

Original  Amendment

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER

17 OCT 31 AM 10:52

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics

EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual Financial Disclosure Statements of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, 135 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. Please do not file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

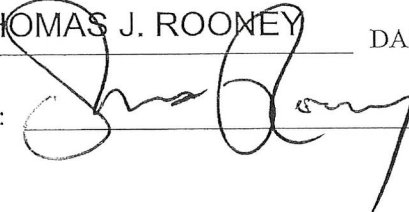
1. Name of Traveler: DAVID ETHAN ABNER
2. a. Name of accompanying relative: \_\_\_\_\_ or None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates of departure and return: Departure: 10/18/2017 Return: 10/21/2017  
 b. Dates at personal expense (if any): \_\_\_\_\_ or None
4. Departure city: WASHINGTON Destination: MIAMI Return city: WASHINGTON
5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): The Everglades Foundation
6. Describe meetings and events attended: Met with stakeholders involved with Everglades Restoration and participated in tours of the Florida Bay, Everglades National Park, and CERP project construction sites
7. Attached to this form are EACH of the following (signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box):  
 a.  a completed Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form;  
 b.  the Primary Trip Sponsor Form completed by the trip sponsor prior to the trip, including all attachments and Grantmaking or Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms;  
 c.  page 2 of the completed Traveler Form submitted by the employee; and  
 d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. (Signify that statement is true by checking box):   
 b. If not, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

SIGNATURE OF TRAVELER:  DATE: 10/26/2017

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure form were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

NAME OF SUPERVISING MEMBER: THOMAS J. ROONEY DATE: 10/26/2017

SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING MEMBER: 

Original  Amendment

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. *A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within 10 days of their return.* You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): The Everglades Foundation, Inc.
2. Travel Destination(s): Key Largo and Miami, FL
3. Date of Departure: 18 October 2017 Date of Return: 21 October 2017
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Vincent Evans, Corey Schrod, Evan Bergwall, Ethan Abner  
(NOTE: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if all information is identical for each person listed.)
5. Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in response to Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	343.69	334.00	255.67	N/A
Accompanying Relative	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. (Signify statement is true by checking box):

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Eric Eikenberg

Title: Chief Executive Officer

Organization: The Everglades Foundation, Inc.

I am an officer of the above-named organization (signify statement is true by checking box):

Address: 18001 Old Cutler Road, Miami, FL 33157

Telephone number: 305-251-0001

Email Address: eric@evergladesfoundation.org

*Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.*

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at (202) 225-7103.

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics

TRAVELER FORM

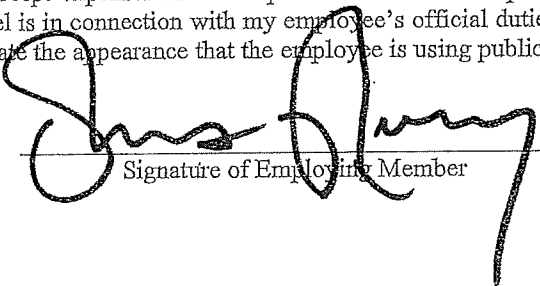
1. Name of Traveler: DAVID ETHAN ABNER
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): THE EVERGLADES FOUNDATION, INC.
3. Travel destination(s): MIAMI-KEY LARGO
4. a. Date of departure OCTOBER 18, 2017 Date of return: OCTOBER 21, 2017  
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  Yes  No  
If yes, dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a relative at the sponsor's expense?  Yes  No  
b. If yes:  
(1) Name of accompanying relative: \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) Relationship to traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) Accompanying relative is at least 18 years of age:  Yes  No
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(d) on the Primary Trip Sponsor Form (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent and you are requesting lodging for two nights)?  Yes  No  
b. If yes, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Primary Trip Sponsor Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and contributing sponsor forms:  Yes  No  
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.  
I am a legislative assistant (Interior, Energy and Water) for a Member on the Appropriations Committee, and Florida's 17th District, as well as all of South Florida is impacted by Everglades Restoration.
9. Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, and/or arranging the trip?  Yes  No

10. **FOR STAFF TRAVELERS:  
TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:**

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Date: SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Employing Member

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics

**PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM**

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a Traveler Form at least 30 days before the start date of the trip. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee Web site (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.**

1. Sponsor (who will be paying for the trip): \_\_\_\_\_  
The Everglades Foundation, Inc. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent (signify that the statement is true by checking box):
3. Check only one: I represent that:
  - a. the primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip  *or*
  - b. the trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds  *or*.
  - c. the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.   
If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Provide names and titles of ALL House Members and employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary):  
Please see attached invitee list. The invitees represent congressional staff whose official duties involve environmental policy matters
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying relative of the House invitee(s)?  Yes  No
6. Date of departure: October 18, 2017 Date of return: October 21, 2017
7. a. City of departure: DC  
b. Destination(s): Miami - Key Largo  
c. City of return: DC
8. I represent that (check one of the following):
  - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965:  *or*
  - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent:  *or*
  - c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist/foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
9. Check one of the following:
  - a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above:
  - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging:
  - c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night:  *or*
  - d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights:   
If "d" is checked, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities the House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees) (indicate agenda is attached by checking box):

11. Check one:

a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify that the statement is true by checking box):  *or*

b. N/A – trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.

12. For each sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip and its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:

The purpose of the trip is to provide congressional staff with an overview of the progress made and the challenges still confronting key federal holdings like Everglades National Park and Florida Bay.

The Everglades Foundation, Inc. is solely responsible for the planning and funding of this trip.

13. Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary.

a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (Specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (Specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

c. If travel will be first class or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify that the statement is true by checking box):

15. I represent that either (check one of the following):

a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees:  *or*

b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation:

If "b" is checked:

1) Detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \_\_\_\_\_  
\$15 for breakfast, \$20 lunch, \$35 dinner = \$70 total

2) Provide reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: \_\_\_\_\_  
The trip involves site visits to Everglades National Park and Florida Bay located outside of Miami.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel name: Hilton Key Largo City: Key Largo Cost per night: \$179

Reason(s) for selecting: The hotel is located near Florida Bay

Hotel name: Miami Airport Marriott City: Miami Cost per night: \$164

Reason(s) for selecting: \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost per night: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason(s) for selecting: \_\_\_\_\_

17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. (signify that the statement is true by checking box):

18. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total <i>Transportation</i> Expenses per Participant	Total <i>Lodging</i> Expenses per Participant	Total <i>Meal</i> Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$550	\$522	\$175
For each accompanying relative			

	<i>Other</i> Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	None anticipated	N/A
For each accompanying relative	N/A	N/A

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

19. Check one:

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below.  *or*  
 b. N/A – sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. I certify that I am not a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent for any sponsor of this trip.

21. I certify by my signature that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

**Eric Eikenberg**

Digitally signed by Eric Eikenberg  
 DN: cn=Eric Eikenberg, o=The Everglades Foundation, Inc., ou, email=eric@evergladesfoundation.org, c=US  
 Date: 2017.09.14 11:16:06 -04'00'

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: Eric Eikenberg  
 Title: Chief Executive Officer  
 Organization: The Everglades Foundation, Inc.  
 Address: 18001 Old Cutler Road, Palmetto Bay, FL 33157  
 Telephone number: 305-251-0001  
 Email address: eric@evergladesfoundation.org

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Ethics  
 U.S. House of Representatives  
 1015 Longworth House Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20515  
 (202) 225-7103 (phone)  
 (202) 225-7392 (general fax)

Susan W. Brooks, Indiana  
*Chairwoman*  
Theodore E. Deutch, Florida  
*Ranking Member*

Patrick Meehan, Pennsylvania  
Trey Gowdy, South Carolina  
Kenny Marchant, Texas  
Leonard Lance, New Jersey

Yvette D. Clarke, New York  
Jared Polis, Colorado  
Anthony Brown, Maryland  
Steve Cohen, Tennessee



ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

## U.S. House of Representatives

### COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

Donna Herbert  
*Director of Administration*

Megan Savage  
*Chief of Staff and Counsel to  
the Chairwoman*

Daniel J. Taylor  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

October 16, 2017

Mr. David Abner  
Office of the Honorable Tom Rooney  
2160 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Abner:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Miami, Florida, scheduled for October 18 to 21, 2017, sponsored by the Everglades Foundation, Inc.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$390 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Susan W. Brooks  
Chairwoman

Theodore E. Deutch  
Ranking Member

SWB/TED:kej



**The Everglades Foundation**  
**Congressional Educational Briefings and Site Visits**  
**October 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

***Overview:***

This is an intensive two-day trip to the greater Everglades ecosystem for key congressional staff handling environmental issues affecting this region. Currently, the federal government, working with the State of Florida, is undertaking the world's largest ecosystem restoration project. One of the primary objectives is to benefit federally owned or managed lands, including Everglades National Park, Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. A wide range of federal agencies have jurisdiction over various components of this initiative, including: the Department of Interior, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The purpose of these briefings and the accompanying site visits to federal lands and waters is to provide an overview of the progress made and the future restoration needs of federal holdings like Everglades National Park and Big Cypress National Preserve.

**Confirmed Congressional Staff Participants:**

**Diane Padilla**, Democratic Press Secretary, House Natural Resources Committee  
**Christine Sur**, Sea Grant Fellow, House Natural Resources Committee  
**Vincent Evans**, Special Assistant, Congressman Lawson  
**Corey Schrodt**, Legislative Assistant, Congressman F. Rooney  
**Martin Rivera**, Legislative Assistant, Congressman Soto  
**Evan Bergwall**, Legislative Assistant, Congressman Mast  
**Ethan Abner**, Legislative Assistant, Congressman T. Rooney

**Other Confirmed Participants for Entire Tour:**

**Geoff Mullins**, Chief Operating and Communications Officer, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership  
**Dr. Stephen Davis**, Wetland Ecologist, The Everglades Foundation  
**Dawn Shirreffs**, Sr. Policy Advisor, The Everglades Foundation  
**Dr. Kristie Wendelberger**, Outdoor Education and Outreach Coordinator, The Everglades Foundation

**ITINERARY**

**Wednesday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017:**

- 1:51 pm DC staff depart Washington, DC for Miami International Airport  
American Airlines Flight #
- 4:40 pm Arrive in Miami International Airport. Ground transportation to Key Largo provided in minivan
- 6:30 pm Stop for dinner at, Snooks Bayside Restaurant & Grand Tiki, 99470 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo, FL 33037

***Introduction to the Everglades Foundation: Who we are and why you are here***



8:00 pm Hotel check-in  
Key Largo Bay Marriott Beach Resort, 103800 Overseas Highway, MM 103.8, Key Largo, FL 33037

Overnight in Key Largo.

**Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017:**

8:30 am Breakfast briefing – French Reef Room – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

*Everglades Restoration 101: The Economics of Everglades Restoration and An Introduction to Current Federal Issues Affecting the Greater Everglades Ecosystem*

10:00 am Meet in lobby, depart hotel in minivan

10:45 am Arrive at Angler House Marina, 80500 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada, FL 33036  
Board boats and depart

**Additional Participants:**

**Dr. Tom Frankovich**, Faculty, Southeast Environmental Research Center, Florida International University

**Captain Xavier Figueredo**, Boat Captain, Bay and Reef Company

**Captain Steve Friedman**, Boat Captain, A Fishing Guide.com

Briefing and Site Visits: *Critical Issues Affecting Florida Bay*

Site visits will include Florida Bay habitats (seagrass meadows, mangrove islands) Freshwater inflow points to the bay and monitoring sites. Discuss connection with CERP projects (e.g., C-111 Spreader) Seagrass die-off

12:00 pm Lunch briefing on boat: *History of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and ongoing Everglades National Park Restoration Efforts*

2:30 pm Arrive back at dock, depart for hotel in minivan

3:00 pm Arrive at hotel

5:00 pm Depart hotel in minivan

6:00 pm Dinner briefing, Pierre's, 81600 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada, FL 33036: *Importance of Protecting America's Everglades*

**Additional Participants:**

**Mary Barley**, Board Member, The Everglades Foundation

8:30 pm Depart for hotel

9:00 pm Arrive at hotel.

Overnight in Key Largo.

**Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017:**

- 8:00 am Breakfast served to-go in the lobby, depart hotel in minivan
- 9:00 am Arrive at C-111 Spreader Canal project site near Everglades National Park  
Briefing: Successful restoration projects: Florida's commitment to Everglades Restoration

**Additional Participants:**

**Paul Warner**, Principle Scientist, South Florida Water Management District

- 9:30 am Travel to Ernest Coe Visitor Center. A brief tour of the visitor center
- 9:45 am Depart Ernest Coe Visitor Center, proceed to S356 pump
- 11:00 am Arrive at S356 pump  
Briefing: Successful restoration projects: Florida's commitment to Everglades Restoration

**Additional Participants:**

**Howie Gonzales**, Chief, Ecosystem Branch, US Army Corps of Engineers  
**Lt. Col. Jennifer Reynolds**, US Army Corps of Engineers

- 11:35 am Depart S356 pump, proceed to airboat dock
- 11:50 pm Arrive at airboat dock located on Tamiami Trail. Introductions and briefings about Water Conservation Area 3a and effects of water management on the area
- 12:00 pm Board airboats and depart for site visits – Water Conservation Area 3a stopping for discussion about water management and endangered species issues
- 12:30 pm Stop at a tree island.  
Briefing and site visits: Discussion of Modified Water Deliveries: Tamiami Trail Bridge Project and Next Steps
- 2:00 pm Return to dock and continued: Discussion of Modified Water Deliveries: Tamiami Trail Bridge Project and Next Steps
- 3:30 pm Depart airboat company and return to hotel
- 4:30 pm Arrive at hotel, check in  
Miami Airport Marriott, 1201 NW LeJeune Road, Miami, FL 33126
- 6:30 pm Depart hotel in minivan for dinner briefing
- 7:00 pm Dinner briefing, Rincon Argentino, 2345 Douglas Rd, Coral Gables, FL 33145:  
Building on 2017 Everglades Restoration Progress and Future Everglades Restoration Goals

**Additional Participants:**

**Carlos De La Cruz, Jr.**, Vice Chairman & Treasurer of the Board, The Everglades Foundation

**Rex Hamilton**, Board Member, The Everglades Foundation

**John Hilton, Jr.**, Board Member, The Everglades Foundation

**Jody Hilton**, John Hilton's wife

**Dr. Maurice Ferré**, Board Member, The Everglades Foundation

**Eric Eikenberg**, Chief Executive Officer, The Everglades Foundation

9:00 pm      Return to hotel

Overnight in Miami.

**Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017:**

11:16 am      Vincent Evans, Corey Schrodt, Evan Bergwall, Martin Rivera, Ethan Abner, and  
Geoff Mullins depart Miami International Airport for Washington, DC  
American Airlines Flight # 1202

1:54 pm      Arrive in Washington, DC

**Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017:**

5:25 pm      Diane Padilla and Christine Sur depart Miami International Airport for Washington,  
DC  
American Airlines Flight #

8:02 pm      Arrive in Washington, DC

**Everglades Foundation**  
**Congressional Educational Briefings and Site Visits**  
**October 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

**Overview:**

This is an intensive two-day trip to the greater Everglades ecosystem for key congressional staff handling environmental issues affecting this region. Currently, the federal government, working with the State of Florida, is undertaking the world's largest ecosystem restoration project. One of the primary objectives is to benefit federally owned or managed lands, including Everglades National Park, Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. A wide range of federal agencies have jurisdiction over various components of this initiative, including: the Department of Interior, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The purpose of these briefings and the accompanying site visits to federal lands and waters is to provide an overview of the progress made and the future restoration needs of federal holdings like Everglades National Park and Big Cypress National Preserve.

**ITINERARY**

**Wednesday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017:**

- 1:55 pm DC staff depart Washington, DC for Miami International Airport  
American Airlines Flight # TBD
- 4:43 pm Arrive in Miami International Airport. Ground transportation to Key Largo provided in minivan
- 6:30 pm Stop for dinner at, Snappers Restaurant, 139 Seaside Avenue, Key Largo, FL 33037
- Introduction to the Everglades Foundation: Who we are and why you are here*
- 8:00 pm Hotel check-in  
Key Largo Hilton, 97000 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, FL 33037

Overnight in Key Largo.

**Thursday, October 19, 2017:**

- 8:30 am Breakfast briefing – Key Largo Hilton, Bay View Ballroom
- Everglades Restoration 101: The Economics of Everglades Restoration and An Introduction to Current Federal Issues Affecting the Greater Everglades Ecosystem*

**Additional Participants:**

**Shannon Estenoz (Pending), Director of Everglades Restoration Initiatives, US DOI**

- 10:00 am Meet in lobby, depart hotel in minivan
- 10:30 am Arrive at Key Largo Ranger Station. Florida Bay Interagency Science Center, 98630 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo, FL 33037

Board boats and depart

**Additional Participants:**

**Dr. Stephen Davis**, Wetland Ecologist, Everglades Foundation  
**Dawn Shirreffs**, Sr. Policy Advisor, Everglades Foundation  
**Dr. Kristie Wendelberger**, Outdoor Education and Outreach Coordinator,  
Everglades Foundation  
**Caroline Ridgway**, Director of Development, SW Florida  
**Bob Johnson (Pending)**, Director of SFNRC, Everglades National Park  
**Dr. Jim Fourqurean (Pending)**, Professor, Marine Science Program, Florida  
International University  
**Dr. Tom Frankovich (Pending)**, SERC Research Faculty, Florida International  
University/University of Virginia

Briefing and Site Visits: *Critical Issues Affecting Florida Bay*

Site visits will include Florida Bay habitats (seagrass meadows, mangrove islands)  
Freshwater inflow points to the bay and monitoring sites. Discuss connection with  
CERP projects (e.g., C-111 Spreader) Seagrass die-off

- 12:00 pm Lunch briefing on boat: *History of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and ongoing Everglades National Park Restoration Efforts*
- 2:30 pm Arrive back at dock, depart for hotel in minivan
- 3:00 pm Arrive at hotel
- 5:00 pm Depart hotel in minivan
- 6:00 pm Dinner briefing, Morada Bay Beach Café, 81600 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada, FL  
33036: *Importance of Protecting America's Everglades*
- 8:30 pm Depart for hotel
- 9:00 pm Arrive at hotel.

Overnight in Key Largo.

**Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017:**

- 8:00 am Breakfast served to-go in the lobby, depart hotel in minivan
- 9:00 am Arrive at C-111 Spreader Canal project site near Everglades National Park.  
  
Briefing: *Successful restoration projects: Florida's commitment to Everglades Restoration.*
- 9:45 am Depart Ernest Coe Visitor Center, proceed to S356 pump
- 11:00 am Arrive at S356 pump  
Briefing: *Successful restoration projects: Florida's commitment to Everglades*

Restoration

**Additional Participants:**

**Dr. Stephen Davis**, Wetland Ecologist, Everglades Foundation

**Dawn Shirreffs**, Sr. Policy Advisor, Everglades Foundation

**Dr. Kristie Wendelberger**, Outdoor Education and Outreach Coordinator,  
Everglades Foundation

**Caroline Ridgway**, Director of Development, SW Florida

**Howie Gonzales (Pending)**, Chief, Ecosystem Branch, US Army Corps of  
Engineers

**Lt. Col. Jennifer Reynolds (Pending)**, US Army Corps of Engineers

- 11:15 am Depart S356 pump, proceed to airboat dock
- 11:30 pm Arrive at airboat dock located on Tamiami Trail. Introductions and briefings about Water Conservation Area 3a and effects of water management on the area.
- 12:00 pm Board airboats and depart for site visits – Water Conservation Area 3a stopping for discussion about water management and endangered species issues.
- 12:30 pm Stop at a tree island:  
Briefing and site visits: Discussion of Modified Water Deliveries: Tamiami Trail Bridge Project and Next Steps
- 1:30 pm Return to dock, depart in minivan
- 2:00 pm Arrive in Shark Valley, Everglades National Park  
Meet with ENP Ranger and discuss conservation and endangered species issues
- 3:30 pm Depart Everglades National Park, drive to hotel
- 4:30 pm Arrive at hotel, check in  
Miami Airport Marriott, 1201 NW LeJeune Road, Miami, FL 33126
- 6:30 pm Depart hotel in minivan for dinner briefing
- 7:00 pm Dinner briefing, Lulu in the Grove, 3105 Commodore Plaza, Miami, FL 33133:  
Building on 2016 Everglades Restoration Progress and Future Everglades Restoration Goals.

**Additional Participants:**

**Dr. Stephen Davis**, Wetland Ecologist, Everglades Foundation

**Dawn Shirreffs**, Sr. Policy Advisor, Everglades Foundation

**Dr. Kristie Wendelberger**, Outdoor Education and Outreach Coordinator,  
Everglades Foundation

**Caroline Ridgway**, Director of Development, SW Florida

- 9:00 pm Return to hotel

Overnight in Miami.

Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017:

11:11 am All Congressional staff depart Miami International Airport for Washington, DC  
American Airlines Flight # TBD

1:52 pm Arrive in Washington, DC

Congressional Tour October 18-21, 2017

First Name	Last Name	Title	Office/Department
Ethan	Abner	Legislative Assistant	Congressman Tom Rooney
Vincent	Evans	Special Assistant	Congressman Lawson
Diane	Padilla	Democratic Press Secretary	House Natural Resources Committee
Corey	Schrodt	Legislative Director	Congressman Francis Rooney
Christine	Sur	Sea Grant Fellow	House Natural Resources Committee
Martin	Rivera	Legislative Assistant	Congressman Darren Soto
Evan	Bergwall	Legislative Assistant	Congressman Brian Mast



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