Press Release: Chuck Todd of NBC News to Moderate Everglades Water Supply Summit

Dear Everglades Partner,

On January 17th and 18th, 2012 the Everglades Foundation will be hosting a first of its kind event in Tallahassee, Florida. The Everglades Water Supply Summit will be filled with informative, thought-provoking events designed to build momentum towards the restoration of a national treasure and to secure Florida’s water supply.

In 2011, Florida witnessed one of the worst droughts of its history. It was the third drought in the past ten years. This lack of rain sparked wildfires across the state and set large-scale destructive algal blooms in motion in the Caloosahatchee river. West Palm Beach and other municipalities came within days of running out of water.

The drought highlighted the issues that Florida should have been focusing on from the beginning: storing rainwater, cleaning it and supplying it to the millions of Floridians who need it.

The Everglades ecosystem is a crucial link between water storage and water supply for almost 7 million Floridians. And at less than half its original size, one out of every three Floridians relies on the Everglades as the source of their fresh drinking water.

For over a hundred years, we have built canals and levees to re-direct the natural southerly flow of freshwater from the headwaters of the Everglades in the Kissimmee river basin towards urban areas and coastal cities, disrupting the ecosystem's delicate natural balance.

Meanwhile, 1.7 billion gallons of freshwater are dumped into saltwater estuaries every day.

Florida's boating, tourism, real estate, hunting, recreational and commercial fishing industries all depend on a healthy Everglades ecosystem, supporting tens of thousands of jobs and contributing billions to our economy.

The Everglades Foundation would be honored by your presence, your insights and your experience. Please plan to join us.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Kirk Fordham
CEO, Everglades Foundation
Summit Kick-Off Luncheon
January 17, 2012 | 11:30AM – 1:00PM
Augustus B. Turnbull III Florida State Conference Center
555 West Pensacola Street, Tallahassee, FL

Water Supply Summit*
January 17, 2012 | 2:00PM
Augustus B. Turnbull III Florida State Conference Center
555 West Pensacola Street, Tallahassee, FL
Government officials, business leaders and concerned Floridians will discuss the growing water supply crisis and how Everglades Restoration is the key to solving it
*This event has limited seating. Attendees must request tickets during registration

Everglades Jam Reception
January 17, 2012 | 5:30PM - 7:00PM
The Moon 1105 East Lafayette Street, Tallahassee, FL
Unwind with fellow Floridians over good food, drinks and a live performance by platinum recording artist Gavin DeGraw

Everglades Jam Performance by Gavin DeGraw
January 17, 2012 | 7:00-9:00PM
The Moon
1105 East Lafayette Street, Tallahassee, FL

Legislative Briefing Breakfast
January 18, 2012 | 7:30AM - 9:30AM
Augustus B. Turnbull III Florida State Conference Center
555 West Pensacola Street, Tallahassee, FL

Capital Lobby Day
January 18, 2012 | 9:30AM – 4:05PM
Augustus B. Turnbull III Florida State Conference Center
555 West Pensacola Street, Tallahassee, FL
A day of briefings, meetings and advocacy to save Florida's Everglades

Pursuant to Florida Statutes sections 11.045(4)(a) and 112.3215(6)(a), select members, officials and employees of the legislative and executive branches are prohibited from accepting a complimentary ticket to this event. If you meet this restriction, you are required to purchase your admission to the event.
The cost of admission for each event is as follows:

1. Summit Kick-Off Luncheon: $15 per person

http://evergladessummit.org/schedule.html

12/16/2011
2. Everglades Jam Reception: $20 per person
3. Everglades Jam Concert: $45 per person
4. Legislative Briefing Breakfast: $10 per person

Admission can be paid at the reception entrance when you arrive at each event.
There are room blocks with limited availability at the Governor's Inn, Aloft Hotel and Hampton Inn. To inquire about a room block, please contact EvergladesSummit@susanavis.com

Below is a list of hotels in the Tallahassee area.

**Hampton Inn – ROOM BLOCK** (5.1 mi)
2979 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL
(850) 514-6867
hamptoninn.com

*This hotel block is first come, first serve. To book a room, please call and say you would like to make a reservation under the Everglades Foundation room block. The rate is $119 for the night of Monday January 16 and $139 for the night of Tuesday January 17.*

**Residence Inn Tallahassee Universities at the Capitol** (0.8 mi)
600 W Gaines St
Tallahassee, Florida 32304
1-850-329-9080
residenceinnatuniversity.com
Rates starting at ($129+)

**Comfort Suites** (2.2 mi)
1026 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 224-3200
comfortsuitestallahassee.com
Rates starting at ($79+)

**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Tallahassee** (1.1 mi)
101 South Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-5000
tallahassee.doubletree.com
Rates starting at ($127+)

**Holiday Inn** (2.5 mi)
1355 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 877-3171
hicipitiolaest.com
Rates starting at ($89+)

**Best Western Pride Inn & Suites** (3.6 mi)
2016 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 656-6312
book.bestwestern.com
Rates Starting at ($55+)

**Aloft Hotel** (1.3 mi)
200 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 513-0313
alufittallahassee.com
Rates starting at ($125+)

**The Governor's Inn** (1.1 mi)
209 South Adams Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 681-6855
thegovinn.com
Rates Starting at ($144+)

**Cabot Lodge Thomasville Road** (5.9 mi)
1653 Raymond Diehl Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32308
(850) 386-7500
cabotlodgethomasvilleroad.com
Rates Starting at ($105+)
Courtyard Tallahassee Capital (2.1 mi)
1018 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 222-8822
marriott.com
Rates starting at ($129+)

Hotel Duval, Autograph Collection (1.5 mi)
415 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-6000
autographcollectionhotels.com
Rates starting at ($119+)