

IMPACT REPORT 2022-2023

THE EVERGLADES FOUNDATION

30 YEARS OF PROGRESS



It All Began With
Two Men In A Boat
On Florida Bay



THE EVERGLADES FOUNDATION

The Everglades Foundation is committed to the restoration and protection of America's Everglades. Founded in 1993 by two outdoor enthusiasts — Paul Tudor Jones II and the late George Barley — The Everglades Foundation works tirelessly to bring people together and provide a powerful bipartisan voice for Everglades restoration. Our organization advocates for science-based solutions while educating the public about the vital importance of the Everglades ecosystem.

The Foundation's team includes renowned scientists, experienced educators, policy experts, and professionals in communications, human resources, finance, and fundraising. By coupling this breadth of expertise with a passion for restoration, The Everglades Foundation is the leading organization in the effort to restore and protect America's Everglades. Your support is vital to our pursuit of completing the world's largest ecosystem restoration project.

A photograph of a swampy landscape, likely a cypress swamp. The scene is dominated by tall, slender cypress trees with their characteristic buttresses. The water is dark and still, reflecting the trees and the sky. The lighting is soft, suggesting a misty or overcast day. The overall mood is serene and natural.

MISSION & VISION

The Everglades Foundation works to restore and protect America's Everglades through science, advocacy, and education.

We strive for an Everglades with abundant freshwater for consumption, enjoyment, ecological health, and economic growth for generations to come.

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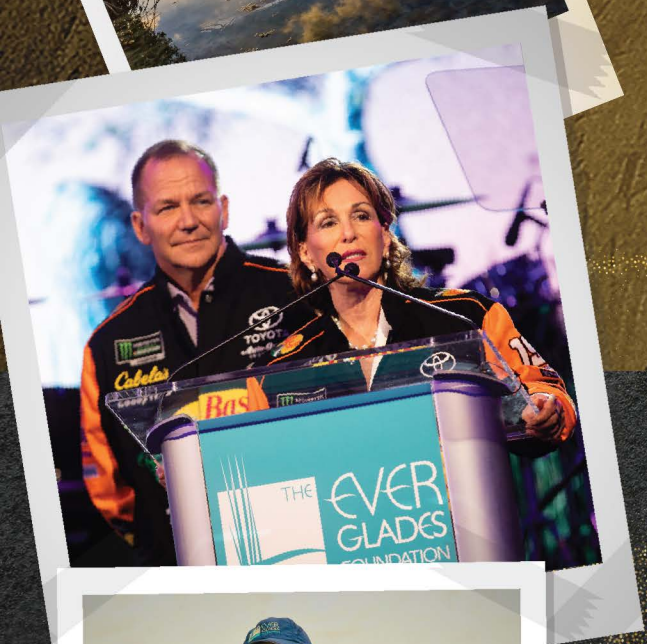
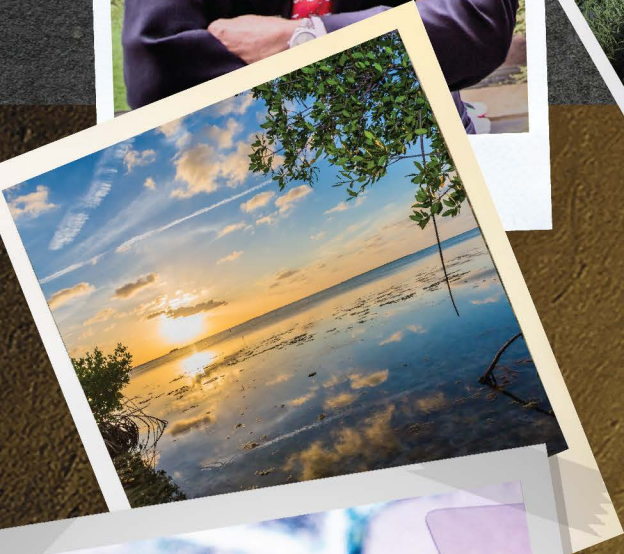
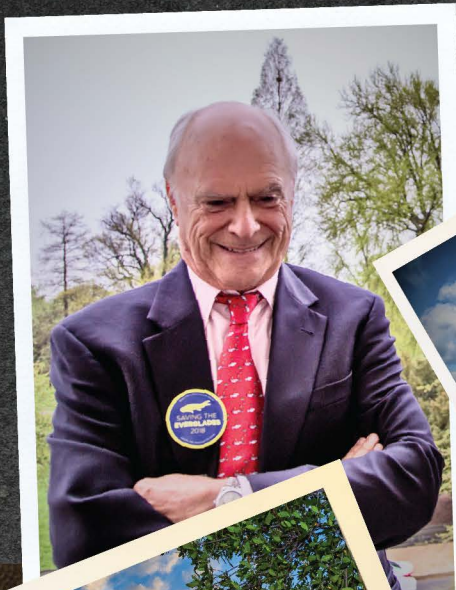
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"The Everglades Foundation has become the leading scientific resource and a powerful voice for Everglades restoration."

Eric Eikenberg
Chief Executive Officer



Cover image: Mac Stone



"We've come a long way in three decades, thanks to the foresight of our founders and the generosity of our donors and other supporters who cherish America's Everglades and want to protect it for generations to come."

- Carlos de la Cruz, Jr., Board Chair



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Nathaniel P. Reed †
William Riley

CO-FOUNDERS

George Barley †
Paul Tudor Jones II



30 YEARS OF PROGRESS

THE EVOLUTION OF THE EVERGLADES FOUNDATION

"When pollution caused the crystalline waters of Florida Bay to turn to pea soup in the early '90s, my fishing buddy – the late George Barley, husband of Mary Barley – and I were determined to do something about it.

We brought scientists to the Bay and asked what was happening. We were told the problem wasn't there, but up in Lake Okeechobee, where they were dealing with the government-subsidized sugar industry and thousands of acres of fertilizer runoff that polluted the waters for decades.

And it wasn't just an environmental issue, but an economic issue, too. It impacted all parts of Florida, including communities on the east and west coasts. It affected what Florida depends on – tourism, boating, fishing, and real estate. The very future of Florida depended on restoring the natural flow of water south through the Everglades.

All this inspired the founding of The Everglades Foundation with a singular focus on restoring and protecting the Everglades."

Paul Tudor Jones II
Co-Founder and Board Member





“We followed the science, fought to change policy, and to make the polluters pay. We were committed to getting this done. Then, the unthinkable happened, when George died in a plane crash, ironically, on his way to meet with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the interest of Everglades restoration. He was our fervent leader, and when he was gone, it was clear to all of us that we would pick up the flag.

We continued our work, secured bipartisan support, and in December 2000, made history, when President Clinton, Florida Governor Jeb Bush, and others signed the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) into law. Today, CERP represents the world’s largest ecosystem restoration project and a model for the rest of the globe. And while we are very proud of what we’ve accomplished, our work is not done.”

Mary Barley
Founding Director

GIANTS

OF THE EVERGLADES FOUNDATION



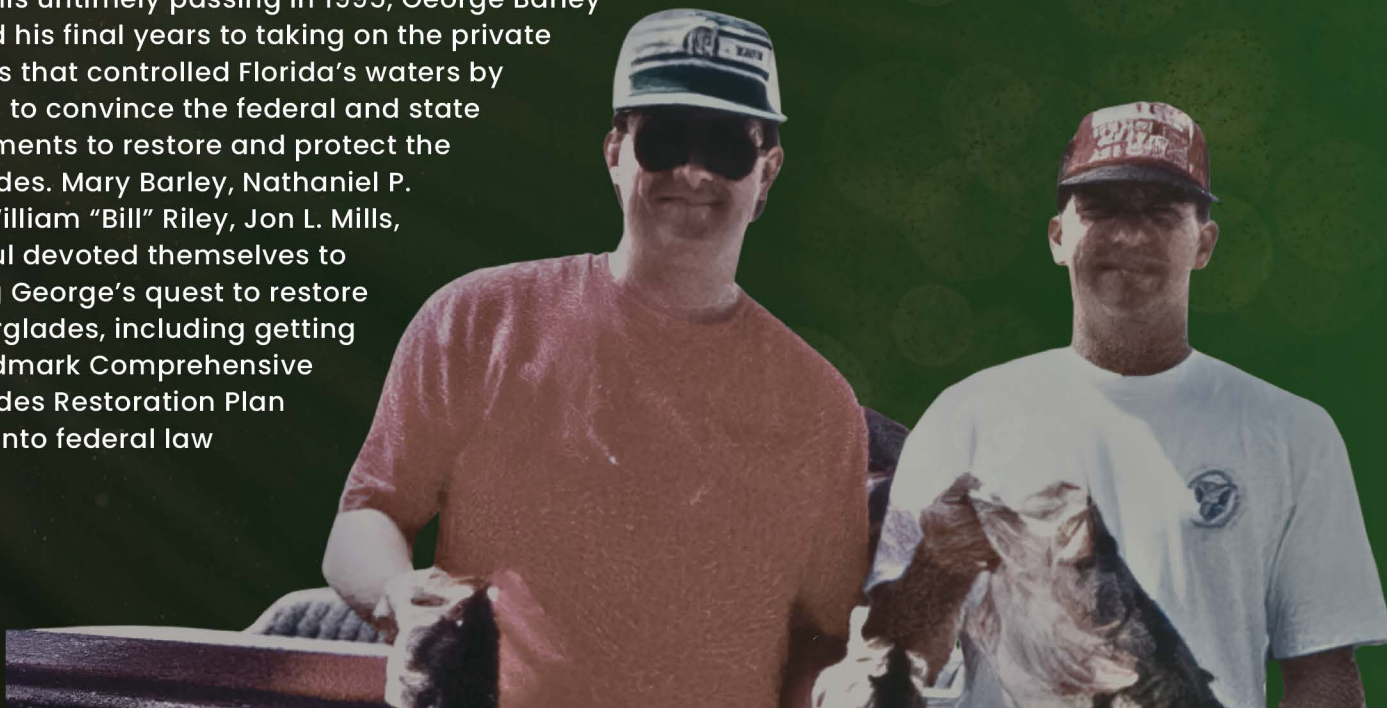
GEORGE & MARY BARLEY
PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY BARLEY

In 1993, our co-founders, the late George Barley and Paul Tudor Jones II, observed the rapidly declining conditions in Florida Bay, their favorite place to fish. Together, they consulted scientists to understand the cause of this once-pristine ecosystem's collapse: a lack of freshwater inflow. Having honed their talents in business ventures versus scientific pursuits, they understood that Florida Bay was not only something to be enjoyed, but also integral to the Florida Keys' economy.

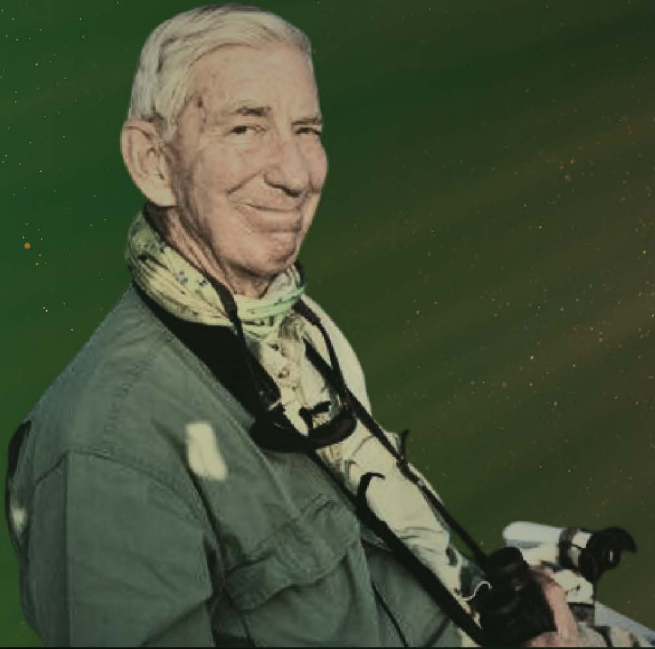
It soon became clear to George and Paul that South Florida's water infrastructure — designed in the 1940s to advance the economy of agriculture and cut off freshwater — was the cause of Florida Bay's demise. In fact, they soon realized that the outdated infrastructure was the source of environmental devastation across South Florida. Through their attention and commitment to the issue, and recognition that a comprehensive solution was needed, the effort to restore the Everglades took a giant leap forward.

George Barley (1934-1995)

Before his untimely passing in 1995, George Barley devoted his final years to taking on the private interests that controlled Florida's waters by working to convince the federal and state governments to restore and protect the Everglades. Mary Barley, Nathaniel P. Reed, William "Bill" Riley, Jon L. Mills, and Paul devoted themselves to fulfilling George's quest to restore the Everglades, including getting the landmark Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan signed into federal law in 2000.



GEORGE BARLEY & PAUL TUDOR JONES II
PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY BARLEY

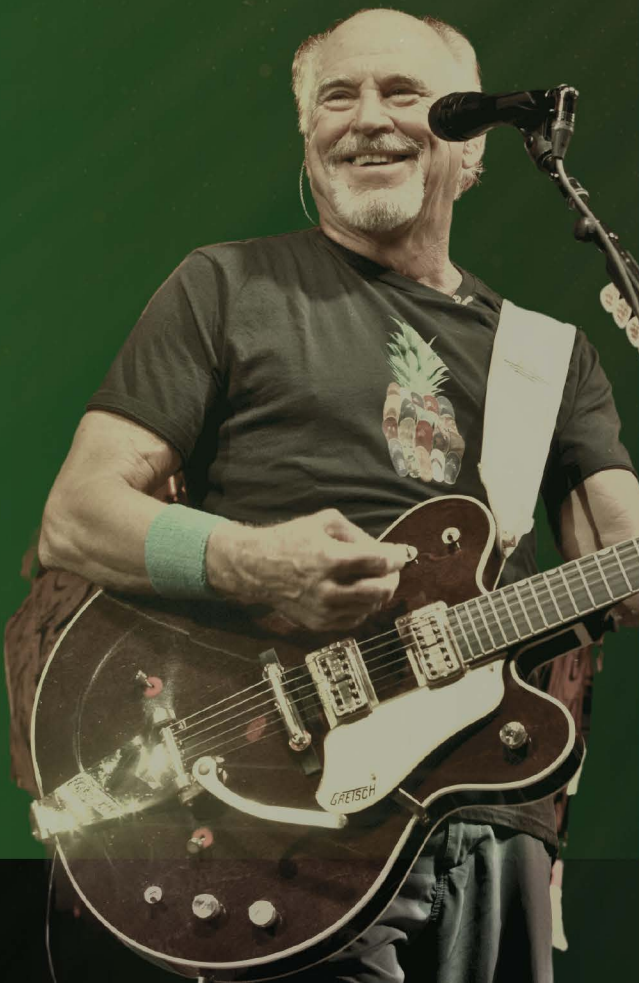


NATHANIEL REED
PHOTO COURTESY OF MAC STONE

Nathaniel P. Reed (1933-2018)

Nathaniel Reed was a lifelong advocate for Florida's natural and wild spaces. He was also a founding director of The Everglades Foundation, a devoted activist for the restoration and protection of the Everglades, and a champion for all of the creatures that call the Everglades home.

As a fierce environmental warrior, Nathaniel was instrumental, for over two decades, in the evolution of The Everglades Foundation. He worked tirelessly to advance Everglades restoration activities at both the federal and state level. As a vocal crusader to move restoration across the finish line, protecting this extraordinary ecosystem was his long-term objective — an objective The Everglades Foundation must be positioned to achieve.



Jimmy Buffett (1946-2023)

Since joining the Board of The Everglades Foundation in 2005, Jimmy Buffett contributed immeasurably to our mission to restore and protect America's Everglades. In addition to contributing to *Florida Bay Forever*, a book marking the Foundation's 20th anniversary with extraordinary photos and rich information about restoration success at the time, Jimmy and his daughter, Savannah, shared their time and love for Florida's waters countless times by incorporating the importance of our mission in music.

Jimmy Buffett has left an indelible mark on the Foundation. Below is an excerpt of the foreword he authored in *Florida Bay Forever*.

"My love affair with the oceans, bays and rivers of Florida began with pictures and songs and words on paper. What the place meant to me as a young teenager, it still means to me as an old waterman. At some point long ago, somebody had to give a damn about what was happening to the Everglades, if there was to be any hope of saving it. The Everglades Foundation continues to give a damn."

EVERGLADES FACTS

The Everglades is the

**WORLD'S
LARGEST**

ecosystem restoration
project

Florida's water-based
tourism delivers

**\$85.9
BILLION**

and supports
1.5 MILLION JOBS

The Everglades is home to

2,000 

species of plants and animals

78 

species are either
threatened or
endangered

The Everglades is

**3 MILLION
ACRES**



half of its historic range

**9 MILLION
PEOPLE**

rely on the Everglades for
their freshwater supply

**PROTECTING
COASTAL
ESTUARIES**

from toxic red tide and
blue-green algae

Everglades
restoration projects
will create more than

**400,000
JOBS**

over the next 50 years

EVERGLADES RESTORATION HAS A **4:1** RETURN ON INVESTMENT

THE EVERGLADES FOUNDATION DECADES OF MOMENTUM

1993

The Everglades Foundation is founded in Islamorada

2000

Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) is signed into law by President Bill Clinton

2008

State of Florida agrees to purchase farmland from U.S. Sugar Corp for restoration

2012

\$880 million water quality plan announced to clean polluted water from sugarcane fields

2013

Lake Okeechobee discharges result in "The Lost Summer" along the Treasure Coast, prompting calls to send water south

2016

Foundation mobilizes Florida's tourism and business industries through #NowOrNeverglades bus tour

2017

State of Florida prioritizes construction of EAA Reservoir through passage of Senate Bill 10

2020

Bridging and removal of road along Tamiami Trail allows water to flow freely into Everglades National Park for the first time in a century

2022

Florida Senate Bill 2508 is vetoed by Governor DeSantis, protecting Everglades restoration

2023

With record federal and state funding, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers breaks ground on EAA Reservoir

SCIENCE

30 YEARS OF DEDICATION TO THE TRUTH FOUND IN SCIENCE

For 30 years, The Everglades Foundation's commitment to restore and protect America's Everglades has been driven by science. Our scientists conduct practical analyses to help local, state, and federal leaders make well-informed decisions about Everglades restoration and water policy. Their work has informed every Everglades restoration project since the mid-1990s, including several key projects in 2022-23.

LOSOM Benefits America's Everglades and Florida's Clean Water Economy

The draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM) created in 2022-23 marked an important milestone in the multi-year collaborative effort to establish water fairness in South Florida.

LOSOM represents a seismic shift in Lake Okeechobee water policy. In addition to a substantial reduction in harmful discharges to the east and west coasts, considerably more freshwater will be sent south to America's Everglades and Florida Bay, particularly in the dry season.

Thanks in large part to the work of our science and advocacy teams, LOSOM is poised to advance water policy that will protect the public's water supply and align with the goals and objectives of Everglades restoration.

Taylor Slough Project Improves Southerly Flow of Freshwater

The Everglades Foundation joined state and federal agencies in May 2023 to cut the ribbon on the Taylor Slough Flow improvement Project, which will improve the distribution of freshwater flow to Florida Bay, balance salinity levels, and promote ecological health.

"WE INVEST IN THE EVERGLADES FOUNDATION BECAUSE OF THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH THEY DO WHICH THEN LEADS TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES AND SOLUTIONS THAT ULTIMATELY IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF WATER FOR ALL FLORIDIANS."

- MIKE & NYDIA SEARLE





THE EAA RESERVOIR

Will Restore Southerly Flow of Clean Freshwater

The Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir is the premier project within the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) that was signed into law in 2000.

Nearly 22 years in the making, the reservoir's creation follows years of releases of polluted water from Lake Okeechobee into the Caloosahatchee on the west and the St. Lucie on the east, creating toxic algae blooms and other environmental and economic consequences. Meanwhile, not enough freshwater was flowing south, leaving acres of dead seagrass floating on Florida Bay. The system was entirely out of balance. The EAA Reservoir is designed to change that by storing, cleaning, and sending water south, as nature intended.

The reservoir will provide badly needed water to America's Everglades, which is arid in the dry season. It also will help recharge the aquifer that provides drinking water to millions in South Florida, and will help balance the salinity of Florida Bay.

The most visible improvements, however, will be along Florida's east and west coasts, which have suffered perennial outbreaks of toxic blue-green algae and red tide, both of which are fed by discharges of polluted Lake Okeechobee water that will now be stored, cleaned, and sent south instead.

The South Florida Water Management District has calculated that, in conjunction with other Everglades restoration projects already underway, the EAA Reservoir will reduce algae-causing discharges of polluted Lake Okeechobee water by 55 percent — all while sending 120 billion gallons of clean freshwater to the Everglades and Florida Bay every year.

"This is a unifying issue: We all need water to drink. It brings both parties together," said The Everglades Foundation's CEO Eric Eikenberg. "Bipartisanship in Everglades restoration runs deep. The federal and state governments need to ensure this project is fully funded and completed by the end of this decade."



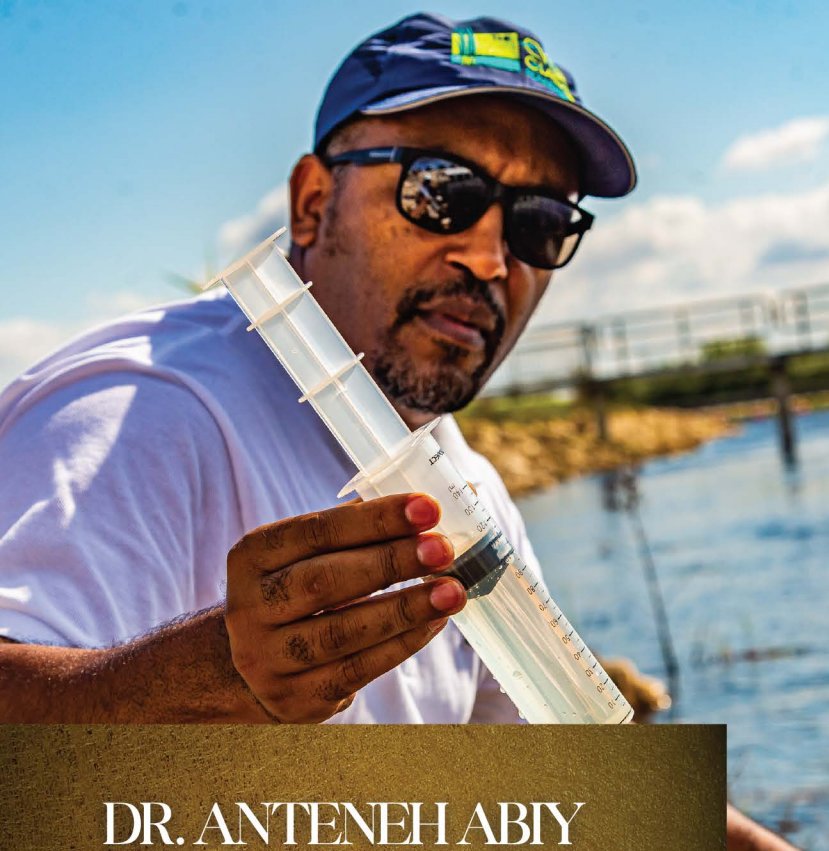
A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF SCIENCE OFFICER

DR. STEVE DAVIS

As a science-based organization since our founding, The Everglades Foundation's past fiscal year was among the most exciting I've experienced since joining the organization in 2009. In 2022, we had the great pleasure of recruiting exceptional new talent, welcoming five stellar scientists to our team. But there's more to each individual than their academic achievements. In 2022-2023, their work has influenced key Everglades restoration projects such as a new operational plan for Lake Okeechobee, the Biscayne Bay Southeast Everglades Ecosystem Restoration project, and the Western Everglades Restoration Project.



Dr. Steve Davis is The Everglades Foundation's Chief Science Officer. A native of Ohio, he earned a Ph.D. from Florida International University in 1999 with research in Florida Bay and the coastal Everglades. Steve joined The Everglades Foundation in 2009 as a member of the Science department, and immediately became a respected voice in support of the organization's mission to restore America's Everglades. He draws upon his nearly 30 years of Everglades science and teaching experience, including 10 years as professor of wetland ecology at Texas A&M University, to lead the science team's work on Everglades restoration, ecosystem health, and impacts of climate change and sea-level rise.



DR. ANTENEH ABIY HYDROGEOLOGIST

Hydrogeology is the study of groundwater—how water gets into the ground, how it flows in the subsurface (through aquifers) and how it interacts with surrounding soils and rock (the geology).

“ANTENEH IS A WELL-ROUNDED HYDROGEOLOGIST, DATA SCIENTIST, AND WATER SLEUTH WHO BLENDS HIS MODELING AND BROAD ANALYTICAL SKILLS TO LEAD OUR RESTORATION PLANNING EFFORTS.”

- DR. STEVE DAVIS

Before moving to the U.S., Anteneh worked as a hydrogeologist at the former Blue Nile River Basin Authority in his native Ethiopia, where he was involved in water resources geo-database development, hydrological modeling, groundwater modeling, and groundwater contamination mapping.

Reflecting on his past experience, Anteneh noted, “It gave me a wide dimension in this profession, and what it means for society,” he says. “I learned how to apply the breadth of knowledge I gained to make well-informed decisions.”

Anteneh joined the Foundation in April 2020 after earning a Ph.D. in Hydrogeological Modeling of the Biscayne Aquifer at Florida International University (FIU). He also has M.S. degrees in Geosciences from FIU and in Integrated Watershed Management and Hydrology from Cornell University, an experience he describes as critical to promote multidisciplinary perspectives and to bridge the gap between science and application. His work and research have been published in book chapters and peer reviewed journals.

“At The Everglades Foundation, I analyze complicated hydrological data to make it as simple and understandable as possible,” he says. “Through computer applications, programming language and specialized software, among other tools, I analyze data to determine if we’re getting more water or less. If we want more water in the Biscayne Aquifer, what does that mean for Biscayne Bay? What if the climate changes this way, or that way? How does it affect the ecosystem? As a team, we evaluate a wide variety of scenarios and use modeling to assess salinity and multiple other conditions.”

Anteneh’s breadth of work over the past year included serving as investigator of the Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem Restoration (BBSEER) project designed to restore portions of the freshwater wetlands affected by over-drainage and damaging releases from canals.

“We’ve been able to safeguard the water to benefit not only Everglades National Park, but also Florida Bay, where it’s desperately needed,” says Anteneh. “Projects like BBSEER are managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and South Florida Water Management District, so we work collaboratively to share our knowledge and findings, and to build consensus, with an overriding objective to never take water out of the Everglades.”



DR. MEENAKSHI CHABBA ECOSYSTEM & RESILIENCE SCIENTIST

Ecosystem and resilience scientists answer questions like: How do natural ecosystems function? How do humans impact ecosystems? How can we effectively address climate change, habitat loss and sea level rise?

“WITH TRAINING IN ECOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS, AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, MEENAKSHI HAS GREATLY EXPANDED OUR WORK AND IMPACT TO INTEGRATE RESTORATION BENEFITS WITH RESILIENCE AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES.”

- DR. STEVE DAVIS

Meenakshi earned a Ph.D. in Earth Systems Science from Florida International University (FIU), a master’s degree in Environmental Studies from FIU, and a master’s in Zoology from the University of Delhi in her native India.

Prior to joining the Foundation in 2022, Meenakshi was Research Analyst with the USAID-funded Disaster Risk and Resilience in the Americas Program at FIU’s Extreme Events Institute, where she performed economic evaluations of USAID risk reduction projects and was the program’s lead science writer.

As The Everglades Foundation’s Ecosystem and Resilience Scientist, Meenakshi merges advanced knowledge of Everglades ecosystem science, ecosystem services valuation, and resilience planning for the natural and built environment in South Florida.

She applies that knowledge to tracking and understanding how decision-making focused on the Everglades and our communities affects ecological and economic outcomes across the ecosystem.

“The first thing that struck me in Florida is how the Everglades are so instrumental in mitigating climate change impacts — not just for us, but for the world,” she says. “It actually provides a global service by capturing carbon, particularly through mangroves.”

Meenakshi assesses carbon inventories and urban resilience plans, and is applying her research to how Everglades restoration improves the health of the ecosystem and of humanity’s quality of life.

“I use ecological, economic, and policy tools to try to quantify the benefits to people’s lives to provide an unbiased, science-based voice,” she says. “I’m eager to continue fighting for nature-based solutions in urban resilience plans by leveraging the prolific science we’ve built in Everglades restoration. This can protect against compound flooding and urban heat, and also improve the aesthetics and quality of life, to contribute to both environmental well-being and social well-being.”

One of her top priorities for the coming year is the continuation of the Foundation’s carbon-mangrove inventory work, exploring not only how much carbon is stored in Everglades mangroves, but also how much increasing the southerly flow of freshwater will impact it.

“The blue carbon we have sitting in the Everglades is truly of global importance,” says Meenakshi, “and restoration is key to protecting that treasure.”



DR. PAUL HINDSLEY
CHIEF ECONOMIST

Environmental economists conduct economic analyses related to environmental protection, and evaluate and quantify costs, benefits, incentives, and impacts of use of the natural environment, such as water, air, land, and renewable energy resources.

“WITH CREDENTIALS IN ECONOMETRICS, COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, AND APPLIED AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS, PAUL HAS RAMPED UP OUR ECONOMICS PROGRAM AS CHIEF ECONOMIST AND BECOME A RESPECTED VOICE FOR EVERGLADES RESTORATION.”

- DR. STEVE DAVIS

Paul earned a B.S. in Resource Conservation from the University of Montana, a master’s degree in Applied and Resource Economics, and a Ph.D. in the interdisciplinary Coastal Resources Management program at East Carolina University.

Paul began his career with the Pamlico-Tar River Foundation, followed by roles at the NOAA Fisheries’ Office of Science and Technology, the Center for Natural Hazards Research at East Carolina University, and Professor of Environmental Studies at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, FL. He has investigated how changes in the quality of coastal and marine resources influence economic consequences for property markets, recreational users, and tourists.

As The Everglades Foundation’s Chief Economist since 2022, Paul applies his extensive knowledge of environmental and natural resource economics, applied econometrics, benefit-cost analysis, and coastal resource management. The bipartisan appeal of the Foundation’s work was a key factor in leading him to join the organization.

“The Everglades Foundation is focused on reaching across the aisles to push our mission of restoration,” says Paul. “I got excited about shifting from teacher-researcher with a foot in the policy world to interacting directly with policy makers, the general public, and our Board members, who are incredibly accomplished.”

He calls himself a bit of a quarterback, conducting research, collaborating with industries, academics, government, fellow economists, and policy experts to bridge the gap and ensure the numbers help evaluate and make decisions guided by science. “How does the natural environment translate to economic well-being and the clean water economy?” he asks. “How do ecosystems provide resiliency, protection from storms, and opportunities you don’t pay for explicitly? As an environmental economist, I use a variety of methods to come up with economic metrics to show value.”

“The key sectors of South Florida’s economy — real estate, tourism, outdoor recreation, agriculture, and more — depend on plentiful clean water. Economics can serve as bridge from changes in the environment to changes in well-being for people — and that information can help guide policy and make a significant difference in the projects that will restore and protect the Everglades.”



DR. KHANDKER ISHTIAQ HYDROLOGIST

Hydrology is the study of water. Hydrologists study Earth's complex water systems and help solve problems related to water quantity and quality. Water is one of our most precious natural resources. Without it, there would be no life on Earth.

"ALTHOUGH HE CARRIES THE TITLE OF HYDROLOGIST, ISHTIAQ HAS A DIVERSE BACKGROUND IN MODELING OF WATER QUALITY, WETLAND CARBON, AND ENERGY IN ADDITION TO HYDROLOGIC PROCESSES AND WATER MANAGEMENT ACROSS A VARIETY OF SCALES AND DIVERSE SCENARIOS."

- DR. STEVE DAVIS

Ishtiaq received bachelor's and master's degrees in Water Resources Engineering from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology.

After receiving his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Florida International University (FIU), he led post-doctoral research at West Virginia University and FIU's Sea Level Solutions Center, and worked as an Engineer with the Surface Water Management Unit at the South Florida Water Management District.

As The Everglades Foundation's Hydrologist since 2022, Ishtiaq's research intersects water resources engineering and ecosystem science, and entails process-based and data-driven model development and integration, model-experimental data synthesis and benchmarking, and simulations of alternatives to assess the ecosystem under accelerated sea level rise and saltwater intrusion.

"My background is primarily in hydrology, rainfall runoff monitoring, salinity modeling, peat soil modeling, and a wide variety of other modeling to assess the ecosystem's response," says Ishtiaq. "Working collaboratively with the team, I explore whether the rate of soil acquisition in our coastal wetlands can keep pace with sea level rise. I look at the impact of peat collapse. I study how we can facilitate a higher rate of carbon acquisition. We look at phosphorus levels, what happens when salinity increases, and how it all affects water quality, quantity, and timing, as well as ecosystem productivity."

Ishtiaq characterizes his work as an intersection of science and engineering to evaluate the Everglades ecosystem's vulnerability and level of resilience to sea level rise, climate change, and saltwater intrusion. "Among the questions we ask every day is, 'What will happen in the future? And 'What do we need to do to address it?'"

He says he considers the work very rewarding. "We have real opportunities to implement our ideas here, with a very collaborative team who all acknowledge one person can't know or do everything," he says. "You can go study something and publish a paper, but how many papers and independent research really have an impact? At The Everglades Foundation, we do. We're contributing to sustainability. We're benefiting nature. We're making an impact and really doing something to save the Everglades."



DR. PAUL JULIAN BIOGEOCHEMIST

Biogeochemistry is the study of how chemical elements flow through living systems and their physical environments. It investigates the factors that influence cycles of key elements such as carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus.

“PAUL IS A SELF-PROCLAIMED ‘DATA JUNKIE’ WHO HAS LONG BEEN A RESPECTED MEMBER OF THE EVERGLADES SCIENCE COMMUNITY, AND A LEADING VOICE ON ALL THINGS PERTAINING TO WATER QUALITY, WATER QUALITY SOLUTIONS, AND WATER MANAGEMENT.”

- DR. STEVE DAVIS

Paul earned a Ph.D. from the University of Florida, where he studied wetland biogeochemistry in the Everglades Stormwater Treatment Areas and the downstream Everglades ecosystem. He was a Post-Doctoral Fellow at Université de Montréal where he studied biogeochemical and genomic drivers of harmful algal bloom dynamics in lake ecosystems.

He also has a master’s degree in environmental science from Florida Gulf Coast University where he studied Florida panther habitat selection across Big Cypress National Preserve relative to exotic plant species removal.

As The Everglades Foundation’s Biogeochemist, Paul integrates knowledge of the Everglades ecosystem, water management operations, wetland hydrology, and nutrient cycling to evaluate water quality and restoration progress across South Florida.

Prior to joining the Foundation in 2022, Paul was a Hydrologic Modeler with the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and Conservancy of Southwest Florida, where he provided technical input to Everglades restoration efforts and the Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM). Previously, Paul served as the Everglades Technical Lead for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for nearly a decade, providing technical support to state and federal Everglades restoration efforts.

“At the Foundation, I do a mix of science — primarily looking at data from other agencies, or modeling using that data to support the projects we’re working on, such as the Biscayne Bay and Southern Everglades Restoration (BBSEER) project, the Western Everglades Restoration project, and LOSOM,” he says. “Lake Okeechobee is a constant focus, monitoring water levels, algae outbreaks, discharges to the estuaries, whether enough water is flowing south, etc. We’re taking a pulse of the ecosystem every day.”

“Throughout my career, I’ve been considered ‘the water quality guy,’ and that’s fine; I love water quality. But at The Everglades Foundation, it’s more than that. I’m able to apply my knowledge of hydrology and ecology to actually do the science to support the Everglades. We’re testing, we’re modeling, we’re publishing papers, and we’re making a difference. We’re advocating for the largest wetland in North America. It’s kind of a big deal!”



DR. GARETH LAGERWALL
WATER RESOURCES ENGINEER

Water resources engineering is the study and management of equipment, facilities and techniques used to manage and preserve life's most plentiful resource. In addition to assessing the best ways in which to control water – such as irrigation, waste disposal and canal development – water resource engineers are also frequently involved in water management to ensure it's safe to drink for humans, plants and animals.

"I CALL GARETH 'THE TINKERER.' HE IS AN EXTRAORDINARY MODELER AND CODER WITH SKILLS IN OPTIMIZATION AND AN ABILITY TO OPERATE ACROSS A VARIETY OF PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES. HE ALSO BRINGS A BROAD BACKGROUND IN BIOLOGICAL AND AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING."

- DR. STEVE DAVIS

Gareth earned a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Biological Engineering from the University of Florida, where he also studied Land and Water Resources, as well as Hydrologic Sciences. His research focused on modeling vegetation dynamics in the Everglades was funded in part by the South Florida Water Management District and the Water Resources Research Center. In May 2022, Gareth joined The Everglades Foundation as Water Resources Engineer after serving as a Water Use Analyst with the Suwannee River Water Management District. Prior to that, he spent many years as a senior lecturer at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in his native South Africa, where he earned his bachelor's degree in Agricultural Engineering. In addition to training the next generation of agricultural engineers, Gareth's research focused on the fields of Agricultural Supply Chains, Precision Agriculture, and Ecological Modeling.

"Our team at the Foundation is unique and complementary at the same time, and we're very collaborative," says Gareth. "A great deal of my work is back-end support for the rest of the team – ensuring updates are accessible and in a logical place, our cloud servers are functioning effectively, we can run the models we need to run, usability is optimized, errors are caught, and so on. So, I have a role in nearly all of the projects our team is involved in." He also served as scientific advisor to the Foundation's education team over the past year as they prepared to launch a new mobile app later this year. "I'm a bit of a gamer in my off hours, so I was super happy to be involved with that."

Capitalizing on his background in training the next generation, Gareth also manages the Foundation's prestigious ForEverglades Scholars & Fellows program, which supports graduate students pursuing innovative scientific and economic research to advance the restoration and protection of America's Everglades.

FOREVERGLADES[®] FELLOWS

For 15 years, The Everglades Foundation's prestigious ForEverglades Fellows program has supported graduate students pursuing innovative scientific and economic research to advance restoration and protection of America's Everglades.

The ForEverglades Fellows program is a joint project of The Everglades Foundation and its many supporters. The 12-month program funds stipends, travel, or research-related expenses for full-time graduate students pursuing cutting-edge research related to restoring America's Everglades.

This year's class includes seven students, with five doctoral and two master's students, and includes students from across the country. Three recipients are from Florida International University, one from University of Florida, one from University of Central Florida, and two are out of state, representing University of California, Davis, and Coastal Carolina University.

"Through the Lee Fellowship at The Everglades Foundation, we are able to combine two of our philanthropic areas of interest — education and environment. It brings us great satisfaction to support bright, dedicated scholars committed to restoring and protecting the Everglades."

- Patrick & Cynthia Lee



KENNETH ANDERSON
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY



BRYCE COOK
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - DAVIS



GRACE KAHMANN
COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY



DAKOTA LEWIS
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA



KEVIN MONTENEGRO
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY



MACKENZIE WHITE
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY



OUTDOOR FUND

GEORGE ZARAGOZA
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

ADVOCATING FOR AMERICA'S EVERGLADES

For 30 years, The Everglades Foundation has provided a powerful voice for Everglades restoration at the state and national levels. Our bipartisan advocacy efforts unite concerned citizens, businesses, nonprofits, local governments and other stakeholders who care about the future of America's Everglades.



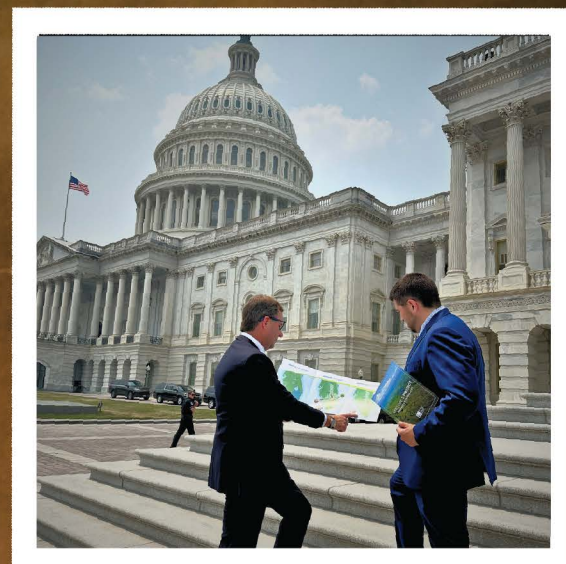


RECORD FOR FEDERAL EVERGLADES FUNDING

With your support, we persuaded Congress and the White House to invest \$447 million, a record for federal Everglades funding. In Tallahassee, our team obtained \$478.5 million for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), the highest amount ever appropriated by the State of Florida for Everglades reclamation.

Unprecedented investments have brought historic progress. The State of Florida will soon finish constructing the 6,500-acre stormwater treatment area that will clean water from the new EAA Reservoir so it can be safely sent south into the Everglades. Meanwhile, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has already awarded two of the four major construction contracts for the reservoir itself.

Our advocacy team scored major victories this year in convincing policymakers to significantly increase freshwater flows to the Everglades as part of the Corps' update of its Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM). The new operating schedule will ensure major reductions in future harmful discharges to the east and west coast estuaries.





Our CEO Eric Eikenberg testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works in June. His testimony highlighted tremendous progress in the restoration of America's Everglades — a global model for ecosystem restoration — and showcased broad bipartisan support from Congress.

As always, our victories were the result of extensive recruitment, mobilization and collaboration with allies, ensuring that all Everglades advocates speak with a united voice. Our second annual Women in Conservation event in West Palm Beach at Manatee Lagoon attracted 80 guests who heard from The Everglades Foundation Founding Director Mary Barley; Mary Ellen Coyne, CEO of J.McLaughlin; and Thais Vogel, Founder and Trustee of the VoLo Foundation.



We completed an ambitious agenda of stakeholder briefings that included the Rivers Coalition in Stuart, the Fort Lauderdale Alliance Influencers Group, the Monroe County Commission, the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, the Islamorada Chamber and Chamber South.

We celebrated World Water Day at Florida Gulf Coast University's Water School with a presentation by our Chief Science Officer, Dr. Steve Davis, who joined Dr. Joanne Mueller, a climatologist at FGCU's Department of Marine Sciences following a keynote address by Everglades photographer Luca Martinez.

The advocacy team will continue to collaborate and gather support for Everglades funding and construction in the year to come.



EVERGLADES EDUCATION

OUR CHILDREN, THEIR FUTURE

Generous supporters of the Everglades Literacy Program enabled the team to scale up our education efforts in 2022-23. On the heels of launching the High School Leadership Committee, the team amplified the program's reach to middle and high schools while also expanding to pre-kindergarten. Today, the Everglades Literacy Program offers the nation's only free, comprehensive PreK-12 Everglades lesson plans and resources. The program continues to empower the next generation of conservation stewards by investing in teachers to drive cultural change within schools to benefit local and ecological communities.



"We are proud to support The Everglades Literacy Program because we believe educating the next generation about America's Everglades is vital to the future of Florida."

- Hayley Little, Executive Director,
Glenn W. Bailey Foundation

EDUCATION IMPACT 2022–2023

Our Everglades Literacy Program to-date is being conducted in more than **1,000 schools**. We have trained **more than 5,600 educators**, and held **55 Teacher Trainings among 975+ teachers** in 2022–23 alone. We expanded our reach to **30 school districts**, held **more than 100 classroom presentations**, and introduced **dual-language resources in Spanish and Haitian Creole**.

CHALLENGE COIN

The Everglades Challenge Coin is a meaningful annual component of our Everglades Literacy Program. More than **575 students across the state of Florida** submitted designs for the 2022 coin. **Effie Cypress, a senior at the Miccosukee Indian School**, won this design challenge. We were proud to feature her work and its demonstration of her passion and support for the Everglades.



THE 2023 EVERGLADES
CHALLENGE COIN WINNER
MICCOSUKEE INDIAN SCHOOL

Effie Cypress

TAKING TEACHERS INTO THE EVERGLADES

Since implementing **outdoor field professional development** in 2022, we have brought **102 teachers** out for swamp walks, boat experiences, seagrass wading, airboat rides, kayaking, and slough sloggin.

“Providing educators opportunities to connect with their local ecosystem propels their capabilities and passion to replicate similar learning experiences for their students. Many educators we interact with have never set foot into a cypress dome, a slough, or even on a vessel. We are reaching the next generation of students by allowing educators the same experience to learn and grow in the Everglades so they can make those classroom and field experiences come to life for their students.”

– **Tate Vangellow, Everglades Literacy Program Coordinator, Southwest Florida**



JOHN MARSHALL EVERGLADES INTERNSHIP

With a generous grant from The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation, The Everglades Foundation expanded access to its nationally recognized internship program to include students from Miami Dade College, Broward College, Palm Beach State College, and Florida Memorial University. The internship is designed to create career-building opportunities for students, and to retain home-grown talent for the region's STEM workforce pipeline.

During the 10-week summer program, the interns visited major restoration sites, water management structures, and affected natural areas. They interacted with scientists from The Everglades Foundation, policy experts, and lawmakers and other environmental professionals. This internship enabled them to understand the federal and state complexities of Everglades restoration while completing a capstone research project.

"The John Marshall Internship Program and the John Marshall Everglades Symposium carry on John's dream to educate the next generation of environmental stewards and foster greater public understanding of America's Everglades. Both create opportunities for passionate students and advocates to unite around the common cause of restoring and protecting this great natural space."

-Nancy Marshall, Board Member, The Everglades Foundation



Frederick A. DeLuca
FOUNDATION



**CAROLINA
CANDELARIO**
Broward College

Carolina worked in Dr. Evelyn Gaiser's lab with periphytons. She enjoyed working in a lab while joining her mentors in the field.



**GAVRIEL
CAMBRIDGE**
Virginia Tech

Gavriel worked in Dr. Tiffany Troxler's lab to study changes to carbon pooling as they relate to saltwater intrusion.



**KATRINA
BOBSON**
Berry College

Katrina worked on testing the accuracy of two methods for inorganic/organic carbon determination in marine sediments giving her a deeper understanding of South Florida's environment.



**MADDIE
MARQUARDT**
Davidson College

Maddie worked with Dr. Alastair Harborne and Dr. Sara Schoen on the Global FinPrint Project to study the relationship between coral reef health and moray eel abundance.

TEACHER SYMPOSIUM

This year's event drew 134 attendees from 71 schools or organizations representing 12 counties across the state.

The Everglades Foundation's education team hosted its annual Teacher Symposium in July 2022. Teachers were invited to **"Drive Momentum"** at Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach.

Topics included "Natural Illustration in Watercolor," "Environmental Civic Action," "Thinking Critically About the Everglades," and "Everglades Restoration Fights Climate Change."



K-12 EVERGLADES CHAMPION SCHOOLS

CHAMPION SCHOOLS

The K-12 Everglades Champion Schools Program is an **exciting interdisciplinary program** that annually showcases and recognizes Florida schools that demonstrate exceptional Everglades literacy efforts and initiatives. It is a call-to-action, **designed to incentivize and empower schools** to attend Everglades Literacy professional development, implement Everglades curriculum, interdisciplinary projects, field experiences, and practices that become part of their school culture.

Through our programming, middle and high schools are taking their Everglades initiatives to the next level.

These students research, strategize, and implement action plans that address environmental issues they discover in their local communities.



GOLD-LEVEL CHAMPION SCHOOL TEACHER CHALLENGES EDUCATORS:

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

David Ware has been teaching for 20 years in Collier County, with 11 of those years as science coach at Parkside Elementary, a Gold-level Everglades Champion School. We spoke with him as he geared up for the new school year.



How did you first hear of The Everglades Foundation’s Everglades Literacy Program?

Several years ago, the Everglades Literacy team was invited to present a training at one of our district science coach meetings. That training was, and still is, one of the best I have ever attended. I immediately encouraged fellow teachers to sign up. Since then, I have attended several trainings and loved every one of them! Every teacher I persuade to attend an Everglades Literacy training comes back asking if we can get the entire staff trained. It’s that good.

Tell us about your background, and what inspired you to enter the field of education?

I’m in my 20th year as an educator, and my 11th as science coach at Parkside Elementary. Before that, I taught all subjects in 4th grade for seven years, then 5th grade science for two years, all in Collier County. My 5th-grade teacher motivated me to become an educator, not so much for what he taught me, but how he treated me. Today, as an elementary science coach, I support teachers through modeling in the classroom, planning lessons, and in any other way they might need.

How has the Everglades Literacy Program benefited you, as an educator?

The Everglades Literacy Program enables me to provide my students with a chance to learn about “real” science. Too often, science instruction can be a little abstract. But the lessons in this program include plants, animals, organisms, and environments my students have experienced, or can, if they want to. Students love learning about anything that is part of their community. As a science coach, I can’t stress enough how much I love that there are high-quality, ready-made, standards-aligned lessons for FREE! The fact that my teachers and I don’t need to spend time creating lessons is an amazing time saver, not to mention the lessons are great and the students love them.

And how has the program benefited your students?

The Everglades Literacy Program has allowed our students to learn about a topic they care about; something that will impact them personally. The Everglades is in our backyard, which many students are surprised to learn. When our teachers can make the connection between the lessons and a plant, or an animal, or the water in our area, it sticks with students. They start to realize that their choices and behaviors have an impact on the world around them. The lessons help them understand our world needs protecting, and they can be the ones to protect it.

What would you attribute to your school achieving Gold-level status in your first year of implementation?

To be honest, since it was our first year, I wasn't even expecting to receive Bronze-level status! I was shocked to hear our school's name read aloud during the ceremony. The part of our application that I was most proud of was "100% total involvement by every K-5 student." Being our first year, I wasn't sure I could get all the teachers to buy into this. But every teacher completed all three Everglades Literacy lessons during our Everglades Week. Our students were fully immersed in the Everglades for a week, and they loved it.

What would you tell teachers who haven't yet become involved in the program?

I would say: What are you waiting for? The lessons are engaging, standards-aligned, written for each grade level, and they are free. What more is there to say? Plus, if you attend one of The Everglades Foundation's trainings, they will bend over backward to be sure you have everything you need to make the lessons successful. In the world of professional development in education, it is exceedingly rare to find a group that provides engaging and relevant trainings to teachers that they can immediately use in their classroom, all while receiving top-tier support. And again, it's free!



COMMUNICATING AMERICA'S EVERGLADES

The Everglades Foundation's communications team handles a breadth of marketing and branding work, including messaging, engaging with media, and educating the general public. The team spearheads all print, digital, and video production in support of the organization. Every facet of their work is to communicate the vital importance of the Foundation's mission to restore and protect America's Everglades.

NEW UNESCO DIGITAL EXHIBIT

The Everglades Foundation curated a digital exhibit, "The River of Grass," for the **UNESCO World Heritage Collection** on the Google Arts and Culture platform. Produced in partnership with VISIT FLORIDA, the exhibit features enchanting images by nature photographer Luca Martinez. The exhibit's captions highlight the intricate history and ecology of Everglades National Park and the importance of Everglades restoration.





A PARTNERSHIP ABOUT THE POWER OF WATER

The Everglades Foundation and the Urban League of Greater Miami launched **“The Power of Water”** initiative to reach the Liberty City community in Miami about the value of water from the Everglades.

“It’s so important to **educate our youth** about the critical role that water plays in their lives,” said The Everglades Foundation’s CEO Eric Eikenberg. “Everyone in Miami-Dade County should understand that their freshwater comes from the Everglades. It’s a **precious natural resource** that needs to be protected.”

The campaign was displayed on bus wraps, bus benches, and convenience stores around Liberty City. This initiative has been **generously supported by Wells Fargo, Florida Blue, the Green Family Foundation, Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, and the Gerald A. & Karen A. Kolschowsky Foundation.**

“Kids need to understand that it’s important to stay healthy and hydrated with water. We are thrilled to partner with The Everglades Foundation to help us engage with our community inside and outside our schools.”

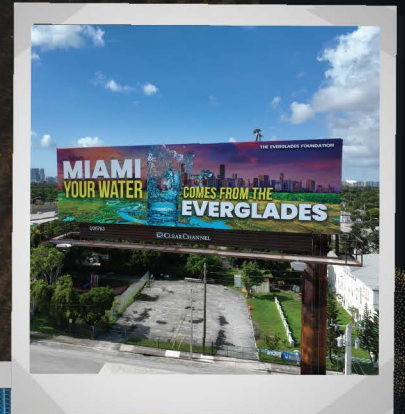
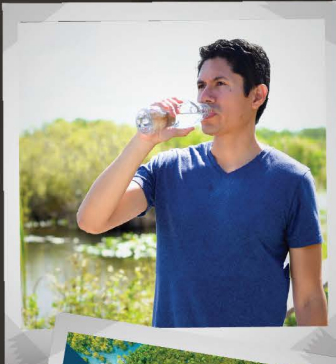
- T. Willard Fair, President and CEO of
the Urban League of Greater Miami



MIAMI, BROWARD, AND THE KEYS

YOUR WATER COMES FROM THE EVERGLADES

The Everglades Foundation's **"Your Water Comes From The Everglades"** campaign found tremendous success this year. The campaign reached millions of people across South Florida to educate them on the source of their drinking water. **The goal is to increase the public's understanding of the Everglades' value to their everyday lives.** The Foundation also partnered with local municipalities on outreach, and implemented the campaign across digital media in addition to billboards and bus shelters targeting Miami, Broward, and the Keys.



MIAMI, BROWARD AND THE KEYS, YOUR WATER COMES FROM THE EVERGLADES™

To learn more go to EvergladesFoundation.org



CITY OF HOMESTEAD PARTNERSHIP TO EXPLORE THE EVERGLADES

The Everglades Foundation and the City of Homestead partnered to offer free public transportation and entry to Everglades National Park. The trolley took riders to Anhinga and Gumbo Limbo Trails to observe native plants and animals, and learn from interactive exhibits at the Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center.

Additionally, at Losner Park, visitors can play "Everglades Safari," a free, downloadable augmented reality app educating users about native species that are important to the ecosystem.



EAA RESERVOIR MEDIA COVERAGE

UM FALLS **SPRINT STAFF WILL STAY**

MIAMI HERALD

New hope for the Glades

A massive \$4 billion water storage project touted as the 'crown jewel' of Everglades restoration is finally being built. Is it enough to make a difference? > 64

FROM PAGE 1A

GLADES

...recovery emerge about 'trending direction'

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Crucial groundbreaking

Florida organization's Everglades restoration moves closer to reality

By Bill Koenig, South Florida Sun Sentinel

It's been 23 years since Congress passed the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, an ambitious plan to rank, at least in part, the damage done by humans to one of the most unique ecosystems on the planet.

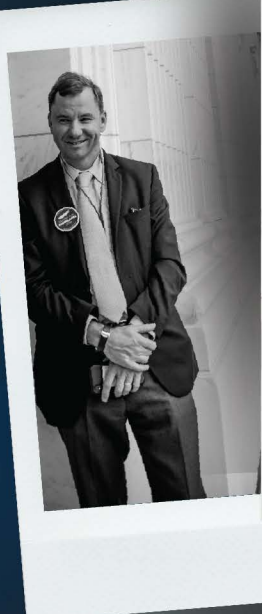
In the interim, Everglades restoration has made halting progress, with much of the delay centered around a key component — a reservoir and filtration marshes that reconnect Lake Okechobee with the Everglades.

The reservoir and stormwater treatment marshes would store dirty water from Lake Okechobee, clean it, and send it south to the parched Everglades and eventually to Florida Bay and the Gulf of Mexico.

This week, the Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District finally broke ground on the project, dubbed The Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir. Both organizations refer to it as the "crown jewel" of the restoration process. It's one of 63 projects outlined in the restoration plan, but arguably the most important.

This project is the keystone to the project.

Turn to Page 12



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

ERIC EIKENBERG

In the lifespan of America's Everglades, 30 years is barely the blink of an eye, but in the last three decades, The Everglades Foundation has become the leading scientific resource and a powerful voice for Everglades restoration.

This year's impact report recounts some of the milestones that have marked our journey. Throughout three decades, there have been years when we accomplished the progress of an entire decade — and this has been one of them.

In February, we participated in the groundbreaking for the EAA Reservoir — the “crown jewel” of Everglades restoration. With continued robust investments by both the federal and state governments, we hope to complete the reservoir by the end of this decade.

In May, we were privileged to celebrate the ribbon cutting for the Taylor Slough Improvement Project— an important component in repairing the draining and ditching that nearly destroyed the ecosystem. Remarkably, the ribbon cutting happened just four months after the project's groundbreaking!

Although the Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM) has yet to be fully implemented, water managers have operated the lake with greater flexibility, protecting Florida's coastal estuaries.

Meanwhile, our “Your Water” campaign has educated millions in South Florida that their drinking water comes from the Everglades. We have increased our public education campaign through riveting social media content and other engaging activities.

This year, the Everglades Education team added its 30th school district to its reach. Our renowned PreK-12 curriculum is a source of tremendous pride to our organization, and we look forward to celebrating its 10th anniversary next year.


None of this would have happened without you. Your generosity makes possible everything The Everglades Foundation does, from scientific leadership to teacher training, to advocacy in Washington, D.C., and Tallahassee.

On behalf of the entire staff and Board of Directors of The Everglades Foundation, let me again express our thanks — and our hope that you will continue to be generous so that we can continue our momentum for our generation and those to come.

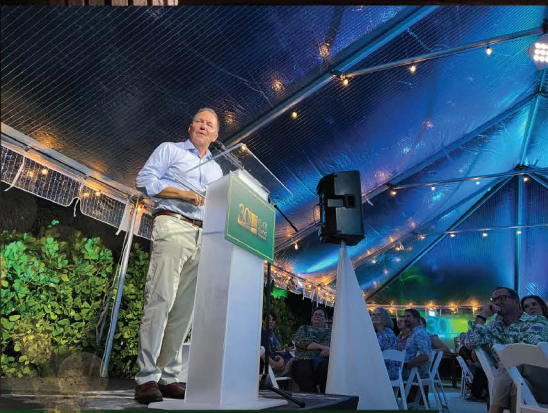
Sincerely,



30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

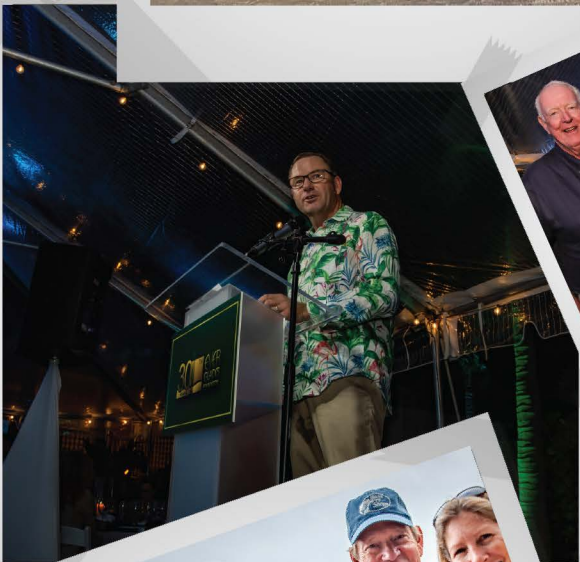


The Everglades Foundation in November kicked off its celebration of 30 years where it all began, in the Florida Keys. There, in 1993, Paul Tudor Jones II and the late George Barley were inspired to launch the Foundation after discovering the fishing waters they loved were being harmed by a dying Everglades.





At a celebratory dinner, Paul Jones, Mary Barley and Foundation CEO Eric Eikenberg reflected on the organization's history while mixing with fellow Board members, Foundation donors, and other supporters. The following day, the Foundation organized a flotilla on the Bay, with the Foundation's Chief Science Officer Steve Davis offering a tribute to George Barley, capped by a commemorative flag-waving signifying the Foundation's roots in "taking up the flag George Barley handed us."



A PICTURE-PERFECT CELEBRATION OF 30 YEARS

FOREVERGLADES NAPLES

The 10th annual ForEverglades Naples benefit was an evening full of purpose and community. From honoring Florida icon and acclaimed Everglades photographer Clyde Butcher, as well as the Vice Chair of The Everglades Foundation's Board of Directors Ellin Goetz, the event brought together more than 300 Floridians to celebrate 30 years of progress in Everglades restoration.

Generously supporting the event were Legacy Sponsor Naples Beach Club, and Supporting Sponsors Barron Collier Foundation, Northern Trust, Naples Global Advisors, Hart Howerton and Gulfshore Life. Leading the planning and orchestration of the event were Co-Chairs Ellin Goetz and Valerie Boyd Gargiulo and the Host Committee.

"As we continue to fight to repair the Everglades and our environment in Southwest Florida, it is important to look at our beginning and how far we have truly come," Goetz observed.

Eric Eikenberg, CEO of The Everglades Foundation, further acknowledged the evolution. "Tonight, we celebrate the vision of George and Mary Barley and Paul Tudor Jones and take up the flag they handed us 30 years ago. Thanks to you, we made the case that in Florida, our economy is based on clean water. We are making progress. And you are the ones who helped us take up the flag and pass it on to a new generation."





LEGENDARY ARTISTS HEADLINE **FOREVERGLADES** PALM BEACH

Celebrating 30 years of progress, the ForEverglades Palm Beach benefit at The Breakers in February drew more than 600 supporters. They joined headliner Lionel Richie as he performed top hits including “All Night Long,” “Hello,” “Easy,” and “Stuck on You.”

Tennis Champion, ESPN Analyst, and Olympic Gold Medalist Mary Joe Fernandez hosted the sold-out benefit, while legendary singer-songwriter Billy Joel and wife Alexis Joel served as Honorary Chairs. Both were recognized for their Hurricane Ian relief work in southwest Florida through the Joel Foundation. The couple announced a gift to fund expansion of The Everglades Foundation’s PreK-12 Everglades Literacy program in Lee County.

In recognition of Billy Joel, the Everglades High School Legacy Chamber Choir performed his classic, “We Didn’t Start the Fire,” along with a mash-up of Avicii’s “Nights.”

In a meaningful tribute to The Everglades Foundation’s 30-year history, Mary Barley, founding director, and Paul Tudor Jones II, co-founder, appeared in a video tracing the origins of the Foundation.

Music throughout the evening was curated by Savannah Buffett — writer, broadcaster and host of the “Savannah Daydreamin’ Radio Hour” on SiriusXM and Radio Margaritaville.

The event raised an all-time high to support the restoration of the Everglades. Generous sponsors of the event included The Breakers, Chilton Trust, VoLo Foundation, Sotheby’s, and Shades of Green.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

CLEAN, SAFE WATER FOR ALL

Water surrounds us in South Florida, with the ocean, canals, lakes, and swimming pools around every corner providing opportunities for recreation and enjoyment. Being safer, more comfortable, and more responsible in, on, and around the water is the mission of Ocaquatics Swim School. It is also committed to supporting clean freshwater for all and to preserving our water supply through Everglades restoration.

Launched in 1994 by Miren Oca to teach the next generation to swim, Ocaquatics has grown from a teach-in-your-home swim program into a network with five indoor warm-water swimming pools across Miami-Dade County. It offers lessons for all ages — from infants through beginner adults — helping families safely enjoy activities in our waters.

Ocaquatics has been certified as a “B Corporation,” meaning it meets the highest standards for social and environmental impact, while using the company as a force for good. With a dedication to being a sustainable business, the school is a member of 1% For The Planet, and its team of swim teachers work together each year to select the recipients of its generosity. The Everglades Foundation is proud to be selected and grateful to Ocaquatics for sharing a vision of abundant clean freshwater for our community. It is one of the first local companies to join the Foundation’s Miami Advisory Council, and has received a “Top Workplace” ranking from the *Sun Sentinel* for the last five years.

With more than 1.5 million swim lessons under their belt, Oca and her team are dedicated to a resilient South Florida, with abundant freshwater for all, a healthy Everglades, and new generations of swimmers equipped to enjoy their time on the water safely.



AJ Kreider, Katuska Yanez, David Lawrence, Jr., Miren Oca, Miguel Barranco

“At Ocaquatics Swim School, we find it a privilege and a responsibility to support The Everglades Foundation. They help us educate our 175 team members about where our fresh drinking and recreational water comes from, and the importance of conserving this valuable resource. We are grateful for the opportunity to support them in their work to restore and protect the Everglades ecosystem so we have it for generations to come.”

- Miren Oca, Founder, Ocaquatics

OUR DONORS

*"We enthusiastically support The Everglades Foundation
— it is fundamental in assuring the health of our
environment and the legacy we leave to future
generations."*

— Giselle Wagner and Paul Myerson

\$25,000 AND ABOVE

Anonymous (1)	Martha W. Cox	Mr. and Mrs. Peter T. Grauer
Rona and Jeffrey Abramson Foundation	Ann and Steve Bartram	Green Family Foundation
Elizabeth and Lee S. Ainslie III	Martha and Thomas Farrell	Mr. and Mrs. W. George Greig
Betsy and Philip Allen	Heidi Cox	Mr. Kenneth C. Griffin
Lew & Dawn Allyn Family Fund of the Collier Community Foundation	Crawford Taylor Foundation	Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation
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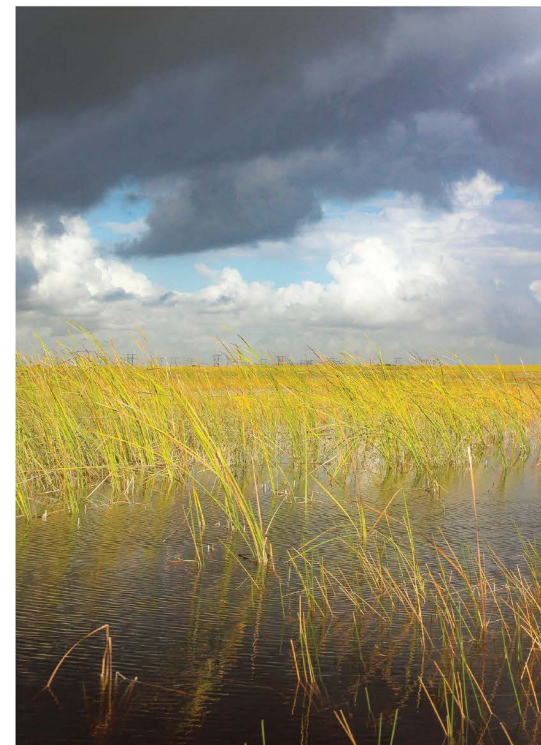
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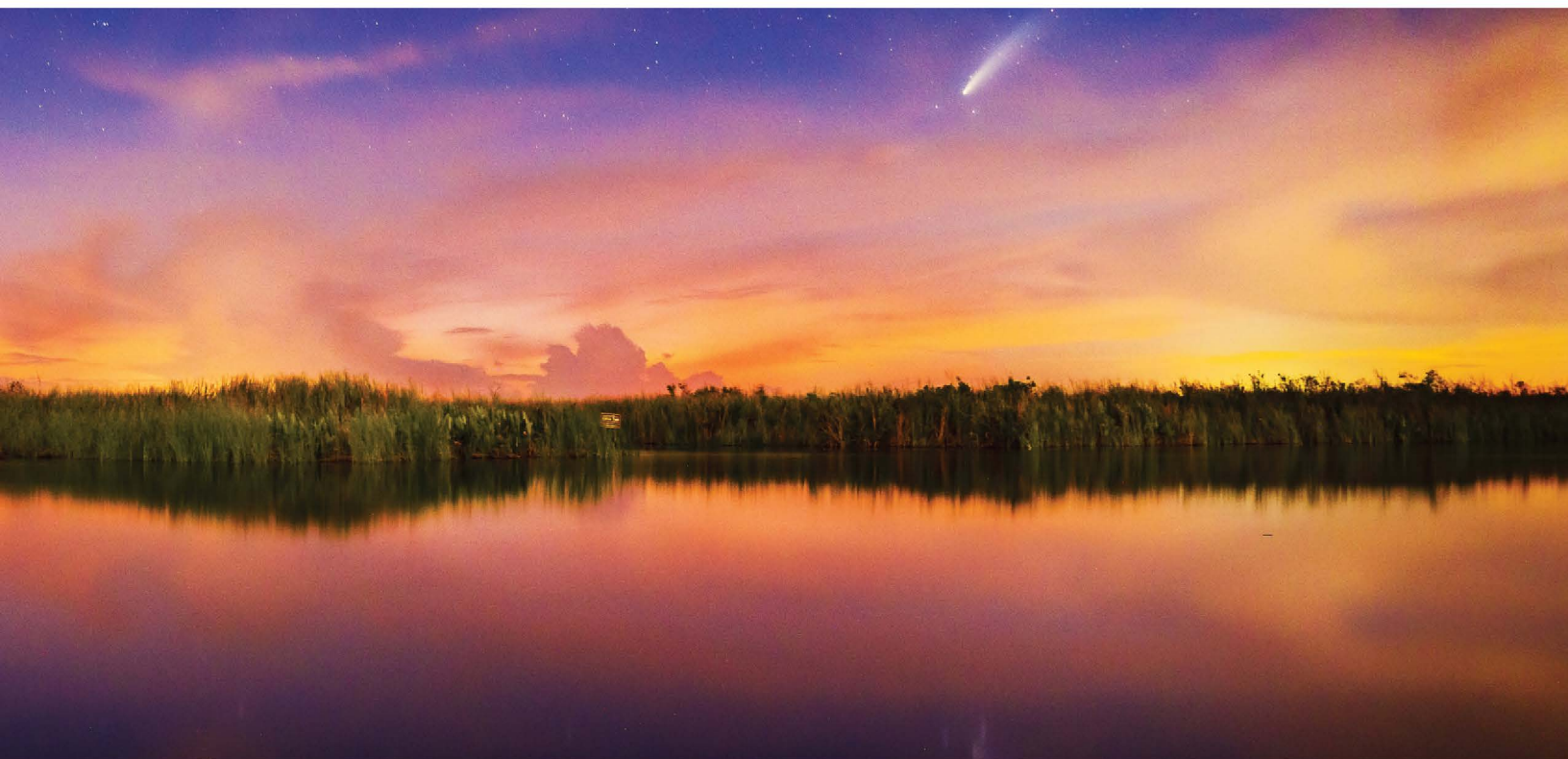
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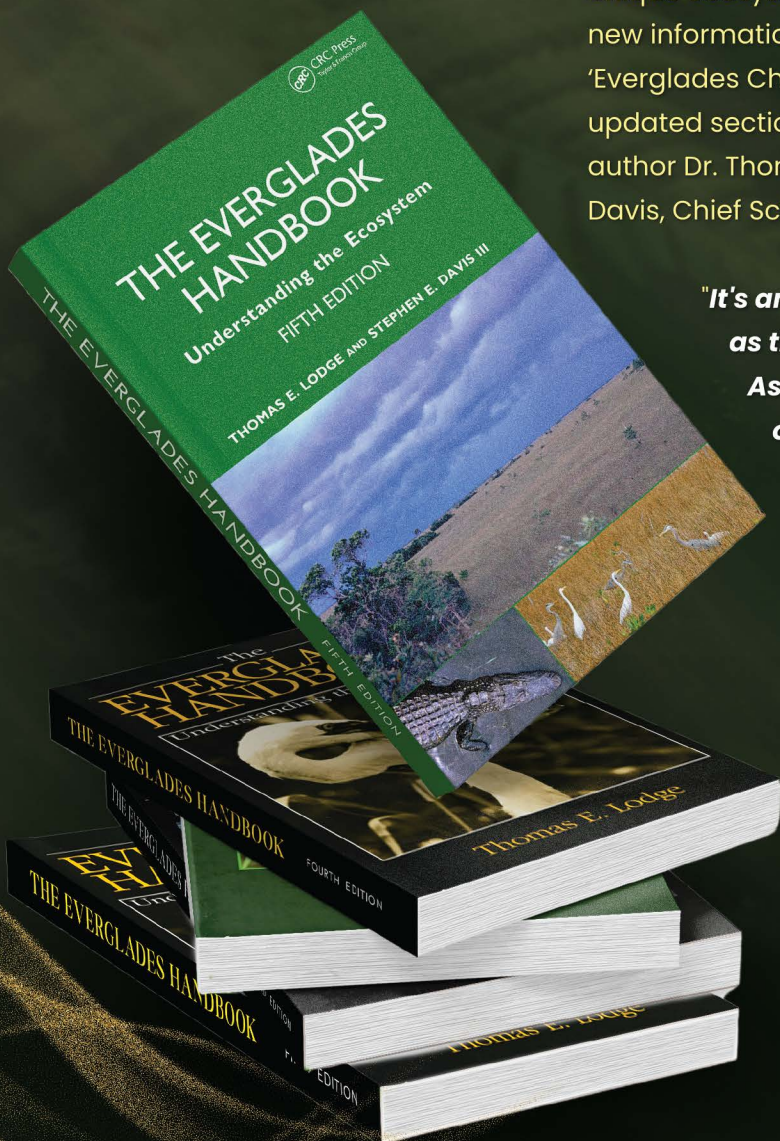
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THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO AMERICA'S EVERGLADES

The Everglades Handbook: Understanding the Ecosystem

The Fifth Edition is packed with science-based insights about the Everglades, including how drastically it has changed. Considered essential reading for anyone trying to understand the history, diversity, and challenges faced in restoring this unique ecosystem, the fifth edition of the bestseller presents new information and updates. It also includes a new chapter, 'Everglades Chemistry — A Primer,' along with an expanded and updated section about Everglades restoration. This year, longtime author Dr. Thomas Lodge was joined by new co-author Dr. Steve Davis, Chief Science Officer with The Everglades Foundation.



"It's an honor to be associated with a book that has served as the base of Everglades knowledge for nearly 30 years. As a graduate student, I referred to the first edition of The Everglades Handbook while beginning my research in the Everglades in 1995. Working with Dr. Lodge and having my name on the fifth edition of The Everglades Handbook rank among the most rewarding experiences of my professional career."

Dr. Steve Davis, Co-Author

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Gifts from generous supporters benefit The Everglades Foundation's science, advocacy, and education programs, as well as our communications and engagement efforts throughout South Florida and the nation. We welcome your support of our promising programs through a variety of ways to give.



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- For More Information -

CONTACT JODI FARRELL, VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT

305-331-3361 or JFarrell@EvergladesFoundation.org

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18001 Old Cutler Road, Suite 625, Palmetto Bay, FL 33157
Federal Tax ID Number: 59-3228899

FOREVERGLADES

ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

LEAVING A MAGNIFICENT LEGACY

Through The Everglades Foundation's leadership, the world's largest ecosystem restoration project will be a model for the rest of the globe. While we continue to aggressively push restoration to completion, we also need to pivot to protection, because the encroaching threats to the Everglades will always exist.

That's what inspired our Foundation's \$75 million endowment campaign — to augment our annual fundraising program, ensure the long-term sustainability of America's Everglades for future generations, and protect it in perpetuity. It's about the importance of the ecosystem to the most populous region of the state.

Those who have generously contributed to our endowment campaign will leave a magnificent legacy — a legacy of protection — and the assurance that there will always be passionate people armed with state-of-the-art scientific data, fully dedicated to ensuring the survival and sustainability of America's beloved Everglades for generations to come.

With deep appreciation,



Marshall Field V
Endowment Campaign Committee Chairman

"The Everglades is an American icon. While we keep the momentum moving for its restoration, it's wise to begin planning to protect this extraordinary ecosystem into the future. We support this endowment because it means The Everglades, and The Everglades Foundation as its protector, will live on for generations to come."

- The McCausland Foundation, Bonnie and Peter and McCausland

We gratefully acknowledge and recognize the following donors for their pioneering support of our new Endowment Fund, established to ensure the long-term sustainability of The Everglades Foundation and perpetual protection of America's Everglades.

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Our deepest gratitude to those who have contributed to the John Marshall Fund and Nathaniel P. Reed Fund.

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THE EVERGLADES LEGACY SOCIETY

We thank our generous supporters who have chosen to continue their legacies through The Everglades Foundation.



AN ARTIST'S LEGACY

Artist, Wordsmith and Avid Birder
James Sherwood Harrison
1933-2018

We are grateful to the late James Harrison for his generous bequest to support the work of The Everglades Foundation. Born in Iowa, he received a degree in journalism from Northwestern University, served in Korea, and moved to New York City, after completing a degree in graphic design in California. Jim's artistic pursuits included gallery exhibits and work on the murals in City Center, and he later turned to freelance copy-editing for numerous corporate clients. A man of great humor and grammatical correctness, he was ever on alert for non sequiturs, run-on sentences, clichés, and irrelevant sentences. Jim traveled the world and was a longtime birder. He enjoyed many seasons in South Florida in his home in Fort Lauderdale. We thank him for his thoughtful legacy gift.

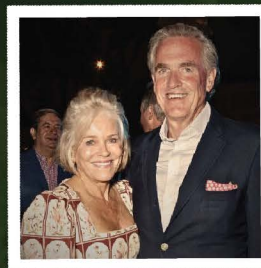
Please contact Julie Rosenfeld
jrosenfeld@EvergladesFoundation.org
and explore options for creating
your lasting Everglades legacy.
EvergladesLegacy.org



FOR OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN

“Combining our desires to both support the causes near to our hearts and take care of our children and grandchildren, we have created a trust which benefits the immediate needs of our favorite organizations including The Everglades Foundation. In the future, the trust's assets will provide for our heirs. Through this charitable vehicle, we are supporting the successful restoration of America's Everglades, ensuring a healthy and sustainable South Florida for our family and future generations.”

- Carlos and Claudia de la Cruz, Jr.



FOR PROTECTION BEYOND OUR LIFETIMES

“The Everglades will need our protection well beyond our lifetimes. We are pleased to support this work far into the future by dedicating a portion of our life insurance policy to The Everglades Foundation. We have great confidence that the Foundation will stand guard over this remarkable landscape. “

- Catherine and Mac Willett

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

Since 1993, the commitment and influence of extraordinary partners have helped advance our mission to restore and protect America's Everglades. On behalf of our generation and those yet to come, we are abundantly grateful for their support and collaboration.

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CONGRESS TO
FUND EVERGLADES
RESTORATION**

"THE TIME IS NOW" to protect Florida's \$33 billion outdoor economy and ensure a healthy, thriving Everglades for our kids and future generations.



At Orvis, we've been committed to restoring Florida's Everglades, and for decades progress was thought impossible. Now, with support of our customers, fishing guides, nonprofit partners and policy makers, finishing the largest ecosystem restoration project in the world is within sight. We cannot wait.

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Simon Perkins, President

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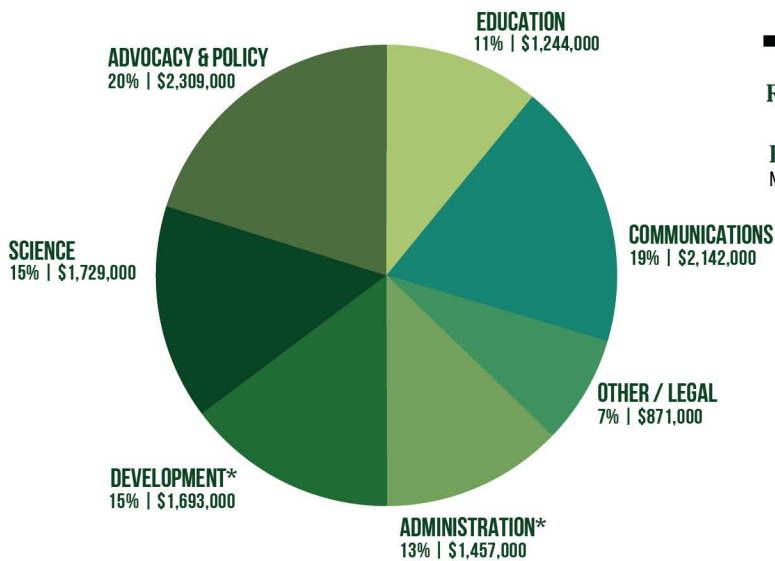
"At its core, fly fishing has always been about connection — connection with a place, with species, and with other people. We are proud to partner with The Everglades Foundation and to be part of a mission that is creating the biggest collaborative force, the biggest connection of people that has the power and impact to make change."

— Simon Perkins, President, Orvis

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

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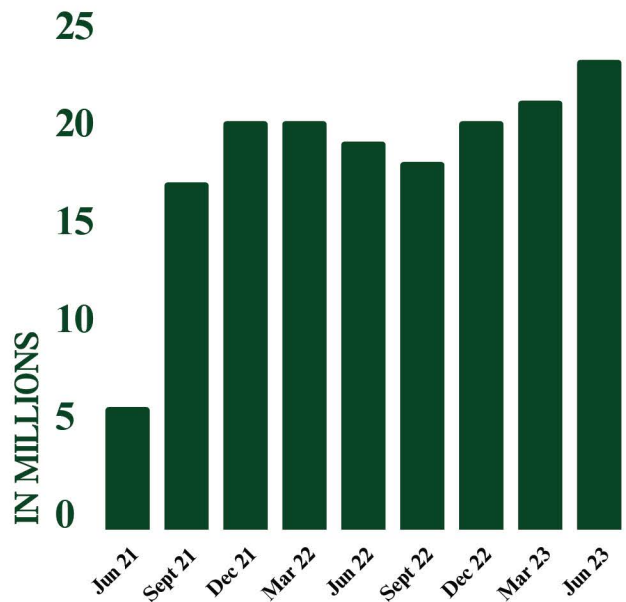


*The Board of Directors' donations cover all fundraising and administrative expenses.

	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL
REVENUE	\$9,049,360	\$8,009,513	\$17,058,873
EVENT REVENUE	\$3,597,602	-	\$3,597,602
NET OF EXPENSES			

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS: \$9,212,293	
BEGINNING	ENDING
\$33,940,091	\$43,152,384

ENDOWMENT GROWTH



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