

Exciting news – potentially – for the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed [extending the Refuge’s boundaries](#) to include areas currently being eyed for heavy metal mining, mining which would drastically threaten the parks wildlife and ecology.

This topic ties into the upcoming presidential election. When you vote for president, you are not voting for just one person, but 10,000 federal employees they will hire to carry out their vision. Those employees work across all aspects of the government, including those essential to conservation like the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Agriculture Department, including the US Forest Service, the Department of Interior, which oversees the National Parks, National Monuments, and National Wildlife Refuges and more.

It is reasonable to assume a Harris Administration would carry on this Biden Administration idea. It is equally reasonable to assume a Trump Administration, which waged all-out war on wildlife and nature the first time in office, and will always side with industry over environment, would not.

<https://www.southernenvironment.org/press-release/u-s-fish-and-wildlife-service-proposes-boundary-expansion-of-okefenokee-national-wildlife-refuge-to-include-trail-ridge/>

Friends of the Everglades the latest Florida conservation organization to encourage members to VOTE NO ON AMENDMENT 2:

Amendment 2 was placed on the ballot by the Florida Legislature, not by citizen petition, and the campaign has received financial support from polluting interests including U.S. Sugar, which donated \$25,000 to support the amendment on October 2.

Blair Sportsman, senior editor of Florida Sportsman, put that into context in his upcoming column in the magazine: “The vast majority of our state representatives are complicit in the degradation of our fishery habitat,” wrote Wickstrom. “That degradation is the single largest threat to quality fishing in our state.”

LINK: <https://www.everglades.org/vote-no-on-amendment-2/?emci=9f757fdd-e68f-ef11-8474-000d3a98fa6b&emdi=ce66e8f4-2d91-ef11-8474-000d3a98fa6b&ceid=550594>

[Ron DeSantis and Big Sugar join forces](#) in key south Florida political campaign. When he first ran for governor, DeSantis promised to fight against Big Sugar’s outsized influence in state politics and the ecological ruin it has brought to south Florida.

LINK: https://jasongarcia.substack.com/p/ron-desantis-and-big-sugar-join-forces?utm_source=post-email-title&publication_id=687064&post_id=150471498&utm_campaign=email-post-title&isFreemail=true&r=g2ims&triedRedirect=true&utm_medium=email

On the 50th anniversary of its commercialization, Roundup sold to consumers [is more toxic than ever before](#). Bayer pledged to remove glyphosate from Roundup products sold to U.S. consumers (which does not include agricultural or professional use Roundup) starting in 2023 in response to tens of thousands of lawsuits linking the weedkiller to non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

Scientists found that Bayer replaced glyphosate with combinations of four chemicals, two of which are banned in the European Union. The new Roundup formulations are 45 times more toxic to human health following long-term, chronic exposures, on average.

LINK: <https://foe.org/resources/new-roundup-new-risks/>