.

Applying science to drive solutions, the Foundation influenced the development and passage of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) in 2000 - the largest ecosystem restoration project in the world. Today, Everglades restoration is a $\$ 20+$ billion state/federal partnership to modernize and align South Florida's water infrastructure with our 21st Century economy, which is based on tourism, real estate, and recreation.

The Everglades Foundation is the only non-profit focused solely on restoring and protecting America's Everglades. No other organization has the ability to model and analyze the massive Everglades restoration projects, drawing on our expertise in hydrology, engineering, water quality, ecology, and economics. Coupled with our unparalleled political prowess in local, state and federal government, our work is essential to securing South Florida's future under a changing climate.

With a keen eye to the future, we invest in building the next generation of Everglades stewards from our diverse student population through a free K-12 Everglades Literacy program, a paid undergraduate internship program, and fellowships for graduate students.

## WAYS TO GIVE

## Give Now

A gift by check, credit card, money order, or wire transfer can be made as a single or monthly payment, or a multi-year gift outlined in a pledge agreement.

## Gift of Stock, Mutual Funds or through an IRA Charitable Distribution

Appreciated securities can be transferred directly. You may also contribute through an IRA charitable rollover.

## Planned Estate Gift

A bequest can be made through your will or trust.

## Other Deferred Giving

Beneficiary designations from life insurance or retirement plans can be made by updating your beneficiary designation form with the policy holder or by making an outright gift of a new policy.

Learn about other ways to give at
EvergladesFoundation.org/Give-Now




