

Glades County Board of County Commissioners

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May 1, 2017

The Honorable Tom Rooney 2169 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Rooney,

On behalf of the Glades County Commission, we commend your efforts to lift the moratorium on congressionally-directed authorization and spending, or "earmarks" for water and coastal infrastructure projects.

Glades County is known for its rural and diverse ecosystems, it is home to Fisheating Creek one of the only two scenic and historical rivers in the state. Water quality is impacted by Corps activities in central Florida and our economy benefits from being able to not only keep the diverse waters clean but to also restore them as best we can to what it was, which is what drew residents and tourist alike to this area.

With projects that are currently permitted that will have a positive impact on this endeavor, our challenge has been the availability of funding to complete these projects. If your proposed legislation were to pass it could have a resounding effect on our ability to completed these very projects that could have a significant and immediate impact on the improvement of the water quality and quality of life.

We appreciate your efforts to ensure that our elected representatives have the opportunity to effectively advocate for our local needs, both through the Congressional authorization and appropriations processes. In Glades County we experience the real consequences of the Federal Government's delays and funding shortfalls and it's essential that our Representatives have an opportunity to successfully intervene on our behalf.

Thank you for your support for our community and local economy. Please feel free to contact the County if you have any questions or need additional information.

John Ahern Chair

Weston Pryor District 1

Donna Storter-Long District 2

Rais

Donald Strenth District 3

District 4

Tim Stanley District 5

Paul Carlisle County Manager Richard W. Pringle County Attorney