



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

January 29, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Last year, your leadership was critical to successfully doubling the historical federal funding level for Everglades restoration in Fiscal Year 2020 (FY2020). I write to request your support to build on our significant progress by including a record \$250 million in construction funding for South Florida Ecosystem Restoration (SFER) in your upcoming budget request to Congress for FY2021.

The 50/50 federal-state partnership to restore the Everglades remains essential to sustaining Florida's economic growth, protecting our state's unique environmental character and enhancing the quality of life for no less than a third of all Sunshine State residents. With several projects like Kissimmee River Restoration and Tamiami Trail Next Steps finally nearing completion, and the next generation of Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) projects breaking ground soon, continued momentum necessitates that federal funding keeps pace with the state's strong record of funding. In FY2021, the Governor's budget request includes a minimum of \$300 million for Everglades restoration.

Florida's future is at stake amid urgent attention to harmful algal bloom and water quality issues. By requesting that Congress fund the Army Corps of Engineers' full capability in FY2021 to support SFER construction with \$250 million, you will cement an unparalleled legacy of building critical water infrastructure in Florida. Floridians are grateful for your attention in fulfilling long overdue federal commitments to restoring America's Everglades.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor