



Everglades Coalition

A Resolution of the Everglades Coalition in Opposition of Expanded Development and Operations at the Homestead Air Reserve Base in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

WHEREAS, the Homestead Air Reserve Base in Miami-Dade County, Florida is in close proximity to Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park;

WHEREAS, Everglades National Park is the largest subtropical wilderness in the United States, including 1.5 million acres of native habitat, and is designated as a World Heritage Site, International Biosphere Reserve, Wetland of International Importance, and is home to numerous endangered species;

WHEREAS, Biscayne National Park is the largest marine park in the National Park System, and protects part of the third-largest coral reef system in the world and the longest stretch of mangrove forest remaining on Florida's east coast;

WHEREAS, Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park are critical protected areas within the Greater Everglades ecosystem and are intrinsically linked to the health of South Florida's water supply, tourism economy, public health, regional resilience, and quality of life;

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is currently pursuing a joint use agreement with the United States of America to develop expanded aviation operations adjacent to the Homestead Air Reserve Base;

WHEREAS, increased air traffic at the Homestead Air Reserve Base would have detrimental effects such as air pollution, noise pollution, light pollution, increased traffic, and risks of urban sprawl that could threaten the resources that Everglades and Biscayne National Parks were designated to protect;

WHEREAS, previous efforts by Miami-Dade County in the 1990s to expand operations at Homestead Air Reserve Base were met with vehement opposition by stakeholders and the public, and were ultimately abandoned due to anticipated impacts to the ecology and visitor experience at both national parks;

1000 Friends of Florida
Angler Action Foundation
Audubon Florida
Audubon of Southwest Florida
Audubon of the Western Everglades
Audubon Society of the Everglades
Backcountry Fly Fishers of Naples
Calusa Waterkeeper
Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife
Center for Biological Diversity
Conservancy of Southwest Florida
Defenders of Wildlife
"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society
Earthjustice
Environment Florida
Everglades Foundation
Everglades Law Center
Everglades Trust
Florida Bay Forever
Florida Conservation Voters Education Fund
Florida Defenders of the Environment
Florida Keys Environmental Fund
Florida Native Plant Society
Florida Oceanographic Society
Friends of the Arthur R. Marshall
Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of the Everglades
Hendry-Glades Audubon Society
International Dark-Sky Association, FL Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
Izaak Walton League Florida Division
Izaak Walton League Florida Keys Chapter
Izaak Walton League Mangrove Chapter
Lake Worth Waterkeeper
Last Stand
League of Women Voters of Florida
Martin County Conservation Alliance
Miami Pine Rocklands Coalition
Miami Waterkeeper
National Audubon Society
National Parks Conservation Association
National Wildlife Refuge Association
Natural Resources Defense Council
North Carolina Outward Bound School
Ocean Research & Conservation Association
Peace River Audubon Society
Reef Relief
Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation
Sierra Club
Sierra Club Florida Chapter
Sierra Club Broward Group
Sierra Club Calusa Group
Sierra Club Central Florida Group
Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group
Sierra Club Miami Group
South Florida Audubon Society
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
The Florida Wildlife Federation
The Institute for Regional Conservation
The National Wildlife Federation
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Tropical Audubon Society

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WHEREAS, the District Court of Appeal of Florida, Third District, ruled in 1998 that use of the Air Base for nonmilitary activities could impact resources and facilities of regional and statewide significance;¹

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Defense determined in 2001 that the runway, airfield, and Air Base would remain only for military use, based on the need to “protect environmental values in two nearby national parks.”²

Therefore, be it resolved: October 23, 2020.

The Everglades Coalition, with 61 organizations dedicated to the protection and restoration of America’s Everglades, adamantly opposes expanded operations at the Homestead Air Reserve Base including large passenger or cargo traffic commercial aviation.



Mark Perry
Co-Chair



Marisa Carrozzo
Co-Chair

¹ *Sierra Club v. State Administration Commission*, 721 So. 2d 829 (Fla. 3d DCA 1998)

² 66 Fed. Reg. 12930 (March 1, 2001).

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