

1807 NW 39 Terrace
Gainesville, Florida 32605
March 13, 1986

Senator Lawton M. Chiles
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Chiles:

The Florida Chapter of the Wildlife Society, an organization of professional wildlife biologists and managers devoted to the sound scientific management of our wildlife resources, supports your proposed legislation to authorize expansion of the Big Cypress National Preserve in South Florida. We commend your efforts to establish a framework for the joint purchase of these lands by the Department of Interior and the State of Florida. Protection of this wetlands area will benefit man as well as fish and wildlife, including the critically endangered Florida panther.

We hope that you are successful in this highly praiseworthy legislative effort.

Sincerely yours,

Wayne R. Marion
President

WRM/bf

cc: Ms. Wendy Matheisen
Lakeland Office
Dr. Lynn W. Lefebvre
Chairperson, Florida Panther Committee