



Jeb Bush  
Governor

# Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building  
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

David B. Scrubs  
Secretary

July 9, 1999

Ms. Cherie Trainor  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

Re: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, National Park Service and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Preparation of Supplement to the 1992 Final EIS on Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park (ENP) -- Construction Modifications to the Central and Southern Florida Project to Improve Water Deliveries into ENP and to Take Steps to Restore the Natural Hydrological Conditions Within the Park.

SAI: FL9212241915CR3

Dear Ms. Trainor:

This Department has reviewed the above-described project proposal and based on the information provided, we submit the following comments and recommendations regarding the environmental aspects of the project.

The Corps of Engineers is asking the Department and other interested agencies to assist them in identifying issues associated with a proposed change to the locally preferred option for the 8.5 Square Mile Area (SMA) by the South Florida Water Management District as part of the Modified Water Deliveries project. In addition to the issues already identified by the Corps, the following issues are recommended for evaluation in the SEIS.

A primary objective of the Restudy of the Central and South Florida Flood Control Project was to reestablish natural hydropatterns within the remaining Everglades. Any evaluation should be done using water levels and other conditions which are expected to result from completion of the projects proposed in the Restudy and the resulting ecosystem restoration.

An evaluation must be made of the impact of each alternative on restoration efforts to reduce to the maximum extent possible, seepage currently drained from Everglades National Park. This should include an evaluation of changes to present and potential restoration hydropatterns within

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