



## Florida Forever Resolution

WHEREAS, Northwest Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals is committed to protecting lands critical to the future of Florida's drinking water, economy, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Florida Forever has helped to save many of Florida's beaches, rivers, bays, forests, coral reefs and estuaries that provide the foundation for our \$3 billion tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, Florida Forever has acquired more than 600,000 acres throughout Florida since 2000 and allocates \$300 million annually to purchase environmentally sensitive and other lands; and

WHEREAS, Florida is experiencing rapid population growth, with approximately 1,100 new residents every day in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of Florida Forever has diminished because of escalating land prices and the impacts of inflation; and

WHEREAS, virtually all of the funding for the Florida Forever program through the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 is already obligated to or anticipated for planned land purchases, leaving practically no funding for new conservation projects for the next two years; and

WHEREAS, a 2007 survey conducted by members of the Florida Forever Coalition found that more than 70% of Florida's voters approve of the Florida Forever program; and

WHEREAS, there is no second chance to protect Florida's great resources, and the costs of Florida's most special places will only increase in the future.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Northwest Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals urges the 2008 Florida Legislature to enact legislation to create and fund a successor program to the Florida Forever program and to immediately double funding for Florida Forever because of the enormous need for land conservation funding in our state.

NW Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals  
(Northwest Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals)

Signature

Title

Date

Barbara Stewart  
President of NWFAEP

31 March 2008