

Mahoney and 20 Local Environmental Groups Call on President to Support Everglades Restoration

President Expected to Veto Legislation Next Week That Has \$1.365 Billion for the Indian River Lagoon; \$1.82 Billion Total for Everglades Restoration

(October 20, 2007)

(Stuart, FL) - Congressman Tim Mahoney (FL-16), the South Florida Water Management District and local environmental groups called on President Bush to sign an Everglades Restoration bill into law at a press conference on the bank of the St. Lucie River today. The President has pledged to veto the bill known as WRDA (Water Resources Development Act), which authorizes \$1.82 billion for Everglades Restoration, including \$1.365 billion for the Indian River Lagoon. The bill also authorizes \$1.5 million for the Herbert Hoover Dike. Mahoney has been a tireless advocate for the WRDA Bill.

"The President needs to stop playing politics with Everglades Restoration. After seven years of Washington's broken promises, it is critical for Congress and the President to help fund important projects like the Indian River Lagoon and the Herbert Hoover Dike," said Congressman Tim Mahoney.

Mahoney, the South Florida Water Management District and several environmental groups took an educational tour down the St. Lucie River while discussing the local impact the WRDA bill is likely to have on Florida's environment, infrastructure, and economy. Mahoney and the groups called on President Bush to sign the WRDA bill into law.

Groups participating in the event included the South Florida Water Management District, The Environmental Studies Center, The Everglades Foundation, The Florida Audubon, The Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission, The Florida Oceanographic Society, The Indian RiverKeepers, The Marine Resources Council, The Martin County Audubon, Martin Soil & Water Conservation District, The Martin County Conservation Alliance, The Rotary Water Management, The Loxahatchee Sierra Club, The St. Lucie County Conservation Alliance, The St. Lucie River Coalition, The Florida Sportsman Magazine, The Everglades Foundation, The St. Lucie River Initiative, and The St. Lucie County Mosquito Control District.

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