

April 23, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
410 Dirksen Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
456 Dirksen Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
2251 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Ranking Member
House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
2251 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Barrasso, Chairman Shuster, Ranking Member Carper, and Ranking Member DeFazio:

The undersigned businesses and leaders in the \$887 billion outdoor recreation and conservation industry, who collectively employ thousands of Americans, request your authorization of the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir in the upcoming 2018 Water Resources Development Act. The EAA Reservoir plan was recently submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for their review in a Post-Authorization Change Report (PACR) on March 26, 2018. In anticipation of approval by the Corps, it is important that this critical project be included in this year's WRDA bill for authorization to avoid unnecessary delay in its funding and implementation.

We commend Congress for returning to a two-year cycle for WRDA bills. In 2016, the Central Everglades Plan (CEP) was authorized through WRDA and as a result, the State of Florida prioritized planning and construction of major component of the CEP – the EAA Reservoir. Once completed, the reservoir is expected to reduce damaging, algae-causing discharges that inundate the communities along the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries by approximately 60 percent. It will also help send an additional 370,000 acre-feet of clean, freshwater south towards the Everglades and Florida Bay each year. This project is essential to the ongoing restoration of America's Everglades and improving the health of the entire south Florida ecosystem and the communities that rely on it.

America's Everglades is an iconic landscape for the nation with countless environmental and cultural benefits. From a recreation standpoint, it is a driving force for hunting, fishing, boating, paddling, and many more outdoor recreation opportunities. Recreational fishing alone in the Everglades region supports nearly \$2.9 billion in total economic activity and more than 26,000 jobs driven by more than 1 million resident anglers. Restoring America's Everglades is a necessary commitment and investment not only from a conservation standpoint, but directly benefits the billions of dollars and thousands of jobs tied to outdoor recreation, tourism, and other sectors that define the Sunshine State's quality of life and economic competitiveness.

Our companies thank you for your continued support for restoring America's Everglades and again urge you to authorize the EAA Reservoir in the upcoming 2018 Water Resources Development Act. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Action Craft Boats
AERE Marine Group
Alliance Outdoor Group
AllSports Productions, LLC
Altima Yachts, Inc.
American Fishing Tackle Company (AFTCO)

Just Got Reel Sportfishing
KastKing
King Plastic Corporation
Lew's Fishing Tackle
Lucky Tackle Box
Marble, LLC

American Fly Fishing Trade Association
American Sportfishing Association
AnglersResource
Barnett
Bass Pro Shops
Big Cedar Lodge
Big Rock Sports, LLC
Blight Innovations Inc.
Bonnier Corporation
Boone Bait Company, Inc.
Brine Media
Brunswick Corporation
Bayliner
Boston Whaler
Brunswick Commercial & Government Products
Harris Boats
Land 'N' Sea Distributing, Inc.
Mercury Marine
Meridian Yachts
Sea Ray
Cypress Cay Pontoons
Lowe Boats
Lund
Crestliner
Princecraft
Garelick Eez-In
Thunder Jet
Bullet Weights
Cabela's
Captain Anderson Marina
Captain Harry's Fishing Supply
Careco Multimedia Entertainment, LLC
Carrera Powerboat Corporation
Casey Key Marina
Catalina Yachts
Century Boats
Chris-Craft
Classic Fishing Products
Coastal Bay Boats
Coastline Boats
Contender Boats
Costa Sunglasses
Composites One
Crevalle Boats
Cumings Nets
Dexter Outdoors
Dive Key West, Inc.
Engel Coolers
Erupt Fishing
Etic USA
Everglades Boats
MarQuipt
Mason Tackle
Maui Jim Sunglasses
Maverick Boat Group
Cobia Boats
Hewes Light Tackle Boats
Pathfinder Boats
Maverick Boats
Maxima USA
Mid-Lakes Corporation
Midwest Outdoors
MirrOlure
Murski Breeding Sales
National Marine Manufacturers Association
Norcross Marine Products
Northwest Marine Trade Association
Okuma Fishing Tackle Corp.
Outtech
The Orvis Company, Inc.
Plano Fishing
Poseidon Window Treatments
Pure Fishing, Inc.
Pursuit Boats
REC Components
Red Drum Tackle Shop, Inc.
Redington
RIO Products
Rite Angler
Rogers Sports Marketing
Rome Specialty Company, Inc.
Rupp Marine, Inc.
Sage Manufacturing
Scout Boats
Scuba Marco
SeaQualizer, LLC
Sea School
SeaStar Solutions
Sea Tech & Fun USA, LLC
Shimano North American Holdings, Inc.
Simms Fishing Products
SITKA Gear
Smartwool
Starbrite
So-Lo Marine
Southern Boating & Yachting, Inc.
Southwick Associates
Sportco Marketing
St. Croix Rods
Stealth Products, LLC
Strike King Lure Co.
Sun Fun Outfitters

Falcon Rods
FELL Marine, Inc.
First Lite
FISH 307.com
FishAngler, LLC
Fish Snax Lures
Fishing Tackle Retailer
Fishpond, Inc.
F.J. Neil Company, Inc.
Florida Atlantic International Corporation
Florida Fishing Products
Florida Sportsman
Flying Fisherman
Freedom Boat Club
Frabill Fishing
G. Loomis
Glidecoat
Global Ocean Security Technologies
Grady-White Boats, Inc.
Haimes Coleman Group
Half Hitch Tackle
Hawg Tech
Headhunter
Hell's Bay Boatworks
iAngler Tournament Systems, LLC
Indel Webasto Marine
Info-Link
Innovative Reel Technologies
Jones & Company
Joule Yacht Transport
J-Seas Fishing, LLC

Teakdecking Systems
Teak Isle Manufacturing and Boat Outfitters
Temple Fork Outfitters
Tiara Sportboats
Tiara Yachts
Top Brass Tackle
Tormenter Fishing Products, Inc.
Trik Fish, LLC
Turning Point Propellers
Ultraskiff, Inc.
U.S. Sailing
Vapor Apparel
Veethree Electronics and Marine, LLC
Viking Sport Cruisers, Inc.
Vista Outdoor
Vitrifrigo America, LLC
Wave WiFi, Inc.
What the Fin Apparel
The White River Marine Group
Ascend Kayaks
Mako
Nitro
Ranger
Regency
Stratus
Sun Tracker
Tracker
Triton
Wiley X, Inc.
Yakima Products
Yamaha Marine Group

cc: The Honorable R.D. James, Assistant Secretary of the Army – Civil Works
The Honorable Jim Inhofe, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Ben Cardin, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Garrett Graves, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Grace Napolitano, U.S. House of Representatives