# FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

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June 17, 1999

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Mr. Elmar Kurzbach
Planning Division, Environmental Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

Re: Scoping Notification, SEIS for Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park, Dade County

Dear Mr. Kurzbach:

The Office of Environmental Services of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission has received the notification that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting input on issues to be considered during the development of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to the 1992 EIS for Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park. Specifically, the SEIS will assess the extent to which information obtained, and decisions made, since 1992 might affect the future of the 8.5 Square Mile Area.

In addition to the seven issues identified in the notification, we request that the SEIS also consider potential impacts of water management as it relates to (1) protection and restoration of the Water Conservation Areas (WCAs), particularly WCAs-3B and southern -3A; and (2) potential impacts to the recreational amenities that these areas currently provide. Staff of the Office of Environmental Services will be available to assist you in this aspect of the evaluation; however, we are not planning at this time to provide the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act report independent from that of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sincerely,

Bradley J. Hartman

Bradley J. Hartman, Director
Office of Environmental Services

BJH/MAP
ENV 2-16/5/3
smascope.coe

cc: Col. Joe Miller, COE, Jacksonville
Mr. Steven Forsythe, USFWS, Vero Beach