

Twenty-three plant and animal species have [officially been declared extinct](#) by the U.S. government, including many with connections to Florida.

LINK: <https://apnews.com/article/climate-change-science-animals-wildlife-fish-b6e61676548a1d7b2f81a6512cbcd7a7>

On the bright side, [a south Florida butterfly](#) whose numbers once totaled only three individuals has made an astonishing recovery.

LINK: <https://floridaphoenix.com/2021/09/23/rare-fl-butterfly-bounces-back-offers-lesson-for-saving-other-critters/>

A detailed explanation of [the trouble with tropical milkweed for monarchs](#), why not to use it in Florida, why nurseries favor it, and options for replacement.

LINK: http://www.nativenurseries.com/blog/2020/4/13/why-we-no-longer-carry-non-native-tropical-milkweed?fbclid=IwAR0qa9WgXREH_BB7T-HvFoEKcVFcuNTGYddkdpE03UP6H8keY-kJSxWuXc

DYK that if President Biden's \$3.5 trillion "Build Back Better" infrastructure plan is based, the Everglades stands to receive \$5 billion of that for decades-long ongoing restoration efforts?

Speaking of infrastructure, have you ever heard the term ["green infrastructure?"](#) Here's a primer on what it is, how it works and why it's preferable to "gray infrastructure."

LINK: https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/florida/stories-in-florida/florida-coastal-resilience/?src=s_two.ch_fl.x.x.&sf151454234=1

Lastly, again, here's the link for you to send your comments to the St. John's River Water Management District about why the Kirkpatrick Dam should be removed to allow the Ocklawaha River to again flow free. As I've written before, this is the biggest available "win" on the table for the conservation movement in Florida.

[Step-by-step instructions to comment](#); window to comment closes October 22.

LINK: https://www.freetheocklawaha.com/action-alert/?utm_source=mailpoet&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=action-alert-respond-to-sjrwmd-survey-on-the-ocklawaha-river-restoration_43
