Everglades Restoration: Worth Every Penny

The 27th Annual Everglades Coalition Conference is hosted by Earthjustice.

Please join us for the 2012 Everglades Coalition Conference in Stuart, Florida for the largest annual forum for Everglades restoration and conservation. This year’s conference will increase focus on restoration’s dual benefits for the economy and the environment. We look forward to your participation at the 2012 Everglades Coalition Conference.

Julie Hill-Gabriel  
State Co-Chair  
Audubon

Dawn Shreveffs  
National Co-Chair  
National Parks Conservation Association

A Special Thank You to Our Sponsors:

2012 Conference Host:  
Everglades Coalition

River of Grass:

Kissimmee Prairie: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation/Budweiser Conservation of the Year Grant Awarded on Behalf of Finalist Alligator Ron Bergeron  
Pay Hay Okoe: National Parks Conservation Association  


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Thursday, January 5th
1:00 pm-7:30 pm  Conference Check-In and On-Site Registration
6:00 pm-7:30 pm  Opening Reception with Keynote Speaker

Friday, January 6th
7:00 am  Conference Check-In and On-Site Registration begins
7:45 am-8:40 am  Breakfast with Guest Speaker
8:45 am-10:30 am  Plenary Session I: Expediting Return on Restoration Investments: Connecting Lake Okeechobee and Everglades National Park. Moderator: Eric Draper, Audubon of Florida
10:30 am-11:30 pm  Plenary Session II: Emerging Issues Before the Florida Legislature
11:30 am-12:30 pm  Plenary Session III: Federal Legislative Roundtable
12:45 pm-2:30 pm  Lunch with Keynote Speaker
3:00 pm  Field Trips Depart from Hutchinson Island Marriott
3:00 pm-6:00 pm  Ecotour Operators Showcase
Meet with ecotour operators and business owners who share first-hand knowledge of the economy’s connection with the health of the Everglades.
6:30 pm-7:30 pm  Reception
7:30 pm-9:30 pm  Dinner with Keynote Speaker Carl Hiaasen- Bestselling Author and Miami Herald Contributor

Saturday, January 7th
7:45 am-9:00 am  Breakfast with Guest Speaker
9:00 am-10:30 am  Plenary Session IV: Stopping Water Pollution in the Everglades Ecosystem
Moderator: David Guest, Earthjustice
10:45 am-12:15 pm  Breakout Sessions B
Sustaining Natural Capital: Protecting Society and the Economy
Moderator: Andy Hil, Conservancy of Southwest Florida
Restoration Indicator Species: What Are They Saying, and Are We Listening?
Moderator: Brad Cornell, Audubon of Florida/Collin County Audubon Society
Valuing Ecosystems Through Natural Resources Damages
Moderator: Jane Graham, Audubon of Florida

12:30 pm-2:30 pm  Lunch with Keynote Speaker

2:30 pm-4:00 pm  Advancing Restoration Through Local Contributions: The Martin County Story
Moderator: Mark Peny, Florida Oceanographic Society
Restoration in Lean Times: Doing More With Less
Moderator: Kahlil Kettering, National Parks Conservation Association
You Can’t Get There From Here: Proposed Road Projects That Sabotage Everglades Restoration
Moderator: Laurie Macdonald, Defenders of Wildlife
Operating Projects to Benefit the Southern Estuaries
Moderator: Megan Tinsley, Audubon of Florida

4:15 pm-5:45 pm  Plenary Session V
Managing Lake Okeechobee for Shared Prosperity: Who Gets What, When, and How Much?
Moderator: Daniel DeLisi, South Florida Water Management District
6:30 pm-7:30 pm  Reception
7:30 pm-10:00 pm  Dinner and Keynote Speaker Carl Hiaasen- Bestselling Author and Miami Herald Contributor

Conference Registration:
Register online now or download registration form at www.evergladescoalition.org/conference. If you would like a registration form faxed or mailed to you, please contact us at (305) 371-6399 x136 or e-mail patricia.k.carr@gmail.com.

Registration Fees:
Register by December 10, 2011 to receive the discounted registration rate of $150 ($100 for one day registration). After December 10, registration is $190 ($110 for one day registration).

Registration fee includes conference materials, admittance to all plenary and breakout sessions, field trip attendance (space permitting) and admittance to all receptions. Tickets for optional meal functions must be paid in advance. Meal function costs: breakfasts = $20, lunches = $25, dinners = $50.

Accommodations:
The 2012 Everglades Coalition Conference will be held at the Hutchinson Island Marriott, 555 NE Ocean Boulevard, Stuart, Florida - a Florida Green Lodging Palm 1 certified property.

Field Trip Options:
Visit to the Florida Oceanographic Coastal Center
Florida Oceanographic Coastal Center is a 57-acre marine life nature center situated between the Indian River Lagoon and the Atlantic Ocean. Participants will be given a guided tour of the Center, will cast seine nets and discuss the oyster hatchery, water quality issues and estuary ecosystems.

Boat Trip to the St. Lucie Inlet
Travel in a pontoon boat to view sea grass beds, a bird rookery and other features of the magnificent local estuaries. Learn about the importance of these resources and potential impacts from nutrient pollution and freshwater discharges.

Beach Walk
Participants will be treated to a guided tour along the beach and views of shorebirds and limestone outcroppings with tidal pools at the House of Refuge. This trip will provide an opportunity to learn more about coastal ecosystems and water quality.

Become a Conference Sponsor or Exhibitor:
Support the Everglades Coalition’s efforts while gaining exposure to over 300 Conference participants and recognition throughout the Conference. Visit www.evergladescoalition.org for more Sponsor and Exhibitor information, or contact us at (305) 371-6399 x136.

Acceptance of sponsorship donations has no bearing on the Conference program, content or the views and positions of the Everglades Coalition, nor does it imply recommendations or endorsements by the Coalition or its members.