



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Charlie Crist
Governor

Jill Koslowski
Lt. Governor

Michael W. Sole
Secretary

August 2, 2010

The Honorable Charlie Crist
Governor of Florida
The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Governor Crist,

The opportunities that you have provided me and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) during the past three years have been tremendous. During your Administration, the Department has served Florida exceptionally in implementing its diverse mission ranging from our award winning State Park system, trails, and land acquisition efforts, to our incomparable environmental regulatory programs that ensure Florida's air, water and land are protected for future generations.

During these difficult economic times, the men and women of this agency have truly excelled in implementing our priorities and addressing critical issues that are essential to Florida's future including the continued restoration of America's Everglades, improving water quality, addressing climate change, and preserving Florida's natural landscapes through the Florida Forever program. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve you, the team at DEP and Florida as the Secretary for these past few years.

Having served Florida at the Department for almost 20 years it is now time for me to pursue other opportunities in my career. I have been truly fortunate to have been asked by you to serve as Secretary and I am so very thankful for your confidence in me and your leadership. For the past three months, I have also had the tremendous opportunity to help Florida respond to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Now that the Deepwater Horizon well has been capped, and Florida is on the road to recovery, it is necessary for me to announce my departure date of September 10, 2010.

Governor, you have provided me an opportunity to lead one of the most diverse and professional agencies in this state and it is something that I will cherish for a lifetime. I cannot thank you enough for your efforts to protect Florida's environmental future. Your sincere appreciation and love for Florida's natural resources and her people has been an inspiration to us all and has led us to perform to our very best.

Yours sincerely,

Michael W. Sole
Secretary