

Statement of Groups Endorsing “Yes on 4, the Conservation Land Amendment”

Private landowners protect and manage some of Florida’s best wildlife habitat. Some have placed large parcels of land in permanent protected status with conservation easements. Others use their land primarily for the benefit of wildlife, water resources and outdoor recreation.

As Florida grows, valuable habitat is being converted to other uses. In many cases local property taxes lead people, who would otherwise manage their land for wildlife and water protection, to convert it to other uses.

To encourage private stewardship of wildlife habitat and water resources, Florida’s leading conservation groups urged the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission to place an amendment on the November 2008 ballot to reduce the property tax burden on privately owned conservation land.

Amendment 4, if approved by 60% of the voters, will do two things:

- Give property tax exemptions for land placed in permanent protection.
- Direct the Legislature to pass a law to allow land managed for conservation to be taxed according to use.

Amendment 4 will benefit the Florida Panther, the Florida Black Bear, many bird species and special places such as the greater Everglades ecosystem, and will help protect our water supplies.

Amendment 4 holds great promise to supplement public land acquisition programs such as Florida Forever by providing incentives to private landowners to conserve their land and manage land for conservation purposes.

The following organizations endorse Amendment 4 and urge their members and Florida’s citizens to “Vote ‘Yes’ on 4, the Conservation Land Amendment!”

Group Name	Authorizing Person	Email/Web Site Address
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Florida Wildlife Federation	Manley Fuller	fwfonline.org
Audubon of Florida	Eric Draper	edraper@audubon.org
The Nature Conservancy	Jeff Danter	janet_bowman@tnc.org

Please add your group’s name above and return to Citizens for Conservation Land, Inc. via the following e-mail address: 4conservationland@gmail.com, fax to (850) 942-0031 or mail to P.O. Box 6870, Tallahassee, FL 32314.

For more information contact: Preston Robertson (850) 656-7113, Janet Bowman (850) 222-0199 or Eric Draper (850) 222-2473.