

[Voice your opinion](#) in support of the survival of North Atlantic right whales and in opposition to a bill moving through Congress that would prohibit speed limits on the ships which strike and kill the whales.

LINK: https://act.biologicaldiversity.org/I56THfSo-kqkOLSPFLiJAw2?sourceid=1008843&utm_source=eeo&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=eeo1198&contactdata=R9Cf05LC9Qd%2fD34z84mTKFyzRpR%2fvEX84hMI%2fjOo6Cn9CihJy0j0Kan9ZdOdXS6o6JR0QXHFO10KBhyAvMLLdu6JvvghnhSdDFjn33bi6LICuLMjP%2fkPjJzcQPmSv%2f4dDoMWKetStB%2bY8dQuTb9pHub%2fRMNyTMGpr5%2flqBnhBMEb0hFig8Uz18jm0qCH75r5&emci=964762ad-6610-ee11-907c-00224832eb73&emdi=08dc2dd3-4811-ee11-907c-00224832eb73&ceid=2023608

Conservation groups are preparing to [sue the federal government](#) to secure endangered species protection for the ghost orchid because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service continues dragging its feet to list the ultra-rare, south Florida endemic plant.

LINK: <https://www.wmnf.org/legal-battle-brewing-over-iconic-florida-flower/?emci=964762ad-6610-ee11-907c-00224832eb73&emdi=08dc2dd3-4811-ee11-907c-00224832eb73&ceid=2023608>

The Okefenokee Swamp has been included in this year's list of nominees for UNESCO World Heritage Site designation. St. Mary's Riverkeeper encourages everyone to send in their comments supporting this nomination. Email your comments to jonathan_putnam@nps.gov by **June 28**.

UNESCO listing for the Swamp could bring greater attention and appreciation for the wilderness which is now under threat from mining interests chewing at its edges.

Your comment needn't be long and you're welcome to copy mine: I support UNESCO World Heritage Site designation for the Okefenokee Swamp. I live in north Florida near the Swamp and treasure my visits to the wilderness for its biological diversity, quiet, dark skies and recreational opportunities. It is a globally unique habitat that should be recognized, and protected, as such.

Podcast listeners, there's a new podcast detailing [the evils of Big Sugar](#) produced by one of the largest media companies in the world.

LINK: <https://www.iheart.com/podcast/1119-big-sugar-117233473/>

Chemical manufacturer 3M has agreed to pay \$10.3 billion to cities across America for polluting public water supplies with so-called "forever chemicals." 3M is facing roughly 4,000 lawsuits from municipalities and states nationwide for contaminated water. [The test case which helped motivate the settlement came from Stuart, FL.](#)

Sounds like a lot until you consider 3M's annual revenue for 2022 was over \$35 billion and the company can pay out the settlements over 13 years.

Welcome to American capitalism where the corporation is the ultimate source of power. Explain to me why a company facing 4,000 lawsuits nationwide for contaminating public drinking water should be allowed to continue operating instead of being shut down immediately and seized by the government as a proven and repeated danger to public health?

LINK: https://www.nytimes.com/2023/06/22/business/3m-settlement-forever-chemicals-lawsuit.html?campaign_id=9&emc=edit_nn_20230623&instance_id=95825&nl=the-

[morning®i_id=94622599&segment_id=137317&te=1&user_id=22c72b5cf0663c6784557ed8747380d](#)
b