

December 2, 2020

Senator Marco Rubio  
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Greg Steube  
521 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Brian Mast  
2182 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Francis Rooney  
120 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20002

Representative Alcee L. Hastings  
2353 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Lois Frankel  
2305 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Ted Deutch  
2447 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Rick Scott  
716 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
1114 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Frederica Wilson  
2445 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Mario Diaz-Balart  
404 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Debbie Mucarsel-Powell  
114 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Donna Shalala  
1320 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Support for Letter from SE Florida County Mayors Urging Advancement of the C&SF Project Update Study**

Dear Senators and Representatives:

On behalf of Environmental Defense Fund, a global nonprofit organization that uses science and different perspectives to make the environment safer and healthier for us all, we write to offer our strong support for the June 4, 2020 letter sent to you by the mayors of Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach Counties backing a Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project Update Study (Resiliency Study or Restudy) and provision of funding for the Restudy in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Fiscal Year 2021 Work Plan.

As the mayors' letter noted, some recent progress can be celebrated: the decision by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) to serve as local sponsor for the Resiliency Study, and the advancement of the Section 216 Initial Appraisal Report by the Corps. It is vital that this forward motion continues, the seventy-year-old Central and Southern Flood Control Project (C&SF Project) requires

reevaluation in light of current and future challenges, including sea level rise, extreme weather, urban development, and a growing regional population.

The economic health of this region—like all other aspects of life in Southeast Florida—relies on the flood protection provided by the C&SF Project. Southeast Florida simply would not exist as we know it today without it, and the region's future viability depends on a Project that has been reevaluated and upgraded to meet this century's changing conditions. Tens of billions of dollars in infrastructure decisions by the public and private sectors depend on the C&SF Project continuing to function as well as or better than it has for the last seven decades.

The changing conditions will not wait, so this Restudy cannot wait, either. We urge you to support the request by the four mayors of Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties and the six million residents and tens of thousands of businesses they represent. Please do everything you can to secure funding for the C&SF Project Resiliency Study in the Corps Fiscal Year 2021 Work Plan.

We stand ready to support you and the regional leadership in Southeast Florida with this request.

Sincerely,



Dawn Shirreffs  
Florida Director

CC: Mr. R.D. James  
Assistant Secretary of the Army—Civil Works  
Department of the Army  
108 Army Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20310-0108

Lt. Gen. Todd T. Semonite  
Chief of Engineers and Commanding General  
Headquarters  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
331 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314-1000

Maj. Gen. Diana M. Holland  
Commander  
South Atlantic Division  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
60 Forsyth Street SW, Room 10M15  
Atlanta, GA 30303-8801



Col. Andrew Kelly  
District Commander  
Jacksonville District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
701 San Marco Boulevard  
Jacksonville, FL 32207-8175

Mr. Chauncey Goss  
Chairman of the Governing Board  
South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Mr. Drew Bartlett  
Executive Director  
South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406